

Gov. Should Help City For Future Boom: Carr

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Larry Carr of Anchorage suggested Tuesday in Fairbanks that the State appropriate money to help Fairbanks prepare for

“an explosive growth situation” rather than build a road to the North Slope.

He added that the State should let TAPS build the road as it had previously planned to. Gov. Keith Miller has said that the state might go ahead and construct the \$90 million pipeline access road from the Yukon River to Prudhoe Bay in order to get the project underway.

TAPS has refused to build the road until the construction permit for the 800-mile pipeline is issued.

“It is highly desirable,” Carr said, “for the state to use this period of delay to help Fairbanks get prepared for the boom that will follow when the permits are issued.”

As people move to Fairbanks to work on the pipeline project, he continued, the city will face an explosive growth situation.

The State, he added, should appropriate money to expand the water and sewer facilities, to build new roads, to develop new subdivisions with low and medium income housing, and to build additional schools.

“I don’t think the city can adequately deal with the situation without such assistance.”

Discussing the 125 man task

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force from Alaska that has gone to Washington to expedite the granting of permits for the pipeline and the access road. Carr reiterated that he refused an invitation from the Governor to accompany the group.

"I did so," he said, "because I felt the people should be informed that the lack of information from TAPS and the Department of the Interior are the real factors holding up the pipeline, and the refusal of the invitation gave me the opportunity to make such a statement."

He added that he felt the State has the responsibility to coordinate matters between TAPS and the Interior Department to insure that the environment is protected and that the

project is expedited.

The owner of a large supermarket chain in Alaska, Carr said that he is worried about the State building the road before it knows exactly where the pipeline will go. TAPS still seems to be considering alternate routes.

Concerning the land claims bill that has in brief outline come out of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Carr said he felt the State should be supporting the native position on the legislation.

The Alaska Federation of Natives last week came out for more land than the 7.5 million acres reportedly provided for in the bill and for the continuation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Public Health Service.