

Gravel Announces Approval of \$71 Anchorage Federal Bldg.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senator Mike Gravel announced that the Senate Public Works Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds, of which he is chairman, approved \$71 million for the construction of the new federal building in Anchorage.

The Subcommittee met and

approved this authorization by a unanimous vote.

The Alaska Democrat reported that the building will contain one million square feet, at a cost of approximately \$70 per square foot.

This building, when compared to other similar projects around

the Nation, is an enormous investment for Anchorage and our state. It is probably the largest single project the City will see for many years to come," Senator Gravel said.

"The size of the building and its total cost is considerably larger than most buildings being

built for federal government purposes in other parts of the country," the Alaskan continued.

Senator Gravel said that he expects final approval by the full Senate Public Works Committee within a week. He reported that his counterpart in

the House of Representatives, Congressman Ken Gray of Illinois, plans to take the matter before the full Public Works Committee in the House soon.

"I think we can expect final passage by Congress in this session of Congress, probably this month," Senator Gravel said.

"Prompt action will mean that the funds will be authorized for this building when my subcommittee holds hearings in Anchorage on October 13," Senator Gravel said.

The public hearing is scheduled to give citizens of Anchorage, as well as borough and State officials, an opportunity to state their views on the building.

"The input from citizens is important," the Senator said, "to guarantee the maximum possible benefit to Alaska's largest city."

Senator Gravel has urged that the building be designed and located to provide an "anchor" for future Anchorage development.

B-31 a Must for Can. Shipments

Commissioner Irene E. Ryan of the Department of Economic Development has received notification from Canadian Customs officials that shipments into Canada of items with value of \$10,000 or more must be accompanied by a new form B-31, in addition of the old A.M. form.

If there are questions concerning the use of the new form they should be directed to Canadian Customs, Box 1200, Station A, Vancouver 1, B.C. Canada, Phone 604-666-1450.

Sen. Don Young Challenges Begich

ANCHORAGE — State Senator Don Young, the Republican challenger for Alaska's lone seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, has challenged incumbent Democrat Nick Begich to a series of debates before the general election November 7.

Speaking to a meeting of the Anchorage Young Republicans, Young cited the "overriding need for the issues in this campaign to be brought before the public."

Young said that he had written Begich requesting the debates. He said he agreed with Begich's statements that the campaign should be based on issues and not personalities, but that there would be "no issues so long as Begich remains in Washington and away from this campaign."

"If Nick wants to run on his past record, let him come to Alaska and we'll debate that record," Young said.

"If he wants to run on the issues, I'm ready to debate those too."

In his letter, Young said he thought the low voter turnout for the primary election indicated "as public officials and candidates we have not adequately fulfilled our obligations to present our positions and clarify the issues to the public."

"I'm sure you will give this matter your full consideration and will take time to give this campaign your full attention," Young said. "Neither the public nor the electoral process in general can be served by a 'no-campaign' campaign by either of us."

Young told the group that he would continue to actively campaign for Congress despite the modest size of his warchest.

"I probably don't have a tenth of Nick's money," Young said, "but Alaskans aren't quitters."

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