

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

City Manager/Port Director

RESOLUTION 18-088

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING (\$7,409,439) FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA MUNICIPAL HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY 2020 STATE CAPITAL BUDGET.

WHEREAS, The majority of the public boat harbors in Alaska where constructed by the State during the 1960s and 1970s; and

WHEREAS, These harbor facilities represent critical transportation links and are the transportation hubs for waterfront commerce and economic development in Alaskan coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, These harbor facilities are ports of refuge and areas for protection for ocean-going vessels and fishermen throughout the State of Alaska, especially in coastal Alaskan communities; and

WHEREAS, The State of Alaska over the past nearly 30 years has transferred ownership of most of these State-owned harbors, many of which were at or near the end of their service life at the time of transfer, to local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, The municipalities took over this important responsibility even though they knew that these same harbor facilities were in poor condition at the time of transfer due to the state's failure to keep up with deferred maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Consequently, when local municipal harbormasters formulated their annual harbor facility budgets, they inherited a major financial burden that their local municipal governments could not afford; and

WHEREAS, In response to this financial burden, the Governor and the Alaska Legislature passed legislation in 2006, supported by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators, to create the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant program, AS 29.60.800; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators, is pleased with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities administrative process to review, score and rank applicants to the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program, since state funds may be limited; and

43 WHEREAS, For each harbor facility grant application, these municipalities have
44 committed to invest 100% of the design and permitting costs and 50% of the construction cost;
45 and

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47 WHEREAS, The municipalities of the City of Anchorage, the City and Borough of Juneau,
48 City of Ketchikan, City and Borough of Sitka, City of Whale Pass, and the City of Whittier have
49 offered to contribute \$7,409,439 in local match funding for FY 2020 towards eight harbor
50 projects of significant importance locally as required in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and
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52 WHEREAS, Completion of these harbor facility projects is all dependent on the 50%
53 match from the State of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program; and
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55 WHEREAS, During the last ten years the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program has
56 only been fully funded twice; and
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58 WHEREAS, During the last ten years the backlog of projects necessary to repair and
59 replace these former State owned harbors has increased to over \$100,000,000.
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61 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council of Homer, Alaska, urges full
62 funding in the amount of \$7,409,439 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State
63 of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2020 State Capital Budget in
64 order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal
65 communities.
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67 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Homer, Alaska, this 26th day of November,
68 2018.
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CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

77 ATTEST:

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80 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

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82 Fiscal Note: N/A