

## RESOLUTION No. 17-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF KING COVE FOR THE KING COVE ACCESS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough ("Borough") and the City of King Cove ("City") have been working together for many years to build a safe, reliable road from the City of King Cove to the Cold Bay Airport for the community of King Cove; and

WHEREAS, with the help of the State of Alaska, approximately 20 miles of the road has been constructed and approximately 11 miles of road through the Izembek Wildlife Refuge still needs to be constructed; and

WHEREAS, the US Congress approved the land exchange and the President signed the bill in 2009, subject to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a finding from the Secretary of Interior that the road was in the public interest. The EIS was completed in 2013 and Secretary Jewel made a decision on December 23, 2013 that the road was not in the public's interest; and

WHEREAS, since the denial by Secretary Jewel, the Alaska Delegation introduced legislation to authorize the exchange and road construction; and

WHEREAS, most recently, new legislation has been introduced in both houses of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (1<sup>st</sup> Session) with support from the Aleutians East Borough, City of King Cove, the State of Alaska through Governor Bill Walker and support from the Alaska Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the King Cove Group (KCG), representing the collective efforts of the Agdaagux and Belkofski Tribes, King Cove Corporation, Aleutians East Borough, and the City of King Cove have been actively working towards the approval of this road through the Izembek Wildlife Refuge from King Cove to the Cold Bay Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Code, 45.05.060 allows the Borough pursuant to Alaska Statute 29.35.210(b)(1) the power to acquire, construct, maintain, regulate and operate roads, vessels, and vehicles, including passenger, marine, and vehicle terminals and all related equipment and facilities that are necessary or appropriate for the construction,

maintenance, regulation and operation of roads, vessels and vehicles that comprise a transportation system that interconnects cities and communities within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the City have been working diligently to provide safe, reliable transportation for the residents in King Cove to access the airport in Cold Bay; and

WHEREAS, the attached MOA and associated documents show that the Borough and the City have been working together to construct the existing road and to obtain the additional 11 miles of road through the Izembek Wildlife Refuge to complete the transportation system from the City of King Cove to the Cold Bay Airport; and

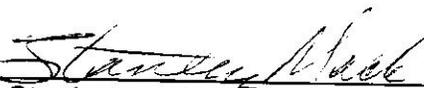
WHEREAS, the MOA provides for reimbursement to the City for prior expenditures and current expenditures related to the road project known as the King Cove Access Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Aleutians East Borough hereby authorizes the Borough Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of King Cove for the King Cove Access Project.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH on this 9th day of February, 2017.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

By:

  
Stanley Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Tina Anderson, Borough Clerk