

## RESOLUTION 15-17

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH (AEB) SUPPORTING THE FULL FUNDING FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY 2016 STATE CAPITAL BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the majority of the public boat harbors in Alaska were 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 of protection for ocean-going vessels and fisherman throughout the State of Alaska, especially in coastal Alaska communities; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last 30 years, the State of Alaska 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**, in doing so, the municipalities inherited a significant financial burden given the deteriorated state of the harbor facilities at the time of transfer; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to this financial burden, the Governor and the Alaska Legislature passed legislation, created the Harbor Facility Grant program (AS 29.60.800); and

**WHEREAS**, the Aleutians East Borough is pleased with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities administrative process to review, score and rank applicants to the Harbor Facility Grant Program, since state funds may be limited; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Aleutians East Borough and individual communities have greatly benefited from this program; and

**WHEREAS**, the municipalities of the Aleutians East Borough, the City and Borough of Sitka, and the City of Seward, City of Ketchikan, City of Coffman Cove, and Municipality of Anchorage have offered to contribute \$14,262,722 in local match funding for FY2016 towards seven harbor projects of significant local importance, as required in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, one of these projects is the Akutan Harbor Floats Project, in which the Aleutians East Borough has \$3.1 million in matching funds available; and

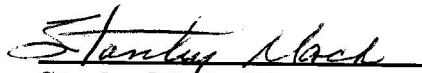
**WHEREAS**, completion of these harbor facility projects is dependent on the 50% match from the State of Alaska's Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Harbor Grant Program has only been fully funded twice in the last eight years; and

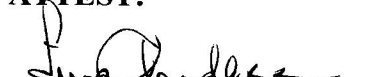
**WHEREAS**, during the last eight years the backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace these former State owned harbors has increased to over \$90,000,000.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Aleutians East Borough Assembly that the Aleutians East Borough urges the Governor and the Alaska Legislature to fully fund the Harbor Facility Grant Program in the amount of \$14,262,722 in the FY 2016 State Capital Budget.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Aleutians East Borough on this day February 12, 2015.

  
Stanley Mack, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Tina Anderson, Clerk