

RESOLUTION 16-07

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FULL FUNDING FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY 2017 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, some of the Aleutians East Borough communities have greatly benefited from this program; and

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough has not submitted a project for the FY2017 Harbor Facility Grant Program but still supports the municipalities of Kodiak, Wrangell, Sitka, Aleknagik, Whittier, Anchorage, Juneau, Valdez and Skagway's FY2017 Harbor Facility Grant Program requests; and

WHEREAS, these communities have offered to contribute \$20,648,514 in local matching funding for FY2017 towards nine harbor projects of significant local importance; and

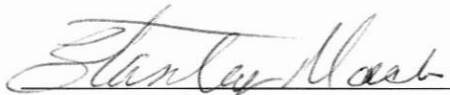
WHEREAS, completion of these harbor facility projects is dependent on the 50% match from the State of Alaska's Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

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

WHEREAS, during the last ten years the backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace these former State owned harbors has increased to over \$100,000,000.


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Aleutians East Borough recognize the importance of the program and urges full funding in the amount of \$20,648,514 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY2017 State Capital Budge in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 12th Day of November 2015.



Stanley Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tina Anderson, Clerk