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9/28/20

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Mayor

RESOLUTION 20-093

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
ESTABLISHING A FISHERIES ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUND (FERG)
AND PROVIDING FOR APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS AND OTHER
GRANT DETAILS.

WHEREAS, The City has entered into a cooperative grant agreement with the Kenai Peninsula Borough to distribute Coronavirus Relief Funds to entities located within the City's municipal boundaries; and

WHEREAS, The Kenai Peninsula Borough's small business grant program includes businesses engaged in commercial fishing; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer, using Corona Relief Funds for purposes that match the Borough's standards should include commercial fishing grant opportunities under the cooperative grant agreement; and

WHEREAS, Commercial fishermen have suffered economic loss due to the softening of markets, including restaurants, public and private gatherings and the general loss of normal distribution outlets; and

WHEREAS, Commercial fishermen have suffered economic loss due to reductions or elimination of stock assessments and surveys which have led to more conservative management with reduced quotas or fishing time; and

WHEREAS, Commercial fishermen have suffered economic loss due to the added expenses of meeting quarantine, social distancing, and other restrictions that have been placed on the commercial fleets during the COVID 19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Commercial fishermen ultimately pay the increased operating costs to fish buyers and processors for quarantines, housing, transportation and additional food and worker safety requirements; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer has benefited from a commercial fishing fleet based at the Homer Boat Harbor; and

WHEREAS, Vessels based in Homer pay harbor fees and rent, provide jobs, and support local marine trades and chandleries; and

43 WHEREAS, While many vessels come and go from the Homer Harbor, it is a limited fleet
44 that has made an annual or semi-annual commitment to Homer Harbor; and

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46 WHEREAS, The Homer Harbor Master has identified the fleet as consisting of 103
47 vessels; and

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49 WHEREAS, The fleet of 103 vessels paid \$251,461.22 in moorage to the Homer Harbor in
50 the period during the annual period of October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020; and

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52 WHEREAS, The Homer Harbor Master keeps complete records of vessel ownership and
53 contact information, and is best suited to administer an efficient application process.

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55 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Homer establishes a Fisheries
56 Economic Recovery Fund (FERG) that will provide economic relief to vessel owners operation
57 out of the Homer Harbor and engaged in commercial fisheries within the waters of the State of
58 Alaska; and

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60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applicants must meet the following requirements:
61 1) Paid either annual or semi-annual moorage to the Homer Harbor between
62 October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020; and,
63 2) Participated in a State fishery during that period; and
64 3) Met the filing requirements and certifications of the City's existing small
65 business (SBERG) grant program.

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67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each vessel owner shall receive a grant of up to
68 \$4,500.00.

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70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that applications will be sent out within seven days of the
71 passage of this resolution, applications must be received no later than October 30, and grant
72 checks will be mailed by November 10; and

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74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following the conclusion of the program, the City
75 administration will provide a report to the Homer City Council about the status of the FERG
76 Program including information such as the number of applications received, number of
77 applications processed, and account balances of the program fund.

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79 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 28th day of September, 2020.
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CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A