

1 **CITY OF HOMER**
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

3 City Manager/Port Director

4 **RESOLUTION 20-088**

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6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
7 SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING (\$14,049,988) FOR THE STATE OF
8 ALASKA MUNICIPAL HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE
9 FY 2022 STATE CAPITAL BUDGET.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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38 WHEREAS, The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities utilizes a beneficial
39 administrative process to review, score and rank applicants to the Municipal Harbor Facility
40 Grant Program, since state funds may be limited; and

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

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46 WHEREAS, The municipalities of the City of Cordova, City and Borough of Sitka, City and
47 Borough of Juneau, City of Seward, and City of Sand Point have committed to contribute
48 \$14,049,988 in local match funding for FY2022 towards harbor projects of significant
49 importance locally as required in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

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

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54 WHEREAS, During the last ten years the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program has
55 only been fully funded twice; and

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

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60 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska urges full
61 funding in the amount of \$14,049,988 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State
62 of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2022 State Capital Budget in
63 order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal
64 communities.

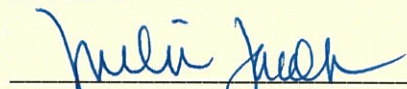
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66 ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, this 28th day of September, 2020.

67
68 CITY OF HOMER

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71
72 KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

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74 ATTEST:

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77 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

