CITY OF HOMER HOMER, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 24-012

Lord/Hansen

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA SUPPORTING THE STATE OF ALASKA'S CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP IN THE US CORPS OF ENGINEERS HOMER HARBOR EXPANSION GENERAL INVESTIGATION AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL LOCAL SPONSOR MATCH FUNDING IN FY25 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$288,523, CONSISTENT WITH THE SHARED LOCAL MATCH PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHED IN 2023.

WHEREAS, Homer's Port & Harbor, originally built in 1963, is a regional port serving the needs of commercial vessels operating throughout Southcentral and western Alaska, and the Arctic in the marine transportation, maritime industrial and commercial fishing industries; and

WHEREAS, Over time, the increased demand for moorage has outgrown Homer Port and Harbor's ability to safely and efficiently serve this fleet; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer ("City") has identified a new large vessel harbor expansion among its highest ranked priority capital improvement projects since 2004 to (1) meet the growing needs of our commercial fleet, (2) address overcrowding and associated navigational safety concerns and high maintenance costs, and (3) support current as well as emerging regional and national economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The Homer Harbor Expansion's General Investigation (GI) with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was successfully initiated in 2023 under a \$3 million Federal Cost Share Agreement in which the federal match is fifty percent and the fifty percent local sponsor match is shared equally between the City and the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Homer City Council is greatly appreciative of the involvement and investment of our Federal and State partners to move this important project forward; and

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WHEREAS, The GI investigates all planning aspects needed to build a large vessel harbor at the Homer Spit including, but not limited to: selecting a preferred design alternative and construction methods, evaluating social, economic and environmental factors, determining costs and conducting a cost benefit analysis, which is required to determine Federal interest in continuing to Project Engineering and Design and Construction phases; and

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WHEREAS, After reaching the study's Alternatives and Measures Milestone, the USACE project development team updated the project management plan (PMP) to include two additional activities in the GI scope (geotechnical analysis and ship simulation) so that the study would have sufficient data to develop the most realistic benefit to cost ratio; and

WHEREAS, Based on a cost estimate provided by the USACE, this additional work comes with an additional cost of \$1,154,093; and

WHEREAS, Homer City Council Resolution 23-130 agreed to the revised scope and cost of the GI under the PMP, stating it is prudent to continue to explore options for a harbor expansion to relieve congestion and improve navigational safety within Homer's Port and Harbor; and

WHEREAS, Consistent with the shared local match partnership, Homer City Council Resolution 23-130 additionally expressed the City of Homer's intent to appropriate funds in the amount of \$288,524 for fifty percent of the required local sponsor match via Ordinance 24-05 at the January 22, 2024 Homer City Council meeting; and

WHEREAS, The success and continuation of this project lies in continued active partnership and investment at the local, state and federal levels.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska hereby supports the State of Alaska's continued partnership in the USACE Homer Harbor Expansion General Investigation and requests additional State match funding in the amount of \$288,523, consistent with the shared local match partnership established in 2023.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 22nd day of January, 2024.

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal note: N/A

ATTEST:



CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR