

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

3 City Manager/  
4 Port and Harbor Director

5 **RESOLUTION 24-045(A)**  
6

7 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,  
8 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE HOMER PORT COASTAL  
9 FREIGHT PROJECT, ENDORSING THE CITY'S GRANT APPLICATION  
10 TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
11 MARITIME ADMINISTRATION'S FY2024 PORT INFRASTRUCTURE  
12 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND COMMITTING LOCAL MATCH  
13 FUNDS.  
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15 WHEREAS, The City of Homer strives to provide and improve city-operated facilities and  
16 services to meet community and regional needs; and  
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18 WHEREAS, The City of Homer owns and maintains the Homer Port & Harbor, a regional  
19 maritime transportation hub facility that provides broad community benefits, serving:

- 20 • barges and landing craft that deliver cargo and essential supplies to over 45 non-  
21 road connected communities and villages located in Southcentral, Southwestern  
22 and Western Alaska,
- 23 • tugs and pilot boats that assist freight delivery to the Port of Alaska and industries  
24 located in Southcentral, Southwestern, and Western Alaska, and
- 25 • commercial fishing vessels working nearly every fishery in the State of Alaska; and  
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27 WHEREAS, A comprehensive Homer Port & Harbor Condition Assessment completed in  
28 2022 by R&M Consultants identifies the need to replace floating docks, trestles, and other items  
29 in poor or worse condition in Float Systems 1, 2, 4, and 5 due to decades of deferred  
30 maintenance by the State under its prior ownership and the age of the facility for a rough order  
31 of magnitude estimated cost of \$72.6M; and  
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33 WHEREAS, The assessment report also noted that electrical, fire suppression and water  
34 supply to these float systems are not up to code; and  
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36 WHEREAS, The assessment further concluded that the issues that can no longer be  
37 adequately or economically addressed through continued maintenance and major repairs;  
38 and  
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40 WHEREAS, Demand for moorage and regional freight movement have increased over  
41 time, driving the need to safeguard and maximize moorage capacity and efficiencies in  
42 Homer's Port & Harbor to meet this demand; and,

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44 WHEREAS, the City of Homer has prioritized replacing Float Systems 4 and 1 and  
45 connecting float A, which range in age from 37 to 60 years old, are in serious to critical  
46 condition, were transferred to City ownership in 1999 through a Transfer of Responsibility  
47 Agreement from the State of Alaska, and would cost \$60.625M to replace; and

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49 WHEREAS, The Homer Port Coastal FREIGHT (*Freight Resiliency & Efficiency – Improving*  
50 *Greater Homer-area Transportation*) project designs, permits and replaces these two float  
51 systems to preserve the foundational integrity and maximum, efficient functioning of the  
52 Homer Port facility to serve regional and statewide maritime transportation needs; and

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54 WHEREAS, the project will furnish float systems that are in compliance with modern  
55 safety, fire and electrical codes and ADA standards to address safety and accessibility issues;  
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58 WHEREAS, The project has strong local and regional support evidenced by being  
59 selected as Legislative Priority project in the City's Capital Improvement Plan and by letters of  
60 support; and

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62 WHEREAS, The project is aligned with Alaska's Statewide Long-Range Transportation  
63 Plan goal of sustainability of Alaska's public harbor system; and

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65 WHEREAS, The project is identified as an objective in the Kenai Peninsula Borough  
66 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: to advance the stability and resilience of  
67 Homer's marine transportation infrastructure so that it continues its critical role in facilitating  
68 regional economic activity and community resilience; and

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70 WHEREAS, The do-nothing option will require load restrictions in the short-term and  
71 will require that the float systems be condemned and decommissioned in the mid-term to  
72 mitigate the risk of sudden and catastrophic float failure; and

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74 WHEREAS, Losing these float systems will displace a significant number of vessels from  
75 the Port facility, increase rafting of vessels on the remaining floats, increase safety hazards for  
76 vessel owners and their crews, create vessel delays, and disrupt reliable, affordable means to  
77 move freight, supplies and people; and

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79 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration  
80 is making Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant funds available to support  
81 investments in the planning, design and construction that improves port resilience, efficiencies  
82 in freight movement, equity and workforce development; and

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84 WHEREAS, the Homer Port Coastal FREIGHT project aligns with PIDP's intent and merit  
85 criteria; and

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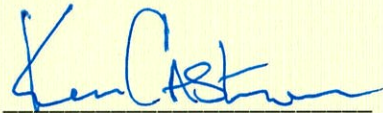
WHEREAS, PIDP provides a key funding opportunity to complete the rehabilitation of this critical port infrastructure for the benefit of the communities, industry and other regional stakeholders in Southcentral and Western Alaska, which would otherwise be out of reach for us; and


Whereas, In light of the regional importance of the project, the City of Homer has developed a financial plan to provide significant match funds through bond/loans, and meeting loan payments utilizing current and new revenues in the Port & Harbor Enterprise Reserve Account.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, supports the Homer Port Coastal FREIGHT project and the City's application to the USDOT FY2024 PIDP Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska commits to providing local match funds of twenty and one-half (20.5) percent of the project cost, the total of which is anticipated at ~~\$12,423,000~~ **12,349,384.**

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2024.

CITY OF HOMER  
  
KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:  
  
RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A

