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**CITY OF HOMER  
HOMER, ALASKA**

City Manager/Port Director

**RESOLUTION 26-011(S)**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA  
SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING \$18,186,535 FOR THE STATE OF  
ALASKA MUNICIPAL HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE  
FY 2027 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, The harbor facilities in Alaska are ports of refuge for ocean going vessels, and serve as essential transportation hubs to coastal Alaskan communities for supplies, trade in goods and services and connections to the world market for our exports and imports; and

WHEREAS, The State of Alaska, over the past nearly 30 years, 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, The municipalities took over this important responsibility even though they knew that these same harbor facilities were in poor condition at the time of transfer due to the state's failure to keep up with deferred maintenance; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Full funding of the \$18,186,535 FY 2027 request would allow the State to address the highest-priority, safety-related harbor infrastructure needs identified through the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program scoring process; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT P&F) utilizes a beneficial administrative process to review, score and rank applicants to the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program, since state funds may be limited; and

45  
46 WHEREAS, Homer City Council has learned that DOT&PF has not convened the Project  
47 Evaluation Board (PEB) to review this year's applications; and  
48

49 WHEREAS, For each harbor facility grant application, these municipalities have  
50 committed to invest 100% of the design and permitting costs and 50% of the construction cost;  
51 and  
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53 WHEREAS, The municipalities of Anchorage, Kake, Kodiak, Petersburg, Unalaska, and  
54 Wrangell have committed to contribute half of their project cost in local match funding for  
55 FY2027 towards harbor projects of significant importance locally as required in the Harbor  
56 Facility Grant Program; and  
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58 WHEREAS, During the last seventeen years the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program  
59 has only been fully funded twice; and  
60

61 WHEREAS, A survey done by the Alaska Municipal League of Alaska's ports and harbors  
62 found that, from the respondents, the backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace  
63 former State-owned harbors has increased to at least \$500,000,000; and  
64

65 WHEREAS, Given that Alaska is a maritime state and that our harbors are foundational  
66 to both our way of life and the economy of this great State it is in the public's best interest to  
67 maintain this critical infrastructure by using State, Local and Federal funds to recapitalize the  
68 crucial harbor moorage infrastructure statewide.  
69

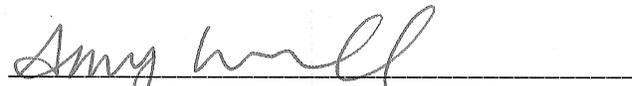
70 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska hereby urges  
71 full funding by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska's Municipal  
72 Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY2027 State Capital Budget in order to ensure enhanced  
73 safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.  
74

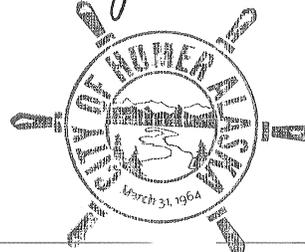
75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, hereby urges the  
76 Alaska DOT&PF to convene the Project Evaluation Board to review this year's municipal  
77 Harbors Grant Program applicants.  
78

79 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 9 th day of February, 2026.  
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81   
82 SHELLY ERICKSON, MAYOR PRO TEM  
83

84 ATTEST:

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86 \_\_\_\_\_  
87 AMY WOODRUFF, CITY CLERK



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89 Fiscal Note: N/A

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