

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 11/25/19
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2874

A Resolution in Support of Full Funding (\$12,145,312) for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY2021 State Capital Budget.

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau recognizes 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, these harbor facilities are ports of refuge and areas for protection for ocean-going vessels and people aboard those vessels; and

WHEREAS, over the last 30 years, the State of Alaska has transferred ownership of most of the 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, the City and Borough of Juneau Docks and Harbors, is pleased with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities administrative process to review, score and rank applicants to the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program, since state funds may be limited; and

WHEREAS, for each harbor facility grant application, these municipalities have committed to invest 100 percent of the design and permitting costs and 50 percent of the construction cost; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of the City of Cordova, City and Borough of Sitka, City of Ketchikan, City of Homer, City of Edna Bay, City of Kake, City and Borough of Juneau, and the Municipality of Anchorage have offered to contribute \$12,145,312 in local match funding for FY2021 towards seven harbor projects of significant importance locally as required in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, completion of these harbor facility projects is all dependent on the 50 percent match from the State of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. That the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly urges full funding in the amount of \$12,145,312 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska's Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY2021 State Capital Budget in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

Section 2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately after its adoption.

Adopted this 25th day of November, 2019.



Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:



Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk