

CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2682

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY 2019 STATE CAPITAL BUDGET; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Ketchikan recognizes the majority of the public boat harbors in Alaska where 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 including Ketchikan; and

WHEREAS, these harbor facilities are ports of refuge and areas for protection for ocean-going vessels and fishermen throughout the State of Alaska, especially in coastal Alaskan communities such as Ketchikan; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska during the past 15 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 including Ketchikan; 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 municipalities, including Ketchikan, 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 to create the Harbor Facility Grant program, AS 29.60.800; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of the City of Anchorage, the City and Borough of Juneau, the City of Ketchikan, the City and Borough of Sitka, the City of Whale Pass, and the City of Whittier have offered to contribute \$9,820,141 in local match funding for FY2019 towards eight harbor projects of significant importance locally as required in the Harbor facility Grant Program; and

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

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

WHEREAS, during the last 12 years the Harbor Facility Grant Program has been fully funded only twice; and


WHEREAS, during the last 12 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 Council of the City of Ketchikan, Alaska as follows:

Section 1: By this resolution, hereby urges full funding by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska's Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2019 State Capital Budget in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

Section 2: This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council for the City of Ketchikan on this 2nd day of November, 2017.



Robert Sivertsen, Vice-Mayor

ATTEST:



Katherine M. Suiter, City Clerk