

**Alaska Municipal League
Resolution 2019-14**

A resolution in support of full funding (\$7,409,439) for the State of Alaska Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2020 State capital budget.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League 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 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 fishermen throughout the State of Alaska, especially in coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska transferred ownership of most of these facilities – many of which were at or near the end of their service life at the time of transfer – to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities took over this important responsibility even though these harbor facilities were in poor condition due to the state’s failure to complete deferred maintenance; and

WHEREAS, consequently, local municipal harbormasters 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 Alaska Municipal League 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% of the design and permitting costs and 50% of the construction cost; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage, the City and Borough of Juneau, City of Ketchikan, City and Borough of Sitka, and the City of Angoon have offered to contribute \$7,409,439 in local match funding for FY2020 as required 50% match by the Harbor Facility Grant Program; 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, that the Alaska Municipal League urges full funding in the amount of \$7,409,439 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska’s Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2020 State Capital Budget in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ON THE 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2018.

Signed: 
President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: 
Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League