

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-21**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA REQUESTING  
THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM MAINTAIN CORE SERVICE LEVELS,  
INCLUDING EQUITABLE SUMMER 2016 SERVICE FOR SITKA**

**WHEREAS**, Southeast Alaska coastal communities without access to road systems have depended on the Alaska Marine Highway System for reliable, predictable primary marine transportation service since the creation of AMHS; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Marine Highway System transports the region's residents, visitors, food, health care, supplies, equipment, and seafoods, providing critically important transportation and commerce links within the Region and connections to the rest of Alaska and the lower 48; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Marine Highway System is facing increasing costs and decreasing revenues available to operate the System which are resulting in reduced core service levels in Southeast Alaska specifically the reduction of the proposed Sitka Summer 2016 schedule resulting in only ONE northbound and ONE southbound route per week; and

**WHEREAS**, the seven-month Sitka Winter schedule has consisted for several years of only ONE northbound sailing and TWO southbounds per week, with the proposed summer schedule reduced even more; and

**WHEREAS**, AMHS has better alternatives to reduce its budget by re-scheduling vessels that would not restrict core summer service so critical to the economies and citizens of Sitka;


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska Marine Highway System maintain its essential core service levels to Sitka with at least two northbound and two southbound stops throughout the entire summer season – May through September – and if required modify non-essential vessel schedules to provide equitable AMHS service throughout Southeast Alaska; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka requests a consistent, sustainable core service schedule for Southeast Alaska be developed with input from the Marine Transportation Advisory Board, Southeast Conference, and the local communities which have the greatest stake in maintaining reliable AMHS service levels.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.

  
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Mim McConnell, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Sara Peterson, CMC  
Municipal Clerk