Opposing decisions by DOT&PF to increase their indirect rates; supporting increased funding for the Community Transportation Program; and encouraging policy to enable local-delivered projects and locally managed federal funds.

WHEREAS, cities and boroughs recognize the important role of the DOT&PF; and

WHEREAS, that role extends to ensuring that statewide public transportation infrastructure be sustainable, safe, and efficient; and

WHEREAS, local governments – who similarly have local infrastructure responsibilities – have worked in partnership with DOT&PF to see that this occurs; and

WHEREAS, local governments maintain a nearly equal number of road miles (5,500), the majority of the state’s ports and harbors, and numerous airports; and

WHEREAS, DOT&PF recently announced a decision to nearly double their indirect rate on projects funded by the federal government, which has called into question multiple project budgets and increased the necessary local match; and

WHEREAS, this change has been unjustified beyond filling in Department budgets while the State has otherwise restricted spending, is considered drastic in the scale of the increase, and impacts current projects that have budgeted and planned for an agreed-upon rate; and

WHEREAS, DOT&PF has a policy to require that all federal funding be directed to projects through that agency, and that a DOT&PF engineer be assigned to all projects; and

WHEREAS, where there is capacity within a local government to oversee and manage a project, they should have the opportunity to do so, and that denying that opportunity increases costs to the State and decreases efficiencies; and

WHEREAS, funding for programs such as the Community Transportation Program have decreased in recent years and are currently at risk of expiring in the next few years; and

WHEREAS, local governments depend on those programs and funding therein to leverage local funds available for local projects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League opposes decisions by DOT&PF to increase their indirect rates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alaska Municipal League supports increased funding for the Community Transportation Program; and encourages changes to DOT&PF policy to enable local-delivered projects and acceptance by local governments of federal transportation project funds.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ON THE 22nd DAY OF NOVEMBER 2019.

Signed: ____________________________  Attest: ________________________
President, Alaska Municipal League  Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League