

# ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

## Resolution #2024-06

### **A resolution in support of expanded funding for NOAA and partners to complete mapping and bathymetry of Alaska's coastal zone.**

WHEREAS, Alaska's 66,000 miles of coastline are the longest of any state in the nation – and more than the rest of the nation combined – and are important places for economic activity, community development, transportation, and subsistence; and

WHEREAS, completed mapping and bathymetry is especially lacking for Alaska and for the Alaskan Arctic, which lack the comprehensive shoreline and nearshore maps available to much of the rest of the nation; and

WHEREAS, informed decisions and improved safety in the coastal zone depend heavily on accurate and up-to-date coastal mapping data; and

WHEREAS, community resilience to coastal hazards such as flooding, erosion, and tsunami begins with mapping data to establish baseline conditions and model change; and

WHEREAS, increased efforts to map Alaska's coastal zone will lead to improved access to and utilization of data; and

WHEREAS, mapping will bolster the shipping and fishing economy through safer maritime navigation; and

WHEREAS, mapping will ensure more resilient coastal economies through flood and wave impact modeling, data-driven coastal infrastructure development, improved emergency planning, and more effective community management plans; and

WHEREAS, the November 2019 Presidential Memorandum on Ocean Mapping of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone and the Shoreline and Nearshore of Alaska calls for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the State of Alaska, and the Alaska Mapping Executive Committee (AMEC) to develop an Alaska coastal mapping strategy; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funding will lead to seamless and accurate coastal mapping data that will support the State of Alaska, local governments, Alaska's economy, Tribes, national security, and the environment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AML requests that Congress allocate the resources necessary to complete the goals and objectives outlined in Mapping the Coast of Alaska: A 10-Year Strategy in Support of the United States Economy, Security, and Environment by 2030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED in order to further the mission of NOAA in Alaska, we call upon the federal government to provide housing for NOAA employees, including in Ketchikan, the homeport of the NOAA research vessel Fairweather.

Adopted by the majority of AML members at the Annual Business Meeting, December 8, 2023.