CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA RESOLUTION CY19-07

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS INFORMING THE GOVERNOR OF ALASKA OF THE IMPORTANCE FOR CONTINUED ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SERVICE (AMHS) FOR GUSTAVUS

WHEREAS, Alaska Statute 19.65.050 dictates the Alaska Marine Highway System is an essential part of the state transportation system, and that it warrants continued and predictable state support with a steady, stable, and dependable marine highway system service level; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's budget proposal to eliminate AMHS services does not provide a fiscal analysis to justify such action; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's budget proposal does not take seriously the life-changing impacts to those who desperately rely on the ferries to survive in rural Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the AMHS provides life-saving transportation services for those in need of medical services; and

WHEREAS, the residents and businesses rely on the AMHS to provide adequate service to meet the health and lifestyle needs of Southeast Alaska customers, businesses, and residents; and

WHEREAS, the AMHS provides critical transportation to remote areas where primary and second-home populations reside and work; and

WHEREAS, the AMHS provides for a vital commuting workforce; and

WHEREAS, communities of Southeast Alaska's economy rely heavily on the independent traveler for whom the AMHS is the main transportation system; and

WHEREAS, AMHS service to Southeast Alaska communities provide for the expanding needs of the commercial sector, providing increased capacity for goods and services to and from neighboring locations, as well as the lower forty-eight; and

WHEREAS, the economic damage caused by eliminating ferry service to Southeast Alaska communities would be devastating.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gustavus City Council stresses to the Governor the need, in accordance with State Statute, to provide for the AMHS continuing essential services to the maritime communities of Alaska.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council this 11thth day of March, 2019, and effective upon adoption.

Calvin Casipit, Mayor

Attest: Karen Platt, City Clerk