

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2010-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL URGING THE
STATE OF ALASKA TO PROVIDE WEEKLY ALASKA MARINE
HIGHWAY SYSTEM SERVICE BETWEEN JUNEAU, UPPER
SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMUNITIES, AND THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS
UPON COMPLETION OF THE GUSTAVUS CAUSEWAY REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, construction of the new causeway and multi-modal dock in Gustavus is scheduled to be completed in September of 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is a vital transportation link that provides remote communities with their only connection to the intercontinental surface transportation network; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) conducted a survey of local residents, registered voters, business owners, fishermen, and other community members during January 2008, in part regarding the introduction of AMHS service to and from Gustavus, which indicates the following substantive findings:

- An overwhelming majority (77%) of community members support AMHS ferry service; the majority (51%) strongly support. Level of support does not significantly vary by respondent group.
- Of respondents that support AMHS service (77%), the overwhelming majority (79%) indicate they prefer passenger and vehicle service.
- Of respondents that support AMHS service (77%), the majority, support weekly service either on a seasonal (71%) or year-round basis (70%).

WHEREAS, State of Alaska DCCED and DOT/PF sponsored other studies including the Northern Panhandle Community Transportation Assessment Report that identified the lack of ferry service for Gustavus as a deficiency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gustavus Strategic Plan, compiled in May of 2005, identified that 79.5% of respondents supported ground/water transportation (passenger and freight) as being "very important" to the economy in Gustavus; and

WHEREAS, Gustavus relies on Juneau for goods, services, and medical care and has a decreasing frequency of scheduled air service, and lacks the AMHS service enjoyed by neighboring communities; and

WHEREAS, the cost of transporting vehicles and goods between Gustavus and Juneau is approximately three to five times more costly than in communities served by AMHS; and

WHEREAS, Gustavus is one of the few growing communities in Southeast Alaska, primarily due to our proximity to Glacier Bay National Park and the growth of recreational opportunities including hiking, kayaking, golfing, sightseeing and fishing excursions; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the DOT/PF AMHS is urged to consider dedicated scheduled service between Juneau and Gustavus and Northern Southeast Alaska communities with a minimum of weekly service, upon completion of the Gustavus Causeway and Dock Replacement project; and

AND NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Gustavus would like frequent AMHS service to our community.

Passed and approved by the Gustavus City Council this 14th day of January, 2010.

Via Teleconference
Paul Berry, Mayor

Joe Lassiter
Joe Lassiter, Council Member

Melanie Lesh
Melanie Lesh, Council Member

Jim Mackovjak
Jim Mackovjak, Council Member

John Nixon
John Nixon, Vice Mayor

via Teleconference
Tim Sunday, Council Member

Allison H. Banks
Allison Banks, Council Member

Kapryce Manchester
Attest: Kapryce Manchester,
City Clerk