

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION 2017-072**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
SEWARD, ALASKA, URGING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE  
AND GOVERNOR TO FULLY FUND THE MUNICIPAL  
HARBOR FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY2019  
STATE CAPITAL BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, in 1999 the State of Alaska transferred ownership of harbors to the communities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that the backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace these former State-owned harbors has increased to over \$100,000,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the municipalities of the City of Anchorage, the City and Borough of Juneau, City of Ketchikan, the City and Borough of Sitka, City of Whale Pass, and the City of Whittier have offered to contribute \$9,820,141 in local match funding for FY2019 towards eight harbor projects of significant importance locally as required in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, for each harbor facility grant application these municipalities have committed to invest 100% of the design and permitting costs and 50% of the construction cost; and

**WHEREAS**, other communities have supported Seward with resolutions to the state to fund the Facility Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, during the last eleven years the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program has only been fully funded twice.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA** that:

**Section 1.** The City Manager is hereby authorized to urge the Alaska State Legislature and Governor to fully fund the Harbor Facility Matching Grant Program in the amount of \$9,820,141 in the FY2019 State Capital Budget in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

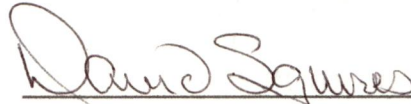
**Section 2.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of Seward, Alaska, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017.

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RESOLUTION 2017-072**

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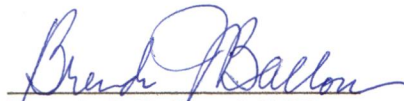
**THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA**



**David Squires, Mayor**

AYES: Casagranda, Keil, McClure, Slater, Towsley, Horn, Squires  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**ATTEST:**



Brenda J. Ballou, MMC  
City Clerk

(City Seal)



# Council Agenda Statement



Meeting Date: November 27, 2017

Through: Jim Hunt, City Manager *R. Long*

From: Norm Regis, Harbormaster

Agenda Item: A resolution urging the State Legislature and Governor to fully fund the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY2019 State Capital Budget

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## **BACKGROUND & JUSTIFICATION:**

The City of Seward received funding in 2016 from the Harbor Facility Grant program with support from other communities that have not requested funds. The City of Seward would like to support other communities.

The grant program was started because the State of Alaska transferred the responsibility for its state owned harbors to local municipalities, but many harbors needed new capital investment. It is currently estimated that the backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace these former State owned harbors has increased to over \$100,000,000.

For FY2019, many municipalities have grant applications pending with a total cost to the state of \$9,820,141. The grant program has only been fully funded twice.

The grant program is the City's best means to replace its docks and keep customer rate increases to a minimum, with renewing our support to keep this grant funded each year would benefit other communities and the City of Seward for future harbor improvements.

## **DOT Grant Program**

The Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program is managed by DOT&PF. The program provides 50/50 matching funds to eligible applicants. The program was created in 2006, but not funded until 2007. The legislature supplied funding in subsequent years (but not in 2009). The money can only be used for construction ready projects, not for planning or engineering. This grant program is funded on an annual basis at the discretion of the Alaska Legislature and consists of two tiers, Tier I and II. With State revenues projected to decline over the next few years, funding for the municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program will be a bigger challenge for the Legislature.

## **INTENT:**

To urge the state legislature and Governor to fully fund the state Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the amount of \$9,820,141.

<b><u>CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST:</u></b>		Yes	No	N/A
1.	2030 Seward Comprehensive Plan (page 16): Maintain a thriving port of Seward through harbor improvements, infrastructure expansion, and implementation of management plans.	X		
2.	City of Seward Strategic Plan (page 7): Complete the renovation of the Seward Boat Harbor	X		
3.	Other:			

**FISCAL NOTE:**

There is no fiscal note for this Agenda Statement and Resolution; this is to support other communities with the same needs as the City of Seward.

Approved by Finance Department: *Kristen Anderson*

**ATTORNEY REVIEW:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No   X  

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Council approve Resolution 2017-072, authorizing the City Administration and lobbyist to urge the state legislature and Governor to fully fund the Harbor Matching Grant program in the amount of \$9,820,141.