CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA

City Manager/
Port and Harbor Director

RESOLUTION 16-114

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, IN
SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA HARBOR
FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE FY 2018 STATE CAPITAL BUDGET.

WHEREAS, The majority of the public boat harbors in Alaska were constructed by the
State in the 1960’s and 1970’s and serve as critical transportation links and the hubs for
waterfront commerce and economic development in Alaskan coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, These harbor facilities are ports of refuge and areas for protection for
ocean-going vessels and fishermen throughout the State of Alaska, especially in coastal
Alaskan communities; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 30 years the State of Alaska has transferred ownership of
most of these State-owned harbors to local municipalities with many of these harbor facilities
in poor condition due to failure to keep up with maintenance; and

WHEREAS, When local municipal harbormasters formulated their annual harbor
facility budgets they inherited a major financial burden that their local municipal
governments could not afford; and

WHEREAS, In response to this financial burden, the Governor and Alaska Legislature
passed legislation supported by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port
Administrators (AAHPA) to create the Harbor Facility Grant Program, AS 29.60.800; and

WHEREAS, The AAHPA endorses the Department of Transportation and Public
Facilities administrative review process to review, score, and rank applicants to the Harbor
Facility Grant Program since State funds may be limited; 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, The municipalities of the City of Kake, the City of Ketchikan, the City and
Borough of Sitka, the Municipality of Skagway, the City of Valdez, and the City and Borough of
Wrangell have offered to contribute $18,160,055 in local match funding for FY2018 towards
seven harbor projects of significant importance locally as required in the Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, Completion of these harbor facility [projects is all dependent on the 50% match from the State of Alaska’s Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, During the last ten years the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program has only been fully funded twice, creating a backlog of projects necessary to repair and replace these former State-owned harbors in excess of $100,000,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, by this Resolution, urges full funding in the amount of $18,160,055 by the Governor and the Alaska Legislature for the State of Alaska’s Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2017 State Capital Budget in order to ensure enhanced safety and economic prosperity among Alaskan coastal communities.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Council of Homer, Alaska this 21st day of November, 2016.

CITY OF HOMER

BRYAN ZAK, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A