

Introduced by: Mayor, Assembly  
Date: 02/01/22  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2022-011**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF HOMER’S REQUEST TO THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FOR \$1.5 MILLION TO COMPLETE THE HOMER PORT AND HARBOR EXPANSION GENERAL INVESTIGATION STUDY**

**WHEREAS**, the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (“IIJA”) provides supplemental appropriations to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) and directed the USACE to develop a workplan within 60 days of enactment; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution supports the City of Homer’s (“City”) request to the USACE for \$1.5 million and for inclusion in the USACE’s IIJA workplan for a new start General Investigation study to analyze the expansion of the City’s existing port and harbor; and

**WHEREAS**, the General Investigation study will cover planning aspects needed to build a large vessel port at the Homer Spit including, but not limited to: breakwater basin design, economic, environmental and geo-physical factors, construction methods and costs and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of the General Investigation study is \$3 million and it is a necessary initial step toward completion of the City’s port and harbor expansion project that will be designed to support large vessel and multi-modal cargo operations allowing it to serve as a backup port in the event of a major disaster at the Port of Alaska and also serves as the region’s only ice-free gateway to Cook Inlet; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has committed \$750,000 in local cost share (25% of the total cost) and has requested \$750,000 from the State of Alaska (25% of the total cost) to complete the General Investigation study; and

**WHEREAS**, the City’s port, first constructed in 1965 and expanded to 50-acres, is centrally located in the Gulf of Alaska and is a marine transportation and industrial hub for Central and Western Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last 15 years this port has seen a 42 percent increase in large vessel traffic with a current 414-vessel moorage waiting list and has the second highest amount of commercial fishing vessels in the state, over 50 maritime charter companies, and Alaska Marine Highway vessels; and

**WHEREAS,** the City’s harbor serves as a port of refuge for large vessels transiting the Gulf of Alaska, Cook Inlet and Kennedy Entrance and has the potential to accommodate layover, repairs and provisioning needs of U.S. Coast Guard ships deployed under the Arctic Security mission; and

**WHEREAS,** the City’s port and harbor expansion would meet the marine industry’s growing market demands, address navigational hazards and capture new economic opportunities with a positive impact on the lives and livelihoods of thousands of Alaskans through job creation, economic development, and strengthened national security well into the future;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** The Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly respectfully requests that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) approve the City of Homer’s request for \$1,500,000 (\$1.5 million) for a new start General Investigation study for the expansion of the existing port and harbor.

**SECTION 2.** Copies of this resolution will be sent to Michael Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Office of the Under Secretary of the Army, U.S. Department of the Army, 108 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310; Congressman Don Young, Senator Sullivan, Senator Murkowski and our local and state representatives.

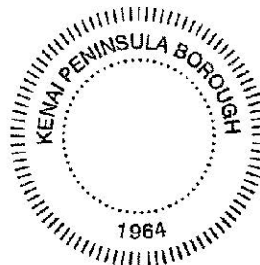
**SECTION 3.** That this resolution is effective immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022.**

  
Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Bjorkman, Chesley, Cox, Derkevorkian, Ecklund, Elam, Hibbert, Tupper, Johnson  
No: None  
Absent: None