

Introduced by: Cooper, Smalley, Cox, Johnson
Date: 12/03/19
Action: Adopted as Amended
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2019-063**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE APPROVE
A COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE GENERAL OBLIGATION
BOND FOR THE 2020 ELECTION**

- WHEREAS,** there is a critical need for coastal infrastructure repair and maintenance in Alaska and the *Report Card for Alaska's Infrastructure 2017* by the Alaska Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, awarded a grade of "D" to Alaska's ports and harbors; and
- WHEREAS,** many port, harbors, and docks need replacement or repair and have little financial ability to do so, including those in Anchorage, Ketchikan, Skagway, Juneau, Petersburg, Cordova, Kenai, Seward, Homer, Port Graham, Seldovia, Nenana, and others; and
- WHEREAS,** coastal infrastructure throughout the state, from Utqiagvik, Dutch Harbor, Unalaska, Whittier, Nome, Mat Su Borough, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Sitka, Kodiak and more play key roles in local economies;
- WHEREAS,** many states in the Lower 48 take responsibility for maintaining coastal infrastructure, including the Maryland Port Administration which invested \$105.5 million in a new 50-foot berth for the Port of Baltimore, and the Florida State Transportation Trust Fund which allocates \$100 million annually to various seaport programs, among others; and
- WHEREAS,** a 2011 study on Alaska's ports and harbors recommended the State of Alaska create a Transportation Infrastructure Development Program to create a comprehensive baseline assessment of coastal infrastructure and state funding of such infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Alaska has supported infrastructure projects across the state through voter-approved general obligation bonds, with a total of 51 bond packages being approved since statehood totaling \$2.2 billion, including a 2010 bond package for education infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS,** the Alaska State Legislature must approve a general obligation bond package during the 2020 legislative session for a bond package to appear on the November 3, 2020 ballot; and

WHEREAS, ports throughout the State of Alaska are in immediate need of maintenance and repair and cannot wait until the November 2022 election to undergo such repairs;

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

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports funding critical coastal infrastructure throughout the state with general obligation bonds.

SECTION 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests the State of Alaska Legislature approve a coastal infrastructure general obligation bond to be included on the November 3, 2020 ballot.


SECTION 3. That copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Michael J. Dunleavy, Senator Peter Micciche, Senator Gary Stevens, Representative Ben Carpenter, Representative Gary Knopp, Representative Louise Stutes and Representative Sarah Vance.

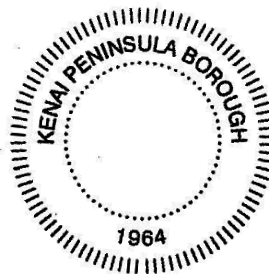
SECTION 4. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 3RD DAY OF DECEMBER, 2019.

ATTEST:


Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk


Kelly Cooper, Assembly President



Yes: Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, Cooper
No: None
Absent: None