MEMORANDUM

TO: Kelly Cooper, Assembly President Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Charlie Pierce, Mayor

FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, Community & Fiscal Projects Manager

DATE: October 13, 2020

RE: Resolution 2020-<u>015</u> Authorizing the Cities in the Borough to Use Cares Act Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF Funds) from the Borough to Fund Distribution by the Cities for Housing Relief Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic in each City Through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, and Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into Agreements Between the Borough and the Cities for The Cooperative and/or Joint Administration of the Functions or Powers to Provide for Housing Assistance in the Cities (Mayor)

This resolution would authorize the cities in the borough to use CRF Funds from the borough in partnership with Alaska Housing Financing Corporation (AHFC) for individual housing grants for mortgage and rent relief for city residents who are experiencing economic hardship due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

AHFC will develop the website, application portal, and provide for a verification process without charging an administrative fee. This housing relief program will largely mirror the eligibility criteria and programs that the cities of Kenai, Soldotna, and Kachemak have partnered with the AHFC to administer using the cities' grant funds. AHFC administered the Alaska Housing Relief Program earlier this summer, which provided up to \$1,200 for each eligible household to assist with housing costs, payable directly to their lender or landlord. The same eligibility criteria and requirements from AHFC's Alaska Housing Relief Program will apply to these housing relief programs. There is a community need for additional funding for housing both inside and outside the cities which may only continue to grow as this health emergency extends into the winter.

Your consideration of this resolution is appreciated.