

A RESOLUTION OF THE HAINES BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REAFFIRMING ITS SUPPORT OF RESOLUTIONS 04-04-042 AND 07-11-116, AND ITS CONTINUED PREFERENCE FOR IMPROVED FERRY SERVICE RATHER THAN AN EAST LYNN CANAL HIGHWAY.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has requested public input on the Southeast Alaska Transportation Plan *2011 Update Scoping Report*; and

WHEREAS, the *2011 Update Scoping Report* includes an alternative that would build an East Lynn Canal Highway; and

WHEREAS, through Resolutions 04-04-042 and 07-11-116 the Haines Borough has expressed and reaffirmed its preference for improved Alaska Marine Highway service in the Lynn Canal and opposed development of an East Lynn Canal Highway; and

WHEREAS, Appendix C of the Juneau Access Draft Environmental Impact Statement states a majority of residents surveyed in Juneau, Haines and Skagway prefer improved ferry service rather than road access to Juneau; and

WHEREAS, the Record of Decision of the Juneau Access Final Environmental Impact Statement determined an East Lynn Canal Highway would be twice as expensive to operate and maintain as existing ferry service; and

WHEREAS, the Golder Associates Geotechnical Investigation found 112 geological hazards that, in addition to 36 active avalanche paths, would endanger public safety and close an East Lynn Canal Highway frequently, thereby decreasing Juneau access; and

WHEREAS, the Juneau Access Final Environmental Impact Statement determined there would likely be 600 non-fatal and 8 fatal accidents over a 40 year period on an East Lynn Canal Highway; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Marine Highway has an excellent safety record; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Transportation Advisory Board advocates investments in new ferries,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Haines Borough Assembly:

Section 1: Reaffirms its support of Resolutions 04-04-042 and 07-11-116 and its continued preference for improved ferry service rather than an East Lynn Canal Highway;


Section 2: Recommends that the state focus planning and funding strategies for transportation improvements in Southeast Alaska on enhancing marine transportation options recommended by the Marine Transportation Advisory Board with special emphasis on the deployment of Alaska Class ferries and that consideration of a Berner's Bay ferry terminal include an inherent public transportation component to support walk-on ferry passengers;

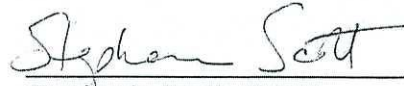
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Section 3: Shall submit copies of this resolution to Andy Hughes, Planning Chief for the Southeast Alaska Transportation Plan, Governor Sean Parnell, Senator Albert Kookesh, and Representative Bill Thomas.

ADOPTED BY A DULY CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE HAINES BOROUGH ASSEMBLY THIS 15th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2011.

ATTEST:


Julie Cozzi, MMC, Borough Clerk


Stephanie Scott, Mayor

