

**CITY OF HOUSTON, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 09-05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF HOUSTON,
ALASKA AFFIRMING SUPPORT OF AND PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
STATE OF ALASKA COMMISSION: KNIK ARM BRIDGE AND TOLL
AUTHORITY (KABATA) AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE KNIK
ARM BRIDGE CROSSING FROM ANCHORAGE, ALASKA NORTH TO
POINT MACKENZIE, MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH, ALASKA.**

WHEREAS, the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) was created in 2003 by Alaska Statute 19.75 to "...develop, stimulate, and advance the economic welfare of the state and further the development of public transportation systems in the vicinity of the Upper Cook Inlet with construction of a bridge to span Knik Arm and connect the Municipality of Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Borough"; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage growth is geographically constrained; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna regional population is growing and is projected to increase around 200,000 more people by the year 2030 regardless of whether the bridge is built or not; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is the 35th fastest growing county in the U.S. this decade out of 3,141 counties; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has a strong regional economy in contrast to a poor economy in bush Alaska attracting in-migration to the area; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is in close proximity to Alaska's economic and transportation hub – Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Houston is the nearest Municipality within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough of which the Knik Arm Bridge would have a significant impact; and

WHEREAS, the Knik Arm Bridge brings an economic stimulus that:

- facilitates movement of people and goods,
- supports Alaska gas line and other resource development projects,
- establishes a new economic corridor for business
- establishes the only alternative highway safety route north,
- connects the Port of Anchorage and Port MacKenzie,
- establishes access to the planned Goose Creek Correctional Center,
- supports population growth due to an abundance of private land for development close to Anchorage,
- provides \$18.3 billion additional economic stimulus within the first twenty-three years of operation,
- provides and estimated 14,000 additional jobs,

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- provides \$1.2 billion additional local tax receipts,
- provides \$1.4 billion additional O&M and Capital expenditures,
- produces an estimated savings of \$95 million per year public travel in the first year alone,
- avoids an 80,000+ metric tons of carbon emissions in the first year,
- generates the maximum value to the Alaska public and the state.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF HOUSTON, that:**

The City of Houston hereby presents this resolution with the strongest recommendation in support of the Knik Arm Bridge as having a substantial economic value to Alaskans, is environmentally friendly, and is affordable and financially feasible.


PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council for the City of Houston, Alaska on this 12th day of February, 2009.

THE CITY OF HOUSTON, ALASKA



Roger Purcell, Mayor

ATTEST:



**Steven M. Cunningham, City Clerk
Houston, Alaska**

