



MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION FY21-01

A RESOLUTION BY THE SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTING THE RESTORATION OF FY21 SOUTHCOAST REGION HIGHWAYS AND AVIATION FUNDING DECREMENT AND RETENTION OF RURAL AIRPORTS AND MAINTENANCE BY THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES (DOT&PF)

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska, DOT&PF, controls 239 airports, and 237 are rural airports; and

WHEREAS, the Central and South Coast Regions identified by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Division of Information and System Services, Transportation Geographic Information Section are partially or wholly in the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference membership boundaries in the Bristol Bay, Kodiak, and Aleutian-Pribilof region; and

WHEREAS, in the Central Region there are 70 controlled (DOT&PF) airports, and 58 in the Southcoast Region, with 35 other government-operated and -owned; and

WHEREAS, the South Coast Region Highways and Aviation decrement of \$376.2 deleted inter-agency and capital improvement project receipt authority; and

WHEREAS, there are 133 rural airport maintenance contracts across Alaska costing approximately \$4 million dollars to maintain State-operated airports; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is pursuing to reduce the State's rural airport maintenance obligations through discontinued scheduled maintenance, closing, or transferring airport ownership to another sponsor such as borough, community, tribe, or reclassify as a "back-country" airport with no planned regular maintenance provided for closure. Currently, eighteen rural small airports have been targeted under this directive with potential devastating socio-economic environment and safety challenges; and

WHEREAS, aviation in rural Alaska is a basic mode of transportation that provides transportation of people, goods, and services including medevac due to the fact that most of Alaska's communities are not connected by a contiguous road system. If services are reduced, eliminated, or modified this will have a quality of life impact on schools, health care providers, businesses, tourism, economic development, agencies, and residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership support the Alaska Aviation System's extensive planning and long range vision to ensure the safe, effective, and efficient operation of Alaska's 237 state-owned rural airports (2 international airports) through inter-agency and public involvement to meet the aviation reliability, service, and safety management goals and objectives by 2030, and

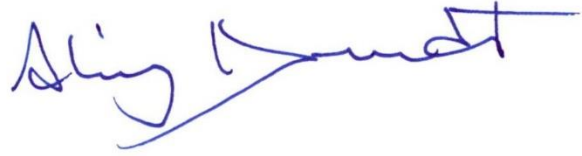
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SWAMC Membership request the state take no action for FY22 to reduce funding to airports in Southwest Alaska that would reduce operations or operating capacities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 5th day of March 2021.

IN WITNESS THERETO:



Mary Swain, SWAMC Board President



Shirley Marquardt, SWAMC Executive Director