## MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. TAB 23-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD REQUESTING THE ASSEMBLY ADOPT AND FUND A TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FOR 2023 THAT INCLUDES PROJECTS LISTED IN THE 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP), SHOWN ON THE 2022 OFFICIAL STREETS AND HIGHWAYS PLAN (OSHP), THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PLANS, AS WELL AS OTHER PRIORITIZED PROJECTS, ALL OF WHICH WILL REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION, SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY, ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE SAFETY, INCREASE RELIABILITY, AND PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES FOR RESIDENTS.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is the fastest growing borough in the state; and

WHEREAS, with the ever increasing population, there is a need to accelerate improvements and connections within our transportation system network which includes roads, transit, and pedestrian facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's (Borough) Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) identifies seven goals including the need to provide transportation choices, improve connectivity, improve mobility, make our transportation system safer, and to support economic vitality; and

WHEREAS the LRTP identified \$1.3 Billion of needed transportation infrastructure improvements between 2016 and 2035; and

WHEREAS, during this same time period the Borough's population is expected to more than double to 189,900 residents; and

WHEREAS, the Official Streets and Highways Plan, Capital Improvement Program, Safe Routes to School Plan, and Comprehensive Plans, also identify priority transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, to implement these plans to improve our transportation infrastructure, funding needs be programmed so that construction can begin as early as possible in order to prevent additional connectivity, congestion, and safety issues from getting worse; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Borough residents to fund and construct key elements of the Borough's transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the city of Houston when through a transition in leadership and their recommendation for a road project did not make it to the TIP 23 list; and WHEREAS, transportation infrastructure surrounding our schools is a priority for safety and connectivity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board recommends the assembly advance the 2023 Transportation Infrastructure Program as ranked in the proposed list; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Transportation Advisory Board recommends the City of Houston, King Arthur Drive upgrade project be added to the TIP 23 list; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Transportation Advisory Board recommends that school projects are prioritized for funding after road projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board recommends the assembly seek and develop alternative funding mechanisms for the construction of public roads, public transit facilities, and pedestrian/bicycle pathways in the Borough to improve our transportation system.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 31st day of March 2023.

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ATTEST:

Kin Sollien, Planning Services Manager Staff Support