

CITY OF COFFMAN COVE

Resolution 14-10

A JOINT RESOLUTION BY AND BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES OF THE PRINCE OF WALES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (POWCAC) SETTING AS THE ISLAND'S TOP TRANSPORTATION PRIORITY FOR 2014 AN ANNUAL OPERATIONAL SUBSIDY TO THE INTER-ISLAND FERRY AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Prince of Wales Community Advisory Council acts in an advisory capacity for participating communities on Prince of Wales (POW) Island; and,

WHEREAS, the Inter-Island Ferry Authority (IFA) provides daily ferry service to Prince of Wales Island, and has done so since 2002; and,

WHEREAS, the IFA is a publicly-owned and operated port authority as authorized under Title 29 of Alaska Statutes; and,

WHEREAS, IFA service is of critical importance to Prince of Wales Island; and,

WHEREAS, fuel costs to operate the IFA's ferries have increased six fold since 2002; and,

WHEREAS, the authority has reached the point where it cannot continue to increase the fuel surcharge and still meet its mission of providing reliable, necessary, and affordable service to the traveling public for this region of Southeast Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the past decade of service shows that IFA can meet the island's public transportation needs; and,

WHEREAS, without the IFA, Prince of Wales Island would likely not have the very good freight, passenger, and vehicle service it has today; and,

WHEREAS, the benefits of IFA service include: year-round, 7 days a week passenger/vehicle ferry service between POW and Ketchikan; all weather access to goods and services not available on island (particularly the advanced medical services available in Ketchikan, Sitka, Anchorage and Seattle); transport of students for school-related activities, transport of seafood and goods produced on POW to get off island and to market; access to POW's many visitor attractions; employment of 30 Alaskans; and generation of \$1.24 million in annual payroll; and,

WHEREAS, since its inception, the IFA has carried more than 500,000 passengers and more than 120,000 vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, the IFA, through revenues from ticket sales, meets about 75 percent of its operating costs from ticket sales; and,

WHEREAS, the IFA's proven record of reliable public transportations, and its extraordinary efforts to go as far as it has to meet its operational costs from the fare box, merits an ongoing operational appropriation from the State of Alaska during this time of high fuel costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince of Wales Community Advisory Council supports as its highest transportation priority for 2014 an annual, ongoing operational subsidy from the State of Alaska to the IFA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that POWCAC acknowledges and appreciates past support from the State of Alaska for IFA and its customers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Coffman Cove City Council authorizes the City of Coffman Cove to adopt this resolution.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 19th day of December, 2013.

Mayor/Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

Lynn Bateman, Clerk