

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
RESOLUTION CY20-28**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS
IN SUPPORT OF BYTE NETWORKING DBA FIBRE ALASKA
USDA BROADBAND GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, Gustavus is a rural, Alaskan community and in an “opportunity zone,” indicating our location in an economically distressed area of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, improving internet connectivity in Gustavus has been identified as a critical need and community priority repeatedly including in the 2005 Gustavus Strategic Plan, the 2008 Community Survey Report, and the 2017 Community-wide Survey; and

WHEREAS, broadband for education, health, public safety, and economic development is critical for our community to thrive; and

WHEREAS, the demand for increased bandwidth continues to rise in Gustavus while the cost of developing fiber optic infrastructure is prohibitive for a community of the size and remoteness of Gustavus; and

WHEREAS, the Community Connect project proposed by local internet provider, Byte Networking dba Fibre Alaska, would enable an infrastructure build out that would provide access to broadband at speeds in excess of 25Mbps to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, no other ground-based fiber-optic provider has expressed interest in providing service in Gustavus and support of this project does not prevent current and future competition from satellite and other telecommunication providers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gustavus City Council officially supports Byte Networking dba Fibre Alaska’s proposal to access funding through the USDA Community Connect Grant Program Funding, Opportunity Number RDRUS-CC-2021.

PASSED and **APPROVED** by the Gustavus City Council this __th day of December 2020, and effective upon adoption.

Brittney Cannamore, Mayor

Attest: Karen Platt CMC, City Clerk