NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY P.O. Box 1090

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## RESOLUTION 2022-03 OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE I.R.A. COUNCIL OF THE NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY

A Resolution to support the design and construction of the Port of Nome Thornbush Site to complete development of the remaining 10 acres of an 18-acre parcel, generating additional laydown space to serve the increased demand by Port users, through submission of a USDOT RAISE Grant Funding Application.

WHEREAS, the City of Nome's Port & Harbor serves as the strategic maritime hub facility for over fifty (50) communities along the Western Alaska coastline, with the responsibility of providing marine infrastructure to critical fuel, equipment, cargo, gravel, and other supplies requiring transport by water during the ice-free season, and;

WHEREAS, the Port of Nome plays a crucial role as the only publicly-owned coastal port north of the Aleutians for the refueling and resupply of Arctic vessels, as well as a hub and laydown for oil spill and search and rescue assets to respond quickly to protect mariner's lives, the marine environment and sea life, all of which require laydown space within close proximity to the port, which currently competes with rising demand for storage and laydown space triggered by increased vessel traffic, and;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is actively designing the Port of Nome Modifications Project that will build the nation's first deep draft port in the U.S. Arctic, with construction scheduled to commence in 2024 and reach completion in 2027, requiring a substantial footprint in laydown property for the contractor's equipment, materials and work area, within proximity to the project site; and,

WHEREAS, in 2017, the City of Nome developed approximately 8 acres of an 18-acre parcel known as the Thornbush Property within the Industrial Park area of the Port, and seeks to complete fill of the site's remaining acreage necessary to alleviate the significant demand on the port facility through its application to the RAISE grant program; and,

WHEREAS, Nome Eskimo Community (NEC) is the Federally Recognized Tribe serving the community of Nome and is in support of infrastructure projects that promote the efficient and economical use of the port facilities to support streamlined shipment of commodities to communities across the Bering Strait region that are necessary for sustaining the lives of Alaska residents, and;

**NOW**, **THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** that Nome Eskimo Community strongly supports the City of Nome's application for funding to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure for Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program to design and construct the remainder of the unfilled Thornbush Site.

## **CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned President of the Nome Eskimo Community IRA Council, do hereby certify that the Nome IRA Council is composed of seven (7) members of which <u>6</u> voted on this <u>12th</u> day of April 2022, and the foregoing Resolution was adopted by a vote of <u>6</u> members.

ABSENT\_\_\_1 **ABSTAIN** YES\_\_\_6\_\_\_NO\_\_\_\_

President

Nome Eskimo Community

Secretary/Treasurer Nome Eskimo Community