Resolution 2023-23
Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENT OF THE
PROPOSED 2024 GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET
TO INCREASE EMS FUNDING FOR THE GIRDWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Girdwood Fire Department (GFD) is the only rescue service or emergency medical services (EMS) in the eastern half of the Municipality; and

WHEREAS, GFD is the sole provider of any medical services south of Potter Marsh 24 hours a day on weekends and 15 hours per day on weekdays; and

WHEREAS, funding allocated to GFD for EMS has not been increased since 2021; and

WHEREAS, while Fire service is funded by a tax levy on property in the Girdwood Valley Service Area (GVSA) which, by code, can't typically be expended outside of GVSA, in contrast EMS and rescue are funded from Areawide taxes as a service across the Municipality; and

WHEREAS, on the recommendation of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS) the 2024 proposed government operating budget funds Girdwood Fire services at $1,387,122, excluding Inter-Governmental Charges (IGCs); and

WHEREAS, the 2024 proposed government operating budget funds Girdwood EMS at $507,500, flat funded for the fourth year in a row; and

WHEREAS, EMS & rescue service calls represents over 75% of all calls to Girdwood Fire Department, but only 27% of the total funding; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 proposed budget allocated to Girdwood EMS does not provide adequate funding for staffing levels recommended by NPFA 1720, thereby increasing risk and decreasing the safety of Girdwood’s residents and visitors, and to travelers along the Seward Highway.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors resolves support for the proposed “Johnson & Suite Amendment #10” to the 2024 Operating Budget to increase EMS funding for Girdwood Fire Department by $188,768 on a recurring basis.
Passed and approved by a vote of 5 to 0 on this 20th day of November, 2023.

Briana Sullivan
GBOS Co-Chair and Fire Service Supervisor

Attest