Resolution 2017-15
Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL OF THE SEWARD HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, due to the State of Alaska’s fiscal crisis, Alaska State Trooper patrol of the Seward Highway has been reduced to intermittent service shared state-wide through Bureau of Highway Patrol grant-funded program; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Police Department is unable to use Municipal tax funds to patrol the Seward Highway and communities that are located off the highway as the taxpayers in these areas do not contribute to the tax base that supports the Municipality’s policing services; and

WHEREAS, the Turnagain Arm communities of Girdwood, Rainbow, Bird Creek, Indian, Crow Creek and Portage have reached various solutions for policing within their tax areas, leaving Seward Highway policing the remaining element for which there is no funding source; and

WHEREAS, although technically outside of the responsibilities of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors, the GBOS has long advocated for a proactive approach to making the Seward Highway as safe as possible through visible, consistent policing; and

WHEREAS, at the Seward/Kenai Peninsula Highway Safety Summit, held on April 25, 2017, a motion was passed requesting $2,000,000 per year to fund patrols of the Seward Highway; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development has directed $200,000 in the form of State Direct/Federal Pass-Thru Grants Fund (231) to the Anchorage Police Department for Police Department Patrol of the Seward Highway, and

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors recognizes that this is a short term solution and will continue to seek year-round, consistent proactive policing of the Seward Highway, as well as supporting highway infrastructure design improvements in order to provide for the safety of all Seward Highway travelers.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors resolves by a vote of 4 to 0, its support of the available $200,000 in funding for Anchorage Police Department patrol of the Seward Highway from MP 111 to MP 75, to be scheduled at random times and locations and offset from existing Alaska State Trooper Bureau of Highway Patrol enforcement.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 16th day of October, 2017

Sam Daniel, GBOS Public Safety Supervisor

Attest