WHEREAS, in March 2020, Anchorage began responding to an unprecedented outbreak and global pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, due to the nature of the virus, new guidance regarding health, safety, and life preserving measures is required on an ongoing basis, with information changing daily; and

WHEREAS, failures to receive updates in a timely and easily understood manner puts residents at risk; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 languages are spoken within the Anchorage School District; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage became a Welcoming City in 2014 and adopted the Welcoming Anchorage Roadmap in 2017 (see AIM 110-2017) which, among other things, included the assurance of language access so that all people in the Municipality can participate in their government; and

WHEREAS, a team of interpreters have worked tirelessly to ensure updates on emergency orders, public health guidance, and community updates are available in as many languages as possible;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Municipal Assembly recognizes and honors the contributions of Welcoming Anchorage and the team of interpreters working to make sure all residents have access to timely and up-to-date information during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 5th day of May, 2020.