Submitted by: Assembly Member Rivera and

Assembly Member LaFrance

Prepared by:

Assembly Counsel

For reading:

May 22, 2018

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR No. 2018-167, As Amended

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY DECLARING A POLICY OF DISPERSED PLACEMENT IN THE ANCHORAGE BOWL OF SERVICES AND PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS PERSONS.

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Municipal Clerk's Office

Amended and Approved

Date: June 12, 2018

WHEREAS, for years, the Municipality of Anchorage has placed or supported services to assist homeless persons in the east downtown and north Fairview areas;

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[WHEREAS, services operated by the Municipality and concentrated in this area include the Anchorage Safety Patrol, Anchorage Safety Center (sleep-off center), Anchorage Community Mental Health Services-Adult Services, and Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web;]

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WHEREAS, [other] shelter[, housing][and core emergency [support] services concentrated [located] in this area provided by social service agencies and supported through grants, leases, contracts, permits or partnerships with the Municipality include Brother Francis Shelter, Bean's Café, Downtown Soup Kitchen Hope Center, any many other providers [Karluk Manor (housing first), Covenant House, RurAL CAP programs, Anchorage Jail Complex];

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WHEREAS, the Anchorage 2017 Housing Inventory Chart produced by the Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness indicates of the 357 emergency overnight shelter beds (excluding those only for women and children) available year-round in the Municipality 295 are located in the downtown/Fairview area, and of an additional 92 available seasonally during cold weather 75 are located in this area in Bean's Café;

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WHEREAS, in addition to hosting 82% of the Municipality's emergency overnight shelter beds in this area, it also is the site of the Anchorage Safety Center where people with chronic addictions [chronic inebriates] can sleep during the sobering process[, the housing first project at Karluk Manor housing 46 individuals, and another RurAL CAP supported housing project for 20 individuals]:

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35 36 WHEREAS, the placement and support of these shelters [and housing sites] attracts the chronically homeless, intoxicated persons [public inebriates] and others, and the concentration in this area of unsheltered people consequently results in social services for the most vulnerable citizens also being concentrated, visible and accessible here. The circumstances create a tendency for vulnerable persons and social services support to congregate in the downtown and Fairview areas, which as a result bears the brunt of secondary effects produced thereby;

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WHEREAS, the Municipality's applicable land use and neighborhood plans have the goal of revitalizing the downtown and Fairview areas to make them attractive and walkable centers of economic and community activity; and

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WHEREAS, the current Administration has made strides in planning for and developing

scattered site placements throughout the Anchorage Bowl for housing vulnerable persons and providing other core services, a trend that must be continued; <u>and</u>

WHEREAS, planning and housing resources have recently worked to shift populations who can access services elsewhere to appropriate service locations rather than cycling everyone through these high volume areas; now, therefore

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES and declares it a public policy of the Municipality to, when it has the opportunity to do so, first consider locating or recommending locations dispersed throughout all other areas of the Anchorage Bowl for new or relocated sites for programs [and services] providing emergency overnight services [shelter] or transitional housing for unsheltered homeless persons, and the supportive medical care and mental health care provided proximate to and on-site at such facilities. The Assembly recognizes the work of social services and support in the east downtown and north Fairview areas as important, compassionate, and essential for the Municipality's objectives to end homelessness in our community and therefore locating sites there are not precluded as an option. However, this public policy also recognizes that to end homelessness in the long term and simultaneously support the revitalization of east downtown and north Fairview, dispersed placement of such services throughout the Anchorage Bowl is reasonable and necessary.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 12th day of June, 2018.

Forcest Chumber

ATTEST:

Barbara C. Jones
Municipal Clerk