

Adopted: 10/19/21

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 21-111**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION BUILD BACK BETTER REGIONAL CHALLENGE GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RAIL AND NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY AND IMPROVING RESILIENCY.

WHEREAS, the U. S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has announced the availability of funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the Build Back Better (BBB) Regional Challenge grant program; and

WHEREAS, this grant program allows for coalitions to submit a concept with three to eight potential projects that will help develop a regional growth cluster and stimulate the regional economy; and

WHEREAS, the BBB Regional Challenge is a two phase application process. The Phase 1 application deadline is October 19, 2021, and includes the submittal of a concept detailing the creation of a regional growth cluster. If chosen as a Phase 1 recipient, grant funding will be provided to develop the project applications for Phase 2 funding, with a deadline in March 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB), Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB), and the Alaska Rail Road Corporation (ARRC) have partnered to develop a concept for the creation of a regional

growth cluster that will extend the existing rail line from the Parks Highway down to Ayrshire Road to the Interior Gas Utility (IGU) Titan liquefaction plant (Titan plant) owned by FNSB; and

WHEREAS, this concept will describe the regional growth cluster and detail the economic benefits to each partner and the State of Alaska. The major components of this proposal include:

- Rail completion of segments 3, 4, and 5 of the PMRE in MSB to include a rail connection to the Titan plant;
- Expansion of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) capacity at the Titan plant from 50,000 gallons per day to 150,000 gallons per day;
- Develop connections to support rail transportation of LNG to IGU storage and vaporization facilities in Fairbanks and North Pole; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly hereby authorizes the submittal of a Phase 1 application to the EDA BBB Regional Challenge grant program.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 19 day
of October, 2021.


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)



PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Hale, Nowers, McKee, Yundt, Tew, Sumner, and
Boeve