

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #24-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) PRESERVATION AND REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT (PRICE) 2024 PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE VALDEZ MOBILE HOME REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Goal 2.3 of Plan Valdez (the 2021 Valdez Comprehensive Plan) is to promote, protect, and build quality housing and defines quality housing as “housing that meets community needs including a range of incomes, housing types, and locations; and is built with longevity in mind; and

WHEREAS, Goal 1.3 of Plan Valdez is to foster inclusivity and equity in order to create a community that acknowledges and is inclusive of people, regardless of ability, race, skin color, national origin, sexual orientation, or income; and

WHEREAS, Goal 5.3 of Plan Valdez is to provide a safe community by providing the programs and level of service to protect life and property and create a safe community; and

WHEREAS, Goal 7.1 of Plan Valdez is to reduce the community’s vulnerability to natural events; and

WHEREAS, the Valdez City Council has established the community’s housing needs as their number one council priority for 3 or more years; and

WHEREAS, the demographic information in Plan Valdez and other housing studies show that roughly 23% of the existing housing stock in Valdez is mobile homes and manufactured homes; and

WHEREAS, data from the 2020 US Census shows that Valdez’s lowest-income residents predominantly reside in areas with high concentrations of mobile homes. Census Block Group 2, which is home to three Manufactured Home Communities and nearly half of Valdez’s mobile homes, has some of the city’s lowest household incomes. In this block group, 14% of residents live below the poverty line, and 33.9% have household incomes below \$35,000, demonstrating a significant need for affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, nearly all of the existing mobile and manufactured homes in Valdez were manufactured prior to 1980, and the majority prior to 1976; and

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WHEREAS, the City of Valdez seeks to meet the needs of underserved populations, including those with low- and moderate- incomes, seniors, households with children, Alaska Native residents, and those living with disabilities; and

WEREAS, Valdez experiences many unique and extreme natural hazards, including seismic risks, heavy seasonal snow loads, and significant wind and flooding events which require actions of the city that contribute towards a more resilient and safe community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez plans to apply for a grant for up to \$31,830,028.70 and, while no match is required, commits to contribute additional City of Valdez funds not to exceed \$1,900,000.00 to expand and enhance the scope of the proposed project, for a total funding request of up to \$29,930,028.70; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Department posted the draft application of the PRICE Grant for public notice and comment from May 17 through June 7, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Valdez Community Development Department hosted 3 public open houses to provide information on the draft application and receive questions and comments in person on May 22 and 23, 2024 in City Council Chambers and on May 24, 2024 at the Valdez Airport Pioneer Field; and

WHEREAS, comments were accepted in writing via email or in person at City Hall during the public comment period, and staff offered resources and services for any residents requiring assistance with comment submission; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a work session on May 28, 2024 to discuss the PRICE program and to provide feedback on the draft application; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing on June 18, 2024 to take public comment on the draft application; and

WHEREAS, input from the public comments received and from the City Council have been incorporated into the final grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, that:

The City Manager of the City of Valdez is authorized by Valdez City Council to submit a grant application to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Preservation and Reinvestment Initiative for Community Enhancement (PRICE) Program for up to, \$29,930,028.70, with a City of Valdez contribution not to exceed \$1,900,000 dollars for a total grant request of up to \$31,830,028.70.

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PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
VALDEZ, ALASKA, this 2nd day of July 2024.

City of Valdez, Alaska

Dennis Fleming, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk