

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2025-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING AND SPONSORING THE 46TH ANNUAL ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS CONFERENCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,000

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska is proud to host the 46th Annual Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) Conference, taking place October 20–24, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the AAHPA Conference brings together maritime leaders and experts from across Alaska and beyond, including professionals from various industries, as well as state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the conference provides valuable training, knowledge-sharing, and networking opportunities that contribute to the development and advancement of maritime professionals and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, hosting the AAHPA Conference in Unalaska—home to Dutch Harbor, one of the nation's most vital and productive ports—highlights the city's critical role in Alaska's maritime economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska recognizes the many benefits this conference brings to the community, including economic activity, professional development, and greater visibility for local maritime operations; and

WHEREAS, the City's sponsorship of the event will help promote higher attendance, foster stronger industry connections, and demonstrate Unalaska's ongoing commitment to supporting maritime excellence;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of Unalaska will sponsor the 46th annual AAHPA conference in the amount of

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on May 12, 2025.



Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:



Estkarien P. Magdaong, CMC
City Clerk



MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members

From: William Homka, City Manager

Date: May 12, 2025

Re: Resolution 2025-26 A resolution of Support and Sponsorship for the Annual AAHPA Conference October 20-24, 2025

SUMMARY: This resolution is a of the Unalaska City Council to Support the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) for the 46th annual Statewide Harbor Conference being hosted by Unalaska October 20-24, 2025.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council sponsored the 2016 AAHPA Unalaska Conference

BACKGROUND: The AAHPA Conference rotates throughout the coastal communities of Alaska. This year is the 46th annual conference and Unalaska's 3rd opportunity to host.

DISCUSSION: As Unalaska prepares to once again host the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference, the importance of regional collaboration and continued investment in maritime infrastructure, education, and clean harbor initiatives becomes increasingly clear. This event brings together professionals and stakeholders from across Alaska's coastal communities to address the shared challenges and opportunities that define the maritime sector.

Unalaska's past participation in AAHPA programming has yielded significant value in terms of professional development, knowledge exchange, and statewide coordination. The AAHPA annually delivers high-quality training in areas critical to the sustainability and resilience of municipal harbors and ports, including clean harbor programs, maritime regulations, emergency response, Federal grant navigation, facility security, weather and vessel tracking, and capital project planning.

Historically, the City of Unalaska has demonstrated its support for AAHPA's mission and programming. Notably, in 2016, when Unalaska last hosted the conference, the City Council contributed from its contingency fund. The City also annually adopts Resolutions supporting the Municipal Harbor Matching Grant Program, reinforcing its commitment to collaborative harbor development.

Given this context, and to formally invite the City's continued support, the attached letter has been prepared to request sponsorship for the upcoming AAHPA conference:

ALTERNATIVES: Council is under no obligation to sponsor the AAHPA Conference

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: There is funding in the Council contingency in FY25 and would be appropriate use of those funds if Council chooses to sponsor the conference

LEGAL:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution 2025-26.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: I encourage Council to provide the maximum support possible.

ATTACHMENTS: Letter from AAHPA



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Peggy McLaughlin, Port Director

Thru: William Homka, City Manager

RE: Sponsorship for the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators

Date: May 8, 2025

Mayor and Council:

I am writing to you as Vice President of the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators to respectfully request your consideration for sponsorship of the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators' (AAHPA) 46th Annual Conference. This year, the conference returns to Unalaska for the third time in the history of the association. The conference will be held at the Grand Aleutian Hotel from October 20–24, and we are expecting over 80 participants from across Alaska's coastal communities.

The AAHPA is a recognized statewide, not-for-profit organization representing more than 46 coastal communities. Its mission is to facilitate the exchange of information, support harbor and port development, provide training, and advocate on behalf of communities for legislative improvements and funding opportunities. Notably, the AAHPA promotes the Alaska Clean Harbors Program, established the Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Task Force, and actively supports the Harbor Facility Matching Grant Program.

The annual conference is a key opportunity for training, collaboration, and updates on regulatory changes and industry trends. This year's agenda includes presentations from NOAA, the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Weather Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Alaska Department of Transportation, and MARAD, among others.

As the host community, we would be honored to have the Unalaska City Council participate in welcoming attendees and supporting this important event. Sponsorship opportunities are as follows:

- Welcome Reception: \$3,500
- Full Day Sponsorship: \$6480
- Breakfast: \$2,480
- Lunch: \$2,640
- Break: \$1,360

One of our primary goals is to keep registration fees low in order to help offset the high cost of travel for participants. Your support will play a key role in ensuring the success of this important conference and will showcase Unalaska's ongoing leadership within Alaska's maritime communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and consideration, and we encourage Council members to attend and benefit from the valuable training and networking opportunities the event offers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,



Peggy McLaughlin

Vice President,
Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators