

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION 2010-18

Whereas, Sitka, Alaska is a community that is completely surrounded by the Tongass National Forest, which is managed by the U.S. Forest Service, which is a part of the United States Department of Agriculture, and;

Whereas, Sitka, Alaska has a long social, cultural, and economic history characterized by a dependence on the natural resources of the Tongass, which currently provide Sitka with quality of life amenities, tourism and recreation, salmon and other fisheries resources, hydro-electric energy, customary, traditional, and subsistence resources, silvicultural resources including commercial timber, personal use timber and firewood, Wilderness resources, and many other uses both quantifiable and un-quantifiable, and;

Whereas, Sitka's immediate and long-term social, economic, and environmental sustainability is dependent on the wise management of the natural resources of the Tongass, which are in the hands of the land managers employed by the USFS and other entities, which represent a great deal of capacity and expertise within the community of Sitka, and;

Whereas, the Department of Agriculture has recently outlined a "transition vision framework" for the Tongass which will "focus on a broader suite of opportunities the Tongass can provide to support a diversified economy in Southeast Alaska" by "providing jobs around renewable energy, forest restoration, timber, tourism, subsistence, and fisheries and mariculture," and by "promot[ing] small business creation, expansion and retention; improv[ing] access to capital; creat[ing] quality jobs and sustainable economic growth; promot[ing] job training and educational opportunities; and maximiz[ing] a forest restoration economy and by-product use," and;


Whereas, Sitka, Alaska currently has a diversified economy whose success requires constant effort including continued investment, addition of value to resources, marketing of products/services, training and educational opportunities, and further diversification for guaranteed resilience, and;

Whereas, the vision outlined by Regional Forester Beth Pendleton outlines management and investments that could offer economic development opportunities for Sitka, Alaska while also conserving the natural resources that Sitka depends upon, therefore be it resolved that

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Sitka supports the transition framework outlined by the Regional Forester and is eager to hear from the Regional Forester about how various entities within the Department of Agriculture—including Rural Development, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Forest Service Regional, Tongass Supervisor's Office, and Local

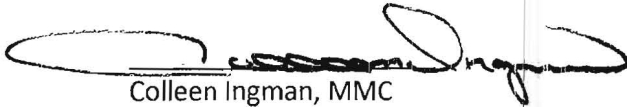
District partners—will work with the City and Borough of Sitka, Sitka businesses, and Sitka community stakeholders to implement projects and initiatives that fit this vision.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 13th day of July, 2010.



Scott McAdams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Colleen Ingman, MMC
Municipal Clerk