



**CITY OF THORNE BAY  
RESOLUTION 22-04-05-03**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA,  
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF STREETS & ROADS SALES TAX FUNDS TO MAKE  
IMPROVEMENTS TO KASAAN ROAD BETWEEN MP 3.0 AND MP 5.3 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
THE ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF KASAAN (OVK)

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is the governing body of Thorne Bay, Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kasaan Road is mostly a single lane logging road connecting the City of Kasaan, the Organized Village of Kasaan, Tolstoi Bay and South Thorne Bay Residents, to the Klawock-Thorne Bay Highway system, the paved highway system that connects the East and West sides of Prince of Wales Island (POW) and all the essential services; and

**WHEREAS**, all community members of the Prince of Wales Community Advisory Council (POWCAC) have, through individual community resolutions and a POWCAC resolution, placed the Kasaan Road improvement as the most important transportation surface project on POW; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kasaan Road is the only land access route serving the Goose Creek Subdivision, South Thorne Bay, Tolstoi Bay, and Kasaan; and

**WHEREAS**, commerce, emergency services, school buses, residents, tourists, and other critical services and land management agencies use the Kasaan Road on a daily basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kasaan Road was built primarily to move logs and natural resources and over the years has morphed into a major transportation corridor providing vital services to a growing population on the Kasaan Peninsula serving multiple needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kasaan Road provides access to the City of Thorne Bay land, USDA Forest Service land, Mental Health Trust land, State Department of Natural Resources land, Sealaska land, Kavalco land, the City of Kasaan land, OVK land, the Salt Chuck Mine and other important cultural and historic properties such as the Chief Son-i-Hat Whale House in Kasaan ; and

**WHEREAS**, the OVK and the City of Thorne Bay spends tens of thousands of dollars each year maintaining this gravel road that has a very poor, mostly shot-rock, base and inadequate drainage ditches and culverts and a poorly shaped road surface that is costly and difficult to maintain in its current condition and dangerous, especially in the winter; and

**WHEREAS**, OVK has prepared a complete set of plans, specifications and estimates to reconstruct the entire road corridor but finds that the expense is enormous and therefore is seeking funding to rebuild smaller segments at a time as eligible funding can be secured; and

**WHEREAS**, the section of road between the top of the 3-mile hill and the entrance to the S. Thorne Bay Subdivision has been identified as the most difficult to maintain and the most dangerous due to the conditions previously mentioned; and

**WHEREAS**, this section does not have any planned project funding in the foreseeable future and would benefit greatly from a focused effort to improve the drainage, side slopes, roadway base and surfacing, and the surface shape of the road; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Thorne Bay has an MOA for annual maintenance of the Kasaan Road that reimburses OVK for their labor and equipment for grading, ditching, plowing and other maintenance as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, OVK has proposed a “heavy maintenance” effort focused on this section of the Kasaan Road to do some clearing and grubbing, lay back up-slopes, fill down-slopes, improve roadway sight distance, improve roadway alignment, open clogged ditches, replace failed culverts, add base rock and surfacing rock, grade and shape the road surface, and other work to make some much needed improvements to improve safety and maintainability; and

**WHEREAS**, this partnership effort is estimated to take approximately two months to complete at an estimated cost of \$190,589 and OVK has agreed to cover roughly 72% of the cost, leaving the City of Thorne Bay to cover the remaining 28% which is approximately \$53,740; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Thorne Bay finds this to be a much-needed maintenance focus and has determined this to be a very reasonable proposal from a cost estimate perspective; and


**WHEREAS**, the OVK will perform this work under their existing MOA with the City of Thorne Bay which already governs this same kind of work and provides for the City to reimburse OVK for their actual costs, but will make the focus of the maintenance work for the rest of fiscal year 2022 and the beginning of fiscal year 2023 the work herein specified; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Thorne Bay’s responsibility in the cost sharing agreement is intended to cover the expense of the fuel for the equipment, new culverts, and flagging labor as specified in the attached cost estimate for an estimated amount of \$53,740; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Thorne Bay would also like to include one other small section of the Kasaan Road, just past the City's solid waste facility heading southbound, to have OVK remove the corduroyed logs, replace a culvert and add road base and surfacing material to approximately a 750 linear foot section of the road at an estimated cost of \$15,000 for the completed work.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Thorne Bay, Alaska, approves and authorizes the use of the Streets & Roads Sales Tax Savings Funds in the amount of \$68,740 to be used to cover the estimated cost of this heavy maintenance, focused on two specific sections of the road within the first 5.3 miles up to the subdivision, as laid out at length in this Resolution and authorizes City staff to work with OVK on delivering this important work and the Mayor to sign all documents, permits and other approvals as may become necessary to deliver the work.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2022, by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council with a vote of \_\_\_ Yeah and \_\_\_ Nay.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Jennings, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Teri Feibel, City Clerk/Treasurer