WHEREAS, Guided heli-skiing and recreational activities have been operating from a lodge within Cordova City limits for seventeen years; and

WHEREAS, the heli-skiing business has had few negative aesthetic, acoustic, and physical impacts to the community and the Chugach National Forest in alignment with the Cordova Tourism Plan; and

WHEREAS, the heli-skiing business adds considerably to the quality of Cordova community life by hosting student assemblies with Olympic athletes and other prestigious clients at Cordova schools, participating in community avalanche and winter rescue operations, and hosting flights for Cordova area organizations to perform aerial assessments for community planning and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the heli-skiing contributes significant employment, accommodations and sales tax revenues and Cordova area business activity during the months of February, March, and April when revenues are critical for economic survival by locating their base of operations within City Limits; and

WHEREAS, there are attractive and accessible heli-skiing areas of the Chugach National Forest in close proximity to Cordova that could allow additional opportunities for heli-skiing operations to expand or locate their businesses in Cordova.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska strongly supports and recommends additional heli-skiing areas to be identified in the Chugach National Forest plan and qualified applicants granted permits to contribute to the economic sustainability of the community of Cordova, Alaska by operating from Cordova.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 20th DAY OF APRIL, 2016.

Clay Koplin, Mayor

Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk