



AGENDA

Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Cowles Council Chambers In-Person & Via Zoom Webinar

Homer City Hall

491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Zoom Webinar ID: 990 6701 0473 Password: 295088

<https://cityofhomer.zoom.us>
Dial: 346-248-7799 or 669-900-6833;
(Toll Free) 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247

1. CALL TO ORDER, 5:30 P.M.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time Limit)

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. CONSENT AGENDA *Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by the Commission and are approved under one motion. If separate discussion is desired on any of the listed items, a Commissioner may request that item be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under the Regular Agenda under New Business. No motion is required.*

5. A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2023

page 3

6. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

6. A. Matt Steffy, Associate Planner Parks & Trails - Master Plan Update Presentations

i. Bayview Park Master Plan Update

ii. Jack Gist Park Master Plan Update

7. REPORTS

7. A. Community Recreation Report – Recreation Manager Illg

page 10

Memorandum PARC 23-013

7. B. Monthly Staff Report – Recreation Manager Illg

page 15

Memorandum PARC 23-014

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

9. PENDING BUSINESS

9. A. Deaccessioning the Poopdeck Trail Sign Posts

page 17

Memorandum PARC 23-015

10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10. A. Recreation Fee Schedule Review **page 19**
Memorandum PARC 23-016
- 10. B. Letter to the Editor Topics
- 10. C. PARC Budget FY23

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- 11. A. City Manager's Report **page 21**
CM Report for April 24 & May 8, 2023 City Council Meetings
- 11. B. Commission Annual Calendar **page 40**
2023 Annual Calendar
- 11. C. City of Homer Monthly Newsletter **page 41**
May 2023

12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute Time Limit)

13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

15. ADJOURNMENT The next regular meeting is Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. A Park Walk Through for Jack Gist Park and Bayview Park is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska 99603, and via Zoom Webinar.

CALL TO ORDER

Session 23-03, a Regular Meeting of the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Dave Lewis at 5:30 p.m. on April 20, 2023 from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS LOWNEY, ROEDL, ARCHIBALD, LEWIS, HARRALD

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER(S) FAIR, GALBRAITH (EXCUSED)

STAFF: DEPUTY CITY CLERK KRAUSE
ASSOCIATE PLANNER STEFFY
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Lewis read the Supplemental Items to the agenda: REPORTS Item 7. A. Arts & Culture Report Pier One Theater Presentation 2023 Spring Newsletter; NEW BUSINESS Item 10. A. FY24 & FY25 Budget request Recommendation Public Comment received; and INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS Item 12. C. Homer: Guiding Growth Community Meeting Announcement.

ARCHIBALD/LOWNEY – MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes
- Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for March 16, 2023

Chair Lewis requested a motion and second to approve the Consent Agenda.

ARCHIBALD/LOWNEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS

6. A. Homer Trails Alliance Presentation: Diamond Creek Recreation Area by Cameale Johnson

Cameale Johnson presented to the Commission regarding the Goals of the Homer Trails Alliance (HTA). She reported that the organization works with other area organizations such as Homer Soil & Water Conservation District, City of Homer, and Independent Living Center. HTA has applied for a \$4.7 million grant from the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant and propose to connect Rogers Loop to Diamond Creek SRS. This project will provide a connection from Diamond Creek along the highway, and connecting into the Ski Trails and Roger's Loop Trailhead.

Comments and discussion was facilitated by Ms. Johnson on encouraging area youth to participate, additional funding sources, history of the land and use thereof.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

7A. Arts & Culture Report – Pier One Theater, Jennifer Norton

Chair Lewis introduced the item and deferred to Ms. Norton.

Ms. Norton, Executive Director of Pier One Theater provided an overview of Pier One Theater activities since COVID 19 pandemic, she reviewed the Spring 2023 newsletter and budget concerns for upcoming season productions, past productions and contributions from community members and the recent loss of the founder, Lance Peterson.

Ms. Norton facilitated discussion comments and questions on the following:

- creative efforts implemented during the pandemic
- guiding the Commission to pinpoint where they could provide the best assistance
- cross generational activities
- dire need of a new theater facility
- collaboration with the School District for use of the Mariner Theater
- Productions offered by Pier One are economic drivers for the City since it brings in not just theater goers but those persons also visit area restaurants and additional local retail businesses and even accommodations

7B. Community Recreation Report - Agenda Item Report PARC 23-009

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg

Recreation Manager Illg provided his report to the Commission. He noted the following:

- Weight room and basketball has been canceled.
- The availability of the school facilities has been superseded by curricular activities offered by the district.
- Encouraged attendance at the Inlet Wind Band on Sat., April 22nd.
- Commented it will be the 30th year for the Safe & Healthy Kids Fair/Bike Rodeo.
- Meeting with City Manager and School Officials
- Summer field calendar
- ADA Compliance in Recreational programming.

7. C. Public Works Report – Public Works Director Keiser

Chair Lewis introduced the item and deferred to Public Works Director Keiser

Public Works Director Keiser provided a verbal update on the following:

- The draft budget was presented at the last City Council meeting
 - o Increases proposed for water & sewer rates
 - o PW budget requests
 - tap in to the HART trails fund for maintenance and building
 - connection from Jack Gist Park to Beauregard
 - redo Reber Trail upper portion
 - acquiring implements for the side by side
 - purchase of a powered wheelbarrow to transport sand and gravel for trails
 - 2 seasonal temps for trail maintenance in summer and sanding in winter
 - General parks maintenance does not have funding source.
 - Hazardous Materials Testing.
- New Maintenance Coordinator will be starting after school ends.
- Homer Drawdown preparing for walk/bike to work week, events are in the planning.
- Homer Softball Association (HSA) has requested some maintenance and playground equipment so their children would be occupied in other fashion

Matt Steffy, Associate Planner Parks & Trails, reported on the following:

- Changes in the Planning Department
- Attendance at the Trails Conference, presented on managing and developing trails as transportation.
- Re-organization of the parks, campgrounds, airport parking.
- Agreement with Little League will be presented for approval by Council for 5 yrs; Special Use Permits will be employed for the Disc Golf;
- Master Plan for Bayview Park
 - o new play equipment
 - o ADA compliant parking
 - o improvement of a walkway/bridge to Bayview Avenue
 - o Rotary \$12K
 - o HART funding
 - o ADA Accessible Playground
 - o Grant Funding
 - o Will be pursuing other funding sources for the fence.
- Drawdown installed new connectors, new trails and this year they will be working on making existing trails more accessible. Working on having a year round trail category.
- Use of HART Funds for Staffing
- Library Western Lot Planning – Wayfinding and Streetscape elements

Mr. Steffy and Ms. Keiser facilitated discussion, comments and questions on the following:

- Funding for parks

- Revenue increases and increases in costs/expenses
- Added positions to Fire Department, Port & Harbor
- Encouraged Commissioner Archibald to speak about the budget at the upcoming Council meeting
- Master Plans for Jack Gist, Karen Hornaday and Bayview Parks

7. D. Monthly Staff Report – Recreation Manager Illg - Memorandum PARC 23-010

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg

Recreation Manager Illg review his report that was provided in the packet. He provided the following information:

- Port & Harbor has taken over the management of the campgrounds on the Spit
 - o increased camping fees on the Spit to \$30 per night
 - o Increasing Parking fees on the Spit from \$5.00 to \$10.00 and making the area between Ramps 3 & 4 a paid parking lot
 - \$10 a day or \$250 Season Pass

Public Works Director Keiser commented that tent camping fees will remain the same.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

9. A. Deaccessioning the Poopdeck Trail Sign Posts - Memorandum PARC 23-011

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg

Recreation Manager Illg reported that he was able to reach out to Leo Vait, the artist who created the sign for Poopdeck Trail and he is not interested in having these sign posts as he is downsizing and will be moving. He was however interested in knowing what or where they end up and asked that if they were re-used that it be in an artistic manner. So they can be disposed of as Public Works sees fit or as directed by the Commission.

Staff provided clarification that it was just the posts remaining and they are concrete installed into the earth and the arches or posts are included in the Municipal Art Collection hence why they must go through the deaccessioning process.

LOWNEY/ROEDL MOVE THE PARKS ART RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DEACCESSIONING THE SIGN POSTS AT THE BASE OF THE POOPDECK TRAIL ON HAZEL AVENUE DUE TO DETERIORATION BEYOND REASONABLE MEANS OF CONSERVATION AND DIRECT PUBLIC WORKS STAFF TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF AS SCHEDULE PERMITS AND FURTHER REQUEST THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION BE UPDATED AS REQUIRED.

Discussion ensued regarding the disposal, condition, and if there is some method to rehabilitate the posts as they are literally crumbling away; signage is problematic as there are adopted policy and designs; city policy on the naming of trails and that the name of the trail itself lends to the problem of vandalism.

ARCHIBALD/LEWIS MOVED TO POSTPONE TO THE NEXT MEETING TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR WITH COMMISSIONER'S ASSISTANCE ASSESS THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE SIGN POSTS TO SEE IF THERE MAY BE A MEANS TO SALVAGE THE POSTS.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

10. A. FY24 and FY25 Budget Request Recommendation - Memorandum PARC 23-012

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg.

Recreation Manager Illg reviewed his staff report for the Commission. He requested the Commission's support and a recommendation to Council for inclusion in the biennial budget. he noted the importance of having the software package for Community Recreation and the data that it could provide to the city and the benefits to having a regular part time or full time person besides himself to provide the staffing that is needed for programming.

Recreation Manager Illg facilitated questions from the Commission on the following:

- Clarified that this is directly for recreation software and employee
 - two year budget request and could be done by amendment mid-year if Council does not approve the amendment to the budget

ARCHIBALD/LOWNEY MOVE TO FORWARD A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING THEY INCLUDE A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO FUND THE PURCHASE OF RECREATION SOFTWARE AND HIRE ADDITIONAL FULL OR PART TIME RECREATION STAFF.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

11. A. City Manager's Report

CM Report for April 10, 2023 City Council Meeting

11. B. Commission Annual Calendar

2023 Annual Calendar

11. C. Library Western Lot Project

11. D. Transportation Plan Goals & Objectives – Updated 03/21/23

11. E. West Fairview Avenue Shoulder Extension Project

11. F. City of Homer Monthly Newsletter April 2023

11. G. Homer: Guiding Growth – Supplemental

The Commission discussed scheduling a park walk through visit and determined it would be appropriate to wait for the draft Master Plans and agreed to June 15, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. for Jack Gist Park and Bayview Park.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Scott Adams, city resident, congratulated Matt Steffy on his new employment position but did not see him as an inside office type guy, enjoyed working with him throughout the past years, but there is still Mike Zelinski and Public Works Director Keiser, so there are two good people he knows he can connect with; he wished him well in his next ventures. Mr. Adams then stated that at the last City Council meeting Dr. Bell spoke about how Jack Gist Park did not have restrooms and had drainage issues, reporting he has harped about needed restroom facilities at that park, as well as Fishing Hole and Karen Hornaday. Mr. Adams identified that the City invites people to visit Homer and we are not getting funding for what the city is showing. It either the Harbor or across the bay and guess what everything else is on the back burner and this administration, the Manager does not see that that is why people come here, for recreation. They come for the softball games, soccer, hockey and things like that, so yeah he hit up Council meetings all the time and he will continue to advocate for parks and recreation because we have water and sewer and natural gas right down there at Jack Gist because a new subdivision went in last year, the city administration needs to understand that those utilities should be extended into the parks. Mr. Adams noted that it was reported that there was 18 inches and Dr Bell was out there removing snow from field by hand so he took it upon himself to bring his snowplow down and he finished plowing up the remainder of snow. He has moved most of the snow from the remaining fields as well. Mr. Adams expressed concerns with moving staff around and funding to the Port & Harbor so it looks good for the budget but then shorts the funding for the Parks and Recreation and leaves them hanging. It really sad, that Homer does not have a parks and recreation department. He noted how the community stepped up with the Hockey Rink and the SPARC facilities and that it was time the City stepped up. He commented on the needs of the Police Station for fencing compared to the Bayview Park opining that keeping the children safe should supersede police post office borders being preserved. He will gladly advocate for Parks and Rec at the next council meeting, as he spoke to the two guys that are currently working and they don't know how long they will be working yet other departments keep getting more staff.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Krause announced that City Clerk Jacobsen will be clerking the May meeting as she will be attending a training opportunity in Minneapolis. It looks to be a great opportunity with Clerks attending from all over the world.

Public Works Director Keiser reported that the wastewater treatment plant received an award from the American Wastewater Association for having the best wastewater treatment system in Alaska.

Recreation Manager Illg reported hats off to community, students and staff to get the ice off of the artificial stuff, it was a tremendous effort. He then recognized the tremendous contributions of Chris Etzwiler who passed today.

Associate Planner Steffy expressed his feelings on the loss of Chris Etzwiler on a personal level as well as professional. He then announced the Tsunami Tournament at Jack Gist Park the weekend after the site visit may want to return to see the outcome of use. He will present at the May meeting on status of the master plans for the May meeting. He advocated for the Commissioners to attend and encourage their friends and neighbors to attend the Council meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Archibald expressed his concerns regarding the campground revenues being moved to the Harbor since they had to hire additional personnel to perform those duties. He wished there was more that they could do on the Commission level to fund a Recreation Department. It is the most underfunded entity in Homer at this time. The Master Plan for Karen Hornaday Park funding is great but questions how that works with the hospitals plans for that area.

Commissioner Lowney echoed the sentiments expressed by Commissioner Archibald for the staff's efforts and expressed her concerns with regard to the campgrounds, and if they were not shooting themselves in the foot because they do have so many volunteers which is being taken for granted. They are always band-aiding and nothing truly gets fixed. She agreed that it is a true loss to the community the passing of Chris.

Commissioner Roedl commented on the time consumption for collection of monies from attendees as he is one of those volunteers and wholly supports getting software to perform some of this duties.

Chair Lewis echoed all the Commissioners comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved:_____



AGENDA ITEM

Community Recreation Report May 2023

Item Type: Informational Memorandum
Prepared For: Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Date: May 8, 2023
Staff Contact: Mike Illg, Recreation Manager

Outdoor Programmatic Opportunities:

As we are transitioning into warmer weather (hopefully) we will implementing some additional programs outside.

We will be offering **Pick Up Soccer** and **Ultimate Frisbee** on the Homer High Turf as the space and time becomes available working around Homer High games and practices.

The opportunity to play **Pickleball outdoors** on the tennis courts at Homer High is also an option as there are a few Pickleball court lines painted in addition to some nets that are available for use stored at the courts.

Community Recreation (CR) will also be spearheading the field use scheduling at the Homer High fields that would include CR activities, but also programs from Homer United Soccer Club, Kachemak Bay Running Club youth programs, possible flag football and of course passive drop in use for the public when it is available.

Indoor Programmatic Opportunities:

We will be continuing our regularly scheduled programs at the **HERC** that include: drop in Pickleball, Lunch Time Pickleball for Beginners, Intermediate Pickleball, Pickleball Skills & Drills, Saturday Pickleball Skills Sharing, monthly Pickleball tournaments, yoga classes, Cardio Dance Classes, karate classes, and self-massage classes. **New indoor programs** that are happening or coming up include: partnerships with Pier One Theater to assist with practice space, Zumba Kids and Zumba Kids Jr., for the month of June and the summer youth program with South Peninsula Behavioral Health Center for the entire summer.

Homer High Gym Summer USE (TBD):

The CR program was informed that the Homer High gym was not going to be available this summer due to the roofing project. We were informed very recently that there is a possibility of using the gym so as long we created a specific “**Occupant Management Plan**” that would help the contractors, participants, staff, etcetera, know the specific days/times/locations and access points for going in and out of the gym through the pool parking lot entrance. Community Recreation will be required to hire

four hours of additional custodial coverage to ensure the lockers are clean and available for the public for our programs. Again, this is still to be determined, but we would plan to offer the following at Homer High gym during the summer months, if approved:

Morning Basketball: M-W-F, 6-7am (7th grade to Adults)

Youth Basketball: (3rd-6th Graders) Mon through Thurs 4:30-5:30pm (We really need this program!)

Ball Room Dance: Mondays 6:30-8pm

Evening Pick Up Basketball: Tues & Thurs 6:30-8:30pm (7th grade to Adults)

Evening Pick up Volleyball Wed 6:30-8:30pm (7th grade to Adults)

Afternoon Volleyball: Sun. 4-6pm

There is a possible **youth volleyball program** (6th-8th graders only) request that we have not received yet.

Safe & Healthy Kids Fair/Bike Rodeo: Was held at Homer High on Saturday May 6th and we had 48 different organizations involved (including City of Homer Fire Department, Library, Community Recreation and cones from Public Works). There was an estimated 300+ people who attended and it was deemed the largest event we have had yet due, to the long list of kids who signed up for the bike raffle. Kudos to all you who participated, donating their time/energy and attended...what a great day in Homer!

HERC Work Session Stakeholder Meeting: Julie Engebretsen and I facilitated a stakeholder meeting on May 2nd with various user groups/participants in regards to their respective spatial needs for the possible new community recreation facility. They represented activities including: soccer, basketball, volleyball, pickleball, dance, yoga and karate. We gathered lots of input and suggestions moving forward and envision possible meetings/discussions in the near future.

Sports Gear Library: The collaborative “Sports Gear Library” between the Homer Public Library and Community Recreation continues to be very popular for community members. If you have any other suggestions/ideas, we are seeking additional items for the program including:

- Disc golf equipment
- Hiking poles
- Binoculars (or Birding Back Pack with binoculars, bird book/information)
- Croquet set
- Bocce
- Jump ropes
- A kite
- 4 pickleball paddles

City of Homer Community Rec May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 4:30-7PM KARATE at HERC 4:30-6:30pm PICKLEBALL at HERC 6-7:30pm YOUTH VOLLEYBALL at HMS 6:30-8:30pm PARTNER DANCING at HHS 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC 7-8:30pm PIER ONE THEATER at HERC 8PM ULTIMATE FRISBEE at HHS	2 6-8pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 6:30-7:30pm SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL at HMS	3 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 9-11AM MORNING PICKLEBALL at HERC 10:30-11:30AM YOUTH YOGA at HERC 1:30-2:30M YOUTH YOGA at HERC 4:30-7PM KARATE at HERC 4:30-6:30pm PICKLEBALL at HERC 6-7:30pm YOUTH VOLLEYBALL at HMS 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC 8pm PICK UP SOCCER at HHS	4 11AM-1PM LUNCHTIME PICKLEBALL at HERC 1-3PM CENTER YOUTH ACTIVITY 5:30-6:30pm CARDIO DANCE at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL at HMS	5 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 10-11:30AM KUNDALINI YOGA at HERC 4:30-7pm KARATE at HERC 4:30-6:30pm PICKLEBALL at HERC 7-8:30pm PIER ONE THEATER at HERC 8pm PICK UP SOCCER at HHS	6 9:30am-12pm PICKLEBALL SKILL SHARING at HERC 10-11am SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 11am-2pm SAFE & HEALTHY KIDS FAIR at HHS 3:30-4:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (8-12yrs) at HHS 4:30-5:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (13-18yrs) at HHS
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			Color Key BLACK =Homer High BLUE =Homer Middle PURPLE =HERC RED =Cancellation		DISCLAIMER: ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECTED TO CHANGE OR BEING CANCELLED WITH LIMITED NOTIFICATION	

CITY OF HOMER COMMUNITY REC:

2023



JOIN
THE
FUN!

Zumba Kids- ages 7 & up All we need is a beat!

Grab your friends and move like no one is watching. Zumba kids is the dance-fitness party where we play it loud and rock with friends to our own rules. Each week we will learn a new dance from different countries all over the world plus play some fun games. **MAX: 15**

WHEN: Mondays & Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30pm
June 5-28

WHERE: HERC Activity Room

FEE: \$50 all 8 classes, \$10 Drop-In fee

Zumba Kids Jr- ages 4-6 Little feet, lots of Soul!

Age is just a number but attitude is everything. Let your 4-6 year old let loose at the dance 'n play party for lil' feet. The only rule? They gotta come ready to rock out. Each week we will learn a new dance from different countries all over the world plus play some fun games.

WHEN: Mondays & Wednesdays, 1 to 2pm June 5-28

WHERE: HERC Activity Room

MAX: 10

FEE: \$50 all 8 classes, \$10 Drop-In fee

FOR QUESTIONS & REGISTRATION

CALL GRETCHEN AT 907-399-2129



AGENDA ITEM

City Council Actions Related to PARCAC

Item Type: Staff Report
Prepared For: Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Date: May 8, 2023
Staff Contact: Mike Illg, Recreation Manager

The following City Council resolutions and ordinances activity relevant to the Park, Arts, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission since the last PARCAC meeting on April 20, 2023

April 24th City Council Meeting

Resolution 23-039, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving a Recreational Use Agreement between the City of Homer and South Peninsula Little League, Inc. regarding the Maintenance and Operation of Little League Activities on City Owned Land at Karen Hornaday Park, and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager. Recommend adoption. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolution 23-045, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Expressing Support for Continued Operations of the Mariner Theater and the Kate Kuhns Aquatic Center and Indicating Council Interest in Initiating Discussions with the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Regarding Potential Partnership Opportunities. Lord. Recommend adoption **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

May 8th City Council Meeting

Ordinance 23-32, An Ordinance of the City Council Of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Authorizing a Transfer of \$100,000 from Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Trails to Establish a Non-Motorized Transportation Opportunity Program within HART Trails. City Manager/Finance Director. Recommend Introduction May 8, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading May 22, 2023. **INTRODUCED**

Ordinance 23-33, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Authorizing a Transfer of \$100,000 from Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Trails to Establish a Small Works Trails Maintenance Program within HART Trails. City Manager/Finance Director. Recommend Introduction May 8, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading May 22, 2023. **INTRODUCED**

Ordinance 23-35, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$110,000 from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Roads Fund for a Non-

Motorized Opportunity Project on West Fairview Avenue. City Manager/Public Works Director. Recommend Introduction May 8, 2023 Public Hearing and Second Reading May 22, 2023. **INTRODUCED**

Resolution 23-047, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing a Policy of Funding Improvements to Various Recreational Facilities and Services within the City of Homer. Mayor. Recommend adoption.

Resolution 23-047(S), A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing Recreation as a Funding Priority in the FY24/25 Budget and Directing the City Manager to Deliver a Strategic Financial Plan and Services Vision for Parks & Recreational Facilities within the City of Homer to the City Council by November 2023. Lord/Mayor. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolution 23-049, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Strongly Encouraging in Person Attendance by Board and Commission Members at their Scheduled Meetings. Erickson. Recommend adoption. **PASSED**



AGENDA ITEM

Deaccessioning the Poopdeck Trail Sign Posts

Item Type: Staff Report
Prepared For: Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Date: May 11, 2023
Staff Contact: Renee Krause, Deputy City Clerk II

At the April 13, 2023 regular meeting the Commission discussed the deaccessioning of the remaining posts that held the identifying sign for the Poopdeck Trail along Hazel Avenue. The sign has been missing for over a decade. It is assumed that the name of the trail encourages the vandalism that occurred twice to the sign, the first time, the artist Leo Vait replaced the sign. It was determined after the second event that it would not be replaced again. Over the years the remaining sign posts have deteriorated to what is believed to be unusable. Commissioner Archibald and Public Works Director Keiser were going to inspect those posts to visually determine if they could be repaired. The artist was contacted and has left it to the City to determine the outcome. The artist has asked to be informed on the outcome.

Below is the excerpt from the minutes, there is a motion on the floor as shown below.

PENDING BUSINESS

9. A. Deaccessioning the Poopdeck Trail Sign Posts - Memorandum PARC 23-011

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg

Recreation Manager Illg reported that he was able to reach out to Leo Vait, the artist who created the sign for Poopdeck Trail and he is not interested in having these sign posts as he is downsizing and will be moving. He was however interested in knowing what or where they end up and asked that if they were re-used that it be in an artistic manner. So they can be disposed of as Public Works sees fit or as directed by the Commission.

Staff provided clarification that it was just the posts remaining and they are concrete installed into the earth and the arches or posts are included in the Municipal Art Collection hence why they must go through the deaccessioning process.

LOWNEY/ROEDL MOVE THE PARKS ART RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DEACCESSIONING THE SIGN POSTS AT THE BASE OF THE POOPDECK TRAIL ON HAZEL AVENUE DUE TO DETERIORATION BEYOND REASONABLE MEANS OF CONSERVATION AND DIRECT PUBLIC WORKS STAFF TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF AS SCHEDULE PERMITS AND FURTHER REQUEST THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION BE UPDATED AS REQUIRED.

Discussion ensued regarding the disposal, condition, and if there is some method to rehabilitate the posts as they are literally crumbling away; signage is problematic as there are adopted policy and designs; city policy on the naming of trails and that the name of the trail itself lends to the problem of vandalism.

ARCHIBALD/LEWIS MOVED TO POSTPONE TO THE NEXT MEETING TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR WITH COMMISSIONER'S ASSISTANCE ASSESS THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE SIGN POSTS TO SEE IF THERE MAY BE A MEANS TO SALVAGE THE POSTS.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Recommendation

Commissioner Archibald report on visual inspection. Address the motion on the floor to deaccession or make a new motion to take action on Commissioner Archibald's findings.



City of Homer

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Community Recreation

HHS/600 East Fairview Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

communityrecreation@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-6090

(f) 907-235-8933

Memorandum PARC 23-016

TO: Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
FROM: Mike Illg, Recreation Manager
DATE: May 8, 2023
SUBJECT: Community Recreation Proposed Fee Schedule

The Community Recreation division has proposed participation rates for activities/programs in addition to possible rental rates for the HERC gymnasium and Activity Room for the City of Homer's fee schedule. They include adult rates, youth rates and rental rate for educational and recreational related functions, events and activities. Please review the proposed draft rates as I would like to submit to City Council for the May 22nd meeting.

Drop In Activity/Program Participation Fee

These programs are physical activities, regularly scheduled and do not require commitment such as: including but not limited to basketball, volleyball, pickleball, table tennis, weight room, etc usually offered by volunteers and/or staff. City Manager has discretion to waive fees for youth for programs housed in school facilities in addition to waiving fees for active military personnel.

\$3 Adults (ages 18 and up)
\$2 Youth (ages 17 and younger)

Long Term Classes/Programs

These programs are typically physical activities, regularly scheduled and offered year round typically offered by a contracted instructor. Example: karate program

\$3 Adults (ages 18 and up)
\$2 Youth (ages 17 and younger)

Short Term Classes/Programs

These activities have a specific starting and ending date where participant pays for the entire series of classes/events. Fee is determined by the length of the program, costs, supplies and physical needs of the program, and required staff time. The options include a flat fee or a flat fee per class depending upon the

flexibility of the instructor. These programs are offered by contracted instructors, volunteers and/or staff. Examples would include: Spanish classes, Jewelry Classes, Basketball League, Zumba classes, etc

\$3	Adults (ages 18 and up) Per Class
\$2	Youth (ages 17 and younger) Per Class
\$10 -\$60	All Ages (All classes)

Special Events

These activities are one-time special events where admission would be charged for participants. Examples of these activities would include: Mountainfilm Festival, one day volleyball tournament, basketball camp, etc. Fee is determined by the length of the program, costs, supplies and physical needs of the program and required staff time.

\$5 -\$25	All Ages
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Rental- HERC Gym

Use of the HERC gymnasium for approved activities related to educational and recreational offerings. Pending availability of time and staff. Limit of 50 people per State Fire Marshal.

\$50	1 hour
\$175	4 hours
\$350	8 hours

Rental- HERC Activity Room

Use of the HERC activity room for approved activities related to educational and recreational offerings. Pending availability of time and staff. Limit of 30 people per State Fire Marshal.

\$30	1 hour
\$105	4 hours
\$210	8 hours



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Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: April 19, 2023
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for April 24, 2023 Council Meeting

2022 Visioning Update

I have been providing roughly quarterly updates to the Council priorities set in the 2022 visioning work sessions at the Pratt Museum. Accompanying this report is a memo providing updates on all priority items from 2022 and some additional commentary on projects that carried over from 2020.

Coast Guard City Update

We have received word that the Commandant of the Coast Guard officially intends to approve our application to become a Coast Guard City. We are waiting for the end of the 30-day Congressional notification period to expire before we can become official. I expect that we should have exciting news to share at the second Council meeting in May.

Goodbye to Rick Abboud, City Planner

After 15 years, and upwards of 300 Planning Commission meetings with the City of Homer, Rick is moving on to a new position with York County, South Carolina which is part of the Charlotte metropolitan area. Rick joined the City in 2008 after serving as the planning director for Bethel, AK. He jumped straight into the big job of wrapping up the 2008 Homer Comprehensive Plan and shepherding it through the Planning Commission, City Council, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly. During Rick's tenure with the City he has worked with staff, Planning Commission, and Council on projects that have touched every section of Title 21. He collaborated to make additions to code which include solutions relating to steep slope development, grading and filling, over slope development, wind energy, telecommunication towers, storm water, creation of the East End Mixed use District, allowances for accessory dwellings, marijuana businesses, flood hazard ordinances and maps, coastal setbacks, and the creation of the medical district. Working with legal counsel, Rick has diligently defended numerous decisions of the Planning Commission over the years – including some that have been sustained in the Alaska Supreme Court and have been used as subject matter in an Alaska Chapter of the American Planning Association Conference session titled "how to do it right". Rick has also been very active with MAPP, Rotary, the Kenai Peninsula Homelessness Coalition, and served a stint as interim-City manager before my arrival in Homer. Being City Planner is a tough job, and Rick has done a good job. I applaud Rick for his efforts here in Homer and wish him the best in York County.

In preparation for Rick's departure, I have Special Projects Coordinator Ryan Foster on deck to serve as interim-City Planner. Ryan has previously served as the Planning Director for the City of Kenai and as Principal Planner for Los Alamos County, New Mexico.

State Legislature Check-Ins

After visits to Council by both Senator Stevens and Representative Vance, staff conducted follow up Zoom meetings arranged by our lobbyists at J&H Consulting. We largely talked about the Harbor Expansion study, the Municipal Harbor Grants Program, and each elected official gave us their analysis of the ongoing state budget process.



Residential Fuel Spill

On April 2, 2023 Homer Fire received a call from Enstar Energy who was reporting a smell of fuel in the area of Crittenden and Hidden Way. At about 11:45am Chief Kirko responded to the area and met with an Enstar employee who stated he had been receiving reports from residents in the neighborhood for the past few days of a potential gas leak. Enstar had inspected the homes and utilities in the area and found all systems to be secure and functioning properly. As the Chief investigated the area he detected the scent of diesel in the air, however there was no obvious visual sign of a spill. Chief Kirko was able to track the scent to storm drain and then followed it back to a property on Hidden way. At that time the spill was reported the City's Water & Sewer team, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and the Coast Guard. At approximately 12:20pm HVFD and the Water & Sewer team responded with crews to place absorbent boom and pads at culverts and storm drains to help mitigate the spread of fuel toward the bay. At approximately 1:00pm Coast Guard, MST2 John Fanelli arrived and conducted a survey and obtained witness statements. Through the statements and the investigation of the site it was determined that the fuel spilled was home heating fuel from a 300-gallon home heating tank. The total amount leaked is estimated at between 75-150 gallons. Chief Kirko met with Jade Gamble of DEC on site and briefed her on our mitigation activities. We also met with the son of the home owner to discuss the cleanup procedures and what the home owner responsibilities are when this happens. At this point, the Fire Department is no longer directly involved keeping this case open and DEC has taken over case management. Moving forward, we're going to try to take this event as an opportunity for public education regarding residential oil storage and spill

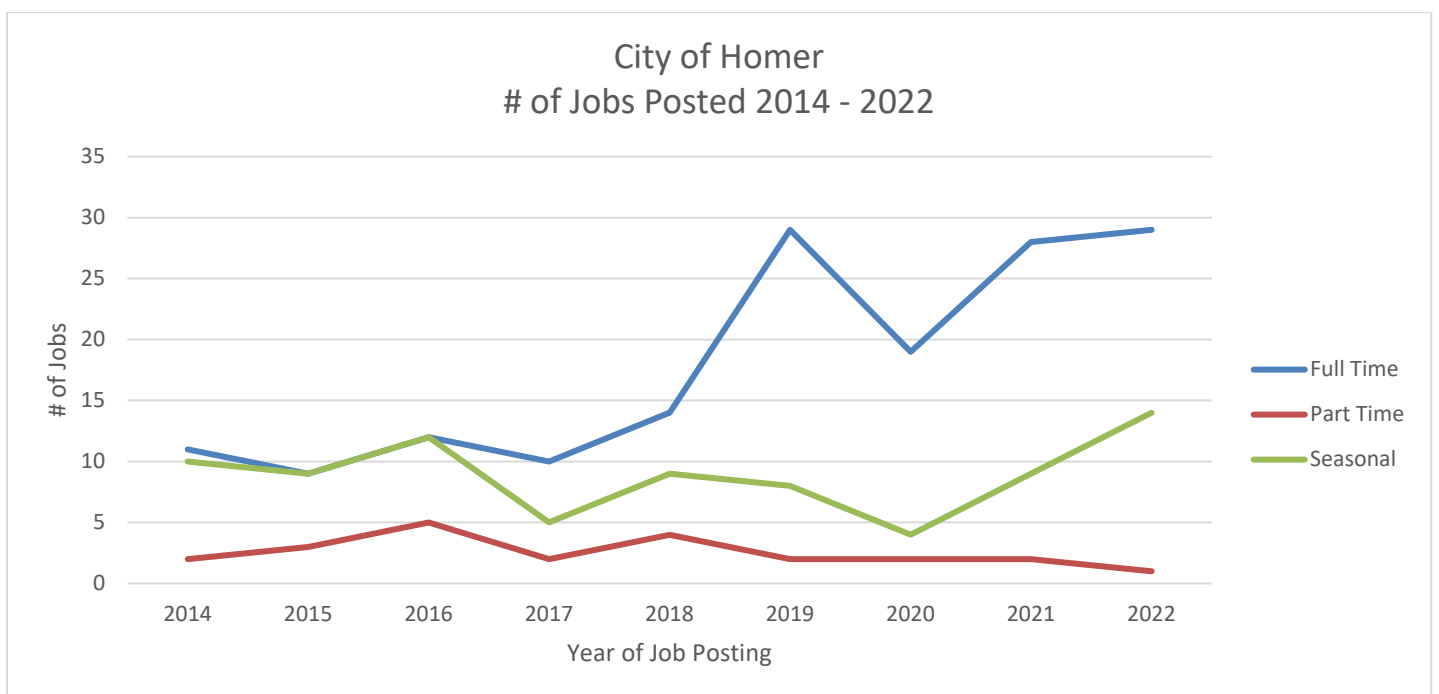
mitigation/response. Chief Kirko and Assistant to the City Manager Bella Vaz will be collaborating on that topic in the coming weeks.

Guiding Growth Conversation Series

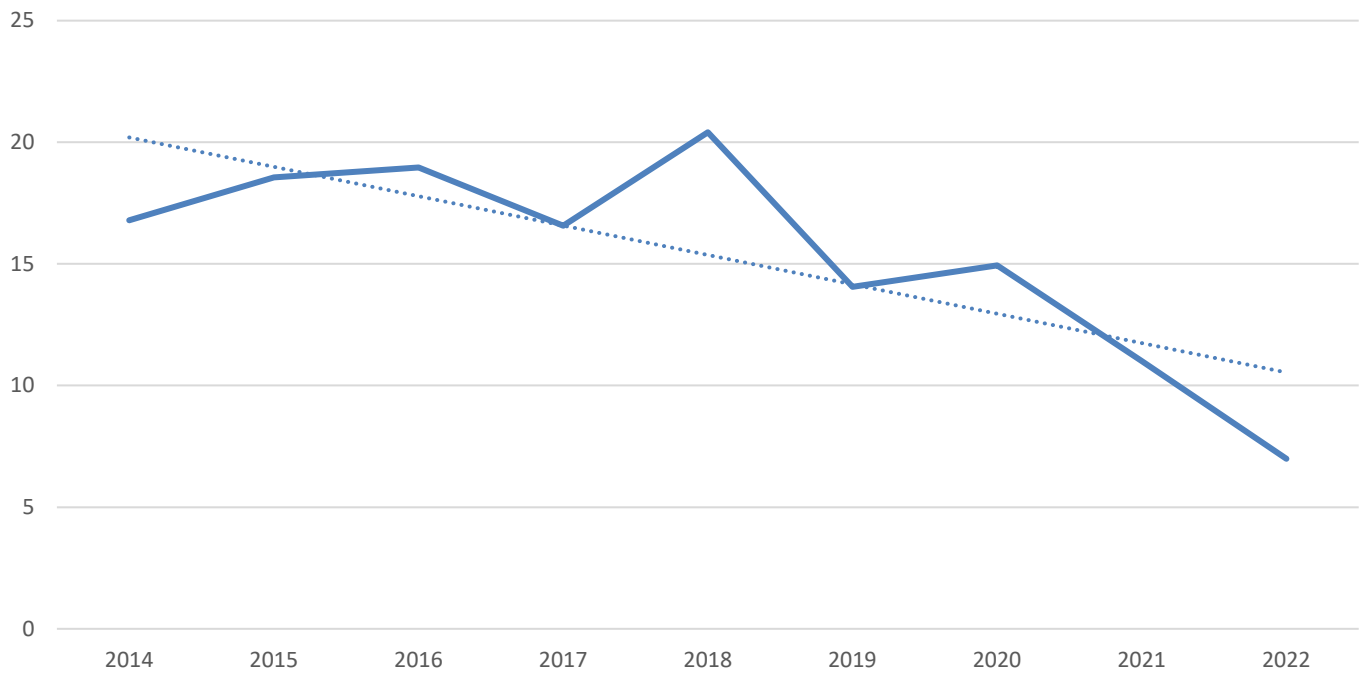
Guiding Growth is a conversation series developed by community members to explore growth opportunities and shared community values. Participating community members are unaffiliated and anyone is invited to help brainstorm, implement, and participate in the discussions. Through civic discourse, good conversation, and relevant resources the group hopes to help guide the vision of how the Homer community develops. The first discussion is on April 29, 4:00 pm at Christian Community Church. Mercedes Harness will present newspaper clippings about how Homer was growing forty years ago--and how many of our concerns and shared values have remained consistent. Tom Kizzia, who edited the Homer News in the mid-1970s, will provide deeper context. Community members will be invited to share their insights and ideas.

Job Applicant Data

I occasionally field questions from Council, other Cities, and local employers about how successful our recruiting efforts are at this time. The general perception is that the volume of job applicants has decreased and it has been more difficult to hire quality candidates. Wanting to see if reality backs that perception, I pulled some data from our online job application system and saw a declining volume of interest. I then turned it over to Special Projects Coordinator David Parker for a deeper dive. A couple trends have emerged. Since about 2019, we've been posting more job opportunities. We have also seen fewer applicants per listing starting in 2019. As one would anticipate, there are a large number of factors that play into the dynamics that drive interests in municipal positions – the types of jobs available, the pay ranges, the local housing market, how aggressively we market positions, etc. Despite lower numbers, we have had some very successful recruitments which landed talented and experienced new hires. At the same time, some positions have taken many months to fill with a qualified and interested person. If Council approves the proposed funding of a review of Personnel Regulations and Salary Schedules included in the Capital Budget, we will be able to dig deeper into potential internal barriers to recruitment and retention and develop solutions that will assist our ongoing modernization and improvement of human resources practices.



City of Homer Applicants/Job 2014 - 2022





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Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council

FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager

DATE: April 17, 2023

SUBJECT: 2022 Council Visioning Follow Up #4

Staff continues to work diligently to achieve 2022 Council visioning priorities. This is the fourth installment of what are intended to be roughly quarterly updates on project progress.

2022 Council Priorities

Fiscal Policy Improvements					
Comprehensive Plan Fast Forward		Zoning Code Modernization		Building Code Adoption and Implementation	
Expansion of Sidewalks and Trails			Water and Sewer Expansion		
Housing Challenges			Emergency Preparedness and Training		
Public Safety Conversations	Volunteer Action Plan	Coast Guard City Designation	Harbor Float Replacements	Recreation Priorities and Planning	Cybersecurity Improvements

- **Fiscal Policy Improvements** – We have developed and introduced the FY24/25 Operating and Capital Budgets and the FY22 Audit is nearly complete. Administration is using the budget as a device to provide a lot of baseline information to Council on different funds and future needs of the City. I see this as the foundation for the fiscal planning objective. The next layer is inventorying and expanding our fiscal policies as they relate to the various funds, our desires for reserve amounts, what funds can be used for, etc. Matched with that is a continued improvement to reporting methods. As financial policy improvements underpin virtually everything we do here at the City, we're trying to take a very comprehensive approach to this process.
- **Comprehensive Plan Fast Forward** – This project is being re-imagined. Council approved Ordinance 23-11 which appropriated \$650,000 for the comprehensive plan and zoning code update. That item was subsequently line item vetoed to reduce the appropriation to \$250,000. This dramatically changes what we are capable of achieving in relation to this Council priority. Standby for what will likely be a summer work session to get Council buy-in for the path forward.

- **Zoning Code Modernization** – This item was split into two pieces, pre- and post-comprehensive plan. With the comprehensive plan project up for re-imaging, the pathway of the zoning code modernization is somewhat unclear. We have had successes with what were intended to be pre-comprehensive plan items which included the West Hill rezone (Ordinance 22-35) and the conditional use permit reform project (Ordinance 22-68(A)). Ordinance 22-68(A) has been challenged in Court and our legal team is addressing that complaint.
- **Building Code Adoption and Implementation** – We submitted an application in late December for the BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) Grant Program through FEMA as a possible source of funding to get our building program off the ground. The response to this application, not expected until June at the earliest, will have a large influence on how we proceed to the next steps. In the meantime, we're also working on permitting concepts for grading, dirt work, and burning which impact the same general stakeholders.
- **Housing Challenges** – The Special Projects Team had been planning a housing forum of some sorts when we became aware of some other entities within the community looking to do the same thing. We joined forces with South Peninsula Hospital Foundation, Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District, Homer Chamber of Commerce, Choosing Our Roots, and MAPP to host a community conversation facilitated by Denali Daniels. Upwards of 100 people came to the meeting and others completed associated surveys. I expect Council to receive a report from the event soon. More information available here: <https://ddaalaska.com/homer-housing-solutions/>
- **Water and Sewer Expansion** – Public Works has been putting significant effort into the general concept of expanding our utilities for the last two years. Expect more detailed updates in the future as we work to secure funding for significant expansion opportunities. We especially need to have future discussions regarding the financing of water and sewer expansions. We currently have access to frequent loan opportunities through ADEC. Special Projects has been looking at potential updates to the special assessment district process as well.
- **Expansion of Sidewalks and Trails** – The Main Street sidewalk has been completed and the Master Transportation Plan has made significant progress. In November, Council passed Ordinance 22-42(S-3) which creates new specifications for when new streets are required to provide for non-motorized transportation. The proposed FY24/25 Capital Budget has \$1.7M for the construction of a Ben Walters Sidewalk. We have also heard that our State Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant application for the Homer All Ages and Abilities Pedestrian Path (supported by Resolution 23-013) is a big hit with AKDOT and has a high likelihood of success.
- **Emergency Preparedness and Training** – The All Hazards Plan has been completed and accepted by Council. We've used that document to create a monthly feature on a different hazard within the City's newsletter. The tsunami brochure design project with UAF has been completed and printed copied distributed. There remains much work to do related to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and future training opportunity development. I have staff actively looking for funding opportunities related emergency preparedness. Chief Kirko and I attended a Tsunami Operations Workshop in Kodiak in March 2023. We learned a lot of valuable information from the various state and federal agencies present. We're also hoping to leverage those connections into some in person training for staff in the not too distant future.
- **Public Safety Conversations** – The Volunteer Fire Department hosted an open house in October which brought the public inside the fire hall for a discussion about fire and EMS services here in

Homer. The Homer Police Department has had success engaging the public with women's self-defense classes and a talk about social media that **Lt. Browning** has given multiple times here in town, once at the State legislature, and a number of other communities in Alaska.

- **Volunteer Action Plan** – Due to demands related to other projects, the Volunteer Action Plan has been on a bit of a hiatus. I'm looking at having it resume activity shortly with significant help from Economic Development and Community Recreation.
- **Coast Guard City Designation** – The Coast Guard Commandant has indicated her intent to approve our application to Congress. If no objections are filed during the 30-day notification period, our status as a Coast Guard City will become official. If all goes according to plan, this will happen at our second meeting in May.
- **Harbor Float Replacements** – Council passed Ordinance 22-19(A) which made \$56,540 available from the Port Reserves Fund for grant and engineering assistance related to a harbor float replacement project. At the second meeting in April, Council will have an opportunity to pass a resolution supporting the City's submission of a Port Infrastructure Development Grant that would help fund float replacement.
- **Recreation Priorities and Planning** – While this is a bigger conversation than the HERC/Pioneer Gateway Redevelopment Project, much of the general recreation conversation is occurring in parallel to those work sessions/discussions. We did host a presentation by Community Recreation Manager Mike Illg on August 22 that covered the City's recreational relationship with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. Further discussions have been part of the FY24/25 operating budget discussion.
- **Cybersecurity Improvements** – In late 2022 we filled an open IT position created by Ordinance 22-20, and in early 2023 we brought on a new lead for IT which gave us a full three person IT team for the first time since the third position was created. The lead IT position's job description was rewritten by the Library Director and I to function as a Chief Technical Officer (CTO). The new team, paired with the institutional knowledge and experience of Network Administrator Tomasz Sulczynski, has been making up a lot of ground on necessary updates and improvements. You'll see in the FY24/25 proposed operating and capital budgets that are increased funds for cybersecurity operations and a number of systems upgrades funded as capital projects.

2020 Highlights

- HERC Demolition – demolition of the smaller HERC building hit a snag in permitting related to hazardous materials, specifically PCBs. Council approved a task order to do testing for PCBs, and the results will drive the next step in the process.
- Stormwater Management Plan and Implementation – we have a grant pending to support the portions of the Kachemak "sponge" stormwater plan. Ordinance 23-16(S) accepted a grant and appropriated funds to support the Beluga Slough stormwater treatment system.
- Climate Action Plan – the CAP was intended to be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan for which funding was largely vetoed; a new path forward needs to be developed
- Wayfinding – Plan was adopted by Council, next steps will involve testing designs and installing prototypes around town. FY24/25 Capital Budget includes \$50,000 for implementation.

- Procurement Policy – Has been rolled into 2022 goal of financial policy improvements; looking at finishing the project with a finance term contract holder
- Reserve Funding; Election Code; Council Operating Manual; Funding for Large Vessel Harbor Study – Largely complete

2020 Council Initiated Priorities

HERC Demolition/Community Recreation Center		Stormwater Management Plan and Implementation		
Climate Action Plan		Wayfinding/Streetscape		
Water and Sewer Policy	Reserve Funding (Water and Sewer)	Election Code	City Council Operating Manual	Procurement Policy
Funding for Large Vessel Harbor Study				



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Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: May 4, 2023
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for May 8, 2023 Council Meeting

Homer to be Awarded Large Wastewater System of the Year!

The Alaska Water Waste Management Association (AWWMA) selected the City of Homer to be their large Wastewater System of the Year. The AWWMA, founded in 1960, advances the technology of Alaska's water and wastewater industry through outreach, training and grassroots activism supporting Alaska's water resources and public health. The award for large Wastewater system of the Year recognizes the performance of a waste water system serving 2,500 or more individuals. Members of the Public Works team will receive the award at the upcoming AWWMA conference held in Anchorage on May 10th.

Pioneer Avenue Banners

Local artist Lucas Elliot has been working with Corvus Design and the Economic Development Commission to design new Pioneer Avenue street banners. The final design is complete, and staff expects banners to be up by July 1st.





AML Meeting in August

The City of Homer is hosting this year's Alaska Municipal League summer conference. AML staff have already made one scouting trip to Homer, and will be making a second one in May to work with City staff on planning and logistics.

AMMA and AMLJIA Updates

In May I will be taking over as the president of the Alaska Municipal Management Association (AMMA).

On April 27th, I attended a meeting of the AMLJIA Board of Trustees. Market conditions are not favorable right now, but we'll see some protection from our existing three-year agreement. I am expecting that Homer will see a rate increase capped at approximately 10% over last year (which is what we budgeted for in my draft FY24/25 operating budget proposal).

Invasive Species Mitigation

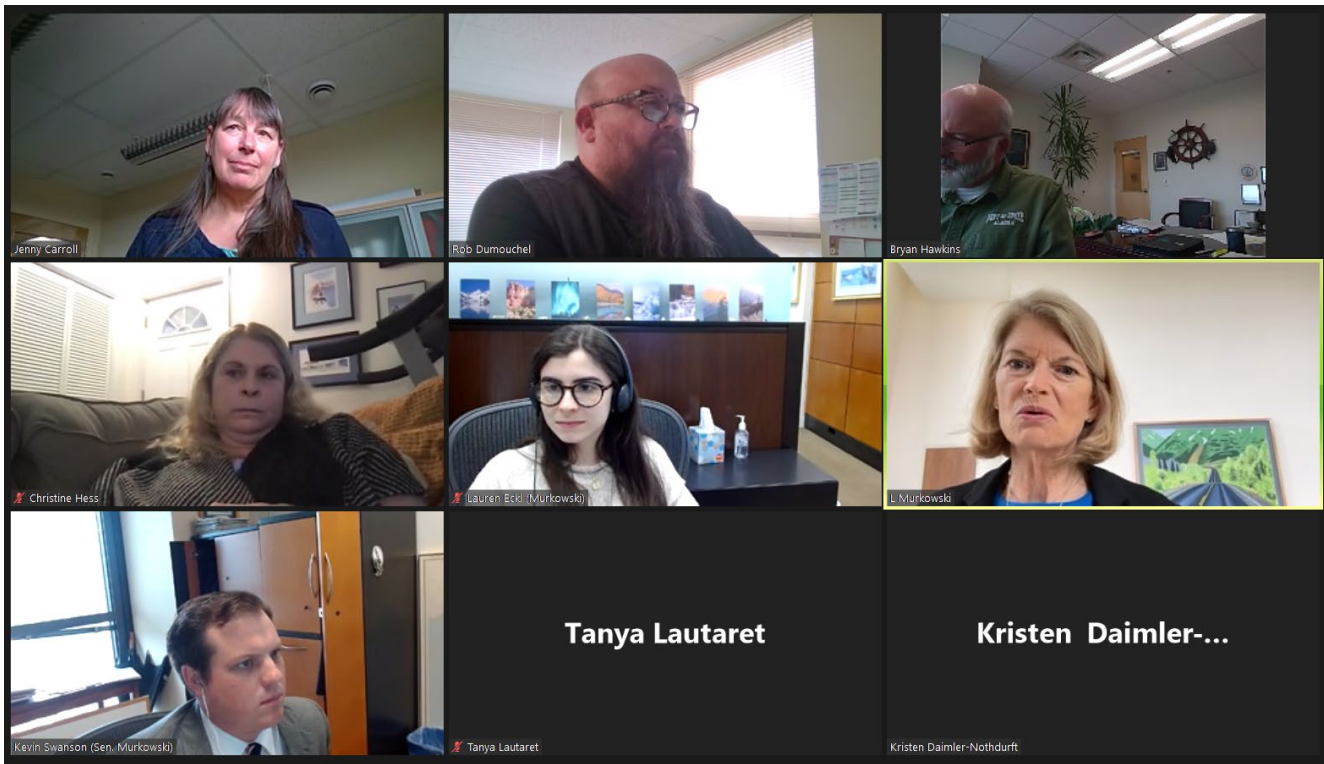
Update from Public Works Director Keiser:

The City is again partnering with the Homer Soil & Water Conservation District (HSWCD) to work with local gravel/sand vendors to get their pits recertified as "weed-free". This program is part of the City's Invasive Species Management Program. Trained HSWCD staff visit the pits, inspect them for the presence of invasive weeds, assist with mitigation, and help the pit owners understand how to keep their pits weed-free. To further promote best practices, City specifications require that gravel/sand used on public works projects be from certified weed-free sources. Three local pit owners are participating in the program.

On other fun and exciting news related to the City's partnership with the HSWCD – there will be a "chicken tractor" coming to town soon! The HSWCD received a grant to research whether a portable coop of hens is a viable means of controlling infestations of invasive weeds. The HSWCD will build and maintain the "chicken tractor" and Public Works will provide the control sites as well as some retired laying hens. We might even find out why the chicken crossed the road!

Check-In with Senator Murkowski's Office

Special Projects Coordinator Jenny Carroll, Port Director Hawkins, and I met with Senator Murkowski's office to discuss various Homer topics with a federal nexus. We covered a lot of ground with staff, and Senator Murkowski was able to join us later on in the meeting for a quick harbor expansion study update.



Harbor Matching Grant Program is Funded in Senate Budget Draft

The City of Homer does not have a project queued up this year for the State of Alaska's Harbor Matching Grant Program, however, we have been strong supporters of the program for many years. Mayor, Council, and staff have all lobbied for the program to be fully funded in this year's State budget at different points throughout the year. At this time, the program has found proposed funding from the Senate which is a great step forward. It still needs to make it to, and through, the Governor, but at least it's in a draft. There is a good chance Homer will be looking to use the program in the next cycle to support upcoming port projects.

Homer Represented at Alaska Trails Conference

In April, Parks & Trails Planner Matt Steffy traveled to the annual Alaska Trails Conference in Anchorage. He delivered a presentation on "Trails as Transportation: How to get things done together," and outlined the work being done in the City of Homer. This included showcasing the highly successful relationship with the Homer Drawdown organization, as well an overview of some internal discussions for future developments. The session was very well attended with admiration expressed from other communities who have been trying to accomplish similar goals. The primary focus was community collaboration and cohesiveness. There was also a presentation by Cameale Johnson from the Homer Trails Alliance, as well as a discussion on mapping from Seldovia's Bretwood Higman (Hig) who regularly participates in Homer area trails projects.

Economic Development, Parks, and Port Transitions

A number of transitions were put in motion for this summer season with various tasks moving between departments and divisions to attempt to build more sustainable and successful public-facing programs for parks, campgrounds, and public restrooms. To that end, Parks, Economic Development, and Public Works

staff have been meeting to coordinate summer projects such as Hornaday Park repairs, NOMAR wall repainting, and other projects at various stages of completion. The Port is beginning to welcome its first campers, and long-time seasonal all-star Chad Felice has recently stepped in as the temporary Parks Maintenance Coordinator. If the position is approved in the budget, we will be recruiting for the full-time version of that position later this summer. Collaboration will continue as we figure out new ways to work together and with the community to take care of Homer's parks.

Harbor Monthly Check-In

In response to Resolution 23-37, staff has been working on developing the first report in response to that item. I am expecting it to show up in the supplemental packet on Monday.

Enclosures:

1. May Employee Anniversaries
2. Grant Updates
3. HERC Updates
4. Update from SBDC



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Manager

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-8121 x2222

(f) 907-235-3148

Memorandum

TO: MAYOR CASTNER AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: Andrea Browning
DATE: May 22, 2023
SUBJECT: May Employee Anniversaries

I would like to take the time to thank the following employees for the dedication, commitment and service they have provided the City and taxpayers of Homer over the years.

Mark Whaley	Port	18	Years
Pike Ainsworth	Port	15	Years
Mike Gilbert	Public Works	9	Years
Jackie McDonough	Library	9	Years
Sean McGrorty	Port	7	Years
Ralph Skorski	Public Works	5	Years
Taylor Crowder	Police	2	Years
Susan Jeffres	Library	2	Years
Sean Love	Public Works	2	Years
Tim Roberts	Public Works	1	Year
Devan Wilson	Police	1	Year



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Administration

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

(p) 907-235-8121 x2222

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Memorandum

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Jenny Carroll, Special Projects and Communications Coordinator
THROUGH: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: May 4, 2023
SUBJECT: Update on Federal and State grant applications

This is an informational memo to provide an update on Federal and State grant applications submitted or in process in support of City of Homer projects. New actions/information since the April 4, 2023 are highlighted in yellow on the attached chart.

Highlights include:

- Staff submitted four FY24 Congressionally Designated Spending (CDS) requests to Senator Murkowski and Representative Peltola. We learned that they have all been recommended to the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, clearing the first hurdle in the selection process.

Senator Murkowski forwarded our top three requests:

1. Drinking Water Resiliency Project, a combination of the Raw Water Transmission Main (RWTM) project, the A-Frame Water Transmission Line and the 250,000 gallon A-Frame water tank.
2. Kachemak Drive Peatland Water Quality Improvement Project & Erosion Mitigation (part of the Slope Stability & Erosion Mitigation Program)
3. Beluga Slough Lift Station

Representative Peltola forwarded our fourth priority request:

4. Homer Spit Coastal Erosion Mitigation

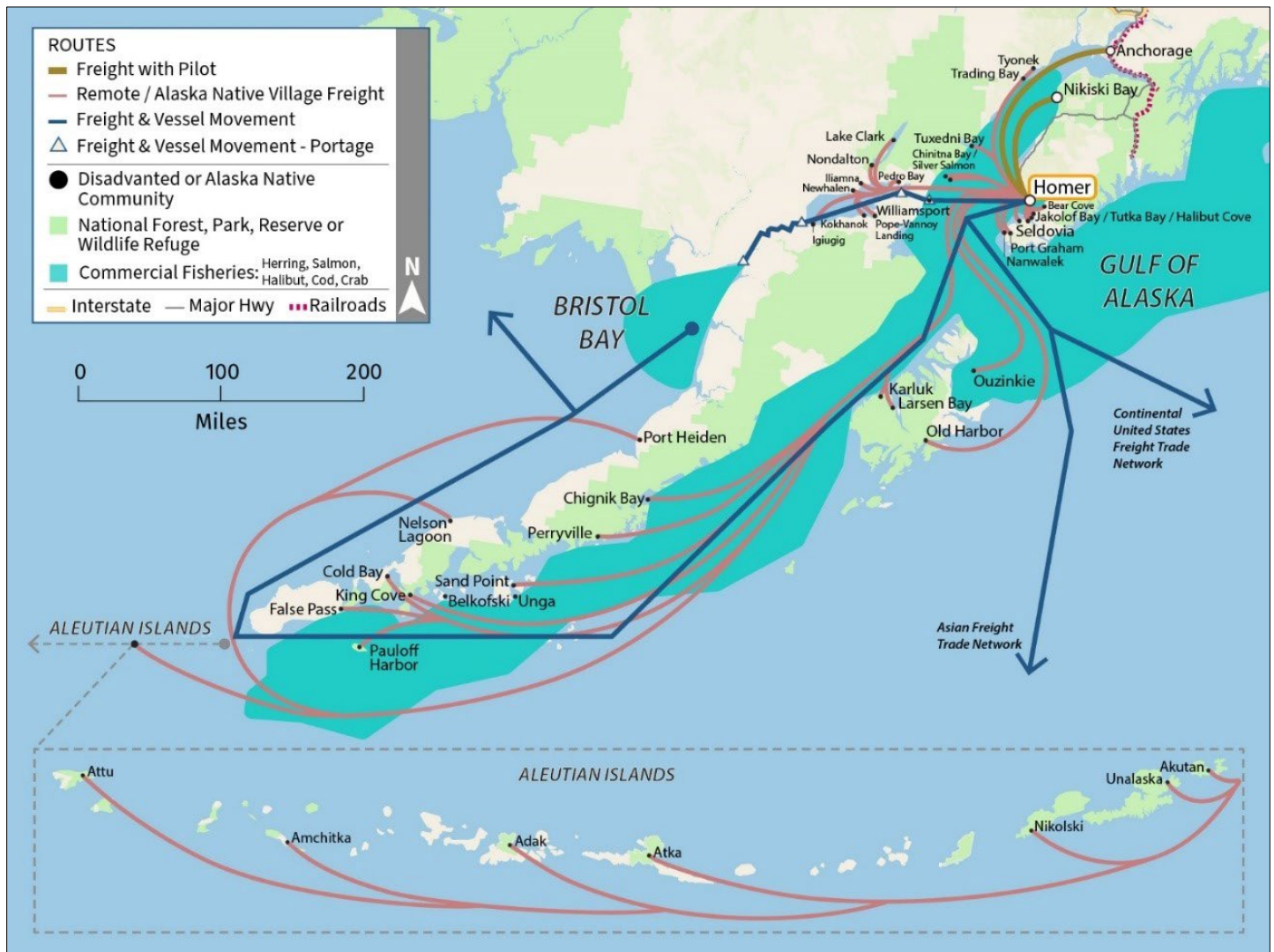
Two other hurdles to clear include approval by the subcommittee and Congress' Federal Budget deliberations.

The RWTM portion of the CDS Drinking Water Resiliency project is looking likely to be covered 100% by a FEMA Disaster Mitigation grant. My understanding is that the award request has been approved by FEMA and is now before the AK Congressional Delegation for approval. The RWTM project was included in the CDS Drinking Water Resiliency Project to show some potential funding momentum (\$2.18M) from another source.

- City staff collaborated very successfully with HDR to submit a solid grant application to the FY2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) at the end of April. Funds were requested to replace Float Systems 4 & 1 in the Homer Port & Harbor. We understand that the PIDP, which emphasizes supporting freight movement, attracts a large and competitive applicant pool.

Through our work on the application with HDR, we were able to quantify the Harbor's many marine transportation and freight connections, which looks different than port facilities handling containers but is quite compelling.

At least 47 non-road connected communities, unincorporated areas and remote work sites located across Kachemak Bay, in Cook Inlet and Western Alaska receive freight or transit through the Homer Port and Harbor, making Homer a marine transportation hub for a geographic area of roughly 130,000 square miles.

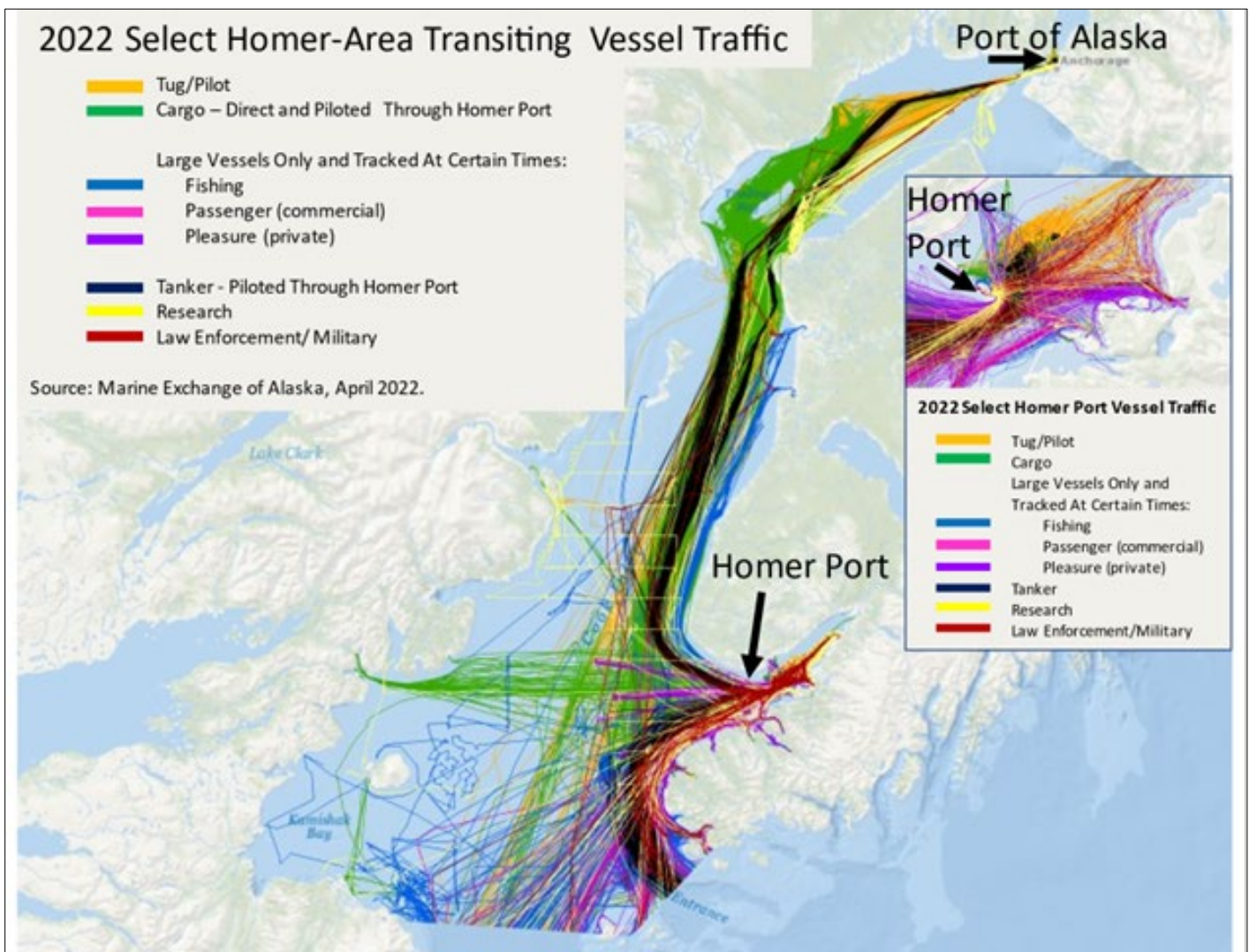


Ninety-two vessels in Homer's Port & Harbor provide freight shipping; the cargo consists primarily of essential goods and building materials – the supplies needed for homes and businesses to operate.

Two vessels provide 480 piloted cargo and tanker trips annually. This is a critical service for all cargo and tanker vessels traveling into the Port of Alaska, through which 90% of Alaska's cargo is handled.

Deliveries from the Homer Port also support commercial fisheries. As an example, in 2022, 4M tons of cargo, 300,000 gallons of fuel, and 350 fishing vessels originated in Homer's Port for delivery to Bristol Bay via Williamsport and Iliamna Portage Road.

The Marine Exchange of Alaska tracks data on select vessel movements. The diagram below shows vessel movements through and supported by the Homer Port and illustrates the Homer Port & Harbor high use and statewide connections.



- At the last City Council meeting, Coowe Walker, the Reserve Manager for the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR), announced that NOAA awarded a \$1.28 million Habitat Protection and Restoration grant in support of the City's innovative Kachemak Sponge Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management Project. I wanted to share the link to a press release NOAA published about the Alaska projects that received funding: at www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-bil-investments2023-alaska.

FY23

Project Supported	TPC	Grant Fund	Grant Funds Req	Match/Local Cost	Status	Notes
Slope Stability- Erosion Mitigation Program						
Kachemak Drive Peatland Water Quality Improvement (Kahcemak Sponge)	\$4,388,791	NOAA Habitat Conservation KBNERSS led/City partner	\$ 1,188,275.00 (land acquisition)	\$ 418,000.00 (land acquisition)	Submitted Awarded 4/1/2023	Awaiting entering into sub-grant agreement with UAA.
		Congressionally Designated Spending Request #1 of 4	\$ 1,890,000.00 (water works)	\$ 892,516.00 (water works)	Submitted 3/17/2023 4/20 Forwarded to Approp Subcommittee by Murkowski	Grant is for Kachemak Drive peatlands acquisition To Sen Murkowski & Represenative Peltola City costs eligible for funds from ADEC Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund & HART funds
		State of AK CAPSIS	\$ 2,744,994.00		Submitted 2/14/2023	State capital funding very unlikely in the State's FY24 budget
Beluga Slough Stormwater Treatment System	\$ 690,000.00	Alaska Clean Water Actions	\$ 153,307.00	\$ 107,182.00	Submitted 11/9/2022 Awarded 3/1/2023	Grant agreement Ord before City Council City costs in-kind + elibigle for funds from ADEC Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund
		State of AK CAPSIS	\$ 502,604.00		Submitted 2/14/2023	State capital funding very unlikely in the State's FY24 budget
Transportation						
Transportation Planning	\$ 960,000.00	Safe Streets For All KPB Applic/City partner	\$ 960,000.00	\$ 23,000.00 (in-kind)	Award announced	Application approved Reso 22-063
Non-Motorized Trans Network (REACH Project)	\$ 1,500,000.00	Fed RAISE Planning Grant	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	Submitted 2/28/2023 Awaiting decision	HDR application support Reso 22-087 approved Project support Reso 23-012 approved Start date July '23/End date June '25 RAISE Constr Grant possible Feb '25
Homer All-Ages & Abilities Pedestrian Pathway	\$ 3,900,000.00	State of AK Transportation Alternatives (TAP)	\$ 3,432,000.00	\$ 468,000.00	Submitted 2/15/2023 Awaiting DOT cost estimate	HAPP sections in PW's 5-year road plan Project support Reso 23-011 approved Public Eval Board Review mid-May Award announce May '23; Perf period end date June '25
Main Street Rehab/ Sidewalk South	\$ 4,200,000.00	State of AK Community Transportation Program (CTP)	\$ 3,696,000.00	\$ 504,000.00	Submitted 2/15/2023 Awaiting DOT cost estimate	Main St in 7-10 year horizon in PW Road Plan Project support Reso 23-011 approved Public Eval Board Review mid-May Award announce May '23; Perf period end date June '25 (\$500,000 set aside in HART for grant matching)
Homer Float Systems						
Float Systems 4 & 1 Replace	\$ 59,289,547.00	Fed Port Infrastructure Development Projects (PIDP)	\$47,135,190	\$ 12,154,357.00 (20.5% match)	Submitted 4/28/2023	HDR application support Ord 23-12 aprproved Project support Reso to Council 4/24/2023 Could apply for PIDP '24 if '23 unsuccessful Revenue bond or TIFIA loan for match
		Municipal Harbor Grant	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 5,000,000.00	Grant for construction only due in August 2023	If funded, leverages State match to lower City match
		Denali Commission Grant			Application not begun Due date 4/14/24	Can be used as non-Federal Match May not be competitive - \$1M max award Could apply in '24 for Design/Engineering
Building Code Development	\$ 587,500.00	State BRIC Sub-Grant (Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities)	\$ 470,000.00	\$ 117,500.00 (covered by State of Alaska)	Submitted 12/21/2022 Awaiting decision	Council Approved application Reso 22-086 As a sub-applic State covers local match
Parks & Recreation						
Multi-Use Community Center	\$ 350,000.00	State of AK CAPSIS	\$ 350,000.00 (planning)	-	Submitted 2/14/2023 Awaiting decision	State capital funding very unlikely in the State's FY24 budget
Bayview Park Renovations	\$ 139,230.00	State of AK Healthy & Equitable Community Round 2	\$ 74,919.00	\$ 52,314.00 Addl redistribution funds requested	Submitted 4/24/2023 Awaiting decision	Council Approved Resolution 23-031 \$12,000 donation from Kach Bay Rotary Possilble Approp req from HART if no addn HEC funds
Utilities - Infrastructure Resilience						
Drinking Water Resiliency (A-Frame Water Transmission & 250,000 gallon water tank)	\$ 2,852,253.00	Congressionally Designated Spending Request #2 of 4	\$ 1,931,090.00	\$ 921,163.00	Submitted 3/17/2023 4/20 Forwarded to Approp Subcommittee by Murkowski	To Sen Murkowski & Represenative Peltola City costs eligible for funds from ADEC Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund & HAWSP
A-Frame Water Transmission	\$ 804,029.00	State of AK CAPSIS	\$ 643,274.00	\$ 160,818.00	Submitted 3/14/2023	State capital funding very unlikely in the State's FY24 budget
Beluga Lift Station	\$ 2,937,353.00	Congressionally Designated Spending Request #3 of 4	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 937,353.00	Submitted 3/17/2023 4/20 Forwarded to Approp Subcommittee by Murkowski	To Sen Murkowski & Represenative Peltola City costs eligible for funds from ADEC Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund & HAWSP
Spit Road Erosion Mitigation (USACE General Investigation)	\$ 3,000,000.00	Congressionally Designated Spending Request #4 of 4	\$ 1,500,000.00	-	Submitted 3/17/2023 4/20 Forwarded to Approp Subcommittee by Peltola	To Sen Murkowski & Represenative Peltola Match funds potential from State PROTECT grant (unknown)
Raw Water Transmission Main		FEMA Disaster Mitigation	\$ 1,988,650.00	-	Submitted 1/32/2020	4/11/23: Responded to latest FEMA request for information 5/2/23: Award submitted to Congressional Deleg. for approval



HERC

May 2023 Updates

Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 6: Public Services & Facilities

Goal 1: Provide and improve city-operated facilities and services to meet the current needs of the community, anticipate growth, conserve energy, and keep pace with future demands.

Goal 1: Demolition of HERC 2



Progress

Test samples were taken May 1 and 2.

Next Steps

Test results are expected by mid-June. Staff will provide information to Council in the June/July time frame based on the results.

Goal 2: Business Plan



Progress

Working with existing user groups to quantify demand and which programs are expected to grow.

Next Steps

Continue collecting information to inform business plan creation over the next year.

Goal 3: Right Size a Replacement Building



Progress

Staff held a conversation with representatives from the largest Community Recreation programs. Participants spoke about space needs for their activity (basketball, pickle ball, volley ball, karate, etc.) and talked about the user trends. Are programs growing? Overall, the consensus was yes, more people would participate if space was available.

Next Steps

Staff and Council will have a work session in August. Council has set an upper limit on the building cost and asked for a range of less expensive alternatives. Additionally, staff has been asked to plan ahead for a building that only meets today's needs, but the needs 20 years in the future. Staff and Council can begin to determine if a straight replacement of the HERC gym and multipurpose room is enough, or if a double gym and a multipurpose room are the goal.

Information from the FY 24/25 budgets will be informative as to how much money the general fund can provide to pay increased costs for supporting a new/larger facility. It may be that a new bond measure needs to be structured like the police station, where a portion of the ballot measure includes a permanent sales tax to support the new facility. Or perhaps pursuing a new tax.

Goal 4: Budget - Construction and Operations and Maintenance



Progress

None.

Next Steps

The August work session will have an update on the estimated bond payoff for the police station, and rough numbers on building operations and maintenance costs. This will provide context as to when a new bond measure vote might be appropriate and necessary new revenue for operations.



Alaska Small Business
Development Center

SBDC

UAA BUSINESS ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

April 27, 2023

City of Homer
491 E. Pioneer Ave
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Mayor Castner, City Council, and City Staff,

This letter serves as our quarterly report for the period January 1 to March 31, 2023. The Homer Business Advisor, Robert Green, had a strong start to the year, logging the most hours of advising in a quarter ever in Homer. In the decade prior to Robert Green's hire in June 2020, the Alaska SBDC logged an average of 84.7 hours per quarter with clients in Homer. Robert has averaged 154.3 hours per quarter since joining the SBDC, with a steady increase each year, indicating local demand has been growing. Despite the busiest quarter the SBDC has recorded in Homer, Robert maintained a 100% satisfaction rating on client surveys, a testament to the quality of advising he provides entrepreneurs in the Homer community. Here is a summary of deliverables to the Homer community during the quarter:

Client Hours: 238.5

Total Clients: 55

New Businesses Started or Bought: 2

Jobs Supported: 189

Capital Infusion: \$25,000

Client Surveys: 100% positive

This year, quarterly reports will feature lists of the top advising topics and top industries obtaining technical assistance from the Alaska SBDC in Homer. Assistance to start-ups and entrepreneurs seeking loans to grow their business were the top topics this quarter, while tour operators, gearing up for tourist season, and food services, from full-service restaurants to food trucks, were the top industries.

Topics

1. Start-up Assistance: 76.7 hrs (32%)
2. Financing/Capital: 44.6 hrs (19%)
3. Financial Planning: 37.5 hrs (16%)
4. Business Planning: 13.0 hrs (5%)
5. General Management: 11.4 hrs (5%)

Industries

1. Tour Operators: 55.3 hrs (23%)
2. Food Services: 31.6 hrs (13%)
3. Rentals: 23.2 hrs (10%)
4. Retailers: 20.7 hrs (9%)
5. Educational Services: 18.5 hrs (8%)

We would like to thank the City of Homer for their support of the Homer Business Advisor position. We greatly appreciate the knowledge, experience, and consistency Robert Green brings to our team. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Jon Bittner

F3E1FE8A6ADF4BD...

Jon Bittner

Executive Director
Alaska SBDC

PARKS ART RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

2023 Calendar

	AGENDA DEADLINE	MEETING	COMMISSIONER SCHEDULED TO REPORT	CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
JANUARY		No Regular Meeting			
FEBRUARY	Wednesday 2/08 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 2/16 5:30 p.m.		Monday 2/23 6:00 p.m.	- Letter to the Editor Topics - Art Policy Review & Amendments - Dog Park Proposal
MARCH	Wednesday 3/08 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 3/16 5:30 p.m.		Tuesday 3/28 6:00 p.m.	Budget Review and Discussion
APRIL	Wednesday 4/12 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 4/20 5:30 p.m.		Monday 4/24 6:00 p.m.	- Schedule Beach/Park Walk Through for May - Budget Review & Discussion/Recommendations
MAY	Wednesday 5/10 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 5/18 5:30 p.m.		Monday 5/22 6:00 p.m.	- Recreation & Parks Fee Schedule Review - Letter to the Editor Topics - Budget & Financial Goals Review
JUNE	Wednesday 6/7 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 6/15 5:30 p.m.		Monday 6/27 6:00 p.m.	Capital Improvement Plan Review: Recommendations for Any New Parks & Rec-Related Projects
JULY		No Regular Meeting			
AUGUST	Wednesday 8/09 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 8/17 5:30 p.m.		Monday 8/28 6:00 p.m.	CIP Project Recommendations
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday 9/13 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 9/21 5:30 p.m.		Monday 9/27 6:00 p.m.	- Fall Park/Beach Walk-Thru - Schedule Park Clean Up Day - Reappointment Notices & Applications
OCTOBER	Wednesday 10/12 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 10/20 5:30 p.m.		Monday 10/25 6:00 p.m.	- Terms Expire October 31st - Approve 2023 Meeting Schedule
NOVEMBER	Wednesday 11/8 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 11/16 5:30 p.m.		Monday 11/28 6:00 p.m.	- Election of Chair & Vice Chair - Commission Training w/City Clerk
DECEMBER		No Regular Meeting			

*The Commission's opportunity to give their report to City Council is scheduled for the Council's regular meeting following the Commission's regular meeting, under Agenda Item 8 – Announcements/ Presentations/ Borough Report/Commission Reports. Reports are the Commission's opportunity to give Council a brief update on their work. Attend via Zoom or in Person. Masks are optional**

VOL. II - ISSUE VIII | MAY 2023

CITY OF HOMER

Monthly Newsletter from the Office of the City Manager



Greetings from City Hall

As the snow melts and the days grow longer, our community is buzzing with activity and excitement. The City is excited to bring you the latest news and updates from our vibrant community.



Kachemak Sponge Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management Project

At a recent City Council meeting, Coowe Walker, Reserve Manager for the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR), announced some exciting news: the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) awarded a \$1.28 million Habitat Protection and Restoration grant in support of the City's innovative Kachemak Sponge Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management Project. Read the NOAA press release at www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-bil-investments-2023-alaska.

Kachemak Sponge is one of several green infrastructure projects planned by the City that utilizes natural wetlands to help mitigate problems associated with stormwater runoff. Currently, drainage ditches and culverts discharge stormwater directly into Kachemak Bay, which contributes to bluff erosion and introduces turbidity and nonpoint source pollutants into Kachemak Bay. The *Kachemak Sponge* project will convey this stormwater to retention/filtration structures first to remove sediment and contaminants, and then on to peatlands. Peatlands work naturally to absorb stormwater and slow discharge rates into Kachemak Bay. Peatland vegetation also has the ability to further remediate hazardous substances through long-term sequestration and elemental pollution removal.

The system is based on successful wetland treatment projects in Finland that have been proven to work wonders in cold climates. NOAA funds will acquire the peatlands necessary for this project. The City thanks KBNERR for their valued partnership in the project. For more information on this project, visit <https://bit.ly/3AKAKpl>.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Library Events
- Community Corner
- Community Recreation
- Fire Department
- City Manager's Office
- City Clerk's Office
- May is Bike Month!
- Port & Harbor
- Public Safety Corner
- Meet the Staff
- Municipal Art Collection
- Stay Connected with City Council
- Join Our Team

Discover something new today and see the latest City project updates information! Learn about ways community members can get involved at City Hall and in the Homer community.

Follow us on Facebook

- City Hall: @cityofhomerak
- Parks & Recreation: @homerparksandrec
- Homer Public Library: @homerpubliclibrary
- Homer Police: @homerpolice
- Fire Department: @HomerVolFireDept

Subscribe to the Monthly Newsletter:

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/citymanager/monthly-email-newsletter

"Where the Land Ends and the Sea Begins"

LIBRARY EVENTS

Virtual Author Talks

Zoom in and listen to your favorite authors talk about their latest books. For a complete list of Upcoming Speakers, go to <https://libraryc.org/homerlibrary/upcoming>

May 3: *Raising Anti-Racist Children* by Britt Hawthorne, 9 a.m.

May 10: *Not Funny* by Jena Fiedman, 4 p.m.

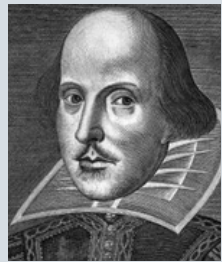
May 20: *Sadie* by Courtney Summers, 10 a.m.

Spring Book and Plant Sale

May 5-6

On Friday, May 5, join Friends of the Homer Library for a **members-only sale!** Browse through hundreds of books and dozens of plants the evening before the sale goes public. Want to become a member of the Friends of the Library and get first pick? Memberships start at \$15. You can join as a member at the door or [sign up today!](#)

On Saturday, May 6, all are welcome! The sale will continue all day, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Second Sunday Shakespeare

May 14: *Henry VIII*

Friends of the Homer Library, in partnership with Pier One Theatre and Kachemak Bay Campus, invite you to participate in an online reading of *Henry VIII* by William Shakespeare.

Find more information on the City's website: www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library/second-sunday-shakespeare-2

Lunch with a Council Member

May 9 - Shelly Erickson

Noon - 1 p.m., Library Meeting Room

Join the conversation with Council Member **Shelly Erickson**. Bring your questions and topics for discussion and enjoy a virtual lunch.

[Virtual Meeting Information](#)



Check out the complete line-up of library programs



Homer Public Library
500 Hazel Street - 907-235-3180
circ@ci.homer.ak.us
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library

Community Corner

What's happening around the city of Homer

31st Annual Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival

May 3-7

The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival is right around the corner! Bird watchers from all over the world flock to Homer to experience the annual migration of birds along the miles of shoreline and intertidal habitats found here. Homer is a prime location to catch a glimpse of the birds and take part in the educational programs led by the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, the Pratt Museum and Park and more.

Online registration is open. Go to www.kachemakshorebird.org for more information.



Sign up! Form a team!
Step Up for Your Health!



7th Annual Free Community Walking Challenge

SAVE THE DATE! ORGANIZE YOUR TEAM!

REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 10!

May 1st - 28th, 2023

WALK TO WIN: WEEKLY DRAWINGS FOR HOMER BUCKS!

End-of-challenge CASH PRIZE DRAWINGS - \$100 - \$200 - \$300
\$500, \$300 or \$200 to donate to your team's charity of choice!

Custom "2023 Homer Steps Up! Winners" T-shirts for your team!

HOMERSTEPSUP.COM



Community Recreation



30th Annual Safe and Healthy Kids Fair

The 30th Annual Safe and Healthy Kids Fair is happening on for Saturday, May 6 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the Homer High School. This is a free, family-friendly event for children of all ages to focus on safety, health, wellness, and fun! It offers more than 25 booths and stations with hands-on activities and demonstrations. All attendees are invited to enter their names into a drawing to win one of four brand-new bikes of various sizes for differing age ranges.

Kids are invited to bring their bikes and helmets for a free bike inspection and enjoy riding the course of the bike rodeo. Helmets are required and are available for purchase on-site at a discounted rate.

Other attractions include visits from Beary the Be Well Bear, the infamous teddy bear clinic, stilt walkers, BOB the bookmobile, loads of giveaways, free car seat checks, a children's circus performance, resources from youth-serving agencies, and more!

Food will be available for purchase, and all proceeds from food and helmet sales help support the operational expenses of the fair. The Safe and Healthy Kids Fair is organized by a committee representing local organizations whose missions include facilitating healthy outcomes and injury prevention for youth. The motto reflected at the annual fair is **"Be safe, have fun, do good, and pass it on!"**

For more information or to get involved, visit the Safe and Healthy Kids Fair Facebook page, email safeandhealthykidsfair@gmail.com.



Contact the Safe & Healthy Kids Fair Committee for more info: safeandhealthykidsfair@gmail.com
KPBSD posts flyers a community service. Such posting does not constitute an endorsement for or against the materials or viewpoints expressed in them.

Volleyball Tournament

City of Homer Community Recreation hosted an all-day Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament on Sunday, April 2. A total of eight teams, including one from the Central Peninsula, played 28 games with a crowd of over a hundred fans cheering them on.

Congratulations to **TEAM PENINSULA** for winning the inaugural volleyball Tournament. **TEAM CAROLINE** took second place and **TEAM ANNA** placed third.

To see the entire Community Recreation program list, check out www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec.



Inlet Winds Band Performance

The City of Homer Community Recreation **Inlet Winds Band** held an amazing performance at the Mariner Theater on April 22. An estimated 250 people were in attendance. There are 38 band members including seven high school students who have been practicing once a week for two hours for the past 10 weeks to learn an array of some complex yet entertaining songs. The band was led by volunteer Band Directors Eric and Mary Simondsen. Stay tuned for future band and concert opportunities in the fall!



Fire Department



Residential Fuel Spill

In April, Homer Volunteer Fire Department responded to a call from Enstar Energy regarding a fuel smell in Crittenden and Hidden Way area. Fire Chief Mark Kirko tracked the scent to a property on Hidden Way and reported the spill to the City's Water and Sewer team, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Coast Guard. The spill was determined to be home heating fuel from a 300-gallon tank, with an estimated leakage of 75-150 gallons. HVFD and the City's Water and Sewer team responded with crews to place absorbent boom and pads at culverts and storm drains to help mitigate the spread of fuel toward the bay. DEC has taken over case management and HVFD is no longer involved.

To prevent future spills, the City encourages property owners to take a look at their heating oil fuel tanks to make sure they're in good shape. Even if you have converted to natural gas, you may still have a heating oil fuel tank, so be sure to check out old systems for safety and security!

Check out the [Steps to Close a Heating Oil Tank](#) for some advice.

Steps to Close a Heating Oil Tank

Notify the Oil Supplier

1

If you are converting to gas or electric heat or if you are replacing a tank, call your oil distributor and ask them to discontinue the oil service to your tank.

2

Remove Product

Remove all petroleum product from the tank and line before pulling the tank. Your oil supplier may pump out the reusable oil and credit your account. The fuel supplier should have an explosion-proof or air-driven pump or a vacuum truck to remove the liquid in the tank.

3

Disconnect all Piping and Drain

All piping should be disconnected, drained, and capped (if it cannot be removed). This includes the tank fill line.

4

Tank Cleaning

Oil sludge or residue should be removed and disposed of properly.

5

Tank Removal

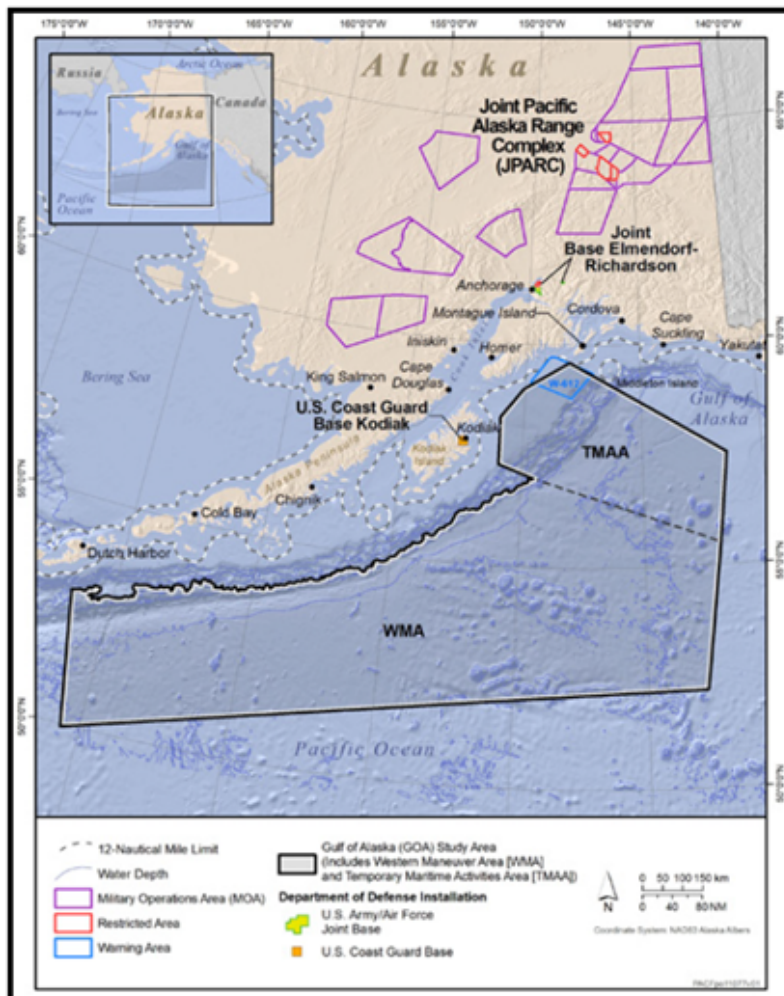
Once the tank is cleaned, it may be removed from the property and disposed properly.

City Manager's Office

Northern Edge Exercise

In a virtual meeting on April 20, 2023, Mayor Castner and City staff met with representatives from the Navy to discuss the upcoming Northern Edge Exercise, which will start in early to mid-May. The Northern Edge Exercise is the military's largest joint training exercise in Alaska. Maritime training activities conducted during Northern Edge occur in the Gulf of Alaska within a designated Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA), which is located south of Prince William Sound and east of Kodiak Island, and the Western Maneuver Area (WMA), which is located south of Kodiak Island.

This meeting was part of the coastal community outreach that the Navy is coordinating in anticipation of the exercises which take place every other year and typically last up to 21 days. During the meeting with City staff, John Moser, Environmental Planner for the Navy, discussed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Northern Edge and the mitigation measures in place. The prominent changes since the last exercise in 2021 include an enlarged training area where vessels and aircraft can operate called the Western Maneuver Area (WMA), and a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area within the Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA). While in the past a majority of activities occurred in the TMAA, the Navy now prohibits the use of explosives during training in the Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area to protect marine species and biologically important habitat.



LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

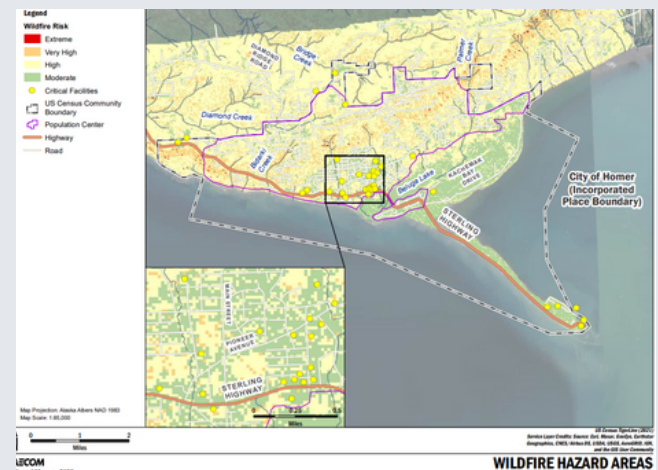
WILDFIRE

A wildfire—also known as a wildland fire—is a fire in an area of combustible vegetation occurring in rural areas. Wildfires can be caused by human activities (e.g., unattended burns, campfires, or off-road vehicles without spark-arresting mufflers); or by natural events (e.g., lightning, drought, or infestation). Wildfires can be classified as forest, urban, tundra, interface or intermix fires, and prescribed burns.

Most of the Homer area has moderate or high wildland fuel risk, with some areas of very high risk. The Homer Spit, tidal flats, and low-lying areas around Beluga Lake are at moderate risk; the areas of very high risk are primarily along the bluffs.

Creating and maintaining defensible space around your home is crucial. For more information on defensible space, review the [AK Firewise Pocket Guide](#).

If you would like to read more about wildfires and their potential hazard of them to Homer, please refer to Table 3-10 of the [Local Hazard Mitigation Plan](#).



Burn Bans & Permits

As we enter the dry spring season before the green-up, the risk of fire becomes greater. To ensure your safety and the safety of those around you, it is important to take the necessary precautions before burning. Make sure to check if there are any burn bans in effect and obtain any required permits before proceeding. Check out www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/fire/burn-permits for more information.

City Clerk's Office

Celebrating the 54th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week

April 29 – May 6, 2023, is the 54th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week. Initiated in 1969 by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and endorsed by all of its members throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, the week is a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the Clerk's office. Although it is one of the oldest positions in local government, few people realize the vital services Municipal and Deputy Clerks perform for their community. They are the local officials who administer democratic processes and ensure transparency to the public, which includes keeping the official records of the city, conducting local elections, and facilitating all legislative actions. They act as compliance officers for federal, state, and local statutes, provide parliamentary support to City Council and the commissions/boards, manage public inquiries and relationships, arrange for ceremonial and official functions, and may even serve as financial officers or chief administrative officers. For more information on the Homer City Clerk's Office including our Code of Ethics, staffing history, and the history of the Clerk profession, see the complete Clerk's Office Current and Historical Information Packet online at www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk.



Rachel and the Library Advisory Board. Red Asslin Martin, Marcia Kuszmaul, David Berry, Douglas Bailey, Kathy Carsow, Rachel Tussey, Kate Finn, Michael McKinney, and Bristol Johnson.

May is Bike Month in Homer!

With beautiful scenery and ample opportunities for outdoor recreation, it's no wonder biking is a popular mode of transportation in our community. But biking isn't just a fun way to get around – it's also an important part of our City's [Climate Action Plan](#). By choosing non-motorized transportation options like biking, we can reduce our carbon footprint and work towards a more sustainable future.

Throughout the month of May, Homer Drawdown and Homer Cycling Club will be hosting a variety of biking activities and events. Whether you're an experienced cyclist or just getting started, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Check out the [Bike Month flyer](#) for more details. From a safety class to a film festival and bike rodeo, there are plenty of ways to get involved and show your support for biking in the community.

Community participation is key to achieving the community's climate goals, and that's why community members are encouraged to get involved in bike month activities. By coming together as a community to support non-motorized transportation options like biking, we can make a real difference in reducing our impact on the environment and building a more sustainable future for generations to come. **So grab your bike, join the fun, and let's make May 2023 a Bike Month to remember!**

HOMER DRAWDOWN and HOMER CYCLING CLUB presents BIKE MONTH MAY 2023
www.HomerDrawdown.info

BIKE / WALK TO WORK / SCHOOL WEEK : MAY 15 - 19

ENERGIZER BOOTH at WKFL PARK
coffee snacks bacon
Mon, May 15th, 7:30 - 9:30 am
smoothie bike
Fri, May 19th, 4:30 - 6:30 pm

SAFE AND HEALTHY KIDS FAIR
bike rodeo
Sat, May 6th, 11:00 - Noon
High School Parking Lot

KBBI COFFEE TABLE
listen and call in
Wed, May 10th, 9:00 - 10:00 am

FILMED BY BIKE
film festival
Thurs, May 18th, 6:00 pm
Homer Theater
\$10

BY BICYCLE: COMMUTING HOMER
Sat, May 20th, 10:00 - Noon
KPC campus

free safety class

PLAY BIKE BINGO!
Fill out a card and turn it in to the Friday energizer booth for a chance to win prizes!
www.HomerDrawdown.info



Harbor Expansion Study Update

On March 29, 2023, the City and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) signed a Federal Cost Share Agreement to begin a three-year feasibility study of expanding Homer's harbor. Planning activities with the USACE will kick off with a three-day design charrette, May 17 through 19.

The USACE conducts design charrettes in the very early stage of a general investigation study to identify project requirements, gather functional information from customers and stakeholders, assess the project site, and allow for public engagement with the USACE design team. The full schedule of public events is below and online at www.cityofhomer.ak.gov/port/homer-harbor-expansion. Participation can be in-person or virtual. A link will be provided later at www.homerharborexansion.com.

The City is also working with HDR as an owner representative to assist the City in a successful coordination effort between USACE and the greater Homer community. HDR's planning activities with the City began on Friday, April 28 at a joint work session with the Homer City Council and Port & Harbor Advisory Commission where they began drafting a Charter Document that defines a shared vision, collective goals and objectives, and success factors for the City's role in the Homer Harbor Expansion.

Stay up to date on the Homer Harbor Expansion study at the website: www.homerharborexansion.com.

Mark Your Calendar!



May 17, 18 and 19



Islands & Oceans Visitor Center



www.homerharborexansion.com



Full schedule below

Homer Harbor Expansion Design Charrette

Public Work Session Schedule

Wednesday, May 17

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

First Public Work Session

(Open to the public with comment at end of work session)

- Introduction
- USACE Process
- General Navigation Feature vs. Local Services Facility
- Harbor Expansion History

Thursday, May 18

1:30 to 5 p.m.

Second Public Work Session

(Open to the public with full public engagement)

- Developing potential measures and alternatives to be considered in scoping phase

Friday, May 19

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Third Public Work Session

(Open to the public with comment at end of work session)

- Compare measures and alternatives that will be considered in scoping phase

2 to 3 p.m.

USACE Charette Briefing

(Open to the public with comment at end of work session)

- Provide summary of work completed during charrette
- Provide USACE next steps in Feasibility Study

Port & Harbor



Float Rehabilitation Project Update

Harbor maintenance staff are working on refurbishing the transient floats on the end of floats K through Q. These floats were built in 1986 and are six years past their engineered life expectancy. Most floats in that area are still in remarkably good condition despite heavy use in Alaskan weather, but the T-Head floats are twisted and damaged from several factors including the age of the floats. Additional strain is caused by rafting multiple vessels on the end floats. High wakes caused by fast incoming vessels traveling to the Load and Launch Ramp add even greater force loads to the floats, more than they were engineered for. With assistance from Bellingham Marine, the City is rehabilitating these floats to relieve the wracking damage and restore a safe walking surface.



Fishing Lagoon Maintenance

The Fishing Lagoon is undergoing maintenance in order to keep the lagoon from filling in with sediment and gravel. Materials are collected in the narrow part of the lagoon, as shown in the photo. If not cleared out, the materials will flow into the lagoon and fill in the lobes, making the depth too shallow for the salmon fry pens.

A local contractor, Dibble Creek, will be walking a large excavator down the entrance of the lagoon to clean out all the materials that they can reach with a 60' boom. The materials will be loaded into trucks and moved offsite to the contractor's materials storage yard on the Spit. They will also clear out the materials that have accumulated in the entrance and clean behind the East groin. It is recommended that the East groin is kept cleared out enough so that the material is not allowed to migrate around and down the entrance into the lagoon.

The Fishing Lagoon does not have a fund to support it, so this time around, City Council approved to trade the dredged materials in exchange for the contractor's services. Dibble Creek is a local contractor with experience completing this type of work for the City. The proposed work is properly permitted and covered under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit currently in place and held by Public Works. This project will preserve the great fishing that the lagoon has to offer.



Parking Fee Structure Update

The City of Homer Port & Harbor department has announced an update to its parking fee structure. The update includes a change to one parking area and an increase in fees in some areas.

Starting Memorial Day, May 29, 2023, the last section of angled parking spaces on the west side of Homer Spit Road will be limited to 3-hour parking and remain free or at no charge. These spaces were previously designated as 7-day free parking.

Additionally, parking fees will increase from \$5 to \$10 per day in certain high-demand areas. These areas include the spaces at the top of Ramps 1 through 4. The fee increase is necessary to keep up with the rising cost of maintenance and operations and to ensure that the parking facilities continue to meet the needs of the community. All other Spit parking lots continue to offer free parking for up to seven consecutive 24-hour days. After seven days, vehicles must be removed from City property for at least 24 hours before returning, purchase a long-term parking pass, or will be subject to citation.

Future expansion of paid parking to most of the areas on the west side of the Spit is under consideration. The City of Homer is working with the State Department of Transportation on implementing paid parking in the public right-of-way. The potential expansion of paid parking is being explored as a way to manage parking demand and support the sustainability of Port & Harbor maintenance operations for high-quality transportation and public spaces.

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"We understand that these changes may be difficult for some of our customers, but we believe that they are necessary to provide a better parking experience for everyone," said Bryan Hawkins, Harbormaster and Port & Harbor Director. "By implementing paid parking in high-demand areas, we can reduce congestion and ensure that spaces are available for those who need them. And by increasing fees in certain areas, we can ensure that our parking facilities are well-maintained and continue to meet the needs of our community."

The City of Homer is committed to providing safe and affordable parking for all community members and visitors. For more information about the fee structure update or to provide feedback, please visit www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/port/port-homer-parking.

City of Homer Port & Harbor Facilities Vehicle Parking





Public Safety Corner



In this section, we aim to keep readers informed about the latest developments in public safety in the community. Whether it's news about crime prevention, emergency preparedness, or updates on local law enforcement activities, we've got you covered. Our goal is to promote a safe and secure environment for all community members and visitors of Homer, and we believe that staying informed is a crucial part of achieving that. Read on to learn more about what's happening in public safety in Homer.

Construction Season Safety

As the 2023 construction season kicks off, it's important for all of us to be aware of the hazards and challenges that come with roadwork.

According to [workzonesafety.org](https://www.workzonesafety.org), in 2022, 857 people were killed in 774 fatal work zone crashes, with 117 of those fatalities being work zone workers. It is crucial for drivers to moderate their speed, stay focused, watch for construction signs, and pay attention to flaggers. At the same time, workers are encouraged to follow important safety guidelines that help prevent worker injury and death. By minimizing distractions in work zones, both drivers and workers can prevent tragedies from occurring.

To help you prepare for construction season, we encourage you to stay up-to-date on construction traffic impacts and delays by checking 511.alaska.gov.



In Homer, we value safety above all else. Let's all do our part to ensure that this construction season is a safe one for everyone involved.



SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!

Working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death from home fires in half.

That's why we're rallying volunteers, fire departments and partners to *Sound the Alarm*.

Together, we're installing **FREE** smoke alarms in your community. Request a smoke alarm installation today!

Homer / Ninilchik / Anchor Point Communities

May 11-13, 2023

Thank You, Southcentral Territory Sponsors:
CHUGACH ALASKA & THE HOMER FOUNDATION

SoundTheAlarm.org/alaska
907-201-2047
bridget.vivoda@redcross.org



American Red Cross



*Matt Steffy and Donna Aderhold
brushing out the Lee Ave Trail.*

Red Cross Home Fire Campaign

The Red Cross Home Fire Campaign could help save lives in local communities. From May 11 to 13, they will be providing free smoke alarm installations to homes that do not have them. The Red Cross Home Fire Campaign and is a great opportunity for those who may not have the means to purchase a smoke alarm themselves. To sign up for this free service, visit the Red Cross' website and fill out the form at www.redcross.org/local/alaska/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign.html. This is an excellent opportunity for the community to come together and ensure the safety of their homes and families.

Don't miss your chance to sign up for a free smoke alarm installation!



359801-04 03/23

Welcome

ABOARD

Let's give a warm Homer welcome to the newest recruits! We are happy to have you as part of our team and wish you the best in your new ventures.

- **David Garcia**, Building Custodian
- **Michael de la Torre**, Public Safety Dispatcher

April Anniversaries

We would like to recognize City staff members with anniversaries this month. Thank you for the dedication, commitment and service you've provided the City and taxpayers of Homer over the years. You all are an integral part of what makes the City of Homer a great place to work and the community.

Joe Young	Public Works	16 Years
Rick Pitta	Police	14 Years
Erica Hollis	Port	11 Years
Jean Hughes	Public Works	9 Years
Jaclyn Arndt	Fire	8 Years
Dave Berry	Library	4 Years
Ricky Borland	Port	4 Years
Aaron Yeaton	Public Works	2 Years
Evangelina Campuzano	Police	2 Years
Will Kern	Public Works	2 Years
Joe Kahles	Fire	1 Year

Departures & Transitions

The City thanks **Rachel Tussey** for her service to the City and wishes her well on her next adventure!

Rachel started her career with the City as a part-time administrative assistant in the Clerk's office. She also has served as an Administrative Secretary at Port and Harbor and finally as Deputy City Clerk in the Clerk's Office. Rachel also was the Sister City Coordinator with the City's Sister City Teshio, Japan. Rachel is an efficient clerk who had an eye for detail, strong technical writing skills, and helped get some modern touches to the workflows. She was an asset to the team and will be missed!



Meet the Staff



This section is to highlight staff, their achievements, promotions, retirements, departures and new hires to the City's workforce.

After 15 years, and upwards of 300 Planning Commission meetings with the City of Homer, **Rick Abboud** is moving on to a new position with York County, South Carolina which is part of the Charlotte metropolitan area. Rick joined the City in 2008 after serving as the planning director for Bethel, AK. He jumped straight into the big job of wrapping up the 2008 Homer Comprehensive Plan and shepherding it through the



Planning Commission, City Council, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly. During Rick's tenure with the City he has worked with staff, Planning Commission, and Council on projects that have touched every section of Title 21. He collaborated to make additions to code which include solutions relating to steep slope development, grading and filling, over slope development, wind energy, telecommunication towers, storm water, creation of the East End Mixed use District, allowances for accessory dwellings, marijuana businesses, flood hazard ordinances and maps, coastal setbacks, and the creation of the medical district. Rick has also been very active with MAPP, Rotary, the Kenai Peninsula Homelessness Coalition, and served a stint as interim-City manager.

After working for Public Works for over 9 years, **Paul Raymond**, lead equipment operator, is retiring. To complement his enormous skill as an equipment operator, Paul is also a barbecue master. We wish him a happy retirement and his skill both on the job and at the grill will be deeply missed.



Mike Gilbert will be promoted to lead equipment operator after the retirement of Paul Raymond. Mike has worked at Public Works as an equipment operator for 10 years and the promotion to lead operator is well earned. We welcome the wealth of skill and experience that Mike brings to the table and wish him the best in his new position.

City of Homer Roster

Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk/Deputy Director of Administration
Andrea Browning, Personnel Director
Rick Abboud, City Planner
Mark Robl, Chief of Police
Mark Kirko, Fire Chief
Bryan Hawkins, Port Director/Harbormaster
Elizabeth Walton, Finance Director
Jan Keiser, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Dave Berry, Library Director
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager
Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager
Bill Jirsa, Chief Technology Officer

Mayor - Ken Castner (2024)

City Council

Donna Aderhold (2024)
Jason Davis (2025)
Shelley Erickson (2024)
Storm P. Hansen-Cavasos (2025)
Rachel Lord (2023)
Caroline Venuti (2023)

Commissions & Boards

ADA Advisory Board
Economic Development Advisory Commission
Library Advisory Board
Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission
Planning Commission
Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION

Learn more about the municipal art collection at:

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/
prac/city-homer-municipal-art-collection](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/prac/city-homer-municipal-art-collection)



Homer harbor, Ed Tussey



Three Cranes, artist unknown

STAY CONNECTED TO CITY COUNCIL

Go to cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/stay-connected-city-council to find instructions on how to listen, provide testimony, and participate in the meetings via Zoom.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May	
3	5:30 p.m. Planning Commission Work Session - Canceled 6:30 p.m. Planning Commission Regular Meeting
8	5 p.m. City Council Committee of the Whole 6 p.m. City Council Regular Meeting
9	6 p.m. Economic Development Advisory Commission
11	5 p.m. ADA Advisory Board Regular Meeting
16	5:30 p.m. Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting
17	5:30 p.m. Planning Commission Work Session 6:30 p.m. Planning Commission Regular Meeting Various USACE Homer Harbor Expansion Charrette (May 17-19)
18	5:30 p.m. Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
22	5 p.m. City Council Committee of the Whole 6 p.m. City Council Regular Meeting
24	6 p.m. Port & Harbor Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

JOIN OUR TEAM

The City of Homer has current Job Openings.
Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at:
cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs

CURRENT JOB LISTINGS

- Building Custodian, Full-Time
- Deputy City Clerk I, Full Time
- Firefighter/EMT-Basic (EMT-I) or Firefighter/EMT-Advanced (EMT II or III), Full-Time
- Parks Technician, Seasonal
- Utilities Laborer, Seasonal
- Harbor Assistant I, Seasonal
- Treatment Maintenance Technician I or II



City of Homer

491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska 99603
907-235-8121

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Homer Harbor Expansion Design Charrette

1 First Public Work Session

- Introduction
- USACE Process
- General Navigation Feature vs. Local Services Facility
- Harbor Expansion History

Wednesday, May 17
12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

*Open to the public with comment
at end of work session*

2 Second Public Work Session

- Developing potential measures and alternatives to be considered in scoping phase

Thursday, May 18
1:30 to 5 p.m.

*Open to the public with
full public engagement*

3 Third Public Work Session

- Compare measures and alternatives that will be considered in scoping phase

Friday, May 19
9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

*Open to the public with comment
at end of work session*

4 USACE Charrette Briefing

- Provide summary of work completed during charrette
- Provide USACE next steps in Feasibility Study

Friday, May 19
2 to 3 p.m.

*Open to the public with comment
at end of work session*

All work sessions will take place at Islands & Ocean Visitor Center (95 Sterling Hwy). Participants may attend the workshops either in-person or virtually. To join any of these meetings virtually, use the virtual meeting attendance link: <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/homer>.

Learn more at www.homerharborexansion.com

