



AGENDA

Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 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

Page 3

Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for March 16, 2023

6. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

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

Page 8

7. REPORTS

7. A. Arts & Culture Report

Pier One Theater – Jennifer Norton

7. B. Community Recreation Report – Recreation Manager Illg

Page 29

Memorandum PARC 23-009

7. C. Public Works Report

7. D. Monthly Staff Report – Recreation Manager Illg

Page 36

Memorandum PARC 23-010

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

9. PENDING BUSINESS

9. A. Deaccessioning the Poopdeck Trail Sign Posts **Page 129**
Memorandum PARC 23-011

10. NEW BUSINESS

10. A. FY24 and FY25 Budget Request Recommendation **Page 132**
Memorandum PARC 23-012

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

11. A. City Manager's Report **Page 134**
CM Report for April 10, 2023 City Council Meeting
11. B. Commission Annual Calendar **Page 139**
2023 Annual Calendar
11. C. Library Western Lot Project **Page 140**
11. D. Transportation Plan Goals & Objectives – Updated 03/21/23 **Page 151**
11. E. West Fairview Avenue Shoulder Extension Project **Page 153**
11. F. City of Homer Monthly Newsletter **Page 159**
April 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, May 18, 2023 at 5:30 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Session 23-02, a Regular Meeting of the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Dave Lewis at 5:40 p.m. on March 16, 2023 from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS FAIR, GALBRAITH, LEWIS, HARRALD

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER(S), LOWNEY, ROEDL (UNEXCUSED), ARCHIBALD (EXCUSED)

STAFF: DEPUTY CITY CLERK KRAUSE
PARKS SUPERINTENDENT STEFFY
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KEISER

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Lewis read the Supplemental Items to the agenda: CONSENT AGENDA Unapproved Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2023 STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS, Item 7.A. Arts & Culture Report, Bunnell 2022 Annual Report, Item 7.D. Public Works Report, Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives and Transportation Plan Survey Results, Ohlson Lane Traffic Calming Recommendations and 65% Design Drawings. He requested a motion and second.

FAIR/HARRALD – MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

FAIR/HARRALD MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

6. VISITORS

6.A. Karin Marks, EDC Chair and Member of the Greater Homer Housing Task Force Housing Solutions in the Greater Homer Area

Karin Marks spoke to the Commission regarding the Greater Housing Homer Event on Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 9:00 – 12:00 pm. She provided some basics on the organizations involved, facilitator and the workshops that will be conducted to include surveys, which are available before the event, discussion on what next, priorities, solutions, and next steps. This is not just homelessness, it covers residents who live in the area year long and cannot find housing, employers who cannot hire employees since they cannot find a place to live; seasonal residences. This is a national issue as well. There will be refreshments served. Ms. Marks facilitated questions from the Commission and Staff.

7. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

7A. Arts & Culture Report – Adele Person, Bunnell Art Gallery

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

Ms. Person introduced herself and her position with the Bunnell Art Gallery. She provided a brief synopsis of the history of the Bunnell and what they do in relation to events, curated art, retail gallery representing 60-70 artists from throughout Alaska; arts in schools program throughout the Kenai Peninsula Borough; performances to include broadcasting on local radio stations; theater works; supporting artists who work in various mediums; many public art placements through grants; and recently land acknowledgement and indigenous artists. She explained that the Bunnell was involved in the Safe Streets in Old Town project

Ms. Person facilitated discussion on the following:

- collaborative works with local organizations
- possible arts commission with a broader scope of responsibility
- city supported arts related events
- Comprehensive Plan
 - o Embracing Homer as an Arts Community
- What more can the Commission do to support the Arts
 - o Advocacy for increased funding for the Arts Community
- Funding Ability/Stability of the Bunnell in the current economic climate
- Mission in comparison to HCOA
 - o State as well as local Artists
 - o HCOA is stronger in training or classes
 - o HCOA brings more emerging artists locally
 - o Bringing known musical groups to Homer
- Status of the Airport Mural
- Plate Project 29th year
 - o donation amount will allow choice of plate

7B. Community Recreation Report Agenda Item Report PARC 23-007

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and noted that Recreation Manager Illg was not in attendance and opened the floor to comments from the Commission on the report provided.

There were none offered.

7.C. City Council Actions - Ordinances and Resolutions of Interest to the Commission
Agenda Item Report PARC 23-008

Chair Lewis introduced the item and opened the floor to comments from the Commission.

There were none offered.

7.D. Public Works Report - Jan Keiser, Public Works Director
Update on Old Town Planning Meeting, Draft Goals of the Transportation Plan and Timeline for Public Draft of the Plan

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Public Works Director Keiser.

Public Works Director Keiser reported on the following:

- Parks Superintendent Steffy will be transferring to the Planning Department under Economic Development he will be working as the Associate Planner for Trails and Parks under to Economic Development Manager Julie Engebretsen.
- A Parks Maintenance Coordinator position will be reinitiated with a hire date to be determined.
- The Campgrounds on the Spit will be turned over to the Harbor as well as any revenues.
 - o Additional Seasonal positions will be hired to maintain and oversee the campgrounds on the spit
- Restrooms are being transferred to the Janitorial Division
- Budgets are still in the process of being defined, divided for the remainder of the FY23

Public Works Director Keiser then made a presentation on the Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives these goals are markedly differently than the 2005 plan which focused on where should roads should be placed today they are hearing more on increased safety for multi modal transportation, connectivity for non-motorized travel; year round accessibility and usability of roads, sidewalks and trails and balance the built environment with the environment which involves public transportation. They expect to roll out the draft transportation plan in late April. She provided a summary of a neighborhood meeting regarding the proposed pavement restoration project for Old Town, explaining that after a presentation at the neighborhood meeting it was determined that they should pull Bunnell Avenue from the pavement restoration project until a later date which Julie Engebretsen will probably take on in the near future.

Public Works Director Keiser facilitated discussion on the following:

- safety measures such as blinking lights at crosswalks

Parks Superintendent Steffy provided a verbal report to the Commission on the following:

- Currently addressing a memorandum of understanding with Little League and the High School on use of Ball Fields
- Special Events at Karen Hornaday Park

- Easter Egg Hunt
 - Concert on the Lawn
- Budget Requests submitted for Master Plan Update on Karen Hornaday Park
- Additional Special Events
 - Solstice by the Chamber of Commerce
 - Service Day for the City by Church on the Rock
- Provided a Rough Overview of the Parks Division Changes
 - Mowing for Ballfields and Cemetery will be contracted out
 - Public Works Operators and Maintenance Personnel will assist in getting through the remainder of FY23 which will require creativity.
- Bayview Park and the Rotary Improvements
 - Rotary has a budget of \$8000- 10,000 for the improvements to the Park

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

9. PENDING BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10.A. Deaccessioning the Arches at Poopdeck Trail Entrance on Hazel Avenue
Agenda Item Report PARC 23-009

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Deputy City Clerk Krause.

Deputy City Clerk Krause reviewed her report AIR PARC 23-009 for the Commission on the actions that were required to deaccession the remaining posts for Poopdeck Trail off of Hazel.

Chair Lewis opened the floor to questions from the Commission.

Discussion ensued on the actual location, artist and previous damage/vandalism done to the sign. It was noted that the sign identifying the trail had been missing for over a decade. The Commission agreed by consent for Staff to contact the artist to get their input on the disposition of the remaining posts and whether they would like them back or if the City can dispose of them as they saw fit.

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- 11.A. City Manager's Report
CM Report for March 13, 2023 City Council Meeting
- 11.B. Commission Annual Calendar
2023 PARCAC Calendar

12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Public Works Director Keiser noted that today was her three year anniversary with the city.

Parks Superintendent Steffy stated that he appreciated the work of the Commission, has enjoyed working with the Commission and he will be available to assist them on future projects as required or needed and will attend meetings on occasion.

14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Harrauld acknowledged Deputy City Clerk Krause's 16 years of service to the City and the Commission and expressed her appreciation for everything that she does for the Commission. She additionally expressed having the arts & culture reports.

Commissioner Fair reminded the Commission again that he would not be present for the April meeting and suggested that they invite Erin Hollowell to speak to the Commission regarding the Kachemak Bay Writer's Conference as that is a part of the Art scene as well.

Chair Lewis thanked everyone for a quick short meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, April 20, 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: _____

Homer Trails Alliance

HTA is a non-profit of avid hiking enthusiasts.
We are working together to promote, maintain
and develop sustainable trails in the Homer area
on the north side of Kachemak Bay.

Stewarding a robust trail network for a
connected community



Funding



100 Women Who Care
Donation



Homer Foundation grants



Community Assistance
Program (CAP) grant



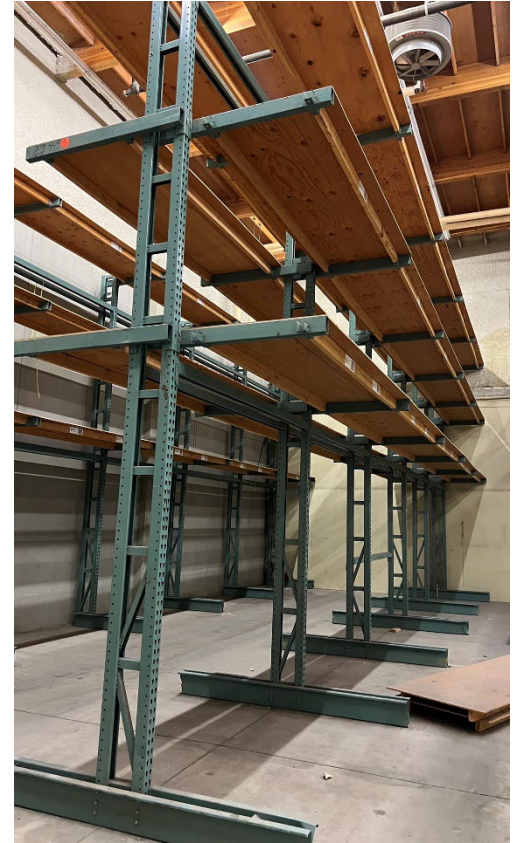
Private donations



Very resourceful at salvaging
materials that can be used
for building trails

6x8 guardrail timbers
from local road rehab
project

Shelving from
warehouse that needed
to get moved; metal
supports strong enough
to be used as
boardwalk joists



Who We Work With

City of Homer

Homer Soil & Water
Conservation District

Kachemak Nordic Ski
Club

Independent Living
Center

Homer Cycling Club



Boardwalks for Wet Trails

We considered step and run boardwalk since it is less expensive & popular for wet areas - but not appropriate for folks with balance issues.

Any boardwalks we construct on a ski trail must be 8ft wide to accommodate grooming equipment. We are working with ski club to cost share on mutual trails that would otherwise only need to be 3ft wide for hikers.





Vision

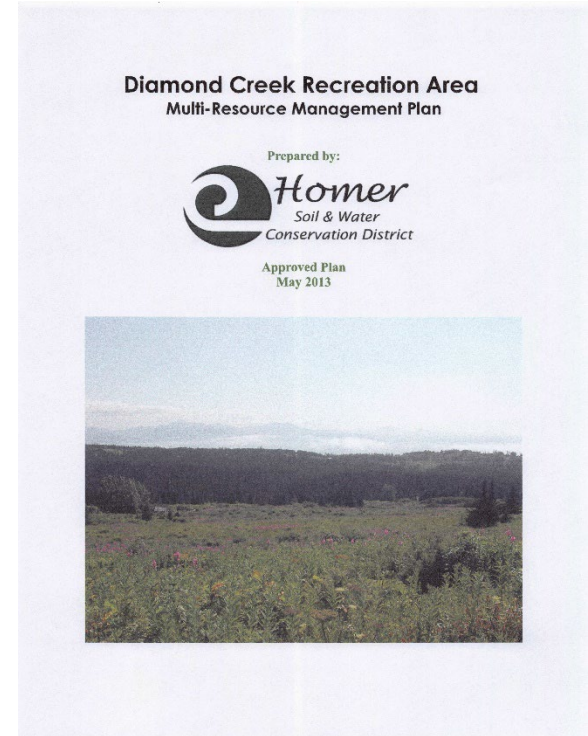
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant – connect Rogers Loop to Diamond Creek SRS – 4.7 million dollars
 - Establish pedestrian connectivity between Alaska State Parks Diamond Creek State Recreation Site and City of Homer Green Timbers Trailhead; construct off road parking at the Rogers Loop Trailhead; this includes a multiplate tunnel under the highway for non motorized transportation
 - Construct summer use trails within the City of Homer's Diamond Creek Recreation Area (DCRA) as outlined in the 2013 plan including all ages & abilities trail
 - Establish direct connectivity between the proposed Green Timbers Trailhead at MP 167.9 and the DOT Trailhead at MP 168.9 to the Rogers Loop Trailhead on Rogers Loop Road – detached pathway
 - Establish connectivity from the Roger Loop Trailhead to the existing sidewalk along the east side of the Sterling Highway at MP 169.9



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Diamond Creek Recreation Area Management Plan

- 275 acres
- Originally acquired by Kachemak Heritage Land Trust with a Forest Legacy Land grant and private donations
- City of Homer accepted title and designated it for public purpose as park land
- City adopted a comprehensive management plan in 2013



Diamond Creek Recreation Area Management Plan



Objectives



Conservation



Recreational



Education

Strategies

- Install signage & maps
- Rogers Loop trailhead parking
- Provide parking at western border (Green Timbers)
- Construct summer trails
- Work with DOT for non-motorized route across Sterling Hwy & extend recreational corridor to Diamond Creek State Recreation Site

Diamond Creek Recreation Area Management Plan

Objectives

- Conservation
- Recreational
- Education

Strategies

- Install signage & maps
- Rogers Loop trailhead parking
- Provide parking at western border (Green Timbers)
- Construct summer trails
- Work with DOT for non-motorized route across Sterling Hwy & extend recreational corridor to Diamond Creek State Recreation Site

Objectives & Strategies for DCRA

Objectives



CONSERVATION



RECREATIONAL

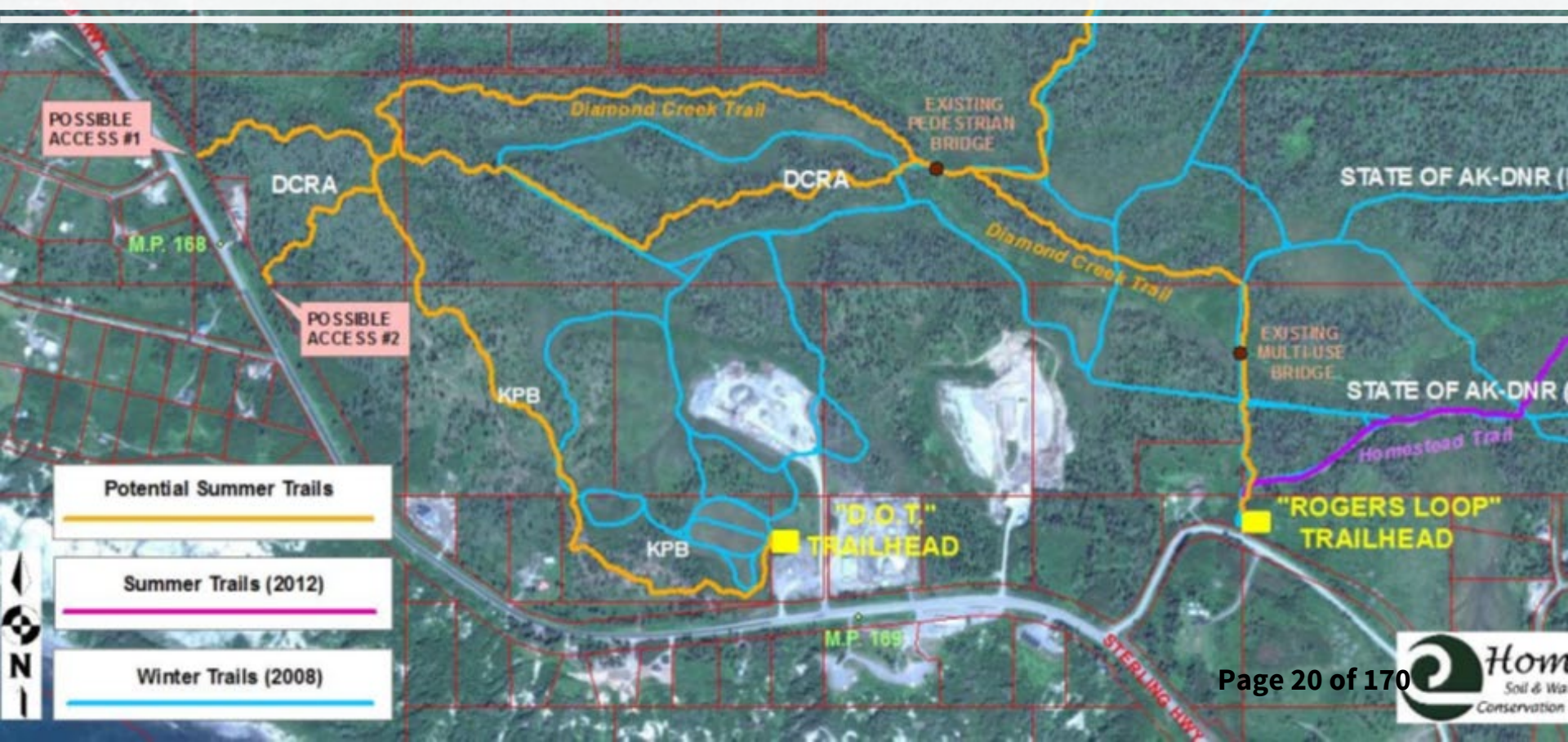


EDUCATION

Strategies

- Install signage & maps
- Rogers Loop trailhead parking
- Provide parking at western border (Green Timbers)
- Construct summer trails
- Work with DOT for non-motorized route across Sterling Hwy & extend recreational corridor to Diamond Creek State Recreation Site

DCRA Proposed Trails



Who We Work With

City of Homer

Homer Soil & Water
Conservation District

Kachemak Nordic Ski
Club

Independent Living
Center

Homer Cycling Club



What are we doing now?



- The project has given HTA a roadmap for how to develop trails in what we are calling the “Baycrest Recreation Area”
- Most of our projects are “mud to board” ; Will continue developing summer trails moving towards Diamond Creek Recreation Area
- 3 trail projects funded for this summer – extending boardwalk & reroute of ski trail to make it summer friendly
- Focused on getting KML files of Homer area trails on website



Ongoing Projects

- Throughout the Homer area, Identify potential easements & prioritize trails for maintenance
- Website & mapping
- Restoring historic Homestead trail (700 hikers/week) with interpretive panels
- Continue building boardwalks & bridges over wetlands and drainages
- Construct kiosks at trailheads with trail information, maps & educational information on wildlife, flora and fauna, and history

We have a very diverse Board; all experienced longtime Homer residents

Here is our surveyor and GIS specialist





Volunteers

- We have a small population base to pull volunteers from
- Notice age of volunteers in photos you have seen
- High School seniors must do 40 hour service project to graduate
- American Hiking Society Volunteer trail crew for summer 2024



Homer volunteer population base 18-65 years
old is 2500 people

Anchorage is 183,000 people



: Back View :

Friend Raising Event



“Coming out” party
at Alices June 7th; not
a fund raiser



Wind jacket designed
with HTA logo;
walking
advertisements &
used as door prize



Large maps on walls



Slide show



Get HTAs name out in
the community



Advertise in the
paper, local radio etc

Questions?

homertrailsalliance.org



Stewarding a robust trail
network for a connected
community



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Community Recreation

HHS/600 East Fairview Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

communityrecreation@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-6090

(f) 907-235-8933

Memorandum PARC 23-009

TO: Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
FROM: Mike Illg, Recreation Manager
DATE: April 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Community Recreation Report April 20, 2023

Programs:

Pickleball remains very popular continues to grow with new participants every week.

Considering to move some programs at the HERC to make room for *evening basketball* as we are not able to offer at the local schools due to school sports practices. We are able to offer morning basketball 6-7am at Homer High.

We cancelled the *weight room* offering due to low enrollment as we are limited to offering this Monday through Thursday 6-8pm. I assume the time is not convenient for many.

We are intending to start up our evening pick up *soccer* and pick up ultimate *Frisbee* on the Homer High turf starting in May but will require working around Mother Nature and HHS practices.

We recently partnered with KPBSD Connections program so that they could use the HERC gym for the *Star Lab program*. They used the gym for two days to set up the large inflatable structure to help train educators and partners how to use and of course for local home school kids and parents to stop in and experience the opportunity. A reminder that Community Recreation's mission include educational opportunities.

We recently completed Art Koeninger's *Silversmithing* classes: Lost Wax Casting and Intermediate Silversmithing. Both classes were full and the feedback was very positive.

I will be working with Special Projects Coordinator David Parker to look at consolidating 3 out of 4 digital *calendars* I maintain to improve this resource for the general public in addition to streamlining my efforts in keeping monthly and weekly calendars up to date.

Special Events: In addition to providing ongoing educational and recreational opportunities, Community Recreation (CR) also provides many special events throughout the year. Here are a few that recently happen or are coming up:

Homer Community Recreation Inlet Wind Band Performance: Saturday, **April 22nd** at 7pm at Homer High School (HHS) Theater. This is a free concert to the public under the volunteer director Eric Simonsen.

Safe & Healthy Kids Fair/Bike Rodeo: Saturday **May 6th** This is the 30th year and is held at Homer High. Community coordinates all of the campus logistics, set up and break down in addition to providing two portable restrooms and hand washing station for the tune of \$425.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament: This took place on Sunday, **April 2nd** at Homer High. There was a total of 8 teams, 28 games, 55 players, over 100 people in attendance and lots of fun. We even attracted a team from central peninsula to compete in the event. Congrats to TEAM PENINSULA for winning the inaugural volleyball Tournament. TEAM CAROLINE took second place and TEAM ANNA placed 3rd.

HERC Work Session: Julie Engebretsen, Jan Keiser and myself presented at the March 20th City Council work session to discuss, review and plan for the HERC site and possible new Community Recreation Center. The short version regarding moving forward:

1. Demolish HERC 2
2. Business Plan
3. Right-Size Design Plan
4. Capital Funding

Recreational Use Agreements (RUA): You may recall previous City of Homer RUA's for Homer Little League and Kachemak Nordic Ski Club. This task was previously under the Recreation Manager's responsibilities and now has shifted to the Economic Development Division, specifically to our new Associate Park Planner Matt Steffy as the point of contact for these moving forward. Upcoming RUAs would include: renewal of Homer Little League agreement, Adult Softball, Homer Disc Golf Association for Jack Gist Park and the new proposed course at Hornaday Park, Homer High Softball and Tsunami Youth Softball.

Volunteers/Instructors: In the past month we have accrued 5 new CR volunteers and instructors. We currently have an active roster of at least 120 affiliates with provided Community Recreation programs, activities and special events. A friendly reminder that Community Recreation is a **small business incubator** by allowing instructors to teach through our program thus creating part time jobs right here in our community.

Fee Schedule: The Community Recreation division will be working on establishing our participation rates in the City of Homer's fee schedule. This would include adult rates, youth rates and rental rate for using the HERC gym and activity room educational and recreational uses. I will be sure to bring this information to PARCAC for review/input in the future before it goes to city council for approval.

City of Homer Community Rec April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9am-6pm INTRO TO SILVERSMITHING at HHS 9:30am-12pm PICKLEBALL SKILL SHARING at HERC 10-11am SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC
2 9am-6pm INTRO TO SILVERSMITHING at HHS 9:30-11:30am PICKLEBALL at HERC 1:30-8pm VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT at HHS	3 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 COMMUNITY BAND at HHS 6:30-8:30pm PARTNER DANCING at HHS 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC	4 6-8pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 6:30-7:30pm SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL at HMS	5 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 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC	6 11AM-1PM LUNCHTIME PICKLEBALL at HERC 1-3PM CENTER YOUTH ACTIVITY 5:30-6:30pm CARDIO DANCE at HERC 5:30-6:30pm TAI CHI at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL CANCELLED	7 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 10-11:30AM KUNDALINI YOGA at HERC 12-4PM CENTER YOUTH ACTIVITY 4:30-7pm KARATE at HERC 4:30-6:30pm PICKLEBALL at HERC	8 9:30am-12pm PICKLEBALL SKILL SHARING at HERC 10-11am SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 3:30-4:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (8-12yrs) at HERC 4:30-5:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (13-18yrs) at HERC 6-7:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (18+) at HERC
9 9:30-11:30am PICKLEBALL at HERC 4-6pm VOLLEYBALL CANCELLED	10 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 COMMUNITY BAND at HHS 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PARTNER DANCING at HHS	11 6-8pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 6:30-7:30pm SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL (HS & Up) at HMS	12 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 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC	13 11AM-1PM LUNCHTIME BEGINNER PICKLEBALL at HERC 5:30-6:30pm CARDIO DANCE at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL at HMS	14 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 8:30-10AM KUNDALINI YOGA at HERC 4:30-7pm KARATE at HERC 4:30-7pm PICKLEBALL at HERC	15 9:30am-2:30pm PICKLEBALL FUN TOURNEY at HERC 10-11am SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 3:30-4:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (8-12yrs) at HERC 4:30-5:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (13-18yrs) at HERC 6-7:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (18+) at HERC
16 9:30-11:30am PICKLEBALL at HERC 4-6pm VOLLEYBALL at HHS	17 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 3-4:30pm YOUTH PICKLEBALL 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 COMMUNITY BAND at HHS 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PARTNER DANCING at HHS	18 6-8pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 6:30-7:30pm SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL (HS & Up) at HMS	19 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 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC	20 11AM-1PM LUNCHTIME BEGINNER PICKLEBALL at HERC 5:30-6:30pm CARDIO DANCE at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL at HMS	21 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 8:30-10AM KUNDALINI YOGA at HERC 3-4:30pm YOUTH PICKLEBALL at HERC 4:30-7pm KARATE at HERC 4:30-7pm PICKLEBALL at HERC	22 9:30am-12pm PICKLEBALL SKILL SHARING at HERC 10-11am SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 3:30-4:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (8-12yrs) at HERC 4:30-5:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (13-18yrs) at HERC 6-7:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (18+) at HERC 7pm COMMUNITY BAND PERFORMANCE at HHS
23 9:30-11:30am PICKLEBALL at HERC 4-6pm VOLLEYBALL at HHS	24 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 3-4:30pm YOUTH PICKLEBALL 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 6:30-8:30pm PARTNER DANCING at HHS	25 6-8pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 6:30-7:30pm SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL (HS & Up) at HMS	26 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 6:30-8:30pm INTERMED PICKLEBALL at HERC	27 5:30-6:30pm CARDIO DANCE at HERC 6:30-8:30pm PICKLEBALL SKILLS CLASS at HERC 7:30-9:30pm VOLLEYBALL at HMS	28 6-7am MORNING BB at HHS 8:30-10AM KUNDALINI YOGA at HERC 3-4:30pm YOUTH PICKLEBALL at HERC 4:30-7pm KARATE at HERC 4:30-7pm PICKLEBALL at HERC	29 9:30am-12pm PICKLEBALL SKILL SHARING at HERC 10-11am SELF MASSAGE CLASS at HERC 3:30-4:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (8-12yrs) at HERC 4:30-5:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (13-18yrs) at HERC 6-7:30pm BALANCING CIRQUE SKILLS (18+) at HERC
30 9:30-11:30am PICKLEBALL at HERC 4-6pm VOLLEYBALL at HHS			<u>Color Key</u> BLACK=Homer High BLUE=Homer Middle PURPLE=HERC RED=Cancellation		DISCLAIMER: ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECTED TO CHANGE OR BEING CANCELLED WITH LIMITED NOTIFICATION	

April HERC Activity Room page 1 (4.3)

Time Block	1-Apr SAT	2-Apr SUN	3-Apr MON	4-Apr TUES	5-Apr WED	6-Apr THURS	7-Apr FRI	8-Apr SAT	9-Apr SUN	10-Apr MON	11-Apr TUES	12-Apr WED	13-Apr THURS	14-Apr FRI	15-Apr SAT
6-6:30AM															
6:30-7AM															
7-7:30AM															
7:30-8AM															
8-8:30AM															
8:30-9AM														Yoga	
9-9:30														Anna	
9:30-10AM															
10-10:30AM															
10:30-11AM					Youth Yoga							Youth Yoga			
11-11:30AM															
11:30AM-12PM															
12-12:30PM															
12:30-1PM															
1-1:30PM															
1:30-2PM					Youth Yoga							Youth Yoga			
2-2:30PM															
2:30-3PM															
3-3:30PM															
3:30-4PM															
4-4:30PM															
4:30-5PM			Karate		Karate		Karate							Karate	
5-5:30PM															
5:30-6PM						Tai Chi							Tai Chi		
6-6:30PM															
6:30-7PM															
7-7:30PM															
7:30-8PM															
8-8:30PM															

April HERC Activity Room page 2 (4.3)

	16-Apr	17-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr	20-Apr	21-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr	24-Apr	25-Apr	26-Apr	27-Apr	28-Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr
Time Block	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
6-6:30AM															
6:30-7AM															
7-7:30AM															
7:30-8AM															
8-8:30AM															
8:30-9AM						Yoga Anna							Yoga Anna		
9-9:30															
9:30-10AM															
10-10:30AM							Massage Class							Massage Class	
10:30-11AM				Youth Yoga							Youth Yoga				
11-11:30AM															
11:30AM-12PM															
12-12:30PM															
12:30-1PM															
1-1:30PM															
1:30-2PM				Youth Yoga							Youth Yoga				
2-2:30PM															
2:30-3PM															
3-3:30PM															
3:30-4PM															
4-4:30PM															
4:30-5PM		Karate		Karate		Karate			Karate		Karate		Karate		
5-5:30PM															
5:30-6PM					Tai Chi							Tai Chi			
6-6:30PM															
6:30-7PM			Massage Class							Massage Class					
7-7:30PM															
7:30-8PM															
8-8:30PM															

Month of April 2023 page 1 (4.11)

GYM

	1-Apr	2-Apr	3-Apr	4-Apr	5-Apr	6-Apr	7-Apr	8-Apr	9-Apr	10-Apr	11-Apr	12-Apr	13-Apr	14-Apr	15-Apr
Time Block	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
6-6:30AM															
6:30-7AM															
7-7:30AM															
7:30-8AM															
8-8:30AM				RES											
8:30-9AM											RES		RES		
9-9:30			RES		Drop In		RES			RES		Drop In		RES	
9:30-10AM	PB	Drop In			Pickleball			PB	Drop In			Pickleball			PB
10-10:30AM	Skill	Pickleball				RES		Skill	Pickleball						Fun
10:30-11AM	Sharing							Sharing							Tourney
11-11:30AM						Lunch							Lunch		
11:30AM-12PM						Time							Time		
12-12:30PM						Beginner							Beginner		
12:30-1PM						Pickleball							Pickleball		
1-1:30PM															
1:30-2PM															
2-2:30PM															
2:30-3PM															
3-3:30PM			Youth				Youth			Youth			RES		
3:30-4PM	RES	RES	Pickleball				Pickleball		RES	Pickleball					
4-4:30PM			Class				Class			Class					
4:30-5PM			Drop In	RES	Drop In		Drop In			Drop In		Drop In		Drop In	
5-5:30PM			Pickleball		Pickleball	Dance	Pickleball			Pickleball		Pickleball	Dance	Pickleball	
5:30-6PM		RES				Class							Class		
6-6:30PM				Pickleball				RES			Pickleball				
6:30-7PM			Drop In	Drill Time	Drop In	Pickleball				Drop In	Drill Time	Drop In	Pickleball		
7-7:30PM			Interm.	Class	Interm.	Drill Time				Interm.	Class	Interm.	Drill Time		
7:30-8PM			Pickleball		Pickleball	Class				Pickleball		Pickleball	Class		
8-8:30PM			3.5-4.5		3.5-4.5					3.5-4.5		3.5-4.5			

Month of April 2023 page 2 (4.11)

GYM

	16-Mar	17-Mar	18-Mar	19-Mar	20-Mar	21-Mar	22-Mar	23-Mar	24-Mar	25-Mar	26-Mar	27-Mar	28-Mar	29-Mar	30-Mar
Time Block	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
6-6:30AM															
6:30-7AM															
7-7:30AM															
7:30-8AM															
8-8:30AM															
8:30-9AM															
9-9:30				Drop In							Drop In				
9:30-10AM	Drop In			Pickleball			PB	Drop In			Pickleball			PB	Drop In
10-10:30AM	Pickleball						Skill	Pickleball						Skill	Pickleball
10:30-11AM							Sharing							Sharing	
11-11:30AM					Lunch										
11:30AM-12PM					Time										
12-12:30PM					Beginner										
12:30-1PM					Pickleball										
1-1:30PM															
1:30-2PM															
2-2:30PM															
2:30-3PM															
3-3:30PM					RES										
3:30-4PM	RES							RES							RES
4-4:30PM															
4:30-5PM		Drop In		Drop In		Drop In			Drop In		Drop In		Drop In		
5-5:30PM		Pickleball		Pickleball	Dance	Pickleball			Pickleball		Pickleball	Dance	Pickleball		
5:30-6PM					Class							Class			
6-6:30PM			Pickleball							Pickleball					
6:30-7PM		Drop In	Drill Time	Drop In	Pickleball				Drop In	Drill Time	Drop In	Pickleball			
7-7:30PM		Interm.	Class	Interm.	Drill Time				Interm.	Class	Interm.	Drill Time			
7:30-8PM		Pickleball		Pickleball	Class				Pickleball		Pickleball	Class			
8-8:30PM		3.5-4.5		3.5-4.5					3.5-4.5		3.5-4.5				



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Community Recreation

HHS/600 East Fairview Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

communityrecreation@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-6090

(f) 907-235-8933

Memorandum PARC 23-010

TO: Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
FROM: Mike Illg, Recreation Manager
DATE: April 10, 2023
SUBJECT: City Council Action Related to PARCAC for April 20th Meeting

The following City Council resolutions and ordinances activity relevant to the Park, Arts, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission since the last PARCAC meeting on March 16, 2023

March 20th Work Session Meeting

Presentation to City Council discussing the next steps moving forward with the HERC/New Community Recreation Center. See informational slideshow.

1. Demolish HERC 2
2. Business Plan
3. Right-Size Design Plan
4. Capital Funding

March 28th City Council Meeting

Resolution 23-027, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Awarding a Task Order in the Amount of \$45,000 to HTRW, LLC of Anchorage, Alaska to test for PCB Laden Materials at the Homer Education and Recreation Complex (HERC) Buildings and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. **Approved.**

Resolution 23-028, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting the Alaska Legislature Adopting Definitions Related to Electric Bicycles and Allowing Municipalities to Regulate Them. **Approved.**

April 10th City Council Meeting

Ordinance 23-17, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code 19.08.110 Disposition of Revenues, to Deposit all Revenue from Fees Paid for Parking or Camping in City Campgrounds

Located on the Homer Spit to the Port Operating Fund. City Manager. Recommend Introduction April 10, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 27, 2023. **Introduced.**

Ordinance 23-18, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY23 Capital Budget by Adding Expected Campground Revenues in the Amount of \$60,000 and Amending Port Expenditures in the Amount of \$36,436.64 for the Purpose of Seasonal Staff and Campground Support. City Manager/Port Director. Recommend Introduction April 10, 2023, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 27, 2023. **Introduced.**

Resolution 23-031, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Authorizing the City Manager to Apply to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services for a Healthy and Equitable Communities Grant in Support of the Homer Community Health Improvement Plan and the Bayview Park Renovation Project. City Manager. **Adopted.**

Resolution 23-034, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the City of Homer Fee Schedule under Camping Fees. City Manager/Port Director. **Adopted.**



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Resolution 23-028, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting the Alaska Legislature Adopting Definitions Related to Electric Bicycles and Allowing Municipalities to Regulate Them. Aderhold.

Item Type: Resolution
Prepared For: Mayor & City Council
Meeting Date: 28 Mar 2023
From: Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

See attached information for consideration of Resolution 23-028.

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution 23-028.

Attachments:

Resolution 23-028

Senate Bill 62A & 62B

Sectional Analysis of Version B

House Bill 8

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Aderhold

RESOLUTION 23-028

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA
SUPPORTING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE ADOPTING
DEFINITIONS RELATED TO ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND ALLOWING
MUNICIPALITIES TO REGULATE THEM

WHEREAS, Residents of the City of Homer are interested in increasing the ability to walk and bicycle throughout the City by constructing and connecting sidewalks, paths, and trails; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer has adopted a “Share the Road” campaign initiated by the Homer Bicycle Club; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer is taking active measures to increase the ease and convenience of using non-motorized transportation; and

WHEREAS, Electric bicycles have become common in Homer and several vendors sell and maintain bicycles, including electric bicycles; and

WHEREAS, Electric bicycles have not been defined in State Statute; and

WHEREAS, Standardized definitions classifying types of electric bicycles and separating electric bicycles from motor vehicles is necessary for regulating where different modes of transportation are appropriate within municipalities; and

WHEREAS, HB 8 and SB 62 are companion bills of the 33rd Alaska State Legislature that provide industry standard definitions of electric bicycles and classify them as bicycles; and

WHEREAS, HB 8 and SB 62 allow municipalities to regulate where and how electric bicycles may be used on sidewalks and paths.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, supports the Alaska State Legislature adopting definitions related to electric bicycles and allowing municipalities to regulate them.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, 28th day of March, 2023.

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CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal note: N/A

SENATE BILL NO. 62

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR KAWASAKI

Introduced: 2/8/23

Referred: Transportation, State Affairs

A BILL**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to electric-assisted bicycles."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**3 * **Section 1.** AS 19.10.399(9) is amended to read:4 (9) "motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is self-propelled, except for a
5 vehicle moved by human or animal power; **"motor vehicle" does not include an**
6 **electric-assisted bicycle as defined in AS 28.90.990(a);**7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 19.10.399(16) is amended to read:8 (16) "vehicular way or area" means a way, path, or area, other than a
9 highway or private property, that is designated by official traffic control devices or
10 customary usage and that is open to the public for purposes of pedestrian or vehicular
11 travel, and which way or area may be restricted in use to pedestrians, bicycles, or other
12 specific types of vehicles as determined by the Department of Public Safety or other
13 agency having jurisdiction over the way, path, or area; **in this paragraph, "bicycle"**
14 **has the meaning given in AS 28.90.990(a).**15 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.05.011(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commissioner of public safety shall, unless otherwise provided by statute, adopt regulations in compliance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and other statutes whose administration is vested in the Department of Public Safety. The regulations must include

(1) rules of the road relating to the driving, stopping, standing, parking, and other conduct of vehicles, to pedestrians, and to official traffic control devices; regulations adopted under this paragraph may not prohibit the use of an electric personal motor vehicle or an electric-assisted bicycle on a sidewalk, bike path, or vehicular way or area restricted to the use of pedestrians; limitations on regulation of electric personal motor vehicles or electric-assisted bicycles imposed under this paragraph do not apply to a municipal ordinance regulating electric personal motor vehicles, electric-assisted bicycles, or specific classes of electric-assisted bicycles, enacted to meet local requirements; unless otherwise specified by regulation,

(A) an electric-assisted bicycle is considered a bicycle and may not be regulated as another type of vehicle; and

(B) a user of an electric-assisted bicycle shall be afforded the same rights and be subject to the same duties as a user of a bicycle;

(2) minimum equipment for vehicles, including minimum standards of compliance to be met by manufacturers and vehicle sales and repairs businesses;

(3) inspection of vehicles other than commercial motor vehicles, and the removal of vehicles from areas of public use when they are found to be in a defective or unsafe condition;

(4) abandonment of vehicles;

(5) management of records of the Department of Public Safety required for that department's administration of this title and its regulations adopted under this title, including provisions for ensuring the accuracy of information contained in automated and manual information retrieval systems;

(6) definitions of words and phrases used in this title and in regulations adopted under this title unless otherwise provided by statute;

(7) certification and regulation of junk yards.

1 * **Sec. 4.** AS 28.10.011 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 28.10.011. Vehicles subject to registration.** Every vehicle driven,
3 moved, or parked on [UPON] a highway or other public parking place in the state
4 shall be registered under this chapter except when the vehicle is

5 (1) driven or moved on a highway only for the purpose of crossing the
6 highway from one private property to another, including an implement of husbandry
7 as defined by regulation;

8 (2) driven or moved on a highway under a dealer's plate or temporary
9 permit as provided for in AS 28.10.031 and 28.10.181(j);

10 (3) special mobile equipment as defined by regulation;

11 (4) owned by the United States;

12 (5) moved by human or animal power;

13 (6) exempt under 50 U.S.C. App. 501-591 (Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil
14 Relief Act);

15 (7) driven or parked only on private property;

16 (8) the vehicle of a nonresident as provided under AS 28.10.121;

17 (9) transported under a special permit under AS 28.10.151;

18 (10) being driven or moved on a highway, vehicular way, or a public
19 parking place in the state that is not connected by a land highway or vehicular way to

20 (A) the land-connected state highway system; or

21 (B) a highway or vehicular way with an average daily traffic
22 volume greater than 499;

23 (11) an implement of husbandry operated in accordance with the
24 provisions of AS 19.10.065;

25 (12) an electric personal motor vehicle;

26 **(13) an electric-assisted bicycle.**

27 * **Sec. 5.** AS 28.90.990(a)(12) is amended to read:

28 (12) "electric personal motor vehicle" means an electric personal
29 assistive mobility device that is a self-balancing vehicle with two nontandem wheels,
30 designed to transport only one person, has an electric propulsion system, and has a
31 maximum speed of not more than 15 miles an hour; **"electric personal motor**

vehicle" does not include an electric-assisted bicycle;

* **Sec. 6.** AS 28.90.990(a)(18) is amended to read:

(18) "motor vehicle" means a vehicle **that** [WHICH] is self-propelled, except **for** a vehicle moved by human or animal power; **"motor vehicle" does not include an electric-assisted bicycle;**

* **Sec. 7.** AS 28.90.990(a)(19) is amended to read:

(19) "motorcycle" means a vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground; **"motorcycle"** [THE TERM] does not include a tractor **or an electric-assisted bicycle;**

* **Sec. 8.** AS 28.90.990(a)(20) is amended to read:

(20) "motor-driven cycle" means a motorcycle, motor scooter, motorized bicycle, or similar conveyance with a motor attached and having an engine with 50 or less cubic centimeters of displacement; **"motor-driven cycle" does not include an electric-assisted bicycle;**

* **Sec. 9.** AS 28.90.990(a) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(33) "bicycle" includes an electric-assisted bicycle;

(34) "class 1 electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that stops providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour;

(35) "class 2 electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that stops providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour;

(36) "class 3 electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that stops providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour;

(37) "electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle that

(A) is designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground;

(B) has fully operative pedals for human propulsion;

(C) has a seat or saddle for use of the rider;

1 (D) is equipped with an electric motor that has a power output
2 of not more than 750 watts; and

3 (E) is a class 1, class 2, or class 3 electric-assisted bicycle.

4 * **Sec. 10.** AS 41.23 is amended by adding a new section to article 1 to read:

5 **Sec. 41.23.300. Definitions.** In AS 41.23.010 - 41.23.300,

6 (1) "bicycling" includes the operation of an electric-assisted bicycle;

7 (2) "electric-assisted bicycle" has the meaning given in
8 AS 28.90.990(a).

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 62(TRA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/8/23

Referred: State Affairs

Sponsor(s): SENATOR KAWASAKI

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to electric-assisted bicycles and nonelectric-assisted bicycles."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 19.10.399(9) is amended to read:

4 (9) "motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is self-propelled, except for a
5 vehicle moved by human or animal power; **"motor vehicle" does not include an**
6 **electric-assisted bicycle as defined in AS 28.90.990(a);**

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 19.10.399(16) is amended to read:

8 (16) "vehicular way or area" means a way, path, or area, other than a
9 highway or private property, that is designated by official traffic control devices or
10 customary usage and that is open to the public for purposes of pedestrian or vehicular
11 travel, and which way or area may be restricted in use to pedestrians, bicycles, or other
12 specific types of vehicles as determined by the Department of Public Safety or other
13 agency having jurisdiction over the way, path, or area; **in this paragraph, "bicycle"**
14 **has the meaning given in AS 28.90.990(a).**

15 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.05.011(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commissioner of public safety shall, unless otherwise provided by statute, adopt regulations in compliance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and other statutes whose administration is vested in the Department of Public Safety. The regulations must include

(1) rules of the road relating to the driving, stopping, standing, parking, and other conduct of vehicles, to pedestrians, and to official traffic control devices; regulations adopted under this paragraph may not prohibit the use of an electric personal motor vehicle or an electric-assisted bicycle on a sidewalk, bike path, or vehicular way or area restricted to the use of pedestrians; limitations on regulation of electric personal motor vehicles or electric-assisted bicycles imposed under this paragraph do not apply to a municipal ordinance regulating electric personal motor vehicles, electric-assisted bicycles, or specific classes of electric-assisted bicycles, enacted to meet local requirements; unless otherwise specified by regulation,

(A) an electric-assisted bicycle is considered a bicycle and may not be regulated as another type of vehicle; and

(B) a user of an electric-assisted bicycle shall be afforded the same rights and be subject to the same duties as a user of a bicycle;

(2) minimum equipment for vehicles, including minimum standards of compliance to be met by manufacturers and vehicle sales and repairs businesses;

(3) inspection of vehicles other than commercial motor vehicles, and the removal of vehicles from areas of public use when they are found to be in a defective or unsafe condition;

(4) abandonment of vehicles;

(5) management of records of the Department of Public Safety required for that department's administration of this title and its regulations adopted under this title, including provisions for ensuring the accuracy of information contained in automated and manual information retrieval systems;

(6) definitions of words and phrases used in this title and in regulations adopted under this title unless otherwise provided by statute;

(7) certification and regulation of junk yards.

1 * **Sec. 4.** AS 28.10.011 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 28.10.011. Vehicles subject to registration.** Every vehicle driven,
3 moved, or parked on [UPON] a highway or other public parking place in the state
4 shall be registered under this chapter except when the vehicle is

5 (1) driven or moved on a highway only for the purpose of crossing the
6 highway from one private property to another, including an implement of husbandry
7 as defined by regulation;

8 (2) driven or moved on a highway under a dealer's plate or temporary
9 permit as provided for in AS 28.10.031 and 28.10.181(j);

10 (3) special mobile equipment as defined by regulation;

11 (4) owned by the United States;

12 (5) moved by human or animal power;

13 (6) exempt under 50 U.S.C. App. 501-591 (Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil
14 Relief Act);

15 (7) driven or parked only on private property;

16 (8) the vehicle of a nonresident as provided under AS 28.10.121;

17 (9) transported under a special permit under AS 28.10.151;

18 (10) being driven or moved on a highway, vehicular way, or a public
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26 **(13) an electric-assisted bicycle.**

27 * **Sec. 5.** AS 28.90.990(a)(12) is amended to read:

28 (12) "electric personal motor vehicle" means an electric personal
29 assistive mobility device that is a self-balancing vehicle with two nontandem wheels,
30 designed to transport only one person, has an electric propulsion system, and has a
31 maximum speed of not more than 15 miles an hour; **"electric personal motor**

vehicle" does not include an electric-assisted bicycle;

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(18) "motor vehicle" means a vehicle **that** [WHICH] is self-propelled, except **for** a vehicle moved by human or animal power; **"motor vehicle" does not include an electric-assisted bicycle;**

* **Sec. 7.** AS 28.90.990(a)(19) is amended to read:

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* **Sec. 8.** AS 28.90.990(a)(20) is amended to read:

(20) "motor-driven cycle" means a motorcycle, motor scooter, motorized bicycle, or similar conveyance with a motor attached and having an engine with 50 or less cubic centimeters of displacement; **"motor-driven cycle" does not include an electric-assisted bicycle;**

* **Sec. 9.** AS 28.90.990(a) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(33) "bicycle" includes an electric-assisted bicycle;

(34) "class 1 electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that stops providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour;

(35) "class 2 electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that stops providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour;

(36) "class 3 electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that stops providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour;

(37) "electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle that

(A) is designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground;

(B) has fully operative pedals for human propulsion;

(C) has a seat or saddle for use of the rider;

1 (D) is equipped with an electric motor that has a power output
2 of not more than 750 watts; and

3 (E) is a class 1, class 2, or class 3 electric-assisted bicycle.

4 * **Sec. 10.** AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to article 1 to read:

5 **Sec. 41.23.295. Electric-assisted bicycles.** In a management plan adopted
6 under AS 41.23.010 - 41.23.300, the department may establish different standards for
7 nonelectric-assisted bicycles and for each class of electric-assisted bicycle.

8 **Sec. 41.23.300. Definitions.** In AS 41.23.010 - 41.23.300,

9 (1) "bicycling" includes the operation of an electric-assisted bicycle;

10 (2) "electric-assisted bicycle" has the meaning given in
11 AS 28.90.990(a).

Senate Bill 62 – Version B

Updated Sectional Analysis

"An act relating to electric bicycles."

Section 1. (Page 1) Amends AS 19.10.399(9) to state that the definition of motor vehicle excludes electric-assisted bicycles.

Section 2. (Page 1) Amends AS 19.10.399(16) to clarify that electric-assisted bicycles are to be regulated as bicycles in regard to operation on a way, path, or area.

Section 3. (Page 1-2) Amends AS 28.05.011(a) to state that electric-assisted bicycles should be regulated as bicycles in regards to the rules of the road. It also includes electric-assisted bicycles under an existing provision allowing municipal ordinances to separately regulate in this area.

Section 4. (Page 3) Amends AS 28.10.011 to state that an electric-assisted bicycle is not required to be registered as a vehicle.

Section 5. (Page 3-4) Amends AS 28.90.990(a)(12) to state that an electric-assisted bicycle does not fall under the definition of an "electric personal motor vehicle."

Section 6. (Page 4) Amends AS 28.90.990(a)(18) to state that an electric-assisted bicycle does not fall under the definition of "motor vehicle."

Section 7 (Page 4) Amends AS 28.90.990(a)(19) to state that an electric assisted bicycle does not fall under the definition of a "motorcycle."

Section 8 (Page 4) Amends AS 28.90.990(a)(20) to state that an electric-assisted bicycle does not fall under the definition of a "motor-driven cycle."

Section 9 (Page 4-5) Amends 28.90.990(a)(33-36) to state the term "bicycle" includes electric-assisted bicycles in the three following classes

(34) Class 1: bicycles that assist only while the rider is pedaling and that stop providing assistance at the speed of 20 miles per hour.

(35) Class 2: bicycles that can propel whether or not the rider is pedaling and that stop providing assistance at the speed of 20 miles per hour

(36) Class 3: bicycles that only assist while the rider is pedaling and that stop providing assistance at the speed of 28 miles per hour.

Section 9 Cont. (Page 4-5) Amends AS 28.90.990(a)(37) to define electric assisted bicycles as a bicycle that is designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, has fully operative pedals for human propulsion, is equipped with an electric motor that has a power output of not more than 750 watts, and includes Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 electric assisted bicycles.

Section 10 (Page 5):

Amends AS 41.23 by adding section 41.23.295 “Electric Assisted Bicycles,” clarifying that the Department of Natural Resources may establish regulations governing non-electric assisted bicycles and each class of electric-assisted bicycle on land in their management. The same authority to regulate is granted to the Department of Public Safety and municipalities in Section 3.

Amends AS 41.23.300 by adding a new section that states “bicycling” includes the use of electric-assisted bicycles, and that “electric-assisted bicycles” have the meaning provided for in Section 9.

HOUSE BILL NO. 8

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARRICK, Mina, Prax, Sumner, Ruffridge, Galvin

Introduced: 1/19/23

Referred: State Affairs, Transportation

A BILL**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to electric-assisted bicycles."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**3 * **Section 1.** AS 19.10.399(9) is amended to read:4 (9) "motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is self-propelled, except for a
5 vehicle moved by human or animal power; **"motor vehicle" does not include an**
6 **electric-assisted bicycle as defined in AS 28.90.990(a);**7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 19.10.399(16) is amended to read:8 (16) "vehicular way or area" means a way, path, or area, other than a
9 highway or private property, that is designated by official traffic control devices or
10 customary usage and that is open to the public for purposes of pedestrian or vehicular
11 travel, and which way or area may be restricted in use to pedestrians, bicycles, or other
12 specific types of vehicles as determined by the Department of Public Safety or other
13 agency having jurisdiction over the way, path, or area; **in this paragraph, "bicycle"**
14 **has the meaning given in AS 28.90.990(a).**15 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.05.011(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commissioner of public safety shall, unless otherwise provided by statute, adopt regulations in compliance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and other statutes whose administration is vested in the Department of Public Safety. The regulations must include

(1) rules of the road relating to the driving, stopping, standing, parking, and other conduct of vehicles, to pedestrians, and to official traffic control devices; regulations adopted under this paragraph may not prohibit the use of an electric personal motor vehicle or an electric-assisted bicycle on a sidewalk, bike path, or vehicular way or area restricted to the use of pedestrians; limitations on regulation of electric personal motor vehicles or electric-assisted bicycles imposed under this paragraph do not apply to a municipal ordinance regulating electric personal motor vehicles, electric-assisted bicycles, or specific classes of electric-assisted bicycles, enacted to meet local requirements; unless otherwise specified by regulation,

(A) an electric-assisted bicycle is considered a bicycle and may not be regulated as another type of vehicle; and

(B) a user of an electric-assisted bicycle shall be afforded the same rights and be subject to the same duties as a user of a bicycle;

(2) minimum equipment for vehicles, including minimum standards of compliance to be met by manufacturers and vehicle sales and repairs businesses;

(3) inspection of vehicles other than commercial motor vehicles, and the removal of vehicles from areas of public use when they are found to be in a defective or unsafe condition;

(4) abandonment of vehicles;

(5) management of records of the Department of Public Safety required for that department's administration of this title and its regulations adopted under this title, including provisions for ensuring the accuracy of information contained in automated and manual information retrieval systems;

(6) definitions of words and phrases used in this title and in regulations adopted under this title unless otherwise provided by statute;

(7) certification and regulation of junk yards.

1 * **Sec. 4.** AS 28.10.011 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 28.10.011. Vehicles subject to registration.** Every vehicle driven,
3 moved, or parked on [UPON] a highway or other public parking place in the state
4 shall be registered under this chapter except when the vehicle is

5 (1) driven or moved on a highway only for the purpose of crossing the
6 highway from one private property to another, including an implement of husbandry
7 as defined by regulation;

8 (2) driven or moved on a highway under a dealer's plate or temporary
9 permit as provided for in AS 28.10.031 and 28.10.181(j);

10 (3) special mobile equipment as defined by regulation;

11 (4) owned by the United States;

12 (5) moved by human or animal power;

13 (6) exempt under 50 U.S.C. App. 501-591 (Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil
14 Relief Act);

15 (7) driven or parked only on private property;

16 (8) the vehicle of a nonresident as provided under AS 28.10.121;

17 (9) transported under a special permit under AS 28.10.151;

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19 parking place in the state that is not connected by a land highway or vehicular way to

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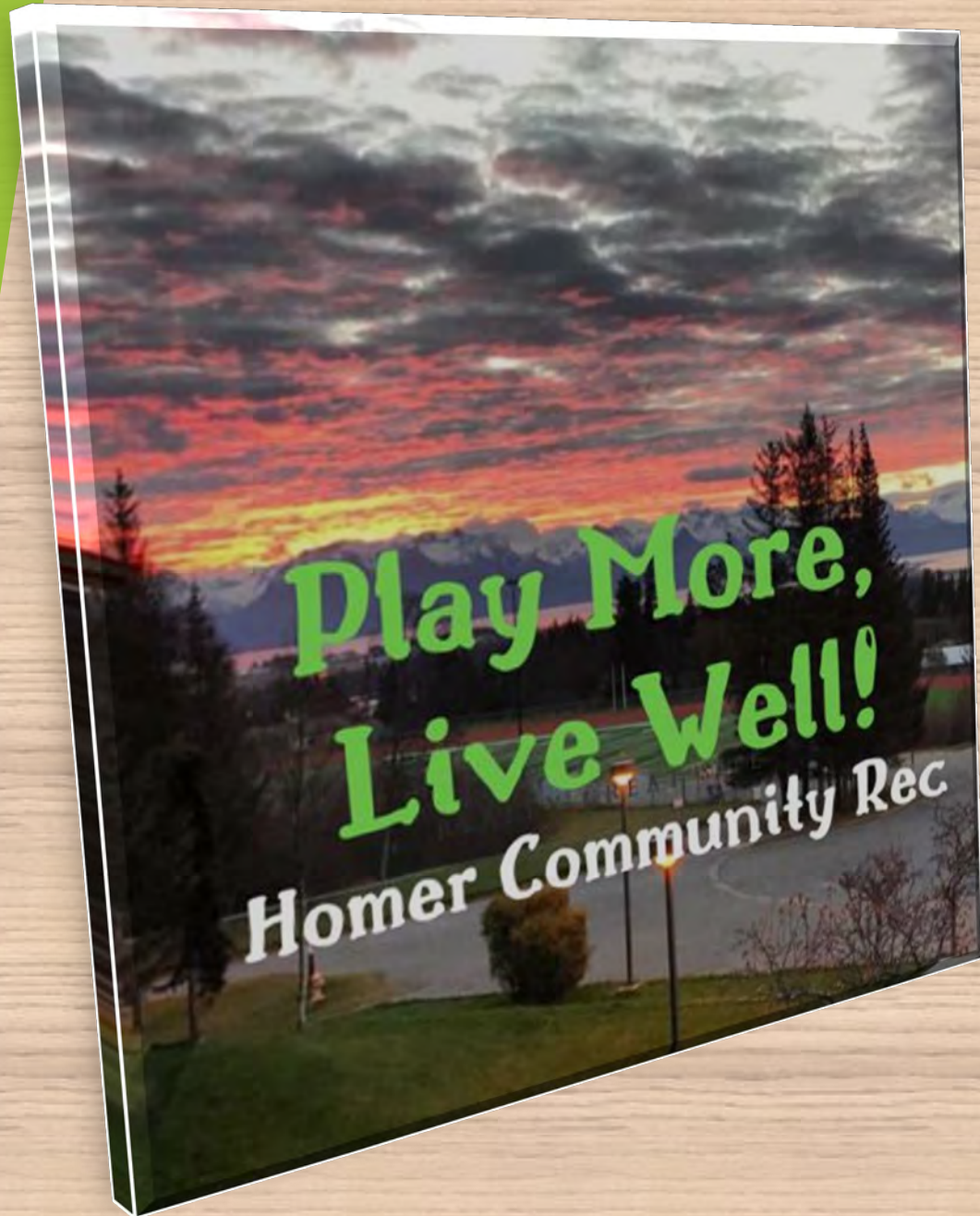
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H.E.R.C.

MOMENTUM GOALS

What do we want?

Modern, safe community recreation center

What do we need?

1. *Demolish HERC 2*
2. *Business Plan*
3. *Right-Size Design Plan*
4. *Capital Funding*

Everyone likes a Community Recreation Center

- ✓ *Community Strongly Supports Recreation*
- ✓ *Vision of a Recreation Campus*
- ✓ *Redevelopment of the Site for Future Generations*
- ✓ *CIP Top 5 for last 10 years*

What if ?

- **Funding Available & Approved**
 - Voters approve bond measure
- **Site prep completed**
- **Design plan chosen**
- **Business plan in place**

2025

To Do List...

- ☐ *Council priority commitment*
- ☐ *Demolition*
- ☐ *Business Plan*
- ☐ *Path forward on right-sizing the building*
- ☐ *\$\$ to Build*
- ☐ *\$\$ to Sustain*

Where do we stand?

MOMENTUM

"You'll never plow a field by turning it over in your mind."

Irish Proverb

CITY COUNCIL 2022 PRIORITY

- ✓ **Council agreed with bond measure concept for 2025**
- ✓ **2015 Needs Assessment**
 - *Community desire*
- ✓ **Task Force**
 - *History/Size/Budget*
- ✓ **EDA Grant Opportunity**
 - *Survey 2021-2022*
 - *Consultant work on a 'Campus model'*
 - *Community wants recreation options*
 - *Double gym preferred*
 - *Cost factors*

What do we need?

GOALS

- 1. Demolish HERC 2*
- 2. Business Plan*
- 3. Right-Size Design Plan*
- 4. Capital Funding*



GOAL 1

HERC 2

Demolition



1952 Front of Old & New School

Where will **Goal 1** be in 1-2 Years?

HERC-2 - DEMOLITION

- *Site clean up complete*
- *Valuable lessons learned for HERC-1 demolition*
- *Plan for PW relocation in place*
- *Visible progress*



HERC 2 *(small building)*

- ✓ Completely cleared out
- ✓ *Demolition Plan in place*
 - *Partial Demolition costs covered*
 - *Issues continue*
 - *HAZMAT challenges*
 - *Timeline*



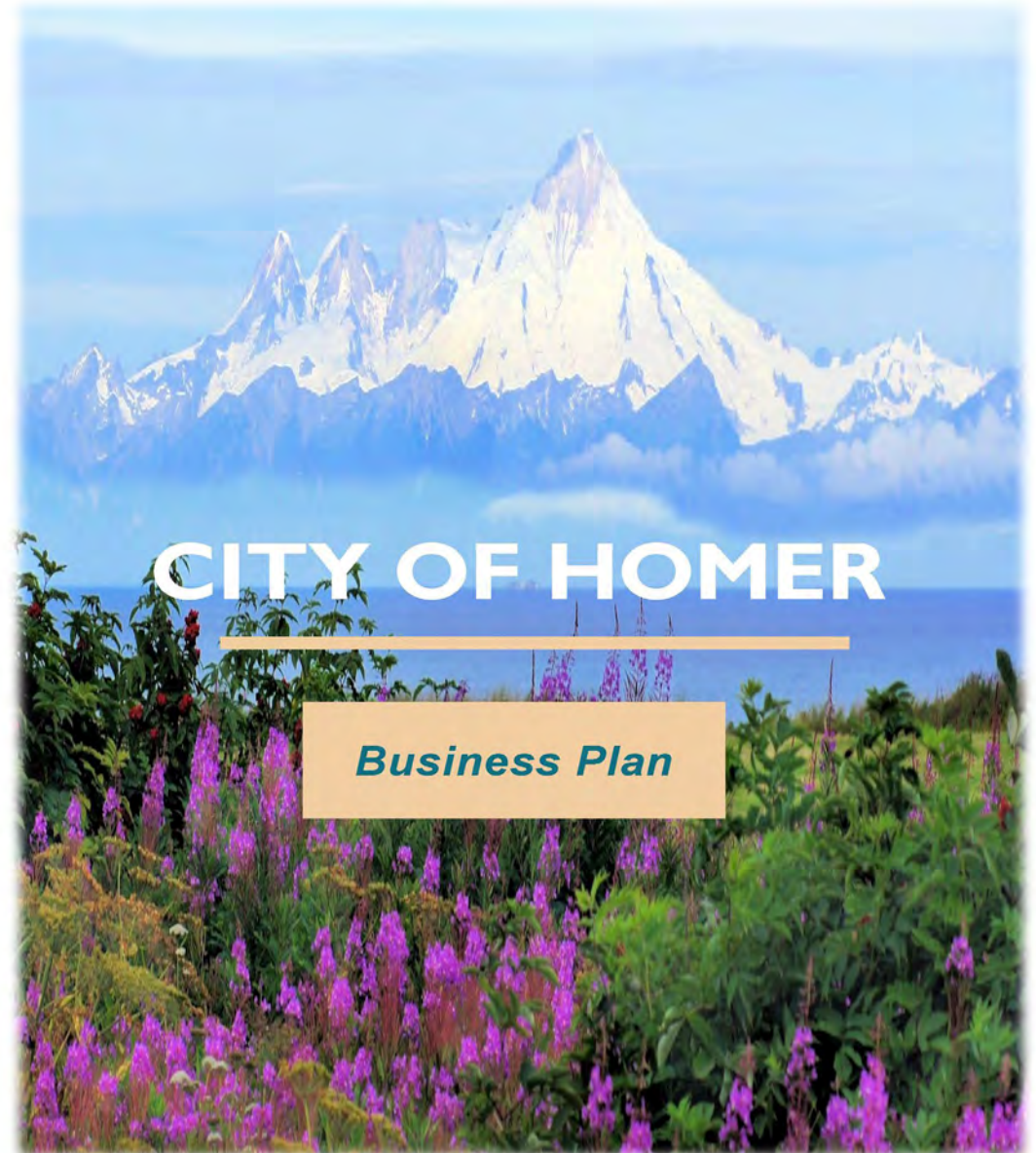
HOW to **TRACK** GOAL 1 for **SUCCESS?**

CLEAR WAYPOINTS for Demolition/Site Prep:

- Hazmat report
- Contract to demolish building
- Clean up
- New staff space identified
- Communication with Council and public
- Status reports - Monthly? Quarterly?

GOAL 2

Business Plan



“It takes a much energy to wish as it does to plan.”

-Eleanor Roosevelt

HOMER COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

BUSINESS PLAN

- **Requires management software**
- **Cost recovery model exploration**
 - *Support facility operations (i.e. utilities)*
 - *Maintenance*
- **Facility operations: deliver services/programs**
 - *Staffing requirements revealed*
 - *Program costs*

WHAT WILL A BUSINESS PLAN TELL US?

Quantitative **Data** needed for Funding Opportunities & an effective **Business Plan** to plan for administrative and program needs.

- **GOALS & OBJECTIVES** -
- **PATRONS** - *Who is our customer?*
- **USAGE** - *Time/Programs*
 - How much is it being used?
 - What programs best meet community needs?
 - Rental potential
- **SUPPORT** - *How much time does it take to support programs?*
 - Staff Management hours
 - Volunteer hours

FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENT

- Establish rental policy
- Membership dues
- Drop-in fees

PARTNERSHIPS

- Expand existing relationships
- Identify new opportunities
- Sponsorship opportunities
- Volunteer Plan



Where will **Goal 2** be in 1-2 Years?

✓ **Solid Business Plan Created**

- Cost Recovery Goals
- Sustainability
 - Volunteer Management
 - Programmatic
- Operations & Maintenance Costs

HOW to **TRACK** GOAL 2 for **SUCCESS?**

CLEAR WAYPOINTS for Business Plan:

- Include CR fees in Fee Schedule
- Software for Data Collection & Management
- Participation & Revenue Projections
- Project Milestones

Let's Chat

Do Council & Staff
have consensus
on Goals 1 & 2?

Refreshments



GOAL 3

Right-Size Building



"A place for everything, everything in it's place."

-Benjamin Franklin

Where will **Goal 3** be in 1-2 Years?

RIGHT-SIZED DESIGN PLAN

- Capacity: Determine size specs needed to accommodate most popular programs
 - Existing programs
 - Planning for future programs
- Spectator options
- Administrative offices
- Storage

DESIGN-BUILD THE DREAM

- ❑ **How do we right-size the building and get to where we're going?**
 - *Stakeholder groups*
 - *Gather info: open houses; comments*
 - *Report data*
- ❑ **Approved by voters**
- ❑ **Deliver and meet community's need for indoor recreation space**



HERC Gym
6,111 square feet

HERC 1 (large bldg.)

- ✓ **Lower Level** – *Daily Community Recreation programs*
 - *Gym*
 - *Activity Room*
 - *Storage*
 - *Restrooms*
- ✓ **Upstairs** – *Building Maintenance, Parks and Custodians using space until new location is identified and secured.*



HERC Activity Room

Approximately
900 square feet



Homer High School
12,210 square feet



LEARNING/ MP ROOM	1,913 SF
GYM/WALKING	6,942 SF
RESTROOMS/UTILITIES/LOCKERS	2,543 SF
OFFICES	208 SF
CIRCULATION/LOBBY	1,719 SF
TOTAL	13,325 SF

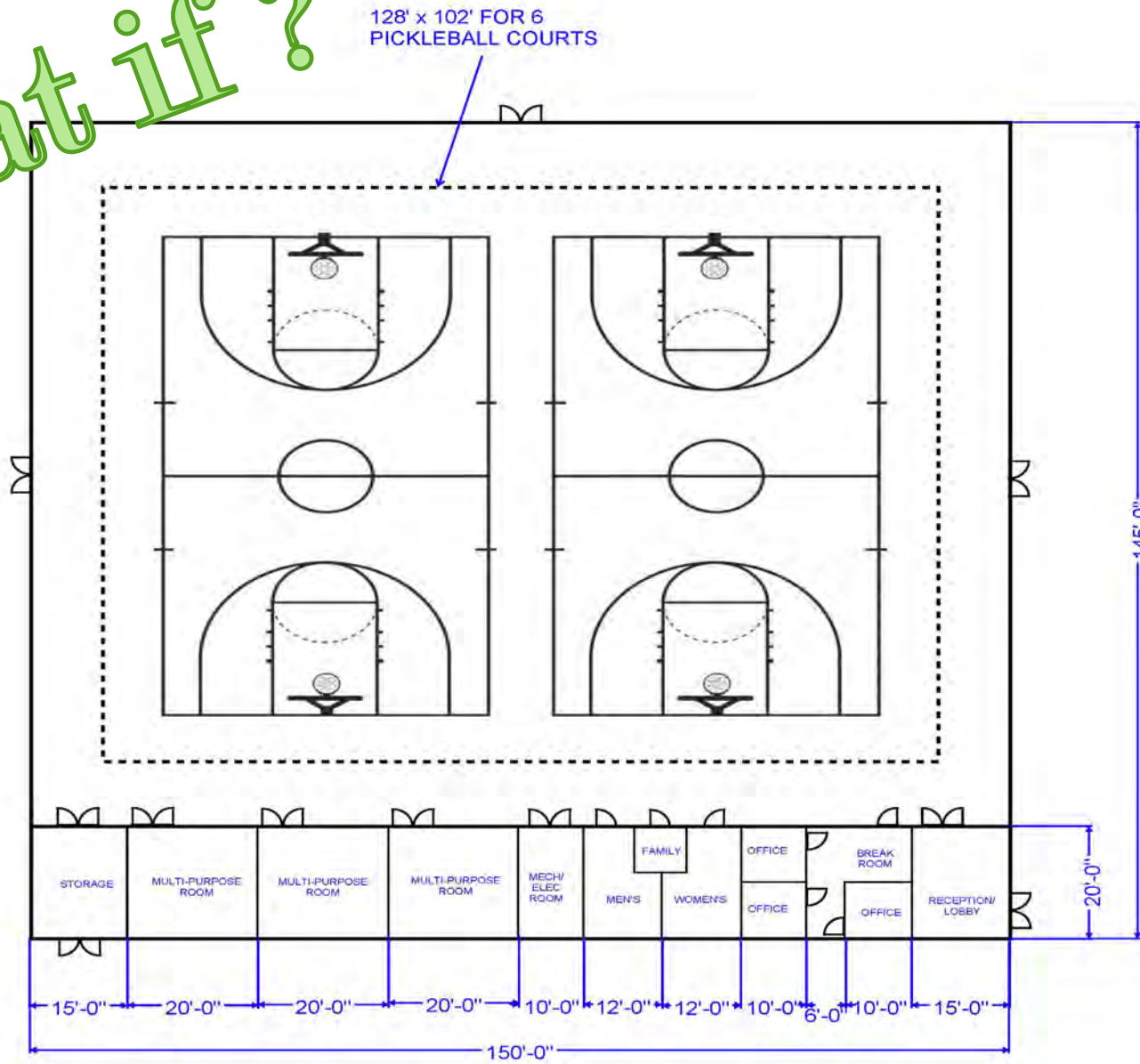
HERC FACILITY - OPTION C - GROUND FLOOR PLAN

HOMER, ALASKA





What if?



Gym
125' x 150'
18,750 sq. ft.

HOW to **TRACK** GOAL 3 for **SUCCESS?**

CLEAR WAYPOINTS for Right-Sizing:

- Feasibility
- Top recreation needs
- Budget \$15M max
- Public Safety/Community Shelter needs
- Stakeholders Group – Reso to create business plan to accomplish w/in \$15M budget; commissions;
- Are Council & Staff in agreement on how to proceed?
- What are sticking points?

GOAL 4

Capital Funding



“Show me the money!” - Jerry McGuire

Where will **Goal 4** be in 1-2 Years?

Capital Funding

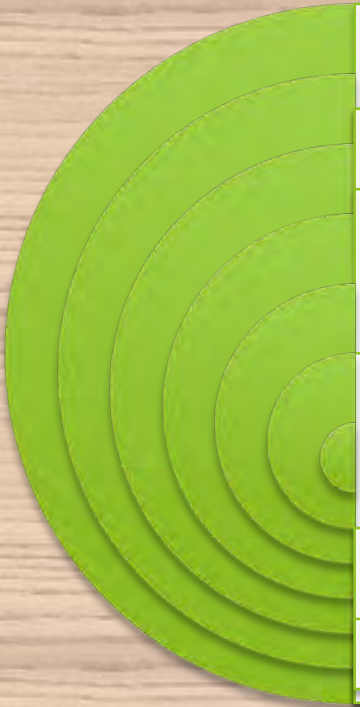
- Bond measure
- Matching funds

Current Bond Rates - 20 yr

Bond debt	Projected Debt Service
\$1 M	80,000
\$5 M	400,000
\$10 M	800,000
\$15 M	1,200,000
\$20 M	1,600,000

0.3% Sales Tax Generates about
\$820,000 a year

HOW to TRACK GOAL 4 for SUCCESS?



Clear Waypoints for Capital Funding:

- Bond rate tracking

How much building will a sales tax buy us?

- Collaborative Planning

Building right sizing and bonding capacity need to work in tandem.

- Project Milestones

When HERC-2 is demolished?



"The pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; the optimist, the opportunity in every difficulty."
-L.P. Jacks

REALITY TIMELINE

- *2025 : Earliest time available to take on more bond debt with HPD sunset.*
 - We need this time to prepare and have business plan in place.
 - Big picture conversation about City bonding and general fund operations and maintenance is necessary
 - Additional variables to consider
 - Need Work Session in the fall after budget approved?
 - Work with some Council members?

Where will we be a year from now? *(summer/fall 2024)*

- Herc 2 demolished
- Presentation to Council on the Business Plan/Cost Recovery
- Conceptual Building Model-decisions
- Track funding options from grants to bond payments

What do we want?

Modern, safe community recreation center

What do we need?

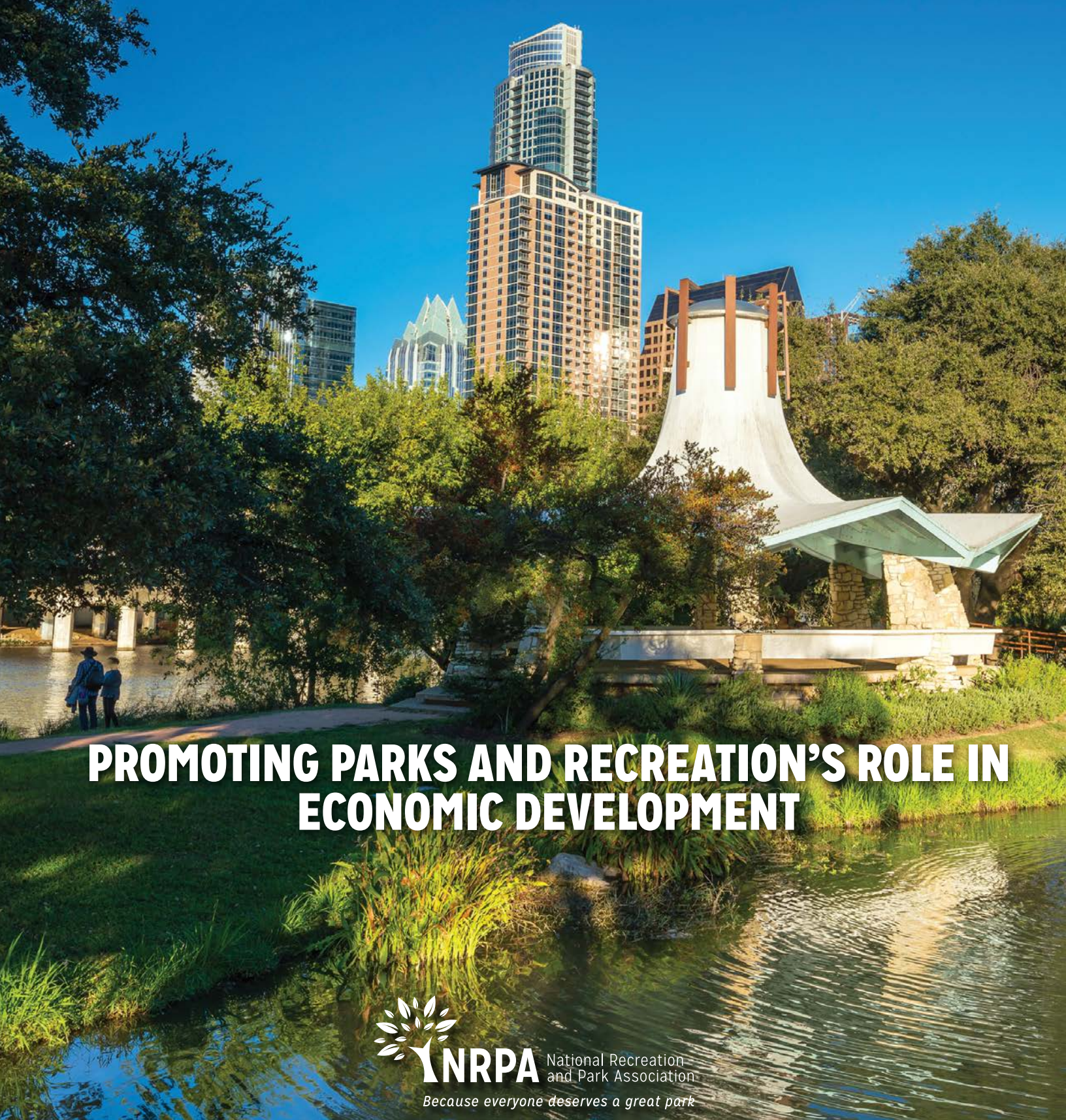
1. *Demolish HERC 2*
2. *Business Plan*
3. *Right-Size Design Plan*
4. *Capital Funding*

Anything is possible!



"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says I'm possible."

-Audrey Hepburn



PROMOTING PARKS AND RECREATION'S ROLE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



NRPA National Recreation
and Park Association
Because everyone deserves a great park

MAY 2018

PREPARED FOR: NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

PREPARED BY: THE GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR REGIONAL ANALYSIS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Parks and recreation supports environmental stewardship and promotes health and wellness in communities across the United States. Less appreciated are these agencies' many contributions to economic prosperity. Park and recreation agencies employ hundreds of thousands of people while their operations and capital spending generate significant economic activity. Moreover, local parks shape perceptions of and enhance the quality of life in communities.

This study builds on previous NRPA research on the economic importance of local park and recreation agencies by exploring the role that quality park amenities play in 21st century regional economic development. It reviews the impact that a community's quality of life has on its ability to attract and retain business and a talented workforce. This report also identifies opportunities where local parks officials can better engage with their communities' economic development entities.

Key findings of this report include:

- Parks and recreation is an engine of substantial economic activity in communities.
 - Park and recreation departments are significant employers in cities and towns. Their operations and capital spending generate positive impacts that ripple through local economies.
 - Local parks shape perceptions of a community and its overall quality of life that help build a sense of place.
 - Investments in improving a community's quality of life can create a virtuous cycle: high quality-of-life locations attract workers, which attract employers, which in turn attract even more investment and jobs.
- Quality-of-life considerations (including those made possible by high-quality parks and recreation) play a supporting role in site-location decisions. For some companies, high-quality park amenities can be pivotal in their final location decisions.
 - Quality-of-life factors are most important to firms that prioritize talent attraction and retention.
 - Firms looking to locate office operations (e.g., headquarters, regional shared-service centers or professional and business services) and which recruit employees regionally, nationally or even internationally, are more likely to prioritize quality-of-life factors in site-location decisions.
 - Small- and medium-sized, entrepreneurial or family-owned companies often want to locate in places that reflect their corporate culture or values.
 - This includes companies that emphasize outdoor recreation—either because they specifically produce/sell products for that market or their brand is well aligned with an active outdoor lifestyle.
- Park and recreation agencies contribute to the economic development process through:
 - *Business attraction*: Park and recreation agencies strengthen product development (e.g., building trail infrastructure) and enhance community “curb appeal.”
 - *Business retention and expansion*: Active engagement with companies and workers can influence business expansion decisions and attract new residents to a community.
 - *Talent attraction*: Many business owners are first introduced to places as visitors or tourists; positive recreational experiences can influence both business and talent recruitment.
- Park and recreation leaders—the agency director and senior leadership team—can become more involved in their region's economic development planning and activities by building new alliances to promote the value

of parks and recreation. Key players that offer opportunities for new partnerships include:

- Economic development organizations (EDOs)
 - Civic booster organizations like chambers of commerce and convention and visitors bureaus (CVBs)
 - Other municipal departments that shape quality of life (e.g., public schools, public libraries and transit agencies)
 - Shapers of the built environment (e.g., private sector developers, downtown development organizations, business improvement districts and metropolitan planning organizations)
 - Regional and neighboring park and recreation agencies and private nonprofit competitors (e.g., YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs)
 - The business and economic development communities can be powerful advocates for park and recreation departments. But there is also a need for an engaged citizenry.
- Engaged citizens actively work to shape the policy positions of local elected officials, and reliably vote for bond initiatives or the creation of special tax districts.
 - Engaged citizens who understand and promote how park and recreation amenities improve a region's quality of life can raise the profile of a park agency's contributions to economic development.
 - Park and recreation departments must provide evidence of their value.
 - Park and recreation leaders should identify persuasive metrics that speak to the role and contributions that their agencies make to business attraction and retention (e.g., number of bike commuters, jobs in the community filled by community residents or number of companies that use park and recreation facilities and programs).
 - Compelling anecdotes can further illustrate these impacts and help put a face on the data.





INTRODUCTION

Park and recreation departments support environmental stewardship and promote health and wellness in communities across the United States. Less appreciated, but just as important, are the many contributions that parks make to economic prosperity. Park and recreation agencies employ hundreds of thousands of people, while their operations and capital spending generate significant economic activity. Moreover, local parks shape perceptions of and enhance the quality of life in communities.

Corporate executives often include quality-of-life considerations when making site location decisions. A recent notable example is Amazon, which specifically lists quality of life as a key factor in its search for a second headquarters location.

“We want to invest in a community where our employees will enjoy living, recreational opportunities, educational opportunities, and an overall high quality of life. Tell us what is unique about your community.” [Amazon HQ2 RFP]

Ultimately, a wide array of factors—the availability of skilled talent, interstate highway access, proximity to key markets, for example—determines site location decisions. Places that possess a high quality of life—including a wealth of recreational amenities—are more likely to attract highly skilled, educated and entrepreneurial workers. The presence of these workers, in turn, attracts companies. By better understanding their role in community place making, park and recreation leaders can make stronger arguments about their agencies’ overall contributions to economic development.

This study follows up on previous NRPA research, conducted by the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis, on the economic importance of local parks and the role that

these assets play in regional economic development in the 21st century. The current study identifies how local parks officials can better engage with those in the economic development community who can become important external allies by helping park and recreation leaders defend budgets, promote new initiatives and create more engaged constituencies.

Researchers from the Center reached their key findings based on conversations with more than 70 park and recreation leaders and economic development practitioners across the United States. These conversations focused on how park and recreation leaders currently promote their agencies’ economic contributions, the nature and extent of the relationship between parks leaders and economic developers, how both groups see these relationships evolving over time, and details regarding relevant department initiatives. The researchers also spoke to site-selection consultants to better understand the role that quality of life (and parks and recreation) plays in site-location decisions.

The first section of this research report briefly reviews some key academic findings regarding the economic value of local parks. Following that is a discussion of the role that quality-of-life factors play in corporate site-location decisions. We then examine ways park and recreation agencies can engage with the economic development community and thereby enhance their contributions to local economic growth. Interspersed throughout this section are specific examples that demonstrate the effectiveness of such collaborations. The report concludes with highlights of several key findings.

This study is based on conversations with more than 70 park and recreation leaders, economic development practitioners and site-selection consultants.

LOCAL PARKS MAKE A VARIETY OF ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

More than ever, park and recreation departments currently face significant funding pressures. Pitas, Barrett and Mowen find that the Great Recession had a negative impact on the budgets of park and recreation agencies as compared to the budgets of other public services (e.g., public safety or hospitals).¹ Further, park and recreation budgets have not yet fully recovered to their pre-recession levels. Indeed, the “new normal” (in terms of budget) is characterized by fewer resources, smaller workforces and new methods for service delivery (e.g., outsourcing and private-sector partners).

The slow recovery of these budgets reflects local government officials’ placing the value of parks and recreation at only a moderate level of importance. The 2017 NRPA report, [*Local Government Officials’ Perceptions of Parks and Recreation*](#), does reveal that local public officials see parks and recreation as a critical solution provider for many of their top concerns, including preventing youth crime and enhancing quality of life. At the same time, however, while most local government officials agree that such amenities are well worth the dollars spent on them, they concede that no other local-government-provided service takes a larger funding hit than does their park and recreation agency when the local government cuts back on spending.

The report also shows that local officials do not perceive park and recreation agencies as important contributors to their biggest day-to-day concern: economic development. Indeed, there is a gap in public officials’ perceptions about the economic benefits of public parks, even though park and recreation agencies generate significant positive economic impacts for communities and the nation. Narrowing this gap can have a significant positive impact on agencies’ funding.

Most notably, local park and recreation agencies contribute to local economies through significant direct employment—nearly 371,000 people nationwide, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.² The impact goes beyond just the numbers. Park and recreation agencies are often the first work experiences for many young adults who gain a sense of responsibility and self-confidence, and learn critical workplace skills that enhance the overall talent pool for companies and other employers.

The economic impacts of parks and recreation also extend beyond the benefits derived from direct employment, as agencies’ operations and capital expenditures ripple throughout national, regional and local economies. According to an NRPA-commissioned study conducted by the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis,³ America’s local park and recreation agencies’ operations and capital expenditures generated \$154 billion in national economic activity and supported more than 1.1 million jobs in 2015 alone.

Other economic benefits from parks and recreation include:

- On-site business activity (e.g., concessions) and tourism-related spending when parks host out-of-town visitors for concerts, festivals, sports tournaments or other events⁴
- Increased property values that result from proximity to well-maintained parks, which in turn enhance local tax revenues
- Increased physical activity through parks and recreation programs that improves the physical and mental health of residents and lowers health care expenses
- Through effective land management methods and green

¹ Pitas, N., Barrett, A., Mowen, A. and Roth, K. (2018): “The Great Recession’s Profound Impact on Parks and Recreation.” *Parks and Recreation Magazine*. Ashburn, VA: National Recreation and Park Association.

² US Census Bureau, *2015 Census of State and Local Government Finance and Employment*, <https://www.census.gov/govs/local/>

³ The National Recreation and Park Association and the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis (2018): *The Economic Impact of Local Parks*. Ashburn VA: National Recreation and Park Association.



infrastructure investments, parks and recreation makes communities more resilient to natural disasters, reducing disaster recovery and insurance costs.

IN ADDITION, THERE IS A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW QUALITY-OF-LIFE CHARACTERISTICS (INCLUDING THOSE ATTRIBUTED TO PARKS AND RECREATION) MAKE A COMMUNITY ATTRACTIVE TO POTENTIAL BUSINESSES AND THEIR WORKERS.

- According to Reilly and Renski, investments in improving a community's quality of life can create a virtuous cycle: high-quality places attract workers, which attract employers, which in turn attract more investments and jobs.⁵ These factors are particularly important for smaller and more rural communities that lack large markets, talent pools or well-developed identities.
- McGranahan, Wojan and Lambert find that places with landscape (e.g., woods, water), climate (e.g., sunshine) and recreational appeal (e.g., tourist attractions) are more likely to grow through creative and entrepreneurial industries.⁶

The influence of quality-of-life considerations on site-location decisions can vary by firm and industry characteristics.

- Reilly and Renski also find that research and development (R&D) facilities, technology companies and corporate headquarters are more likely to prioritize quality-of-life and cultural amenities when making site-location decisions. In contrast, manufacturers are more likely to prioritize traditional factors such as wage rates, transportation costs and proximity to markets over quality-of-life factors.
- Salvesen and Renski report that the competition for talent makes technology firms more likely to locate in amenity-rich communities.⁷ They also find that quality-of-life factors matter more in the decisions of where a firm's employees live than to the company's actual site location. This means that quality-of-life factors are most significant in selecting a city or region than selecting a specific work site.



⁴ More, T. A., Stevens, T. and Allen, P. (1988): "Valuation of urban parks." *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 15(1-2), 139-152.

⁵ Reilly, C. J. and Renski, H. (2008): "Place and Prosperity: Quality of Place as an Economic Driver." *Maine Policy Review* 17(1), 12 -25

⁶ McGranahan, D. A., Wojan, T. R. and Lambert, D. M. (2010): "The rural growth trifecta: Outdoor amenities, creative class and entrepreneurial context." *Journal of Economic Geography*, 11(3), 529-557.

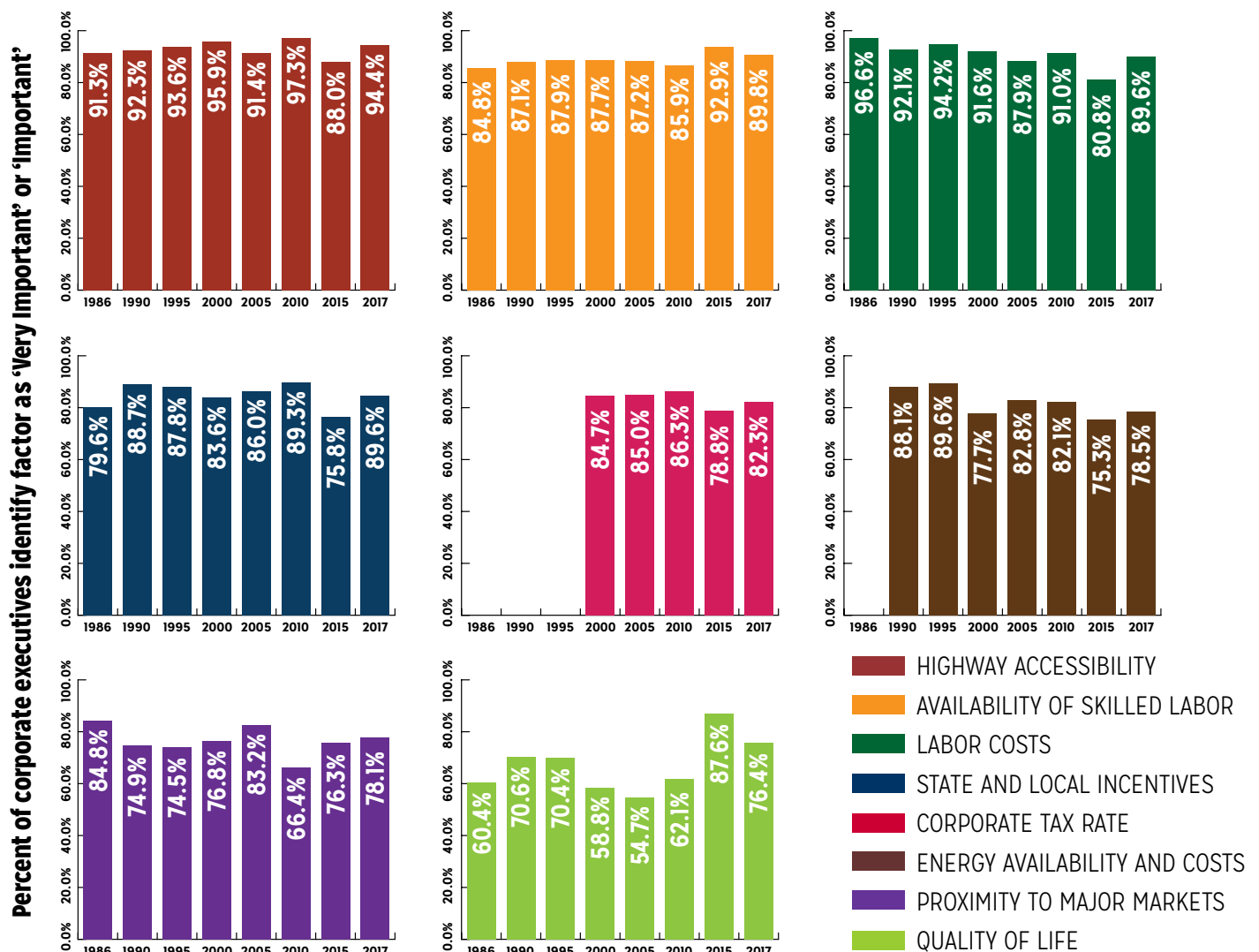
⁷ Salvesen, D. and Renski, H. (2003): *The Importance of Quality-of-life in the Location Decisions of New Economy Firms*.
<https://curs.unc.edu/publication/the-importance-of-quality-of-life-in-the-location-decisions-of-new-economy-firms/>

QUALITY OF LIFE INFORMS—BUT DOES NOT DRIVE—SITE-LOCATION DECISIONS

Many factors drive corporate site-location decisions, but quality-of-life factors (e.g., school quality, access to amenities, cultural opportunities) increasingly have become critical ones (see Figure 1). According to *Area Development* magazine's annual survey of corporate executives, 76 percent of corporate executives identify quality-of-life factors as "Very important" or "Important" in their site location decisions—up from 55 percent in 2005.⁸

76% OF CORPORATE EXECUTIVES SAY QUALITY-OF-LIFE FACTORS ARE "VERY IMPORTANT" OR "IMPORTANT" IN THEIR SITE-LOCATION DECISIONS

FIGURE 1: IMPORTANCE OF SELECT SITE LOCATION FACTORS (1986–2017)



Source: *Area Development Magazine*

⁸ <http://www.areadevelopment.com/Corporate-Consultants-Survey-Results/Q1-2016/corporate-executive-site-selection-facility-plans-441729.shtml>

Interviews with several site-selection consultants reaffirm that talent attraction and retention considerations determine how companies prioritize quality of life. Firms that hire primarily from a local labor force (e.g., manufacturing, distribution, call centers) are less likely to prioritize quality of life; they assume that current residents—the existing potential workforce—are satisfied with the current quality of life in their communities. In contrast, companies looking to locate office operations (e.g., headquarters, technology-driven firms, regional shared-service centers or professional and business services) often recruit regionally, nationally, or even internationally. These companies want their offices and facilities in locales where their future employees want to live.

Site selectors also emphasize the short- and long-term influence of quality of life. In the short term, quality-of-life factors are important to firms relocating their headquarters or significant numbers of skilled and educated workers. To retain these workers, however, companies must consider factors ranging from school quality to cultural and recreational amenities.

Small- and medium-sized, entrepreneurial or family-owned companies are even more likely to put emphasis on the availability of these factors, as they want the communities in which they locate to reflect their corporate culture or values. For example, companies that emphasize outdoor recreation—whether because they specifically produce/sell products for this market or their brand is well aligned with an active outdoor lifestyle—tend to prefer places with extensive outdoor recreational opportunities. Over the longer term, companies need locations that will not only make their current workers happy, but what will make their locations attractive to future workers.

COMPANIES LOOKING TO LOCATE OFFICE OPERATIONS ARE MORE LIKELY TO PRIORITIZE QUALITY-OF-LIFE FACTORS IN THEIR LOCATION DECISIONS.

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED, ENTREPRENEURIAL OR FAMILY-OWNED COMPANIES ARE MORE LIKELY TO WANT TO LOCATE IN COMMUNITIES THAT REFLECT THEIR CORPORATE CULTURE OR VALUES

COMPANIES WANT THEIR LOCATION TO BE ATTRACTIVE TO FUTURE SKILLED WORKERS

THE SITE-SELECTION PROCESS

The site-selection process can be viewed more as process of elimination process rather than a process of selection. Figure 2 shows that companies and site-location consultants examine different types of information throughout the process: each stage of the process is described in greater detail below.

1. Identifying Candidate Cities

At the beginning of the site-location process, site selectors examine broad factors including labor costs and availability, taxation and regulation, and access to markets and transportation. This initial screening is a data-driven exercise to find a manageable number of potential locations that meet a company's baseline needs. Quality-of-life factors are not always top of mind at this stage; when they are, the analysis focuses on factors such as crime data, school quality, cost of living, or housing costs and availability.

CASE STUDY

Measuring "Attraction"

One site selector uses net domestic migration trends—the difference in the number of people moving into and out of a given city, county, metro area or state, but where the origin and destination are both within the United States—as a proxy for determining the attractiveness of a metropolitan area. One would expect desirable metropolitan areas to have more people moving into the region than going out.

FIGURE 2: QUALITY-OF-LIFE CONSIDERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE SITE LOCATION PROCESS



2. Reputation and Marketing Helps Narrow the List

After identifying a set of potential locations, site selectors conduct more detailed examinations to find locations that best fit a company's needs. During this process, how the community presents itself plays a greater role in narrowing the list. This is the phase in which companies that prioritize lifestyle considerations pay closer attention to quality-of-life factors. For instance, firms that view outdoor recreation as

a key part of their corporate culture may be drawn to places such as Asheville NC, Chattanooga TN or Boulder CO—areas with an established reputation as an “outdoor town.” Those locations with a known reputation possess a competitive advantage over less prominent cities because they are perceived as less risky. This step of the process then leads to a shorter list of potential locations around which to plan site visits.

CASE STUDY

Asheville, NC—Becoming a Destination

It is only in the past quarter century that Asheville, NC has truly established itself as an attractive destination to both live and visit. Once a destination for the country's wealthy elite, Asheville's economy struggled and many of the Art Deco buildings in its downtown remained vacant throughout most of the 20th Century. Several events during the 1980s, however, changed Asheville's economic trajectory, including local residents rejecting efforts that would have razed downtown to build a mall. Instead, local leaders took several steps to revitalize the downtown area, including allowing sidewalk dining and liquor by the drink (a controversial step for the once-dry town) and organizing a summer festival to draw visitors.

Its quirky downtown combined with its location near the Great Smoky Mountains, Blue Ridge Parkway and other outdoor amenities helped draw visitors to Asheville. The unique character of downtown attracted a number of investments in its restaurants and shops. In turn, these investments drew the attention of developers which also saw opportunities for downtown residential development. By the 1990s, Asheville began to draw significant numbers of visitors, particularly those within a day's drive (from Atlanta and Charlotte). At one point, the Asheville-Buncombe Chamber of Commerce adopted the slogan “Anyway You Like It” to emphasize that the city had something to offer people who liked either town-based or outdoor amenities.

Many of the people initially drawn to Asheville were middle- and upper-middle class baby boomers. They had the disposable income necessary to support the restaurants and shops in the downtown area. This created a virtuous cycle of spending and tax revenues to build new amenity infrastructure that, in turn, attracted outdoor outfitters as well as more hospitality and retail businesses. In addition to tourists, the region also attracted second-home buyers and retirees, further bolstering the region's housing market and property tax base. Many of those retirees are “half-backs”—retirees from the north who had initially decided to move to Florida but subsequently decided to move halfway back. Asheville's growth eventually spread to neighboring counties including Henderson, Transylvania and Haywood, due in part to Asheville's rising cost of housing.

Asheville's next chapter is currently being written. Baby boomers remain the primary source of in-migration to Asheville and its surrounding counties. Still, over the past half-decade millennials have become the largest cohort of in-migrants to Buncombe County. The amenities that originally drew baby boomers and retirees to the region are also attractive to millennials. Moreover, the region's amenities are increasingly becoming more tailored to millennials, as demonstrated by a dramatic increase in the number of breweries and distilleries. By offering a diverse set of natural and urban amenities, the Asheville region has been able to draw both tourists and new residents from multiple generations, kick-starting a virtuous cycle of growth.

3. Site Visits and Selecting a Location

Site visits allow company representatives to experience a community, visit potential sites and meet with relevant community officials. Such visits may include meetings with university or community college officials about relevant educational programs, discussions about the region's business climate with the local chamber of commerce, or talking to city planners and government officials about site

development or economic development incentives. These visits also allow a community to make a real impression on the key decision makers at the company, an opportunity when—in the words of one site selector—they are hoping to receive a “love bomb” from the community.

Communities only have one chance to make a positive first impression, and one way that park and recreation

departments can support a community's recruitment efforts in this phase is by contributing to a community's "curb appeal." Park and recreation facilities can be visible proof of a city's built environment. Parks departments might consider coordinating with their respective economic development organizations (EDOs) to ensure that nearby properties or facilities are well maintained (e.g., recently mowed) and nearby amenities well displayed.

Site selectors also emphasize that they and company officials notice if a community's marketing messages do not accurately reflect the community itself. Communities should promote what they are—not what they aspire to be. Site selectors also recognize inconsistencies—anything perceived as a misrepresentation might not only harm a community's image with the company with which it is negotiating, but could also disqualify the location for future corporate location opportunities.

Companies and site selectors also note sustained positive changes in a community. Established or on-going investments, such as upgrades in downtown parks, public spaces or other public facilities can impress company relocation representatives. Such changes work to a community's benefit over the long run.

Quality-of-life considerations (and, more specifically, the quality of parks and recreation) most likely play a supporting role in site-location decisions. But in some cases, quality park amenities can prove

**COMMUNITIES ONLY HAVE ONE CHANCE
TO MAKE A POSITIVE FIRST IMPRESSION...
PARKS AND RECREATION IS A VISIBLE PROOF
OF A COMMUNITY'S "CURB APPEAL."**

CASE STUDY

Greenville, SC

Two site selectors noted that they have recognized the decades-long investments that Greenville, SC made in its downtown parks and public spaces. Consequently, Greenville has captured increased attention from companies and (and their workers) that previously had not considered the city for relocation.

**COMMUNITIES SHOULD PROMOTE WHAT THEY
ARE... NOT WHAT THEY ASPIRE TO BE**

pivotal in a company's final decision. Community leaders and economic developers with well-established relationships with their park and recreation agencies and leaders can best take advantage of such opportunities when quality-of-life factors play a key role in the final site-selection decision.



EXPANDING THE ROLE OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ASSESS YOUR PARK'S CURRENT PLACE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

At the most basic level, park and recreation assets support broader place-promotion efforts of their cities and towns. Community marketing organizations (e.g., the local chamber of commerce) regularly need new and current content that sets their region apart. Park and recreation agencies' amenities and offerings serve this purpose.

Most of the park and recreation leaders interviewed for this research indicate that their community's economic development marketing features images of local parks and

other recreational facilities. However, often the park and recreation agency does not receive credit in these materials and is usually not involved in the creation of these marketing materials or strategies.

A review of economic development marketing materials from 133 different communities of various sizes and geographically distributed across the country⁹ finds that:

- 72 percent of communities use images of urban parks and public spaces, outdoor amenities (e.g., mountains, lakes, trails), OR recreational and cultural facilities (e.g., aquatic facilities, amphitheaters) in their economic development marketing materials.

CASE STUDY

Dallas, TX—"Say Yes to Dallas" Talent Recruitment Campaign

As part of a 2015 strategic planning process, Dallas-based employers identified their ability to attract and retain talent as the region's most significant competitive challenge. Business leaders in the Dallas region determined that they needed to be more proactive and targeted in their talent attraction efforts. The Dallas Regional Chamber had been involved in talent attraction when Toyota relocated its North American headquarters to Plano. While that effort focused on making North Texas attractive to Toyota workers from California, Kentucky and Georgia, the new effort would be focused primarily on attracting talented millennials. The result was the "Say Yes to Dallas" talent recruitment campaign.

Developing this campaign's message was very much a data-driven exercise. Dallas Chamber of Commerce staff sought input from several Dallas-based groups, including young professional organizations, university and college career centers, recently relocated workers, and area companies looking to recruit workers. Importantly, the Dallas Regional Chamber also commissioned a national survey of millennials to better understand their priorities when looking for a place to live. The Chamber specifically targeted millennials, not only because they are soon to be the nation's largest generation but also they are most likely to relocate.

The survey results found that convenient access to parks, green space and hike-and-bike trails was the second most important factor for millennials when deciding where to live and work—ranking only behind the quality of career opportunities. These survey results led the Chamber to display information about parks and recreation amenities more prominently on the "Say Yes to Dallas" website. The website now features information related to parks and trails, golf courses, public dog parks and water bodies, as well as some "hidden gems."

The Dallas Chamber of Commerce continues to highlight park and outdoor assets—as an updated 2017 survey reconfirmed the original survey findings. The campaign's forward-facing marketing and social media campaign emphasizes outdoor activities and amenities and is very much directed toward millennials. The website also includes information about school quality and housing that might appeal more to older millennials and Gen Xers.

The region's park and recreation departments contribute to the Chamber's "Say Yes to Dallas" campaign primarily by providing marketing content—compiling lists of the jurisdiction's park and recreation assets, identifying "hidden gems" and providing updates on new efforts so that the Chamber offers the most current information. Chamber staff is particularly focused on staying current on big developments, such as the Trinity River Corridor Project, Klyde Warren Park, or efforts to connect the region's bike trail systems to create a bike loop around the city. Formalizing this information pipeline is one of the reasons that the Dallas Chamber of Commerce's policy team has a representative on the city's parks and recreation board.

⁹ The original sample was drawn from 150 different park and recreation departments; 133 had a corresponding economic development organization.

- 70 percent of these communities make specific reference to quality-of-life considerations OR present parks-related data and information (e.g., number of parks, acreage of park lands, miles of bike trails or average driving distance to state or national parks).
- 32 percent credit or cite the community's park and recreation department in their marketing materials.

These images and data help economic development organizations (EDOs) appreciate the economic value of park and recreation assets and quality-of-life considerations more broadly. But by failing to work closely with its local park and recreation agency on such efforts, an EDO cannot fully understand the wealth of offerings a local park and recreation agency delivers to its community.

Repairing the disconnect between presenting valuable amenities in marketing collateral and not working closely with the agency that delivers them presents a valuable opportunity for park and recreation departments to raise their profiles. It can also result in allies who will advocate on park agencies' behalf. In addition, closing the gap raises the likelihood that an EDO will successfully utilize the many valuable park and recreation amenities in any future economic development efforts—a win for both parties.

MAKE THE WHOLE GREATER THAN THE SUM OF “THE PARKS”— PROACTIVELY PURSUE PARTNERSHIPS

Cultivating strong partnerships within and outside the community is key to park and recreation departments being able to grow and thrive in the future. Strong partners can promote and advocate for parks and recreation. Partnerships also create new opportunities for park and recreation agencies to demonstrate their value to a community.

Economic development organizations (EDOs)

EDOs are central to attracting, retaining and expanding business activities to and in a community. These organizations also often play a central role in shaping a community's marketing message. But the nature of the

working relationship between an EDO and the local park and recreation agency can vary greatly.

Organizational structure can dictate the extent to which EDOs collaborate with local park and recreation agencies. Close, formal collaborations between EDOs and park and recreation agencies are most common when the EDO is either a part of the same government or has a formal working agreement with the government.

CASE STUDY

Frisco, TX Parks and Recreation Department

The Frisco, TX Parks and Recreation Department regularly interacts with the city's economic development group—the Frisco Economic Development Corporation (EDC)—in part because both are part of the same municipal government. Frisco is a particularly interesting example of such a collaboration because it benefits from support from a local-option sales tax from its EDC that provides resources that can pay for some amenities that fall broadly into the realm of parks and recreation. This creates opportunities for shared promotion, leverage resources and future partnerships.

CASE STUDY

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce contracts with the city government to do economic development, retail development and run the convention and visitors bureau. It works extensively with multiple municipal city departments, including the local park and recreation agency.

Overall, several factors may influence or enhance partnerships between EDOs and local park and recreation departments, including organizational factors:

- Structure (public, private, nonprofit)
- Size (staff availability)
- Funding and resources
- Leadership (existing relationships and willingness to collaborate)

CASE STUDY

Roanoke, VA—Roanoke Outside

Establishing a community as an outdoor recreation destination is no easy task. Not only must the community possess the right natural amenities, it must also have a culture that prioritizes and promotes an outdoor lifestyle. Through efforts undertaken by its regional economic development organization (EDO), public park and recreation departments and private-sector partners, Roanoke (VA) is building its reputation as an outdoor destination.

Located in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, the Roanoke metro area is home to roughly 315,000 residents, 100,000 of whom live in the City of Roanoke. Unlike other southern Appalachian cities like Asheville (NC), Greenville (SC) or Chattanooga (TN), it does not have an established reputation for attracting retirees, outdoor enthusiasts or high-profile employers (e.g., BMW in Greenville, Volkswagen in Chattanooga). Coming out of the recent recession, Roanoke's challenge was not that it had a bad reputation, but rather no reputation at all. This lack of identity put the area at a competitive disadvantage for attracting companies, entrepreneurs and residents.

With no model to emulate, Roanoke created its own model to market the region externally and internally. Civic leaders realized that their outdoor amenities and scenic views could be more than just wallpaper; rather they could be foundational to the region's economic development strategy. As a result, local leaders launched the *Roanoke Outside* initiative as a vehicle for positioning the area as one of the country's best outdoor communities.¹¹ *Roanoke Outside* seeks to create greater opportunities for its residents to participate in outdoor activities (e.g., running, hiking, biking, paddling, etc.) as a way to demonstrate to visitors and prospective companies alike that the region's lifestyle and culture centers on outdoor activity and environmental stewardship.

The Roanoke Regional Partnership—a multi-jurisdictional EDO—led the initial effort to market and coordinate the region's outdoor amenities, programs and opportunities. This included facilitating greater communication and interaction among the region's public park and recreation departments and private outfitters. Regional stakeholders have subsequently created the Roanoke Outside Foundation as a 501(c)3 organization that organizes a series of high-profile events. For instance, the Roanoke Outside Foundation owns and operates the Foot Levelers Blue Ridge Marathon—known as “America's Toughest Road Marathon”—as it involves over 7,400 feet of elevation change.

The region's showcase event is the Go Outside Festival (GO Fest). GO Fest is a three-day event with a wide array of outdoor recreation-themed activities and entertainment. The event is a collaborative effort between the Roanoke Outside Foundation and the City of Roanoke's Department of Parks and Recreation, and is partly supported by a wide array of corporate sponsors. The festival has grown significantly over the last several years, starting with 3,500 attendees in 2011 and up to 36,000 in 2017. As a result, GO Fest has grown beyond being a local event and now attracts national attention.

These collaborative efforts among the region's economic developers, park and recreation departments and private-sector leaders have helped establish a new brand for the Roanoke region. Nurturing a culture of outdoor recreation helped attract companies like Deschutes Brewery and Humm Kombucha—two companies that were looking to locate East coast operations to a place that shared the outdoor values found in their Bend OR headquarters. It also contributed to the region's successful efforts to attract Backcountry.com's distribution center. Moreover, local employers have used GO Fest as an opportunity to attract talent. For instance, the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute used GO Fest as a tool to attract potential medical students because it demonstrated the region's quality of place.

Beyond some of these tangible outcomes, Roanoke Outside has also provided a venue for the entire region's economic development (EDO) and park and recreation departments to meet regularly, enabling greater communication, coordination and collaboration among the different agencies in the region. For instance, the Roanoke Regional Partnership (and EDO) can alert the park and recreation department about potential site visits from companies; the parks department can then ensure that any adjacent parks or trails are freshly groomed. Such efforts contribute to the community's “curb appeal.” Challenges do, however, remain, as the region must continue to raise its profile as a leading outdoor town. Notably, it must continue to pay attention to issues of equity and inclusion so that the entire community is able to participate in these activities.

¹¹ <http://www.roanokeoutside.com/>

Other civic booster organizations

Absent any pre-existing relationship with the local EDO, park and recreation agencies may find it challenging to build such alliances overnight. Rather, a park and recreation agency (and its leadership team) may need to build its brand as a collaborative partner. Park and recreation agency leaders may want to consider engaging with other area stakeholders in the economic development process.

Many park and recreation leaders identify their community's convention and visitors bureaus (CVBs) as natural partners. Both EDOs and CVBs market the community: CVBs specifically market a community's recreational assets, frequently highlighting the amenities that park and recreation departments offer. Closer collaboration with CVBs allows park and recreation departments to better shape their community's promotion efforts.

BOTH EDOS AND CVBS MARKET THE COMMUNITY: CVBS SPECIFICALLY MARKET A COMMUNITY'S RECREATIONAL ASSETS, FREQUENTLY HIGHLIGHTING THE AMENITIES THAT PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS OFFER

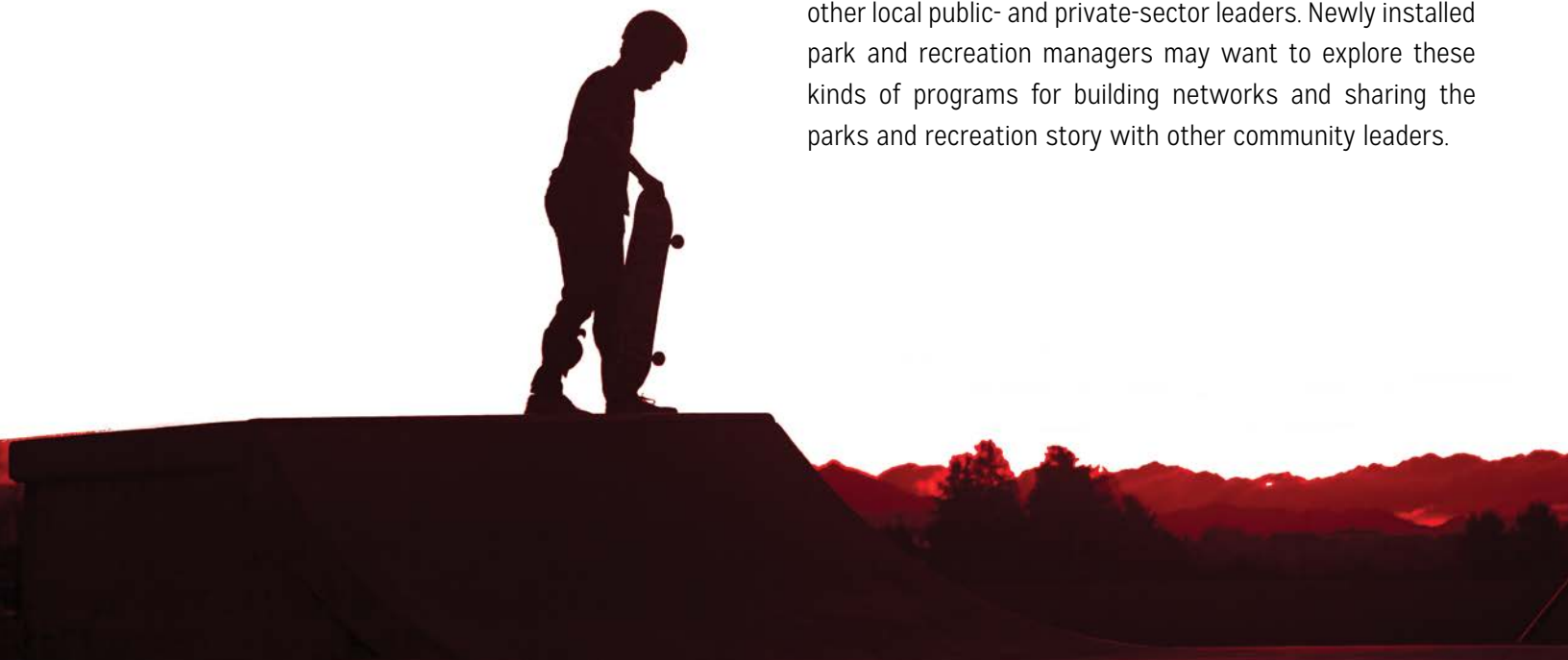
Numerous park and recreation leaders also have found success by engaging with their local chambers of commerce (CoCs). Civically engaged, private-sector leaders understand the importance of building an overall quality of place—for their cities and their own businesses. They are also important constituents in promoting the value of parks and recreation and can be key advocates for advancing significant funding or bond measures.

CASE STUDY

Engagement with local civic boosters has benefits

Parks and recreation leaders in Miami FL and Springfield MO report that participating in their local chamber of commerce's sports commission gave them an entry to chamber activities. In Minneapolis this relationship has evolved further: the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Superintendent sits on the Board of Meet Minneapolis, the city's convention and visitors organization.

Leadership training programs are another avenue for building networks with both public and private-sector leaders. Examples include Leadership Wichita, Leadership Frisco, and Lead Virginia—all intensive programs (some as long as 9-12 months) that develop leadership skills and increase community involvement. Often organized by nonprofit organizations or chambers of commerce, these programs encourage participants to develop real connections with other local public- and private-sector leaders. Newly installed park and recreation managers may want to explore these kinds of programs for building networks and sharing the parks and recreation story with other community leaders.



Shapers of the built environment

Park and recreation departments often oversee key infrastructure that can enhance private developments and create opportunities for mutual benefit. They have many opportunities to engage with partners that share an interest in the built environment.

Private commercial and residential developers and park and recreation departments share an interest in shaping the built environment. Park and recreation departments have also worked with business development groups on projects to improve the livability of city centers/downtowns by partnering on events, park redevelopment and creating bike-friendly routes through downtowns. These types of projects provide opportunities to create and strengthen partnerships with key constituencies. In finding opportunities for mutual gain, park officials can work with private developers on projects that can reshape the built environment to create more live, work and play opportunities.

CASE STUDY

Tampa, FL—Collaborating with Developers

In Tampa, FL the parks and recreation department partnered with private developers to redevelop the Tampa Heights Neighborhood. As part of this effort, the agency worked with property owners adjacent to Water Works Park to create a connection to the Tampa Riverwalk—a 2.6-mile walking/biking trail that connects major area attractions and includes dining and shopping venues along its scenic pathways. The Riverwalk and the reconstructed Water Works Park were key pieces in marketing commercial and residential properties in this redeveloping neighborhood. Moreover, the city and the private developers worked with the utility companies to share some of the costs associated with the private developments and park renovations.

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and downtown development groups are another set of potential partners. Businesses in New York City wanted close-by outdoor spaces that their employees could use during lunch breaks: the city's park and recreation department worked with local BIDs to improve the quality of parks near office centers

Colleges and universities can play a vital role in strengthening their communities' quality of place. Such partnerships not

only afford park and recreation departments the opportunity to forge relationships with anchor institutions (which often are among the largest regional employers), but they can also entice students to stay in the area after graduation.

CASE STUDY

Wichita, KS Park and Recreation

Wichita, KS Park and Recreation collaborated with Wichita State University in supporting the 2018 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament by hosting Fan Festivals in its downtown parks. The Bend, OR Parks and Recreation District is working with Oregon State University's local campus to provide recreational facilities and programs for its students.

Competitors as collaborators

Park and recreation agencies can benefit by partnering with their fellow park and recreation agencies in neighboring jurisdictions to present a unified image of a desirable place to live. This is particularly valuable when trying to attract larger corporate relocations in which company employees are likely to reside in several local jurisdictions. By presenting a unified "bigger picture" of accessible multi-community facilities, neighboring park and recreation departments can demonstrate to companies that their locations offer an expanded range of available programs and services as diverse as a potential employer's workforce. Additionally, presentations that reflect regional options—such as transportation networks that connect a variety of communities—make local parks more accessible to a larger population. These kinds of regional or collegial partnerships can enhance a park and recreation agency's network of

**PARK AND RECREATION AGENCIES
CAN BENEFIT BY PARTNERING WITH THEIR
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IN NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS
TO PRESENT A UNIFIED IMAGE
OF A DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE**

supporters and create synergies that boost the broader park system's impact on regional economic development.

In economic development circles, communities sometimes engage in “co-opetition”—they cooperate on key initiatives while competing in other arenas. In many communities, the universe of recreational services and amenities includes public, private and nonprofit providers. The combination of a local park and recreation agency's amenities and offerings with those of nonprofit providers (e.g., local conservancies, YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs) creates a compelling picture of the wealth of affordable, high-quality recreation opportunities.

ENGAGE THROUGHOUT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

There are many ways that park and recreation leaders can engage with economic developers and other key community stakeholders. Below we identify some specific ways park systems can contribute at different points throughout the economic development process.

Place making is a key element of business attraction

As noted earlier, many EDOs regularly use images of park and recreational facilities in their marketing efforts—and not only at agencies with iconic properties such as the San Diego Parks and Recreation Department which includes Balboa Park, the San Diego Zoo, Torrey Pines Golf Course and Mission Bay Park. EDOs in smaller communities also highlight parks properties to market a community's quality of life.

CASE STUDY

Direct access to trail networks can be particularly attractive to companies that value “wellness”

Economic developers in Roanoke, VA discovered that Deschutes Brewery (headquartered in Bend, OR) values outdoor recreation and desired bike accessibility for its employees and visitors. As part of Roanoke's recruitment efforts, Roanoke Parks and Recreation cleared a 100-yard path from its trail network to a potential industrial site in preparation of Deschutes' site visit. This single act was one of several that the city made, resulting in a positive impression on the company and attracting the Oregon-based brewery to invest in Roanoke for future expansion.

Strengthening relationships with civic boosters like EDOs and chambers of commerce increase the likelihood that local civic organizations will recognize and acknowledge the ways parks and recreation shapes a community's image.

Park and recreation leaders can play a critical role in economic development—a core element in attracting business to a community. Sites and buildings are certainly foundational to economic development infrastructure. But park infrastructure can also support economic development.

For instance, communities may consider their trail infrastructure as a critical component of their local transportation network. The Bend (OR) Park and Recreation District's new comprehensive plan envisions its trails as vital transportation corridors that will help relieve traffic congestion as the city becomes more densely developed. Importantly, framing a trail network as transportation infrastructure potentially opens access to a wider range of funding sources.

Trail networks can also connect residential development to commercial development. Many younger, skilled workers prefer locations that offer live-work-play residential options, options often found in urban or downtown settings. Suburban, commercial developments may find themselves at a competitive disadvantage if they lack amenities that provide workers with the ability to exercise during their lunch break or bike-commute to work safely. Commercial property owners can narrow the amenity gap by collaborating with local park and recreation agencies to create more direct access to trail networks.

Oklahoma City, OK—Metropolitan Area Projects (MAPS)

In 1992, United Airlines chose Indianapolis over Oklahoma City as the site for a new maintenance facility. The loss was a missed opportunity for the region, perhaps made more painful when United Airlines acknowledged that it selected Indianapolis, in part, because it believed that Oklahoma City had an inadequate quality of life, limited amenities, and in general was just not a place where it thought United Airlines employees would want to live. This created a crisis of confidence that sparked Oklahoma City's civic leadership to launch an ambitious plan to remake the city's image. What emerged was the Metropolitan Area Projects (MAPS) capital improvement program. Given that Oklahoma City had limited financial resources and a generally tax-averse population, this program required creative financing. After Oklahoma City voters approved a temporary one-cent sales tax, the city adopted a pay-as-you-go model that would fund construction of the capital improvement projects only after the city had generated the necessary revenue.

The original MAPS sales tax lasted 66 months and generated \$309 million in revenue, with an additional \$54 million in interest, all of which was targeted for MAPS projects. Since the city paid for these projects with the temporary sales tax revenues, it essentially paid for these projects in cash. With no interest to pay, the cost of these projects was less than if the city used traditional borrowing mechanisms.

To date, there have been three rounds of MAPS initiatives, and Oklahoma City officials are currently considering a MAPS 4. From start to finish (voter approval, revenue collection, construction), each round follows a 10-12 year cycle.

- **Original MAPS (1993-2004):** The original MAPS initiative focused on revitalizing Oklahoma City's downtown area. Investments were made to redevelop the Bricktown area as a center for nightlife and recreation. MAPS revenue paid for the basketball arena, a music hall, a downtown library and improvements to an Oklahoma State fairgrounds. Importantly, MAPS revenue also paid for the transformation of several key segments of the sometimes dry North Canadian River into a seven-mile series of river-lakes. The renamed Oklahoma River Waterways now attracts visitors and residents to the city's urban core.
- **MAPS for Kids (2001-2014):** MAPS for kids was another capital improvement program that focused on schools. Like the original MAPS initiative, it involved the use of a temporary one-cent sales tax, but was done in concert with a bond initiative. Of the revenues, 70 percent was allocated to Oklahoma City schools and 30 percent to surrounding suburban districts. The projects included renovating schools and investing in school technology, purchasing new buses, and school parks and recreation facilities.
- **MAPS 3 (2009-2021):** MAPS 3 is another capital improvement program focused on quality-of-life projects. As a result, significant investments have been made in river improvements including a whitewater center, trails and sidewalks. Construction has also begun on Scissortail Park, a 70-acre park that will connect downtown Oklahoma City to the Oklahoma River and includes trails and sports facilities. MAPS 3 revenue will also fund the construction of a downtown streetcar, a new convention center, and several senior health and wellness centers.

In addition to the creative financing model used for these capital improvements, the MAPS initiatives have also been characterized by the strong partnership between the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and the Oklahoma City government. While the city leadership and its departments (e.g., Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Transportation, et al.) are key implementers, the Chamber has played the key role of staffing the MAPS initiatives, gathering input about projects to pursue, publicizing successes and generating support for future efforts—particularly within the business community.

The city government/chamber of commerce relationship has been instrumental in the ongoing voter support for MAPS program, as the two groups can convene the people and other entities necessary to move forward with such ambitious efforts. The City and Chamber share the work in organizing and implementing the initiatives—from generating support for the sales tax to overseeing the final construction. They also have regular communication: the City's and Chamber's senior leadership meet quarterly to discuss the MAPS work and any other relevant city initiatives. Stable leadership in both organizations helps, but these relationships have, over time, become more institutional than personal. The strength of these relationships has ensured that there is no gap in the vision of the city's future direction. The Chamber's central role in providing the city with economic development, tourism promotion and retail development services further strengthens this alignment since there are fewer outside organizations that might have competing visions.

The MAPS programs have transformed Oklahoma City's image—both externally and internally. Internal messaging is vital, as MAPS would not have succeeded without strong public support. Such support often begins with the business community, but ultimately the voters need to approve any temporary sales tax to fund these initiatives. In short, the community needs an army of advocates to create a culture in which people care about the built environment.

Generating continued support for future MAPS initiatives will require proponents to be strategic about the projects they want to fund. Up to this point, many MAPS projects were in the city's downtown core. But as the city considers the possibility of a MAPS 4, there are discussions about whether those future projects should be located outside of the downtown area. In doing so, more people would stand to see and benefit from these future investments, and in turn continue to maintain support for MAPS.



Parks and recreation contributes to business retention and expansion

Even after a city or town attracts a new employer, the local park and recreation agency is a vital component in a community's business retention efforts. Economic developers often focus primarily on attracting companies and creating jobs in their communities as these activities generate new corporate tax revenues. But communities also benefit by attracting the workers that fill those jobs: new residents drive additional home sales and consumer spending, both of which magnify the economic impact of a corporate move-in. Park and recreation departments can play an important role in attracting a workforce. This is particularly true for those corporate moves that involve relocating and attracting high-wage, highly educated workers.

Local government services that contribute positively to quality of life (e.g., park and recreation, schools, transit) can also make companies "feel good" about their site-location decisions. Positive community experiences for a company and its workforce can help influence decisions about future expansion and investment in the area. Moreover, satisfied companies are more likely to share their experiences with other firms, further promoting the community as a good place to do business.

CASE STUDY

Arlington, VA—Aftercare Services

Arlington, VA provides new companies with aftercare services that promote the community as a great place to live as well as a great place to work. As part of this effort, the Arlington County Government meets with a company after the firm has made its site-location decision, but before relocated workers have moved to the area. Representatives from Arlington County's various quality-of-life departments, including Parks and Recreation, make a coordinated and comprehensive pitch that sells the community to the company's incoming workers.

Over the long term, this word-of-mouth among companies and site locators can burnish a community's reputation as a good place to both live and do business. Parks and recreation can contribute to this virtuous cycle, not only by providing high-quality facilities and programs, but also by actively engaging

THE LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION AGENCY IS A VITAL COMPONENT IN THE COMMUNITY'S BUSINESS RETENTION EFFORTS

with newly located companies to encourage their workers to take advantage of available facilities and resources. As corporate relocations typically affect high-wage workers, convincing these workers to live in the community where they work can generate additional home sales and property tax revenues.

CASE STUDY

Westerville, OH—Engaging Companies

In Westerville, OH, the park and recreation department contributes to the city's economic development activities during the business attraction phase, but it continues to engage companies once they begin operating in Westerville.

Recognizing that employers hire regionally, Westerville's "Workplace Wellness" program extends resident rates for their programs and facilities to all workers who are Westerville-based, regardless of where they actually live. This not only makes companies feel appreciated by the community, but it also allows the community to build relationships with potential residents. For instance, Westerville workers that rent in a neighboring community might consider buying homes in Westerville if they have had a positive experience with the community.

Recreational amenities are key to attracting talent and entrepreneurs

Parks and recreation helps communities make positive first impressions not only on companies but also on potential entrepreneurs and small business owners. As is the case for representatives of larger companies and site-location consultants, many small business owners, entrepreneurs and even some highly skilled telecommuters are first exposed to a location as tourists. More so than for company site-location decision makers, quality-of-life factors are more likely to drive these individuals' decisions about where to live. Most entrepreneurs will remain "lone wolves," but

some will go on to grow into larger business entities and add employees.

In a 2010 survey of Deschutes County (Bend, OR) business owners, consulting firm Headwaters Economics found that most of the company leaders they spoke with indicated they located their firms in Central Oregon simply because they liked it as a place.¹⁰ Specifically, these business leaders mentioned the climate and the access to trails, rivers and public lands. In fact, many of the owners first discovered the area when they came as visitors.

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Participate in the economic development planning process

Membership on an EDO's board of directors is a sign that park and recreation leaders are essential partners in a community's economic development process. This not only means that park and recreation agency contributions are fully recognized; it also means those agencies are able to influence a community's economic development marketing messages. Moreover, raising agency visibility could transform local public officials' and other community leaders' perception of parks and recreation from a "nice to have" luxury to a

critical component of a vibrant community (and help to close that "perception gap" about the economic contributions of parks and recreation). These same government leaders may then be less prone to target park and recreation budgets during future economic downturns.

Still, park and recreation leaders indicate participation on local/regional economic development boards is relatively uncommon—and can take a long time to be effective. In order to cultivate a strong relationship between a park and

¹⁰ *Improving Deschutes County's Competitiveness: Business Location and Retention Factors*, a report by Headwaters Economics commissioned by Economic Development for Central Oregon, July 2010. Available at: https://headwaterseconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/Deschutes_Report_Full1.pdf

recreation agency and economic development board, agency leaders should:

- **Find opportunities for collaboration:** It is easier to collaborate when one is already collaborating, so even small partnership projects can strengthen relationships with an economic development community. Small projects can also better position park and recreation departments to contribute when larger opportunities arise.
- **Invite economic development practitioners to participate on park and recreation boards:** Park and recreation agencies should invite economic developers (e.g., local EDOs, city departments, utility companies, etc.) to sit on their organizational board of directors. Beyond bringing developers' unique perspectives to the park agency's board, such engagement will broaden developers' understanding of the full range of activities that parks and recreation offers.
- **Identify other potential collaborators:** Park and recreation leaders should also pursue opportunities to serve on the boards of area convention and visitors' bureaus, downtown development groups and chambers of commerce sports commissions—all of which may serve as an indirect path to the economic development process.
- **Play the long game:** These relationships do not develop overnight; external partners' perceptions of parks and recreation likely will need to evolve. As a result, engagement efforts should include not only a park agency's director but also the agency's leadership team. By including agency senior staff in networking opportunities, these relationships will be more sustainable and will foster organizational relationships in addition to personal relationships among partnering agencies and organizations.

CASE STUDY

San Diego, CA—Finding Opportunities for Collaboration

Finding collaborative opportunities is fundamental to building relationships and creating allies. Some of the opportunities can come in an unexpected form. The San Diego Parks and Recreation Department does not have a strong connection to the regional economic development corporation, but it does have a relationship with the City's economic development department. This pre-existing relationship allowed the park and recreation agency to help an innovative company, Aira, which was looking for a location to test its product after it approached the City's economic development department for assistance. Aira has developed a headset that connects sight-impaired people with professional agents to help describe what they are seeing and explain where they need to go. The City's economic development department worked with the park and recreation department to allow Aira to use Balboa Park as a testing site for its technology.

This partnership benefitted all parties involved. The company received access to a premier location to test its new technology. The economic development department was able to help the company solve its challenge of finding a testing location and thus enabled the company to succeed in San Diego. The park and recreation department contributed to the development of a technology that will make its parks more accessible. These kinds of small, collaborative opportunities can lay the foundation for more significant future engagements between a park and recreation agency and the economic development department.

ACTIVATE AN INVOLVED SET OF STAKEHOLDERS (WE'RE ALL AMBASSADORS)

The business and economic development community can be a powerful advocate for park and recreation departments. While this support is necessary, it is not always sufficient. The park and recreation leaders interviewed for this report emphasize the need for an involved public. Engaged citizens do more than just use park and recreational facilities and

**ENGAGED CITIZENS SHAPE THE POSITIONS OF
LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS OR RELIABLY VOTE
FOR BOND INITIATIVES OR THE CREATION OF
SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS**

programs; they also actively work to influence the policy positions of local, elected officials, reliably vote for park bond initiatives and support the creation of other funding mechanisms.

Having an engaged citizenry requires taking care of the fundamentals: providing consistently high-quality park and recreation facilities and relevant programming—voters are more willing to support amenities they themselves use or those that contribute to community pride. A local park and recreation agency must constantly communicate with its constituents regarding current and future programs and facilities, and why residents should be proud of their park and recreation system.

An engaged populace creates a cadre of ambassadors that can help “sell” the community at large, including its park and recreation amenities. Particularly effective for economic development efforts are engaged citizens who embrace, understand and promote the brand being put forward by civic boosters—including how park and recreation amenities improve a region’s quality of life—as it makes those marketing messages more authentic.

Park and recreation leaders should also consider generational differences. Millennials will soon be the nation’s largest block of potential voters, and are a generation that places a premium on work-life balance and a greater value on publicly supported amenities and recreational opportunities. At the same time, many baby boomers are becoming empty nesters, looking to downsize into townhomes or condos, and will have their own unique needs and desires for local park amenities. Each of these generational cohorts represents large voting blocs that may prove particularly supportive of public parks and recreation.

TRACK AND MEASURE IMPACTS

It is not enough for park and recreation leaders to say that their activities make positive contributions to the local economy; they need to provide evidence to strengthen their case. As park and recreation systems engage more with

economic development partners, agency leaders need to identify compelling metrics that demonstrate the economic development contributions of parks and recreation.

PARK AND RECREATION LEADERS NEED TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE THAT THEIR ACTIVITIES MAKE POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Park and recreation agency leaders should highlight and communicate metrics that speak to parks and recreation’s role and contributions to business attraction and retention. Examples of such metrics may include:

- The number of bike commuters using system trails
- Number of residents that both live and work in the community
- Number of park workers being hired for their first job
- Number of companies and company employees that used park and recreation facilities and programs.

These data are often not readily available. Consequently, dedicated resources—and the cooperation of local employers —may be needed in order to collect and generate this information. Internally, these data provide feedback about program efficacy and impact. Externally, these insights can be used to motivate continued interest from partners, potential partners and funders. Even the act of requesting information from companies can be an opportunity for engagement.

In addition to communicating metrics about the impact of park and recreation activities, there is value in finding effective anecdotes to further illustrate such impact. A good case study can help put a face on the data and make it more memorable to partners, funders and the community at large. All of this information is required to help park and recreation systems tell their story and promote their efforts.

KEY CONCLUSIONS

Park and recreation agencies contribute to their local economies in a variety of ways. Strong park and recreation departments generate significant direct and indirect economic impacts through their employment and spending, and proximity to well-maintained parks can boost property values. Park and recreation departments can also shape their community's quality of life, building a sense of place that makes an area more attractive to employers and talented workers. Investments that strengthen quality of life can spur sustained economic growth that attracts talent, which in turn supports business attraction and development.

While elected and appointed public officials may personally appreciate the value of parks and recreation, park and recreation agencies historically have endured the most aggressive budget cuts during times of fiscal austerity and economic downturns. Creating an understanding of the connection between parks and recreation and economic prosperity among agency stakeholders and constituents is the best defense against the next fiscal downturn. Park and recreation leaders must communicate effectively the story of how their agencies can shape the trajectory of their local economy and routinely promote their successes.

While park and recreation leaders should take advantage of opportunities where they can to promote their agencies' positive impact, this message may be more effective if it comes from other voices. Park and recreation agency directors and senior leadership teams should actively engage other organizations like economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, convention and visitors bureaus, and even competing organizations or neighboring park agencies, all of which—directly or indirectly—benefit from strong park and recreation amenities and offerings.

Building such a network requires developing relationships through collaboration. This report has identified several ways that park and recreation departments can collaborate with local and other organizations to promote their contributions to economic development—directly engaging companies, providing marketing content or serving on organizational boards. The onus is on park and recreation leaders to find ways to contribute to and collaborate in the economic development process, and help transform the perception of parks and recreation as not only a driver of quality of life in the community, but also as a basis of economic prosperity in the region.



ABOUT NRPA

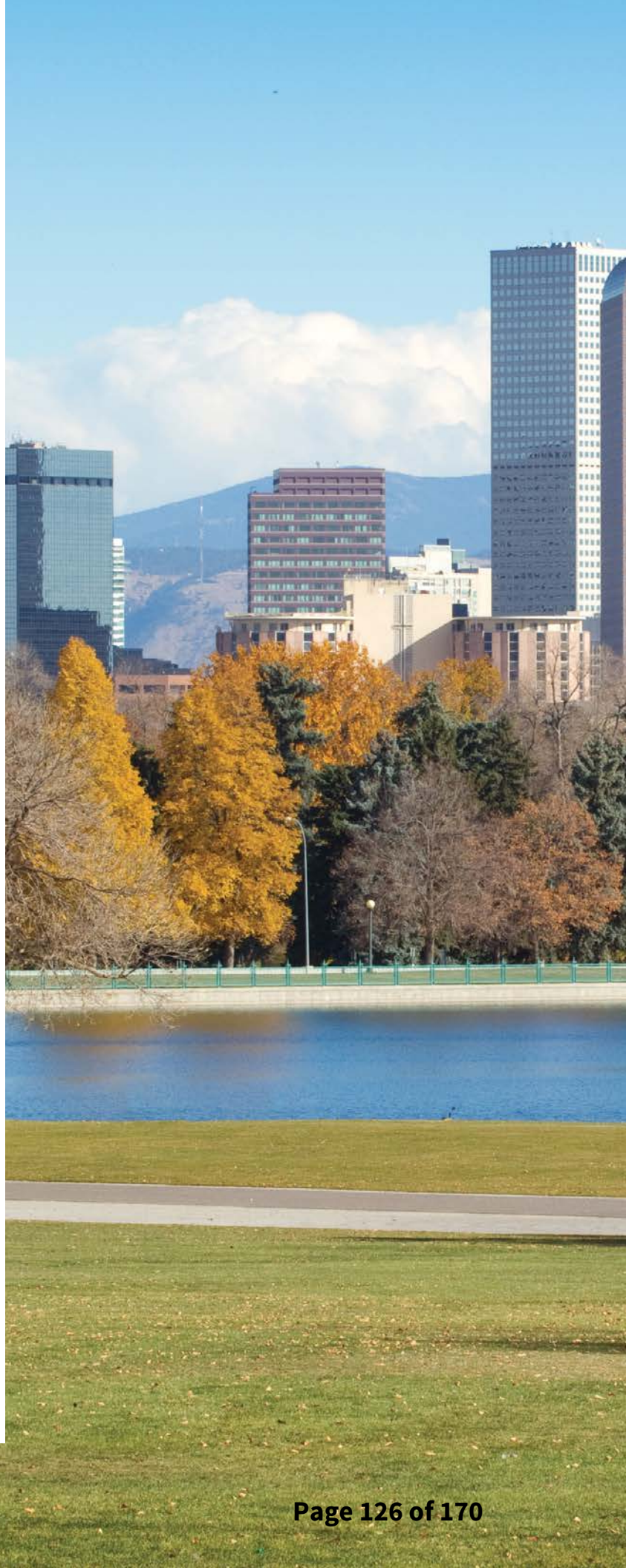
The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing parks, recreation and conservation efforts that enhance quality of life for all people. Through its network of 60,000 recreation and park professionals and advocates, NRPA encourages the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles, conservation initiatives and equitable access to parks and public space.

NRPA brings strength to our message by partnering with like-minded organizations including those in the federal government, nonprofits and commercial enterprises. Funded through dues, grants, registrations and charitable contributions, NRPA produces research, education and policy initiatives for our members that ultimately enrich the communities they serve.

NRPA places immense importance on research and data to raise the status of parks and recreation and conducts research with two goals. First, NRPA creates data to help park and recreation agencies make optimal decisions on operations, programming and spending. Second, NRPA generates data and insights that support park and recreation professionals making the case for greater and more stable funding to policymakers, key stakeholders, the media and the general public. The NRPA research team works closely with internal subject matter experts, respected industry consultants and the academic community to develop its reports and data resources. Learn more at www.nrpa.org/Research

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The Center for Regional Analysis, housed in the School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs at George Mason University, is the premier university-based regional economic research center in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area. The Center provides regionally relevant, globally informed research for businesses, governments and non-profit agencies.







NRPA National Recreation
and Park Association

Because everyone deserves a great park

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Memorandum PARC 23-011

TO: PARKS, ART, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II
DATE: APRIL 20, 2023
SUBJECT: DEACCESSIONING THE POOPDECK TRAIL SIGN POSTS

Background:

This item was brought forward by Commissioner Lowney. The Commission determined that it would be appropriate for staff to gain input from the artist on how the city should dispose of the remaining sign posts or even if the artist would like them back. The Commission postponed decision until the April meeting.

Recreation Manager Illg has tried to contact the artist and at packet time still had not been in contact with Mr. Vait. He will provide an update or any changes on the status at the meeting.

Recommendation

Receive update from staff on preference regarding disposal if obtained, if not make a motion to postpone until staff receives decision from the artist or move to deaccession the sign posts in accordance with adopted policy and guidelines.



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Deaccessioning the Arches at Poopdeck Trail Entrance on Hazel Avenue

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 16 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Renee Krause

Summary Statement:

In accordance with the Gift, Donation & Art Policies Procedures & Guidelines, page 4, Section on Deaccessioning Purchased and Donated Items of Art the City has the responsibility for conserving the collection, and because the disposal of artworks may have serious implications for the artists, removing the items from the collection should be a deliberate and seldom-used procedure. It is the policy of the City not to dispose of works simply because they are not currently in fashion and not to dispose of works whose worth might not yet be recognized.

Examples of situations where de-accessioning would be considered include:

- a. The item(s) has deteriorated beyond a reasonable means of conservation or in deteriorating, has lost its usefulness.
- b. The authenticity, attribution, or genuineness of the item(s) is determined to be false or fraudulent.
- c. The item(s) is redundant or is a duplicate that has no value as part of a series.
- d. The item(s) is located in an area where jurisdiction will be transferred to another entity or is made inaccessible to the public.

The Commission may recommend any of the following courses of action as a result of a deaccessioning review. The Commission shall not be limited to these courses of action and may suggest new methods as may be demanded by a particular set of circumstances:

- a. Relocate the work of art. This course of action shall be given highest priority
- b. Remove the work from display and maintain in a safe storage
- c. Yearly City Surplus Sale
- d. Private sale
- e. Exchange for another work by the artist
- f. Gifting the piece to a non-profit organization

g. Recycling

Destruction of the item(s) may be considered where the physical condition of the work is severely deteriorated or will be irreparably damaged by the removal (de-accessioning) process.

Staff Recommendation:

Commission make a motion to de-accession the remaining arches that are located at the entrance of the Poopdeck Trail off of Hazel Avenue and further recommend the method or action for their disposal.



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Memorandum PARC 23-012

TO: Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
FROM: Mike Illg, Recreation Manager
DATE: April 10, 2023
SUBJECT: FY24 and FY25 Community Recreation Budget

Like everything else the City of Homer provides: Our community is growing! Due to the ever growing demand of recreational and educational programming requests and needs from the community, the Community Recreation program has submitted additional budget requests for FY24 and FY25 to adequately serve the public and improve participant experiences. Unfortunately the City Manager did not include them in his proposed budget to the City Council. These requests included:

Recreation Software: The software will allow online payment, registration, scheduling, volunteer management, unified monthly/weekly calendars, etc., with point of sale/transaction with either a computer, I-pad or personal smart phones. This will allow the Community Recreation (CR) program to move away from the antiquated paper system of registration forms, data collection, paper punch cards and reduce/eliminate the challenging and burdensome cash/check handling system. The software will also assist with capturing accurate data for revenue collection/projections, total number visits, total number of volunteer hours and participant demographics that will be essential information for overall operations, but will be crucial data points for creating a new business plan for the operating a possible new community recreation facility.

The cost for the software: FY24-\$11,000 (initial set up) and FY25- \$7,000

Recreation Specialist: The need for additional year round staff is incredibly crucial to continue the level of service and to meet the public demand for municipal recreation/educational opportunities. Currently the CR program has one full time employee, \$20,000 budgeted for seasonal and/or casual employees and over 100 volunteers provided thousands of hours of donated time and work in lieu of recreation staffing. There are many challenges with relying on volunteers and, casual/seasonal employees due to the lack of consistency, attracting and sustaining quality employees, and overall logistical variables that tend to fall solely on the one full time employee. The funding and hiring of additional Community Recreation staff will also allow for some additional focus of provided consistent youth programming opportunities which is identified as one of our community's greatest needs. The request for one fulltime benefitted Recreation Specialist (40 hours/week, 2080 hours a year) or at least a part time benefitted Recreation Specialist (20 hour/week, 1040 hours a year). The budgeted \$20,000 seasonal expense could be allocated towards either of these proposed new positions.

The total salary and benefits for the positions: Full time: FY24- \$80,000 and FY25- \$82,000

Part-time: FY24- \$43,000 and FY25- \$45,000

Staff Recommendation: PARCAC send a memorandum of support and request to the City Council to fund the requested software purchase and the staffing request for either a full time or part time Recreation Specialist for FY24 and FY25.



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Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: April 5, 2023
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for April 10, 2023 Council Meeting

Army Corps General Investigation Contract Has Been Signed

At our last meeting, Council adopted Resolution 23-026 authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the appropriate documents to officially enter into an agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers for the Homer Harbor Expansion's general investigation. Colonel Delarosa, who has been a regular visitor to Homer during his tour in Alaska, visited the harbormaster's office later that same week to sign the contract for the Army Corps. After many years of working towards this point, we are very excited to actually start the study with the Army Corps and see where the process takes us.

Tsunami Operations Workshop

Chief Kirko and I attended a two and a half day Tsunami Operations Workshop in Kodiak. The event was sponsored by a National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program grant and all costs incurred by the Chief and I were covered by a Federal grant to the State of Alaska. The workshop included lectures and tabletop exercises with representatives from the Alaska Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys, the University of Alaska Geophysical Institute, the NOAA National Tsunami Warning Center, the National Weather Service, American Red Cross of Alaska, and US Coast Guard Sector Anchorage. It was a lot of information to digest, but I appreciated having an opportunity to focus on tsunami response and mitigation topics with a wide cross section of Alaska communities from "big" cities like Homer down to smaller cities like Achik.

Update on State and Federal Grants

At the last meeting there was a request for an update regarding grant applications. We didn't have enough time to turn that interest into a work session, but we have been able to produce a matrix that gives an easy to digest overview of the various programs in motion and how we are interfacing with them. The matrix also includes State of Alaska CAPSIS requests and community directed spending (CDS – the federal earmark replacement). Projects associated with CDS requests were built to fit existing City interests into the programs available for CDS per Senator Murkowski's and Representative Peltola's offices.

Lt. Browning to Present to Alaska House Judiciary Committee

At the request of Representative Vance, Lieutenant Ryan Browning will be giving his Parenting in the Digital Age presentation to the House Judiciary Committee on April 10th. His presentation is a very candid and honest look at what social media is doing to our kids. Out of 1870 Alaskan high school aged teens, 48% of the girls

reported serious depression, 33% reported having had serious thoughts of suicide and 27% had an actual plan to kill themselves. Lt. Browning put this presentation together after investigating a sexting case with an 18 year old and much younger girls, then had a teen suicide call a few weeks after that. It's for parents to talk to their kids and WHY that is so important. Lt. Browning talks a lot about bullying, and what Instagram is doing to our youth. Some things parents need to look for when there's an issue creeping up in their kid and more than anything – it's an eye opening view for parents into what their kids are experiencing online.

Community Jails Funding

Last year Homer, along with other local governments that are home to community jails, lobbied the State Legislature for increased funding for the community jails program. Those efforts were successful and resulted in an increase for all jails. Since that time, the State has not been paying at the correct rate for FY23 and the Department of Corrections (DOC) has identified and is correcting this issue. We expect the DOC to issue a payment of \$134,904 to make up for the underpayments.

Collaborative Housing Event a Success

On Saturday, March 25, Special Projects Coordinator Ryan Foster and City Planner Rick Abboud, along with a wide coalition of community groups hosted the Greater Homer Housing Conversation at the Christian Community Church. Approximately 100 attendees gathered to discuss housing challenges and working solutions to help bring about more housing options in the community. A report on the findings of the event will be available in April and members of the organizing coalition anticipate providing a presentation on the report to the City Council. Additional information can be found at <https://ddaalaska.com/homer-housing-solutions/>.

Climate Change Workshop to Feature Homer Speakers

On April 11-12, Special Projects Coordinator Ryan Foster will be attending and presenting at the People on the Move in a Changing Climate Workshop hosted by the Alaska Sea Grant. Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), People on the Move in a Changing Climate (PEMOCC) is a Sea Grant-led Research Coordination Network that fosters collaboration among diverse experts and stakeholders to address research needs related to climate-induced human mobility, its socioeconomic consequences, and its role in building resilience and adaptation to the impacts of climate change in US coastal and Great Lakes regions. Additional information can be found at Alaska Sea Grant: <https://alaskaseagrant.org/event/people-on-the-move-in-a-changing-climate/>.

Cybersecurity Training

Over the last 10 days, members of the IT team visited work sites across the City to conduct a review of basic cybersecurity tips with City employees. The goal was to refresh staff awareness of the importance of the following topics: General overview of cyber threats to municipal governments; Best practices for password hygiene, including how to create memorable and strong passwords and how to determine if your passwords have been hacked; How to scan attachments for malware; How to lock your screen to prevent access to unattended computers; Precautions to use with external media (USB drives, etc). In general, staff has demonstrated a strong understanding of the importance of the users' role in defending our information technology against cyber threats, as well as a putting to use previous training in specific techniques. We would like to extend this training to Council at a future date.

Pratt Improvements

Economic Development Manager Julie Engebretsen attended the Pratt Museum and Park charrette on Wednesday, March 29th. Landscape Architect Peter Briggs of Corvus Design is working with the Pratt as part of an Economic Development Administration grant to explore options to make ADA improvements to parts of

the trail system, to create an outdoor education and community gathering space, and to better connect the Pratt to Pioneer Ave and downtown Homer's walkable network. The charrette included a walk in the woods, and an opportunity to comment on storyboards. Corvus Design is the same firm that created the City's Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan. It's exciting to see collaboration between the Pratt and the City toward the common goal of a walkable, engaging downtown area.

Homer Little League MOU Update

Economic Development staff have been busy working with Homer Little League on an updated MOU for the ballfields at Hornaday Park. The draft MOU and a resolution will be presented at the next Council meeting for review and approval. Little League begins in early May, depending on when the fields are dry.

Thank You to Drawdown Volunteers

The "Drawdown Baggers" bagged another 30 sandbags on April 1st for a season total of 506 sand bags! Over the last few months, volunteers gathered at Public Works every Saturday at noon, for an hour of sand bagging. The bags are used by parks staff to spread sand by hand for winter trail maintenance where the toolcat can't navigate. Having pre-bagged sand saves a lot of time and effort for staff. Parks Planner Matt Steffy is also working with Homer Drawdown volunteers to plan summer trail projects that will increase the number of trails that can be maintained in the winter by machine, rather than by hand. The Small Works Trail Program will cover material expenses for the upgrades, with the help of hardy trail volunteers for construction. One of the trails planned for an upgrade is East Fairview Ave, from Kachemak Way to Heath Street. This trail is heavily used by high school students walking to school.

Attachment:

State and Federal Grant update to Council



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Administration

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

(p) 907-235-8121 x2222

(f) 907-235-3148

Memorandum

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Jenny Carroll, Special Projects and Communications Coordinator
THROUGH: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: April 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.

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)	Award pending	Awaiting notification/entering into sub-grant agreement. Grant is for peatland acquisition
		Congressionally Designated Spending Request #1 of 4	\$ 1,890,000.00 (water works)	\$ 892,516.00 (water works)	Submitted 3/17/2023	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 + elibgle 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 Award announce May '23; 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 Award announce May '23; end date June '25 (\$500,000 set aside in HART for grant matching)
Homer Float Systems						
Float Systems 4 & 1 Replace		Fed Port Infrastructure Development Projects (PIDP)	\$ 32,800,000.00	\$ 8,200,000.00 (20% min match)	Application in progress Due date 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
		Municipal Harbor Grant	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 5,000,000.00	No action yet due in August 2023	If funded, leverages State match to lower City match
		Denali Commission Grant			Application not begun Due date 4/14/23	Can be used as non-Federal Match May not be competitive - \$1M max award
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	\$69,919 to \$79,919	State of AK Healthy & Equitable Community	\$ 70,000.00 (approximately)	Cost est. pending from PW director	Application in progress Due date 4/25/2023	Support Resolution on 4/10/23 CC agenda
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	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	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	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	Responding to FEMA requests for information

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**

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Aderhold/Venuti

RESOLUTION 23-030

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROPERTIES OF THE
HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY, ACCORDING TO A DESIGN PLAN
DEVELOPED BY THE FRIENDS OF HOMER LIBRARY, CONTINGENT
UPON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION.

WHEREAS, The library grounds consist of the parcel with the library building (Glacier View Subdivision No. 26 Tract A) and an adjacent property to the west with a trail and greenspace (Tract B); and

WHEREAS, The western parcel (Tract B) is underutilized and has great potential to be developed for library activities and public enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, The Friends of Homer Library have long advocated for improvements to Tract B that would serve various aims, including upgrading the trail to the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), protecting the environment, adding directional signage, adding educational signage covering the natural and human history of the area, encouraging greater use of the lot with a play space and room for programs, and enhancing the aesthetic attractions of the parcel; and

WHEREAS, Homer City Council adopted Resolution 21-018, supporting a public process to design such improvements in collaboration with City offices, the National Park Service, various community organizations and interested citizens; and

WHEREAS, The process has narrowed options down to one design plan, which has been reviewed by the Library Advisory Board, the ADA Advisory Board and the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Friends of Homer Library will comply with any applicable state or federal laws and City of Homer policies regarding the construction of all design features, will transfer ownership of the completed features to the City, and will raise funds for the construction of all features except the ADA upgrades to the trail; and

WHEREAS, the City of Homer will fund and execute the ADA upgrades and assume responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of each part of the project as it reaches completion; and

WHEREAS, The design plan is included as Attachment A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, hereby supports improvements to Glacier View Subdivision No. 26 Tract B, following the design plan included in Attachment A, contingent upon the availability of funds for construction.

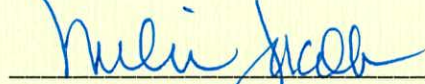
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 10th day of April, 2023.

CITY OF HOMER



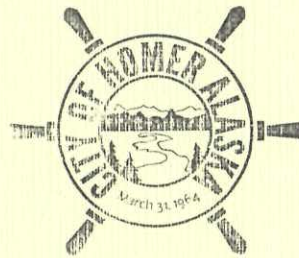
KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:



MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal note: N/A



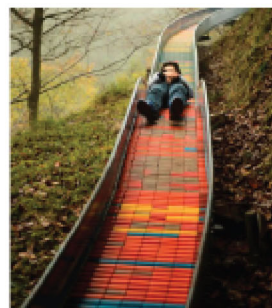


Natureal play area: Large boulders (local glacial), play sculpture climbable animals, other balance activities (stepping logs, driftwood, over/under tunnels, hillside slide and ladders). Built for safety, ecosystem protection, and minimal maintenance. Final siting and design to be developed.

Gathering area: Picnic tables and stump seating.

Reading Tree: seating around tree, location to be determined

Future Project: Redesign front plaza to include covered outdoor space for education, reading and gathering.



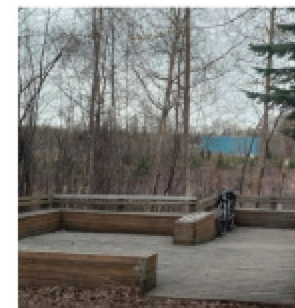
Knoll Slide



Stump Seating



Bird's Nest Play Area



Wetland Viewing Platform



Reading Tree



Book Bench (ADA compliant)



Compass Rose Gathering Area

A vibrant, accessible community space adjacent to the Library where learning and nature give rise to a sense of discovery and delight.

Homer Library Placemaking

NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)

American Society of Landscape Architects Alaska Chapter

Conceptual Design
Homer Library Western Lot

Friends of Homer Library Working Group
2023

From: [Janette Keiser](#)
To: [Renee Krause](#)
Cc: [Mike Ilg](#); [Matt Steffy](#)
Subject: FW: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 9:16:37 AM
Attachments: [Design Plan--Phase 1.jpg](#)
[Design Plan--Phase 2.jpg](#)
[Design Plan--Phase 3.jpg](#)

Renée

The information in this email is good information for the next PARCAC meeting. PW will provide resources as needed – sand, gravel, rock, equipment, etc. Matt can report on it if people have questions.

Regards,
Jan

Janette (“Jan”) Keiser, PE
Director of Public Works
City of Homer

Office: 907-435-3141
Cell: 206-714-8955

From: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 5:30 PM
To: Janette Keiser <JKeiser@ci.homer.ak.us>; Matt Steffy <MSteffy@ci.homer.ak.us>
Cc: Aaron Yeaton <AYeaton@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: RE: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards

Hiya!

To make the funding and maintenance easier, the Friends have split the project into three stages. They’ve also consolidated the various features toward the western end of the trail, leaving the grass along Hazel Avenue as-is. The overall strategy is to tackle the smaller and easier features first and leave the bigger, more expensive features for later.

PHASE 1:

- ADA trail upgrade (funded though Small Works Trails Program)
- Bird’s nest (close to trail along eastern portion)
- Stump seating (near the midpoint of the trail)
- Book bench (at western end of trail)
- Reading tree (location TBD)
- Design work on interpretive signage
- Design work on extension of storywalk posts

PHASE 2:

- Setting up the play space at the western end of the trail, including a slide and picnic table
- Install interpretive signage
- Install storywalk extension

PHASE 3:

- Bridge
- Archways
- Compass rose

There has also been discussion of creating a covered outdoor space somewhere, possibly near the library's front entrance, but that was felt to be too big for the scope of this project. We're leaving that for the future, if it ever happens at all—there are significant objections.

Cheers!

Dave B.

Director, Homer Public Library

907-435-3151 (office)

907-299-5490 (cell)

dberry@ci.homer.ak.us

Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.

From: David Berry

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 11:45 AM

To: Janette Keiser <JKeiser@ci.homer.ak.us>; Matt Steffy <MSteffy@ci.homer.ak.us>

Cc: Aaron Yeaton <AYeaton@ci.homer.ak.us>

Subject: RE: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards

Thanks to you both! That's excellent information to have.

Meeting ADA standards is an obvious goal for the improvements to the western lot, and many of the features the Friends of the Library would like to add can't be put in place until the trail is upgraded. In coming weeks, the Friends will introduce a resolution at council, asking for permission to move forward. Right now they're working on cost estimates and rough timelines. If the trail part is something the City already has on its to-do list, I will clarify that in the resolution.

Cheers!

Dave Berry

Director, Homer Public Library

907-435-3151 (office)

907-299-5490 (cell)

dberry@ci.homer.ak.us

Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.

From: Janette Keiser <JKeiser@ci.homer.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 11:42 AM
To: Matt Steffy <MSteffy@ci.homer.ak.us>
Cc: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: FW: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards

Matt

We can fund it through the Small Works Trails Program. If we issue a contract for more than \$10K, we need to get Council authorization, per the Procurement Manual.

Regards,
Jan

Janette (“Jan”) Keiser, PE
Director of Public Works
City of Homer

Office: 907-435-3141
Cell: 206-714-8955

From: Matt Steffy <MSteffy@ci.homer.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:25 AM
To: Janette Keiser <JKeiser@ci.homer.ak.us>; David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Cc: Aaron Yeaton <AYeaton@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: RE: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards

Jan is correct. There are obviously site specific configurations. The West Lot Trail from Lucky Shot to Poopdeck has no ADA compliance issues outside of surface material quality and width. It should be upgraded in width and tread integrity, but its grade is in compliance of <6.5%. If width considerations are developed, we don't have to be concerned with turn-out spaces for ADA considerate traffic flow. This level of upgrade is consistent with our overall year round maintenance upgrade conversation.

We can talk more about the stretch between Lucky Shot and the Library, but Jan is correct in the exceptions provided for short sections of moderately excessive grade.

Do we want to try this in-house, or put it out to bid?

Do we need to request CC approval for expenditure of HART funds, or is this captured in our Small Works Trails Maintenance Program?

Aaron and I can capture some grade measurements and distances if needed, and would welcome ILC input if so desired.

Thanks for bringing this up again Dave,
Matt

From: Janette Keiser <JKeiser@ci.homer.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:02 AM
To: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>; Matt Steffy <MSteffy@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: RE: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards

Dave

Homer has a Trails Design Criteria Manual. Page 16 is a chart that shows design criteria for various levels of trails. An ADA-compliant trail is at least a Level 4 trail. Level 4 trails should be 5-8 feet wide, thus the biggest improvement needed for the Western Lot Trail would be to widen the width of the traveled way with a firm, stable base. It should look more like the Poopdeck Trail. Level 4 trails are allowed to have a 10% grade in short sections (50 feet long). We could probably take advantage of this to address the steeper portion of the trail. As an alternative, the Storybook Trail could be upgraded and connected to the Western Lot Trail. This would avoid the steeper portion of the Western Lot Trail and create a longer section of ADA-compliant trail all the way to the Library.

Regards,
Jan

Janette ("Jan") Keiser, PE
Director of Public Works
City of Homer

Office: 907-435-3141
Cell: 206-714-8955

From: David Berry <dberry@ci.homer.ak.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 6:54 PM
To: Matt Steffy <MSteffy@ci.homer.ak.us>; Janette Keiser <JKeiser@ci.homer.ak.us>
Subject: Upgrading western lot trail to ADA standards

Hiya!

Can you tell me what's involved in upgrading the existing trail on the western lot to meet ADA standards? I was under the impression that the existing grade was too steep, but other people have a different understanding. Does it involve nothing more than resurfacing?

Cheers!
Dave Berry
Director, Homer Public Library
907-435-3151 (office)
907-299-5490 (cell)
dberry@ci.homer.ak.us

Notice: Emails to and from this address are subject to disclosure under the Alaska public records law.

- ADA trail improvements
- Signage - interpretive frames, content, design, fabrication

#1 Design Modification
Story Walk Extension

#1 Design Modification
Bird's nest play area with sidewalk access

Bridge over creek match archway character.

- book bench
- wrap around bench
- stumps
- nest
- Story Walk Extension

Protect grasses and natural edge.

Compass Rose Gathering Area

Archway

Interpretive Sign: For/Fauna

Interpretive Sign: Land Acknowledgement

Natural Play Area: Balance activities (ropes at trees, stepping logs, logs, driftwood, over/under tunnels, handle side and ladders. Build to protect trees).

Archway

Interpretive Sign: Land Acknowledgement

Interpretive Sign: For/Fauna

Interpretive Sign: Land Acknowledgement

Archway

Compass Rose Gathering Area

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway

Archway



Scale: 1"=20'

North

Future Project Redesign front plaza to include covered outdoor space for education, reading and gathering.

Homer Public Library sign #1 (Design) using book images/sculpture.

Book Bench

Wetland Viewing Platform

Bird's nest play area

Knoll

Slide

Picnic Tables

Book Bench

Interpretive Sign: Land Acknowledgement

Interpretive Sign: Land Acknowledgement

Reading Tree: #1
seating around tree, location to be determined

Knoll Slide: suitable for all ages: use safety surface, direct so that runoff is clear of road
move closer up to road

Stump seating: #1
move to side of knoll

Stump seating: #1
move to side of knoll

Stump seating: #1
move to side of knoll

Stump seating: #1
move to side of knoll

Stump seating: #1
move to side of knoll



Compass Rose Gathering Area



Book Bench (ADA compliant)



Reading Tree



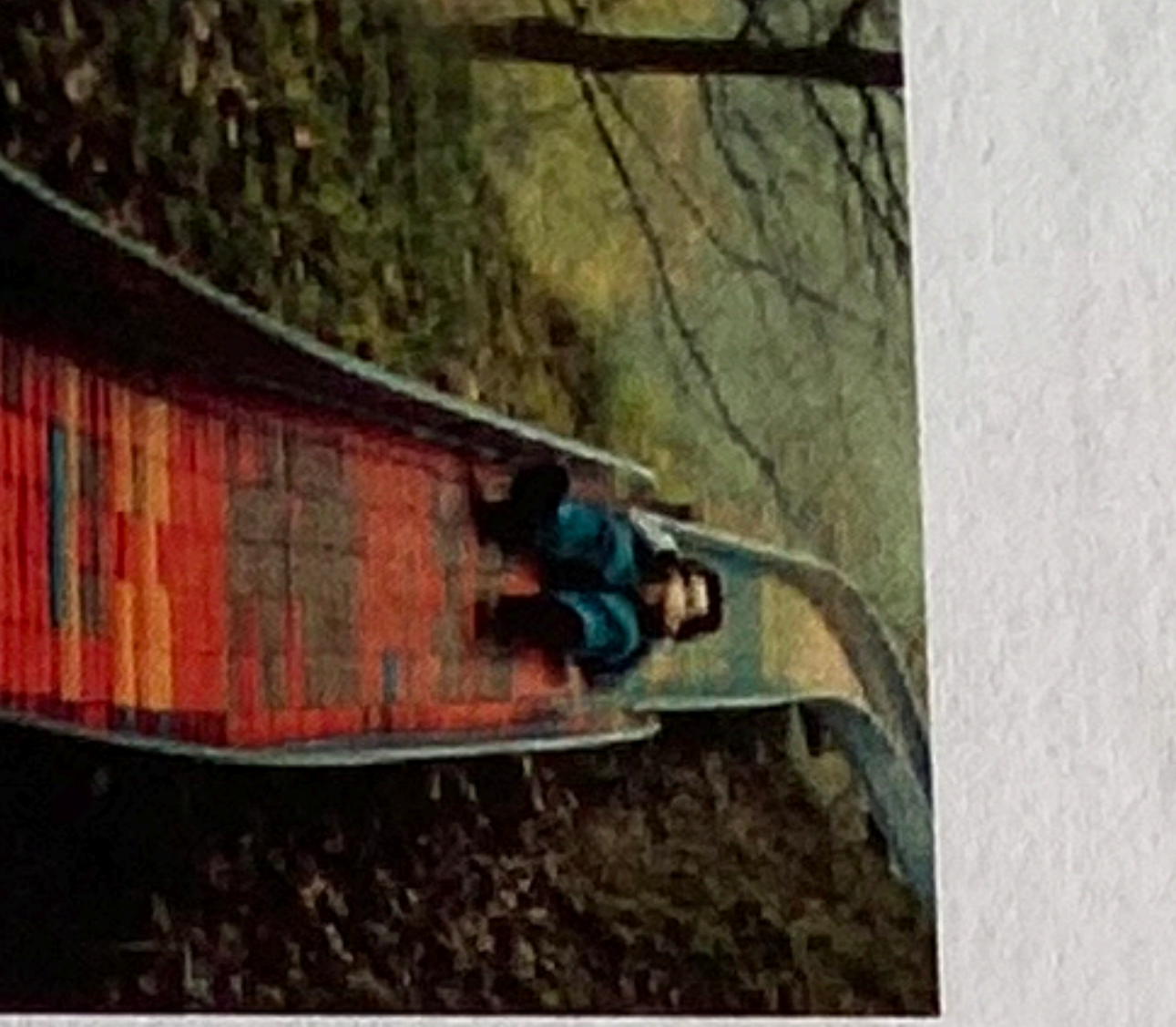
Wetland Viewing Platform



Bird's Nest Play Area



Stump Seating



Knoll Slide

#4

#3 of discovery and delight.

#1

#3

#1

#1

#1

#1

#2 more to play area

#1 more to play area

#3

#1

#3 of discovery and delight.

#4

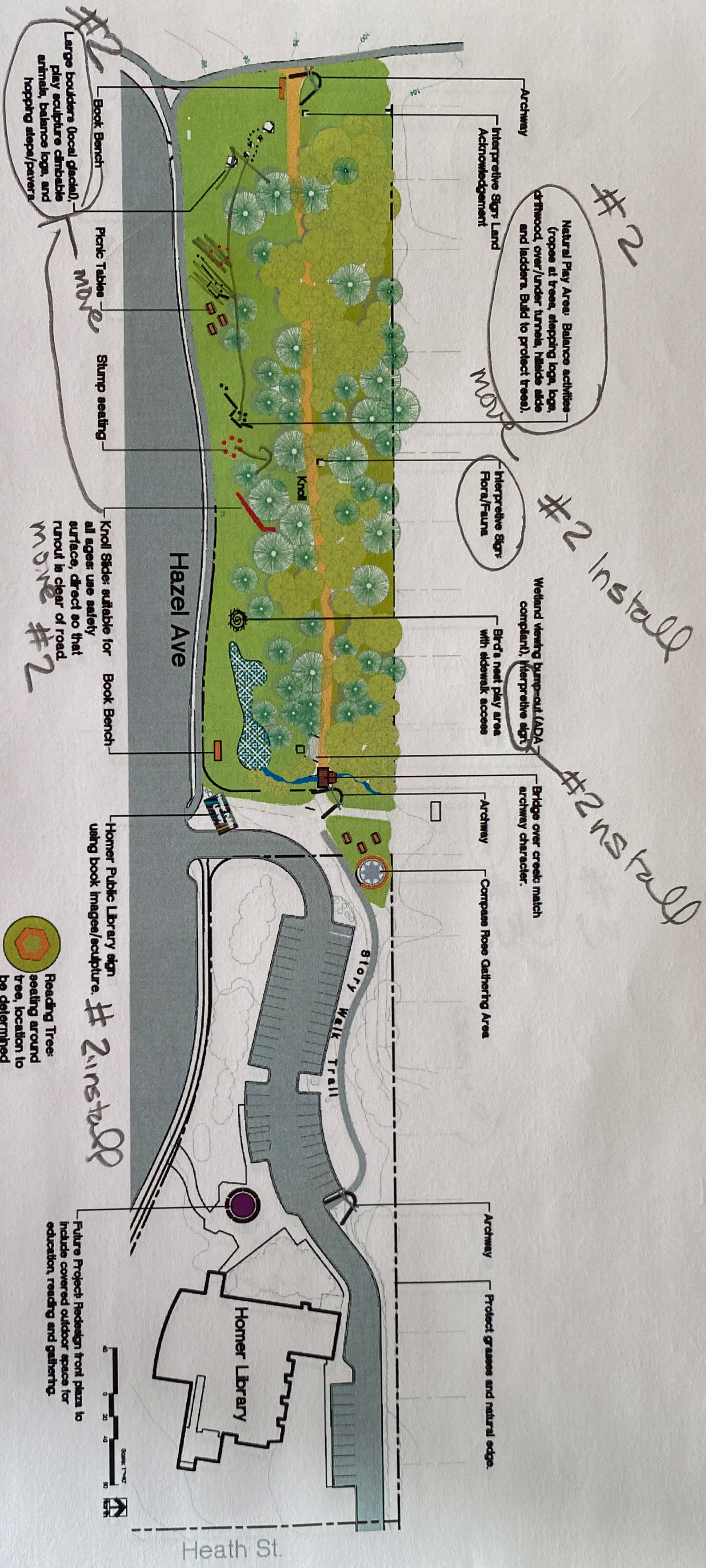
Homer Library Placemaking

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Homer Library Western Lot

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Working Group
2023



A vibrant, accessible community space adjacent to the Library where learning and nature give rise to a sense of discovery and delight.

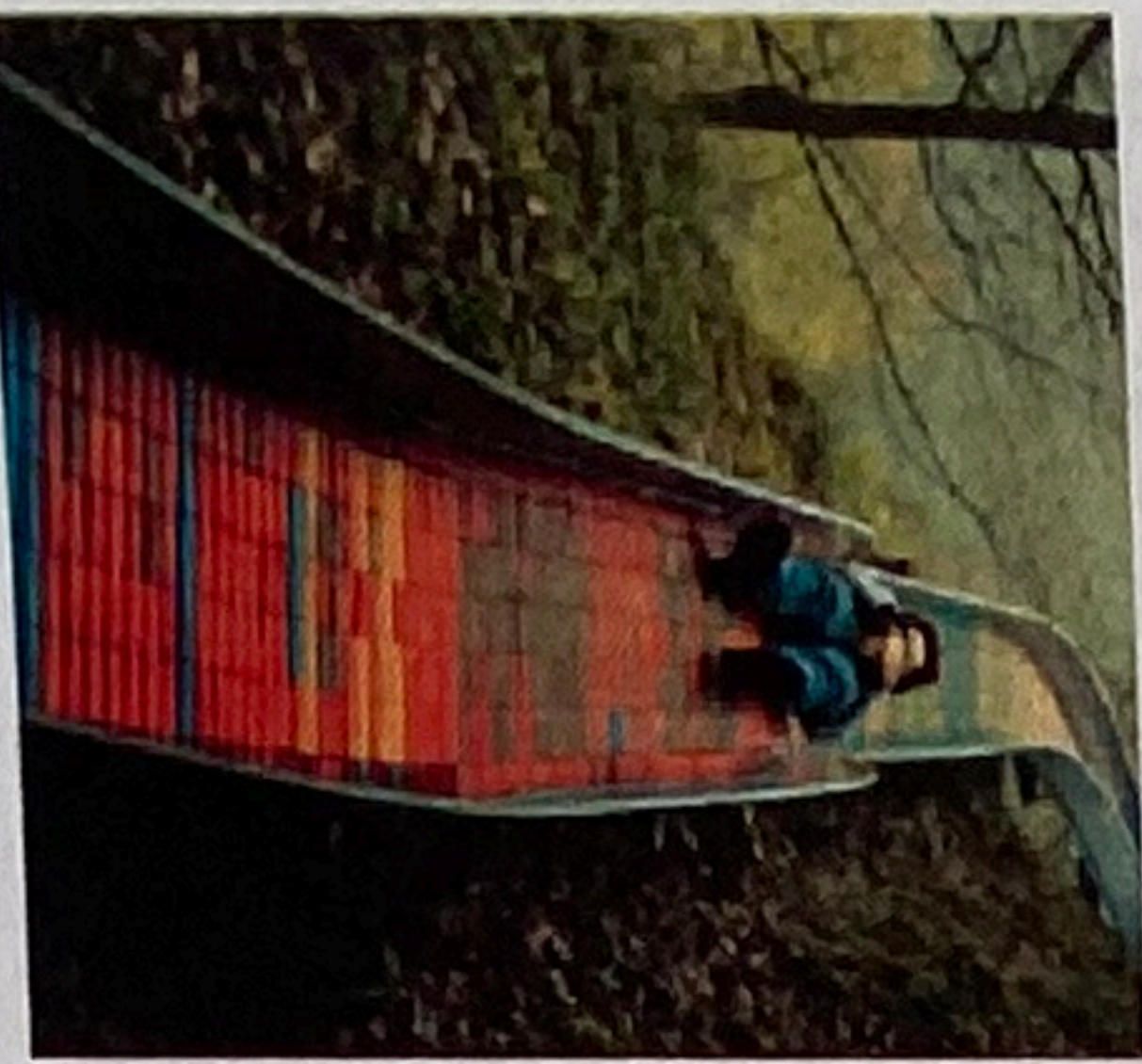
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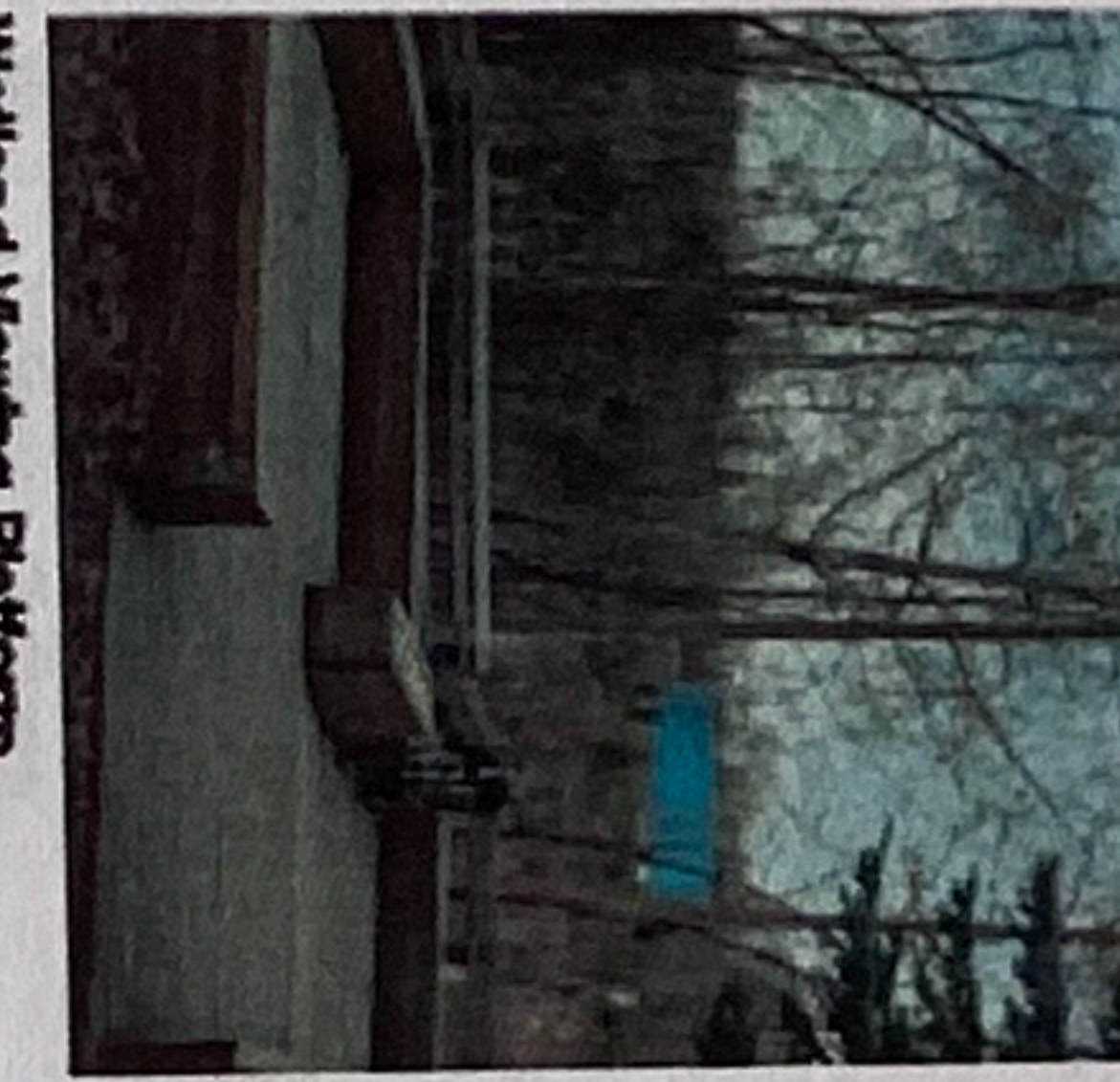
Knoll Skid



Slump Seating



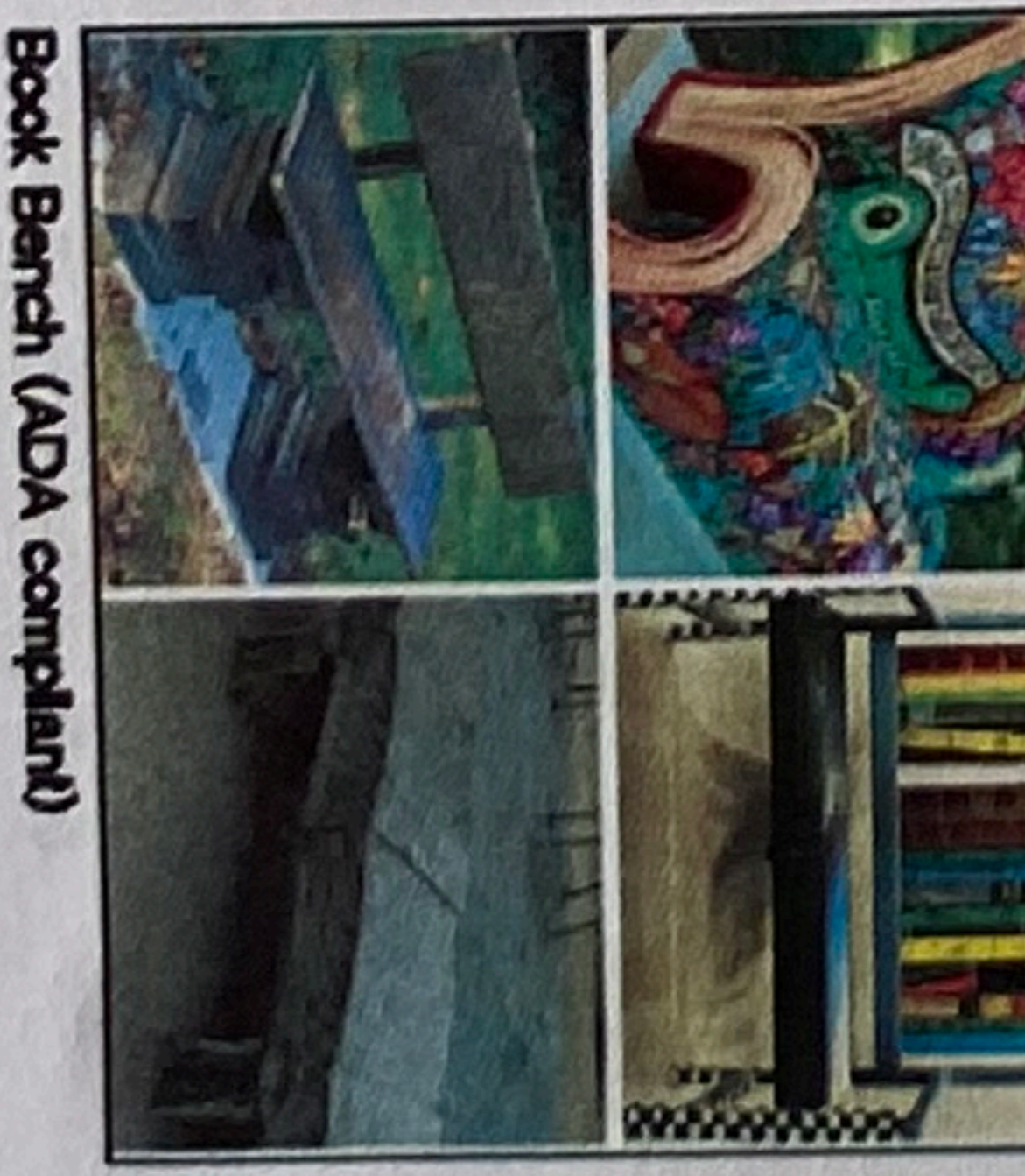
Bird's Nest Play Area



Wetland Viewing Platform



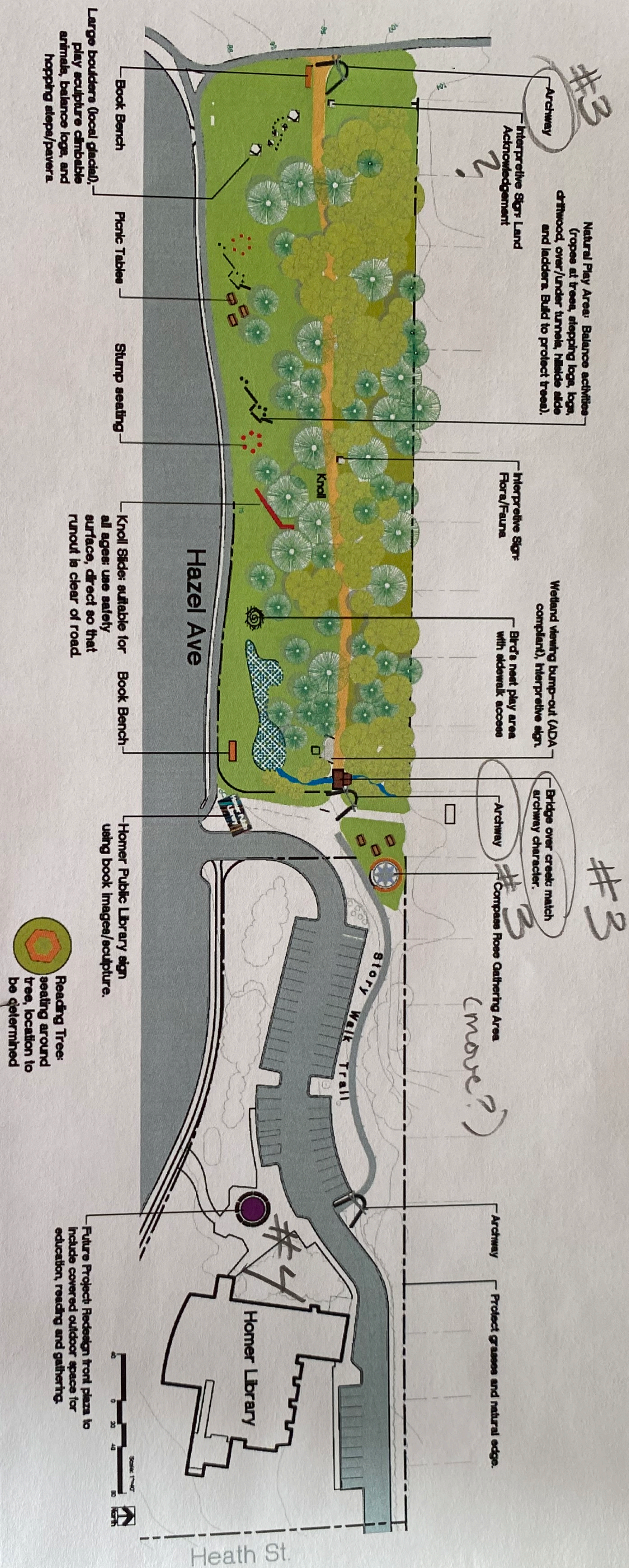
Reading Tree



Book Bench (ADA compliant)



Compass Rose Gathering Area



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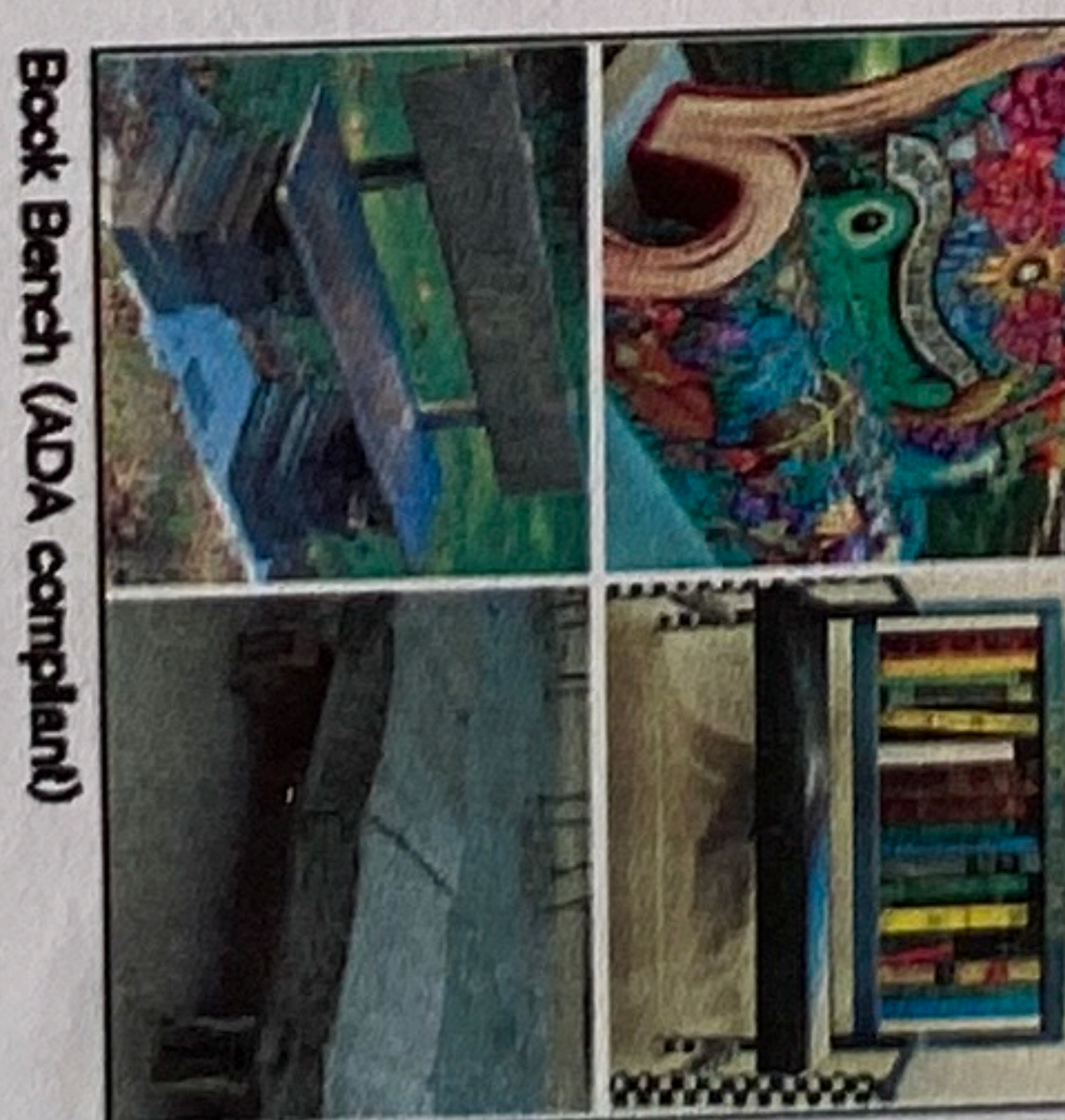
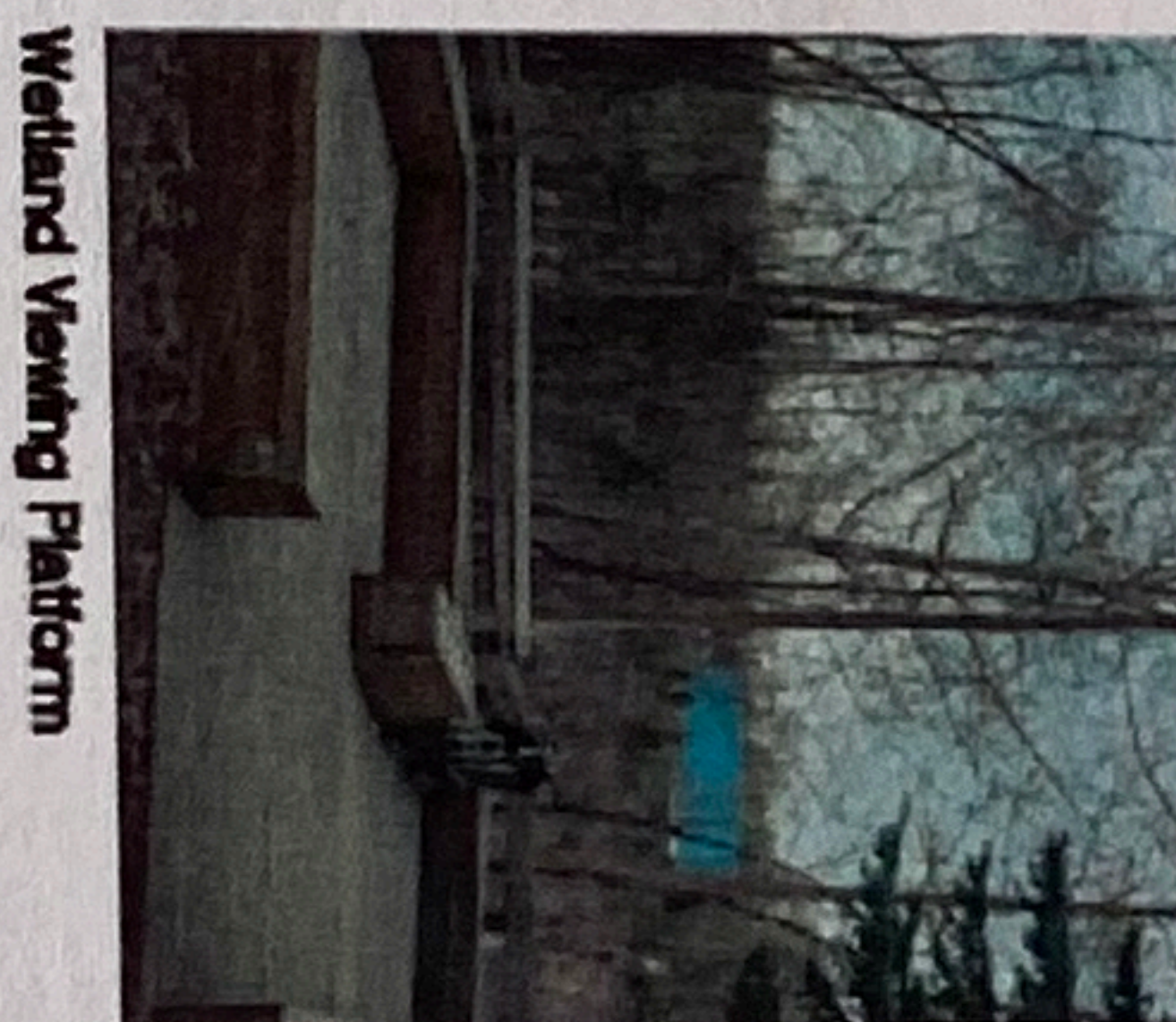
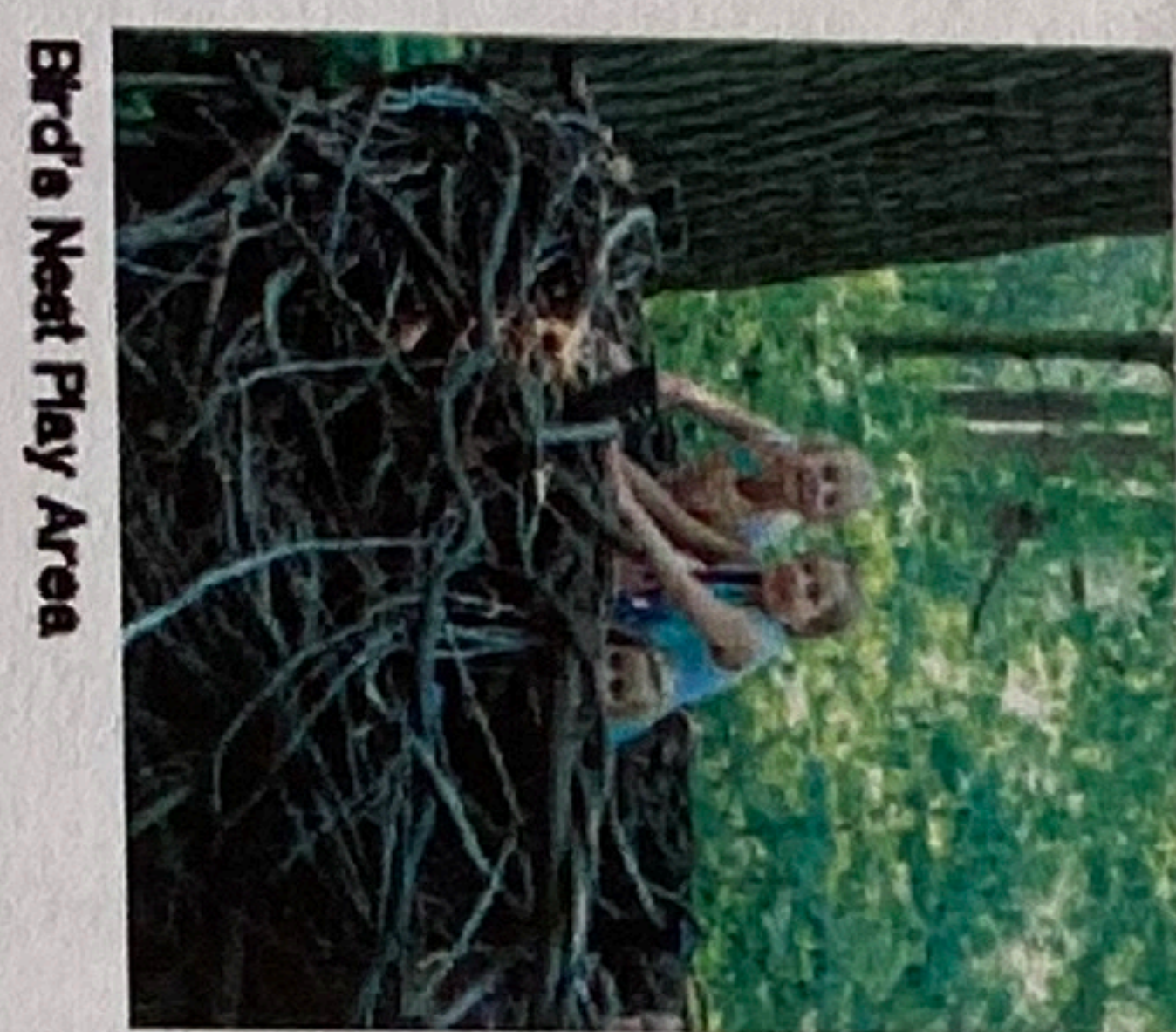
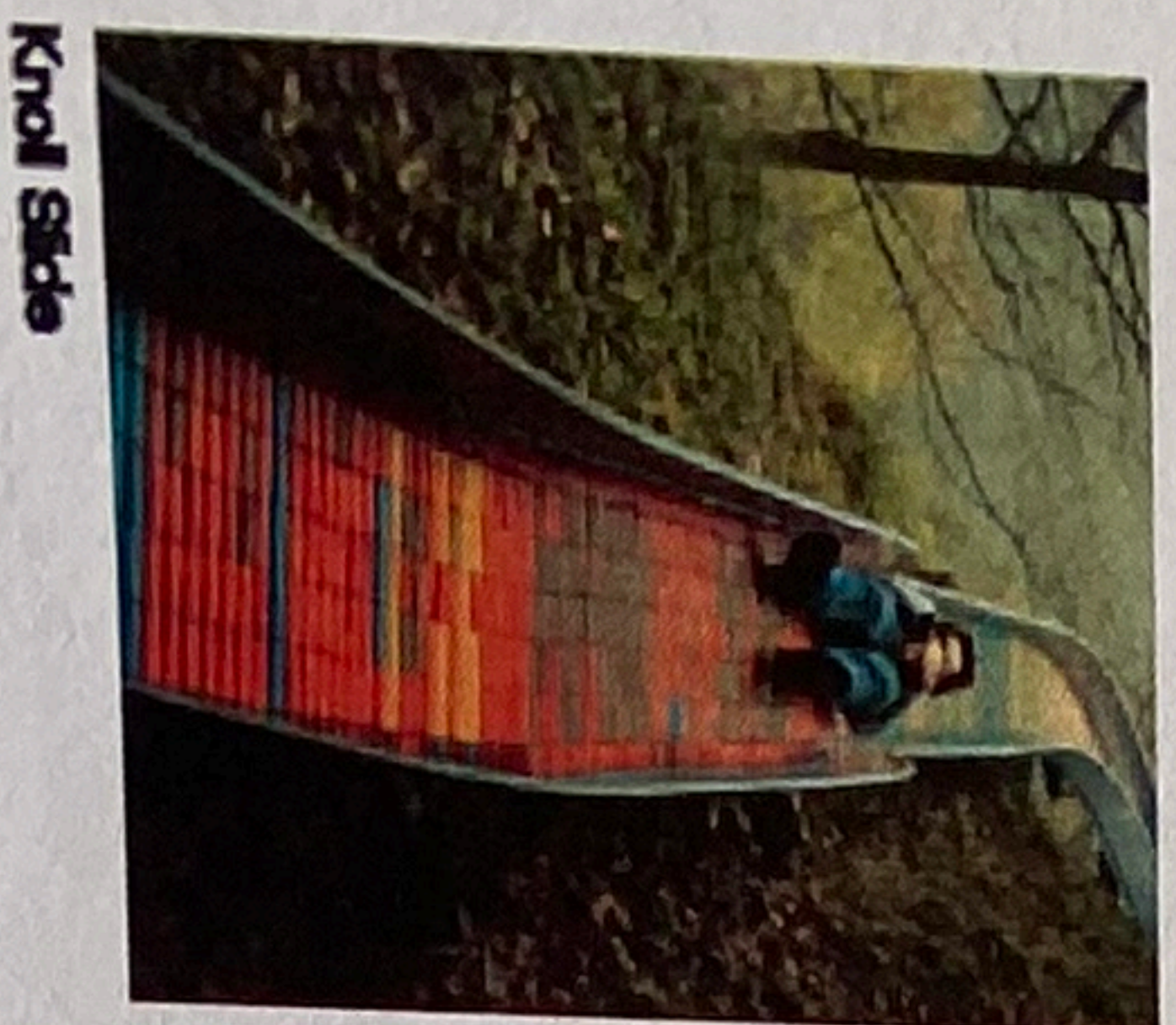
Homer Library Placemaking

NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)

American Society of Landscape Architects Alaska Chapter

Conceptual Design
Homer Library Western Lot

Friends of Homer Library
Working Group
2023





Goals and Objectives

The City of Homer recognizes the critical role that transportation plays in shaping the community's livability, sustainability, and economic vitality. The goals and objectives for the City of Homer

Transportation Plan were developed with input from city staff and members of the community. The goals describe the fundamental outcomes of the Transportation Plan, while the objectives are more specific and measurable outcomes that support the goals. The following goals and objectives represent the community's commitment to building a safe, sustainable, and accessible transportation system that meets the needs of all members of the community.

GOAL 1: Increase safety of interactions between different modes of travel

Community members want travel within the city to be safer, including for people walking, biking, and driving, as well as for the movement of goods.

Objective 1A: Improve safety at conflict points between pedestrians and motor vehicles, especially at intersections

Safety can be improved at conflict points (where pedestrian and motor vehicle paths cross) by making crossing locations more visible, encouraging motor vehicles to yield to pedestrians, and reducing the crossing distance.

Objective 1B: Provide for safe use of the right-of-way by all transportation modes, considering the land use context and type of vehicle

Safety can be improved by policies that help to define the network for different users (such as defining truck routes or defining maximum speeds for e-bikes on pathways) and through infrastructure improvements to help separate users with different weight and speed characteristics (such as building bike lanes, pathways, and sidewalks).

Objective 1C: Improve user understanding of how to safely share the public right-of-way

Public awareness campaigns are another method to improve safety. One example of education that has been shown to reduce crashes is safety education for children regarding safe pedestrian and bicycle behaviors.

GOAL 2: Provide a connected network of local and collector roads and trails that balances modes based on land use contexts

Community members desire a connected network for all users. A connected non-motorized network provides more opportunities for walking and biking a connected collector road network helps to reduce the number of short trips on the arterial road network, reducing the need for increasing the number of traffic lanes or installing more restrictive traffic control on arterial networks. A connected collector road network works hand-in-hand with the non-motorized network to reduce the overall cost of the transportation network and address climate impacts.

Objective 2A: Identify a priority network for non-motorized travel that connects key generators and develop a plan to build these connections

Community members desire to use non-motorized modes of transportation more frequently. Building or improving non-motorized facilities that connect to locations where people want to walk (such as schools, the library, and shopping areas) will improve options for walking and biking.

Objective 2B: Identify key gaps in the collector road network and develop a plan to build these connections

Prioritizing building or improving collector roads that allow drivers to access a signal on a major arterial or travel directly between adjacent neighborhoods will decrease delay and trip length without necessitating major improvements to the arterial network.

Objective 2C: Identify and address bicycle parking needs

Trips for commuting, shopping, school, and other similar purposes rely on safe and secure bicycle parking at each end of the trip.

Objective 2D: Identify and address opportunities for parking once and then walking, ride-sharing, or using transit

Walking and biking may not be attainable for everyone or for all trips. Park-and-ride facilities could allow visitors to get out of their car or RV and travel to attractions using transit. Consolidated parking that serves several businesses allows people to park once and then visit several businesses without driving between each one.



GOAL 3: Maintain transportation network to be usable year-round.

Community members desire roads and non-motorized facilities to be maintained so they are usable in the winter and in summer.

Objective 3A: Reconstruct and proactively maintain non-motorized facilities to ensure year-round usability

Sidewalks, paths, and trails are less useable when drainage, lighting, and wayfinding, are inadequate. Addressing problems with the existing non-motorized system will help to make them usable year-round. Additionally, establishing standards for winter and summer maintenance by type of use (for example, walking paths will have different standards than ski trails) will help users know what to expect. Developing ways for the public to alert the city when there are concerns at specific locations will help to make facilities useable year-round.

Objective 3B: Reconstruct and proactively maintain City of Homer roadways to ensure year-round usability.

Inadequate drainage can also impact the usability of roadways. Improving drainage during roadway reconstruction can help keep the pavement in good condition for a longer period of time. Establishing maintenance standards for city roads and ways for the public to alert the city when there are concerns at specific locations can help make roadways useable year-round.

Objective 3C: Work with Alaska DOT&PF to improve winter maintenance on state-owned non-motorized facilities

The public has identified maintenance of the non-motorized facilities along DOT&PF-owned roadways as a top priority for improvement. Transferring maintenance responsibility is one possible solution. There may be some roads currently under state ownership that should be under city ownership

Objective 3D: Manage resources to maximize and balance maintenance efforts

Improving the efficiency of maintenance activities allows better maintenance without increasing resources. Designing new roadways or non-motorized facilities to accommodate the existing equipment or buying new equipment that makes it easier to clear debris and snow from existing infrastructure could help balance maintenance efforts and make them more efficient.

Objective 3E: Establish design standards for walking, biking, road, and public transportation networks

Building on the existing Trails Design Manual, developing standards for infrastructure that serves all modes will ensure consistency and improve travel options.

Objective 3F: Include appropriate improvements for each travel mode to reconstruction or new construction within the public right-of-way

As roads are constructed or reconstructed, infrastructure should be considered for each mode. New or improved infrastructure should be consistent with the land use context, meet design standards, and help to complete the priority network for that mode.

GOAL 4: Provide expanded transportation options for year-round residents and seasonal travelers to support City of Homer goals for environmental preservation and climate threat reduction.

Community members desire a transportation system that reduces environmental impacts.

Objective 4A: Support the development of a public transportation network.

Public transit provides additional travel options and reduces travel by a single occupant in a vehicle. The city could support the private development of transit by building transit stops or park-and-ride facilities.

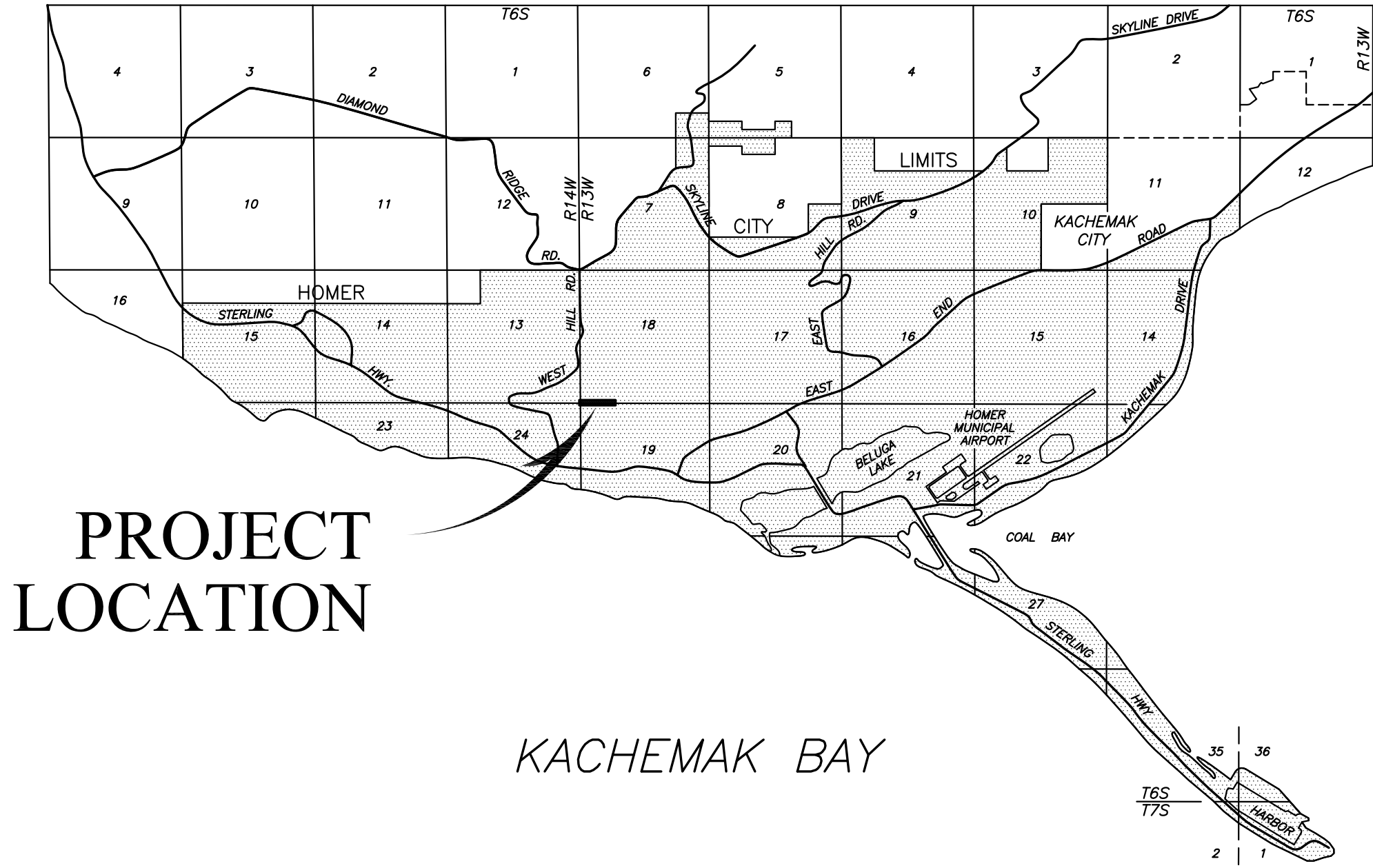
Objective 4B: Evaluate the effectiveness of the transportation program in meeting City of Homer environmental goals

Measuring progress towards the City of Homer environmental goals will help to identify the effect of changes to the transportation system on the environment.

WEST FAIRVIEW AVE. SHOULDER EXTENSION

PROJECT OWNER:
CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
3575 HEATH STREET
HOMER, ALASKA 99603

INDEX OF SHEETS	
SHEET NO.	DESCRIPTION
C-1	SURVEY CONTROL
C-2	LEGEND / ABBREVIATIONS / GENERAL NOTES
C-3	TYPICAL SECTIONS / EARTHWORK SUMMARY
C-4	SHOULDER EXTENSION 23+32 - 30+00
C-5	SHOULDER EXTENSION 30+00 - 36+35.6



PROJECT
LOCATION

HOMER AREA MAP

SCALE: 1" = 1 MILE



VICINITY MAP

SCALE: 1" = 1000'

MARCH 2023
APPROVED FOR
CONSTRUCTION

ERIC LANE / WEST FAIRVIEW AVE. ALIGNMENT			
STATION	NORTHING	EASTING	CURVE DATA
POB 10+00	103,123.3072	85,183.7209	
PC 16+85.14	103,447.6716	85,787.2161	RADIUS=600.00'
PT 18+70.47	103,559.0365	85,934.4353	
PC 20+37.11	103,678.8110	86,050.2826	RADIUS=600.00'
PT 25+19.46	103,861.6751	86,482.6724	
POE 36+48.16	103,859.5788	87,611.3725	

SURVEY CONTROL

BASIS OF BEARING

1. BASIS OF BEARING FOR THIS SURVEY WAS DETERMINED BY A HIGH PRECISION GPS SURVEY USING TOPCON DUAL–FREQUENCY HiPer V RECEIVERS, DIFFERENTIALLY CORRECTED AND PROCESSED WITH MAGNET OFFICE VERSION 3.1 SOFTWARE. NAD83 ALASKA STATE PLANE GRID COORDINATES (U.S. SURVEY FEET) OBTAINED FROM THE GPS OBSERVATIONS WERE BASED ON THE NGS PUBLISHED VALUES FOR FEDERAL BASE NETWORK CONTROL STATION "HOMAIR" (PID TT0155).

2. TRUE BEARINGS AND DISTANCES WERE DETERMINED BY ROTATING AND SCALING FROM GRID USING FEDERAL BASE NETWORK CONTROL STATION "HOMAIR" AS A SCALING POINT. TRUE BEARINGS WERE DETERMINED BY ROTATING GRID INVERSE AZIMUTHS -1°17'13.4". TRUE DISTANCES WERE OBTAINED BY DIVIDING GRID INVERSE DISTANCES BY 0.999986696.

3. THE RESULTING SCALED COORDINATES WERE TRANSLATED TO A LOCAL COORDINATE SYSTEM BASED ON FEDERAL BASE NETWORK CONTROL STATION "HOMAIR" N=100,000 E=100,000. ALL COORDINATE VALUES REPRESENT GROUND DISTANCES IN U.S. SURVEY FEET ORIENTED TO TRUE NORTH.

BASIS OF VERTICAL DATUM

BASIS OF VERTICAL DATUM FOR THIS SURVEY IS THE NAVD88 NGS PUBLISHED VALUE FOR FEDERAL BASE NETWORK CONTROL STATION "HOMAIR" (PID TT0155). ORTHOMETRIC HEIGHTS (ELEVATIONS) WERE DETERMINED FROM ELLIPSOID HEIGHTS USING GEOID12B. ELEVATIONS ARE IN U.S. SURVEY FEET.

PROJECT CONTROL POINT

TAJEN PK
N=102,481.5579
E=85,771.4541
EL=228.512

PK NAIL SET IN ASPHALT SIDEWALK AT THE SW QUADRANT TAJEN LANE / SOUNDVIEW AVENUE INTERSECTION

SURVEYOR’S CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM PROPERLY REGISTERED AND LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAND SURVEYING IN THE STATE OF ALASKA, THAT THIS PLAT REPRESENTS A SURVEY MADE BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION, THAT THE MONUMENTS SHOWN HEREON ACTUALLY EXIST AS DESCRIBED, AND THAT ALL DIMENSIONS AND OTHER DETAILS ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

DATE 12/8/2020 REGISTRATION NO. 7538–S

Stephen C. Smith
REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR



DATE	MARCH 2023
DRAWN	SCS
CHECKED	JSB
SCALE	AS SHOWN
PROJ NO.	2022–32

SHEET NO.
C–1

WEST FAIRVIEW AVE.
SHOULDER EXTENSION
SURVEY CONTROL
ALIGNMENT DATA

PREPARED FOR
CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
3575 HEATH STREET
HOMER, ALASKA 99603

BISHOP ENGINEERING, LLC
PO BOX 2501 HOMER, AK 99603–2501
(907) 299–7609 www.bishop-engineering.com

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

1. CONTRACTOR SHALL COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY OF HOMER STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS 2011 EDITION INCLUDING ITEMS. DRAWINGS, TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS, AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS.
2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN ALL NECESSARY LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS PRIOR TO BEGINNING CONSTRUCTION. THE PERMITS SHALL BE MAINTAINED AT THE JOB SITE.
3. CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN "REDLINE" RECORD DRAWINGS ON A CLEAN SET OF CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN THE "REDLINES" CURRENT ON A DAILY BASIS WHICH SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO THE ENGINEER FOR INSPECTION ON THE JOB SITE. CONTRACTOR SHALL RECORD SURVEY NOTES FOR SUBMITTAL WITH RECORD DRAWINGS, INCLUDING HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL LOCATIONS OF ALL UTILITIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE FIELD.
4. ALL IMPORTED MATERIAL SHALL BE COMPACTED TO A MINIMUM OF 95% OF MAXIMUM DENSITY AS DETERMINED BY AASHTO T 180.
5. LOCATIONS DEPICTED FOR THE UTILITIES AND OTHER EXISTING FEATURES ARE APPROXIMATE. SOME UTILITIES HAVE BEEN LOCATED FROM RECORD DRAWINGS AND UTILITY COMPANY LOCATES. CONTRACTOR SHALL LOCATE AND VERIFY ALL UTILITIES PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
6. UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINES OCCUR WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA: CONTRACTOR SHALL COORDINATE WORK ACCORDINGLY. ALL WORK IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO EXISTING UNDERGROUND LINES SHALL COMPLY WITH THE APPLICABLE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL STATUTES, CODES AND GUIDELINES, AND THE ELECTRICAL FACILITY CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE GOVERNING UTILITY. CONTRACTOR SHALL HAND DIG WITHIN TWO FEET OF BURIED ELECTRICAL CABLE.
7. THIS PROJECT IS REQUIRED TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APDES GENERAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FOR STORM WATER POLLUTION. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING A STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWPPP) FOR THIS PROJECT. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL IMPLEMENT ALL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) AS REQUIRED.
8. ALL DISTANCES SHOWN ARE HORIZONTAL GROUND DISTANCES IN U.S. SURVEY FEET.
9. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN TO THE CITY ENGINEER FOR APPROVAL AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE START OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES.
10. LIMITS OF EXCAVATION AND BACKFILL SHALL BE AS SHOWN ON THE PLANS OR AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER.
11. CONTRACTOR SHALL REMOVE ORGANIC MATERIAL FROM THE SUBGRADE TO A DEPTH TO BE DETERMINED BY THE ENGINEER. CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT PLACE OR SHALL NOT OTHERWISE UTILIZE ORGANIC MATERIAL OR OTHER DELETERIOUS MATERIAL FOR BACKFILL, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER.
12. CONTRACTOR SHALL SEED ALL DISTURBED AREAS WHERE OTHER SURFACE IS NOT SPECIFIED.
13. IF CONTAMINATED SOIL, GROUNDWATER, OR FREE-PRODUCT ARE ENCOUNTERED, THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR SHALL IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE ENGINEER WHO WILL IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE ADEC PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (PERP) OFFICE STAFF AT (907) 465-5340 / FAX (907) 465-2237 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPILL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 18 AAC 75.300, AND COORDINATE MANAGEMENT OF ALL CONTAMINATED MEDIA WITH EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL.
14. ORGANICS TO BE HAULED OFF SITE AND DISPOSED OF BY CONTRACTOR EXCEPT THAT USED TO PROVIDE DISTURBED GROUND COVER PRIOR TO SEEDING.

ABBREVIATIONS

AKDOT&PF	ALASKA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES
ASDS	ALASKA SIGN DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS
APDES	ALASKA POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
Δ	DELTA / CENTRAL ANGLE OF CURVE
BP	BEGIN PROJECT
C/L	CENTERLINE
CMP	CORREGATED METAL PIPE
CO	CONTRACTING OFFICER
COH	CITY OF HOMER
CY	CUBIC YARD
DIA	DIAMETER
DIST	DISTANCE
E	EASTING
EL	ELEVATION
ELEV	ELEVATION
EP	END PROJECT
ESMT	EASEMENT
GV	GATE VALVE
HDPE	HIGH-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE
IN	INCH
INV	INVERT
FT	FOOT
L	LENGTH OF CURVE
LF	LINEAR FOOT
LT	LEFT
MIN	MINIMUM
MAX	MAXIMUM
MJ	MECHANICAL JOINT
MPH	MILES PER HOUR
MSF	1000 SQUARE FEET
MUTCD	MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES
N	NORTHING
OHE	OVERHEAD ELECTRIC
PC	POINT OF CURVATURE
PI	POINT OF INTERSECTION
PRC	POINT OF REVERSE CURVATURE
PVC	POINT OF VERTICAL CURVATURE
PVI	POINT OF VERTICAL INTERSECTION
PVT	POINT OF VERTICAL TANGENCY
PT	POINT OF TANGENCY
R	RADIUS
RT	RIGHT
ROW	RIGHT-OF-WAY
SEC	SECTION
SI	STREET INTERSECTION
SF	SQUARE FOOT
SS	SANITARY SEWER
STA.	STATION
SY	SQUARE YARD
UGE	UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC
UGT	UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE
UTIL	UTILITY
TYP.	TYPICAL
W	WATER MAIN OR SERVICE

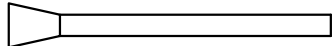
STANDARD DRAWING INDEX

THE FOLLOWING STANDARD DRAWINGS APPLY TO THIS PROJECT

CITY OF HOMER

200.04	TYPICAL UTILITY LOCATIONS
200.05	TYPICAL WATER AND SEWER LOCATIONS
200.06	COMPACTION OF BACKFILL WITHIN RIGHT-OF-WAY
400.01	PAVEMENT CUT REPLACEMENT
500.01	SANITARY SEWER MANHOLE TYPE A
500.11	SANITARY SEWER DROP CONNECTION TYPE A
500.13	SANITARY SEWER SERVICE CONNECTION
500.15	SANITARY SEWER CLEANOUT
500.16	SANITARY SEWER CLEANOUT COVER

LEGEND & SYMBOLS

EDGE EXISTING GRAVEL	-----
CUT CATCH LINE	-----
FILL CATCH LINE	
CENTERLINE	---+---7+00---+---
UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC	----- UGE -----
OVERHEAD ELECTRIC	----- OHE -----
UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE	----- UGT -----
WATER MAIN	----- W -----
SANITARY SEWER	----- SS -----
CONTOURS MAJOR	----- 85 -----
CONTOURS MINOR	-----
TEST PIT LOCATION	 TP-1
SIGN	
PIPE CULVERT W/ END SECTION	
FIRE HYDRANT	
WATER VALVE OR RISER	
STANDARD GRAVITY SEWER SERVICE	



WEST FAIRVIEW AVE.
SHOULDER EXTENSION
LEGEND / ABBREVIATIONS
CONSTRUCTION NOTES

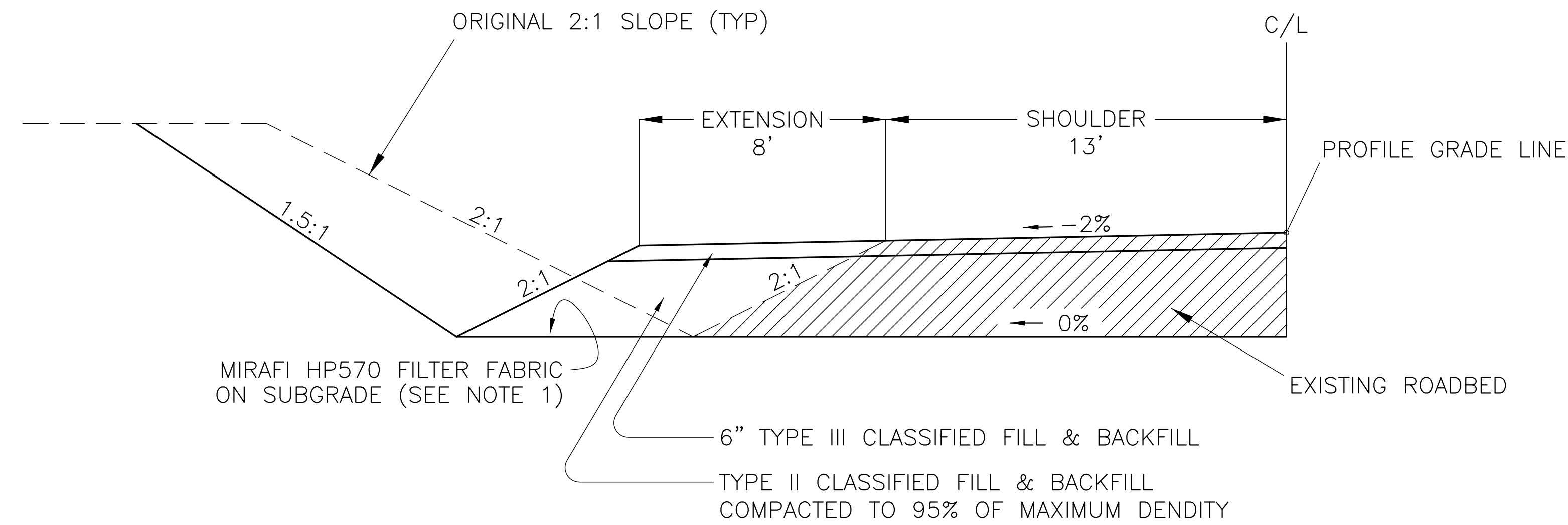
PREPARED FOR
CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
3575 HEATH STREET
HOMER, ALASKA 99603

BISHOP ENGINEERING, LLC
PO BOX 2501 HOMER, AK 99603-2501
(907) 299-7609 www.bishop-engineering.com

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SCALE	AS SHOWN
PROJ NO.	2022-32

SHEET NO.

C-2



TYPICAL SHOULDER EXTENSION SECTION
STATION 23+32 – 36+35.6

MATERIAL QUANTITIES

EXCAVATION:	2017 Cu Yds
TYPE II BACKFILL:	828 Cu Yds
TYPE III BACKFILL:	193 Cu Yds
SOIL FILTER FABRIC:	1450 Sq Yds

CPEP CULVERT

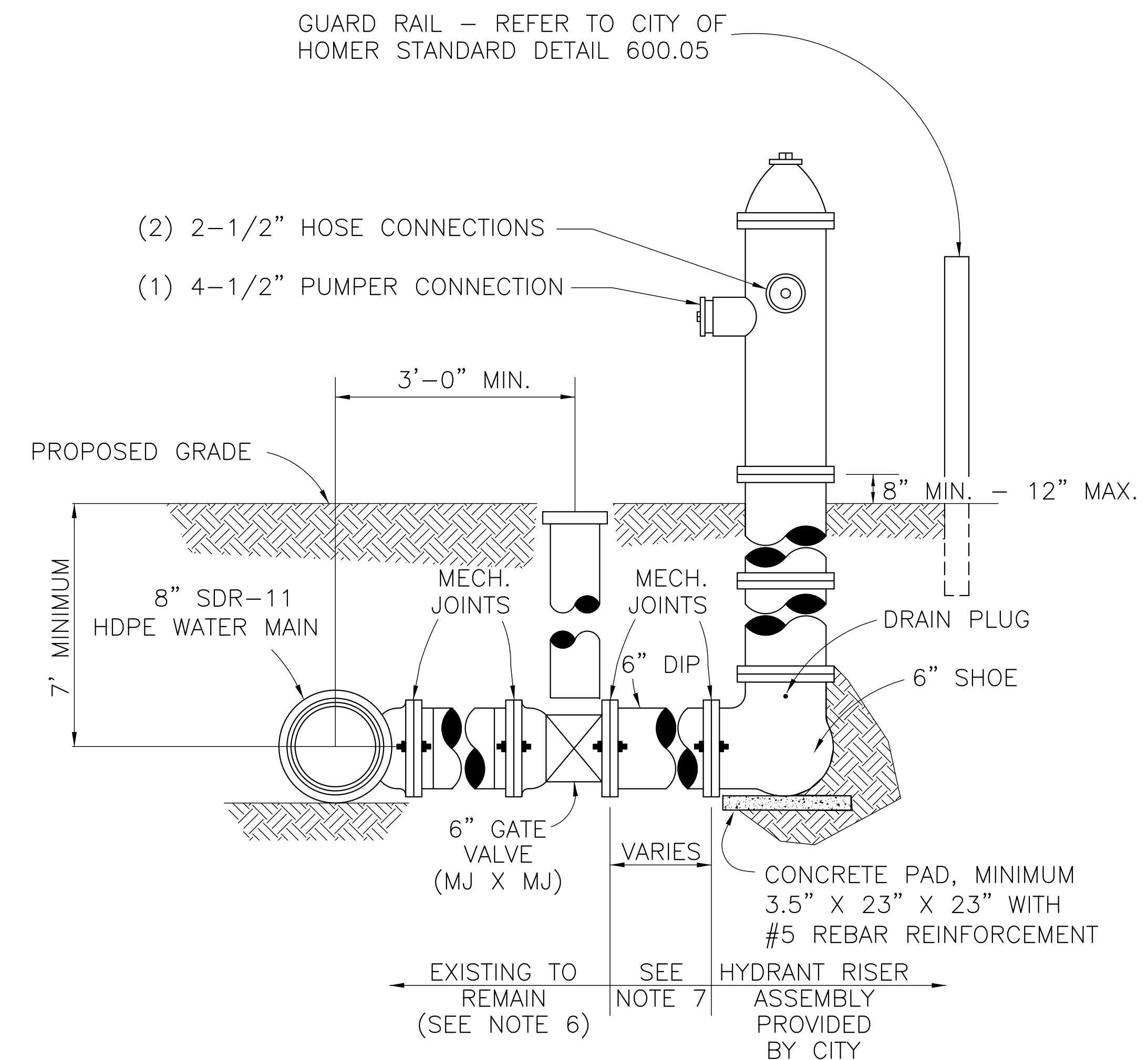
6LF 24" CPEP EXTENSION
(REUSE EXISTING 24" END SECTION)
2 HYDRANT ADJUSTMENTS
(SEE SHEET C-5 AND DETAIL SHEET C-3)
40LF 18" CPEP FOR HYDRANT ACCESS PADS
(4) 18" CPEP END SECTIONS

1. PLACE MIRAFI HP570 FILTER FABRIC FROM THE NEW DITCH LINE TO OVERLAP A MINIMUM 2 FEET OVER EXISTING FABRIC UNDER ROAD FORESLOPE. 10 FOOT WIDTH USED FOR COMPUTING FABRIC QUANTITIES.

2. ALL DIMENSIONS SYMMETRIC ABOUT CENTERLINE.

3. CLEARING AND GRUBBING IS TO OCCUR WITHIN THE AREA BETWEEN THE DESIGN CUT SLOPE CATCH LINE AND THE TOP OF THE ORIGINAL 2:1 CUT SLOPE (SEE DESIGN TEMPLATE). GRUBBING INCLUDES REMOVAL OF ALL ORGANICS.

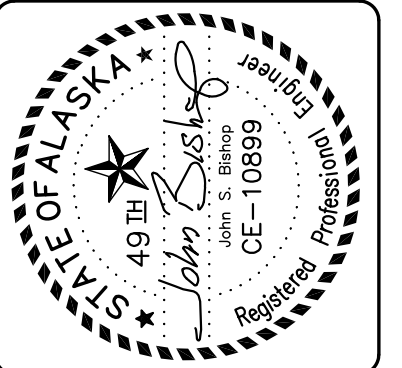
4. ORGANICS TO BE HAULED OFF-SITE AND DISPOSED OF BY CONTRACTOR.



HYDRANT INSTALLATION NOTES:

1. HYDRANT BARREL MUST BE INSTALLED PLUMB AND THE LEG MUST BE INSTALLED LEVEL.
2. DRAIN PLUG TO BE INSTALLED BY CONTRACTOR.
3. ALL HYDRANTS SHALL BE PAINTED WITH SHERWIN/WILLIAMS YELLOW (FEDERAL SPECIFICATION #13538).
4. AUXILLIARY GATE VALVE BOX TO BE INSTALLED ACCORDING TO DETAIL FOR TYPICAL VALVE BOX (FL X MJ).
5. USE MEGALUG SERIES 1100 MECHANICAL JOINT RESTRAINTS ON ALL MECHANICAL JOINTS.
6. CITY SHALL INSPECT EXISTING RESTRAINT SYSTEM FOR CONDITION BEFORE CONTRACTOR INSTALLS NEW DIP SEGMENT AND NEW HYDRANT.
7. 6" DIP PIPE SEGMENT. APPROXIMATE LENGTH OF PIPE SHOWN IN PLAN VIEW.
8. CONSTRUCT HYDRANT ACCESS PAD PER COH STANDARD DETAIL 600.06.

SINGLE PUMPER "L" BASE HYDRANT ASSEMBLY (RECONSTRUCT)



WEST FAIRVIEW AVE.
SHOULDER EXTENSION
TYPICAL SECTIONS
CONSTRUCTION NOTES

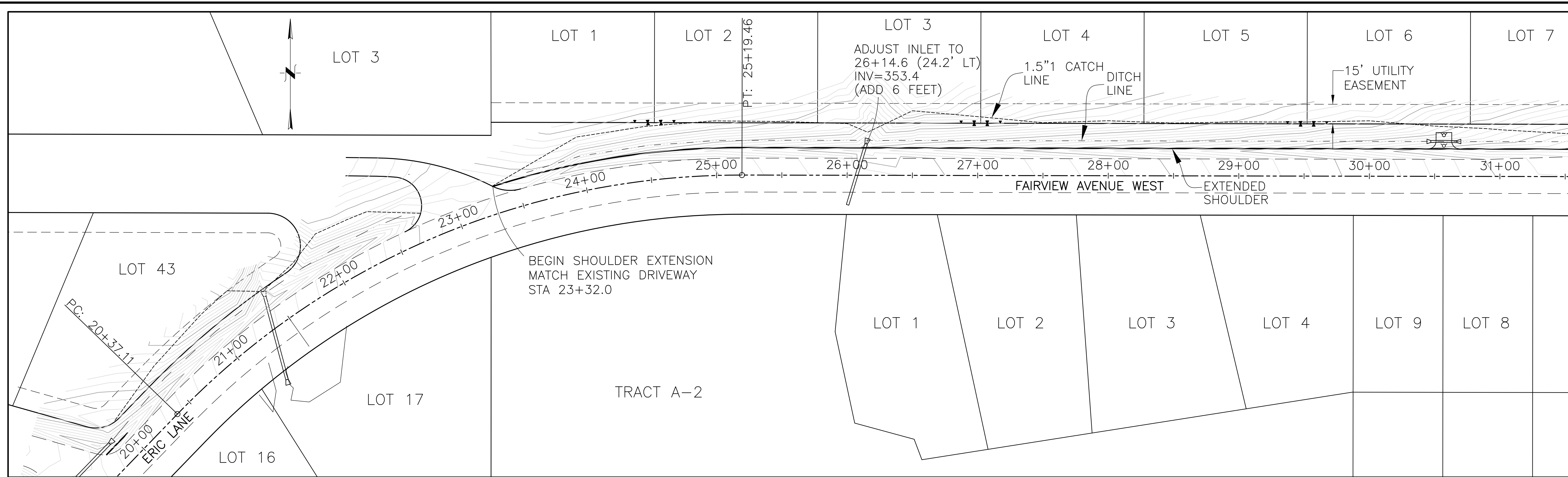
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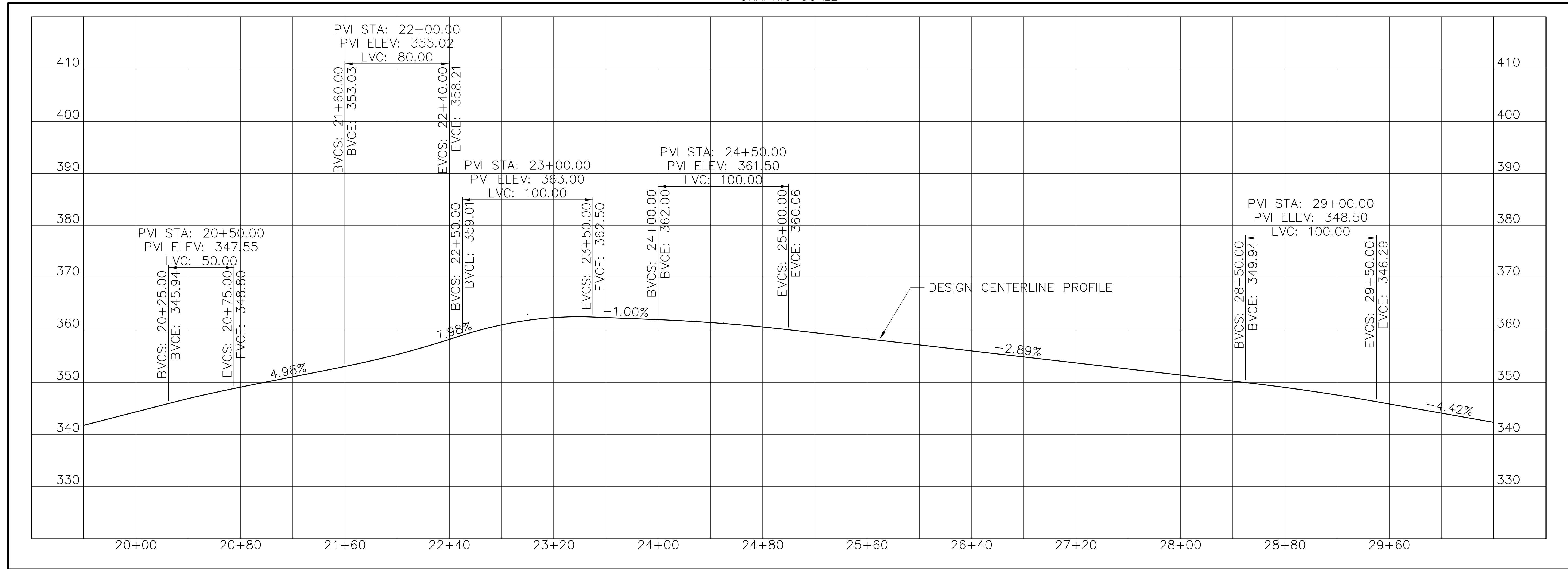
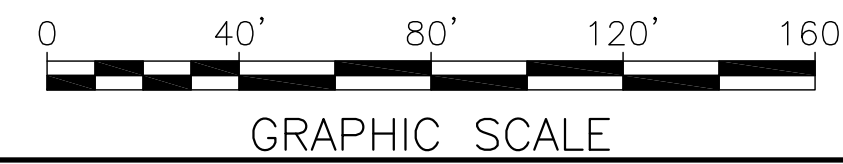
DATE MARCH 2023
DRAWN SCS
CHECKED JSB
SCALE AS SHOWN
PROJ NO. 2022-32

SHEET NO.

C-3



SEE SHEET C-1
FOR ALIGNMENT DATA



**WEST FAIRVIEW AVE.
SHOULDER EXTENSION**
STATION 23+32 - 30+00
PLAN AND PROFILE

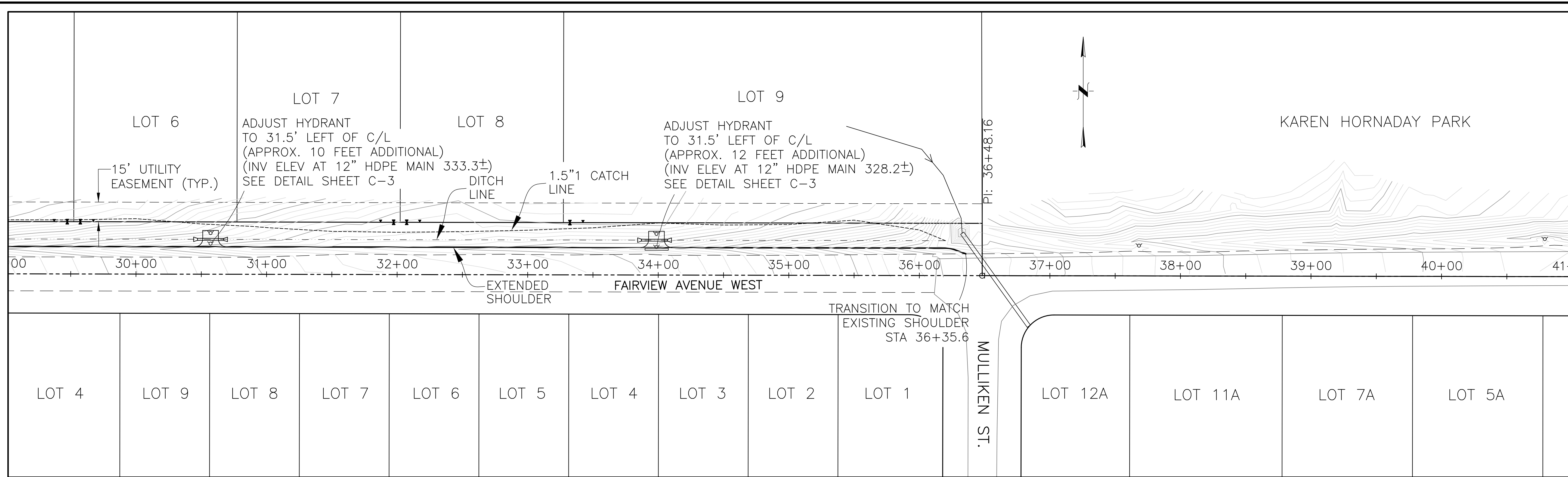
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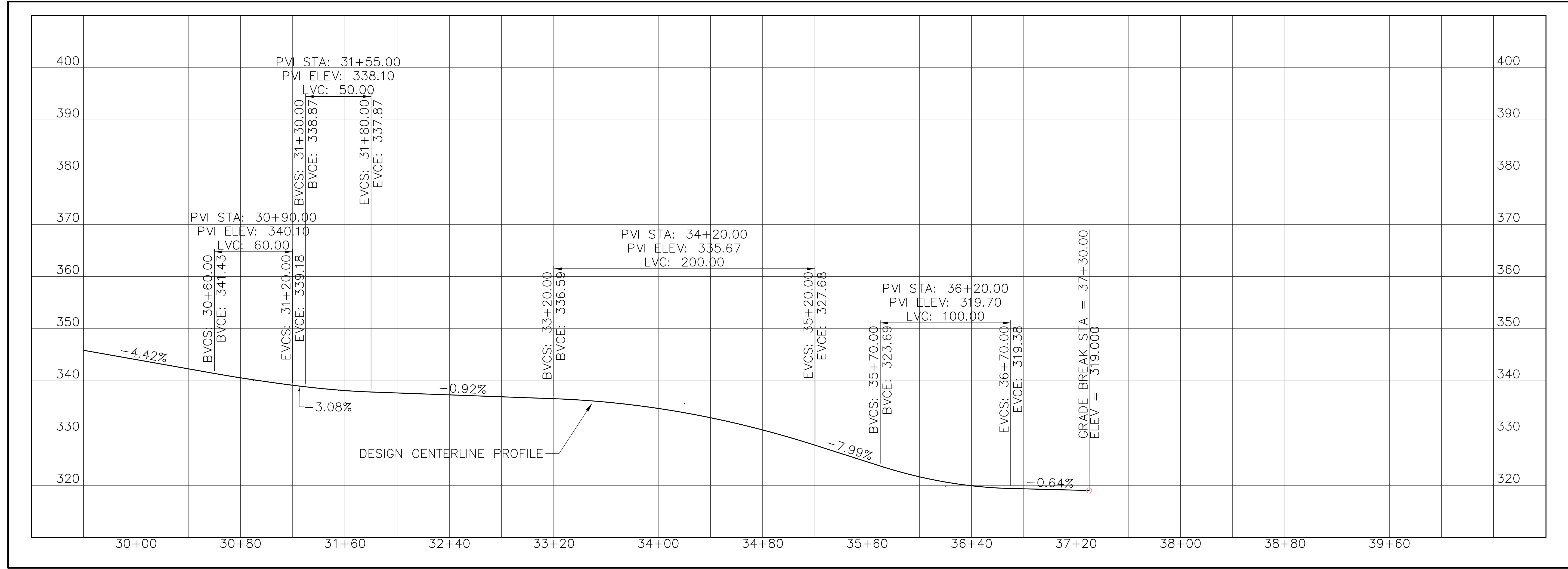
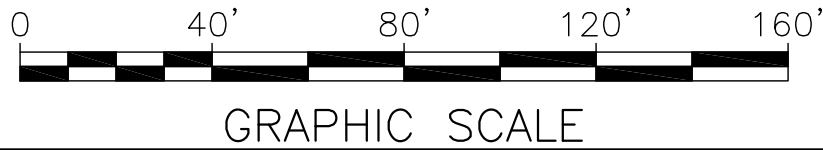
DATE: MARCH 2023
DRAWN: SCS
CHECKED: JSB
SCALE: AS SHOWN
PROJ. NO.: 2022-32

SHEET NO.

C-4



SEE SHEET C-1
FOR ALIGNMENT DATA



WEST FAIRVIEW AVE.
SHOULDER EXTENSION
STATION 30+00 - 36+35.6
PLAN AND PROFILE

PREPARED FOR
CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
3575 HEATH STREET
HOMER, ALASKA 99603

BISHOP ENGINEERING, LLC
PO BOX 2501 HOMER, AK 99603-2501
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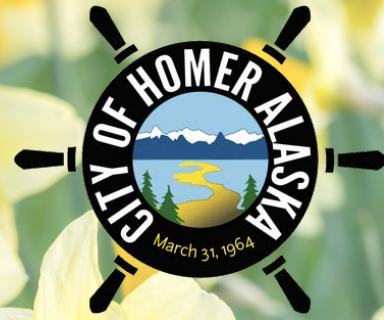
DATE MARCH 2023
DRAWN SCS
CHECKED JSB
SCALE AS SHOWN
PROJ NO. 2022-32

SHEET NO.
C-5

VOL. II - ISSUE VII | APRIL 2023

CITY OF HOMER

Monthly Newsletter from the office of the City Manager



Greetings from City Hall

Happy Spring everyone! The day after the vernal equinox on March 21st, (a.k.a., the 1st day of Spring), the weather decided winter wasn't over yet and dumped about a foot of snow on most of the Homer area.

This winter reminder was preceded by a 5.4 earthquake and a couple weeks of beautiful blue skies that teased us into thinking spring is on the way, well, Alaskan style anyway.

City to Use Weed-free Gravel

As gardens and trees begin to bloom they remind us of a few invasive species like dandelions, hawkweed and others, that grow around our region. To help mitigate this issue, the City of Homer made the decision to use weed-free gravel for all city projects. Three Homer Soil & Water Conservation District (HSWCD) staff are trained as weed free products inspectors, and three gravel pits received Weed-Free Certification through the Alaska Division of Agriculture's Weed Free Program.

The Weed-Free Certification process ensures gravel used on city projects is free from the most harmful invasive plants. It has also provided the opportunity for HSWCD to engage with pit operators and city officials about plant identification and options for preventing and responding to potential infestations.

For more information on how you can help control terrestrial invasive plants within State and Local right-of-ways and in your community, contact HSWCD at 907-235-8177 or <https://www.homerswcd.org/>.



Common Dandelion
Taraxacum officinale



Orange Hawkweed or Devil's
Paintbrush
Hieracium aurantiacum
F. Asteraceae

WHAT'S NEW?

- Library Events
- Community Corner
- Community Recreation
- Economic Development
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Port & Harbor
- Public Works
- Public Safety Notes
- Meet the Staff
- Municipal Art Collection
- Stay Connected with City Council
- Join Our Team

We hope you'll discover something new today as we share the latest information and ways you can tap into what's going on at City Hall and in the Homer community.

Check us out on Facebook

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



Share this link with your friends, so they can get the newsletter too - <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/citymanager/monthly-email-newsletter>

"where the land meets the sea begins"

LIBRARY EVENTS

Art in the Library

April - June: Photography by R.J. Nelson
Enjoy beautiful photos of flowers and nature in the Fireplace Lounge.



Poetry Readings

April 6: Community Poetry Reading,
6-7:30pm

April 21: Reading by local poet, Peter
Kauffman, 6:30-7:30pm

Virtual Author Talks

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



April 4: *Hark! A Vagrant!* by Kate Beaton, 3pm

April 27: *Ordinary Grace* by William Ken Krueger, 4pm

May 3: *Raising Anti-Racist Children* by Britt Hawthorne, 9am

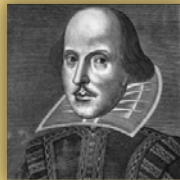
May 10: *Not Funny* by Jena Fiedman, 4pm

2nd Sunday Shakespeare

April 9: *Pericles*

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 a play by William Shakespeare. [Zoom instructions found here.](#)



Lunch with a Council Member

April 11 - Donna Aderhold

Noon - 1pm, Library Meeting Room
Join the conversation with Council Member **Donna Aderhold**. Bring your questions and topics for discussion and enjoy lunch over Zoom. [Follow instructions here.](#)



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

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8, 11am-1pm

Church on the Rock is holding a Community Easter Egg Hunt at Karen Hornaday Park Lawn & Pavilion for an afternoon of family fun.



Sign up! Form a team!
Earn Wellness Points!



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!

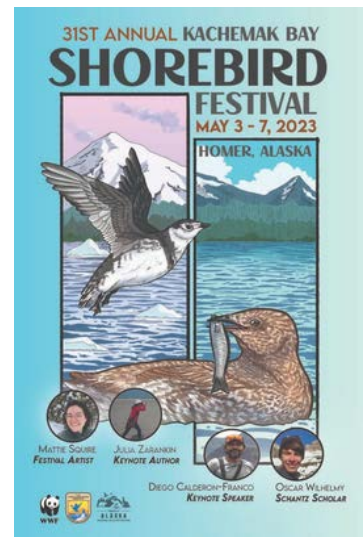
HOMERSTEPSUP.COM

31st 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 kachemakshorebird.org for all things Shorebird Festival! **Page 160 of 170**



Community Recreation

Check out these fun and exciting featured programs. To see the entire program list, go to <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec>



Kids Yoga!

Starting April 5th, Kids ages 5 - 11 can join Joanna, a certified yoga teacher, with certification specializing in kids yoga, for an interactive class with yoga poses, breathing exercises, games and relaxation.

WEDNESDAYS

10:30 -11:30am for Pre-K (ages 4-6)

1:30-2:30pm for Elementary grades 2-5 (ages 6-11)

HERC Activity Room

\$5 per class



Economic Development



Greater Homer Housing Conversation

A collaborative group of community organizations hosted an event on March 25th at the Christian Community Church in Homer. The purpose of the event was to start a discussion on the topic of housing in the community, identify key issues, and discuss potential solutions.

This collaborative effort consists of the following community organizations interested in the topic of housing: Choosing Our Roots; City of Homer; Homer Chamber of Commerce; Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District; Kenai Peninsula Homelessness Coalition; Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships; and South Peninsula Hospital Foundation. Look for more conversations as the community explores ideas on this important topic and updates at <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/economicdevelopment/housing>

Childcare Meeting with Alaska Department of Health

Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager, and Ryan Foster, Special Projects Coordinator met with staff representing the Childcare Program Office and Healthy and Equitable Communities of the State of Alaska Department of Health, to discuss childcare challenges in Homer. The conversation was focused on the topic of childcare home businesses including the State's streamlined application process, and challenges such as zoning, safety inspections, strong demand for childcare, and the various impacts childcare can have on employment, quality of life, and overall community health.

One of the biggest surprises the state folks found was the lack of information and almost misinformation they were hearing from people about licensing requirements. If you or someone you know is interested in starting a daycare, get information direct from the source! A great contact is Staci Collier, Community Care Licensing Specialist 3 with the State of Alaska. She can be reached at 907-269-4518, or staci.collier@alaska.gov.

HERC Update to Council

The City Council and city staff members *Jan Keiser*, *Mike Illg* and *Julie Engebretsen* had a work session about the HERC buildings on March 20th. The meeting covered four topics:

1. Demolition of HERC 2
2. The need for a business plan
3. How to right-size the new building
4. How to fund construction of a new recreation center

Staff presented ways they plan to accomplish these tasks, and how to best communicate progress to council. Near term next steps include Council approving funding for the last round (hopefully) of hazmat testing for HERC 2, and another work session with Council specifically on the construction budget. Stay tuned for a June or August work session! The other tasks will be worked on over the next year.

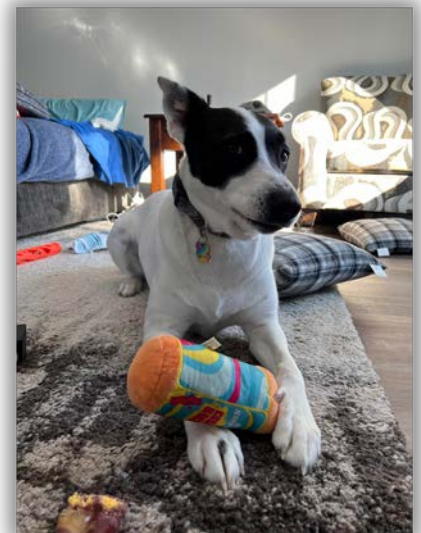


HERC 2 (smaller building)

Homer Animal Shelter 🐾 🐾

It's cat-mania at the animal shelter. Luckily adoptions are picking up after a slow start to the year. 'Kitten season' is also in full effect. Because the shelter has been at capacity for cats, we are working more closely with our amazing rescue partners! Cat Tree and Barkery Kitten Rescue has taken two litters for us. Speaking of rescue partners, we teamed up with Kenai Peninsula Animal Lovers Rescue to host a dog spay and neuter clinic in March. Big success all around.

So far, 2023 has seen its ups and downs when it comes to our community's pets, lost and neglected animals, but we try to focus on the good stuff because it's what keeps us going! At right is a photo of a sweet husky mix named 'Lily'. She was one of our harder-to-adopt canines last fall. Harder to adopt, not because there's anything wrong with her, but because she had A LOT of husky energy! Yet, as we always do, we eventually found her the perfect home and recently received the best update from her new person saying that he was so happy to have her. We love our 'Happy Tails'!



Lily is happy in her new home!

Shelter Director *Jillian Rogers* recently connected with the regional (Pacific Northwest and Alaska) representatives from the ASPCA and they've decided to come to Alaska to conduct a detailed site visit of the Homer Animal Shelter to explore how they can help support the work we do and the education and outreach programs we are currently working on restarting. (Extra programs came to a screeching halt with the pandemic.) We are looking forward to showing off our city facility and chatting with ASPCA reps and vets that are coming for the visit. In addition, we will be attending an upcoming conference, (funding dependent), include a quick trip to Anchorage this spring for the annual Alaska Animal Control Association conference and meeting. Speakers from around the country will be there to talk about all things animal control and give updates in the world of animal welfare.

For the latest information about the Homer Animal Shelter, please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/akmindfulpaws>.



Fire Department



Jaclyn Arndt Completes IDI 350!

Congratulations Jaclyn Arndt! Our in-house athlete has done it again. We are so very proud to say that Jaclyn completed her second year of skiing in the Iditarod Trail Invitational. She said this one was brutal compared to last year due to weather and conditions. 96 racers started with 46 who scratched including some who had to be medevacked. For those of you new to this fine Alaskan sport, every year about 100 people from all over the world walk, ski, or bike the 350-mile portion of the Iditarod from Knik to McGrath, some even continue on to Nome to travel 1000 miles. Conditions like whiteouts, ferociously bitter winds on the river portions of the trail, trail-breaking after snowfalls, and even pouring rain can greatly challenge the contenders. Add in the factor that all your supplies have to be carried with you then flown back on your own dime- well, you can see why we admire Jaclyn!

Her strategy was to ski at night when possible and keep warm while moving. She also gained a reputation for being a champion napper, able to sleep trailside almost anywhere, although not so much in the Farewell Bend. Jaclyn didn't personally see the bison herd that lives in the Farewell Bend, but she did find herself puzzled over what could leave a pile of poop that big on the trail before she remembered them. Another race participant found the herd while on bicycle, in the pitch black, and rode whooping through them probably thinking he was hallucinating.

Another highlight of being out there the full 9 days was that she got to cross paths with a few lead mushers from the Iditarod race who were coming down the trail with their teams. Getting to see the 4-legged athletes in action on the Iditarod is a rare treat! Jaclyn provided entertainment for the mushers as well. One looked at her and asked how long she had been out there- she admits she may have looked a little frayed by the end.



Real Alaska- 30 miles out of Rohn, photo credit to Iditarod Trailbreakers .



Cold day selfie.



Warm day selfie.

Upon returning to Homer, Jaclyn was very grateful for the mound of cookies provided by one HVFD member, and also for her co-workers valiantly covering all the shifts while she finished the race. It takes a team to care for our community, both inside and outside the fire station. As they say, 'it takes a village', and this village was rooting for Jaclyn the whole way!



Nap time on the trail.

!!30th Annual!!

**SATURDAY
MAY 6TH
11AM
UNTIL 2PM**

**SAFE
AND
HEALTHY
KIDS
FAIR**

**HOMER HIGH
SCHOOL**

600 E FAIRVIEW AVE.

**OUTDOOR
EVENT**

BE SAFE, DO GOOD, PASS IT ON!

**FUN
ACTIVITIES!**

HOT DOGS!!

**BIKE
GIVE-
AWAYS!**

**BIKE
RODEO**

**lower parking lot 11AM - 2PM
HELMETS REQUIRED
(available for purchase on-site)**

Contact the Safe & Healthy Kids Fair Committee for more info: safeandhealthykidsfair@gmail.com

Your Pics

March 11-12 was the **Special Olympic Winter Games** for snowshoeing in Anchorage. It's been a great three months and loved seeing the athletes represent Homer on the podium. Jaclyn Arndt pictured far left with athletes.



LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

VOLCANO



Homer, Alaska is a snapshot away from some of the most spectacular volcanoes located across Cook Inlet. *Redoubt Volcano* dominates the horizon at 10,197 feet and regularly blows off a little steam at its summit located about 50 miles west of Clam Gulch at the mouth of the Kenai River while *Iliamna Volcano* towers 10,016 feet across from Anchor Point. *Augustine Volcano* is 70 miles southwest of Homer on its own island.

The Alaska Volcano Observatory is monitoring these three volcanos for activity. Eruptions have ranged from a cloud of smoke, ash plumes and ash clouds.

- **Augustine:** last active 2006
- **Iliamna:** 1953
- **Redoubt:** 2009, 1990, 1968

Given the proximity of the volcanos and history of these past events, most of the City of Homer could have an ashfall event in the next 10 years (1 in 10 chance of occurring) with a likelihood of ash accumulation of 1-4 inches.

There are three types of volcanic eruptions: Magmatic, Phreatomagmatic and Phreatic. Some volcanoes may exhibit only one type of eruption during an event, while others may have all three!

Other hazards potentially caused by volcanic eruption include:

- Volcanic ashfall
- Lava flows
- Lahars (debris flows)
- Volcanic gas
- Pyroclastic surges or flows
- Volcanic landslides

If you would like to read more about volcanos and the potential hazard of them to Homer, please read Table 3-9 of the **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**.

Be ready for the next volcanic event:

- **USGS-**www.usgs.gov/programs/VHP/be-ready-next-volcanic-event
- **AK Volcano Observatory -** www.avo.alaska.edu/

Police Department



Parenting in the Digital Age

Lieutenant Ryan Browning has been busy traveling all over the state to spread the word and educate families on today's dangers in the digital age. Children, teens and adults alike are affected by online bullying, exploitation and inappropriate materials that are readily available without filters. Lt. Browning's presentations are candid, inviting and provide a safe place for everyone to talk about these issues. In the last month he has traveled to Soldotna, North Pole, Sitka and has captured broader attention in our effort to help build awareness of this important topic. Look out for more dates to be added.



Parenting in the Digital Age

A Candid Conversation & Presentation with Lt. Ryan Browning, Homer Police Department

Saturday, April 1 at 6-8pm
North Pole Oehring Auditorium

- What are kids seeing & experiencing online?
- How can we help them navigate responsibly & safely?
- You're invited to participate in this open, safe place to talk candidly about what kids are exposed to online.

TEENS-ADULTS-PARENTS & GUARDIANS ONLY

Women's Self Defense Classes Continue

The free self-defense classes for ladies continues to be a popular pass time! What's not to like? You get to toss a cop around and learn how to defend yourself in one place! Join Lt. Ryan Browning along with other HPD officers and State Troopers team up to learn basic and advanced self-defense tactics in a safe environment. Stay tuned to [HPD's Facebook](#) page for dates of the next class.



HPD/HVFD Joint Training Exercise

We are always up for a joint training, and this month we had a great one! Homer Police Department and Homer Volunteer Fire Department participated in a training event they held at the Homer Middle School on the March 12th. Along with providers from KESA, we had a great time putting on moulage- that's stage makeup designed to make people look ill or injured- and then had the ambulance standing by for support as police "cleared the building". EMS then came in and supported with patient care as they continued the event. It was a perfect chance for us to review tourniquet use, bleeding control, and situations that we very much hope will never happen. Everyone is looking forward to more trainings together in the future.

-Samantha Cunningham, Assistant EMS Chief



One of the "victims"



Helping people to safety.

Port & Harbor



Float Rehabilitation Project Prep

The Port Maintenance crew received and unloaded a container of materials from Bellingham Marine. These materials will be used for the rehabilitation of some mid-1980s concrete floats, specifically the ends of K thru Q floats. The materials consist mostly of lumber, milled to original specifications and pressure treated, and new galvanized steel hardware.

Bellingham Marine will be sending a technician to Homer this spring for two weeks to oversee the rehabilitation project. We're looking forward to having the floats restored to a safe working order.



Public Works



Water Service Pipe Inventory Project

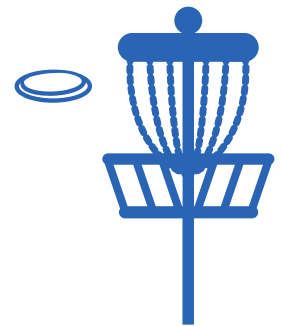
The EPA has recently directed all public water utilities to conduct an inventory of water service pipes and materials, to identify lead piping that might be present in the service lines or household plumbing. This inventory, which is in direct response to the problems in Detroit and other cities where lead materials, present in water plumbing, caused sickness for water customers, must be done by the end of 2024. Homer has over 2,000 individual water service connections, all of which must be inventoried.

Homer's water utility workers are developing a strategy for complying with the inventory requirements in a timely manner. We will be reaching out to our water customers as time goes by to collect the necessary information.



Temporary Disc Golf at Karen Hornaday Park

With the closure of the Hornaday Park Campground this year, the Homer Disc Golf Association has suggested the installation of a 9-hole temporary disc golf course in that area. The City plans to purchase the equipment (~\$6,000) and the Homer Disc Golf Association has offered to help install and maintain the temporary course. We are enthusiastic about this temporary use because it will ensure that there is activity appropriate use in the campground area this summer while camping is shut down. This proposed use was unanimously supported by the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Commission and can be supported by existing Public Works operating funds for park equipment.

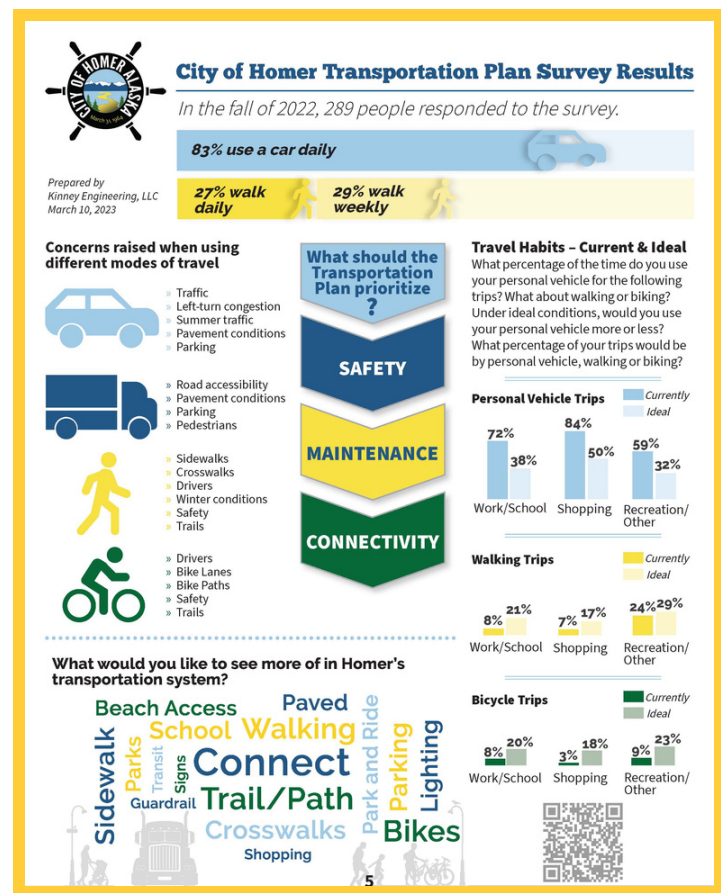


Transportation Plan Survey Results are Here

Kinney Engineering, LLC and City of Homer staff hosted several community forums and outreach events this past fall as a part of the Master Transportation Plan update process. Valuable information was gathered from the survey in which 289 people responded as illustrated in the infographic at the right. Travel habits, both current and ideal were explored for personal vehicle trips, walking trips and bicycle trips. Concerns raised when using different modes of travel revealed helpful insights; and participants were asked what they would like to see more from Homer's transportation system.

Goals and objectives were also identified through input from the public and city staff. The goals describe the fundamental outcomes of the Master Transportation Plan, while the objectives are more specific and measurable outcomes that support the goals.

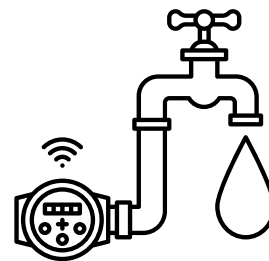
The planning effort to develop an updated Comprehensive Plan for the City of Homer has recently started. The goals and objectives in this Transportation Plan support the Comprehensive Plan goals.



To read the complete Goals and Objectives for the Master Transportation Plan, go to: https://www.cityofhomer-k.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/public_works/page/76454/goals-objectives_transportation_plan.pdf

Water Meter Swap

The City of Homer utilities team at Public Works will be calling on existing water meter customers to update their water meters. Over the next few weeks, you will be contacted to make an appointment with the Public Works Utility team to change out your meter. These new meters offer more accurate readings and integrate with our billing system.



Artist David Pettibone with model Ken Castner.

Mayor Ken Castner modeled for the Ptarmigan Arts Visual Arts Scholarship fundraising event on March 25. Artist David Pettibone traveled from Anchorage to participate in the 'Ready, Set, Art!' event. Artists had one hour to create an art piece to be auctioned off at Grace Ridge Brewing Inc. that evening. What a great way to support local arts!



HVFD friendly reminder to help clear the snow away from your hydrants. Pictured above: Firefighter/EMT Lowe hard at work

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

"Public Safety" covers a lot of areas - from health and wellness to fire safety, safe driving practices and winter tips for safe travel. Don't forget our pets too! Each month we strive to provide relevant information to help you live well and stay healthy. If you have a tip to share, please let us know - email us.

KIDS DON'T FLOAT

Kids Don't Float (KDF) is a statewide injury prevention program that was developed to address Alaska's high child and youth drowning rate. In a collaborative effort between several state and federal agencies, organizations and local grass-roots sponsors, Kids Don't Float now includes a [life jacket loaner board](#) component and an [educational component](#).

Kids Don't Float began in Homer, Alaska, in early 1996. The Homer Volunteer Fire Department, with a grant from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, collaborated with Homer Safe Kids, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the Homer School District to establish 15 life jacket loaner stations in communities around Kachemak Bay. The stations, or "loaner boards," display life jackets that can be borrowed at no cost and returned after use. The public response was so positive that, in November of the same year, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Section of Community Health and EMS, the U.S. Coast Guard District 17 Recreational Boating Safety Program, and Alaska Safe Kids partnered on an expansion. In 2000, the newly established State Office of Boating Safety joined the partnership.





Our Sister City relationship with Teshio, Hokkaido in Japan will mark its 40th anniversary in 2024. Homer and Teshio have continued their relationship through a variety of programs. Last fall, the Japanese International Exchange Programs resumed Japanese classes and online exchange sessions to connect students in Homer's after school program and three schools in Teshio, Japan: Taishi High School in Hyogo; Teshio Junior High and High School in Hokkaido. Seven sessions allowed students to talk about school, their towns, and what life is like in both cities to gain an understanding our different cultures and recognize what we all have in common.

Students in the Japanese class from Paul Banks Elementary School wrote letters to students at Wakamiya Elementary School, Hyogo, in the south west of Japan. The principal of the school put this exchange event on their school website to share with parents and students in Japan. Students in the Japanese class from West Homer Elementary School had the opportunity to have pen pals with Taishi High School, Hyogo and Teshio Junior High School students in Hokkaido, in the northern part of Japan. The Hokkaido News featured these events in their newspaper.

Students in Homer's Japanese classes were invited to Homer's City Council Meeting last October. Students introduced themselves in Japanese and greeted Mayor Ken Castner, the City Council members, and the audience in Japanese. They had a wonderful experience and did a great job!

Another amazing connection with our Sister City in Teshio is when six elementary schools in Homer and Anchor Point participated in a project called **"Friendship without Boundaries,"**

which emphasizes living in harmony and developing true friendships. The project involved painting 1,000 - 22" x 22" canvas panels that were made into banners. Banner materials were donated by NOMAR and Homer Rotary Club. In 2019, the banners were hung in the Homer High School commons area and in the auditorium the night of the Peace Concert led by Mark Robinson and Kyle Schnieder. The conductors then took two of the banners to display during their concert trip to France and Belgium. Another one of the peace banners was mailed to Teshio Junior High School along with letters from class members, West Homer Principal, Mayor Ken Castner and Homer Rotary Club with translations by the Japanese International Exchange. Homer Rotary Club mailed gifts which included pictures and postcards by Gary Lyon, Homer artist.

Japanese International Exchange has been developing relationships with other cities in Japan as well. Please contact **Megumi Beams**, Sister City Liaison/ Interpreter & Japanese International Exchange Coordinator/ Instructor, at morikawabeams@aol.com if you are interested in these programs or have any questions. Please also visit Japanese International Exchange on Facebook.



Teshio students (above) and Homer students (below) with their banners.



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.

- **Matthew Hudson**, Firefighter/EMT1
- **Dexter Lowe**, Firefighter/EMT1
- **Mike Swoboda**, PW Utilities Technician
- **Kane Graham**, HPD - Jailer, part-time
- **Bill Jirsa**, Chief Technology Officer

IT Division: Fully Staffed

After a long period of transition, the City IT division is back up to full strength! Just in the past year, *Tomasz Sulczynski* has taken the position of Network Administrator, *Matt Dominguez* has come onboard as the IT Support Specialist, and in March we welcome *Bill Jirsa* in the role of Chief Technology Officer. Tom has been with the City for fifteen years and is familiar to many Homer residents, not only because of his work with City IT, but through his past job providing wireless internet service to local area residents and businesses and his present support for community events like Salmonfest and Tech Help in the library. Matt joins us from Phoenix, where he worked on a huge array of technologies for a gigantic school district. Bill has worked most recently for Polar Field Services in Colorado after 14 seasons at McMurdo Station in Antarctica. We look forward to tackling a variety of pending projects all over town!

March 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.

Matt Clarke	Port	22 Years
Elton Anderson	Port	17 Years
Renee Krause	Clerks	16 Years
Mike Parish	Public Works	9 Years
Angie Kalugin	Finance	8 Years
Elizabeth Walton	Finance	6 Years
Kurt Read	Port	6 Years
Matt Smith	Library	5 Years
Matt Steffy	Public Works	5 Years
Mike Pettit	Public Works	4 Years
Jan Keiser	Public Works	3 Years
Amber Baldus	Fire	1 Year

The City of Homer has current Job Openings!

Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at:
cityofhomer.ak.applicantpro.com/jobs

Meet the Staff



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

Departures & Transitions

The City Manager's office is saying farewell to **Christine Drais** as she relocates to South Carolina in April. Christine served as Assistant to the City Manager since 2021 and has been a bright spot in City Hall. She will be working remotely to support **Bella Vaz** in her transition to the role from her position as Associate Planner in the Planning Department. We wish both of them the best of luck in their new endeavors.

Matt Steffy is upping the game for Homer parks! Matt has transferred into the Economic Development Division with the goal of expanding Homer's park planning, grant capacity and community partnerships. A crew of seasonal maintenance workers will still be utilized to keep parks looking great, but Matt will be freed up from day to day operations.

As Homer's park usage and summer tourism has grown, long term planning for these gems has become more important than ever. Economic Development and Homer's quality of life go hand in hand. The City is fortunate to have his skills to tackle the challenges of increased park usage, the need for forward thinking in how park dollars are spent, and finding grants to make projects happen. Congratulations Matt!

Paul Raymond, Public Works Lead Equipment Operator, retired and **Mike Gilbert** was promoted to this lead position. Congratulations to them both!

Your Pics



"Can't a girl have a snack?" Little Miss Moose was enjoying the sunshine and warm grass on Sterling Hwy. Photo by Christine Drais.

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 and IT Director
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager
Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

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

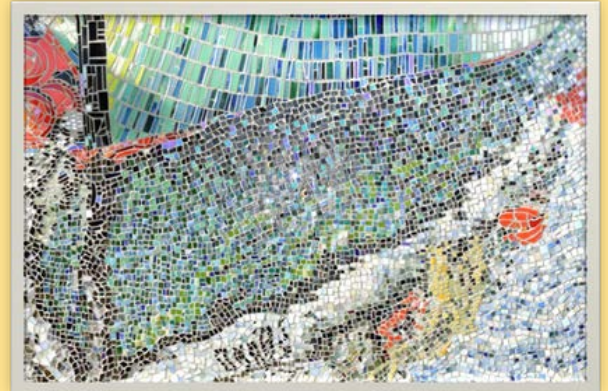
MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION

Learn more about the municipal art collection at:

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/prac/city-homer-municipal-art-collection>



The beautiful glass mosaics at End of the Road Park by artist **Sheila Wyne**, *Escher's Stair Reflection Series*, (above) and *Danny J Reflection Series* (below) are 66" x 40" and were acquired in 2014 through the City of Homer 1% for the Arts program.



STAY CONNECTED TO CITY COUNCIL

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April

- | | | |
|----|---------|--|
| 5 | 5:30pm | Planning Commission Worksession |
| | 6:30pm | Planning Commission Regular Meeting |
| 10 | 5:00pm | City Council Committee of the Whole |
| | 6:00pm | City Council Regular Meeting |
| 11 | 6:00pm | Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 13 | 5:00pm | ADA Advisory Board Regular Meeting |
| 18 | 5:30pm | Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting |
| 19 | 5:30pm | Planning Commission Worksession |
| | 6:30pm | Planning Commission Regular Meeting |
| 20 | 5:30pm | Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 24 | 5:00pm | City Council Committee of the Whole |
| | 6:00pm | City Council Regular Meeting |
| 26 | 4:00 pm | 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

- Firefighter/EMT I, II or III, Full-time
- Port & Harbor Administrative Assistant, Full-time
- Mechanic I or II, Full-time
- Treatment Maintenance Technician I or II, Full-time
- Temporary/Seasonal Harbor Assistant I
- Temporary/Seasonal Parking Enforcement Aide
- Temporary/Seasonal Parks Technician



City of Homer

491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska 99603

907-235-8121

www.cityofhomerak.gov

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City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Planning

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

Planning@ci.homer.ak.us

(p) 907-235-3106

(f) 907-235-3118

Memorandum

Agenda Changes/Supplemental Packet

TO: PARKS, ART, RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II
DATE: APRIL 20, 2023
SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL

7. REPORTS

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

Spring Newsletter 2023

page 3

10. NEW BUSINESS

10. A. FY24 and FY25 Budget Request Recommendation

Public Comment received

page 12

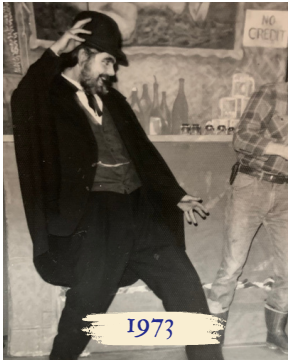
12. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

12. C. Homer: Guiding Growth
Community Meeting Announcement

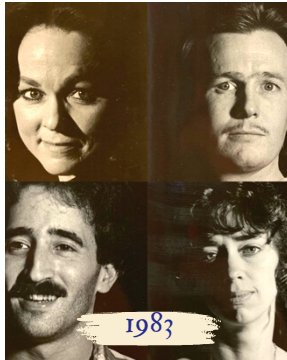
page 14



PIER ONE THEATRE



1973



1983



1993



2003



2013

As the Raven Flies

ACT 1

The first Pier One Theatre was half of an old city warehouse on the Homer Spit between the Salty Dawg and Land's End, opening in the summer of 1973 with a small troupe of players in a melodrama (*The Drunkard*). The early years were somewhat spotty, sometimes the warehouse was available, and sometimes not. Director Lance Petersen divided his time between Homer and Kenai - teaching at the college, making theatre during all other waking hours, and encouraging collaborators in both communities including the Peninsula Dancers, Kenai Performers, and the fledgling Kenai Peninsula Orchestra. From this small beginning, Pier One Theatre grew under Lance's direction to establish a regular summer season, offer youth theatre instruction, produce big community musicals, and encourage theatrical arts in all aspects of the community. Sadly, Lance passed away early in 2023 leaving us to contemplate the depths of his influence and inspiration in our lives.

ACT 2



The pandemic coincided with a new chapter of this organization. 2020 was my first year as full time executive director and it felt as though we were working from an entirely blank script, an exercise in improv with our programs and our policies. '21 and '22 proved just as turbulent and exciting. Last April we hired Val Sheppard as office assistant to help with key administrative functions. She has proven to be an incredible asset to the team, holding regular office hours and handling the bulk of ticket sales and reservations among other things.

With COVID precautions in place, we gratefully returned to indoor performance at the Spit Theatre. Pre-season we hosted the band Ayla Ray as they installed a set and filmed a concert. We can't wait to see the footage that came out of that session! Youth theatre programs returned to full capacity, and we traveled to Seldovia for camp for the first time. We opened our performance season with the Youth Theatre production *The Reluctant Dragon*, finally staged *The Night Animals* (originally planned for 2020), only to then be met with the highest rate of COVID spread our community had yet experienced. *An Incident at the Border* had to be rescheduled, and half of the run of *Cosmic Hostel* had to be cancelled. (To give the cast a more satisfying run, this show will return to kick off our 2023 season.)

Outdoor performance proved successful once again with *Incident at the Bear Creek Winery* and *Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood* in the forest at the Pratt Museum & Park. *Beauty and the Beast* was a triumphant return to musical theatre on the Mariner stage. Community Choir resumed on a casual basis. The Mud Bay Bards and New Plays Aloud continued year-round programs increasing our knowledge of classical theatre and introducing us to wonderful contemporary works.

The rocky summer season, and the establishment of year-round paid staff to support our programs, meant that we ended this season in the red. This was not unexpected if we look at the difficulties facing the theatre industry nationwide. Audiences have remained reluctant to return indoors in large crowds and the costs of materials, space usage, performance rights, and more have gone up.

Pier One is looking at a few strategies to help balance the budget long term. A generous donation from his family established the Pier One Theatre Gary Thomas "Live Large" Fund in the care of the Homer Foundation. This endowment fund will grow through contributions and investments and provide an annual stipend to support our programming. Ticket sales remain the strongest source of income for our organization, and we have decided to streamline our pricing with just one adult price, one youth price, and one family price for mainstage dramas (musical prices are slightly higher due to the increased licensing costs). For the first time since 2012 we applied for and received an Operating Support Grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts. We also received a Camps Initiative grant from the Alaska Community Foundation and Rasmuson Foundation, and an increased amount from the Homer Foundation - Willow Fund in support of our youth programs. We continue to seek out additional grant funding and will offer program advertising and underwriting opportunities. Raven's Club community donations are an integral part of our budget and have increased annually for the last four years. COVID numbers have gone down dramatically and natural immunities and access to vaccines mean that the dangers have lessened for much of our community. Audiences at the Mariner Theatre have been large and enthusiastic which we hope bodes well for this summer at the Spit. We will no longer be requiring vaccination for cast and crew or masking for our audiences. We will however, be offering one 'masks required' performance of each indoor production to ensure the comfort of our most vulnerable populations. We also have several outdoor productions planned. Overall, 2022 felt like a solid step back toward 'normal' and we are looking forward to hitting the stage in 2023.

ACT 3



These past few years as I have created the spring newsletter I have celebrated the work we have done together and what we were able to accomplish during an unprecedented time. This year as I reflect not only on the last season of theatre, but on the incredible work of the last 50 years, I am overwhelmed by the strength of this community. Perhaps Lance and Barbara Petersen and Richard and Donna Dixon knew what they were beginning back in 1973 when they each chipped in \$50 to start Pier One Theatre, but I'm not sure they could have completely

understood the monumental impact on individual lives their vision would elicit. In conversation a few weeks ago, Pier One alumnae Lorrene Forbes and Rosemary Bird reminded us that community theatre, whether we are on stage, backstage, or in the audience, gives us each a place to belong, a role to fulfill, an obligation we can meet. It gives us something to be proud of and to hold onto long after the final curtain.

This moment of retrospection is a beautiful moment for introspection also. As we reminisce about the last 50 years, connecting early participants with new, and sharing our collective experience, there is great opportunity to envision the NEXT 50 years. Who were we? Who are we? Who will we become? What will our next stage look like?

In the pages following this letter, you will find the names of as many contributors to the 2022 season as we could collect. There are so many of you. This community is so strong and capable and giving. We are together, and the future looks bright ahead.

JENNIFER NORTON - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The 2023 Season

May 26 - June 3: *Cosmic Hostel*

written and directed by Sally Oberstein

June 4: *Mary Epperson Day*

with Homer Council on the Arts and Pratt Museum & Park

June 15 - 25: *For Peter Pan on her 70th Birthday*

by Sarah Ruhl, directed by Val Sheppard

July 1: *Macbeth* (a reading)

by William Shakespeare
with Kachemak Bay Highland Games

June 29 - July 9: *Maud of the Island*

written and directed by Jessica Golden

July 19 - 29: *Trey Parker's Cannibal! The Musical*

directed by Christine Kulcheski

August 11 - 13: *Anne of Green Gables*

by Joseph Robinette
adapted from the novel by L. M. Montgomery
a Youth Theatre Production directed by Kathleen Gustafson

*end of
summer and
fall/winter
productions
will be
announced
soon!*

**PLAY REVIEW
COMMITTEE**

Sara Reinert • Kathleen Gustafson
Sarah L. Brewer • Cathy Stingley • Jennifer Norton



IN LOVING MEMORY

Lance Petersen

1941 - 2023

Lance was raised in Alaska and studied theatre while attending the Alaska Methodist University. He and his wife Barbara moved to Homer in 1969. It wasn't long before their dream of summer repertory theatre on the Homer Spit came to life and Pier One Theatre was born and flourished in their care. It is very hard to put into words all of the things Lance was and did for Pier One Theatre. He is the life giver, the visionary, the master builder. He generously created a world of exploration and play and invited us all to come along for the ride. Lance taught us that we are each an essential part of the whole, that 'professional' can mean excellence, not just payment, that theatre is community, and that telling our stories binds us together.

BACKSTAGE AT LULLABY OF GANGLAND 1989

FROM THE SPIT VOL. 1, NO. 1
A MAGAZINE ABOUT HOMER

BY LANCE PETERSEN, 1973

What Brings Spring?

*Winter's body broken, drowning,
Merging with the sullen mud.
Weary songbirds huddle, sleeping,
Waiting for the promised sun.
Barren birches tremble, moaning,
Reaching to the mottled sky.
And the wet world mumbles, dreaming,
Mourning through the listless days.
This lapse between the stable seasons knows not
Of small bird's dreams all green and long and hot.
For what does rhythmic tidal water know
Of marking high and low or ebb and flow?
When birds awake, I too will gladly sing,
And celebrate the summer born from spring.*



Spring Again

Once I started a spring poem the day the first mud showed through the snow. Everyday I worked on it, writing in the new things each day did. But I had to put it aside, finally, because of the Waterfront Fire-works on the Fourth of July.

I was so busy trying to be a poet that I missed spring altogether. Now the mud is showing through again. And I recall some of the fine phrases, the rhymes. But even though the snow (winter's body, broken) is melting and the water running (winter's blood flowing), I guess this spring I'll just watch and now and then walk down the knee-deep driveway, with a shovel in my hand. I'll let the trapped puddles free to meet the sea, or wherever it is the water ultimately goes, and I'll keep looking for the furled green, and the tiny birds (with dreams all green and long and hot).

And, I swear, this spring I'll not pound out the death of winter and the birth of words:

I guess I'll just watch, this spring.

Reunion Week

JULY 10 - 16, 2023

- Exhibit at the Pratt Museum & Park
- Celebration of Life for Lance Petersen
- Theatrical Performances
- Reunion Party
- And More!

**50TH
ANNIVERSARY
COMMITTEE**

Laura Norton,
Lynne Roff, Dick Sanders,
David Webster, Val Sheppard,
Maggie Quarton, Cathy Stingley

YEAR-ROUND STAFF

Executive Director - Jennifer Norton
Production Manager/Bookkeeper - Laura Norton
Office Assistant - Val Sheppard

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cathy Stingley • Ken Landfield • Sarah L. Brewer
Mary Sheppard Fries • Curtis Jackson
Kathleen Gustafson • Linda Ellsworth
Emeritus - Barbara Petersen

THANK YOU
JESSICA GOLDEN
FOR YOUR SERVICE
ON THE BOARD!

The Reluctant Dragon

BOOK & MUSIC BY JEAN BROCKEL

From the story by Kenneth Grahame
 Directed by Kathleen Gustafson
 Musical Director - Melissa Kerrigan
 Assistant Director - Tom Custer
 Stage Manager - Finnegan Brewer
 Lights - Simon Lopez
 Rehearsal Pianist - Breezy Berryman
 Costumes - Ellen Gibson, Mariann Lyda
 Sets - Jill Berryman, Jennifer Norton, Laura Norton, Effy Vought

CAST

Hugh - Alex Brock
 Margaret - Antaram Jackinsky
 John - Freya Bartlett
 Sir George - Ila Sylce
 Dragon - Hayden Walters
 Annie - Sadie Gibson
 Albert - Aria Palma
 Dunstan - Gulliver Norton
 Emma - Willow Forster



Sheep - Aria Palma, Sadie Gibson,
 Gulliver Norton, Willow Forster,
 Ila Sylce, Antaram Jackinsky



PHOTO BY R. C. KINCAID

Fit for Everything

CAST

Aria Palma, Willow Forster,
 Ester Cabana, Corbin Johnson,
 Talon Davidson, Teary Jones,
 Ames Kincaid, Isaiah Jane Kincaid, Honor Kincaid,
 Haddie Kincaid, Arlo Hunter, Misha Pokorna

INSTRUCTORS

Tom Custer,
 Kathleen Gustafson,
 Jennifer Norton

**YOUTH THEATRE CAMP WAS MADE POSSIBLE
 BY THE HOMER FOUNDATION - WILLOW FUND,
 THE ALASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, &
 THE RASMUSON FOUNDATION**

Theatre Play Instructors
 Kathleen Gustafson, & Tom Custer
 Theatre Play Assistant - Ella Gustafson
 Stories On the Stage Instructors
 Kathleen Gustafson, Tom Custer, & Jennifer Norton
 Seldovia Drama Camp Instructors
 Kathleen Gustafson, Susan Mumma, & Jennifer Norton

**THANK YOU
 SELDOVIA ARTS COUNCIL
 TANIA SPURKLAND
 & SUSAN MUMMA**

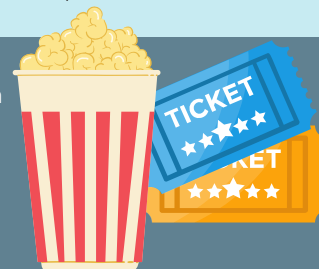


Front of House Volunteers

COORDINATED BY NANCY LANDER

Maggie Quarton • Bill Palmer • Shirley Fedora
 Elysha Chapple • Cathy Stingley • Kyle Schneider
 Beth Schneider • Scott Bartlett • Dalena McKay
 Roy Wilson • Susanne Ratcliffe Wilson
 Caitlin Gamble • Ben Peek • Val Sheppard
 Josephine Ryan • Rachel Lord • Carol Dee
 Sarah L. Brewer • Katie Jo Gamble • Trevor Long

Ginger Drais • Jessica Golden
 Spencer Ellsworth
 Ilsa Golden • Dick Sanders
 Lynne Roff • Lin Hampson
 Carolyn Norton • Laura Patty
 Christine Anderson • Barbara Hayes
 Vikki Deadrick • Mo Wilkinson
 Tom Atkinson • Kathleen Gustafson
 Ken Hinkle • Donna Hinkle
 Karen Howarth • Nell Gustafson



Linda Ellsworth
 Laura Norton
 Jules Joy
 Esme Golden
 Kathy Smith

Mary Sheppard Fries • Greg Fries
 Brenda Dolma • James Dolma
 Victoria Smith • Karen Murdock
 Paul Finney • Sue Finney
 Lolita Brache • Analise Hartnett

2022 Recap

THE SPIT THEATRE

The Night Animals

BY KATE RICH

Directed by Jennifer Norton

Lights - Simon Lopez

Stage Manager - Cain Miller

Sound - Jesse D. Bolt

Props - Kate Rich, Judy Winn,

Mary Fries, Hope Stearns

CAST

Zane Benson - Reece Cowan

Leah Benson - Ingrid Harrauld

Meredith Brandt - Cara Long

Amos Benson - Tom Custer

Set Crew - Jennifer Norton, Tom Custer,
Laura Norton, Jesse D. Bolt, Carolyn Norton,
Oberon Jackson



PHOTO BY JENNIFER NORTON

Cosmic Hostel

WRITTEN & DIRECTED
BY SALLY OBERSTEIN

Stage Manager - Sarah Borgen

Assistant Stage Manager -

Elizabeth Hanson

Set Crew - Michael McKinney,
David Webster, Sally Oberstein,

Jennifer Norton, Sarah Borgen,

Cristen San Roman,

Olivia Glasman,

Bobby Copeland-McKinney

Props/Costumes - Cast

Sound & Lighting - Jesse D. Bolt

Stagehand - Trig Flyum

RETURNING
MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND 2023!

CAST

Barb - Christine Kulcheski

Marco - Ethan Martin

Oliver - Dick Dunn

Charlotte - Linda Ellsworth

Bonnie - Cristen San Roman

Graham - Brian Duffy

Anna - Carla Fabian

Trevor - Dayus Geysbeek

Ashley - Sarah Borgen

Luke - Reece Cowan

Cassie - Olivia Glasman

Stu - Tracy Belieu

George McCowan - Zeb Perkins

Jonathan McCowan - Michael Romanovsky

Nurse Linda Cummings/Backpacker - Terry McCloud

THANK YOU
WILDBERRY
BUILDING
FOR THE
REHEARSAL
SPACE



PHOTO BY JENNIFER NORTON

An Incident at the Border

BY KIERAN LYNN

Directed by Tom Custer

Lights and Sound - Jesse D. Bolt

Stage Manager - Hope Stearns

CAST

Arthur - Tom Custer

Olivia - Katia Holmes

Reiver - Carolyn Norton



THANK YOU
BEAR CREEK WINERY
FOR HOSTING
THIS SHOW!



PHOTO BY CRISTEN SAN ROMAN

Kenai Peninsula

Community Chorus

FOR THE JOY OF SINGING

Directed by Mark Robinson
and Kyle Schneider

Accompanied by Ola Mullikin

Facilitated by Laura Norton

and Beth Schneider

JOIN US!



PHOTO BY ASH POLITO

Ken Ludwig's Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood

Directed by Val Sheppard

Stage Manager - Hope Stearns,

Cathy Stingley

Sound - Cathy Stingley, Val Sheppard

Props - Nikki Branham, Mary Fries,

Greg Fries, Judy Winn, Cathy Stingley,

Bobby Copeland-McKinney,

Melanie Dufor, Tom Custer

Costumes - Cast, Mary Fries,

Christine Kulcheski

Tarp Master - Chase Warren

Set Construction - Tom Custer,

Michael Selle, Jennifer Norton,

Laura Norton, Cathy Stingley,

Val Sheppard, Hope Stearns,

Ken Landfield, Sid Paulino, Wood Turner

CAST

Robin Hood - Liam James

Maid Marian - Katia Holmes

Friar Tuck - Ken Landfield

Little John - Wood Turner

Deorwynn - Indigo Sonneborn

Sir Guy of Gisbourne - Jesse D. Bolt

The Sheriff of Nottingham - Tom Custer

Prince John - Peter Norton

Deorwynn Understudy - Hope Stearns

An Assortment of Characters -

Carolyn Norton, Brian Duffy, & Michael Selle

*"And may the spirit of Robin Hood -
of kindness, of justice, and of love -
live in all of us from this time forth
until the ending of the world. Amen."*

- FRIAR TUCK

Mary Epperson Day

AT THE PRATT MUSEUM & PARK



SONGS AND MUSIC
WITH "JUST US"

CATHY STINGLEY

CINDY MCKENNA

JOSH KROHN

JAKE FOSTER

BEN PETERS

CHARLIE & PAULETTE PERFORM "SMILE"
SARAH L. BREWER & CHELSEA CARPENTER

ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN
ARE DEAD: AN EXCERPT - VAL SHEPPARD

DANCING IN THE PARK - IRELAND STYVAR

PIECES OF MARY'S FAVORITES
SUNRISE SJOEBERG

THE MUSICAL STYLINGS OF
DAVID WEBSTER

"PICK-A-PAGE" SILVERSTEIN
PETER NORTON



PHOTO BY JENNIFER NORTON

Momologues BASED ON "THE MOMOLOGUE COLLECTIVE"



KACHEMAK BAY
FAMILY PLANNING
CLINIC



CAST

Gathered by Brianna Allen

Edited by Mercedes O'Leary

Live performance script curated

by Brianna Allen, Claudia Haines,

Jennifer Norton & Mercedes O'Leary

Directed by Jennifer Norton & Mercedes O'Leary

Katelyn Hawkins - Wythe • Jules Joy

Sarah Roberts • Jessica Golden

Jessica Williams • Sarah L. Brewer

SunRose Winslow

A collaboration with The Momologue Collective

& Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic

Hosted by Bunnell Street Arts Center

BUNNELL
STREET **ARTS
CENTER**



ORCHESTRA

Tia Pietsch • Nancy Chambers • Rosemary Fitzpatrick
Shannon Moore • Betsy Vanek • Mary Broderick • Josh Krohn
Leah Dunn • Marge Dunn • Ola Mullikin • Ainsley Boss-Harmon
Jane Parrish • Nelton Palma • Beau Berryman • Emily Lamb
Virginia Cuffe • Geoff Coble • Scott Bartlett • Liam Boss-Harmon
Mary Simonsen • Trevor Long • Carol Comfort • Wendy Bales

SET DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION / ENCHANTED OBJECTS CONSTRUCTION

Jennifer Norton • Laura Norton • Jill Berryman
Judy Winn • Bobby Copeland-McKinney • Jackson Pietsch
Cain Miller • Kay Bartel • Jessica Coke • Lukas Whited
Finnegan Brewer • Sabine Simmons • Shirley Evans
Shirley Kosato • Regi Johanos • Michael McKinney
David Webster • Tom Custer • Zachary Nelson
Nakoa Cook • Cristen San Roman • Hope Stearns
Shawntel Taylor • Dustin Davis • Carolyn Norton
Ilsa Golden • August Kilcher • Charlotte Adamson
Fiona Ahern • Kurt Rowzee • Sid Paulino
Lincoln Norton • Lynda Reed

DISNEY'S *Beauty and the Beast*

**MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN • BOOK BY LINDA WOOLVERTON
LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN & TIM RICE**

Stage Director - Jennifer Norton	Stage Crew - Cain Miller,
Musical Director - Eric Simonsen	Hope Stearns, Thea Person,
Choreographer - Maura Jones	Wood Turner, Jackson Pietsch,
Vocal Coach - Mark Robinson	Kay Bartel, Finnegan Brewer
Rehearsal Accompanist - Ola Mullikin	Lights - Simon Lopez
Production/Stage Manager - Laura Norton	Sound - Drew Wimmerstedt
	Poster Art - Esme Golden
	Sound Editing - Scott Bartlett

CAST

Belle - Regi Johanos	Chip - Ethan Pietsch
Maurice - Michael McKinney	Morceau - Evan Pietsch
Gaston - Kyle Schneider	Cogsworth - Peter Norton
Lefou - Curtis Jackson	Lumière - August Kilcher
Beast - Zachary Nelson	Babette - Maura Jones
Mrs. Potts - Jessica Williams	
Madame De La Grande Bouche - Sarah L. Brewer	

ENSEMBLE

Adele Person • Alder Snow • Anna Wempe • Val Sheppard
Cara Long • Audrey Wallace • Beth Schneider • Brian Duffy
Bobby Copeland-McKinney • Carolyn Norton • Tom Custer
Cathy Stingley • Susanne Ratcliffe Wilson • Robin McAllistar
Christina De La Torre • Clark Milstead • Cristen San Roman
Sara Woltjen • Dayus Geysbeek • Esme Golden • Greg Fries
Ilsa Golden • Rachel Ostler • Ireland Styvar • Jenni Medley
Jessica Golden • Jillian Rogers • Zeb Perkins • John Vanek
Ken Landfield • Lauren Simpson • Leeann Serio • Robanne Stading
Sally Oberstein • Mary Sheppard Fries • Rebecca Trowbridge

COSTUMES

Cara Long • Sabine Simmons • Bonnie Boisvert • Christine Kulcheski
Jessica Williams • Curtis Jackson • Wina Wade • Charlotte Adamson
Pat Brennan • Jill Berryman • Lynne Burt • Marie Walker

A Mind of Many Colors

**AN OLD-TIMEY RADIO MYSTERY SET IN HOMER, ALASKA
BY ROBYN W. HAMILTON**

Directed by Jennifer Norton • Sound Design by Kathleen Gustafson

CAST	Robyn Hamilton as Himself	Katia Holmes as Herself
	Jennifer Norton as Herself	Tom Custer as Professor Grant Stone
	Dustin Hamilton as Inspector Robl	Brian Duffy as Fingers & Smiley
	Jules Joy as Dr. Sarah Spencer	Peter Norton as the Host

THANKS TO

Thoughtful Therapies
True North Kayak Adventures
HPD Chief Mark Robl
Dr. Sarah Spencer



COVID COMMITTEE

Mary Sheppard Fries
Bonita Banks
Kathleen Gustafson
Cathy Stingley

2022 Recap



MUD BAY BARDS



PHOTO BY JENNIFER NORTON



Macbeth

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Directed by Jennifer Norton

Featuring The Barony of Ice Fire Bay & Highland Drums

CAST Peter Norton • Val Sheppard • Elisa Russ • Deb Rowzee
Reid Brewer • Carolyn Norton • Ian McEwan • Maura Jones
Lenore Jones • Tom Custer • Clarke Stading



THANK YOU TO
WHETSTONE
BARBERS
& ODIN
MEADERY

Second Sunday Shakespeare

A FREE, MONTHLY READ OF THE WORKS OF THE BARD, OPEN TO EVERYONE.

Directed by Sarah L. Brewer

A collaboration with Kachemak Bay Campus and Friends of the Homer Library

THIS YEAR'S SELECTIONS

September 10: King John • October 8: Titus Andronicus

November 13: Love's Labour's Lost

December 11: Richard II • January 8: Hamlet

February 12: Taming of the Shrew

March 12: Measure for Measure

April 9: Pericles • May 14: Henry VIII

Cosmic Hamlets: Shakescene

ROMEO AND JULIET: ACT I, SCENE 1



A collaboration with Kachemak Bay Broadcasting, Inc.

A Sonnet a Day In February

Directed by Sarah L. Brewer

Sound Design by Kathleen Gustafson

THIS YEAR'S READERS

Maura Jones • Tom Custer • Jessica Williams • Alder Snow
Kyle Schneider • Ahnie Litecky • Cristen San Roman
Jessica Golden • Regi Johanos • Adele Person • Ila Sylce
Raiden Skorski-O'Donnell • Stephanie Zanati
Kaitlyn Sommer • Abigail Ross • Sean Joslyn
Tiffany Mayasich • Maynard Smith • Sherry Pederson
Eric Waltenbaugh • Kayla Kalafut • Thea Person
Robanne Stading • Seth Hammond • Ella Davis
Jennifer Norton • Val Sheppard • Sunrise Sjoeborg



PHOTO BY SARAH L. BREWER

Directed by Sarah L. Brewer

Assisted by Tom Custer

THANK YOU

Chris Sylce • Elysha Chapple
Jarl Gustafson • Carlin Media
Sage Anderson • Bonnie Boisvert
City of Homer, Port & Harbor

NOW AVAILABLE ON
OUR YOUTUBE
CHANNEL!



Special Guest Appearance by
Harbor Master Bryan Hawkins

MBB COMMITTEE

Sarah L. Brewer • Kathleen Gustafson
Kyle Schneider • Jill Burnham
Ahn timer Litecky • Jennifer Norton

New Plays Aloud

A READING GROUP FOR ACTORS
& PLAYWRIGHTS

Facilitated by playwright Kate Rich

READ IN 2022

FICTION by Steven Dietz

NIGHTSHIFTING by Joy Cutler

BREAKOUT by Tom Moran

WINNER by Amy Berryman

COUNTING in SHA'AB

by Emma Goldman-Sherman

DARLING by Kathy Rucker

CHARLEYBURGERS by Kate Rich

FIRST DATE by Nan Gatewood Satter

HAIL CAESAR! by Michael Mitnick

Come read
or just listen!

CAST Louis Spindler • Stella Petersen
Sadie Petersen • Griffin Rohlich
Ila Sylce • Dayus Geysbeek
Freya Bartlett • Corbin Johnson
Finnegan Brewer

2022 - 2023 Raven's Club

PARTNER \$5000+

The Alaska State Council on the Arts • The National Endowment for the Arts
The Rasmuson Foundation • The Alaska Community Foundation
The Homer Foundation - The Willow Fund • In Memory of Gary Thomas
The Estate of Billi Joanne Kaho • The Estate of Ingeborg Rathke
The Zilber Family Foundation

PRODUCER \$500+ Homer Art & Frame • Kachemak Bay Title Agency
ARCHES/Salmonfest • Halibut Cove Live • Finn's Pizza

In Memory of Lance Petersen • Freddie Billingslea • Clyfus Family • Ken Landfield
Robanne Stading • Nancy Lander & Mark Robinson • Arlene Ronda • Kathy & Maynard Smith

PERFORMER \$200+ Susie Amundson & Martin Zeller • The Curtis Family • Rick Foster & Dottie Harness
Mary & Greg Fries • Chuck & JoAnn Giza • Richard & Nell Gustafson • Flo Larson • Tom Kizzia
Cathy Stingley • Margaret Johnson • Adele Person & Family • In Memory of Sue Wohlgemuth

Konrad & Gabriela Schaad • Husmann • Paul S. Morin • Kachemak Bay Wilderness Lodge • Wild Honey Bistro
Homer-Grown Entertainment • Styvar Family • Homer Emblem Club #350 • North Wind Home Collection • Maggie Quarton
Paul & Tina Seaton • The Todd Family • Boyd & Marie Walker • Peggy Paver • Hannah & Anders Gustafson • Good Friend of Lance
Dan & Kathy Westerburg • Leah Evans & Brad Thornburgh • Kim Greer & Tim Daugherty • Elisa & Chris Russ • Joseph & Joan Mello
Cast, Crew & Orchestra of Beauty & the Beast • Bob Moore in Memory of Fran Moore • In Memory of Lance Petersen • Milli Martin

PLAYWRIGHT \$100+ David & Marga Raskin • Robbie Coffey & Steve Hughes • Vikki & Don Deadrick • Jennifer Gibbons • Caroline & Franco Venuti
Theatre Lovers • Bobbie J. Behrens, MD OB/GYN • Bill Bell & MaryLou Kelsey • Heidi Catlett • Peter Townsend • Shari Daugherty
Shirley Fedora & Bill Palmer • Trina B. Fellows • Asia, Michael & Jake • Frontier Natural Health • Lorrene Forbes • Hank & Gail Schneider
Golden Family • Beth Graber & Michael Hawfield • Dixie Hart • Maura & Lenore Jones • PeggyEllen & Rich Kleinleder • Jenny Martin • Laura Patty
Peter & Laura Norton • Sally Oberstein • Dustin Poindexter • Lord & Castner • Suzanne Haines & Brian Harrison • Lawrence & Gail Radcliffe
Bob Shavelson & Miranda Weiss • Marion Deeds • Homer Electric Association • Sadie, Stella & Griffin • Ed & Sheryl Sotelo • Ceil C. Manchester
Jack & Sue & Zak • Art Shop Rentals • Christie Gates • Catherine McCarthy • Michael Mungoven & Lisa Climo • Daniel & Jessica Norton
Peggy Pittman & Roger Imhoff • Sue Post & Jim Levine • Bruce & Polly Hess • Bobby Copeland-McKinney & Michael McKinney • Kathy Hill
Shelly Laukitis • Roy & Susanne Ratcliffe Wilson • Anne Gittinger • Lynne Roff & Dick Sanders • Linda Rowell • Elizabeth Trowbridge • John Munns
Aleda Yourdon • Claudia Haines & Steve Glasman • Wood & Mark Turner • Bill & Eileen Bechtol • Marilyn Kirkham • Diane Borgman • Kate Finn
Bonnie Hahn • The Vanek Family • Debra Lowney & Ralph Broshe • Dots Sherwood & Gary Scholz • Beth & Robert Nehus • Shirley Evans
Olga von Ziegesar • Doug & Landa Baily • John & Rosemary Fitzpatrick • Rachael Friedlander • Wayne & Twyla Mundy • Kira & Sandy Stuart
In Memory of Nancy Levinson, Shirley Henwood, Jane Swain, & Laveda Youngblood • Martine Cyriacks Sorrenson, dba faux evergreen

POET \$50+ Abe & Marcia Akresh • Ole Andersson & Jinky Handy • BobbieLee Briggs • Comfort Music Studio • Dan Coyle • Virginia Cuffe
Craig Matkin • Karen Wessel • Dolma Family • Nancy Gorman & Jeff Kaufman • James Hornaday • Barb Veeck • Leslie Whip • Jenny Edwards
Liz Mering • Jan Knutson & Ed Hutchinson • Charles & Kim Kraushar • Lyn Maslow & David Lewis • Francie Roberts • Kathy & Bruce Robinson
Sunrise Sjoeborg • Janet Fink • Ken & Donna Hinkle • Jan & Betty • Lorna Olson • Marilyn Shroyer • Sara Perman • Courtney Brod • Jackie Norvell
Ruby & David Nofziger • Karen Murdock & Bill Marshall • Jeanne Parker • Johnnie & Philip Osborn • Bunting Family • McAllistar Counseling
Carol Harding • Clancy & Diane Hughes • Barrett Fletcher • Samuel Cason • Christine Kulcheski • Karen & Bill Wuestenfeld • Therese Lewandowski

PATRON \$1000+

Lance & Barbara Petersen
Wayne & Donna Aderhold
Michael & Peggy Craig
Denise & Roger Clyne
Sue Biggs & Jack Will
Ann & Ron Keffer
John & Rika Mouw
The Grog Shop



THANK YOU
TO OUR
COMMUNITY OF
FINANCIAL
SUPPORTERS!
YOUR DONATIONS
MAKE IT ALL
POSSIBLE!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR IN-KIND SUPPORT!

The City of Homer
The Homer High School
The Homer Bookstore
Spit w Spots
Spenard Builders supply
David Webster & Sam Tenhoff

The 2022 Financial Report

Income:
Gate - \$66,918.54
Merchandise - \$7,599.96
Grant/Underwriting/Misc. - \$36,545.64
Raven's Club/Donations - \$40,539.58
Tuition - \$15,832.61
Total - \$167,436.31

Expense:
Personnel: Salaried/Project Based - \$103,029.85
Advertising/Marketing - \$8,189.43
Show/Project - \$48,785.69
Operating Expenses --\$36,381.06
Total - \$196,386.03
The bottom line: - \$28,949.70

From: [Melissa Jacobsen](#)
To: [Renee Krause](#)
Subject: FW: PARCAC members
Date: Thursday, April 20, 2023 1:55:58 PM

From: janie leask <huntave@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2023 1:26 PM
To: Department Clerk <clerk@ci.homer.ak.us>
Cc: Mike Illg <MIllg@ci.homer.ak.us>; Kathy Vogl <kathyvogl@yahoo.com>; Jim Lavrakas <jlav@gci.net>; Shan Burson <shan_burson@yahoo.com>; Jeff Sharp <fly1safe@gmail.com>; Janie Leask <huntave@yahoo.com>; Christopher Mullikin <clmullikin8@gmail.com>; Jeanne Parker <jeannemena@gmail.com>; Lawrence Radcliffe <ljr52085@gmail.com>; Malcolm Milne <bcbmam@yahoo.com>; Eric Tutt <erixtut@gmail.com>; Paul Allan <pallan99@gmail.com>; Ian Reid <ian@eagleeyegallery.com>; Mike Flora <jflora@xyz.net>; Paul Knight <luapknight@gmail.com>; Dick Dunn <capdick@me.com>
Subject: PARCAC members

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To PARCAC through the City Clerk:
Please transmit this to the members of the City of Homer's Parks, Art, Rec & Culture Advisory Commission in advance of tonight's meeting.

TO: David Lewis, Chair, and members Deb Lowney, Robert Archibald, Leon Galbraith, Clark Fair, Ingrid Harrauld, and Peter Roedl

I'm sorry to miss tonight's meeting but wanted to voice my support for two budgetary requests submitted by Community Recreation. These requests are currently NOT included in the draft forwarded to the Council by the City Manager.

- 1) an additional full-time staff for community recreation (\$80,000-\$82,000) and,
- 2) the purchase of new software to help better manage, market, and measure the importance of programs offered through Community Recreation (\$11,000 in FY24 for the initial setup and \$7,000 thereafter).

These items are important to address the continued growth of the many programs offered through community recreation. Mike Illg is but one individual and can't effectively run this expanding department by himself. He needs help and your support! This past year he's had the help of a part-time staff which has helped, but he needs full-time support.

Along with additional staffing is the purchase of new software. The City Manager feels this

can be deferred until a new Community Recreation center is built. It cannot! The future of such a Center is uncertain and Community Rec needs this software NOW to manage, market, and measure its many programs. The current method is ineffective and cumbersome and just takes up too much time. The many programs offered through Community Rec are important to our community and the impact of these programs needs to be measured.

If the City can include a \$44,000 line item for new chairs in the library, it can certainly support these requests (and know I'm not taking aim at the Library only the lack of consideration for Community Rec's requests).

I would also like to put my two cents in for the creation of a Department of Parks & Rec. I don't know WHY Homer doesn't have one. Unlike additional staffing & software, this issue may not be solved in the upcoming budgetary process, but maybe the conversation can begin. So many other communities of all sizes have this department. Why don't we? And why couldn't PARCAC which oversees parks, trails and recreation facilities include recreation programs and continue to oversee it all with the Manager of Community Recreation staffing it? I'm sure it's not a simple process yet I know the City does have the ability to create departments.

It just makes sense to me. Meanwhile, I urge you to support the additional staffing and software request in the upcoming FY24/25 budget and forward your support to the City Manager and City Council.

Thank you,

Janie Leask
Homer resident
huntave@yahoo.com

Guiding Growth: A 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.

GUIDING GROWTH

What makes Homer a special place to live?

Attend an open forum to share ideas, history
and growth opportunities for Homer.

Come see historical newspaper
photos and articles, share stories.

Discuss who we are and
how Homer is changing.



Location: Christian Community Church
3838 Bartlett St A, Homer

Time: 4-5:30 pm, Saturday, April 29

With Mercedes Harness and Tom Kizzia