

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-05 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:31 p.m. on August 19th, 2025 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS CASE, LEPLEY, O'BRIEN, PARSONS, SAFRA, THORSRUD & STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ENGBRETSSEN

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBER DARBONNE (EXCUSED)

STAFF: CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE
DEPUTY CITY CLERK PETTIT

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Thorsrud read the supplemental items into the record and requested a motion and second to approve the agenda as amended.

LEPLEY/SAFRA MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

Dale Petkash provided additional information on the Other Power-Driven Mobility Device (OPDMD) concept submittal that was included in the packet. He broadly discussed e-bike/scooter programs around the country, geofencing, and liability.

Dyle Carman advocated for more ADA accessibility at the Homer Small Boat Harbor, citing his own personal struggles traversing the ramps at the small boat harbor.

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

- A. City of Homer Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2031 & Legislative Priorities
Jenny Carroll, Special Projects & Communications Coordinator

Special Projects & Communications Coordinator Carroll presented to the Commission regarding the 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion topics included cost thresholds and detailed conversations on various projects in the CIP.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes for the Regular Meeting on June 12, 2025

CASE/LEPLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 12, 2025.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

- A. Staff Report

ADA Coordinator Krause noted that she enjoyed her time off in Florida and briefed the Board on the newest hire in the Clerk's office, Deputy City Clerk Scott Lynn.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Capital Improvement Plan Discussion & Recommendation

SAFRA/LEPLEY MOVED TO COMBINE THE CITY HALL ADA ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT AND REMOVING THE BARRIERS (PRIORITY #1), HOMER ALL AGES AND ABILITIES PATHWAY LOOP (PRIORITY #2), AND HEATH STREET REHABILITATION (PRIORITY #3).

Board Member O'Brien agreed with Board Member Safra, noting that combining the City Hall ADA Accessibility project with the removal of parking and pavement barriers would effectively address ADA compliance and safety concerns. Student Representative Engebretsen concurred, adding that it was a strong motion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

B. Capital Improvement Plan New Project Discussion & Recommendation

The Board reviewed and discussed the submissions received by the city for the Request for Information regarding ADA Accessible Option to Access the Homer Small Boat Harbor Float System. There was in-depth discussion regarding the Terrain Hopper submission from Dale Petkash. ADA Coordinator Krause stated that she was hopeful of bringing back a draft of the project nomination form for the Board to review and provide feedback on at the next meeting.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. 2025 ADA Calendar
- B. Annual Calendar 2025
- C. Approved Bylaws

Chair Thorsrud noted the informational materials. She welcomed Board Member Darbonne and Student Representative Engebretsen to the Board.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Dale Petkash thanked the Board for listening to his proposal, adding that he's excited to see where things go from here.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL

Councilmember Parsons thanked Dale Petkash and his family for coming down to the meeting. He encouraged Mr. Petkash to contact Homer Hospice or the Independent Living Center for the best path moving forward with his proposal.

COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Pettit apologized to Board Member Case for the issues with packet distribution.

ADA Coordinator Krause thanked Board Member Lepley for his work on the Request for Information. She added that it was good to see Student Representative Engebretsen on the Board.

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Student Representative Engebretsen noted that the Terrain Hopper seemed like a cool idea but added that it could be scary to physically traverse down the ramps in one.

Board Member Lepley welcomed Student Representative Engebretsen to the Board. He thanked the rest of the Board for supporting his Request for Information that he is hopeful will come to fruition someday.

Board Member Case wished Board Member Safra a happy vacation in the Mediterranean.

Board Member Parsons congratulated Mr. Lepley on the RFI proposal. He welcomed Student Representative Engebretsen to the Board.

Board Member O'Brien commended HDR's proposal included in the packet but questioned the legitimacy of how well it would work if implemented.

Board Member Safra stated that she was grateful for Mr. Lepley's continued work towards finding an ADA accessible solution for the ramps at the harbor. She proclaimed her excitement to see another woman on the Board in Student Representative Engebretsen, noting that it hasn't always been so easy for women to have a seat at the table.

Board Member Thorsrud thanked city staff and the other members of the Board, noting that it's always good to have everyone in attendance. She echoed Ms. Safra's comments regarding women not always having a seat in the table back in the day.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is **Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.** All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

ZACH PETTIT, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved:_____