



## Agenda

### Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 5:30 PM

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

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#### Homer City Hall

491 E. Pioneer Avenue  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

#### Zoom Webinar ID: 991 8847 0047 Password: 125016

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

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

#### AGENDA APPROVAL

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 minute time limit)

#### RECONSIDERATION

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [A.](#) November 19th, 2024 Unapproved Minutes

#### VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

- A. Southern Kenai Peninsula Resilience Coalition

#### STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- [A.](#) Library Director's Report- November 2024
- B. Fundraising Report
- C. Legislative Report
- D. Comprehensive Plan Report

#### PUBLIC HEARING

#### PENDING BUSINESS

- [A.](#) Budget Update

#### NEW BUSINESS

- [A.](#) Out of School Programs

#### INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

[A.](#) City Manager's Report

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE** (3 minute time limit)

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

**COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

**COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Meeting is **Tuesday, January 21, at 5:30 p.m.** All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Session 24-07, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Doug Bailey at 5:31 p.m. on November 19, 2024 at the Cowles Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: BOARDMEMBERS BAILY, KUSZMAUL, FINN, MCKINNEY, ASSELIN-MARTIN, CARSSOW, HAAS & STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MCDONOUGH

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK APPEL

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair Baily read the agenda

FINN/KUSZMAUL MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 minute time limit)**

## **RECONSIDERATION**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Unapproved Minutes for October 15, 2024

CARSSOW/FINN MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 15 MINUTES

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

## **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

A. Teen Advisory Board

Teen Advisory Board gave a presentation reflecting on the importance of the Library space as a safe place for the Teen Community to come together after school. Members of the Board asked questions looking for the Teen perspective on how the Library can better support youth in the community.

## **STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Designate LAB Member to Report to Council**

Board member Asselin-Martin volunteered to deliver the November 19th report to City Council. Board agreed that a member of the Teen Advisory Board would be invited to accompany Board member Asselin-Martin to the Council meeting.

### **B. Library Director's Report**

October 2024  
Stats for 2023  
Stats for 2024

Library Director Berry covered the following:

- Library hosted an AI discussion in October
- Library hosted a Candidate Forum. An audience of about 40 interacted with candidates for House District 6
- Staff member Julie Nelsen's last day as Summer Temp was October 31st
- Moving forward with architectural review for installing a new security grille at the front entrance
- Working with IT to replace outdated public computers

### **C. Fundraising Report**

Board member Kuszmaul spoke about the Library Endowment Fund as well as multiple donations that were made to the Library during the past month. She suggested advertising a gift challenge to try to get the community to match a large donation recently received.

CARSSOW/ASSELIN-MARTIN MOVED TO ASK STAFF TO FACILITATE A FUNDING CHALLENGE TO MATCH THE \$10,000 GRANT BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **D. Legislative Report**

Board member Finn spoke on the legislative report

### **E. Comp Plan Steering Committee Report**

Board member Carsow spoke about the Comp Plan meeting, saying the group hasn't met since the last LAB meeting. She gave insight into what the upcoming meeting will entail. She also mentioned in late January there should be a public review draft with the plan for the public to comment during a scheduled meeting.

### **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Memo- Library in Tumultuous Times**

Library Director Berry spoke about political graffiti in the Library bathroom stalls as well as complaints from some individuals regarding some religious texts on the shelves. He stated publicly that the Public Library is a citywide institution and that serves every member of the community regardless of their political inclinations.

#### **B. Review of Library Policy on Materials Challenges**

Board member Haas stated his goal with the Policy Review was to go through the policy with a legal perspective and make sure it's legally sound- regarding the policies in place about complaints, appeal to the Library Advisory Board, etc. Board members had discussion and determined they would reevaluate at a later meeting.

#### **C. Library Advisory Board- 2025 Meeting Schedule**

Board adopted the 2025 meeting schedule with the change of one meeting date in December of 2025.

#### **D. FY26-FY27 Budget Forecast**

Library Director Berry stated the Library needed to be prepared to cut about 5-10% of their budget. He stated he has come up with a list of priorities that he feels could be cut without major impact on staff or operations or can be easily compensated by grants.

### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

#### **A. City Manager's Report**

Board members commented about the Homer Spit's erosion problems

#### **B. LAB Calendar**

Chair Bailly noted the informational materials

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)**

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

**COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS** (if Present)

**COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Baily adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, January 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

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ASHLEY APPEL, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

# Library Director's Report

November 30, 2024

## General Notes

The federal government pays for 70% of the library's internet service through the e-rate subsidy. There are currently three e-rate cases making their way through the courts. Not all apply to us, but the *Consumer's Research* case before the Supreme Court could potentially unravel the entire e-rate program. A decision is expected by June 2025. See <https://www.shlb.org/blogs/universal-service-litigation-updates> for more details. Separately, the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a different federal program that gives grants to libraries, may be on the chopping block in the coming year. Stay tuned!

National politics has affected the library to some degree. For months we've had a vandal writing political graffiti in the men's room, which forces us to waste a lot of time cleaning it off. On Nov. 8, an irate patron complained about the Jehovah's Witnesses setting out their display in the plaza, as they have done monthly for years.

The budget process has begun, and the City is projecting revenue shortfalls for FY 2026-27. Departments are preparing tentative 5-10% cuts to operations.

On a happier note, the library received a state grant for \$6,462 to offset the cost of providing internet service to the public, and \$7,000 through the Public Libraries Assistance Grant to pay for materials. The last couple of months have also been excellent for the library endowment fund, as four donors have collectively contributed \$14,000! Many thanks to Kathy Carssow, Kathryn Anderson and others for their support! Also, FHL set up the giving tree on Nov. 27, and patrons purchased the first items that afternoon.

## Staff Notes

Director's meetings:

- Staff: 4
- LAB: 1
- FHL: 3

- Council: 2
- Department Heads: 1
- Other: Alaska Public Media about showing a PBS documentary in spring; meetings with IT and Public Works; Setup and breakdown for MR. Whitekeys event; pollination grant meeting; recreation champions

## **Facility**

We now have permanent “no camping” signs around the parking lot. The parks division cut a ditch along the north side of the Story Walk Trail to improve drainage, especially since a new three-story triplex is under construction at the corner of the Lucky Shot Trail. The temperature on the water heater was dialed down slightly to avoid scalding people. The front door lock had trouble engaging again.

## **Library Advisory Board (LAB)**

The Teen Advisory Board gave a brief presentation at the start of the LAB meeting, describing some of their activities. The LAB reviewed the policy on materials challenges and discussed the upcoming budget for FY 2026-27.

## **Friends of the Homer Library (FHL)**

FHL had a board mini-retreat on Nov. 6. In addition to the regular business (logistics and scheduling for upcoming events) the board also reviewed some changes to its bylaws, examined and discussed its current slate of regular programs, and considered some changes to its organizational structure to better manage its workload.

## **Ongoing Events**

- Mondays, 1:30-4:30: Knitting Club
- Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30: Chess Club
- Wednesdays, 10:30-11:00: Toddler Time
- Wednesdays, 3:00-4:45: LEGO Club
- Fridays, 10:30-11:30: Preschool Storytime
- Fridays, 3:30-5:45: Live-Action Role Playing (LARP)
- Saturdays, 10:00-12:30: Alaska Japanese Club



- First Tuesday, 6:30-8:00: SPARC Radio Club
- First Thursday, 1:00-3:00: Literary Ladies
- First and Third Thursdays, 5:30-7:30: Tech Help
- Second Wednesday, 4:45-5:45: Teen Advisory Board
- Third Thursday, 10:30-11:30: Radio Storytime on KBBI
- Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30: FHL/HPL Book Club
- Tuesday following the first City Council meeting of the month, 12:00-1:00: Conversations with a Councilmember (schedule may vary depending on availability)

## Special Events

- Nov. 2, 12:30-5:45: Independent Living Center.
- Nov. 11: Library closed for Veteran's Day.
- Nov. 14, 1:00-2:00: Homer OPUS.
- Nov. 15, 2:00-4:45: *The LEGO Batman Movie* in the meeting room.
- **Nov. 16, 6:00-7:30: Mr. Whitekeys visits Homer to talk about his new book, *The Voyage of the Alaska Union*. Hosted at Kachemak Bay Campus.**
- Nov. 18, 4:30-5:45: Games for teens.
- Nov. 19, 6:00-7:45: Kachemak Swim Club.
- Nov. 28-29: Library closed for Thanksgiving.
- **Nov. 30, 10:00-2:30: Friends of the Library Pop-Up Plant Sale.**
- Dec. 3, 12:30-3:25: Independent Living Center.
- Dec. 3, 4:30-6:30: Alaska Japanese Club.
- Dec. 10, 6:30-7:45: Discussion group on local issues.
- Dec. 12, 4:30-5:45: Crafternoon for teens and tweens.
- Dec. 13, 2:00-5:00: Showing of *The Princess Bride* in the meeting room.
- Dec. 17, 4:30-7:30: Food Not Bombs.
- **Dec. 17, 6:00-7:45: Tom Kizzia and Rich Chiappone discuss writing and history.**
- Dec. 25: Library closed for Christmas Day.

## Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2024

Date: 12-Dec-24

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
TOTAL (*Included)	14,636	14,431	15,039	14,426	14,469	13,937	15,411	15,254	13,542	13,354	13,191	0	157,690
*Physical Print/Audio/Video	11,344	11,115	11,546	11,133	11,081	10,772	12,113	11,988	10,389	10,315	10,134		121,930
*Other Physical items (n. 2)	91	90	75	83	92	96	113	106	99	101	97		1,043
*Alaska Digital Library	2,936	2,975	3,219	2,990	3,118	2,893	2,967	2,985	2,879	2,768	2,821		32,551
*Flipster e-magazines	41	18	36	18	21	41	14	8	61	26	18		302
*Kanopy streaming video	224	233	163	202	157	135	204	167	114	144	121		1,864
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	19	11	12	11	21	14	11	11	14	11	16		151
Outgoing (Lent)	28	26	24	28	28	17	20	21	18	14	9		233
BUILDING USE													
Gate Count	8,880	8,111	8,662	8,564	9,795	8,258	9,312	8,596	8,636	8,460	7,467		94741
Study Rooms (# of group sessions)	266	238	229	206	205	180	197	234	222	241	239		2457
Study Rooms (# of people)	499	454	442	373	390	309	344	415	399	427	462		4514
Meeting Room (# of group sessions)	27	30	36	34	31	38	29	22	24	35	23		329
Meeting Room (# of people)	206	214	309	213	254	244	256	205	231	329	243		2704
INTERNET USE													
TOTAL (*Included)	2,315	3,288	3,045	3,065	2,324	2,111	2,782	3,333	2,464	2,367	1,793	0	28,887
*Wireless Internet sessions	1,169	2,190	1,923	1,926	1,221	1,011	1,616	2,122	1,262	1,127	885		16452
*Hardwired Internet sessions	1,146	1,098	1,122	1,139	1,103	1,100	1,166	1,211	1,202	1,240	908		12435
Website visits (sessions)	3,415	3,136	2,813	2,861	2,825	2,697	2,888	2,809	2,729	2,803	2,263		31,239
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE (n. 1)													
TOTAL (*Included)	1,205	1,101	1,223	1,216	1,436	1,196	1,415	1,064	1,231	1,214	1,021	0	13322
*Programs for Age 0-5	900	884	922	990	891	845	867	821	975	841	676		9612
*Programs for Age 6-11	31	47	62	24	239	171	288	74	134	135	101		1306
*Programs for Age 12-18	26	16	41	37	54	52	62	50	46	45	7		436
*Programs for Age 19+	150	134	196	131	115	84	63	119	74	108	56		1230
*Programs for All Ages	98	20	2	34	137	44	135	0	2	85	181		738
OUTREACH													
# Events	3	1	2	2	5	4	0	2	2	2	2		25
# People	11	9	9	9	11	18	0	20	10	20	10		127
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	38	24	20	25	17	37	45	36	36	37	33		348
Borough	19	28	21	20	18	17	44	19	20	17	19		242
Temporary	1	0	0	0	1	8	2	1	2	0	0		15
Reciprocal	0	0	3	1	4	2	6	6	3	1	2		28
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	71	75	76	90	87	84	93	81	81	105	79		922
# of hours	248	217	243	251	360	293	308	264	248	242	246		2920
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	287	219	155	248	337	192	209	186	114	229	182		2358
Audio	9	9	11	25	12	9	0	5	5	10	26		121
Video	41	34	33	29	32	26	32	38	12	17	16		310
Serials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Electronic Resources	50	41	60	28	106	167	84	90	51	136	47		860
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	73	25	57	106	116	223	282	306	593	76	89		1946
Audio	21	74	4	8	0	1	1	0	0	0	3		112
Video	0	101	1	34	0	37	31	41	2	0	1		248
Serials	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	1000.00	791.00	1453.00	1405.60	932.06	1100.20	1422.15	869.31	1355.65	815.40	634.97	269.75	12,049.09
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Endowment													0.00
Grants	725.00									1829.00	11633.00		14,187.00
TOTALS	1,725.00	791.00	1,453.00	1,405.60	932.06	1,100.20	1,422.15	869.31	1,355.65	2,644.40	12,267.97	269.75	\$26,236.09

Data not available yet or incomplete

Note 1: Program attendance includes all programs sponsored by the library or the Friends of the Library. It does not include meetings of community groups. Programs are sorted by the age of the target audience, but totals include all attendees (i.e. parents as well as toddlers, etc.)

Note 2: Other physical items includes electronic devices, kits, toys, board games, sports equipment and videogames.

## Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2023

Date: 12-Dec-24

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
TOTAL (*Included)	11,912	11,843	12,613	11,546	11,646	12,422	13,492	15,594	14,813	14,008	14,064	13,681	157,634
*Physical Print/Audio/Video	9,322	9,289	9,449	8,728	8,933	9,900	10,782	12,842	11,907	10,991	10,976	10,352	123,471
*Other Physical items (n. 2)	91	108	116	90	109	111	128	121	115	106	120	122	1,337
*Alaska Digital Library	2,443	2,408	2,984	2,655	2,507	2,327	2,408	2,465	2,665	2,754	2,771	2,938	31,325
*Flipster e-magazines	28	22	36	26	27	32	51	30	20	13	32	29	346
*Kanopy streaming video	28	16	28	47	70	52	123	136	106	144	165	240	1,155
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	24	14	17	24	13	7	20	21	14	14	14	18	200
Outgoing (Lent)	18	6	22	14	26	11	20	23	30	13	25	9	217
BUILDING USE													
Gate Count	10,232	11,500	12,884	12,022	13,253	12,711	10,327	9,676	9,734	8,109	7,800	7,427	125,675
Study Rooms (# of group sessions)	200	219	244	236	237	224	188	256	220	216	212	158	2,610
Study Rooms (# of people)	336	361	434	426	397	371	283	441	446	414	372	302	4,583
Meeting Room (# of group sessions)	40	28	36	25	16	34	20	18	25	25	21	21	309
Meeting Room (# of people)	282	205	238	229	162	383	220	161	230	166	187	151	2,614
INTERNET USE													
TOTAL (*Included)	1,701	1,840	2,510	2,224	2,427	2,851	2,695	1,226	2,612	1,527	2,069	1,913	25,595
*Wireless Internet sessions	1,006	1,055	1,401	1,372	1,533	1,763	1,588		1,553	447	1,112	995	13,825
*Hardwired Internet sessions	695	785	1,109	852	894	1,088	1,107	1,226	1,059	1,080	957	918	11,770
Website visits (sessions)	4,720	3,966	5,143	4,332	5,041	5,442			2,273	2,789	3,026	2,601	39,333
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE (n. 1)													
TOTAL (*Included)	947	933	1,101	915	1,206	1,342	1,061	1,200	1,191	1,149	1,485	974	13,504
*Programs for Age 0-5	670	597	725	662	910	854	751	984	952	872	878	851	9,706
*Programs for Age 6-11	176	160	143	63	150	217	170	67	78	41	109	37	1,411
*Programs for Age 12-18	14	26	72	44	34	69	57	36	73	28	12	11	476
*Programs for Age 19+	63	44	161	58	85	80	49	76	84	159	344	49	1,252
*Programs for All Ages	24	106	0	88	27	122	34	37	4	49	142	26	659
OUTREACH													
# Events	2	2	4	2	2	2	1	3	2	5	2	4	31
# People	12	8	14	17	18	11	3	4	11	9	15	11	133
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	41	33	27	26	28	38	31	32	30	34	25	23	368
Borough	30	32	25	26	17	30	30	32	33	32	22	17	326
Temporary	0	1	0	0	1	5	3	4	2	1	2	0	19
Reciprocal	0	0	0	0	4	3	2	4	1	0	1	1	16
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	73	67	55	65	39	58	57	60	63	72	61	66	736
# of hours	312	227	150	233	198	173	157	196	240	163	215	202	2,466
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	324	180	143	311	265	190	125	303	189	213	127	185	2,555
Audio	7	7	23	11	19	8	6	7	5	12	19	17	141
Video	56	31	26	46	74	20	32	18	15	19	7	38	382
Serials	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Electronic Resources	31	61	32	52	16	0	13	0	0	53	67	136	461
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	523	216	326	95	359	412	88	98	51	141	110	52	2,471
Audio	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	8
Video	0	0	3	15	0	78	33	23	93	1	3	0	249
Serials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	865.00	1,037.00	0.00	1,101.00	971.00	915.00	1,020.00	1,709.00	900.00	906.00	0.00	891.37	10,315.37
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Endowment													0.00
Grants										7,000.00			7,000.00
TOTALS	865.00	1,037.00	0.00	1,101.00	971.00	915.00	1,020.00	1,709.00	900.00	7,906.00	0.00	891.37	\$17,315.37

Data not available yet or incomplete

Note 1: Program attendance includes all programs sponsored by the library or the Friends of the Library. It does not include meetings of community groups. Programs are sorted by the age of the target audience, but totals include all attendees (i.e. parents as well as toddlers, etc.)

Note 2: Other physical items includes electronic devices, kits, toys, board games, sports equipment and videogames.

Note 3: Gate count for July may be low due to equipment failure.

**City Of Homer**  
**FY24/25 Operating Budget**

FUND 100 - GENERAL FUND									
DEPT 0145 - LIBRARY									
A/C Num.	Expenditure Categories & Descriptions	FY24		FY25		FY26	FY27	FY27 - FY25	
		7/1/23 - 6/30/24		7/1/24 - 6/30/25		7/1/25 - 6/30/26	7/1/26 - 6/30/27	Budget Change	
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
	<u>Salaries and Benefits</u>								
5101	Salary and Wages	402,393	397,006	424,929	145,189	428,590	442,012	17,083	4.0%
5102	Fringe Benefits	237,618	234,657	225,461	75,796	226,565	230,617	5,156	2.3%
5103	Part-time Wages	108,861	84,323	116,823	42,043	110,184	110,184	(6,639)	-5.7%
5104	Part-time Benefits	67,017	65,836	58,161	19,801	57,617	57,617	(543)	-0.9%
5105	Overtime	1,000	460	1,000	31	-	-	(1,000)	-100.0%
5107	Part-time Overtime	-	456	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
5108	Unemployment Benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
5112	PERS Relief	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
	<u>Total Salaries and Benefits</u>	<u>816,889</u>	<u>782,737</u>	<u>826,374</u>	<u>282,861</u>	<u>822,956</u>	<u>840,431</u>	<u>14,057</u>	<u>1.7%</u>
	<u>Maintenance and Operations</u>								
5201	Office Supplies	9,000	7,436	9,000	777	9,000	7,000	(2,000)	-22.2%
5202	Operating Supplies	1,270	1,139	1,270	460	-	-	(1,270)	-100.0%
5203	Fuel and Lube	18,000	17,310	18,000	3,491	18,000	18,000	-	0.0%
5208	Equipment Maintenance	3,000	3,516	3,000	-	1,500	-	(3,000)	-100.0%
5209	Building & Grounds Maintenance	250	-	250	-	-	-	(250)	-100.0%
5210	Professional Services	11,200	10,847	9,400	8,289	9,400	9,400	-	0.0%
5214	Rents & Leases	6,000	3,793	6,000	1,174	4,000	2,000	(4,000)	-66.7%
5215	Communications	36,000	28,009	36,000	7,117	36,000	30,000	(6,000)	-16.7%
5216	Freight and Postage	4,500	4,035	4,500	1,566	4,750	4,750	250	5.6%
5217	Electricity	30,554	30,152	33,609	7,710	33,167	36,483	2,874	8.6%
5218	Water	1,044	1,428	1,148	520	1,571	1,728	580	50.5%
5219	Sewer	1,148	1,485	1,263	522	1,634	1,797	534	42.3%
5221	Property Insurance	16,541	20,133	21,940	21,940	24,134	26,548	4,607	21.0%
5223	Liability Insurance	1,576	2,564	5,846	5,332	5,865	6,451	605	10.3%
5227	Advertising	1,000	531	1,000	-	500	-	(1,000)	-100.0%
5228	Books	44,000	44,349	44,000	7,438	25,000	25,000	(19,000)	-43.2%
5229	Periodicals	12,000	9,709	12,000	783	10,000	9,000	(3,000)	-25.0%
5230	Audio Visual	16,500	17,462	16,500	1,823	10,000	9,000	(7,500)	-45.5%
5231	Tools and Equipment	4,250	3,696	5,250	25	2,000	1,000	(4,250)	-81.0%
5233	Computer Related Items	3,500	557	5,500	-	3,500	1,000	(4,500)	-81.8%
5235	Membership Dues	1,500	817	1,500	480	750	750	(750)	-50.0%
5236	Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
5237	Subsistence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
5238	Printing and Binding	600	-	600	-	-	-	(600)	-100.0%
5242	Janitorial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
5244	Snow Removal	10,200	16,120	10,200	-	10,200	8,000	(2,200)	-21.6%
5252	Credit Card Expenses	600	808	600	472	600	600	-	0.0%
5603	Employee Training	8,500	2,472	8,500	2,538	3,000	-	(8,500)	-100.0%
5627	Security	-	-	-	774	-	-	-	0.0%
5634	Networking	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
5635	Software	14,500	13,957	19,500	2,580	15,000	13,000	(6,500)	-33.3%
5639	Subscription Databases	10,000	8,952	23,500	12,164	18,000	18,000	(5,500)	-23.4%
	<u>Total Maintenance and Operations</u>	<u>267,233</u>	<u>251,277</u>	<u>299,877</u>	<u>87,976</u>	<u>247,571</u>	<u>229,508</u>	<u>(70,369)</u>	<u>-23.5%</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>1,084,122</u>	<u>1,034,015</u>	<u>1,126,251</u>	<u>370,836</u>	<u>1,070,527</u>	<u>1,069,939</u>	<u>(56,312)</u>	<u>-5.0%</u>



# MEMORANDUM /AGENDA ITEM REPORT

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## Budget for FY 26-27

**Item Type:** Information memorandum  
**Prepared For:** Library Advisory Board  
**Date:** Dec. 10, 2024  
**From:** Dave Berry, Library Director  
**Through:**

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As part of the planning for the FY 26-27 budget, the City administration has asked all departments to consider a 5% cut to operations. After talking this over with staff and juggling a number of scenarios, we've come up with a draft that hits the 5% target exactly.

Needless to say, cutting the budget has an adverse effect on the library. The draft includes major reductions in the materials budget, elimination of virtually all maintenance on tools and electronics, and cutting funding for supplies and contracts to the minimum possible. It also shrinks the number of hours for substitute and temporary employees and eliminates overtime across the board.

I will submit the draft to the administration by the end of December and discuss it with Finance and the city manager in January.

### Recommendation:

For information.



November 18, 2024

Attention City of Homer Commissioners and Board Members:

Southern Kenai Peninsula Resilience Coalition (SKPRC) urges the City of Homer to include out of school time program solutions for youth as an integral part of the Comprehensive Plan update.

Active since 2014, the SKPRC is a group of local individuals and organizations that envisions a community where youth feel safe, supported, and cared for through positive relationships. We define out of school time programs as supervised activities that young people regularly attend when school is not in session including: before and after school; evenings; weekends; holidays and summer.

The framework for this effort is the Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM). The IPM was developed in Iceland to ensure youth have the supports they need to live their best lives. The goal is to improve their health, happiness and wellbeing by increasing access to enriching activities. This increased engagement has been proven to reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (please see the attachment for more details).

In 2024 the SKPRC began investing in and organizing around the IPM model. This youth-first focus aligns with the Comp Plan update because youth are our future, and the Comp Plan is the vision for the next twenty years of our community. The IPM is a proven mechanism to cultivate positive community change. As such, its inclusion in the Comp Plan would demonstrate the City's dedication to our youth.

We look forward to partnering with the City of Homer on this. We welcome the opportunity to present to your Commission or Board about SKPRC and the Icelandic Prevention Model.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Southern Kenai Peninsula Resilience Coalition





## What is Planet Youth?

Based out of Iceland, Planet Youth is an organization that runs a guidance program in adolescent substance use prevention with communities throughout the world. Planet Youth works in primary substance use prevention through a collaborative approach titled "The Icelandic Prevention Model."

## The Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM)

The Icelandic Prevention Model is a data-driven approach designed to reduce substance use among youth by strengthening protective factors and reducing risk factors. It emphasizes building strong connections between young people, their families, schools, and communities, promoting participation in organized activities, and limiting unsupervised time. The model relies on frequent surveys of youth to understand their social environments and tailor community-based prevention strategies accordingly. As of 2024, the IPM is being implemented in hundreds of municipalities and communities in 19 countries, on 5 different continents.



The Planet Youth Method is being used in 19 countries, on 5 different continents.



## The Five Guiding Principles of the IPM

- 1 Apply a primary prevention approach that is designed To enhance the social environment
- 2 Emphasize community action and embrace public schools as a natural central hub
- 3 Engage and empower community members
- 4 Integrate researchers, policy makers, practitioners, and community members
- 5 Match the scope of the solution to the scope of the problem

## The 10 Core Steps of the Icelandic Prevention Model





## WHAT IS IT?

Planet Youth is a **strategy** where the **whole community** helps to improve the health and lives of young people.

## GOAL

**Prevent or reduce use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs among youth to improve their health, happiness, and life success.**

## PLANET YOUTH

Planet Youth (also known as the Icelandic Prevention Model) was developed in Iceland to make sure children and youth have the supports they need to live their best lives. This includes using less alcohol, tobacco and drugs, less violence, better mental health, and feeling like they belong.

Due to its success, Planet Youth has been adopted in 34 countries and hundreds of cities and towns around the world.

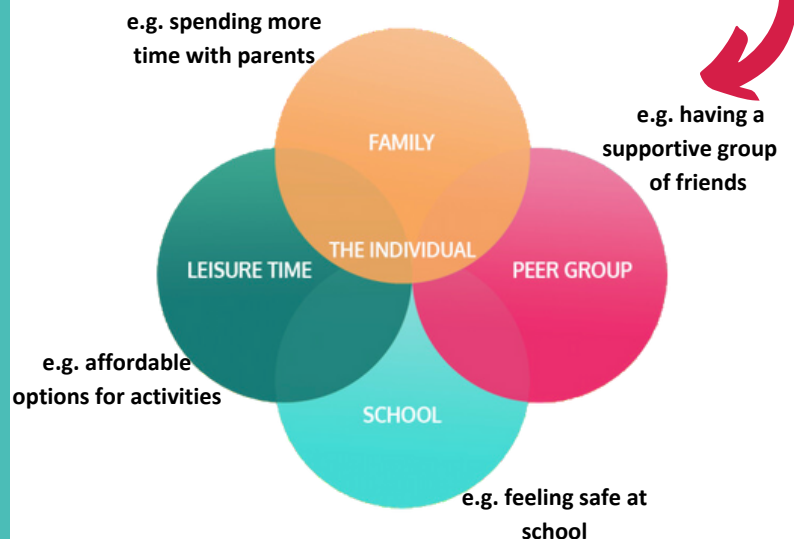
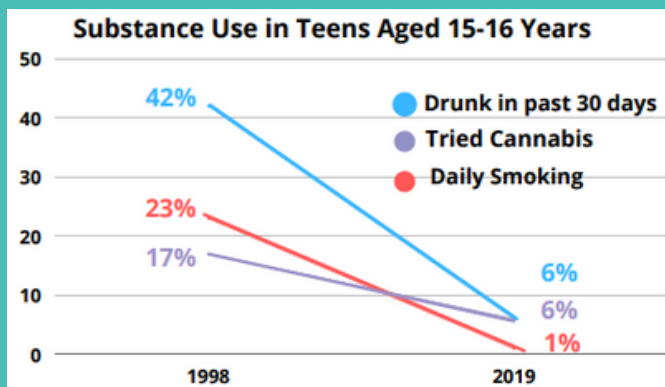
## HOW IS THIS DONE?

Youth complete **surveys** to help us understand the local situation. Planet Youth reviews the numbers and shares a report that highlights the risk and protective factors (things that make it more or less likely for someone to make healthy choices) of each community.

**Local partners** come together to create **action plans** based on the survey results & community feedback.

Actions focus on **increasing protective factors** & **reducing risk factors** in four key areas where children and youth spend the most time: with family, friends, at school and free time.

## RESULTS IN ICELAND SINCE STRATEGY STARTED







# MEMORANDUM /AGENDA ITEM REPORT

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## Out-of-School Programs

**Item Type:** Action memorandum  
**Prepared For:** Library Advisory Board  
**Date:** Nov. 20, 2024  
**From:** Dave Berry, Library Director  
**Through:**

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On Nov. 18, the Southern Kenai Peninsula Resilience Coalition (SKPRC) wrote a letter to all Homer City boards and commissions, asking those bodies to support including out-of-school programs for youth “as an integral part of the Comprehensive Plan update.”

SKPRC has been invited to present at the Dec. 2024 LAB meeting.

### Recommendation:

Discuss and consider a motion of support for the SKPRC’s efforts.



# City of Homer

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

## Office of the City Manager

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### Memorandum

TO: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council  
FROM: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager  
DATE: November 21, 2024  
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for November 25, 2024 Council Meeting

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#### **Harbor Float Replacement Not Selected for Competitive Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant Funding**

I regret to inform the City Council that our application for the Homer Harbor Critical Float Replacement project was not selected for federal grant funding through the FY24 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). The following link will take you to the Maritime Administration's awards announcement:

<https://www.maritime.dot.gov/newsroom/investing-america-biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-580-million-ports>. The only large project awarded in Alaska was for the Don Young Port of Alaska to replace a cargo terminal. Five small awards, ranging from \$9 million to \$11 million were also awarded to Alaska projects.

This was the City's second submission to the program. Our FY23 application scored well and made it to the Secretary of Transportation's desk, and revisions were made to the FY24 application based on agency feedback and suggestions from the Maritime Administration's Pacific Northwest and Alaska Gateway director, but was ultimately not awarded funding. Funding of the PIDP under the Federal Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act will continue through 2026; staff will request a debrief from the Agency to learn about areas to improve competitiveness of a potential third application, which could potentially be requesting a lower grant amount for System 4 only.

The Homer Harbor Critical Float Replacement Project was successful in garnering Denali Commission and potentially appropriation funding for design, environmental review and permitting activities, which could help another application's PIDP competitiveness. Staff is currently working with the Denali Commission on a grant award agreement, which will come to Council for consideration in early 2025. Maintaining the port and harbor float system infrastructure is a top priority, and we remain committed to seeing these improvements through. As we look ahead, we recognize the valuable role our Congressional Delegation plays in federal funding decisions. Engaging our federal legislative advocates more extensively in future grant applications may help strengthen our position in these competitive processes.

#### **Utility Billing Software**

The City has successfully transitioned to Xpress Bill Pay to accept secure online water and sewer bill payments. Customers are encouraged to pay their utility bill online automatically, and those who already had autopay set up will need to set up an Xpress Bill pay account before December 15<sup>th</sup> when the next bills are due. Easy to follow instructions are on the City's website <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/finance/create-log-and-make-utility-payments-xpress-bill-pay> or contact the Finance Department at 907-435-3114 during regular business hours.

#### **November 16 Storm Surge and Coastal Erosion**

On Saturday afternoon, November 16<sup>th</sup>, the west side of the Homer Spit was hit with a 23-foot-high tide and strong southwesterly winds sending waves up and over the Homer Spit Road damaging the road, depositing debris on the bike path across the street, damaging buildings, and severely eroding an area of the beach past just past the revetment wall.

We really appreciate the State's quick and coordinated response to make repairs to road, and QAP and their team who were quick to staff up and get rock delivered and placed to secure the roadway. I'd like to give a shout out to our Fire Department, Police Department, Port and Harbor and Public Works staff for their speedy response to manage traffic immediately following the tidal event and to respond at the affected areas to ensure utilities were intact and look for immediate potential safety issues. A team from State Emergency Operations Center and Kenai Peninsula Borough Office of Emergency Management were onsite Wednesday to conduct a preliminary assessment and initiate coordination with other entities who can assist with recovery.



Attachment:

- Revised FY26/27 Budget Development Schedule
- Employee Anniversaries December