

Agenda

Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular MeetingRegular Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2025DATE 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

CALL TO ORDER 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS (10 minute time limit)

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by the Parks Art Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Commissioner or someone from the public, in which case the item will be moved to the regular agenda and considered in normal sequence.

<u>A.</u>	Unapproved Minutes- April 17, 2025 Regular Meeting	Page 3
STAFF	& COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS (5 minute time limit)	
<u>A.</u>	Parks Monthly Report	Page 7
<u>B.</u>	Staff Report	Page 11
<u>C.</u>	Community Rec Report	Page 13
PUBLI	IC HEARING	
PEND	ING BUSINESS (15 minute time limit)	
<u>A.</u>	Policies and Procedures	Page 17
NEW E	BUSINESS (15-20 minute time limit)	

<u>A.</u>	Discussion of Location for New Rec Center	Page 21
<u>B.</u>	Silhouettes for NOMAR Wall	Page 23
INFOR	MATIONAL MATERIALS	
Α.	2025 Calendar	Page 28
B.	City Manager's Report April 28, 2025 City Council Meeting May 12, 2025 City Council Meeting	Page 29 Page 42
сомм	IENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)	

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is **Thursday, June 19, 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 25-02, a Regular Meeting of the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Lewis at 5:30 p.m. on April 17, 2025 in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS ARCHIBALD, LEWIS, HARRALD, KEISER, PARSLEY & ROEDL

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER STEPHANO (UNEXCUSED)

STAFF: RECREATION MANAGER ILLG, STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE OSTROM, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KORT, LEAD PARKS TECHNICIAN FELICE, CITY CLERK KRAUSE & DEPUTY CITY CLERK APPEL

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Lewis introduced the topic.

ARCHIBALD/KEISER MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA BY MOVING NEW BUSINESS ITEM A TO IMMEDIATELY AFTER VISITOR PRESENTATION.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ARCHIBALD/KEISER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3-minute time limit)

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS (10-minute time limit)

A. Woodard Canyon Trail Group

Catie Bursch asked the Commission if PARCAC or the City would be interested in working with a group called Woodard Canyon Trail Group. The group bought the land behind Karen Hornaday and are interested in forming a volunteer group to work on the trail system.

B. Pier One Theatre

Jennifer Norton, Executive Director of Pier One Theatre, gave a slideshow presentation detailing historical information about the theatre, community involvement, finances, hope for either a new building or repairs to the current one, and different program opportunities for all community demographics.

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes – March 20th Regular Meeting

KEISER/HARRALD MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS (5-minute time limit)

A. Parks Monthly Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Lead Parks Technician Felice, who provided the following summary:

- Karen Hornaday Park is prepped and mostly ready for the summer camping season
- Jack Gist Park has power installed to the pole and is getting set up for a concrete pad for the mobile bathrooms
- The signs for the Library Story Trail are installed
- Actively working on the policies document
- Received nominations for the newest addition to the Nomar wall silhouettes

B. PARCAC Staff Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg recapped his report stating there wasn't much action from City Council in regard to PARCAC's interests.

C. Community Recreation Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg, who provided a report on the following:

- Programming and Special Events
- Summer Field Use meeting to coordinate KPBSD field use
- HERC gym is getting painted and new volleyball news brackets installed
- New Pickleball Ladder League and Family Pickleball Time was brought back
- Year round Youth Basketball opportunities- possible camps, rec league, open gym, etc
- Looking into offering summer programs with partnering agencies, contracted instructors, and volunteers. Activities would take place at Homer High and HERC facility
- Title 21 update process
- City of Homer Budget outlook, possible termination of four City positions, and effect on Community Recreation programs/finances

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

PARKS, ART, RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING APRIL 17, 2025

- A. Policies and Procedures- Recreation
- B. Policies and Procedures- Parks

Chair Lewis introduced the items by reading the titles and referred to Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg reminded the Commission of the importance of creating one cohesive document, as asked by City Council Members Erickson and Davis. He also explained the idea was to document policies that is user friendly to the public and to also identify areas where a policy may be missing.

NEW BUSINESS

A. ADA Transition Plan- Parks

Chair Lewis introduced the topic and deferred to City Clerk Krause to provide a summary. The Commission acknowledged that many existing parks and facilities are not ADA compliant and this is an issue that needs to be addressed. The Commission also agreed to the need for a prioritized list of projects with a focus on the low-hanging fruit that can be completed within the current budget. The Commission also discussed the need to focus on one park at a time, tackling larger items incrementally.

B. Transportation Safety Action Plan

Chair Lewis introduced the topic and deferred to Commissioner Keiser. Commissioner Keiser explained the purpose of the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Transportation Safety Action Plan and that it identifies high-risk accident locations and recommends mitigation measures. She stated the City of Homer has 3 projects currently included in the plan and suggested developing a list of Homer specific priority projects to be added as a supplement to the Borough's plan.

KEISER/ARCHIBALD MOVED THAT PARCAC REOMMENDS TO CITY COUNCIL TO SUBMIT A LIST OF HOMER SPECIFIC PIRORITY PROJECTS TO THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH AND ASK THE BOROUGH TO INCLUDE SUCH LIST AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE BOROUGH'S TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLAN.

There was no discussion

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Annual Calendar 2025
- B. City Manager's Report March 24, 2025 City Council Meeting

Chair Lewis noted the informational materials included in the packet. Commissioner Harrald volunteered to deliver the Commission's report at the next City Council meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3-minute time limit)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

PARKS, ART, RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING APRIL 17, 2025

Deputy City Clerk Appel thanked everyone for the meeting and also reminded the Commission of the upcoming Work Session before the May meeting.

Public Works Director Kort thanked everyone for the meeting

Public Works Technician Felice stated Public Works will need a seasonal staff to help with summer work.

Community Recreation Manager Illg thanked everyone for the meeting. He also mentioned negotiations for a joint use agreement with the school district. He said he is hoping for a 3 year agreement and is budgeting for an increase to use the facilities in the field.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Student Representative Ostrom said it was good being there and being able to comment on things he knows and just absorb knowledge on what he doesn't.

Commissioner Keiser said it was great to have the Student Rep present and encouraged him to keep commenting and providing perspective. She also thanked the Commission for the great meeting.

Commissioner Archibald also encouraged Student Rep Ostrom to not be afraid to speak his mind and provide perspective.

Commissioner Harrald commented that she loves everything the Commission does and that there are amazing people serving on the Commission.

Commissioner Parsley suggested expanding the shoulder on Kachemak Drive and adding a shoulder on East and West Hills to include into the Transportation Safety Plan document. He also notified the Commission of a track meet for the High School that next day.

Chair Lewis thanked everyone for the work they do.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at p.m. The next regular meeting is **Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.** A Worksession is scheduled for 4:30 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.

Ashley Appel, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved:_____



Public Works 3575 Heath Street Homer, AK 99603



www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

publicworks@cityofhomer-ak.gov (p) 907- 235-3170 (f) 907-235-3145

Memorandum

TO: PARKS, ART, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

FROM: CHAD FELICE, PARKS MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR

DATE: May 15th, 2025

SUBJECT: PARKS REVIEW FOR April

KAREN HORNADAY PARK PLAYGROUND

- Cleaned up campsites
- Running water and sewer to camp host site
- Electric is run to the batting cage
- Working on getting reading for camping
 - Site numbers
 - Picnic tables
- Looking for a camp host

JACK GIST PARK

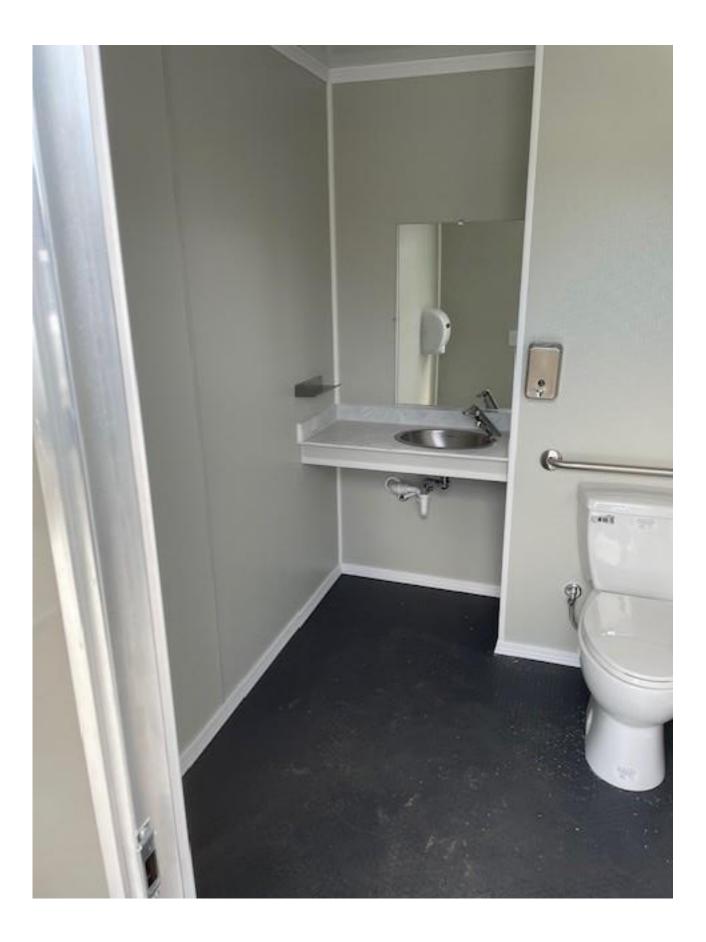
- Concrete pad for mobile rest room is installed
- ADA path to disk golf course has been put in
- Mobile restroom is up and running
- High school softball had their home tournament
- Adult softball is starting end of May
- Installed lights on power pole

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Angie has been working on flower beds and growing flowers
- Going to grader training at the end of may
- Working on special event fees and changes
- Started some mowing
- Working on serve the city things









MEMORANDUM

	2026-2027 Budget
ltem Type:	Informational
Prepared For:	Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
Thru:	
Date:	April 18, 2025
From:	Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission thru Recreation Manager Mike Illg

Background

At the April 17, 2025 PARCAC Regular meeting the Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission requested staff to send a memo to the Mayor and City Council expressing their unanimously opposition to the proposed elimination of the fulltime Recreation Programmer position within the Community Recreation division/Administration Department for the upcoming FY26 and FY27 budgets. Additionally, they also want to express their support and advise the City Council in regards to the staff and PARCAC recommendations for the following capital budget requests for the FY26 & FY27 budget.

Community Recreation Staff- Capital Budget Request for FY 26

Re-surfacing of HERC Gym Floor	\$7,200	General Fund
--------------------------------	---------	--------------

Park Maintenance Staff - Capital Budget Request for FY 26

Trail improvements for resurfacing improvements (Poopdeck trail, Calhoun trail, lower Hornaday trail)

\$15,000 HART Fund -Trails

Fence for Bayview Park for new 4ft wooden fence around park.

\$20,000

General Fund

Hickerson Cemetery improvements on overburden on sites and road improvements in the cemetery. \$25,000 General Fund

Park Maintenance Staff - Capital Budget Request for FY 27

Ball field improvements for the most used ballfields-outfields have uneven surfaces and infields need more material added.

\$20,000 General Fund Pioneer updates for revamp of the park next to the fire hall, and improvements to flower bed in front of the NOMAR wall.

\$10,000 General Fund

Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission - Capital Budget Request for FY 26

Green Timbers Trail project designing and building a parking lot and trailhead on City-owned property on the north side of Green Timbers Road and construction of a trail connecting this trailhead with the nearest existing trail within the Diamond Creek Recreation Area ("DCRA").

\$250,000

HART Fund -Trails

Action

Informational.



MEMORANDUM

Item Type:	Informational Memorandum Community Recreation
Prepared For:	Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Date:	May 7, 2025
From:	Mike Illg, Recreation Manager/Staff Liaison

Programming & Special Events: Please view the monthly calendar for reference of the programs, activities and special events provided. Some news and highlights to share:

Community Recreation teamed up with the Homer High Ping Pong Club to offer the **1**st **Annual Ping Pong Tournament** on May 4th. We offered a youth and an adult tournament and attracted 23 participants. Lots of gun.

The **Inlet Winds Community Band Concert** on May 3rd was incredible and had over 200audience members. The 50-person band was made up of at least 25 high school students.

We are working on some upcoming **Summer Programs**: The Center, Youth Basketball Program, Zumba Kids and Zumba Kids Jr, youth volleyball programs, drop in basketball, volleyball, soccer and ultimate Frisbee.

The Homer Community Recreation **Youth Voucher Program** is now available! This was through a generous grant from the Homer Foundation through the Youth Advisory Committee. See the attached flyer.

We are working on the Community Recreation **MOU with KPBSD** to renew our 3-year agreement to use the school facilities and equipment. We should have something for the city council to review by the end of May or early June.

The **Safe & Healthy Kids Fair** will take place on Saturday, May 17, 11am-2pm. We are still looking for volunteers to help out.

There will be some **significant construction** happening at the Homer High front entrance. Summertime Community Recreation programs will still be able to happen as we will be able to access the gym using the side entrances. The school district **Summertime Field Schedule** is complete. This is a responsibility taken on by the Community Recreation operations. This includes the HHS turf and HMS field for community use. Note the upper field at HHS will be closed this summer.



Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC)

Community Information Meeting

MAY 20, 2025 6 pm • Homer Public Library 500 Hazel Avenue

Send questions or comments to planning@ci.homer.ak.us







What are Brownfields?

What challenges are causing delays?

What is happening now?

Doors open 6 pm Presentation 6:15 pm

This meeting is hosted by the City of Homer

with support from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and BGES, Inc.

CITY OF HOMER COMMUNITY REC PRESENTS:



Youth Voucher Program

A PROGRAM FOR YOUTH, BY YOUTH!

Financial Assistance

Receive financial **support** to ease the burden of recreation programs/classes fees.

First Come, First Serve

Up to **\$100** per youth within one year of initial enrollment. Financial information not required.

Improve Accessibility

For **any** CR program including: instructor fees, day passes, punch cards, memberships & special event tickets.



Sponsored & created by the Homer Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)



KPBSD posts flyers as a comu¹⁶ y service. Such posting does not constitute an endorsement for or against the materials and viewpoints expressed in them.

DRAFT List of categories for City of Homer Community Recreation Policies and Procedures document Updated 5/7/25

Community Recreation

These policies and procedures contribute to the effective planning, implementation, and management of municipal recreation programs, fostering a positive and inclusive environment for participants.

1. Program Development:

While supporting existing programmatic functions, staff will continue to pursue new programs, special events, activities and other related functions to meet the community needs and requests as determined by relevant factors. These factors include: potential risk factors, time and location availability, cost of equipment needed, staff and/or volunteer availability, instructor fees (if required) and overall community interest. If a program has declining participation, it may be cancelled for more popular program that engages more participants. As staff time and resources allows, formal feedback and evaluation forms will be available on the website to assist with improving services.

2. Registration and Enrollment:

All participants are required to register and enroll by completing a registration/release **before** participating in any Recreation Program preferably through the software program but paper registration is also currently allowed. So programs have limited space and it is a "first come, first serve" approach when accepting participants. When applicable and if a fee is required, all participants must pay a participation fee through a drop in, punch cards, monthly memberships and year-long memberships as approved within the City of Homer's fee schedule. **Reference: A (Registration Form)**

3. Age and Eligibility Criteria:

Due to safety concerns and risk management, some recreation programs will have age limitations for participants. Currently, the regular ongoing drop in programs (basketball, volleyball, pickleball, fitness class, ping pong, soccer and ultimate Frisbee) are for participants enrolled in 7th grade and/or 13 years of age up to adults. Participants in 7th and 8th grade require the presence of a guardian. There are also age/grade specific programs in addition to a gender specific activities for example: girls' basketball camp. **Reference: B (Age Limits)**

4. Scholarship/Voucher Program

Currently the recreation program currently has a scholarship voucher program for youth only participants only. **Reference: C and D (application and guidelines)**

5. Inclusion and Accessibility:

The recreation program follows all City of Homer policies and procedures related to inclusion and accessibility in addition to working closely with the city's ADA Coordinator. Staff and volunteers will be proactive and vigilant to address any potential barriers and respond accordingly for participants.

6. Health and Safety Protocols:

Staff and volunteers will provide general supervision and at time direct supervision for all recreation programs and will have basic knowledge of the location of first aid kits, AED machines and emergency exists. Staff and volunteers will be proactive to address any potential unsafe situation and will report all issues and injury reports as required.

7. Staff Training and Development:

As resources and time allows, staff will attend and/or participate in educational, training, certifications and conferences relevant to the municipal recreation industry. Additional training and development may be required from the City of Homer.

8. Facility Use for Programs:

The recreation program will follow the detailed MOU agreement with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District that allows use of the Homer High School and Homer Middle School facilities and equipment for indoor and outdoor educational and recreational programs. The City of Homer's Homer Educational and Recreation Complex (HERC) gymnasium and activity room is only used for affiliated City of Homer Community Recreation programs and activities per City Council Resolutions 13-095 & 18-006. **Reference E and F (Resolutions)**

9. Program Fees and Refunds:

It is the City of Homer's effort to ensure all recreation programs are affordable and accessible to all. All participation fees are determined by the City of Homer's fee schedule with a determined range for contractor instructor and special event fees depending upon the actual cost of the program. Refunds are only allowed if a program is cancelled or due to an extenuating circumstance. Staff may issue credit in lieu of refund request. **Reference: G (Fee Schedule)**

10. Equipment and Supplies:

The recreation program will follow the detailed MOU agreement with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District that allows use of the Homer High School and Homer Middle School facilities and equipment for indoor and outdoor educational and recreational programs. Staff will follow the city's procurement process in additional to inspecting all equipment and replace as needed as resources allow.

11. Marketing and Promotion:

Staff will utilize multiple outlets to promote all programs and activities as time and resources allow. These outlets include: design, printing and posting flyers through community and local schools, emails, city's website pages, city calendars, city's social

media pages, some paid advertisements and publicity articles and interviews. Additional promotional outlets may include third party calendar of events, Chamber of Commerce, public meeting announcements and local businesses.

12. Evaluation and Assessment:

As time and resources allow, staff will consider creating and utilizing an evaluation and assessment process to solicit participant feedback to improve overall services and experience.

13. Partnerships and Collaborations:

The recreation program will continue to engage in the existing community partnerships while pursuing additional opportunities to support respective programmatic goals. A formal program sponsorship guideline/application is currently not available but the recreation is able to accept donations to support specific programs and/or overall operations. Businesses, non-profit organizations and community members are also able to sponsor and support the recreation program as approved volunteers.

- 14. **Cancellations and Program Changes:** Procedures for communicating and managing program cancellations, changes, or rescheduling will include: emails, text, phone, website, public service announcements and word of mouth.
- 15. **Code of Conduct for Participants:** Rules and expectations for participant behavior during recreation programs. All participants are required to follow all of the recreation programs code of conduct and expectations as detailed in the participation/registration form. **Reference: A (Registration Form)**
- 16. **Background Checks for Staff/Volunteers/Contracted Instructors:** In addition to completing a volunteer application, all staff/volunteers/contracted instructors must complete a school district approved background check and an online concussion awareness training course. These documents are required for renewal every two years.
- 17. Volunteer Programs: Procedures for recruiting, training, and managing volunteers involved in recreation activities. Volunteers are essential to the operations of the recreation program and are typically recruited through existing recreation programs. Volunteers assist with overall operations including: opening, closing, supervising, scheduling, collecting fees, assisting with registration and at times cleaning. Volunteer incentives include waiving participation fee for the activity they are operating and the ability to reserve the HERC gym and/or activity room with a minimum number of participants for staff approved recreation activity. **Reference: H (Volunteer expectations)**
- 18. **Contracted Instructors:** The utilization of contracted instructors is an integral part of the recreation program and is a venue to offer specialized recreation programs that staff and volunteers cannot. Instructors will meet and discuss with staff the options

for adequate and available time, location and equipment. Staff and instructor will negotiate an agreement for operations with the understanding that all fees should remain affordable to participants and within the city's fee schedule parameters. In addition to completing an instructor application, all participants must complete a KPBSD approved background check and an online concussion awareness training course.

19. Risk Management: Protocols for identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks associated with recreation programs. Staff, volunteers and contracted instructors will generally inspect all premises and equipment with the expectation to report any existing of potential safety concerns. Additionally, staff will follow all established risk management and emergency protocols as directed by the city administration. Staff will also be familiar with consulting with the city's risk management provider AML-JIA as needed.

20. Youth Protection Policy: work in progress/consult with city manager and possibly attorney

- **21. Program Advisory Committees:** Staff will submit information, solicit feedback and input as necessary for the established Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission (PARCAC). This advisory body acts in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on matters involving:
 - City Parks
 - Recreation Facilities
 - Public Beaches and Trails
 - Support of the Arts
 - Acquisition, maintenance and disposition of works of art
 - Land Use and Future Development related to Parks and Recreation Facilities
 - The administration of the public arts fund established by HCC 18.07.090.



MEMORANDUM

Possible Recreation Center Location-Town Center Lot

ltem Type:	Action Item Memorandum
Prepared For:	Economic Development Advisory Commission and Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Date:	May 7, 2025
From:	Mike Illg, Recreation Manager/Staff Liaison

The City of Homer is continuing to take steps toward the construction of a Community Recreation facility. This project has been identified as a high priority by the community for a number of years supported by the PARC needs assessment, identified in the 2018 and current Comprehensive Plan process, listed as the #2 priority on the city's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the #2 short term goal of Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission's 2025 Strategic Plan and the city council's earmark of \$1.3 million towards the project.

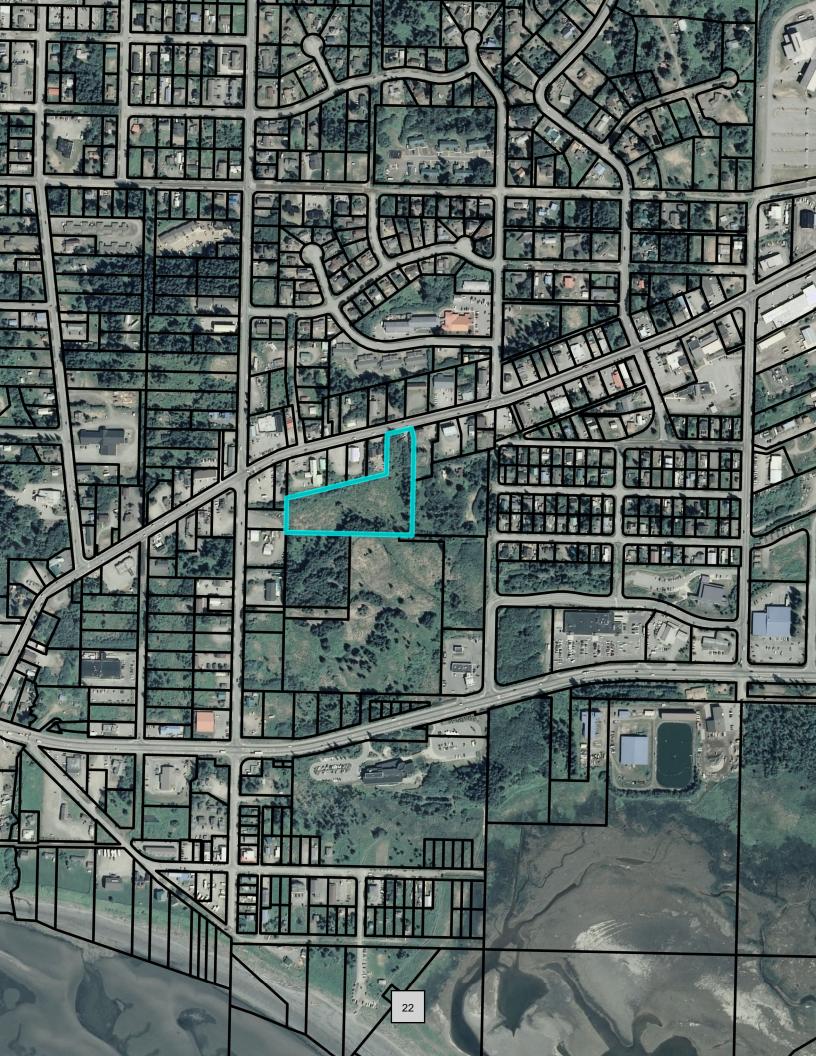
Identifying and securing a location is key to moving the project forward and is considering a parcel/location that is centrally located and is already owned by the city. The property is located within the undeveloped town center area located directly behind Alice's. The City Council has requested feedback from the Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDC), Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commission, Planning Commission, adjacent property owners and general community feedback regarding this proposed location. This will come back to the EDC on June 10, PARCAC on June 19, and Planning Commission on May 21. Adjacent property owners will be notified by mail of these opportunities to attend and provide input on the proposed location. Information is available on the City Manager's webpage and citizens can provide comment through the webpage if they are unable to participate at the meetings.

The specific questions staff is requesting are:

- 1. Do you support this location as the preferred location for the future community recreation facility?
- 2. What are the existing concerns against using this location for this project?
- 3. What are the potential positive attributes for using this location for this project?

Action:

Review the questions and submit a formal recommendation.





MEMORANDUM

3rd generation to the Nomar Wall Nominations

Item Type:	Action Memorandum
Prepared For:	Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Date:	04/17/2025
From:	Chad Felice

Purpose:

Voting on nominations for the 3rd generation on the Nomar Wall that made/make contributions to the soul of Homer.

Background:

The mural on the Nomar wall has been in Homer since 1986. The mural was created to reflect those artists that contribute to the soul of Homer and recognizes the performing arts that is representative of Homer. The mural is anchored by the project manager for the reconstruction of Pioneer Avenue, Jan Keiser on the west end and children on the east end of the wall as spectators. Featured are musicians – Johnny B Bushell, Eddie Wood, Steve Van Wagoner, Steve Smith, a music director - Bob Richardson, a clown – Claire O'Donnell, Singers - Hobo Jim and Claudia Larson, actor - Lance Petersen and dancer – Nina Kenzie. Just to name a few. Repairs and additions were done in July 2008 and recently the mural was refreshed and repairs made again to the wall in June of 2024. A previous vehicle accident did some structural damage to the wall and marred the artwork. There are now two generations on the wall.

Action or Summary:

Tom Reed, the artist who has been painting the silhouettes is looking at adding a third generation to the wall. In the past the public has been asked to submit recommendations to staff and those submissions were reviewed by a committee and final recommendations made for Council approval.

Recommendation:

Public Works and the Parks division recommends voting on the third generation to the Nomar Wall. Make a motion to have the Clerk's Office advertise for recommendations of performing artists to add to the wall.

HOMER



March 28, 2025

Attn: Chad Felice, City of Homer, PARCAC

Re: Nomination for Nomar wall silhouettes

Thank you, Chad, and PARCAC for the opportunity to submit this nomination for consideration.

While our Homer OPUS students may not be as immediately recognizable as some of the individuals currently depicted, our local youth music programs have an incredible impact on the youth and families of the Homer and Anchor Point communities and are recognizable in that regard. Many of these young musicians grow up to mentor, teach, and pursue careers in music. We would love to see this positive community impact represented with silhouettes of our youth alongside the other artists depicted.

The mission of Homer OPUS is to build community by creating music together and our foundational belief is that broad access to music education can change children's lives and transform community. With the support of donations and grants, OPUS engages around 250 kids on the southern Kenai Peninsula annually by offering comprehensive string music education for youth ages kindergarten through 12th grade, regardless of a family's ability to pay. Our violins in the school's programs serve students at Fireweed Academy, Paul Banks, and Chapman school. Our afterschool youth string ensemble program, Homer Youth String Orchestra Club, picks up where the school program ends, offering ensemble experience to 3rd to 12th grade string players, providing them the chance to develop as musicians and leaders, and to build a lifelong love of music. Our Codas adult and advanced youth ensemble provides a place for local string players to come together to learn and grow their skills and passion for their instrument. The Codas ensemble also performs with and mentors the younger musicians.

A key part of what Homer OPUS does is give our musicians opportunities to share music with others. By providing the youngest members of our community with a chance to create music together, and venues where diverse families sit side-by-side to enjoy the collaborative music making of their children, we feel we are knitting critical community bonds, one musical note at a time.

Because our students play in ensemble rather than solo, we would like to see them represented as a group, but we also understand that there are only 10 silhouette spaces available and we're sure, a lot of nominations coming in. As such, we're delighted to nominate both a small grouping of our students, as well as the option of one of those students on their own. Our Board of Directors chose these students for their exemplary enthusiasm, passion, and dedication to their instruments and our programs, but really, they beautifully represent all our students as well as Homer OPUS as an organization. Here are our nominations:

Beorn Goodman, Kindergarten student, Chapman Eagles, Chapman School

In many ways Beorn is your typical Kindergartener, but what sets her apart is her passion and enthusiasm. She meets each opportunity with a giant smile and excitement and has anxiously awaited her chance to officially join the OPUS community since her sister Juniper started with the program two years ago. Juniper was already a piano student when she added violin to her repertoire and instrument collection. For Beorn, having a violin in her home and not yet allowed to use it has made starting the OPUS violin program at school that much more exciting. This year, her kindergarten year, was finally her chance to make her own cardboard violin, earn her own real violin, and shine on stage. Through each step, Beorn has embraced every new challenge, no longer sitting in the audience while her sister performs, but now a contributing membraced every new challenge.

HOMER



Molly Marden, Grade 2, Fireweed Frescoes, Little Fireweed Academy

Molly began her OPUS journey as a kindergartener with Fireweed Frescoes. Starting with a cardboard violin as the kindergarten classes do, she has grown beautifully over her primary years, transitioning into her real violin and is taking private lessons in addition to her violin classes at school. Molly is an artist, writer, and a musician and is known by her peers and teachers as being kind, smart and a well-loved member of her school community. Molly understands that being part of a school music ensemble is being part of something bigger than herself. In her own unique 8-year-old way, she represents all OPUS music students as she brings her best self forward to help build a stronger community by making music together.

Lev Meyer, Grade 3, Homer Youth String Orchestra Club (HYSOC)

Lev has been participating with OPUS since kindergarten, making his way through the Paul Banks Preludes violinsin-the-schools program to the afterschool HYSOC program. Currently in the third grade, Lev loves playing the violin and learning from OPUS String Instructor Abimael Melendez, or Mr. Abi as the kids call him, as well as Ms. Katie Klann, his private lessons teacher. He also enjoys the group aspect of playing in ensemble and is fond of performing on stage and mentoring younger students. Lev learning new songs that are challenging and appreciates how the violin sound better as he becomes more adept at using his fourth finger. His favorite violin songs to play are Cripple Creek, Swallowtail, and Long, Long Ago. Lev's father Jeff plays guitar, and his six-year-old brother Hugo is starting the piano, a result of his being inspired by watching his big brother practice, play and perform. Lev's family hopes that he will continue to play the violin throughout his life and are grateful to HYSOC and the local violin community for continuing to encourage and inspire him. If PARCAC is only able to include one student to represent our programs, we would like Lev to be this student.



It is our hope that PARCAC will consider our nomination. If you would like any more information, I'd be delighted to meet. Thank you again for the opportunity to share about our youth music education programs and just a few of our remarkable students.

Sincerely,

Christina Whiting

Christina Whiting, Program Manager

Nomar Wall Mural - 3rd round nominees

See list of Current Nomar Mural silhouettes

- Laura Norton Laura has been a pivotal part of Pier One, Kenai Peninsula Orchestra, and countless musical and theater productions in Homer. She has directed, played music, sung in the choir and pretty much no production in Homer happens with out her organizational powers.
- Jen Norton Pier One's fearless leader & artistic director. Director of countless musicals and theater works. A tireless advocate for theater for our community, youth. She has led the Nutcracker and directed Homer High School productions in addition to countless Pier One productions.
- Kyle Schneider Current Homer High and Middle School choir director, lead in many musicals and performances.
- Scott Bartlett Current director of Homer Council on the Arts, a long time Board member of Kenai Peninsula Orchestra, an incredible drummer and sound artist that has played in nearly every production large or small that I have seen in Homer over the last 10 years
- Carolyn Norton An incredible and versatile actor, singer, and performer, Carolyn is one of the most dedicated stage performers in Homer today.
- Sunrise Kilcher Sunrise is a longtime performer and organizer of events around Shorebird.
- Tyler Munns A genius musician, actor, and performer.
- Nelton Palma trumpet player, and lead of the KP Brass Band, huge supporter of the arts, DJ, singer and more.
- David Webster Long time Homer resident and musician
- Rudy Multz long time musician, actor, all around performer. Solo musician and with bands like Holy Santos Gang and other musical projects.
- Breezy Berryman Dancer, producer, choreographer. Nutcracker productions and more
- Sally Oberstein writer, actor, producer of plays, musicals and lots of Homer-centric performances
- Joel Pietsh & Tia too piano player, Harbor School of Music owners
- Cathy Stingley fiddle player and teacher who's been part of countless small ensembles and hosted jam sessions at her home and HCOA for many years, really fostering a community of musicians
- Scott and Kate Meyer Scott is about the best fiddler in Alaska, and with banjo playing Kate have been the backbone of Spit City Slickers, accompanists to long-running contra dances in Homer.

- Karen Strid preeminent jazz pianist and teacher, who for many years presented a performance fundraiser for Pier One Theater and has been part of performances for both Pier One and HCOA in recent years.
- Rich and Peggy Ellen Kleinleder social dance experts, Rich has called contra dances for years
- Jim Maloney seems like an institution; performer, collaborator, long-time open mic host
- If we want to include youth (like the young ones already on the wall), a handful that certainly have really taken the stage and carry a ton of potential include:
 - Rebecca Trowbridge
 - Dayus Geysbeak
 - o Silas Jones
 - o Ireland Styvar
 - Ames Kincaid
 - o Freya Bartlett

PARKS ART RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

	AGENDA DEADLINE	MEETING	COMMISSIONER SCHEDULED TO REPORT	CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
JANUARY				No Regular Meeting	
FEBRUARY	Wednesday 2/12 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 2/20 5:30 p.m.		Monday 2/24 6:00 p.m.	 Strategic Plans and Goals Review
MARCH	Wednesday 3/12 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 3/20 5:30 p.m.		Tuesday 3/24 6:00 p.m.	
APRIL	Wednesday 4/09 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 4/17 5:30 p.m.		Monday 4/28 6:00 p.m.	 Schedule Art Gallery Walkthrough for May Worksession- Commission Training w/ City Clerk
MAY	Wednesday 5/07 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 5/15 5:30 p.m.		Tuesday 5/27 6:00 p.m.	 Museum/Art Gallery Walkthrough
JUNE	Wednesday 6/11 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 6/19 5:30 p.m.		Monday 6/23 6:00 p.m.	
JULY				No Regular Mee	ting
AUGUST	Wednesday 8/13 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 8/21 5:30 p.m.		Monday 8/25 6:00 p.m.	 CIP Project Recommendations
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday 9/10 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 9/18 5:30 p.m.		Monday 9/22 6:00 p.m.	 Schedule Park Clean Up Day for October Reappointment Notices & Applications Issued by Clerk's Office
OCTOBER	Wednesday 10/08 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 10/16 5:30 p.m.		Monday 10/27 6:00 p.m.	 Park Clean Up Day Terms Expire October 31st Approve 2026 Meeting Schedule PARC Budget Discussion & Review with Staff
NOVEMBER	Wednesday 11/12 5:00 p.m.	Thursday 11/20 5:30 p.m.		Monday 11/24 6:00 p.m.	 Election of Chair & Vice Chair Worksession Commission Training w/City Clerk
DECEMBER				No Regular Mee	ting

*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**

Office of the City Manager 491 East Pioneer Avenue

491 East Pioneer Avenue Homer, Alaska 99603





www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov (p) 907-235-8121 x2222 (f) 907-235-3148

Memorandum

TO:	Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
FROM:	Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager
DATE:	April 23, 2025
SUBJECT:	City Manager's Report for April 28, 2025 Council Meeting

Resolution 25-016 Follow-Up

In March the City Council adopted Reso 25-016 giving staff the direction to petitioning the Alaska State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to Issue Ten Additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses within the City. At the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board meeting public comments were taken and five additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses (REPL's) were granted. The City's process of advertising and conducting a public hearing was appreciated.

Save the Date - HERC update!

The City of Homer is hosting a community informational meeting regarding the Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC) on May 20, 2025 at 6pm. Special guests include staff from the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Brownfields Program, consultants from BGES – an environmental consulting firm hired by the state to conduct hazardous materials testing, and a facilitator from the Center for Creative Land Recycling. Join us at the Homer Public Library to discuss Brownfields, challenges, and what is happening now at the HERC. The presentation will begin at 6:15pm. Please send questions or comments to planning@ci.homer.ak.us.

Land Purchase North of Hornaday Park

In January, the Homer City Council unanimously approved the purchase of twenty acres north of Karen Hornaday Park. When the property came on the market, community members quickly stepped in to buy the land and hold it until the City was able to complete the property transaction process, securing the area for permanent public use. Through the current Comprehensive Plan process, it's clear the community supports greenspace and trails within the community and this purchase will increase outdoor recreation within walking distance to many residents. The City anticipates closing on the transaction in mid-May.

This new property adjoins the 38.3 acre Karen Hornaday Park and an additional 10-acre city owned property, creating the potential for nearly 70 acres of public lands with future hiking trails. To guide the planning of this enlarged recreation space, the City is in conversation with the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust on the possibility of applying for planning assistance with the Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance Program through the National Park Service. This program has been used several times in Homer, such as the design of the Kachemak Bay Water Trail, the lower end of Woodard Canyon with the Pratt Museum and other community members, with KHLT on the site plan**f** for the Poopdeck Platt Community Trail and most

recently with the Homer Library on the western lot. Planning for high use trails that may cross private lands and traverse steep hillsides will benefit from the assistance provided by this free program. Stay tuned for future trail discussions if KHLT and the City are successful in the application for this program!

Camping at Hornaday Park

This year's mild winter provided the opportunity for Parks and Public Works staff to do work in the Karen Hornaday Park Campground. Sightlines were opened throughout the campground by clearing and cutting back overgrown alders and cleaning up brush and opening up lovely views from all the campsites. A memo is attached to this report that identifies the many improvements. Efforts are in place to bring a Camp Host on to spend the summer at the park to help facilitate the soft opening of 20 campsites for the 2025 season.

Homer Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD)

Last month the City Council held an off cycle worksession to discuss concerns that had been raise by citizens regarding turnover in department staff and volunteers, under budgeting for department plant and equipment, and the City's ISO rating. Attached to this report is department call volume for Homer, Kachemak City, KESA, and WESA responses over the last three years. Also included is a spreadsheet that includes a breakdown of runs per employee and per volunteer. For privacy reasons the names have been changed to numbers and you'll see some have served in both capacities. The chart is organized so instead of names; each employee or volunteer have the same number (employee # or volunteer #) over the course of 4 years.

I have drafted an RFP for evaluation services of the HVFD as was discussed that is attached for review and have also been in conversation with Robert Purcell very recently about conducting the evaluation locally. There are plusses and minuses for both options, so interested in feedback on Council's thoughts. Chief Kirko and I continue meet on a regular basis, fire fighter classes are underway, and the staff and volunteers continue their regular training. I was asked for a schedule or timeline for next steps, internal matters that are personnel related are being addressed in accordance with our personnel regulations. The next steps for the evaluation are in place, if we go out for RFP that will be put on the streets as soon as possible, and if the desire is to remain local, we'll need to make sure we are following proper procurement procedures and would start as soon as we're able.

City Manager Meetings and Events:

- April 15th Conversations with a Councilmember w/ Councilmember Parsons
- April 16th Attended Kachemak City Council Meeting
- April 20th Met with Dr. Tyler Haas re: HVFD Medical Director
- Budget meetings with Departments
- Ongoing weekly meetings with Departments, Mayor and Councilmembers, and City Attorney

Attachments:

- AMCO Board Action Letter
- HERC Flyer
- Homer Foundation Quarterly Reports
- HVFD Run Volume 2022-2024
- HVFD Staff and Volunteer Annual Run Count spreadsheet
- HFVD Evaluation Draft RFP

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development





ALCOHOL & MARIJUANA CONTROL OFFICE 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600 Anchorage, AK 99501 Main: 907.269.0350

April 16, 2025

City of Homer 491 East Pioneer Ave Homer, AK 99603

Re: Petition for additional licenses under AS 04.11.405

Dear City of Homer,

At the April 15, 2025 meeting of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board in Nome, Alaska, the board voted to approve the City of Homer's resolution to grant additional licenses. The City of Homer requested 10 additional licenses and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board approved 5 additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses (REPLs) in accordance with AS 04.11.405. The board also stipulated that the licenses are immediately available for application.

Restaurant or Eating Place licenses allowed by population:	4
Restaurant or Eating Place licenses currently in the City of Homer:	15
New allowed limit of Restaurant or Eating Place licenses:	20

The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) will update the numerical allowance of this license type within the City of Homer. In accordance with subsection (d), the board may not authorize additional Restaurant or Eating Place Licenses under this section until 2027. Please contact our office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kiten Syle

Kristina Serezhenkov Local Government Specialist Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office



Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC)

Community Information Meeting

MAY 20, 2025 6 pm • Homer Public Library 500 Hazel Avenue

Send questions or comments to planning@ci.homer.ak.us







What are Brownfields?

What challenges are causing delays?

What is happening now?

Doors open 6 pm Presentation 6:15 pm

This meeting is hosted by the City of Homer

with support from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and BGES, Inc.

2024:

Homer (2500):

- EMS: 738
- Fire: 150

Kachemak City (2500K):

- EMS: 10
- Fire: 5

KESA:

- EMS: 4
- Fire: 8

WES:

- EMS: 0
- Fire: 8

2023:

Homer (2500):

- EMS: 628
- Fire: 123

Kachemak City (2500K):

- EMS: 24
- Fire: 7

KESA:

- EMS: 12
- Fire: 7

WES:

- EMS: 2
- Fire: 20

2022:

Homer (2500):

- EMS: 635
- Fire: 93

Kachemak City (2500K):

- EMS: 19
- Fire: 6

KESA:

- EMS: 10
- Fire: **7**

WES:

- EMS: 1
- Fire: 13

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Employee 1	172	266	275	318
Employee 2	88			
Employee 3	65	101	107	94
Employee 4/Volunteer 58	127/0	57/0	0/1	0/124
Employee 5	209	199		
Employee 6/Volunteer 64	168/0	51/0	0/1	
Employee 7/Volunteer 50	203/0			
Employee 8/Volunteer 3	0/31	175/0	125	23
Employee 9/Volunteer 12	0/43	0/72	0/31	0/27
Employee 10/Volunteer 33		0/158	208/0	
Employee 11/Volunteer 31		0/111	160/0	59
Employee 12			144	188
Employee 13/Volunteer 14	0/127	0/239	16/0	
Employee 14/Volunteer 68			164/0	0/28
Employee 15/Volunteer 46		0/24	246/0	105/0
Employee 16			206	76
Employee 17				216
Employee 18				215
Employee 19/Volunteer 16	0/11	0/19	0/7	236
Employee 20				82
Employee 21/Volunteer 60			0/25	208/0

Volunteer 1	3			
Volutneer 2	6			
Volunteer 4	6	9		
Volunteer 5	10	10	11	8
Volunteer 6	17	19	29	50
Volunteer 7	1	23	2	1
Volunteer 8	11	3		
Volunteer 9	6	1		
Volunteer 10	4	4	2	
Volunteer 11	89	20		
Volunteer 13	3	11	10	10
Volunteer 15	98			
Volunteer 17	10			
Volunteer 18	15	26	23	30
Volunteer 19	13	1		
Volunteer 20	2			
Volunteer 21	4			
Volunteer 22	24	13	4	
Volunteer 23	24	15		
Volunteer 24	20	47	1	
Volunteer 25	138	15		
Volunteer 26	2	9		
Volunteer 27	2	7	2	

Volunteer 28	24	13	9	
Volunteer 29	6	11		
Volunteer 30	33			
Volutneer 32		14		
Volunteer 34		11	1	
Volunteer 35		17	19	14
Volunteer 36		12	11	
Volunteer 37		174	124	44
Volunteer 38		3		
Volunteer 39		2		
Volunteer 40		24		
Volunteer 41		46	3	
Volunteer 42		44	27	
Volunteer 43		2	1	
Volunteer 44		2	5	
Volunteer 45		9	7	18
Volunteer 47		19	2	
Volunteer 48		48	23	20
Volunteer 49		14	17	
Volunteer 50		15		
Volunteer 51			2	
Volunteer 52			11	
Volunteer 53			42	49
Volunteer 54			28	
Volunteer 55			3	
Volunteer 56			11	41
Volunteer 57			62	
Volunteer 59			59	
Volunteer 61			23	
Volunteer 62			33	2
Volunteer 63			3	27
Volunteer 65				10
Volunteer 66				1
Volunteer 67				4
Volunteer 68				28
Volunteer 68				2
Total Annual Response Count	1815	2187	2326	2330

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL By the City of Homer, Alaska Professional Services to Perform An Independent Evaluation of the Homer Volunteer Fire Department

The City of Homer, Alaska is seeking proposals from qualified consultants or firms to conduct an independent, comprehensive evaluation of the Homer Volunteer Fire Department which consists of both career and volunteer personnel. The goal of this evaluation is to assess current operations, identify areas for improvement, and provide actionable recommendations to ensure continued excellence in emergency services delivery.

It is the intent of this Request for Proposals (RFP) to have the successful firm enter into a Professional Services Contract with the City of Homer to provide the services outlined herein.

The following subjects are discussed in this RFP to assist in preparing a proposal.

- I. Introduction
- II. Project Overview
- III. Scope of Work
- IV. RFP General Requirements & Submittal Instructions
- V. Proposal Format & Content Requirements
- VI. Evaluation Criteria & Selection Process
- VII. Schedule

I. INTRODUCTION

The City of Homer recognizes the critical role the Homer Volunteer Fire Department plays in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. As a combination department comprised of both professional and volunteer personnel, the organization has long benefited from the dedication and service of its members. However, like many fire service agencies across the nation, the department is facing evolving challenges—most notably, a steady decline in volunteerism, increasing service demands, and the growing complexity of emergency response.

In light of these challenges, the City is seeking an independent, comprehensive evaluation of the fire department to assess current operations, internal policies and procedures, and overall service delivery. The intent is to ensure that the department is well-positioned to meet both present and future demands with a clear, sustainable model that reflects best practices in emergency services management.

This evaluation will also seek to align departmental capabilities with the actual needs of the community, identify opportunities for improvement, and support the development of clear, modernized internal policies and procedures that strengthen organizational consistency, accountability, and performance.

II. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The primary goal of this evaluation is to identify strengths and areas for improvement, ensure best practices are being followed, and offer strategic recommendations that will support effective service

to the community now and into the future. The final deliverable will inform leadership, elected officials, and community stakeholders and serve as a roadmap for operational and structural enhancements.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

The selected consultant will be expected to provide the following deliverables as part of the project:

1. Project Kickoff Meeting

An initial meeting with city leadership and fire department representatives to confirm project scope, timeline, key contacts, and expectations.

2. Stakeholder Engagement Plan

A plan outlining how the consultant will gather input from key stakeholders, including fire department personnel (volunteer and career), city leadership, and community representatives.

3. Departmental Assessment Report

A comprehensive evaluation of the fire department, including analysis of:

- Organizational structure and leadership
- Staffing levels and deployment (volunteer and career)
- Internal policies, procedures, and training
- Operations and response capabilities
- Equipment, apparatus, and facility conditions
- Financial and budgetary practices
- Compliance with applicable standards and regulations
- Community needs and risk profile

4. Benchmarking and Best Practices Review

Comparative analysis of the department against similar-sized combination departments and industry best practices (e.g., NFPA standards, ISO ratings, strategic staffing models).

5. SWOT Analysis

A documented analysis of the department's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

6. Community Needs Alignment

Assessment of current services and resources compared to identified and anticipated community risks and expectations.

7. Recommendations Report

Clear, actionable recommendations prioritized by impact and feasibility, covering:

- Operational improvements
- Policy and procedural updates
- Staffing models and recruitment strategies
- Volunteer integration and support
- Equipment and facility investments
- Long-term strategic planning

8. Executive Summary

A concise, non-technical summary suitable for presentation to elected officials, stakeholders, and the general public.

9. **Presentation of Findings**

At least one in-person or virtual presentation of key findings and recommendations to municipal leadership and fire department leadership.

10. Final Report Submission

A complete final report, including appendices and supporting documentation, in both editable (e.g., Word) and print-ready (PDF) formats.

IV. RFP GENERAL REQUIREMENTS & SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

To achieve a uniform review process and obtain the maximum degree of comparability, it is required that the proposals be organized in the manner specified below. Proposals that do not address the items listed in this request may be considered incomplete and may be deemed non-responsive by the City.

- A. There will be an optional Pre-Close RFP meeting/teleconference held via Zoom on _____ This will give all proposers involved the opportunity for questions/ answers with City Staff to ensure all information is open and concise. Zoom meeting invitations will be sent to all qualified entities listed on the Plan Holder's List.
- B. <u>All proposers must submit a City of Homer Plan Holders Registration form to be on the Plan</u> <u>Holders List and to be considered responsive.</u>
- C. Sealed proposals must be received by the City Clerk's Office at the address referenced below no later than 4:00 p.m. on _____. The time of receipt will be determined by the City Clerk's time stamp. Proposals received after that time shall not be considered.
- D. Proposers must submit one original and five (5) copies of the completed proposal in an opaque envelope marked as follows:

City of Homer 2025 RFP

Independent Evaluation of the Homer Volunteer Fire Department

date___

Bidders Name and Address

E. Proposal submittals shall be delivered in person or mailed to:

City of Homer City Clerk's Office 491 E. Pioneer Avenue Homer, Alaska 99603

- F. Proposals may be withdrawn by written, email, or facsimile notice received prior to the deadline for proposal submittal.
- G. Inquiries must be received at least 10 days prior to the RFP submittal deadline. Copies of all written requests and replies will be forwarded to each Proposer on the Official Plan Holders List. Only formal, written responses to properly submitted questions will be binding.
- H. Inquiries regarding the Scope of Work or clarification of the RFP must be directed in writing to:

Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager 491 E. Pioneer Avenue Homer, Alaska 99603 Phone: (907) 299-9354

Email: <u>citymanager@ci.homer.ak.us</u>

I. General RFP and proposal submission inquiries must be directed in writing to:

City Clerk's Office 491 E. Pioneer Avenue Homer, AK 99603 Phone: (907) 235-3130 Email: <u>clerk@ci.homer.ak.us</u>

V. PROPOSAL FORMAT & CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

For ease of evaluation, the proposal should be presented in a format that corresponds to and references/labels the sections outlined in this RFP. Proposals should be prepared in such a way as to provide a straightforward, concise delineation of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of this RFP.

To be considered responsive, each proposal must include (at a minimum) the following:

- **A.** Letter of Transmittal (one page maximum): The transmittal letter shall briefly state the firm's understanding of the City's request, make a positive commitment to provide the professional services specified, and give the name, title, address, and phone number of the person(s) authorized to make representations for the firm. The letter shall be signed by a corporate officer or other individual who has the authority to bind the firm.
- **B. Proposal Narrative:** The proposal narrative must provide the following information:
 - 1. Specify in detail the firm's ability to fulfill the Scope of Work that has been outlined in this RFP, including any additional contractual requirements the firm chooses to propose. Other items that must be included in the proposal:
 - Standard, all-inclusive cost schedule that is to be used in this contract, including staff time per task, travel expenses, and incidentals. *Please include cost schedules with and without the optional site visit described in item 4 of the project scope.*
 - Schedule An outline of the anticipated schedule for completing the Scope of Work beginning with issuance of a notice to proceed to submitting the final work product.
 - Insurance Prior to commencement of work, the Proposer shall be required to provide proof of insurance and to keep it in full force and effect, at its own expense, the following minimum policy limits:
 - i. The City of Homer shall be named as additional insured during the project's duration.
 - ii. Worker's Compensation in accordance with the laws of the State of Alaska, and Employer's Liability Insurance with minimum limits of \$1,000,000/ \$1,000,000/ \$1,000,000.
 - iii. General Liability Insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence;
 \$1,000,000 personal and advertising injury;
 \$2,000,000 general aggregate; and
 \$2,000,000 products/completed operations aggregate for bodily injury or death and for property damage.
 - iv. Professional Liability with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 aggregate and each claim.

- v. Automobile Liability Insurance covering owned, non-owned, or hired vehicles used by the firm, with limits not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage.
- 2. <u>Proposed Project Manager and Team Members and Statement of Qualifications and Experience:</u> This section shall introduce the project manager (Single Point of Contact) and members of the firm that will be performing the work for this project. This section will cover the project team/firm's qualifications for the proposed work and experience with similar projects. Full resumes are not required but can be included; 1-2 paragraphs on each member of the team will be sufficient.
- 3. <u>Methods and Work Plan:</u> Proposer will outline a work plan detailing the firm's step-by-step procedures for accomplishing the Scope of Work and the City's objectives for this project.
- 4. <u>References:</u> List the names, titles, and phone numbers of at least three clients who obtained similar services from your firm. Ideally, projects/contracts managed by the proposed project manager and completed by the proposed project team should be referenced.

VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA & SELECTION PROCESS

A. Evaluation Criteria

All proposals must meet the following minimum requirements.

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria and scored according to the point scale:

Proposed Contract, Work Plan, and Cost	
Company Overview and Qualifications	5 points
Project Understanding and approach	10 points
Work plan and timeline	10 points
• Qualifications, experience, and training of staff to be assigned to project.	30 points
• Record of past performance of Firm in similar, previous projects.	25 points
Quality of 3 references.	10 points
• Conformance with RFP requirements, including compliance and timely submission of all documents requested.	5 points
• Cost	5 points
Total Possible	Points 100

B. Selection Process

A selection committee comprised of two City Councilmembers, one Homer Volunteer Fire Department Captain, one active Homer Volunteer Fire Department Volunteer, and one member of the public will be confirmed by the Mayor to evaluate the proposals and make a recommendation to the City Manager and Homer City Council. If the Council approves, the City will offer the highest ranking Proposer an opportunity to negotiate a Contract.

Other Proposal selection terms, conditions, and exceptions:

- 1. Evaluators may discuss factual knowledge of, and may investigate proposer's prior work experience and performance. This includes projects referenced in the proposal, available written evaluations, and contacted references that were listed or other persons knowledgeable of a proposer's past performance. Factors such as overall experience relative to the proposed contract, quality of work, cost control, and the ability to meet schedules may be addressed during the evaluation.
- 2. This request for proposals is designed to be qualifications based, with cost playing a secondary role in the selection process. The City of Homer reserves the right to award a contract to the highest ranked firm based solely on the written proposal or request oral interviews. The highest ranked proposer will be invited to enter into negotiations with the City of Homer for the purposes of contract award. If an agreement with any proposer cannot be reached, the next highest ranked proposer may be contacted for negotiations. The City of Homer reserves the right to terminate contract negotiations with any proposer should it be in the City of Homer's best interest.
- 3. The City reserves the right to alter, amend, or modify any provisions of this RFP, or to withdraw this RFP, at any time prior to the award of a contract pursuant hereto, if it is in the best interest of the City to do so.
- 4. The City reserves the right to waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received. Alterations, modifications or variations to a proposal may not be considered unless authorized by the RFP or by addendum or amendment.
- 5. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted and shall not be liable for any costs incurred by any proposer in response to this solicitation or for any work done prior to the issuance of a notice to proceed or signed contract.
- 6. Proposals will be kept confidential until contract is awarded, subject to law.

VII. RFP TIMELINE & AWARD SCHEDULE

These dates represent a tentative schedule of events. The City reserves the right to modify these dates at any time, with appropriate notice to applicable proposers on the Plan Holders List.

ΑCTIVITY	DATE/TIME
RFP Publish Dates	City of Homer Website
	Homer News
Optional Pre-Close Meeting	
Submittal Deadline for Proposals	
Evaluation Period and Proposal Selection	
Authority to Proceed by Homer City Council	
Contract Signing/Notice to Proceed	
Project Kickoff Meeting	

Office of the City Manager

491 East Pioneer Avenue Homer, Alaska 99603





www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov (p) 907-235-8121 x2222 (f) 907-235-3148

Memorandum

TO:	Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
FROM:	Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager
DATE:	May 7, 2025
SUBJECT:	City Manager's Report for May 12, 2025 Council Meeting

KPEDD Industry Overview Forum 4/24/25

The Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District put on their annual forum this year in Kenai, with three staff members from the City's Community Development department in attendance: Julie Engebretsen, Ryan Foster, and Jackie McDonough. They were treated to a day of presentations from area experts on workforce development, the future of energy in Cook Inlet, mariculture, and other topics. According to a KPEDD-commissioned report, the Kenai Peninsula Borough's economy "has fared much better than most other places in Alaska in recent years" and the outlook for 2025 is "relatively positive." Challenges include housing availability, the retention of young workers, and health care for a growing senior population.

The forum also marked the launch of the next Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a regional plan that is revised every five years and guides economic growth across the borough. Public input is being solicited in many communities, including Homer on May 29th. More information can be found at kpedd.org/ceds.

Reminder: Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC) Community Meeting

The City of Homer is hosting a community informational meeting regarding the Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC) on May 20, 2025 at 6pm. Special guests include staff from the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Brownfields Program, consultants from BGES – an environmental consulting firm hired by the state to conduct hazardous materials testing, and a facilitator from the Center for Creative Land Recycling. Join us at the Homer Public Library to discuss Brownfields, challenges, and what is happening now at the HERC. The presentation will begin at 6:15pm. Please send questions or comments to planning@ci.homer.ak.us.

Bridge Removal at the big HERC Building

Public Works staff have done a structural assessment on the bridges and surrounding ground on the west side of the big HERC building. The south bridge is 40 plus year old bridge and as it is now, repairs are not feasible. Public Works equipment operators will be replacing bridge over the next few days with a 36" culvert for drainage and creating a temporary 8ft- 10ft gravel walking path.

Homer Spit Rock Revetment Work Complete

Contractors for the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities recently completed the final section of rock hard facing that closes the gap between the end of the Homer Spit Road rock revetment and the Glacier Drive-In property. This critical section of rock was added to the existing rock revetment to protect properties that were particularly impacted by erosion and left vulnerable following last November's storm surge event. While over the long-term more comprehensive erosion mitigation measures are essential, we appreciate the State completing this important emergency protective measure to help protect coastal infrastructure and local properties from immediate erosion damage.



Mobile Restroom Update

In 2024, Council approved funds to complete water/sewer connections and purchase Mobile Restroom units to provide improved public facilities at city parks. We are happy to report that we now have two of these mobile restroom units, each featuring 3 individual stalls with full City water/sewer service, and that they will be operational for the kick-off of the 2025 recreational season. One unit has just been installed and is operational at Jack Gist Park, pictured below. The second unit will be placed at Karen Hornaday Park and is expected to be operational in time for Homer Little League's opening day.





Public Input Opportunity on a Proposed Community Recreation Center Site

At the beginning of the year Council approved Memorandum CC-25-011 requested feedback from Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commission (PARCAC), the Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDC), Planning Commission, neighboring property owners, organizations, and community members on a City owned parcel in the town center for a future Community Recreation Center. Recreation Manager Mike Illg has drafted an informational memo for Commission's upcoming May meetings and the PARCAC and EDC will have a second meeting in June. Property owners adjacent to the site and organizations will be notified by mail that they're invited to attend the June meetings, and/or provide input through the webpage that is being developed. Community members are invited to provide comments at the meetings and through the webpage as well. This is an exciting next step in this effort!

City Manager Meetings and Events:

- April 30th FY26/27 Budget update at Employee Committee meeting
- May 1st Monthly Lease Property Team meeting
- May 7th KBNERR and staff re: Kachemak Peatlands NOAA Grant check in
- Ongoing weekly meetings with Departments, Mayor and Councilmembers, and City Attorney

Attachments:

- Memorandum from Special Projects & Communications Coordinator Re: Status of the Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation Project
- HERC Flyer
- Employee Anniversaries for May



Status of the Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation Project #34708 proposed in the 2024-2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, Amendment #2.

ltem Type:	Informational Memorandum
Prepared For:	Mayor and City Council
Date:	May 7, 2025
From:	Jenny Carroll, Special Projects & Communications Coordinator
Through:	Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager

Update on Status of the Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation STIP Project #34708

In mid-February 2025, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) informed the City that they were nominating a Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation Project on the Homer Spit for inclusion in the 2024-2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) through the STIP amendment process. Additionally, DOT&PF proposed that the City of Homer take the lead on planning efforts by contracting with engineering firm(s) to complete planning and design.

The erosion mitigation STIP project, numbered 34708, proposes \$800,000 (\$727,760 in Federal PROTECT formula funds and \$72,240 in State matching funds) for FY25 planning activities to "evaluate needed improvements to protect the Sterling Highway from erosion along the Homer Spit. Improvements may include excavation, coastal erosion protection, paving, signing and striping, and utility relocations".

Amending the STIP is a formal process that requires a public comment period and response to comments before it is submitted to the Federal Highway Administration for final approval. Staff forwarded <u>City Council Resolution 23-083(A)</u> to the State as the City's official comment during the Public Comment period, which closed on March 20, 2025.

On April 24, 2025, City staff met with Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) Deputy Commissioner Katherine Keith to get an update on the status of the proposed project. Presently, DOT&PF is wrapping up their review and making edits in response to public comments and is preparing to send the final proposed Amendment #2 to FHWA. She also informed staff that DOT&PF prepared a very preliminary Scope, Schedule, Cost Estimate (SSE), which increased planning funding for the project and added construction funding in a future year.

Agenda Item Report City Council May 12, 2025

On April 30, 2025, DOT&PF Commissioner Anderson emailed a response to the Mayor and City Council (attached) thanking you for your "detailed and proactive letter of support" and that "local commitments strengthen the case for federal funding through grant programs and will be essential as we scope data collection and planning efforts under Project #34708."

Deputy Commissioner Keith connected the City with Wyatt Sorensen who is DOT&PF's Project Management Office Director and will be our liaison for the proposed project. Mr. Sorensen shared the preliminary SSE which estimates \$1.5M for project planning (\$1M for FY25 and \$500,000 for FY26) and estimates \$6.1M in construction costs in year four (FY28).

In a May 5, 2025 phone meeting with Mr. Sorensen, staff learned that the construction cost estimate is based on a **Rough Order of Magnitude cost estimate** from HDR's 2019 Technical Memo which focused on rock revetment as the solution for erosion prevention and estimated per-linear-foot costs for revetment that likely have changed since that time. The construction cost estimate presently programmed in the STIP is subject to change depending on planning and design outcomes, i.e. rock revetment work and/or offshore mitigation measures.

While there is still much to learn about the process of working with DOT&PF on this project, we are very pleased to be working collaboratively on long-term mitigation strategies to protect the Homer Spit and its essential transportation infrastructure.

This collaborative effort represents a significant undertaking for the City, where details are critical to managing a project of such magnitude and complexity. Staff is proceeding with appropriate diligence in gathering information, evaluating options, and understanding implications—and will keep Council fully informed of all developments. It's important to note that no formal agreements can be executed with the State until the STIP amendment receives FHWA approval, and the City will neither enter into agreements with the State nor undertake specific planning tasks or commitments without prior Council consideration and formal decision.

Recommendation: N/A. This is an informational memo only.

Attachments:

Letter from DOT&PF Commissioner Ryan Anderson Sterling Hwy Erosion Mitigation Study proposed STIP project #34708 Scope, Schedule, Estimate (SSE) Confirmation

From:	Commissioner, DOT (DOT sponsored)
То:	Jenny Carroll
Cc:	DOT STIP (DOT sponsored)
Subject:	RE: STIP Amendment #2 – Project #34708 Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation Study
Date:	Wednesday, April 30, 2025 4:55:17 PM

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Thank you for your detailed and proactive letter of support for Project #34708, the Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation Study, included in the Draft Amendment #2 to the 2024–2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

We recognize the City of Homer's long-standing advocacy for protecting the Homer Spit and the critical infrastructure it supports, including transportation links, port operations, and public access. We also appreciate your reference to the recent storm damage and disaster declarations in November 2024, which have underscored the urgent need for coordinated erosion mitigation and resilience planning.

The Department values the City's formal resolutions, ongoing leadership, and willingness to collaborate in pursuing federal partnerships, including a potential co-sponsored U.S. Army Corps of Engineers General Investigation. These local commitments strengthen the case for federal funding through grant programs and will be essential as we scope data collection and planning efforts under Project #34708.

We are encouraged by the City's vision and engagement, and we look forward to continued cooperation as the project progresses. Your support and collaboration will be key in shaping a durable and sustainable response to erosion vulnerabilities along the Homer Spit.

Thank you again for your leadership and your commitment to strengthening infrastructure resilience in coastal Alaska.

Sincerely,

Ryan Anderson, P.E. Commissioner Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Project Deep-Dives

34708 Sterling Highway Erosion Mitigation Study

This planning study will evaluate needed improvements to protect the Sterling Highway from erosion along the Homer Spit. Improvements may include excavation, coastal erosion protection, paving, signing and striping, and utility relocations.

Strategic Inv	estment Area	Work Type	Place Name		B	idge Con	dition
Resi	liency	Infrastructure Resiliency	Homer		Bridge #	Year Built	Condition
Landscape		Improvements			-	Built	
Cor	ridor		Pavemen	t Condition	No Bridge Work		No Rating or N/A
Toll Credits	PEB Score		Current Condition	Expected Condition	WORK		
\$0	N/A		N/A	N/A			

2024	-2027 ST	IP Funding by Phase		ource		
Phas	e Total	\$800,000	Fur	nd Source Total		\$800,000
FY	Phases	Planned Obligation	FY	Fund Source		Programmed
FY25	P9	\$800,000	FY25	PROTECT Program		\$727,760
			FY25	Y25 State Match		\$72,240

	Additional Project Details										
STIP ID #	IRIS Code	Total Project Cost by Stage	Obligated Prior to FY25	FY25-27 Planned Obligation w/o ACC	Post FY27 Planned Obligations	Start	Finish	AC Balance Prior to FY25	Post FY27 ACC		
34708- Single Project	STIP 34708	\$800,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$0			\$0	\$0		

Scope, Schedule, Estimate (SSE) Confirmation

Project Name	Sterling Hwy Milepoint 134 to 138 Erosion Improvements along Homer Spit Road							
DATE	12/6/2024	CATEGORY	Modernization					
NEED ID	TBD	REASON	New Project Update SSE					

PROPOSED SCOPE		This project will construct improvements to protect the Homer Spit Road from coastal erosion. Improvements may include excavation, coastal erosion protection, paving, signing and striping, and utility relocations.											
PLANNING ESTIMATE	Year 1 (2025)	Year 2 (2026)	Year 3 (2027)	Year 4 (2028)	Year 5 (2029)	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	TOTAL		
Design	1,000,000	500,000									1,500,00		
Utilities		i		100,000			İ		İ	İ	100,0		

Utilities		100,000				100,000
Right of Way						-
Construction		6,000,000				6,000,000
TOTAL						-
					•	

CONFIRMED SSE				
CONFIRMED SCOPE				
l				

ENGINEERS CONFIRMED	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	TOTAL
Design											-
Utilities											-
Right of Way											-
Construction											-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-							-

49

Scope, Schedule, Estimate (SSE) Confirmation

Project Name	Sterling Hwy Milepoint 134 to 138 Erosion Improvements				along Homer Spit Road		
DATE	6-Dec-24		CATEGORY	Mode	Modernization		
NEED ID	Т	BD	REASON	New Project	O Update SSE		
CONSIDERATIONS							
SSE	Value		C	omments			
Basis for Estimate	Itemized Approxi	r Assume a 2	25% (of construction)	design cost for smal	l non-typical		
Field Review or Recon	-						
List Assumptions & Unknowns							
		included in	Erosion Assessment	memo.			
ENVIRONMENTAL	Value	1	C	omments			
Anticipated Environmental Doc							
Environmental Doc Prep Time							
4(F) Involvement		Unknown at this time					
Permits Required			EC, City of Homer, NN		dlife		
List Assumptions & Unknowns	Additonal permits may be required beyond those listed above.						
ROW	Value		C	omments			
Confidence in ROW Estimate	Moderate						
List Assumptions & Unknowns		ovements a	re within existing DOT	ROW or on DNR lar	d (below OHW)		
UTILITY	Value		C	omments			
Confidence in Utility Estimate	Moderate						
List Assumptions & Unknowns	Assumes all utilities are located on the east side of the Homer Spit Road and impacts a minimal.						
OTHER	Value		C	omments			
Impacts to Annual M&O	Yes	M&O effor	ts should be reduced	as a result of this pr	piect.		
Bridge Work Included					,		
Geotech Considerations		1					
List Assumptions & Unknowns	This SSE is based	upon the Se	ept. 30, 2019 Coastal E	Frosion Assessment	of the Sterling Hwy		
	Termini on Home						
CERTIFICATION & APPRO							
Please adjust comment boxes to fit all text before con	2				12/0/202		
Confirmed SSE Prepared By	Aaron Hunting				12/6/2024		
	NameDocuSigned	by:			Date		
Confirmed SSE Pre-Construction	ⁿ Luke Bowland						
Approval	Signature, 775BE2E04D						
	Luke Bowland				4/24/2025		
	Name DocuSigned k	y;			Date		
Confirmed SSE Planner Approval	Bergen M. Wh	int					

50

Ben White
Name

4/25/2025

Date



Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC)

Community Information Meeting

MAY 20, 2025 6 pm • Homer Public Library 500 Hazel Avenue

Send questions or comments to planning@ci.homer.ak.us







What are Brownfields?

What challenges are causing delays?

What is happening now?

Doors open 6 pm Presentation 6:15 pm

This meeting is hosted by the City of Homer

with support from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and BGES, Inc.



MEMORANDUM

Employee Anniversaries for May

ltem Type:	Informational Memorandum
Prepared For:	Mayor Lord and City Council
Date:	May 12, 2025
From:	Andrea Browning, HR
Through:	Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager

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

Pike Ainsworth	Port	17	Years
Mike Gilbert	Public Works	11	Years
Sean McGrorty	Port	9	Years
Ralph Skorski	Public Works	7	Years
Taylor Crowder	Police	4	Years
Sean Love	Public Works	4	Years
Brenden Fuson	Port	2	Years
Galina Orlova	Fire	1	Year