CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA (Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Commission and are approved in one motion. If a separate discussion is desired on an item, a Commissioner may request that item be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda under New Business.)

A. February 8, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EDC Staff Report

B. Homer Chamber of Commerce Report

C. Public Works Director Report

D. Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District Report

E. Homer Marine Trades Association Report

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Pioneer Gateway Revitalization Project Discussion (HERC) (15 minute time limit)
   i. HERC Conceptual Drawings & Plans Flier
B. Housing Education Discussion (20 minute time limit)  
C. Balance of Quality of Life, Change, & Community Growth Discussion (15 minute time limit)  

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS  
A. Memo 22-022 EDC Student Representative Appointment of Hazel Pearson  
B. Resolution 22-016 Approval of the Wayfinding-Streetscape Plan  
C. EDC 2021-2022 Strategic Plan/Goals  
D. City Manager’s Report for February 14, 2022  
E. City Manager’s Report for February 28, 2022  
F. EDC 2022 Calendar  

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)  
COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF  
COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION  

ADJOURNMENT  

Next Regular Meeting is TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and a Worksession at 5:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.
Session 22-02 a Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Karin Marks at 6:05 p.m. on February 8, 2022 at the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS MARKS, BROWN, SPEAKMAN, GAMBLE, CHEROK, PERSON

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER AREVALO (excused)

STAFF: DEPUTY CITY PLANNER ENgebretsen
DEPUTY CITY CLERK TUSSEY

AGENDA APPROVAL

SPEAKMAN/BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA (Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Commission and are approved in one motion. If a separate discussion is desired on an item, a Commissioner may request that item be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda under New Business.)

A. January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Chair Marks read the Consent Agenda and requested a motion.

GAMBLE/SPEAKMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EDC Staff Report

Deputy City Planner and Special Projects Coordinator Engebretsen reported that City Council will be seeing the Wayfinding-Streetscape Plan presentation from Corvus Designs at the February 28th meeting. The conceptual HERC plans will also be unveiled, which will kick of various public participation events regarding the HERC project. The goal is to get public input on what the community wants to see happen
with that location. No decision has been made but in order to get grant funding they need to determine what they want to build. She requested EDC members participate when they can and noted she will send out more finalized dates and times of those events once they’re available. There was brief discussion on the events, if more than one commissioner should attend, and how to notify Ms. Engebretsen if they intend to participate.

Ms. Engebretsen reported the Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on the parking limitations in City Code for big box stores.

There was brief discussion on the upcoming public participation events, if more than one commissioner should attend, how commissioners can notify Ms. Engebretsen if they intend to participate, and Commissioner Person giving the next Council report at the February 28th meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**PENDING BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Wayfinding & Streetscape Implementation Funding

Chair Marks introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Deputy City Planner and Special Projects Coordinator Engebretsen.

Ms. Engebretsen explained the tentative plan is Public Works will create a phased plan with a budget of $40,000 a year for the next three years to implement the new Wayfinding-Streetscape Plan. The Public Works staff that is in charge of construction and purchasing signage wants to know what the commission considers priorities. Ms. Engebretsen spoke to the priority ranking sheet in the packet and asked for everyone to share their scores if they prepared them. She will be meeting with the other advisory bodies to gather their sign priorities as well.

Commissioners took turns sharing their wayfinding priority rankings with Ms. Engebretsen. Ms. Engebretsen read through the results to confirm the rankings, facilitated discussion on their selections, and made edits where needed. Chair Marks clarified no further action or a motion was necessary as they were just providing feedback to staff.

B. Special Event & Food Truck Permitting
   i. Special Event HCC Update Draft Memo from City Manager
   ii. Draft Ordinance Amending HCC Re: Special Events
   iii. Event Permit Decision Tree
   iv. Food HCC Update Draft Memo from City Manager
   v. HCC 8.11 Mobile Food Service Draft Amendments

Chair Marks introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Deputy City Planner and Special Projects Coordinator Engebretsen and Deputy City Clerk Tussey to begin discussion.

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1. It was determined after the meeting that Commissioner Person was scheduled to give the EDC report at Council’s February 14th regular meeting. Staff would coordinate with City Clerk Jacobsen to move the EDC report to February 28th to coincide with the Wayfinding-Streetscape Plan.
Ms. Engebretsen and Ms. Tussey spoke to the background of the large special event code and reasoning for amending it, the proposed event permit decision tree, and City staff’s plan to build an online interactive Frequently Asked Questions page that would guide individuals to the information they need depending on the event they’re planning. Commissioners voiced overall support of the special event code amendments.

In response to questions and concerns regarding the updates to food truck code, Ms. Engebretsen explained how the existing code and process was very restrictive and expensive, and how the revised code makes getting a food truck permit easier. Discussion included the following topics:

- Permit should require, at a minimum, showing proof of the applicant’s Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) certificate; Commissioner Gamble supports removing barriers for businesses but thinks skipping over health and safety safeguards is short-sighted; Commissioner Speakman agreed, noting the DEC permitting process is pretty extensive.
- The new process will only require the applicant states they have a copy of their business license and sales tax abilities but will not require proof of it; commissioners and staff discussed how the City is not an enforcement agency and how tedious other community’s process is to verify this information; agreement that checkboxes on the application is sufficient.
- Removing the section of code that protected established restaurants from food truck competition. This topic went through extensive discussion at the City Staff level and it was determined the City does not regulate how many liquor licenses or restaurants there can be in a proximity to one another for standard businesses, and so in the spirit of the free market the proposed code does not intend to regulate food trucks as it has in the past. Any issues with food trucks being on private property is up to the owner of that property.
- Support for the “free market” concept, brings up the question why does the City regulate food trucks at all? Point made that it’s coming from the same chapter as Itinerant Merchants and gives the City a right to deny illegitimate businesses from coming into the community, such as shady asphalt businesses. Food truck permits are a pretty standard thing in other municipalities, and gives some concept of who is in your down doing food services, coming from a health, welfare, and safety perspective.
- Concerns that by reducing the revenue from permits we’re now losing a large amount of money due to the amount of staff time/labor put into the permitting process. Staff reasoned it would likely be less time-consuming because the new regulations will be easier to understand (therefore less staff time explaining the process), be more accessible online, less permitting barriers, and a simple $50 fee can be paid over the phone.
- Reiteration of full support for removing excessive barriers, such as requiring finger-printing, using checkboxes on the form to determine eligibility and that revisions to code can always be done at a later time if needed.

GAMBLE/BROWN MOVED TO SUPPORT THE HOMER CITY CODE AMENDMENTS REGARDING SPECIAL EVENTS AND MOBILE FOOD SERVICES AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.
C. Identifying Next Goal for EDC to Work On

Chair Marks introduced the item by reading the title and explained why she would like the commission to identify their goal priorities to aid staff in preparing for upcoming EDC meeting.

Chair Marks facilitated input from each commissioner on which two topics they think the commission should be focusing their efforts on next. Deputy City Planner and Special Projects Coordinator Engebretsen shared her screen to take live notes on their goal priorities. Based on the commissioners’ comments and discussion, the following goals were rated/identified as top priorities:

1. View economic development through the lens of balancing growth with quality of life
   Housing
2. Workforce development (housing, childcare, etc.)
   Housing
   View economic development through the lens of balancing growth with quality of life
   Familiarize with smart growth principles and best practices
3. Housing
   Planning for growth
   Familiarize with smart growth principles and best practices
   Need for workers – Chamber job fair

Ms. Engebretsen provided feedback to the commissioners from a Planning perspective and how their input will be beneficial and where. She agreed to bring more information back to the commission at the next meeting for them to review.

Commissioner Person left the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. Homer News Article dated December 23, 2021
B. EDC 2021-2022 Strategic Plan/Goals
C. City Manager's Report for January 10, 2022
D. EDC 2022 Calendar

Chair Marks noted the informational materials. She thanked Commissioner Arevalo for providing the last EDC report and Commissioner Person for giving the next report.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Tussey reported that reappointment notices for Commissioners Brown and Cherok, and advertising for EDC seats, will go out at the end of the month since terms expire April 1st.

Deputy City Planner and Special Projects Coordinator Engebretsen thanked the commission for their work and time.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Gamble thanked everyone for a productive discussion.
Commissioner Speakman voiced her thanks for the hard work and her appreciation for Ms. Engebretsen’s comment regarding EDC’s time on projects that make sense for the City.

Commissioner Cherok commented he is looking forward to coming up with housing solutions since that is big on his list.

Commissioner Brown commented it was a great meeting and gave thanks.

Commissioner Marks commented it was a good meeting, looks forward to seeing everyone next month, and she feels they are doing along very well with their projects.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Marks adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Their next regular meeting is Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and is scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

__________________________
RACHEL TUSSEY, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved:_________________________
Staff Activities
I have been working hard to launch the next phase of the HERC project. A flier is in this packet. I also visited every city commission and the Library Advisory Board, to present on the mobile food and special event permit changes, and ask their priorities on the Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan. Every Commission was appreciate for all the work the EDC has done, and they like the signs! And the City Council approved the plan! I have not yet complied the list of sign priorities, but I’ll have that at the next meeting.

Planning Commission Activities
I made a presentation on Wayfinding and Streetscapes, and also the changes to Mobile Food and Special Event permits. The Commission is very appreciative of all the work the EDC has done on the wayfinding plan, and looks forward to new, welcoming signage in Homer.
Memorandum

TO: Economic Development Advisory Commission
FROM: Janette Keiser, Public Works Director
DATE: February 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Director’s Report

1. **Mid-year Budget Adjustment.** City staff is in the process of developing a request for a mid-year adjustment for the City’s Operating Budget. Public Works is asking for the following:
   - Funding for a 3rd party contractor for public restroom custodian services
   - Extra funding for Pioneer Avenue Beautification, which is the account code used for landscaping City-owned flower beds

2. **Economic Impact of City’s Parks.** Many of the City’s parks are, there is no other word for it, shabby. Many facilities are out of compliance with ADA standards and in some cases, non-functional. National, state-wide and local research confirms that attractive, safe and accessible parks support economic development. The City needs a sustainable funding source so it can invest in our parks as the important economic resources they could be. We will be proposing that a ballot proposition be placed before the voters seeking approval to use HART Trails funds to support City park capital projects.

3. **Semester by the Bay Interns.** Public Works is hosting two Semester by the Bay Interns. One of them, Cate Barrie, dubbed the “Climate Change Champion”, is developing public outreach and education to support the City’s Climate Action Plan. Cate is a junior from Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, majoring in environmental studies. She worked with the Homer High School and local arts organizations to create a Sustainable Sculpture Show for Homer’s Winter Carnival.

   The other, Isabella Fusco, a recent graduate of California State University, Long Beach, California with a major in Marine Biology, is dubbed the “Water Wizard”. Isabella is helping out in the laboratories at the Water Treatment Plant and Waste Water Treatment Plant as well as conducting field research regarding storm water quality.
Homer Marine Trades Association Regular Meeting Agenda

February 8th 2022

1. **Call Meeting to order:** (Quorum- Y / N)

2. **Approve Agenda for tonight 02/08/22:**
   
   1st ____________________          2nd ____________________

3. **Approve of minutes for 01/04/21:**
   
   1st ____________________          2nd ____________________

4. **Visitors/Presentations:**
   - Homer Port and Harbor Master
   - Treasurer’s Report: Jen

5. **Committee Reports:**
   - Advertising and Web/Social media: Mark, Kate, Aaron, Josh
     - Updates
     - Schedule next meeting
   - Workforce Development: Walter/Jesus
   - FOL list
   - Scholarship: Cinda, updates
   - Website: Josh/ Grady

6. **Old Business:**
   - Anchorage Boat Show
   - UCIDA’s Final Resolution Review – Matt

7. **New Business**
   - PME

8. **Comments of the audience:**

9. **Comments of the board:**

10. **Next Meeting:** March___________ 2022 at 6PM held at________________________
Homer Marine Trades Association
Regular Business Meeting
January 4, 2022
Bay Welding

The meeting was called to order by President, Aaron Fleenor at 6:05 p.m.

Officers/Directors present: Aaron Fleenor, Eric Engebresen, Cinda Martin, Bruce Friend, Kate Mitchell, Matt Alward, Jen Hakala and Mark Zeiset. Claire Neaton and Josh Hankin-Foley were excused. A quorum was established.

Agenda Approval: Motion by Eric Engebretsen to approve the Agenda as presented, 2nd and carried

Minutes: Motion by Matt Alward to approve the minutes of the December 8th meeting as written 2nd and carried.

Guests present: Tad Russell of UCIDA

Guest Presentation: Tad Rusell of UCIDA; UCIDA is filing suit against Fisheries Service to overturn a decision to close the area Anchor Point south across the Inlet to Calgin Island to commercial fishing due to a lack of co-management plan between the State and Feds. Decision will have an enormous impact on the Homer area. UCIDA invites HMTA to join in Resolution to support suit as a Friend of the Court.

Motion by Matt Alward to review the final Resolution to support UCIDA’s law suit, as proposed by the City of Homer, for further action, 2nd and carried.

Treasurer’s Report – Jen Hakala reported that there is $20,596 in the checking account with membership dues continuing to come in. The Tidebook invoice and Anchorage Boat Show invoice have been paid; Fish Expo payment is due at the end of January.

Committee Reports:

- Advertising -
  - Tidebooks – are available for distribution
  - Social Media – Jen has access to the FB account and is looking for content
  - Meeting – tentative date 1/18, will invite Grady to give an update

- Workforce Development –
  - HHS – Aaron reported that Walter is still employed at the HHS and he is willing to be the liaison; ready to go with FOLs – Cinda will get a sign up list out to the membership; Mark will take next Wednesday
  - KPC/Bay Weld – Eric reported that they are now certified to sign off on certain course certifications; they are still working with the college on a collaboration for future courses

- Website – no report

Old Business:

- Anchorage Boat Show – Bruce reported that he has sold 9 spaces so far including the Chamber, one space is left; will result in $1350 in net profit.
Banner – we will use the banner from PME and notify the advertisers of a discount; a new foam core banner can be produced with our new logo

New Business:
- PME 2022 – same booth reserved for next year; would like to start recruiting participants and advertisers early.
- Radio Ad for Summer Season – Suggestion to highlight KPC courses
- HHS Banner – Aaron reported that the HHS banner is outdated, suggestion to create a new one emphasizing our efforts in Workforce Development

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 8th at NOMAR (new breakroom) at 6pm.

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cinda Martin, Secretary
The meeting was called to order by President, Aaron Fleenor at 6:15 pm

Officers/Directors present: Aaron Fleenor, Cinda Martin, Kate Mitchell, Matt Alward, Jen Hakala, Mark Zeiset, Josh Hankin-Foley, Bruce Friend and Eric Engebretsen. Claire Neaton was absent/excused. A quorum was established.

Agenda Approval: Motion by Mark Zeiset to approve the agenda as presented, 2nd and carried.

Minutes of January 4, 2022: Motion by Matt Alward to approve the minutes of January 4th as written, 2nd and carried.

Guests present: Jill Burnham of KPC and Bryan Hawkins, Homer Harbormaster

Guest Presentations: Bryan reported that black cod season will open March 6th; a crane was shipped off to be re-built; he is headed off to Juneau to lobby for grant applications for the harbor expansion; he met a couple of weeks ago with Senator Murkowski and USCG General Moore to promote the harbor expansion, he will meet with General Moore again in Juneau; and lastly working to install a web-cam at the mouth of the harbor hosted by the Marine Exchange.

Jill Burnham of KPC – reported on current courses available including the 100-Ton that starts 2/11. She also reported that they are building a welding course in partnership with Bay Welding that will be an introduction to mig welding, see attached information sheet for more details. Hoping to have up and running by spring. She also reported that they have now arranged for the 100-Ton and Abel Seaman classes to be taken online as KPC can proctor the exams as an alternative to in-person classes. They are still hoping to have both courses as well as Boat Safety, Navigation and Deck Hand Skills in-person this spring.

Treasurer’s Report: Jen Hakala gave her report; balance in the checking account is $14,197, and $5,225 in A/Rs. She has to bill for the Expo banner @ $175 (1/2 cost) with an explanation that the banner will be going to the Boat Show for no additional cost due to the snafu at Expo. Anchorage Boat Show booth spaces will be billed out as well based on square footage.

Committee Reports:

• Advertising and Web/Social – Aaron reported that Grady created the ad for Fisherman’s News that includes the new logo; Aaron reported that the committee discussed researching radio advertising on Spotify and Pandora; next meeting scheduled for 2/26
• Workforce Development - Motion by Matt Alward to donate $2,000 to KPC to go toward the additional cost of benches and screens for the KPC/Bay Weld welding course as presented by Jill Burnham, 2nd and carried. Matt Alward has agreed to contribute $500.
• FOL List – Aaron reported that Mark/South Central Radar, Bruce/Wally Boats and Adam Smude/Breakwater Marine have each done an FOL, Cinda/FNBA is on for this week, looking to fill the remainder of February and up until Spring Break. Josh/Vision Subsea will take next Wednesday the 16th. Kate is checking with the USCG Safety Detachment for 2/23 or 3/2.
• Scholarship – Cinda reported that we have not had any further scholarship requests since the last meeting; according to Annual Meeting minutes we had $1,800 available through membership fees plus $1,500 + for KPC scholarships and have not requested any funds from Rotary or Aleutian Harvester. Jill stated that the 100-Ton class is full with 10 participants so we may get some requests for reimbursement.

• Website – Josh is back and happy to resume contact with Grady; would like to be able to make simple modifications to membership listings and operate Mail Chimp. Aaron reported that we have asked Grady for a proposal for ongoing web maintenance but haven’t heard back. Aaron will check in with him.

Old Business:
• Anchorage Boat Show – Bruce reported that move in time is 7am on Friday with the show start time at 2pm; Eric reported that several boat vendors have pulled out due to lack of inventory. As a result, the show is giving more space to attending vendors including Bay Weld and Raider Boats. The HMTA 50x60 space will now have more space for members to spread out, Eric will be moving 1 of his 2 boats to the back of the room and adding a 3rd boat.

• UCIDA’s Final Resolution Review – Matt reported that the City Attorney has stated that they do not want anyone to sign on with their Resolution and law suit against the State at this time, if that changes, they will let us know.

New Business:
• PME – Mark suggested that the Advertising Committee start contacting existing advertisers early to get the banner spaces sold for Fish Expo
• Future Round Haul – NOMAR would like to get on the schedule for an upcoming Round Haul to showcase their remodel project

Comments of the Board:
NOMAR – Jen reported that they are really growing, they have 23 employees currently and are looking to add another 2-3
Bay Weld – Eric reported that they have increased their workforce by 20% with 10% of the workforce being women; they recently went through a strategic workforce plan that made a significant impact to their efficiency and management structure

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 22nd at 6pm at the Moore residence.

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the board of directors, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cinda Martin
Secretary
Master 100 Ton/OUVp Course

Face-to-face with Victoria Wilson Winne at KBC

Complete this US Coast Guard approved course and exam to earn a 100 Ton or an Operator of Uninspected Vehicle license. You may have more sea time than you think. Call 235-1622 to see if you qualify.

This class will observe strict Covid protocols including limited enrollment and mandatory mask wearing.

2/11 - 3/6 2022
Register by 2/1

$700
Fri., 5 - 9 pm
Sat. & Sun. 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
call 235-1622 or visit https://kbcnoncredit.asapconnected.com/

UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual.
CONCEPTUAL DRAWINGS & PLANS

Come see the architectural plans for the proposed new MULTl-PURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTER to be located on the current HERC site at Sterling and Pioneer. Learn more about the project and see the conceptual drawings. Ask questions. See the survey results. Here's the schedule - we hope to see you there!

**Pratt Museum:**

*Exhibit and Comment opportunity available through March 18th*
  - March 4th - First Friday, 4-6pm
  - March 10th - Drop-in with Parks & Recreation, 2-4pm
  - March 12th - Drop-in period, 2-4pm

**City Meetings:**

*(Meet by Zoom or In-person)*
  - March 17th - Park, Arts, Recreation and Culture - 4:30pm
  - April 12th - Economic Development Advisory Commission - 6pm
  - April 25th - Council Meeting - 6pm
CHECK OUT THE EXHIBITS IN MARCH

In addition to exhibits at the Pratt Museum and City Meetings, the conceptual site and building plans will also be on display during the month of March at these locations. Come see how the survey results translated into what the community envisions for a new Multi-Purpose Community Center in Homer.

Homer High School - Commons
Homer Public Library
HERC

For more information scan the QR Code to go to the following website to leave your comments:


City Planning Department
907-235-3106
planning@ci.homer.ak.us
CONCEPTUAL DRAWINGS & PLANS - Option A

Option A:
One story multi-purpose space

For more information and to fill out a comment card, Click QR Code (at right) or go to: cityofhomer-ak.gov
Option A: One story multi-purpose space

Southeast Corner - Pioneer Avenue & Sterling Highway

Southwest Corner - Sterling Highway
Option B:
Two story multi-purpose space

Southeast Corner - Pioneer Avenue & Sterling Highway

For more information and to fill out a comment card, Click QR Code (at right) or go to: cityofhomer-ak.gov
Option B: Two story multi-purpose space

Option B: Southwest Corner - Pioneer Avenue & Sterling Highway

Option B: Northeast Corner - Sterling Highway
What do you think of the plans?

What would make the plans better?

Should the City pursue funding to keep moving forward?

Yes [ ]  No [ ]  Maybe [ ]

Comments: *(Continue on back side if needed)*

Would you like to receive updates about the project?

Email address _____________________________________________________________________

Thank you!
Please return this form to the Response Envelope at the Library, HERC or High School Commons

TO: Economic Development Advisory Commission  
FROM: Julie Engebretsen, Deputy City Planner  
DATE: March 3, 2022  
SUBJECT: Housing Education Staff Report

**Commission Goal:** Housing  
- Planning for growth  
- Familiarize with smart growth principles and best practices

**Staff Comment:** This topic requires some on the ground work - we need a plan of attack. I will have an update at the meeting.
TO: Economic Development Advisory Commission
FROM: Julie Engebretsen, Deputy City Planner
DATE: March 3, 2022
SUBJECT: Balance of Quality of Life, Change, & Community Growth Discussion

Commission Goal: View economic development through the lens of balancing growth with quality of life.

Staff comments: This is a big topic! I’d like to spend about 15 minutes discussing what things you like about living in Homer. What aspects do you consider important to your quality of life? I think we will do a SWOT analysis for this topic – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats. This meeting we will identify some common strengths. If we can identify some common themes, we can start to see how city government affects that aspect of life in Homer. This topic will likely take us several months to unpack.

Meeting Prep: Please identify the following:

What three things/aspects of Homer contribute most to your quality of life?

1. ____________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________
3. ____________________________________________

My example: walkable downtown core, beautiful geography/natural setting, eclectic people.
Hazel Pearson is appointed to the Economic Development Advisory Commission as Student Representative. The term expires with graduation from High School.

Recommendation

Confirm the appointment of Hazel Pearson to the Economic Development Advisory Commission as Student Representative.
The information below provides some basic background for the Mayor and Council. This information is public and will be included in the Council Information packet.

Name: Hazel Pearson
Date: 1/24/2022

Physical Address: ________ Homer AK 99603

Mailing Address: ________ Homer AK 99603

Phone #: ___________ Cell #: ___________ Work #: ___________

Email Address: ________

The above information will be published in the City Directory and within the city web pages if you are appointed by the Mayor and your appointment is confirmed by the City Council.

Please indicate the advisory body that you are interested in serving on by marking with an X. You may select more than one.

- □ ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
  1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:30 PM
  WORKSESSION PRIOR TO EACH MEETING AT 5:30 PM

- □ PARKS ART RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION
  3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30 PM

- □ PORT & HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
  3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
  OCT-APRIL AT 5:00 PM
  MAY - SEPT AT 6:00 PM

- □ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION
  2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:00 PM

- □ CANNABIS ADVISORY COMMISSION
  4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30 PM

- □ LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
  1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30 PM

- □ OTHER - PLEASE INDICATE

- □ CITY COUNCIL
  2ND & 4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH
  SPECIAL MEETINGS & WORKSESSIONS AT 4:00 PM
  COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AT 5:00 PM
  REGULAR MEETING AT 6:00 PM
I have been a resident of the city for 15 years. I have been a resident of the area for 15 years.

I am presently employed at Homer High School and summer job at Blue Urchin.

Please list any special training, education or background you may have which is related to your choice of advisory body.

I am applying for the student position, I am still young and reaching out to make use of opportunities within my community.

Have you ever served on a similar advisory body? If so please list when, where and how long:

I have been in Honor Society, where we worked with the Homer YAC. This was for a year, I am now once again a member at Homer High.

Why are you interested in serving on the selected advisory body?

I would like to share my perspective as a student, coming from a family owning a local small business. I find it important to be an active member of the community.

Please list any current memberships or organizations you belong to related to your selection(s):
Kachemak Swim Club, Honor Society

Please answer the following only if you are applying for the Advisory Planning Commission:

Have you ever developed real property other than a personal residence, if so briefly explain:

Please answer if your are applying for the Port & Harbor Advisory Commission:

Do you use the Homer Port and/or Harbor on a regular basis?

Yes [ ] No [ ] What is your primary use? Commercial [ ] Recreational [ ]

Please include any additional information that may assist the Mayor in his/her decision making:

When you have completed the application please review and return to the City Clerk's Office. You may also email this to clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov or fax to 907-235-3143. Thank you for applying!
February 15, 2022

Hazel Pearson
950 Rosebud Court
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Hazel,

Congratulations! City Council confirmed and approved your appointment as Student Representative to the Economic Development Advisory Commission during their February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting via Memorandum 22-022. Your term will expire at the time of your graduation from high school.

Included is your EDC Orientation Packet which provides important guidelines and information for being a member of the commission.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the City of Homer on the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission. There certainly are exciting times ahead!

Cordially,

Ken Castner, Mayor

Enclosed: Memorandum 22-022
Certificate of Appointment
EDC Orientation Packet

Cc: Economic Development Advisory Commission
City of Homer
Homer, Alaska
Mayor's Certificate of Appointment

Greetings
Be It Known That

Hazel Pearson

Has Been Appointed to Serve As
"Student Representative"

On The
"Economic Development Advisory Commission"

This appointment is made because of your dedication to the cause of good government, your contributions to your community, and your willingness to serve your fellow man.

In Witness whereof I hereunto set my hand this 14th day of February 2022.

Ken Castner, Mayor

Attest:

Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk
CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 22-016

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA
ADOPTING THE CITY OF HOMER WAYFINDING AND STREETSCAPE
PLAN.

WHEREAS, In the 2017 Business Retention and Expansion Survey Report, the most
mentioned idea to improve the business climate and quality of life in Homer was a walkabout
town with greenspace, further defined as pedestrian accessible town with trail connected
business districts; and

WHEREAS, The 2018 Homer Comprehensive Plan Chapter 6 Economic Vitality, Goal 5
states: “Strengthen Homer as a tourism business travel education and recreation event
destination;” and

WHEREAS, Chapter 6 Implementation Item 5-B-2 states “Design and build a wayfinding
system that includes the Spit, Pioneer Ave, and Old Town...”; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 6 Implementation item 5-A-1 states “Support and fund
beautification efforts on Pioneer Avenue...”; and

WHEREAS, The Economic Development Advisory Commission has worked diligently to
provide public input opportunities throughout the design process and included comments
from all city commissions and the Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Adoption of the Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan will provide a cohesive
framework for future public improvements such as banners, plantings and street furniture
along Pioneer Ave and other pedestrian corridors; and

WHEREAS, Adoption of the plan will guide wayfinding implementation across the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Homer City Council that the City of Homer
hereby adopts the Homer Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 28th day of February, 2022.

CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR
ATTEST:

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A
# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION
## 2021-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Ongoing Goals</strong></th>
<th><strong>Near Term Goals</strong>&lt;br&gt;≤ 6 Months</th>
<th><strong>Mid Term Goals</strong>&lt;br&gt;1 - 3 Years (2020 – 2023)</th>
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</table>
| 1. Define what is positive economic development for Homer, and how it leads to the quality of life and growth outcomes desired in the Comprehensive Plan. | 1. Familiarize with smart growth principles and best practices, and also green infrastructure concepts. Have these in our toolbox when development decisions come our way for consideration.  
   *Task:* Staff to provide smart growth resources.  
   *Task:* Invite a member of the KPB Resiliency and Security Commission make a presentation to the EDC about what the Commission does.  
 2. View economic development through the lens of balancing growth with quality of life.  
   *Task:* Create an EDC Mission statement as a guiding principle for what the EDC does.  
   *Task:* Define positive economic development, and what is the role of the EDC in balancing growth and quality of life.  
 3. Housing: affordable short and long term housing. Seasonal workers, general workforce, seniors, etc. affordable year round housing.  
   *Task:* Define one or two housing types/populations of people to focus on.  
 4. Assess jobs training needs and workforce development. Communicate to KPC.  
   *Opportunity:* Invite KBC Director Reid Brewer as speaker, how does the college make course offering decisions? How is workforce development part of the planning? What does the KBC Advisory Board do?  
   *Opportunity:* KPEDD/Chamber to host in Homer will be hosting a jobs meeting for employers to help them learn how to attract workers, and a job fair for job seekers.  
 5. Do some outreach to local businesses to take the pulse of the business community in pandemic recovery.  
 6. Present an annual report of EDC accomplishments to the City Council  
   *Task:* approve memo to Council, read accomplishments to Council | 1. Multipurpose community center (HERC)  
   *Status:* Scoping study has been funded  
 2. Downtown vitalization momentum and wayfinding/streetscape plan  
   *Status:* Wayfinding and Streetscape work ongoing through 21 and implementation activities in 2022  
   *Longer term:* Consider storefront/Downtown and landscaping improvement program |
3. Economic resiliency planning.
   
   Opportunity: EDC provide suggestions to KPEDD on the business tool box. EDC promote tool box to community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long Term Goals</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 Years or More (2025+)</td>
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</table>

1. BR&E – review annually and plan for a new report (5 year mark is 2022-2023)
   
   Opportunity: consider a funding request for the FY 2024-2025 budget

OVERALL EDC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Economic Development Advisory Commission will act in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the overall economic development planning for the City of Homer in accordance with Homer City Code Chapter 2.76; www.codepublishing.com/AK/Homer. The EDC also assists with official City planning documents including the following:

- Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD) – Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (link will bring you to all KPEDD reports): [https://kpedd.org/reports](https://kpedd.org/reports)
- Homer Comprehensive Plan: [https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/comprehensive-plan](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/comprehensive-plan)

DUTIES OF COMMISSION/STAFF

Commissioners

- Attend City Council meetings as assigned.
- Attend work sessions and training opportunities.
- Come prepared to make a motion for action at meetings, or ask staff before the meeting for more information.
- Communicate with City Council members to gain support on EDC-related projects that need sponsorship at the Council level.

Staff (Julie Engebretsen)

- Aid the Chair in setting the agenda.
- Compile packet material from commissioners, write backup memos, and submit to Clerk.
- Provide information on items the commission needs to review annually.
- Inform the Commission of City Council actions and discussion of economic development related issues.

Clerk’s Office

- Aid Staff in compiling packet materials and print/distribute them to the Commission.
- Aid Staff and Chair in setting the agenda.
- Tracking yearly items such as reappointments and elections.
- Help the Commission learn to be more efficient and effective in their meetings.
- Support the Commission’s ability to communicate with the Mayor and City Council (through Memorandums, Resolutions, and Ordinances).
Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: February 10, 2022
SUBJECT: City Manager’s Report for February 14, 2022 Council Meeting

Meeting with Senator Murkowski and Rear Admiral Moore
On January 26th Senator Murkowski and her team came to visit the City of Homer. We also had the privilege of hosting Coast Guard Rear Admiral Moore at the same time. Harbormaster Bryan Hawkins, Special Projects Coordinator Jenny Carroll, and I gave the Senator a brief tour of the harbor with a focus on the proposed site of the large vessel harbor expansion project. Afterwards we convened a meeting at the Harbormaster’s Office with the Senator and staff, the Admiral and staff, City representatives that included Mayor Castner, me, Bryan Hawkins, Jenny Carroll, Chief Kirko, Chief Robl, and Public Works Director Jan Keiser. Assistant to the City Manager Christine Drais handled meeting logistics. We had a very productive conversation with the Senator and the Admiral that ranged from utility-related needs to plans for the future of Homer’s harbor. My staff will continue to meet and collaborate with both Senator Murkowski’s office and Rear Admiral Moore’s team on issues relevant to the successful futures of Homer, the State of Alaska, and the Coast Guard’s mission in Alaska and the Arctic.

Mid-Biennium Budget Adjustment Preparation
All budget adjustment request forms from the departments have been returned to the Finance Director. The two of us have been reviewing requests. Some divisions are on track with no requests or funding issues, others are seeing significant pressures from inflation, COVID impacts, and other external economic factors. We are still on track to be before Council in the month of March with proposed mid-biennium adjustments.
FY22 Second Quarter Report
As promised in my report for the January 10th Council meeting, we are on a more well-defined track for quarterly finance reports. Attached to this report is the FY22 second quarter report and a memo from the Finance Director with an overview of the data. The next quarterly report should be published in May.

Police Station Debt Service Fund Update
In response to some questions I have received regarding the status of the Police Station debt service fund (Fund 154), I asked the Finance Director to put together a memo providing an overview of the fund to date, and show a rough forecast for the future. We are ahead of schedule on revenue collection. While we are not able to pay the bond off until 2029 per the terms of that agreement, we may be able to revisit that portion of the sales tax much earlier. If revenues remain steady, we could have sufficient funds available at some point during calendar year 2025 to cover the remaining payments for the bond.

Food Trucks and Special Events Code Update
During the month of February, proposed updates to the City’s special events and mobile food service (food truck) codes will be reviewed by the LAB, PARCAC, EDC, and Port & Harbor commissions. I am expecting that we will be bringing ordinances to Council in March for introduction. The updates to these topics have been underway in the background for quite some time. Councilmembers Venuti and Hansen-Cavasos volunteered to help me in this project last year, and staff put a lot of effort into collaborating on improvements that are fair and reasonable for event promoters and food truck owners. We really attempted to streamline the programs to focus on what Homer cares about, and not create unnecessary obstacles that provide minimal value to the City or its residents.

2021 Water & Sewer SAD Report
Christine Draiz, Assistant to the City Manager, has worked with Finance and Public Works to compile a report on individual Water and Sewer Special Assessment Districts (SADs). This is the first time this information has been presented in a district-by-district fashion with both maps and financial data. Traditionally, SADs are reported on in the aggregate in the annual audit.

Example Sheets from the report
I consider the file attached as a draft. We’re continuing to fine tune the format and address any issues uncovered by completing the analysis of individual SADs. While that is underway, I felt it would be valuable
to share with the Council in its current form. I would like to thank Lynda Gilliland and Jenna deLumeau from Finance for their help with the financial data and Aaron Yeaton from Public Works for his assistance with mapping.

**HERC Update: Stantec to Present at Next Meeting**
Stantec is working on designs for a potential building on the HERC campus. They are planning to have materials to present to Council on February 28th.

Enclosures:

1. February Employee Anniversaries
2. FY22 Second Quarter Report
3. Police Station Debt Service Fund Memo
4. 2021 Water and Sewer Special Assessment District Report (Draft)
5. Letter of support for the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies
Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: February 24, 2022
SUBJECT: City Manager’s Report for February 28, 2022 Council Meeting

Winter AML Conference and Lobbying Trip
During the week of February 14th, I was joined by Special Project Coordinator Jenny Carroll, Mayor Castner, and Councilmembers Lord, Erickson, and Davis to attend the Alaska Municipal League’s winter legislative conference in Juneau. Harbormaster Bryan Hawkins was also in Juneau with the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators. While in Juneau, we were able to engage in quite a bit of lobbying on behalf of the City of Homer. Our lobbyists, J&H Consulting, set up meetings for us which included many legislators, Rear Admiral Moore, and the State Commissioner of Transportation & Public Facilities. The feedback we received in Juneau was positive and I believe we made a strong case for funding the State’s share of the large vessel harbor expansion project’s new start general investigation.
Homer’s Former Dais Finds New Life in Seldovia
In August of 2021, the City Council endorsed a donation of the dais formerly in Council Chambers to the City of Seldovia (see Memorandum 21-144). We held the dais in storage at the HERC until Seldovia was able to make the arrangements to ship it across the bay. The dais is now in use for in-person meetings at Seldovia City Hall.

TsunamiReady Community Status Renewed
The City of Homer recently renewed its status as a TsunamiReady Community. TsunamiReady is a voluntary community recognition program administered by NOAA and the National Weather Service. The goal of the program is to improve public safety before, during and after tsunami emergencies. The designation recognizes that Homer meets a standard level of response capability, participates in public awareness and education about tsunami hazards, and is engaged in improving community pre-planning for tsunami emergencies. Meeting TsunamiReady standards also makes the City of Homer eligible for additional ISO community rating system points, which provides discounts on flood insurance.

As part of the City’s ongoing efforts to improve tsunami preparedness and response, we will be hosting Elena Suliemani from UAF’s Geophysical Institute and Logan Stolpe, the Geologic Hazards Mitigation Coordinator at the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management on Monday, Feb 28th. Their visit includes meeting with City and Borough staff to review tsunami evacuation lines and procedures and finalize a Homer tsunami brochure design. Afterwards, they will share recommendations with Council at a 4 pm work session. While in Homer, Elena and Logan will also be presenting tsunami information at local schools and at a public lecture hosted by the Homer Public Library.

Traffic Complaints
We recently received a complaint related to vehicle safety concerns within a specific residential area. These complaints are infrequent, but we do take them seriously when received. The Police Department will be
increasing their presence in subdivisions and residential areas. I expect that we will deploy speed monitoring units later in the year when road and weather conditions improve.

Enclosures:

1. Letter from Homer Hockey Association
2. Letter from Bunnell Street Arts Center
**ECOnOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**2022 Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>AGENDA DEADLINE</th>
<th>MEETING</th>
<th>CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*</th>
<th>ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>Wednesday 1/5 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 1/11 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 1/24 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>• City Budget Review/Develop Requests *may not be applicable during non-budget years</td>
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<td>[Arevalo]</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>Wednesday 2/2 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 2/8 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 2/14 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>[Person]</td>
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<td>MARCH</td>
<td>Wednesday 3/2 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 3/8 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 3/14 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>[Gamble]</td>
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<td>• Clerk Reappointment Notices Sent Out</td>
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<td>• Update from Public Works Director</td>
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<td>• KPEDD CEDS Review</td>
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<td>APRIL</td>
<td>Wednesday 4/6 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 4/12 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 4/25 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>[Speakman]</td>
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<td>• Terms Expire April 1st</td>
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<td>• Advisory Body Training Worksession</td>
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<td>• Election of EDC Officers</td>
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<td>• Annual Review of Strategic Plan/Goals/BR&amp;E</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
<td>Wednesday 5/4 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 5/10 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 5/23 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>[Brown]</td>
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<td>• Comprehensive Plan Review</td>
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<td>JUNE</td>
<td>Wednesday 6/8 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 6/14 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 6/27 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>[Cherok]</td>
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<td>JULY</td>
<td>Wednesday 7/6 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 7/12 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 7/25 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>• Update from Public Works Director</td>
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<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Wednesday 8/3 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 8/9 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 8/22 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>• Capital Improvement Plan Review</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Wednesday 9/7 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 9/13 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 9/26 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>• Workforce Development Speaker</td>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>Wednesday 10/5 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 10/11 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 10/24 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>Wednesday 11/2 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 11/8 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 11/28 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>• Chamber’s Annual Presentation to City Council *usually occurs 1st Council Meeting in Nov.</td>
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<td>• Approve Meeting Schedule for Upcoming Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>Wednesday 12/7 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday 12/13 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday 1/9/23 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>• Upcoming Year Schedule Review</td>
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<td>• Land Allocation Plan Review</td>
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*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.*