



Agenda

Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 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: 991 8847 0047 Password: 125016

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

CALL TO ORDER, 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

RECONSIDERATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [A.](#) February 2026 Unapproved Minutes

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

- [A.](#) South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services, Inc.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Designate LAB Member to Report to Council
- [B.](#) Library Director's Report
- C. Fundraising Report
- [D.](#) Legislative Report

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

- [A.](#) Library Donation Account
- [B.](#) 20th Anniversary Celebrations

NEW BUSINESS

- [A.](#) LAB Schedule for Summer 2026

B. LAB Officer Elections

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

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

[B.](#) LAB Calendar

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, **May 19th 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.

February 17, 2026

Session 26-02, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Kathy Carsow at 5:30 p.m. on February 17, 2026 at the Cowles Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARDMEMBERS KUSZMAUL, HAAS, CARSSOW, CURTIS, WUESTENFELD

ABSENT: BOARDMEMBERS MCKINNEY, ASSELIN-MARTIN, STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE CHRIST

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK PILLIFANT

1. CALL TO ORDER 5:30 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Carsow requested a motion to approve the agenda.

KUSZMAUL/HAAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

No Discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion passes.

Chair Carsow requested a motion to amend the agenda to approve the October 2025, November 2025 and January 2026 Minutes

HAAS/CURTIS MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2025, DECEMBER 2025, AND JANUARY 2026 MINUTES UNDER **ITEM #5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

No Discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion passes.

Chair Carsow requested a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

HAAS/WUESTENFELD MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

No Discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

February 17, 2026

Motion passes.

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

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the October, December and January minutes

Chair Carsow requested a motion to approve the October 2025 minutes.

CURTIS/KUSZMAUL MOVED TO APPROVE OCTOBER, 2025 MINUTES

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Carsow requested a motion to approve the December 2025 minutes.

HAAS/CURTIS MOVED TO APPROVE DECEMBER, 2025 MINUTES

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Carsow requested a motion to approve the January 2026 minutes.

HAAS/CURTIS MOVED TO APPROVE JANUARY 20TH, 2026 MINUTES

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION CARRIED

6. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

A. Friends of the Library-Cheryl Illg, Judy Gonsalves and Sara Reinert

FHL representatives in attendance to support communication and planning for 20th Anniversary Celebration events. Their input is found in notes from “suspension of rules” period during meeting.

LAB suspended rules to allow discussion with FHL under item # **9. PENDING BUSINESS**

7. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Designate LAB Member for Council Report

Request for volunteers. February 23rd. Deb Curtis will attend.

A moment was taken to introduce and welcome William Wuestenfeld. Bill spoke briefly about his time in Alaska, Kasitsna Bay and Homer. Libraries have been important to him and he received his 1st Library card in 1955 at West Chicago Public Library. Bill looks forward to serving on the board.

B. Library Director's Report

1. 2025 Annual Report

February 17, 2026

January 2026 Director's Report-Topics included:

- security grille project contractor selected
- contract update
- print management system has been rolled out
- gate counter issues addressed
- Japanese Club presentation.

2. Stats for 2025

3. Stats for 2026

C. Fundraising Report-

Board Member Kuszmaul passed out a fundraising report and reviewed it point by point with board.

Topics included; giving history, data, donor profiles, endowment (both Library and FHL), bequests, mailings and ideas.

D. Legislative Report

Staff Liaison Berry gave an overview as Board Member Asselin-Martin was not present.

- Institute of Library Services is now functioning with 30 full-time staff (down from 80)
- Not much activity at state level
- Mat-Su/Llano County- Matanuska Susitna case inspired by Llano County Court Case from last month's report. The ordinance in Mat-Su was eventually pulled from Feb 3rd agenda but may be re-written and re-introduced.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. PENDING BUSINESS

Chair requested a motion to suspend rules.

WUESTENFELD/CURTIS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES

NO DISCUSSION

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

MOTION CARRIED

Rules suspended from 5:55 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

NOTE: Clerk Pillifant took notes (shown in italics) during this informal session-LAB Members can watch video for more details on any of these items.

Staff Liaison Berry shared list of events, movies being shown at Porcupine Theater, FOL has volunteered to bring Book Mobile, soliciting comments about next 20 years, comment box location and charette.

FOL (Cheryl Illg, Sara Reinert, Judy Gonsalves) shared ideas for 20th Anniversary Celebration with LAB and received feedback. Topics included-comment box (online form) dates, liquor license requirements, details of celebration and planning priorities. KBBi Coffee Table was a success and interest in planning additional Coffee Tables and a written

February 17, 2026

history/article about the library. Materials discussed-large print out of library floor plan/lot. Date place holder suggested for Saturday May 2nd.

Staff Liaison Berry Charette (page 34), July 4th Parade, Synchronized Book Mobile facilitated by Andy Haas will work hand in hand with Judy from FOL, Roundtable is a “great big public meeting, basically comment box but live and in living color with floor plans and people can write on sticky notes and suggest ideas, brainstorming, informal and fun” dates are tentatively April, might need food. David Berry is in charge of Roundtable. FHL is in charge of the September 19th event.

More on September 19th Celebration-FOL Judy Gonsalves says she'd like to solidify details and the sooner the better. Deb Curtis said she would be happy to be part of the work group. Decision made to create subcommittee.

Staff Liaison Berry suggested cutting Trivia. Discussion and agreement that it is getting too late and there are other Trivia events happening. Board Member Kuzmaul mentioned importance of location and public facing event. Board Member McKinney was spearheading the trivia and he hasn't attended LAB for the last 3 meetings. Agreement that trivia is cut.

Coffee Table-lots of positive feedback and discussion on this topic and potentially doing more of these. Homer is rich in history, interest in written piece about history of library.

Conversations with High Schoolers-Board Member Haas and Curtis are both happy to be involved with working with students to think about the future of the library. Likes idea of visual aids for event-flyers, map, sticky notes. “Focus on Learning” discussed.

Board Member Kuzmaul suggested having visuals for what other nice libraries have. Images they could dream about and get ideas from.

Timelines and Dates discussed. April for student effort and Saturday May 2nd as placeholder for Roundtable

A. 20th Anniversary Celebrations: Revised Timeline for 20th Anniversary Events

Memo from Library Director re: Timeline of 20th Anniversary Celebrations

Topics discussed-

- Porcupine Theater
- Roundtable Update, Synchronized Book Mobile directed by Board Member Haas
- FOL input
- schedules and timing
- KBBI Coffee Table, Story and student involvement

B. Strategic Plan-clean copy provided reflecting the amendments proposed at the January meeting.

February 17, 2026

Chair Carssow requested a motion to approve the Strategic Plan
HAAS/CURTIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE STRATEGIC PLAN.
NO DISCUSSION.
VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.
MOTION CARRIED

C. United for Libraries

Discussion included-

- What to watch and when
- agreement to create a work session to watch before Regular Meeting.
- Dave chose Overcoming Barriers to Library Fundraising Success
- Need quorum of 4 to meet
- April 21st selected, 4:15 p.m. worksession to view the video
- Check in added to March agenda to schedule additional viewings

D. Approve LAB Minutes -see #5 Approval of Minutes

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fee Schedule

Chair Carssow requested a motion to approve Fee Schedule

WUESTENFELD/CURTIS MOVED TO APPROVE FEE SCHEDULE

no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

motion carried.

B. Bylaws

Chair Carssow requested a motion to approve the Bylaws

CURTIS/WUESTENFELD MOVED TO APPROVE BYLAWS

DISCUSSION OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

YES: WUESTENFELD, CURTIS, KUCZMAUL, CARSSOW

NO: HAAS

MOTION CARRIED

C. Library Donation Fund

Introduction of item- included recommendations from Dave Berry to leave as is or make a recommendation to create an endowment.

February 17, 2026

KAUSZMAUL/HAS MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL TO MOVE THE BALANCE OF THE LIBRARY DONATION ACCOUNT INTO THE ENDOWED FUND AT THE HOMER FOUNDATION.

Discussion included recommendations from Dave Berry to leave as is or make a recommendation to transfer funds to endowment.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion Carried.

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. City Managers Report

B. LAB Calendar

Discussion Items-

- Election of Officers is in April per Bylaws,
- Annual Review of Strategic Plan and LAB Goals should be in February
- Add to calendar-Homer Foundation Visit to LAB, target May

12.COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)

13.COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Clerk Pillifant thanked everyone for their patience and reminded board to turn in Conflict-of-Interest statements.

13.COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBER

15. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Board Member Kuszmaul- Good to have Bill, thrilled with list of activities for celebration and she appreciates help from Friends of the Library.

Board Member Haas- Said Bill is very modest and great guy, and said he was happy that Bill joined.

Board Member Curtis- Welcomed Bill and thanked everybody.

Board Member Wuestenfeld- Thanked everyone for warm welcomes. Looks forward to working with everyone. Finds board fun and important.

Chair Carssow- Welcomed Bill and is happy to have him here. Thanked Marya. She appreciated everyone hanging in there.

Board Member Haas asked How can we support the pitch? (on Library Donation Fund)

Dave Berry said he would put a package together to put forward for next meeting.

Marcia added that it would be good to focus on 1 or 2 council members so that LAB has champions of the idea.

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair Carssow adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm. Next

February 17, 2026

Regular Meeting is **Tuesday, March 17th, 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.

Marya Pillifant, Deputy City Clerk

Approved: _____

Planet Youth Homer



Homer, AK

**A
community-wide
approach to youth
wellbeing**

Data Dissemination • 2026



Today's Roadmap

- Why the Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM)
- Context: community health and what we measure
- How we collected the data
- Notable results: where we are shining, where we can grow
- Next steps



Your feedback matters!



Homer, AK



 About Us 
Who We Are

 Workgroups
What We Do

 Planet Youth Homer
Help Youth Live Their Best Lives

Planet Youth Homer

CLICK HERE to submit your responses to Planet Youth Homer Data presentations

CLICK HERE to contact Project Manager, Anna Meredith

CLICK HERE to subscribe to quarterly newsletter

Planet Youth Homer Feedback Form



What's Next for PY Homer?

Data Steers Community Planning

A Community Driven Approach

WHO is involved?!





Origin Story

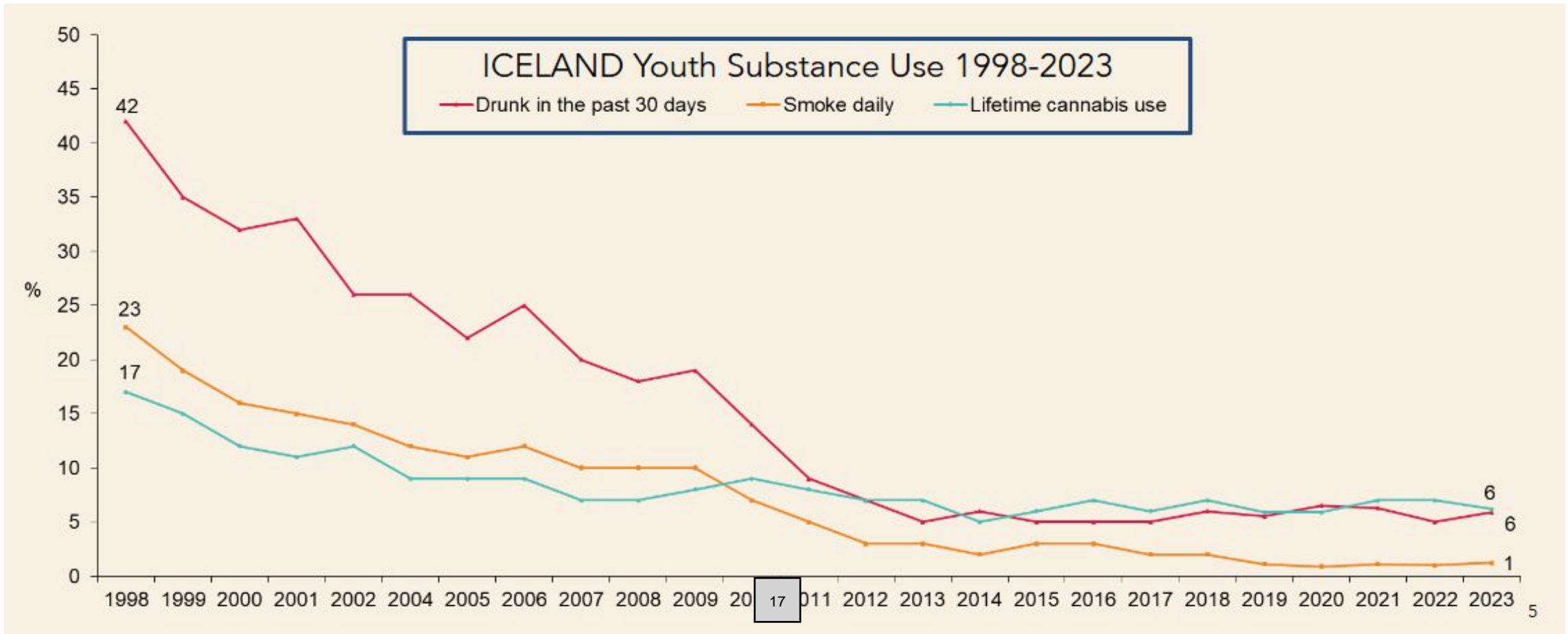
Why Planet Youth Homer started

- We wanted a clearer picture of local youth experiences
- We chose an approach that uses local data to guide local action
- Goal: strengthen protective factors and reduce risk factors over time



Why the Icelandic Prevention Model?

Evidence-based prevention at the community level



Core Elements of the Icelandic Prevention Model

Evidence-Based

Know where we stand before deciding where to go.

Community-Wide Approach

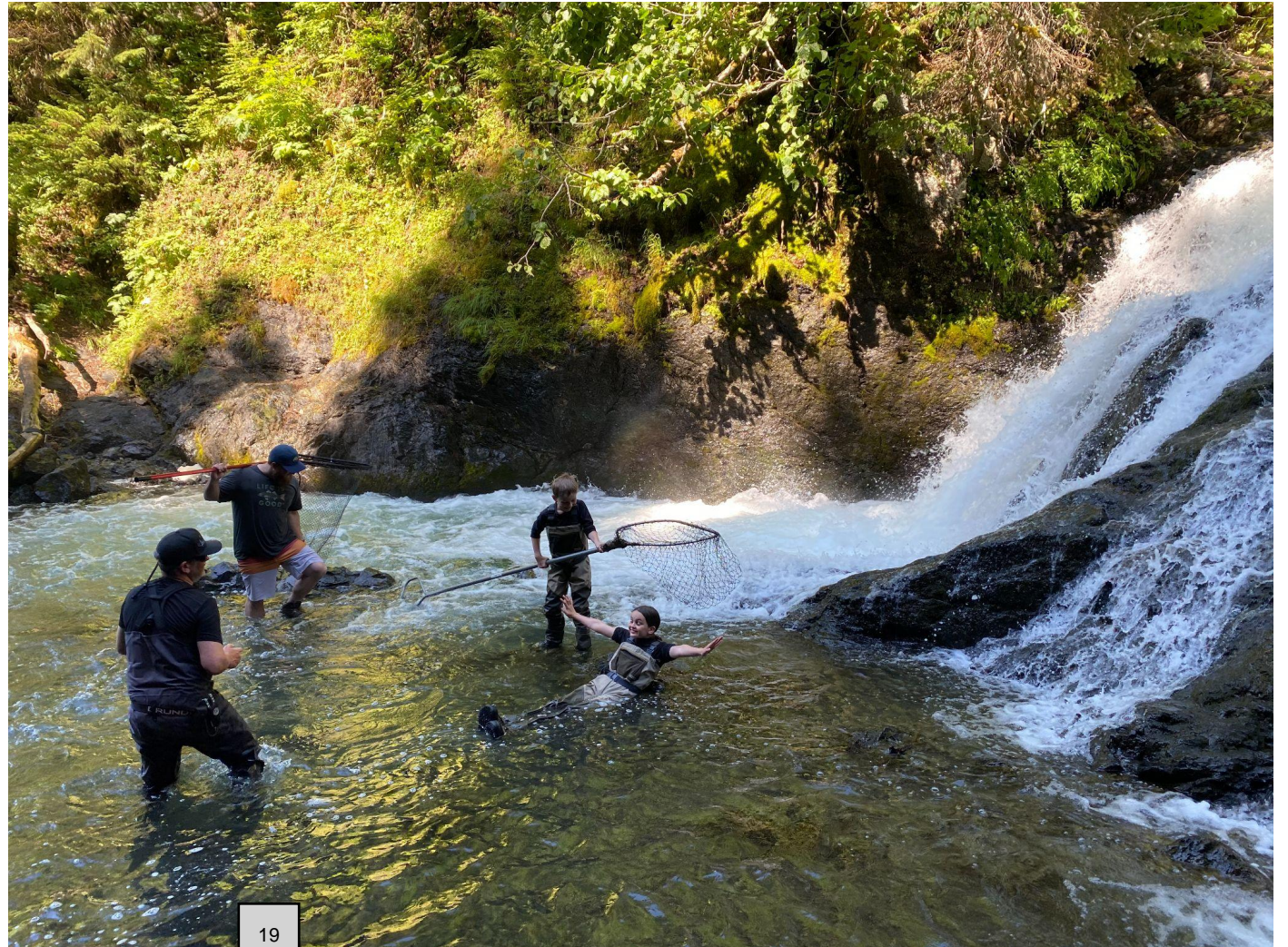
Focus on social conditions for healthy development.

Research – Policy – Practice

Keep a steady dialogue across all three.

Thinking Upstream

Proactive vs. reactive prevention



Purpose of the Survey



Learn about what life is like
for youth in our community

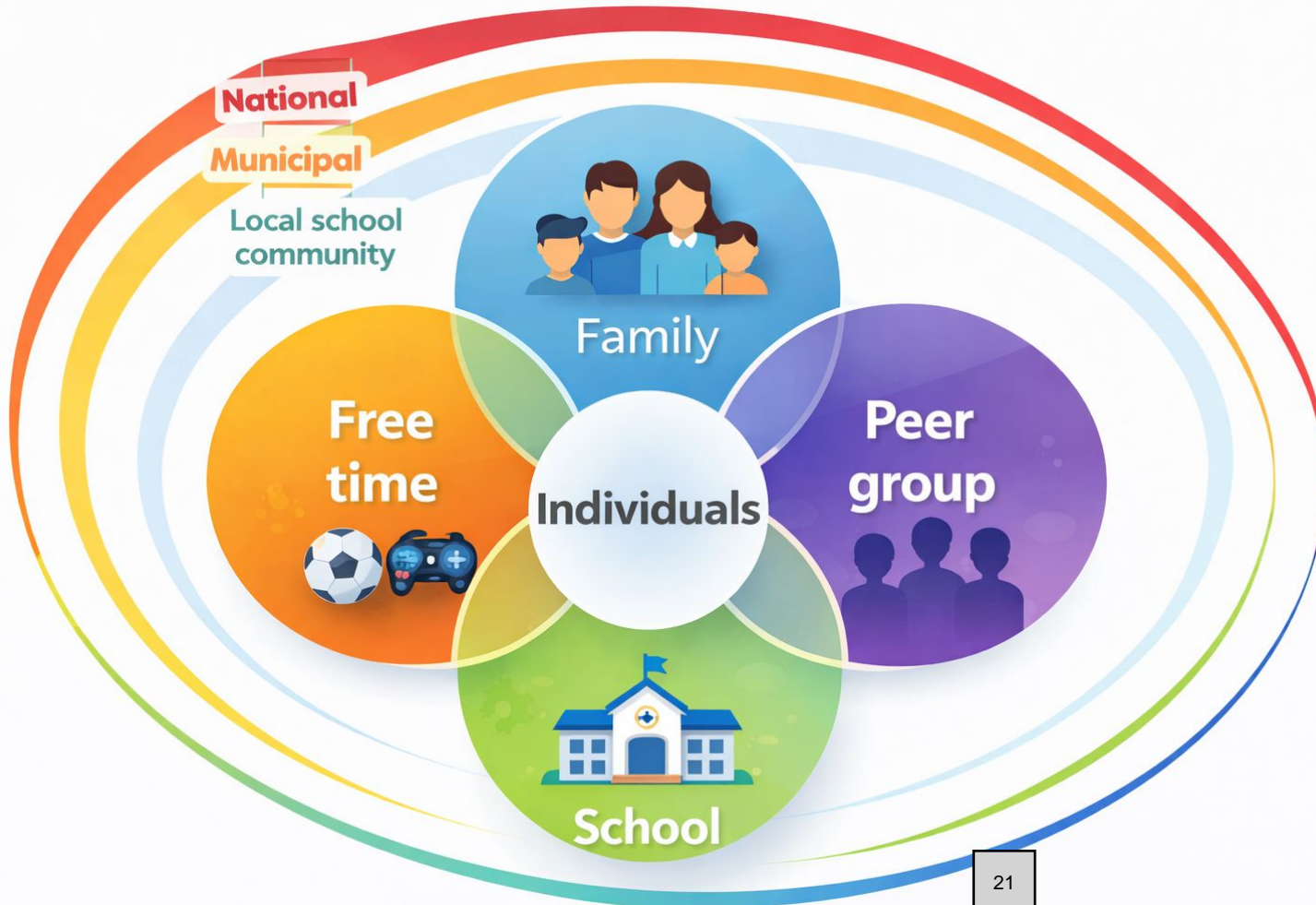


Learn where we are shining



Learn where we can grow

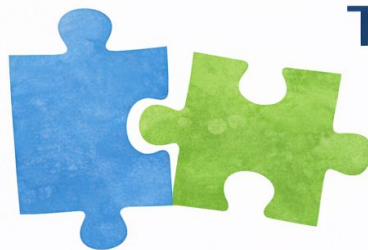
What We Measure (4 Domains)



Youth Participation

- Grades 9–11
- Public, alternative, and homeschool students
- Response rate: 54% (168 out of 312 students)

Anonymous, optional, and guardian consent required



**Think of data results
like a puzzle.**

The data gives us pieces,
but not the whole picture.

Where We Are Shining

Strengths to protect and build on



1. Community is connected and strong
2. Families are engaged and supportive
3. Schools are relationship centered
4. Youth are active during their free time
5. Substance use is low



Where We Are Shining

Strengths to protect and build on



1. Community is connected and strong

What youth like most about their community in their own words:

“Everybody is pretty open/connected and there are lots of opportunities in the area.”

“I like that everyone is willing to help out when you need it.”

“Everyone is very friendly and nice to newer I like how it is very artistic.”

– *Local youth survey respondents*

Where We Are Shining

Strengths to protect and build on

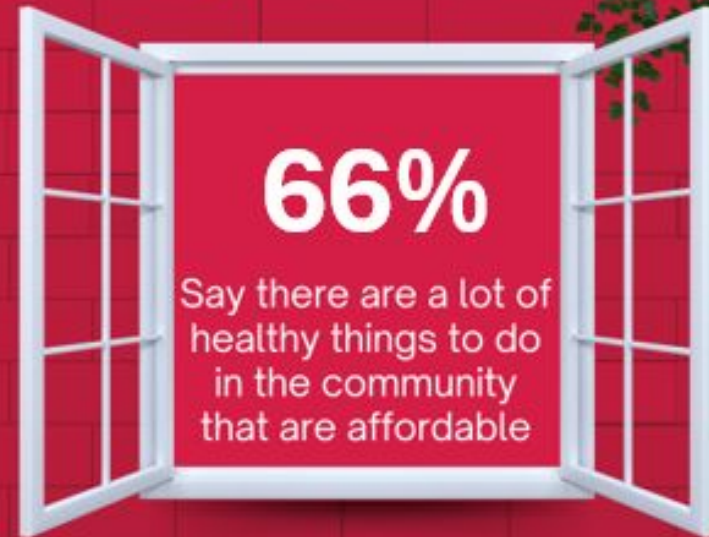


What Youth Like About Their Community



Homer - 2025

Community



Where We Are Shining

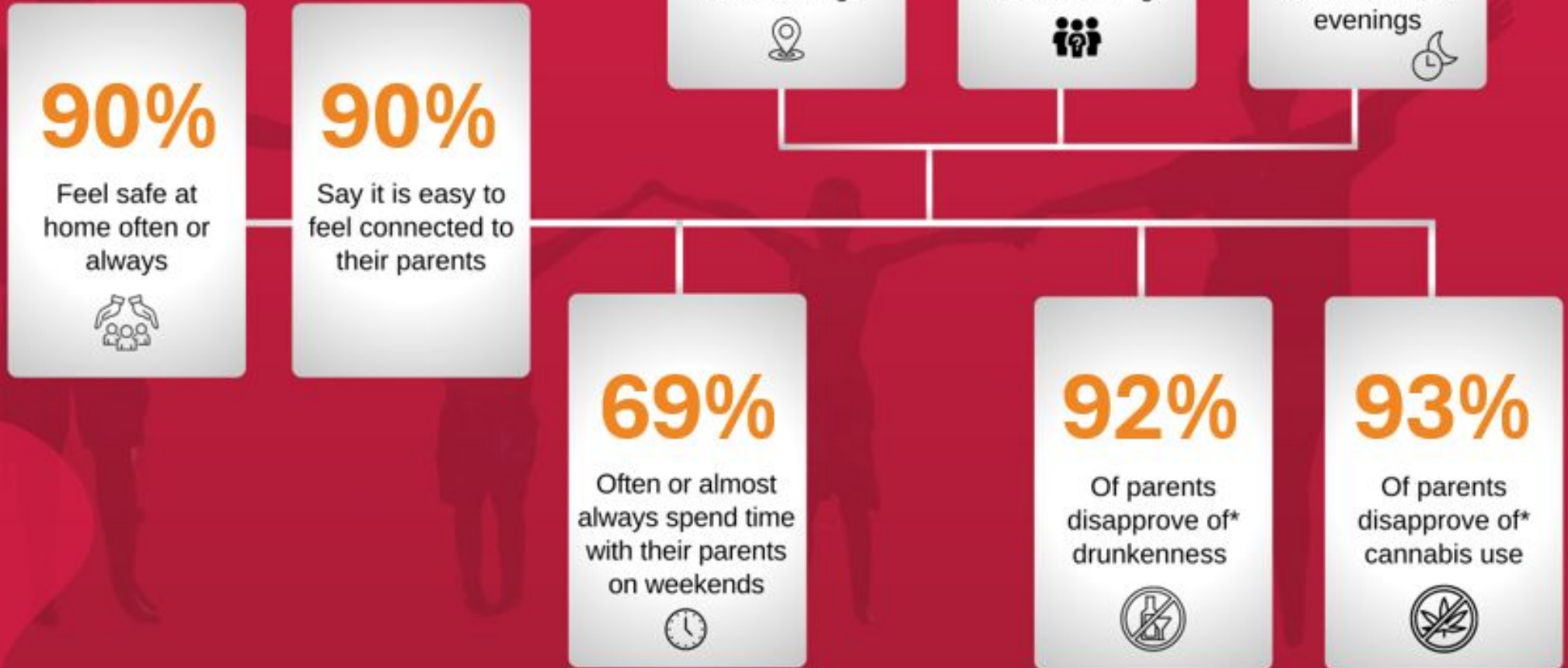
Strengths to protect and build on

2. Families are engaged and supportive

- Parents know where youth are and who they're with
- Clear expectations and rules
- Youth feel safe and connected at home



Family



Where We Are Shining



Strengths to protect and build on

3. Schools are relationship centered

- Safe at school
- Peer and adult connections at school
- Sense of purpose through school



Homer - 2025

School



86%

Have friends at school that care about them



73%

Think the adults at their school care about them



9%

Want to change schools

Where We Are Shining

Strengths to protect and build on

4: Youth are active during their free time

- High participation in organized activities
- Regular physical activity
- Supervised, structured environments with caring adults

Homer - 2025

Free Time



60%

Play sports with a club three times a week or more

31%

Participate in art, drama or music classes once a week or more

10%

Do not participate in any organized out-of-school activities supervised by adults

PLANET
Youth®

PLANET
Youth®

Homer, AK

Where We Are Shining

Strengths to protect and build on

5. Substance use is low



Homer - 2025

Substance use

14%

Tried alcohol at the age 13 or younger

3%

Have been drunk in the last 30 days

18%

Drink alcohol in their own home*

19%

Get alcohol from a family member*

9%

Have been drunk in their lifetime



PLANET
Youth

*Out of those who have had a drink of alcohol in their lifetime

34



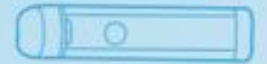
Vaping

11%

Have vaped in their lifetime

2%

Vape daily



Cigarette smoking

6%

Have smoked cigarettes in their lifetime

0.6%

Smoke cigarettes daily



Cannabis use

9%

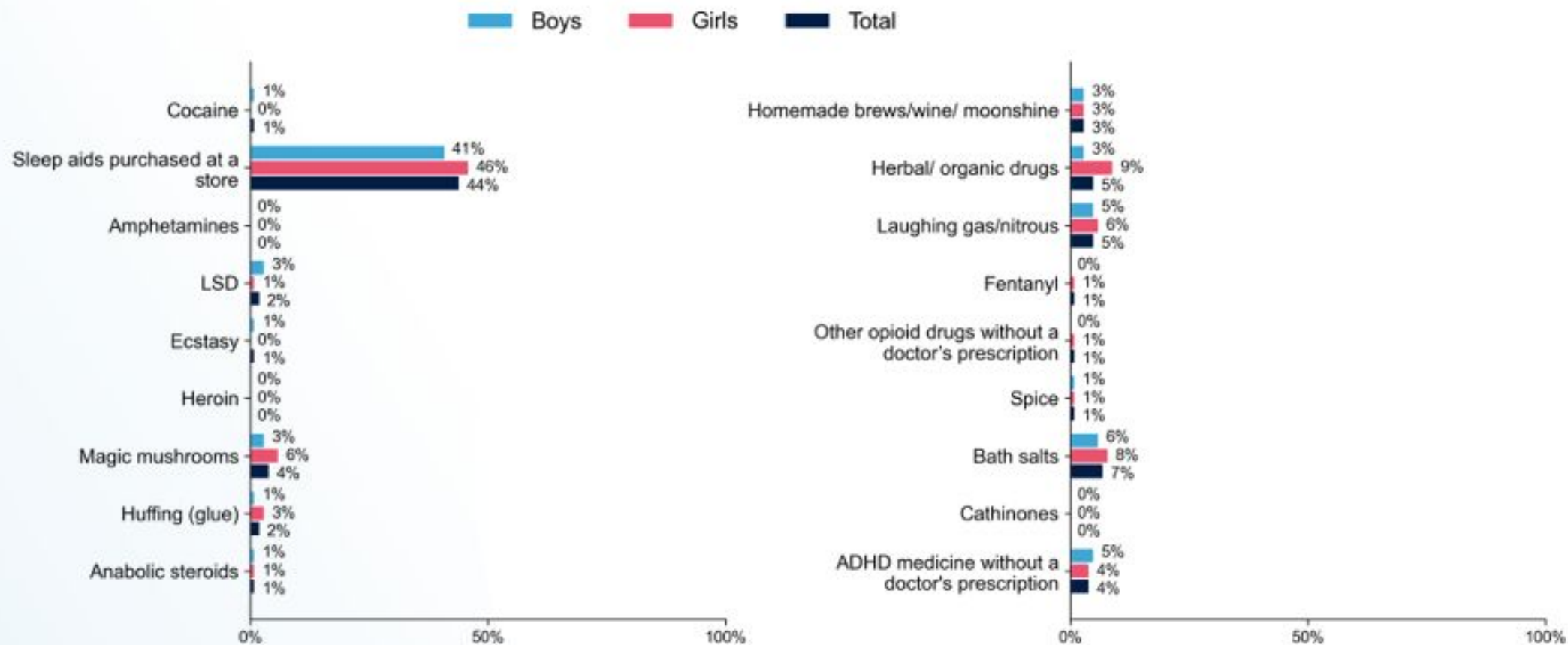
Have used cannabis in their lifetime

6%

Have used cannabis in the last 30 days



Drugs: Proportion of adolescents who have used the following substances **once or more** in their lifetime



Discussion Activity

Reflection (3-5 minutes)

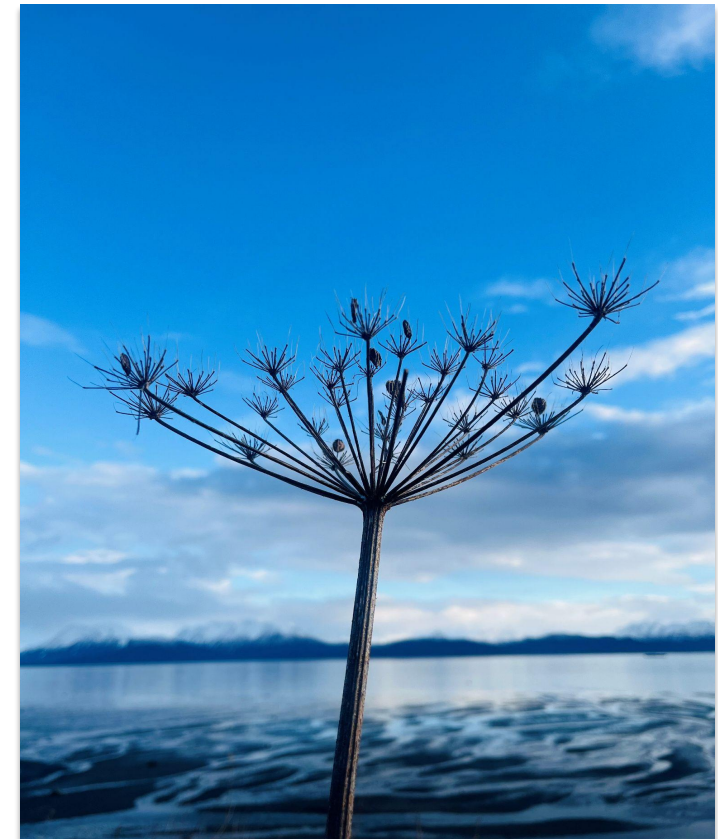
- How does this relate to your experience?
- What surprises you about this information?
- What confuses you about this information?
- What is one protective factor we can strengthen this year?



Where We Can Grow

Opportunities to strengthen protective factors

1. Mental health and wellbeing
2. Factors influencing youth substance use
3. Sleep, fatigue, and related routines
4. Screen time



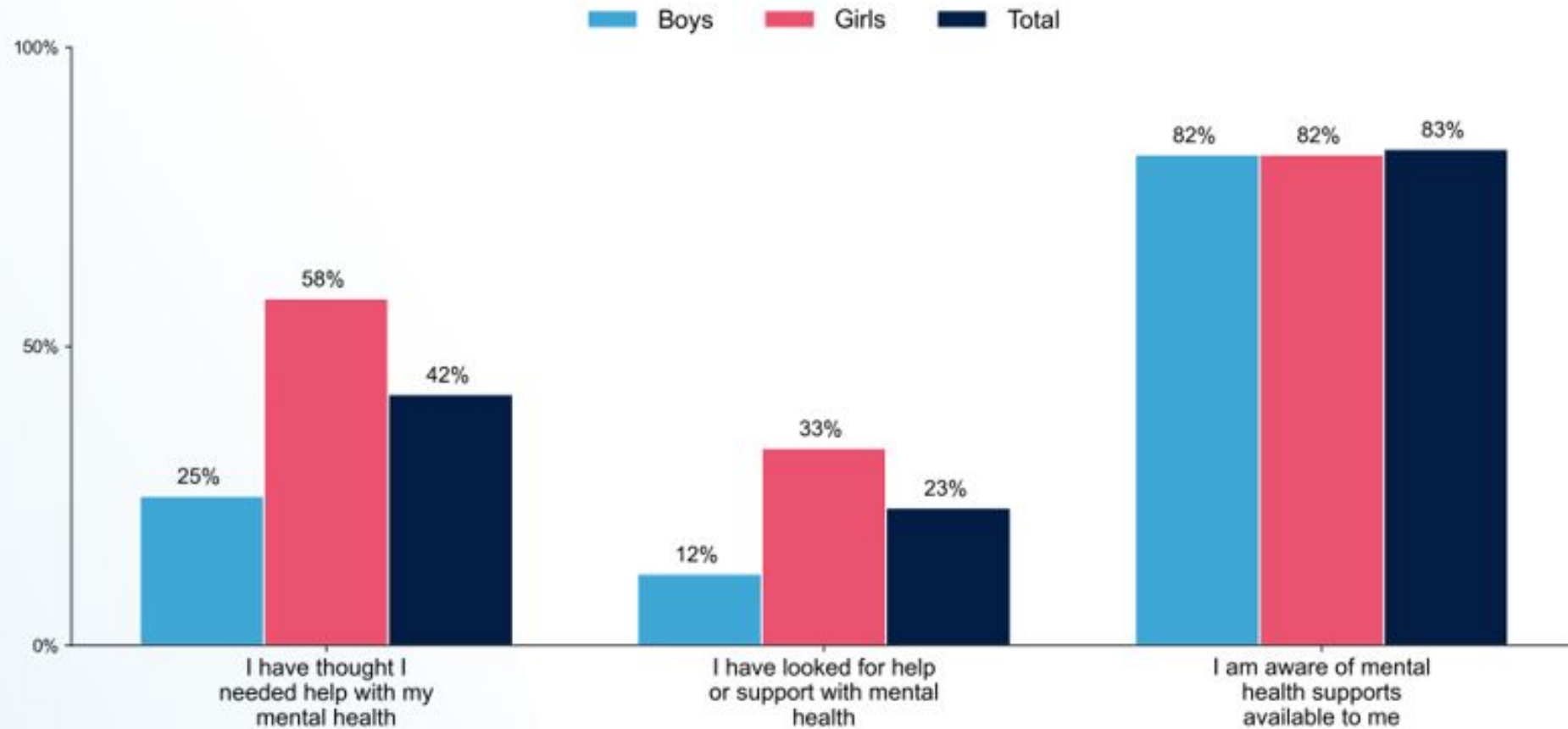
Where We Can Grow

Opportunities to strengthen protective factors

1. Mental health & wellbeing:

- Fewer girls than boys describe their mental health as good or very good
- More girls report stress and difficulty coping
- Many youth have thought they needed help, but fewer have sought it

Mental Health Support: Proportion of adolescents who report the following regarding their mental health



Wellbeing

59%

Of participants rate their mental health as good or very good

37%

Felt calm or relaxed most or all of the time in the last 2 weeks

52%

Sleep 8 hours or more a night

72%

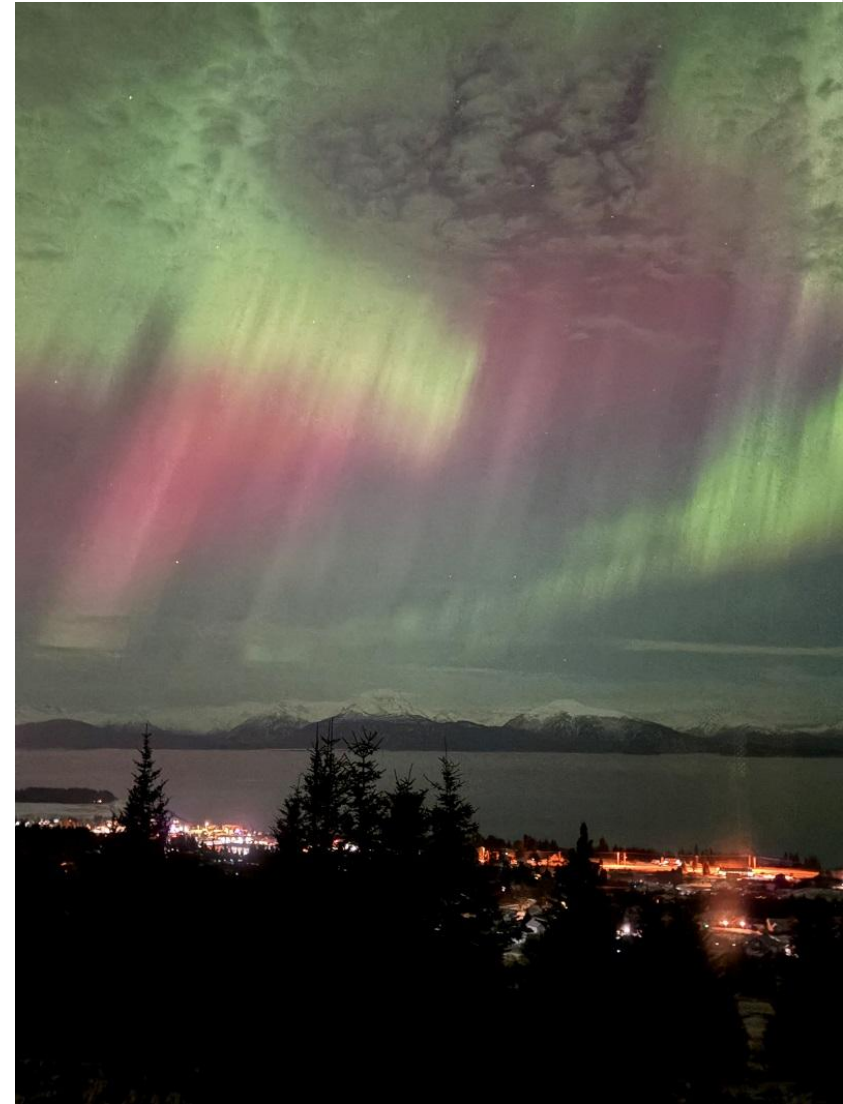
Of participants rate their physical health as good or very good

Where We Can Grow

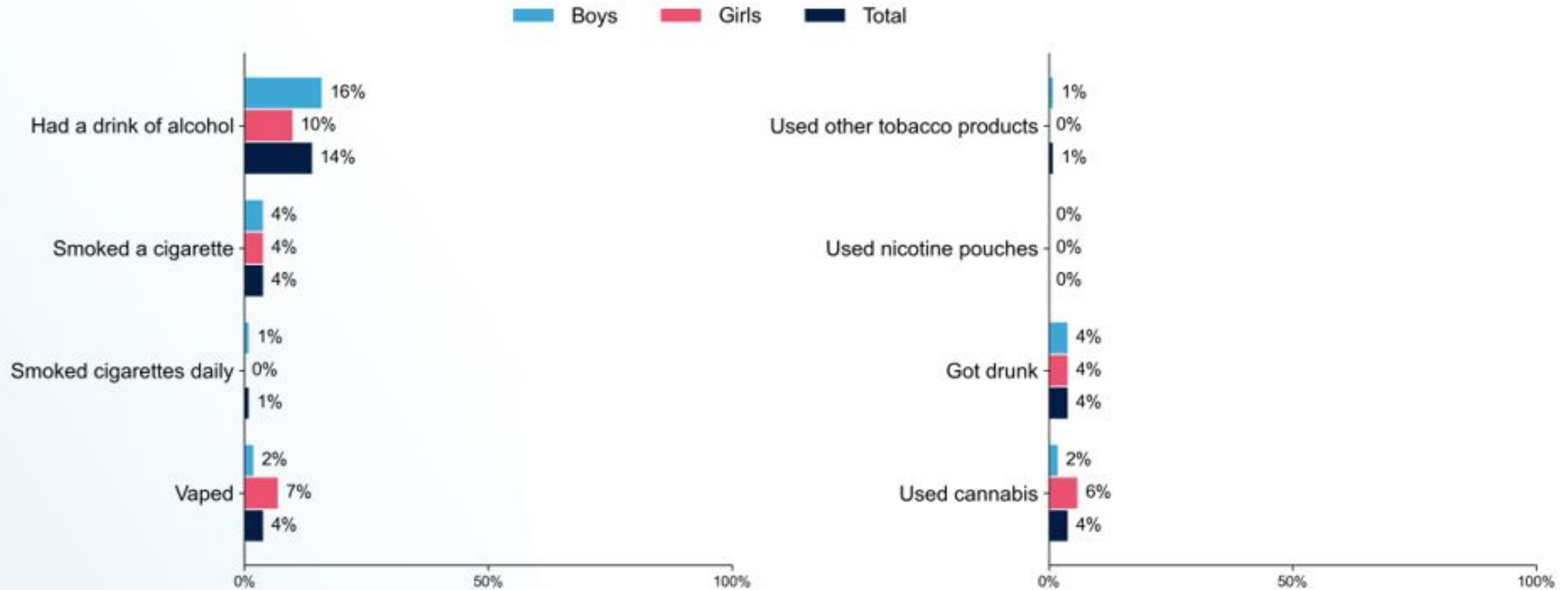
Opportunities to strengthen protective factors

2. Factors influencing youth substance use:

- Early onset of substance use (esp. alcohol)
- Time spent together as a family on the weekends



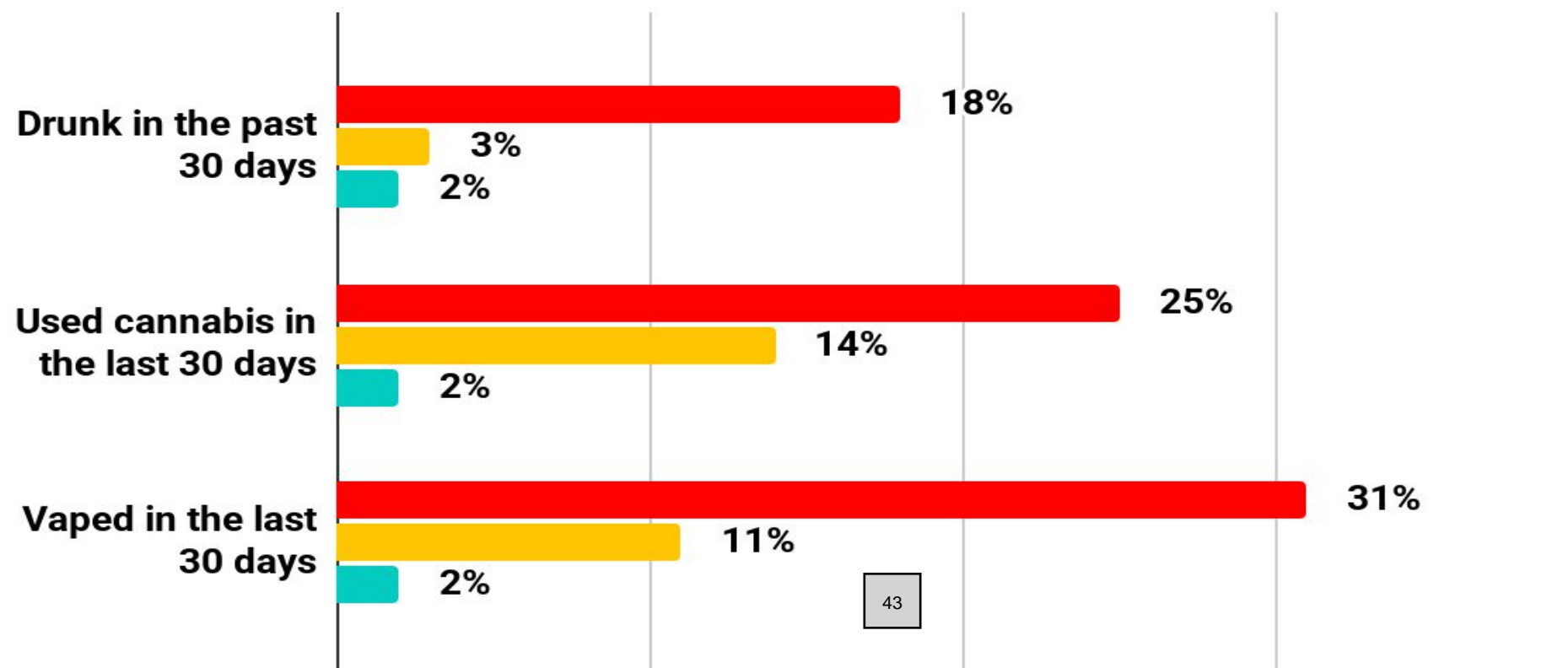
Substance-use Onset: Proportion of adolescents who did the following for the first time when they were 13 years old or younger



Factor Influencing Substance Use - Family Time on Weekends

Family Time and Recent Substance Use - I spend time with my parents/caregivers during the weekends

■ "Rarely" or "almost never" (n=21) ■ "Sometimes" (n=30) ■ "Often" or "almost always" (n=115)



Where We Can Grow

Opportunities to strengthen protective factors

3. Sleep, fatigue, and related routines:

- Nearly half of youth do not meet recommended sleep guidelines
- Many report feeling tired during the school day
- Daily energy drink use is common
- Phones are often present in bedrooms

SLEEP



52%

Sleep 8 hours or more a night

74%

Go to bed at 11 PM or earlier

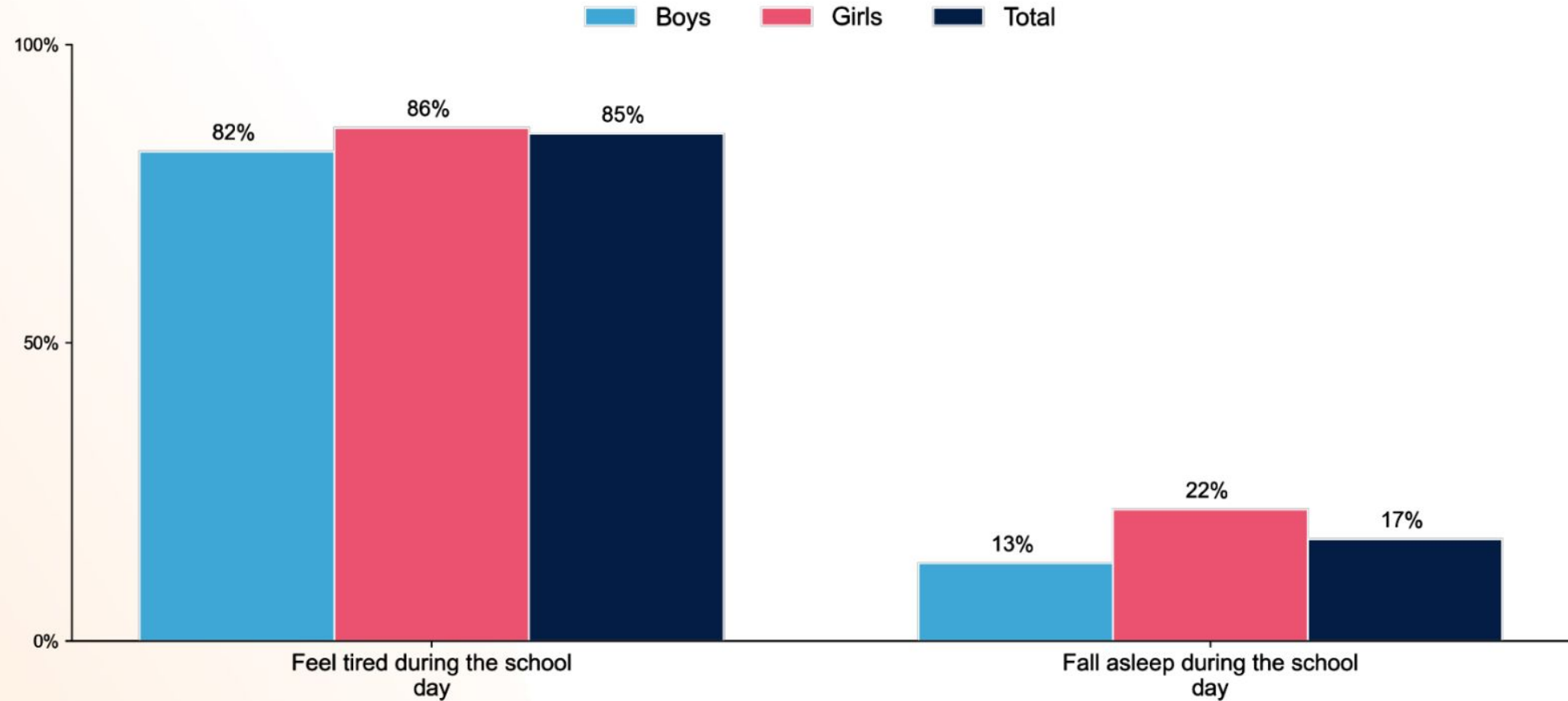
75%

Wake up at 7 AM or earlier

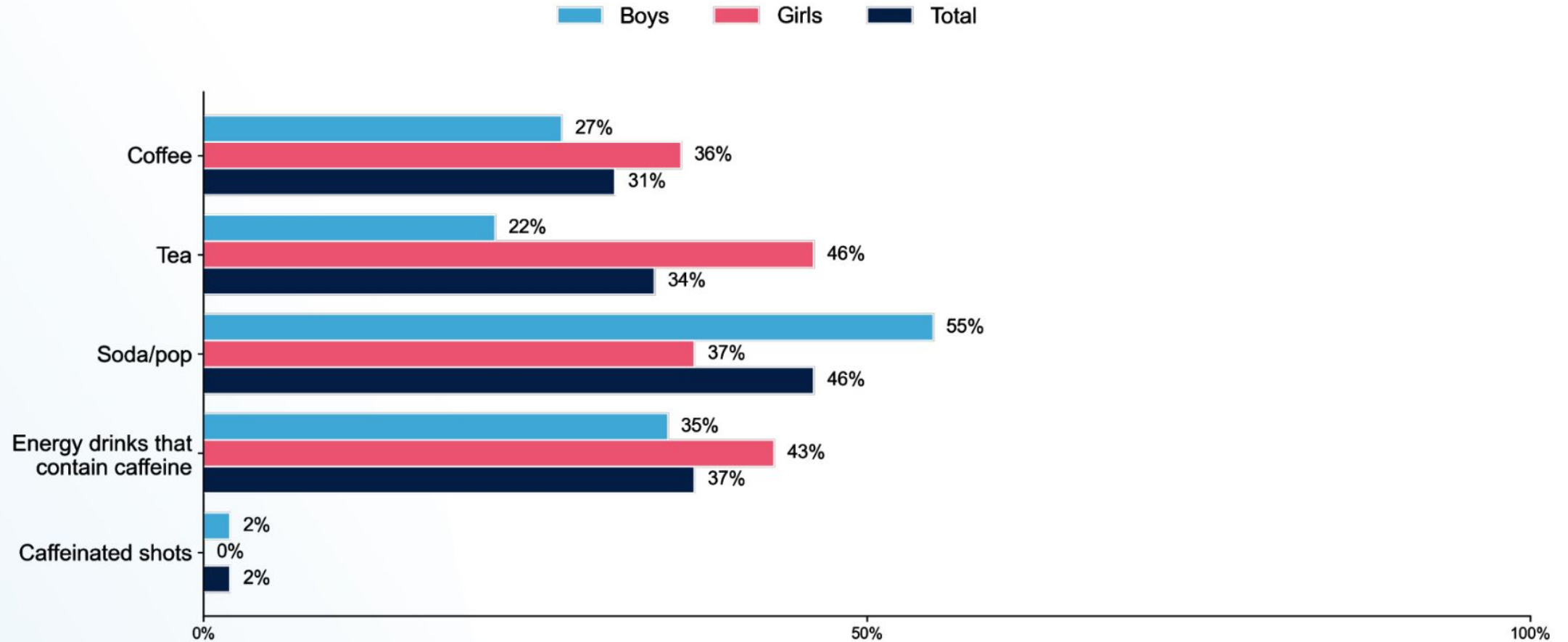
67%

Often or almost always
sleep with their phone in
their bedroom

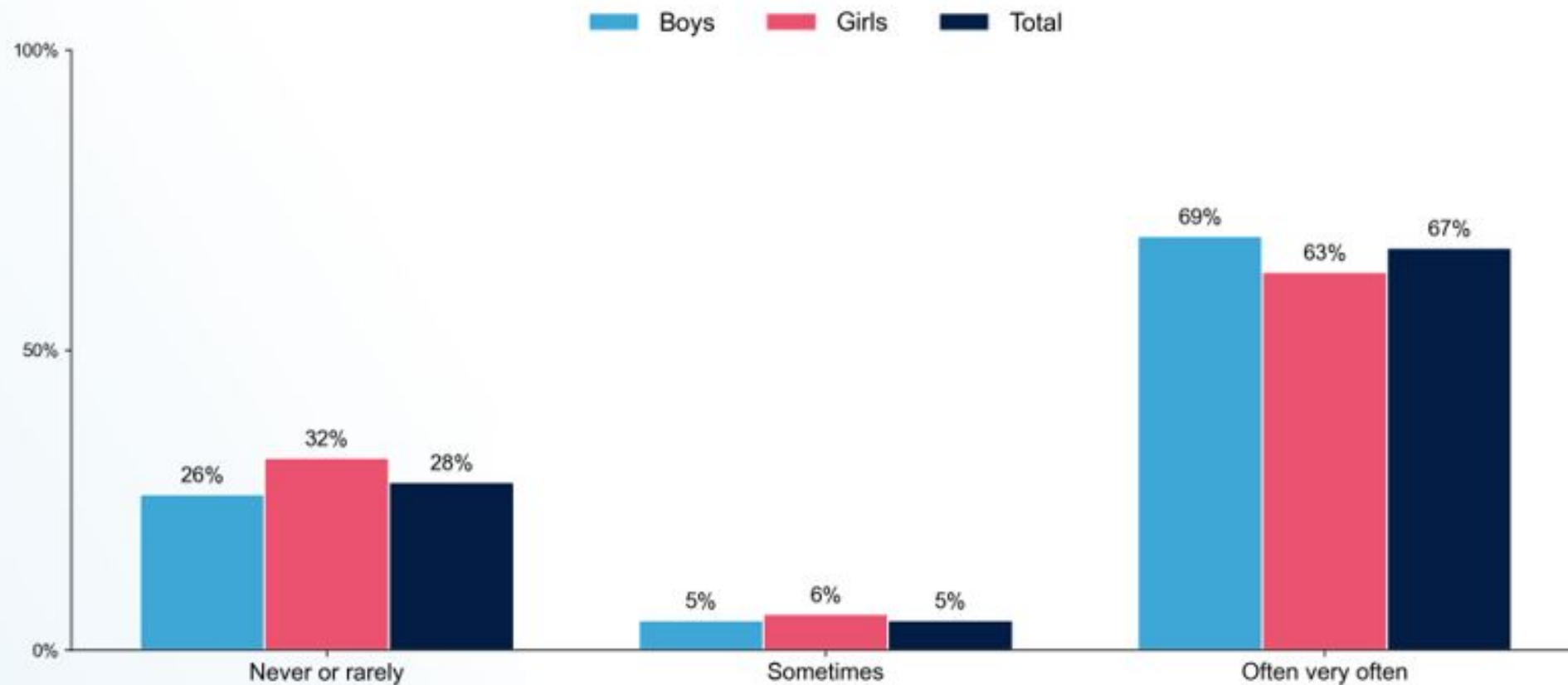
Tired at School: Proportion of adolescents who report that the following statements apply to them



Caffeine: Proportion of adolescents who drink at least one drink of the following every day



Phone Access During Sleep Hours: The frequency that adolescents report sleeping with their phone in their bedroom



Lifetime use	Once or more	3 or more times	6 or more times	10 or more times
	% n	% n	% n	% n

Sleep aids purchased at a store (i. e., Benadryl, Nyquil, Robitussin)

44%
69

28%
44

19%
30

13%
21

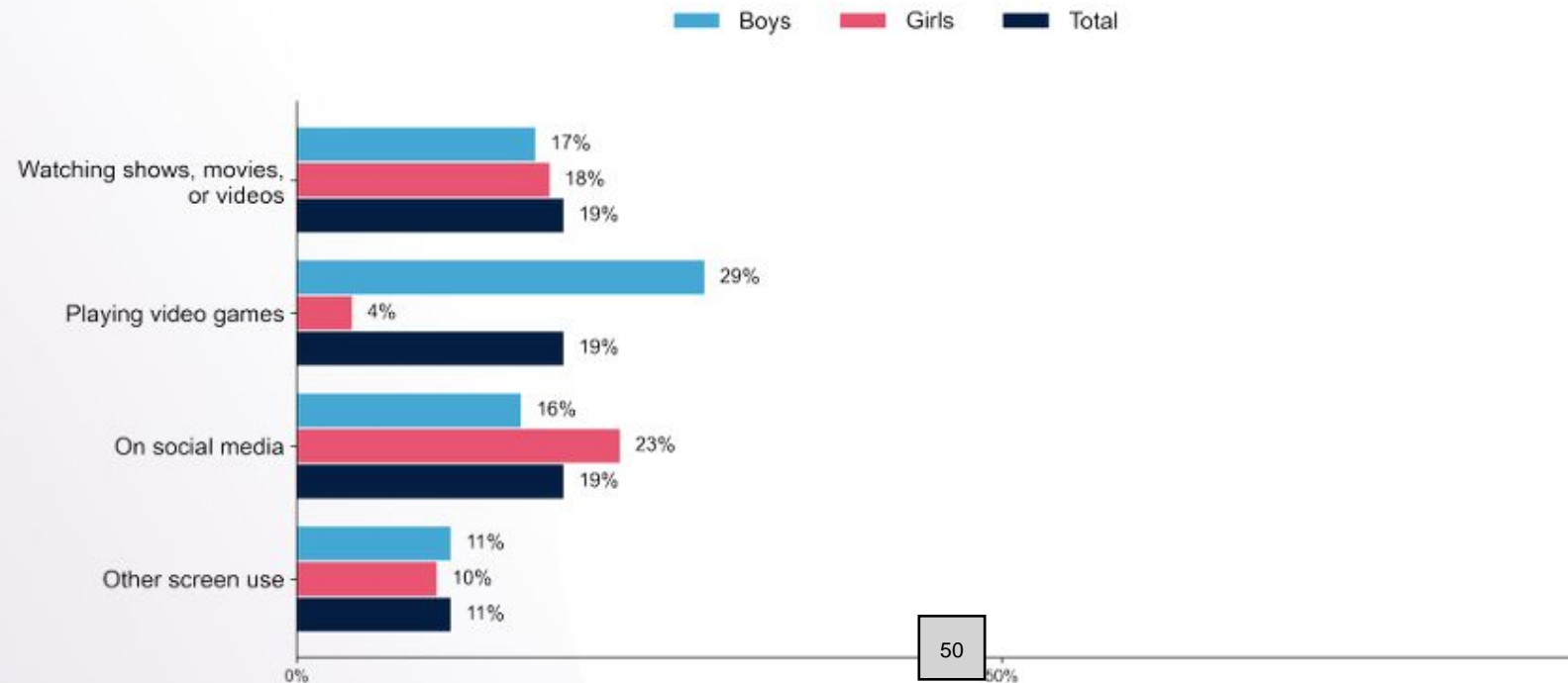
Where We Can Grow

Opportunities to strengthen protective factors

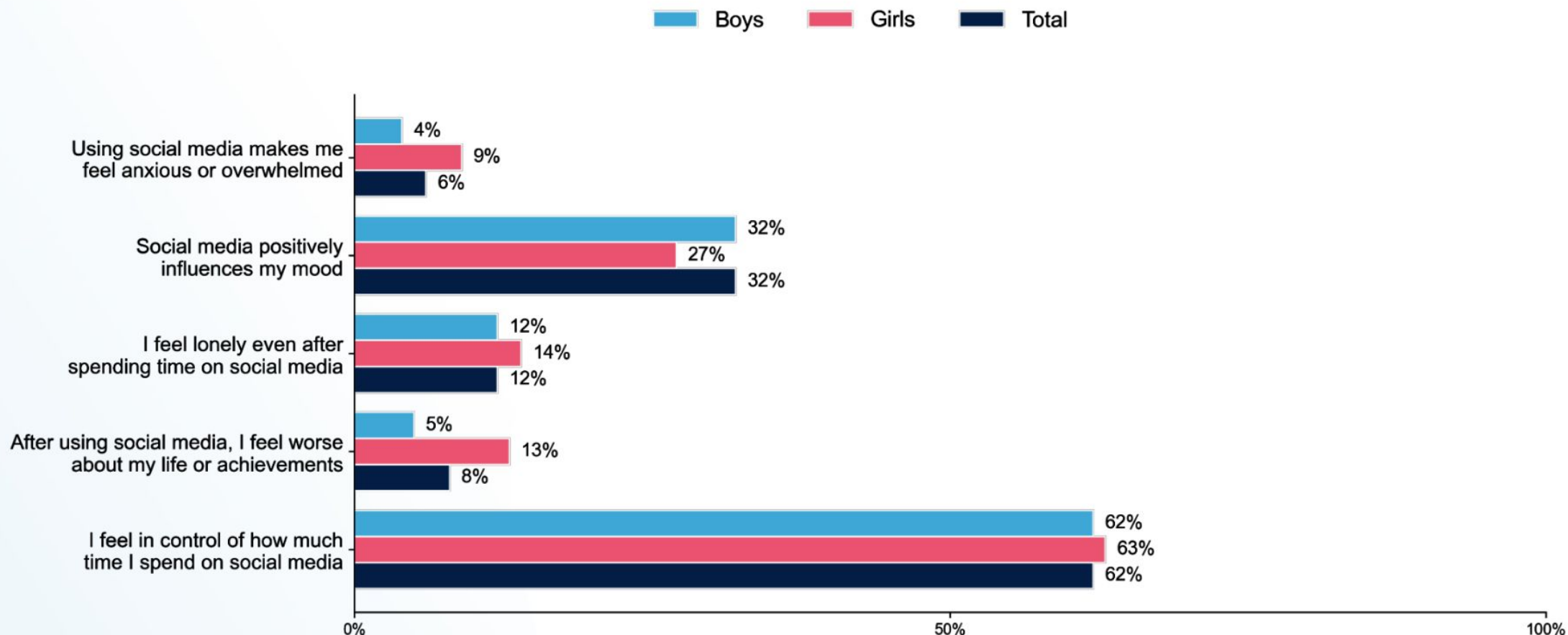


4. Screen time

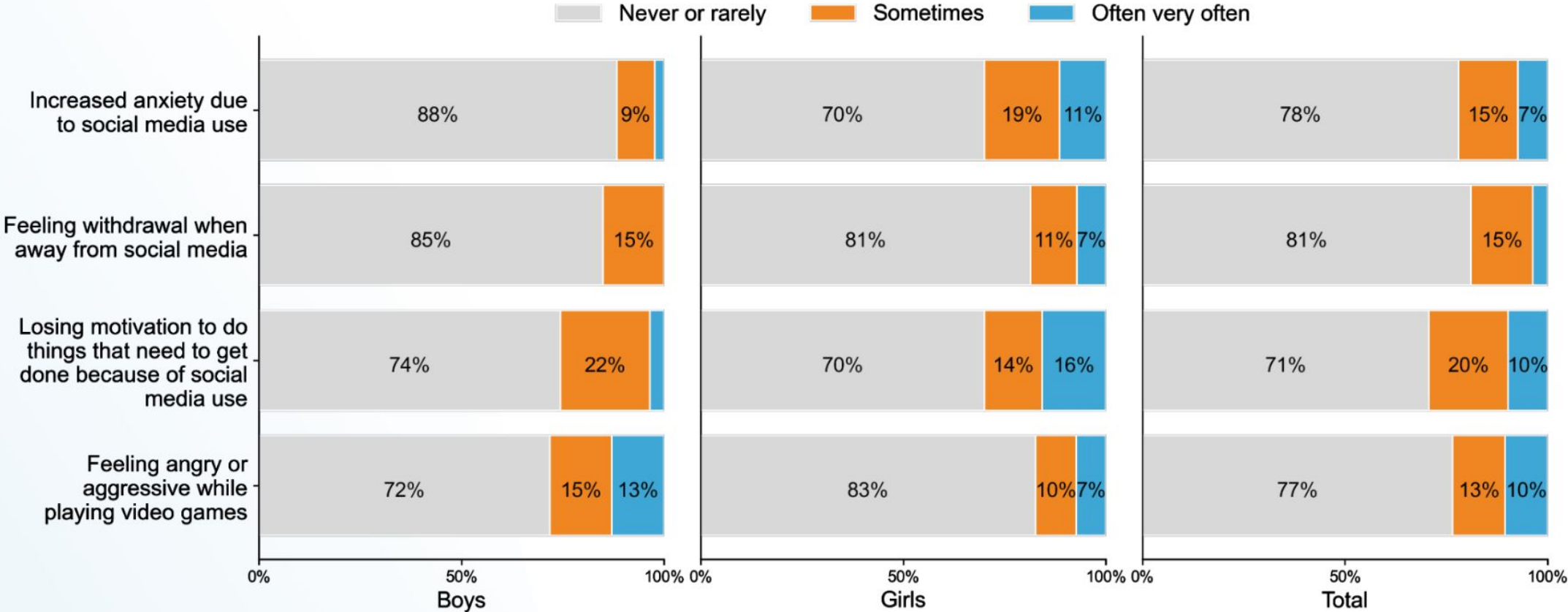
Screen Time: Proportion of adolescents spending 4 or more hours daily engaged in the following screen-based activities



Social Media: Proportion of adolescents who report that the following statements apply to them often or very often - Part 2



Impact of Screen Time: Proportion of adolescents who have experienced the following in the last 12 months



e 96 of 99

Where We Can Grow

Youth feel our community is missing:

Activities to do

(affordable, guys volleyball, accessibility, arcade, water park)



Events for all



Teen hangout spaces



Fast food restaurants



Connection to peers

(especially for new youth)



More communication

about what's going on
in community



Where We Can Grow

What youth feel our community is missing
in their own words:

“Things to do that aren’t just walking around,
or spending money, more free spaces,
basically.”



“More places for younger groups of people
to hangout, that don’t allow illegal substances.”

– *Local youth survey respondents*

Discussion & Feedback

With time remaining

- What surprises you about this information?
- What confuses you about this information?
- What seems most important to focus action planning around?



What Happens Next?

- Share results publicly - we're doing this!
- Work with partners to identify priorities
- Build an action plan
- Re-measure and track change over time



Why These Results Matter



Show what is going well



Show where we need to do better

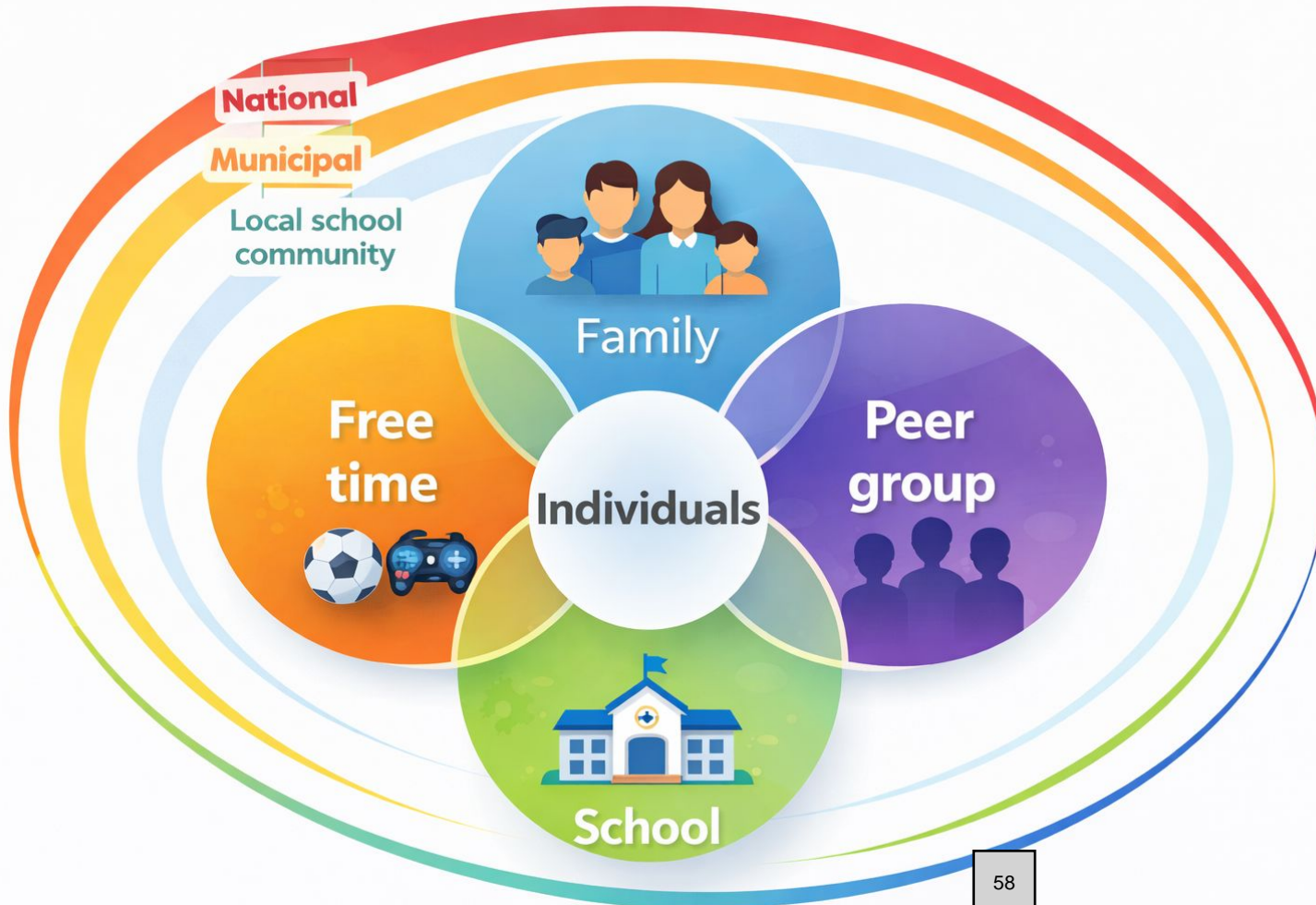


Help us act early



Help the community work together

What We Measure (4 Domains)



Your feedback matters!



Homer, AK



 About Us 
Who We Are

 Workgroups
What We Do

 Planet Youth Homer
Help Youth Live Their Best Lives

Planet Youth Homer

CLICK HERE to submit your responses to Planet Youth Homer Data presentations

CLICK HERE to contact Project Manager, Anna Meredith

CLICK HERE to subscribe to quarterly newsletter

Planet Youth Homer Feedback Form



What's Next for PY Homer?

Data Steers Community Planning

Thank you & Next Steps



Library Director's Report

February 28, 2026

General Notes

The Alaska Japanese Club gave a beautiful presentation about their trip to Japan, complete with photos, costumes, wall hangings and a table full of keepsakes. About 15 members of the club spoke, some of them in Japanese.

We replaced our aging credit-card reader with a new device, which seems to be working fine so far.

Staff Notes

Director's meetings:

- Staff: 2
- LAB: 4
- FHL: 4
- Council: 2
- Department Heads: 2
- Other: Alaska Japanese Club, Alaska Library Association, mock interviews at the middle school, various City IT meetings

Facility

The internet went down for a while at the end of the month, but GCI made some changes and brought it back up fairly quickly.

Library Advisory Board (LAB)

Some FHL representatives attended the LAB meeting, and we had a productive discussion about the upcoming events for the library's 20th anniversary in the current building. Following that discussion, the LAB added two events to the calendar (an after-school charette at the high school and a second Coffee Table discussion in September), dropped one event (a trivia night at Alice's), and firmed up the planning for several others. FHL's role is also clearer: the bookmobile will visit the

movie theater for the page-to-screen showings in June and July and will help facilitate the 2046 roundtable and the Sept. 19 party.

The LAB approved the text of the plaque for the time capsule, scheduled the viewing for the next workshop session from the American Library Association, and signed off on the LAB's strategic plan, goals and bylaws. They voted to make no changes in the existing library fee schedule.

A big chunk of the meeting was taken up with discussion of the library donation account and its relationship to the library endowment. These two funds are separate, and there are advantages and disadvantages to combining them. The board requested more detailed information and will discuss it further at the March meeting.

Friends of the Homer Library (FHL)

FHL held its annual membership meeting on Feb. 2, featuring a review of FHL activities from the previous year and a hard-fought game of Pictionary. At the regular board meeting on Feb. 4, the board elected its officers and settled on committee assignments. There was considerable discussion about the Celebration of Lifelong Learning, the spring book-and-plant sale and a long list of upcoming author talks.

Ongoing Events

- Mondays, 1:30-4:30: Knitting Club
- Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30: Chess Club
- Wednesdays, 10:30-11:00: Toddler Time
- Wednesdays, 3:00-4:45: LEGO Club
- Fridays, 10:30-11:30: Preschool Storytime
- Fridays, 3:30-5:45: Live-Action Role Playing (LARP)
- Saturdays, 10:00-12:30: Alaska Japanese Club
- First Monday, 4:45-5:45: Teen Advisory Board
- First Tuesday, 6:30-8:00: SPARC Radio Club
- First Thursday, 1:00-3:00: Literary Ladies
- First and Third Thursdays, 5:30-7:30: Tech Help
- Second and Fourth Thursdays, 5:30-7:30: Computer Skills Class
- Third Thursday, 10:30-11:30: Radio Storytime on KBBI

- Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30: FHL/HPL Book Club
- Tuesday following the first City Council meeting of the month, 12:00-1:00: Conversations with a Councilmember (schedule may vary depending on availability)

Special Events

- **Feb. 4, 9:00-10:00: *Coffee Table* on KBBI looks back on the process of raising money and constructing the current library building.**
- **Feb. 5, 3:00-4:00: Virtual author talk with Vanessa Riley, author of *Fire Sword and Sea*.**
- **Feb. 5, 6:00-7:30: The Alaska Japanese Club presents pictures and stories from their trip to Japan.**
- **Feb. 6, 1:00-2:30: The Pratt Museum visits the library to introduce kids to Dena'ina culture.**
- **Feb. 6, 5:30: The Porcupine Theater shows *Hamnet*, part of the year-long Homer Public Library's Page to Screen series.**
- **Feb. 9: Homer City Council approves Ordinance 26-10 and Resolution 26-014, awarding funding and a contract to install the security grille at the library.**
- Feb. 10, 4:30-6:00: Crafternoon for teens and tweens.
- **Feb. 12, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Lindsey Stewart, author of *The Conjuring of America*.**
- Feb. 14, 1:00-3:30: Eckankar.
- **Feb. 17, 4:30-6:00: Teens and tweens play *Settlers of Catan*.**
- **Feb. 24: The City of Homer signs a contract to install the security grille.**
- **Feb. 24, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Tom Crouch on the history of the Smithsonian Institution.**
- **Mar. 4, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Michael Perry, author of *Population: 485*.**
- **Mar. 5, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Jenn Lueke, author of *Don't Think About Dinner*.**
- Mar. 11, 1:00-3:00: Games for youth, 6th grade and up.
- Mar. 12, 3:30-5:00: Teens read and hang out.
- Mar. 13, 2:00-3:30: Elementary kids read and enjoy snacks.
- **Mar. 12, 3:00-4:00: Virtual author talk with Kate Quinn, author of *The Astral Library*.**

- Mar. 18, 11:00-3:15: Alaska CASA.
- Mar. 21, 1:00-3:30: Eckankar.
- Mar. 25, 10:00-11:30: Fireweed kindergarteners visit the library.
- **Mar. 28: The Friends of the Library put on the Celebration of Lifelong Learning.**
- **Mar. 24, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Barbara Kingsolver and Shoshana Walter, about Walter's book *Rehab: An American Scandal*.**
- **Mar. 26, 3:00-4:00: Virtual author talk with Kate Messner, author of the *Over and Under* series.**
- **Apr. 1-Jun. 30: Art in the Library displays works by local artists Taz Tally and Christina Whiting.**
- **Apr. 4, 1:00-3:15: The Friends of the Library put on a workshop on book repair.**
- **Apr. 10, 1:00-2:30: The Pratt Museum visits the library for an activity on sea otters.**
- Apr. 14, 5:15-6:45: KPBSD Connections.
- Apr. 20, 10:00-12:00: UAF Cooperative Extension offers a Q&A on home food preservation.
- **Apr. 23, 6:00-7:30: Author Eowyn Ivey visits the library.**
- **Apr. 30, 6:00-7:00: OPUS students perform in the fireplace lounge.**
- **May 2 (tentative): The library hosts a roundtable and design charette to talk about planning library services for the next 20 years.**
- **May 8-9: Spring Book and Plant Sale.**
- **July 1-Sept. 30: Art in the Library displays works by local artist Jim Lavrakas.**
- **July 4: The bookmobile participates in the Independence Day parade.**
- **July ? (tentative): Volunteers take a Fun Run from KBBI to the library building in honor of its 20th anniversary.**
- **Sept. ? (tentative): *Coffee Table* on KBBI explores the past and future of the library.**
- **Sept. 19, 2:00-6:00: The library hosts a party to celebrate 20 years in the current building.**

Library Director's Report

March 31, 2026

General Notes

I was out of town for the Celebration of Lifelong Learning, but by all accounts it was a stellar event. Congratulations to Lukas Renner and Ed Berg, the winners of the Lifelong Learner awards for youth and adults, respectively, and also to Jacque Peterson for the Spirit of the Library award.

Staff Notes

I was on vacation for the first week of March and at the Alaska Library Association/DirLead conferences March 25-30.

Director's meetings:

- Staff: 1
- LAB: 0
- FHL: 1
- Council: 1
- Department Heads: 1
- Other: Recreation Champions, invoice process training, Alaska Library Association business, city manager catch-up

Facility

The public and staff printers were replaced on March 30. We're working on a project to move the games and puzzles from behind the circulation desk to a more central location on the floor.

Library Advisory Board (LAB)

The LAB didn't meet in March due to lack of a quorum.

Friends of the Homer Library (FHL)

I missed the FHL board meeting, but the meeting was productive. The FHL newsletter will now be published quarterly. The board planned for the Celebration of Lifelong Learning and lined up author

talks all the way into January 2027. Planning has also begun for the spring book-and-plant sale May 8-9. The FHL bylaws are under reconsideration, as are the procedures for the bookmobile.

Ongoing Events

- Mondays, 1:30-4:30: Knitting Club
- Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30: Chess Club
- Wednesdays, 10:30-11:00: Toddler Time
- Wednesdays, 3:00-4:45: LEGO Club
- Fridays, 10:30-11:30: Preschool Storytime
- Fridays, 3:30-5:45: Live-Action Role Playing (LARP)
- Saturdays, 10:00-12:30: Alaska Japanese Club
- First Monday, 4:45-5:45: Teen Advisory Board
- First Tuesday, 6:30-8:00: SPARC Radio Club
- First Thursday, 1:00-3:00: Literary Ladies
- First and Third Thursdays, 5:30-7:30: Tech Help
- Second and Fourth Thursdays, 5:30-7:30: Computer Skills Class
- Third Thursday, 10:30-11:30: Radio Storytime on KBBI
- Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30: FHL/HPL Book Club
- Tuesday following the first City Council meeting of the month, 12:00-1:00: Conversations with a Councilmember (schedule may vary depending on availability)

Special Events

- **Mar. 4, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Michael Perry, author of *Population: 485*.**
- **Mar. 5, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Jenn Lueke, author of *Don't Think About Dinner*.**
- Mar. 6, 10:00-5:45: Extended Live Action Role Playing.
- Mar. 10, 4:30-6:00: Crafternoon for teens and tweens.
- Mar. 11, 1:00-3:00: Games for youth, 6th grade and up.
- Mar. 12, 3:30-5:00: Teens read and hang out.
- Mar. 13, 2:00-3:30: Elementary kids read and enjoy snacks.
- **Mar. 12, 3:00-4:00: Virtual author talk with Kate Quinn, author of *The Astral Library*.**

- Mar. 19, 11:00-4:00: Alaska CASA.
- Mar. 21, 1:00-3:30: Eckankar.
- Mar. 25, 10:00-11:30: Fireweed kindergarteners visit the library.
- **Mar. 28: The Friends of the Library put on the Celebration of Lifelong Learning, honoring Lukas Renner (youth Lifelong Learner), Ed Berg (adult Lifelong Learner) and Jacque Peterson (Spirit of the Library award).**
- **Mar. 24, 10:00-11:00: Virtual author talk with Barbara Kingsolver and Shoshana Walter, about Walter's book *Rehab: An American Scandal*.**
- **Mar. 26, 3:00-4:00: Virtual author talk with Kate Messner, author of the *Over and Under* series.**
- Mar. 31, 6:00-7:45: Kachemak Swim Club.
- **Apr. 1-Jun. 30: Art in the Library displays works by local artists Taz Tally and Christina Whiting.**
- **Apr. 4, 1:00-3:15: The Friends of the Library put on a workshop on book repair.**
- Apr. 4, 3:30-5:00: Homer Women Entrepreneurs.
- **Apr. 10, 1:00-2:30: The Pratt Museum visits the library for an activity on sea otters.**
- Apr. 14, 5:15-6:45: KPBSD Connections.
- Apr. 18, 11:00-3:00: The Democracy Fair at Kachemak Bay Campus includes a presentation on information literacy, provided by library staff.
- Apr. 20, 10:00-12:00: UAF Cooperative Extension offers a Q&A on home food preservation.
- **Apr. 23, 6:00-7:30: Author Eowyn Ivey visits the library to talk about her book *Black Woods, Blue Sky*.**
- **Apr. 28, 6:00-7:00: Author Anne Coray visits the library to read her poetry.**
- **Apr. 30, 6:00-7:00: OPUS students perform in the fireplace lounge.**
- **May 2, 4:00-6:00: The library hosts a roundtable and design charette to talk about planning library services for the next 20 years.**
- **May 8-9: Spring Book and Plant Sale.**
- **May 14, 6:00-7:00: Author Dan Coyle visits the library.**
- **May 21, 6:00-7:00: Taz Tally and Christina Whiting present a photographic tour of their trip to Nepal.**

- **June 2, 6:00-7:00: Author Nancy Lord and her collaborators visit the library to discuss their work, the *Alaska Literary Field Guide*.**
- **July 1-Sept. 30: Art in the Library displays works by local artist Jim Lavrakas.**
- **July 4: The bookmobile participates in the Independence Day parade.**
- **July ? (tentative): Volunteers take a Fun Run from KBBI to the library building in honor of its 20th anniversary.**
- **Sept. ? (tentative): *Coffee Table* on KBBI explores the past and future of the library.**
- **Sept. 19, 2:00-6:00: The library hosts a party to celebrate 20 years in the current building.**

Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2025

Date: 14-Jan-26

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
TOTAL (*Included)	14,671	12,980	14,190	13,685	13,428	14,851	15,822	15,186	14,544	14,231	12,689	12,649	168,926
*Physical Print/Audio/Video	11,415	10,220	10,821	10,273	10,126	11,739	12,772	11,875	11,457	11,028	9,514	9,482	130,722
*Other Physical items (n. 2)	126	108	106	132	111	107	97	131	121	118	105	126	1,388
*Alaska Digital Library	2,995	2,551	3,136	3,096	2,968	2,889	2,790	3,025	2,852	2,878	2,831	2,860	34,871
*Flipster e-magazines	13	17	14	3	22	13	8	24	4	11	22	15	166
*Kanopy streaming video	122	84	113	181	201	103	155	131	110	196	217	166	1,779
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	21	22	20	13	14	15	7	10	18	16	6	13	175
Outgoing (Lent)	36	25	22	31	21	25	26	22	18	29	22	22	299
BUILDING USE													
Gate Count (n. 3)	9,261	7,817	8,254	8,757	8,908	8,859	9,441	8,988	9,434	8,702	8,391	8,801	105,613
Study Rooms (# of group sessions)	320	283	313	327	310	257	303	298	299	345	218	293	3,566
Study Rooms (# of people)	608	517	609	618	574	571	633	529	560	689	460	578	6,946
Meeting Room (# of group sessions)	32	29	32	35	28	32	36	28	26	32	27	27	364
Meeting Room (# of people)	308	354	348	342	240	220	326	264	265	323	271	241	3,502
INTERNET USE													
TOTAL (*Included)	2,377	1,963	2,350	2,193	2,322	2,773	2,919	2,813	2,618	2,434	1,762	2,041	28,565
*Wireless sessions	1,259	1,013	1,182	1,111	1,305	1,680	1,786	1,649	1,589	1,407	995	1,019	15,995
*Hardwired/City Laptop sessions	1,118	950	1,168	1,082	1,017	1,093	1,133	1,164	1,029	1,027	767	1,022	12,570
Website visits (sessions)	3,016	2,590	2,945	2,793	2,593	2,772	2,707	2,746	2,719	2,661	2,093	2,149	31,784
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE (n. 1)													
TOTAL (*Included)	1,253	1,469	1,173	1,244	1,416	1,147	1,477	1,100	1,140	1,218	953	816	14,406
*Programs for Age 0-5	897	1,109	846	853	755	775	812	819	771	876	675	547	9,735
*Programs for Age 6-11	163	178	177	155	346	177	248	81	190	141	119	133	2,108
*Programs for Age 12-18	94	41	46	49	33	48	138	63	31	76	33	47	699
*Programs for Age 19+	34	94	61	75	137	52	34	50	57	44	57	39	734
*Programs for All Ages	65	47	43	112	145	95	245	87	91	81	69	50	1,130
OUTREACH													
# Events	4	2	3	3	2	4	2	3	3	3	2	8	39
# People	11	14	9	10	10	15	10	13	14	16	15	10	147
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	35	9	27	16	34	47	29	31	25	22	16	23	314
Borough	28	16	22	20	24	33	33	24	30	35	21	6	292
Temporary	0	0	0	1	8	2	7	3	0	0	3	0	24
Reciprocal	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	0	0	9
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	90	85	78	108	75	64	80	53	75	85	72	60	925
# of hours	231	226	271	312	257	174	250	141	272	229	222	179	2764
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	228	193	174	339	323	340	359	208	108	219	236	346	3073
Audio	13	7	0	23	2	7	9	3	0	4	13	3	84
Video	26	40	27	26	43	27	7	24	7	31	22	24	304
Serials	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
Electronic Resources	55	19	0	102	49	49	77	20	52	44	39	17	523
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	33	98	37	89	60	12	131	73	0	144	336	252	1265
Audio	20	0	1	0	0	20	40	0	0	0	0	0	81
Video	0	8	3	127	0	2	0	64	0	0	0	0	204
Serials	0	2	0	23	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	934.46	969.45	909.37	779.40	1151.05	1257.15	767.55	888.15	1234.50	946.00	592.30	778.20	11,207.58
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Endowment													0.00
Grants			1000.00							7000.00	19000.00		27,000.00
TOTALS	934.46	969.45	1,909.37	779.40	1,151.05	1,257.15	767.55	888.15	1,234.50	7,946.00	19,592.30	778.20	\$38,207.58

Data not available yet or incomplete

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

Note 2: Other physical items includes electronic devices, kits, toys, board games, sports equipment, videogames and tickets to the movie theater.

Note 3: The gate count from December is an estimate, due to malfunctioning equipment.

Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2026

Date: 13-Apr-26

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
TOTAL (*Included)	14,361	13,344	14,170	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,875
*Physical Print/Audio/Video	10,912	10,229	10,797										31,938
*Other Physical items (n. 2)	178	101	105										384
*Alaska Digital Library	2,998	2,774	3,121										8,893
*Flipster e-magazines	9	18	16										43
*Kanopy streaming video	264	222	131										617
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	9	6	13										28
Outgoing (Lent)	25	14	28										67
BUILDING USE													
Gate Count	8,801	5,382	6,650										20,833
Study Rooms (# of group sessions)	306	303	301										910
Study Rooms (# of people)	614	596	644										1,854
Meeting Room (# of group sessions)	23	23	24										70
Meeting Room (# of people)	254	213	240										707
INTERNET USE													
TOTAL (*Included)	2,342	2,119	2,385	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,846
*Wireless sessions	1,089	1,138	1,230										3,457
*Hardwired/City Laptop sessions	1,253	981	1,155										3,389
Website visits (sessions)	1,870	1,720	2,588										6,178
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE (n. 1)													
TOTAL (*Included)	1,175	913	1,297	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,385
*Programs for Age 0-5	825	639	885										2,349
*Programs for Age 6-11	138	95	217										450
*Programs for Age 12-18	57	31	56										144
*Programs for Age 19+	50	82	13										145
*Programs for All Ages	105	66	126										297
OUTREACH													
# Events	2	2	0										4
# People	9	11	0										20
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	28	26	15										69
Borough	23	18	16										57
Temporary	2	1	1										4
Reciprocal	0	0	0										0
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	57	72	76										205
# of hours	199	304	234										737
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	238	232	101										571
Audio	9	12	0										21
Video	13	11	10										34
Serials	0	0	0										0
Electronic Resources	66	53	24										143
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	83	198	0										281
Audio	99	0	0										99
Video	0	15	0										15
Serials	0	0	0										0
Electronic Resources	0	0	0										0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	566.75	964.85	955.35	136.45									2,623.40
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Endowment													0.00
Grants	6462.00												6,462.00
TOTALS	7,028.75	964.85	955.35	136.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$9,085.40

Data not available yet or incomplete

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

Note 2: Other physical items includes electronic devices, kits, toys, board games, sports equipment, videogames and tickets to the movie theater.

SENATE BILL NO. 238

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR KAWASAKI

Introduced: 2/9/26

Referred: Education, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to access to library material; and relating to affirmative defenses to the
2 offenses of enticement of a minor, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, and
3 distribution of indecent material to minors."

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

5 * **Section 1.** AS 11.41.452 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (f) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that, at the
7 time of the offense, the defendant was acting in the course of employment as an
8 employee or official of a school, museum, or public library.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 11.51.130 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (c) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that, at the
11 time of the offense, the defendant was acting in the course of employment as an
12 employee or official of a school, museum, or public library.

13 * **Sec. 3.** AS 11.61.128 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (f) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that, at the

1 time of the offense, the defendant was acting in the course of employment as an
 2 employee or official of a school, museum, or public library.

3 * **Sec. 4.** AS 14.56 is amended by adding new sections to read:

4 **Article 7. Access to Library Material.**

5 **Sec. 14.56.450. Public library material policy.** (a) A librarian employed by a
 6 public library may curate library material for inclusion in the public library according
 7 to the policy approved by the governing body of the public library.

8 (b) The commissioner shall establish and update as necessary a model policy
 9 on the curation and reconsideration of library material within a public library. The
 10 policy must provide standards for the selection and curation of library material,
 11 establish criteria for the removal of existing library material, and provide protection
 12 against attempts to censor library material. At a minimum, the policy must

13 (1) recognize that a public library serves as a center for voluntary
 14 inquiry and the dissemination of information and is the marketplace of ideas;

15 (2) promote the free expression of, and free access to, ideas by
 16 prohibiting the censorship of library material;

17 (3) prohibit the removal of library material from a public library based
 18 on the origin of, background of, or views expressed by the library material or of those
 19 contributing to its creation;

20 (4) recognize that library material is provided for the interest,
 21 information, and enlightenment of all people and should present a wide range of points
 22 of view;

23 (5) establish a procedure, based on professional standards, for a
 24 librarian to review the inclusion of library material within a public library on an
 25 ongoing basis, which must include consideration of

26 (A) the relevance of the library material;

27 (B) the condition of the library material;

28 (C) the availability of duplicates of the library material;

29 (D) the availability of a more recent library material; and

30 (E) the continued demand for the library material;

31 (6) establish a model form and a procedure for an individual to request

1 a public library to reconsider library material; the procedure must

2 (A) allow an individual who has used the services of the public
3 library in the past five years and who resides in the public library's designated
4 service area to initiate the review of a specific library material by submitting a
5 request for the public library to reconsider the library material;

6 (B) require that an individual submitting a request for a public
7 library to reconsider library material review the library material as a whole and
8 not challenge library material based on selective passages that are taken out of
9 context;

10 (C) provide that, during the review process, the library material
11 subject to reconsideration may not be removed from its location within the
12 public library and must remain available for a patron to reserve, check out, or
13 access;

14 (D) require that at least one librarian employed at the public
15 library where the request was submitted formally participate in the review
16 process; and

17 (E) provide a process by which an individual can appeal a
18 decision made on reconsideration, using the standards set out in (5)(A) - (E) of
19 this subsection.

20 (c) The governing body of a public library shall adopt the model policy
21 established by the commissioner under (b) of this section, as well as any updates to the
22 model policy. The governing body of a public library that has a policy that meets the
23 requirements set out in (b) of this section on the effective date of this section is not
24 required to take further action.

25 (d) The governing body of a public library may not remove library material
26 from a public library based on the origin of, background of, or views expressed by the
27 library material or of those contributing to its creation. The governing body of a public
28 library may not, based on disagreement with the ideas or concepts expressed by the
29 library material, including objections to a depiction of race, gender, sexuality, or
30 religious or political views, prohibit the public library from acquiring, maintaining, or
31 displaying a specific work or subject matter, restrict access or searchability of library

1 material, or require parental permission for a minor to access library material.

2 (e) The governing body of a public library may not, based on objections to
3 sexual content, prohibit the public library from acquiring, maintaining, or displaying a
4 specific work or subject matter, restrict access or searchability of library material, or
5 require parental permission for a minor to access library material unless, with respect
6 to the specific population to which the library material is made available,

7 (1) the average person, applying contemporary community standards,
8 would find the library material, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;

9 (2) the library material depicts or describes, in a patently offensive
10 way, sexual conduct defined by AS 11.66.150; and

11 (3) the library material, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic,
12 political, or scientific value.

13 (f) A government entity that exercises authority over the purchase, selection,
14 curation, and location of library material at the state or municipal level may not reduce
15 funding for a public library because of the public library's compliance with this
16 section.

17 (g) An employee of a public library is immune from civil and criminal liability
18 arising from good faith actions performed under this section.

19 **Sec. 14.56.455. School library material policy.** (a) A librarian employed at a
20 school library may select, purchase, and acquire library material for inclusion in the
21 school library according to the policy approved by the governing body of the school
22 library.

23 (b) The commissioner shall establish and update as necessary a model policy
24 on the curation and reconsideration of library material within a school library. The
25 policy must provide standards for the selection and curation of library material,
26 establish criteria for the removal of existing library material, and provide protection
27 against attempts to censor library material. At a minimum, the policy must

28 (1) recognize that library material is provided for the interest,
29 information, and enlightenment of all students and should present a wide range of
30 points of view in the collection;

31 (2) prohibit the removal of library material from a school library based

1 on the origin of, background of, or views expressed by the library material or of those
2 contributing to its creation;

3 (3) recognize the importance of a school library as a center for
4 voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas;

5 (4) promote the free expression of, and free access to, ideas by students
6 by prohibiting the censorship of library material;

7 (5) acknowledge that a school librarian is professionally trained to
8 curate and develop a school library collection that provides students with access to the
9 widest array of developmentally relevant library material created for the chronological
10 ages and grade levels of students in the school;

11 (6) establish a procedure, based on professional standards, for a
12 librarian to review the inclusion of library material within a school library on an
13 ongoing basis, which must include consideration of

14 (A) the relevance of the library material;

15 (B) the condition of the library material;

16 (C) the availability of duplicates of the library material;

17 (D) the availability of more recent developmentally relevant
18 library material created for the chronological ages and grade levels of students
19 in the school; and

20 (E) the continued demand for the library material; and

21 (7) establish a model form and procedure for an individual to request a
22 school library to reconsider library material; the procedure must

23 (A) allow teaching staff employed by the school district,
24 parents and guardians of a student enrolled in the school district, and students
25 enrolled in the school district to initiate the review of a specific library material
26 by submitting to the principal of the school in which the library material is
27 challenged a request for the school library to reconsider the library material;

28 (B) require that an individual submitting a request for a school
29 library to reconsider library material review the library material as a whole and
30 not challenge library material based on selective passages that are taken out of
31 context;

1 (C) provide that, during the review process, the library material
 2 subject to reconsideration may not be removed from its location within the
 3 library and must remain available for students to reserve, check out, or access;

4 (D) require that at least one school librarian employed at the
 5 school and professionally trained to a level determined by the school district
 6 formally participate in the review process; and

7 (E) provide a process by which an individual can appeal a
 8 decision made on reconsideration, using the standards set out in (6)(A) - (E) of
 9 this subsection.

10 (c) A school board shall adopt the model policy established by the
 11 commissioner under (b) of this section, as well as any updates to the model policy. A
 12 school board that has adopted a policy that meets the requirements set out in (b) of this
 13 section on the effective date of this section is not required to take further action.

14 (d) A school board may not remove library material from a school library
 15 based on the origin of, background of, or views expressed by the library material or of
 16 those contributing to its creation. The school board may not, based on disagreement
 17 with the ideas or concepts expressed by the library material, including objections to a
 18 depiction of race, gender, sexuality, or religious or political views, prohibit a school
 19 library from acquiring, maintaining, or displaying a specific work or subject matter,
 20 restrict access or searchability of library material, or require parental permission for a
 21 minor to access library material.

22 (e) An employee of a school library is immune from civil and criminal
 23 liability arising from good faith actions performed under this section.

24 **Sec. 14.56.460. Private right of action.** (a) A government entity that exercises
 25 authority over the purchase, selection, curation, and location of library material at the
 26 state or local level may not

27 (1) censor or order another person to censor library material; or

28 (2) impose discipline, threaten to impose discipline, or terminate a
 29 school or library employee for refusing to censor library material.

30 (b) A school or library employee may bring an action in a court of competent
 31 jurisdiction for damages, including punitive damages, and for declaratory and

1 injunctive relief and other remedies as may be appropriate against a government entity
 2 that violates (a)(2) of this section by disciplining, terminating, or threatening to
 3 discipline or terminate the librarian for the librarian's refusal to censor library material.

4 (c) A student, or the student's parent or guardian, may bring an action in a
 5 court of competent jurisdiction for declaratory and injunctive relief and for damages
 6 against a government entity that violates (a)(1) of this section by censoring or ordering
 7 another person to censor library material within a school attended by the student.
 8 Damages shall be awarded at a minimum of \$451, but not more than \$1,451, for each
 9 censored work.

10 (d) An author, bookseller, or publisher may bring an action in a court of
 11 competent jurisdiction for declaratory and injunctive relief and for damages against a
 12 government entity that violates (a)(1) of this section by censoring or ordering another
 13 person to censor library material written, sold, or published by the author, bookseller,
 14 or publisher. Damages shall be awarded at a minimum of \$451, but not more than
 15 \$1,451, for each censored work.

16 (e) In an action under this section, the court shall grant a prevailing plaintiff
 17 reasonable attorney fees and costs, including expert witness fees.

18 (f) A government entity may not use funds that would otherwise have been
 19 appropriated or allocated to a library to pay damages, attorney fees, or other related
 20 costs.

21 (g) It is an affirmative defense to an action brought under this section that, at
 22 the time of the conduct giving rise to the action, the government actor or member of
 23 the government was acting under direct compulsion from binding state or federal
 24 government authority.

25 (h) An action to enforce this section must be commenced within three years
 26 after the date on which the violation of this section occurred.

27 **Sec. 14.56.465. Definitions.** In AS 14.56.450 - 14.56.465,

28 (1) "block" means to prohibit the acquiring, maintaining, or displaying
 29 of a specific work or subject matter, restricting access to or searchability of works, or
 30 to require parental permission to access works;

31 (2) "censor" means to block library material based on disagreement

1 with the ideas or concepts expressed by the material, or based on objections to sexual
2 content, without having made a finding that, with respect to the specific population to
3 which the material is made available,

4 (A) the average person, applying contemporary community
5 standards, would find the library material, taken as a whole, appeals to the
6 prurient interest;

7 (B) the library material depicts or describes, in a patently
8 offensive way, sexual conduct defined by AS 11.66.150; and

9 (C) the library material, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary,
10 artistic, political, or scientific value;

11 (3) "librarian" means an employee who is trained as required by the
12 employer and who is responsible for the purchase, selection, curation, removal, and
13 display of library material;

14 (4) "library material" means a book, video, subscription or locally
15 curated database, periodical, chart, graph, movie, game, map, interactive application
16 and software, other enrichment or entertainment material, and, for a school library,
17 other material not required as part of classroom instruction, in a printed or electronic
18 format belonging to, on loan to, or otherwise in the custody of a public library or
19 school library;

20 (5) "public library" means a library established under AS 14.56.400;

21 (6) "reconsider" means to reclassify, move to a different section of the
22 library, or remove from the library an item in the library's collection.



MEMORANDUM

LAB-26-XXX

LAB Proposal Regarding the Library Donation Account and Library Endowment

Item Type: Informational Memorandum
Prepared For: Library Advisory Board
Date: April 17, 2026
From: Library Director Dave Berry
Through:

At the LAB meeting in February 2026, the board discussed the Library Donation Account and voted to recommend transferring the balance into the library endowment. Board Member Haas also requested a formal proposal, suitable for presenting to the city council. That proposal is attached here.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss and refine the proposal.

**Proposal to the Homer City Council
Regarding the Library Donation Account**



Presented by the Homer Library Advisory Board

April XX, 2026

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Proposal from the Library Advisory Board

There are currently two separate funds set up to accept donations on behalf of the Homer Public Library. The library endowment fund, held by the Homer Foundation, had a balance of roughly \$134,000 as of March 2026. The Library Donation Account, which is managed by the City finance office, held about \$159,000.

The Library Advisory Board discussed these two funds at their meetings in February and March 2026. The board is quite happy with the endowment, which has grown rapidly over the past six years. In regards to the Library Donation Account, the LAB considered three approaches:

- Leave the account as-is. The entire balance is available for use and the process is simple, since it just involves passing an ordinance. On the downside, the City finance office must maintain it, and it grows slowly. Donor intent places limitations on how the funds can be spent.
- Transfer the balance into the current library endowment fund. This puts the money to work in a faster-growing fund, but only the annual return is spendable. It reduces the workload on the finance office and clearly separates public monies from private ones. The Homer Foundation charges some fees for services but currently pays an annual dividend of 4%.
- Create a non-endowed fund in the Homer Foundation. This splits the difference between the two previous options. The entire balance is available for use and there is no burden on the City finance office. The Foundation charges a service fee but also assists with advertising and soliciting donors. Donor confusion is inevitable, since the Foundation already hosts the library endowment fund and two funds that belong to the Friends of the Library.

After lengthy conversations, the LAB voted to recommend the second option, transferring the balance of the Library Donation Account into the library endowment. The pages that follow describe the background and logic behind that recommendation.

History of City Funding Accounts for the Homer Public Library

Over the past 50 years, the City of Homer has maintained various accounts to provide funding for the Homer Public Library. Accounts have been created, disbanded and reorganized multiple times.

A recurring issue concerns money donated by private citizens or nonprofit entities. The City government currently has no efficient system for managing these funds while respecting the intent of the donors, and maintaining individual accounts for donations represents a significant burden on the City finance office. In 2020, the City created the library endowment fund within the Homer Foundation for precisely this reason, and the rapid growth of that fund demonstrates the benefits of placing privately-given monies in the hands of professional fundraisers.

SUMMARY OF LIBRARY FUNDING HISTORY, 1983-2026

Date	Action	Relevant Documents	Amount	Fund Code
12/12/1983	Establishment of original library endowment fund.	Homer Public Library Endowment Fund: Management Agreement	\$12,291.23	
2002 or earlier	Establishment of Library Expansion Account. Memo 20-012 notes that “This project was designed for library expansion prior to 2002.”			151-0723
2002	Last activity in the Library Expansion Account.	Memo 20-012		
2004	Closure of original library endowment fund and transfer of the balance to the Homer Foundation, where it serves as the seed for the Friends of Homer Library endowment.	Reso. 04-01	\$12,300.00	
2004?	Library Building Account established. Memo 20-012 notes that “This project was to record revenues and expenditures associated with the library expansion, move and construction of the new building. Both revenues and expenditures came in slightly under budget.”			151-0722
2013 or earlier	Consortium Library Account established. Memo 20-012 notes that “This project was the old library reserves.”			151-0721

2013	Last activity in the Consortium Building Account.	Memo 20-012		
2015	Last activity in the Library Building Account.	Memo 20-012		
2019	Ordinance 19-57(S-2) merges the Library Expansion Account, the Library Building Account and the Consortium Library Account into a Library Reserves Account, also known as the Library Donations Account.	Ord. 19-57(S-2) Memo 20-012	\$110,436.44 from Consortium Library Account; \$14,880.74 from Library Building Account; \$40,574.95 from Library Expansion Account; Total transfer \$165,892.13.	803-0375
3/10/2020	Current library endowment fund established in the Homer Foundation. Transfer of \$10,000 from the Library Donation Account as seed money.	Ord. 20-10(S) Reso. 20-20(A)(S)	\$10,000	
2019?	Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance Allowance (CARMA) created.			156-0390
6/14/2021	All departmental CARMA funds consolidated into a single General CARMA Fund.	Ord. 21-30(S)	\$173,163.00	156-0375

ORIGINAL ENDOWMENT FUND, 1983-2004

Homer Public Library, Inc. transferred ownership of the library to the City in 1977. In December 1983, the nonprofit dissolved and deposited all its remaining financial assets (about \$12,000) into a special account managed by the City finance office. That account was the first library endowment.

The City managed the endowment fund for about 20 years. In 2004, the Council passed Reso. 04-01, which transferred the remaining balance into the Homer Foundation and created the Friends of Homer Library Endowment Fund. As the heirs of HPL, Inc., the Friends still maintain the fund today.

The experience showed that the City can manage an endowment itself, but it provides little return to offset the demands on staff. The City finance office is not a fundraising operation and does not handle tasks like thank-you letters, tax acknowledgements or outreach to donors. Over the course of two decades the fund barely grew at all (though I believe the library took some money out for buying materials). It also raised questions about the propriety of City personnel managing investments on behalf of private donors.

LIBRARY DONATION ACCOUNT, 2002-PRESENT

In the beginning of this century, various community groups coalesced around a fundraising drive to gather money for a new library building. There were three main groups working on it:

- The Friends of Homer Library
- The Library Advisory Board
- The New Library Project Capital Campaign, which did most of the work. This group drove the fundraising efforts and hired a professional fundraiser.

The money raised from donations was parked in the Library Donation Account, which also holds some funds that were deposited there when the City cleaned up its project accounts in

2019. I don't know the original source of the funding for those project accounts, but it may well have also been private donations or grantors.

It is not an endowment. The entire amount of the fund is available for use, subject to the intentions of the original donors. As of Sept. 30, 2025, it held \$188,761.

CURRENT ENDOWMENT FUND, 2020-PRESENT

In 2019-20, the LAB did a great deal of research about how to best structure the endowment. This involved talking to other libraries across the country and hearing presentations from several different community foundations. Council passed Reso. 20-020(A)(S) and Ord. 20-10(S) in 2020, creating the current library endowment. The original \$10,000 seed money came from the Library Donation Fund. The final whereas clause in the establishing ordinance reads,

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to use the Library Donation fund, which represents a combination of funds donated to the library and transfers to the fund from closing out project accounts related to the construction of the library, to meet the minimum threshold for a Field of Interest fund.

As of March 13, 2026, the principal in the fund stands at \$134,112. To date, we have not taken any disbursements from the fund, but we could spend up to \$7,688.01.

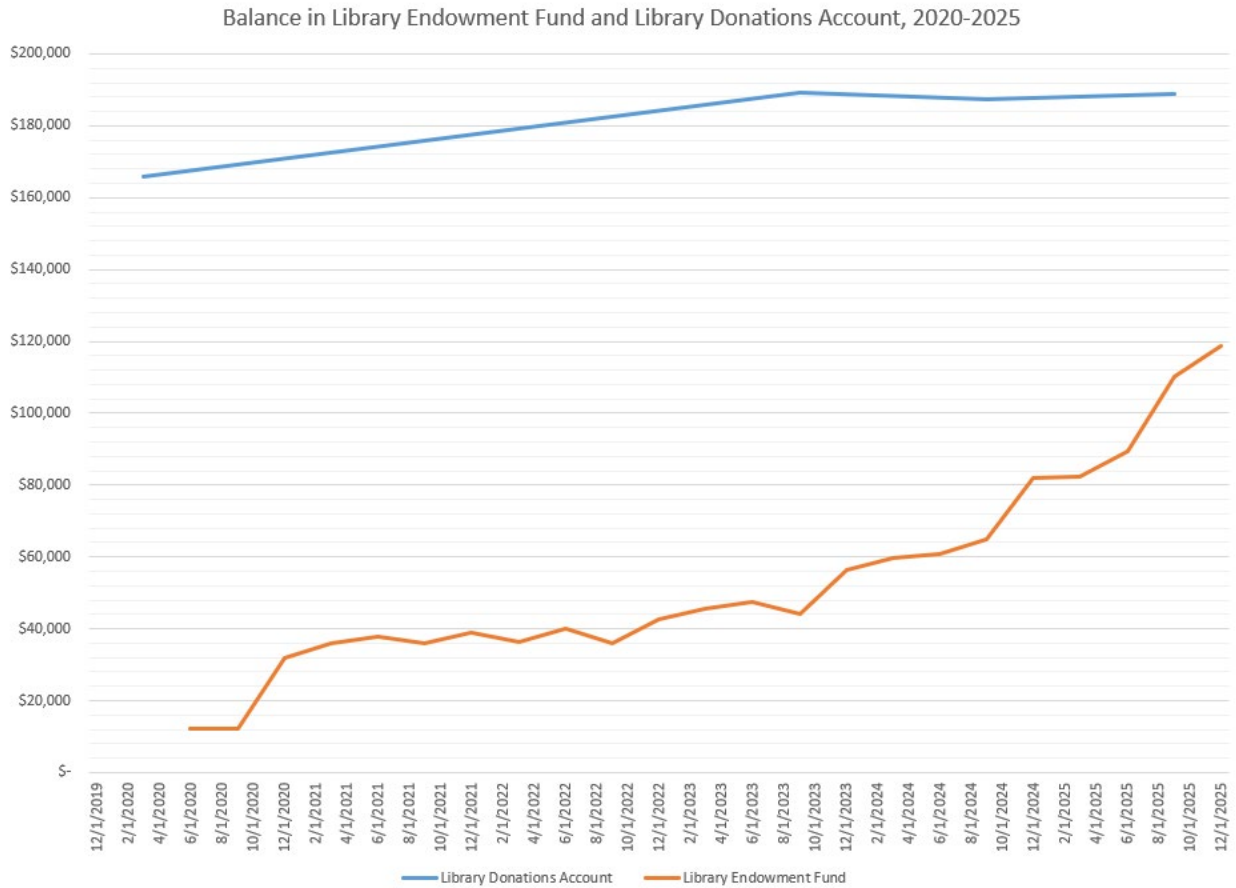
CAPITAL ASSET REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (CARMA), 2021-PRESENT

In 2021, the City government created CARMA accounts for all departments. This is taxpayer money set aside for maintenance and upkeep of public infrastructure. It is not a donation account and the funds fall under the regular City budget process.

Pros and Cons of Rolling the Library Donation Account into the Library Endowment Fund

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relieves the City finance office of the burden of managing the fund• Separates public and private monies and resolves questions about donor intent• Simplifies the accounting for library donations• Takes advantage of Homer Foundation services, like the online dashboard• Shows commitment to long-term library support and encourages other donors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would not be able to spend the entire principal• Process for withdrawing funds is slightly more complicated• Homer Foundation charges some fees

Performance of the Funds to Date



The chart above shows the growth in the endowment principal (orange line) compared to the balance in the Library Donation Account (blue line). Most of the difference is due to fundraising. As of March 2026, the endowment had a principal balance of \$134,000, of which \$105,000 came from donations and the remainder from market growth. The Library Donation Account also earned a market return, but no donations.



MEMORANDUM

LAB-26-XXX

Timeline of 20th Anniversary Celebrations

Item Type: Informational Memorandum
Prepared For: Library Advisory Board
Date: April 17, 2026
From: Dave Berry, Library Director
Through:

Here’s an updated schedule of 20th-anniversary events and deadlines. **Items in red have not been confirmed with the designated volunteer.** The following things have changed since the last meeting.

1. The plaque for the time capsule has been made, with the following text:

Homer Public Library Time Capsule
 From the patrons of 2026
 To the patrons of 2046

Month	Activity	Volunteer
January		
DONE	Contact participants for Coffee Table	Kathy Carsow
DONE	Meet with Susannah at the Porcupine Theater	Deb Curtis
DONE	Design time capsule	Red Asselin-Martin, Deb Curtis, Daniel Christ, Dave Berry
30, 8:00	Movie Showing: <i>The Chronology of Water</i>	Deb Curtis
February		

DONE	Rehearsal for Coffee Table	Kathy Carsow
DONE	Draft discussion outline for Coffee Table	
4, 9:00-10:00	Coffee Table Event	
DONE	Solicit suggestions for time capsule contents	Red Asselin-Martin, Deb Curtis, Daniel Christ, Dave Berry
DONE	Make a public-comment box about the library and what they want from it in the next 20 years	Dave Berry <i>FHL will help with outreach</i>
DONE	Make a digital form to receive comments	
	Create poster display about the library's construction	Dave Berry/Library Staff
6, 5:30	Movie Showing: <i>Hamnet</i>	Deb Curtis
March		
	Plan 2046 Roundtable/public input meeting	Dave Berry, Daniel Christ <i>FHL has offered to assist</i>
	Movie Showing: <i>Gone With the Wind</i>	Deb Curtis
April		
14, 3:05-3:50	Pre-2046 Roundtable idea session at the high school	Deb Curtis, Library Staff
DONE	Purchase container for time capsule	Red Asselin-Martin, Deb Curtis,
DONE	Commission plaque for capsule	Daniel Christ, Dave Berry
	Movie Showing: <i>Sense and Sensibility</i>	Deb Curtis
May		
2, 4:00-6:00	2046 Roundtable/public input meeting	Dave Berry, Daniel Christ <i>FHL will help facilitate</i>
	Reserve catering/cooking for Sept. party	Dave Berry, Marcia Kuszmaul
	Movie Showing: <i>Murder on the Orient Express</i>	Deb Curtis
June		

	Purchase supplies for activities at Sept. party	Dave Berry, Marcia Kuszmaul
	Coordinate LAB presence at July 4 parade	Red Asselin-Martin, Kathy Carsow, Andy Haas <i>FHL will provide the bookmobile if the LAB handles music and choreography</i>
	Plan fun run: KBBI to library	Andy Haas
	Slack Tide KBBI Promo Event for Fun Run	Andy Haas, Shellie Worsfold?
	Movie Showing: <i>Curious George</i>	Deb Curtis <i>FHL will bring the bookmobile</i>
July		
	Create time capsule	Red Asselin-Martin, Deb Curtis, Daniel Christ
	Rehearsal with book cart drill team July 4 Parade Event	Red Asselin-Martin, Kathy Carsow, Andy Haas <i>FHL will help</i>
	Fun Run Event	Andy Haas
	Organize party Contact local dignitaries about speeches	Marcia Kuszmaul
	Movie Showing: <i>Matilda</i>	Deb Curtis <i>FHL will bring the bookmobile</i>
August		
DONE	Create visitor sign-in book for 20 th anniversary party	Library Staff
	Movie Showing: <i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>	Deb Curtis
September		

	Coffee Table II: The History and Future of the Library	Kathy Carsow
	Articles in HIP about 20th anniversary	Marcia Kuszmaul
	Set up history displays in the library	Library Staff
	Display existing scrapbooks	Library Staff
	Mount empty time capsule in place	Dave Berry/Building Maintenance
19, 2:00-6:00	20th Anniversary Open House Games and activities Hors d'oeuvre Outdoor grilling? Unveil time capsule Speeches by local dignitaries	Marcia Kuszmaul, Red Asselin-Martin, Deb Curtis, Daniel Christ, Library Staff <i>FHL will help</i>
	Write thank-you letter for the community and publish in the <i>Homer News</i>	LAB
	Coordinate with <i>Homer News</i> , <i>Homer Independent Press</i> and KBBI about covering the 20 th anniversary open house	Deb Curtis (Homer News), Kathy Carsow (KBBI), Marcia Kuszmaul (HIP)
	Movie Showing: <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Deb Curtis
October		
	Movie Showing: <i>TBD</i>	Deb Curtis
November		
	Movie Showing: <i>TBD</i>	Deb Curtis
December		
	Movie Showing: <i>TBD</i>	Deb Curtis

RECOMMENDATION:

Specify dates for the Fun Run and Coffee Table II. Update the list of events as needed.

Comments from the Public on the Library's 20th Anniversary

3/17/26

Sam Bishop:

- Ten years ago, I was a new mom and my husband and I were trying to build our life. We lived without running water in a travel trailer. This library gave me a place to go with my toddler that was welcoming, warm, and free. That kid is *such* a lover of books. This library is *such* a gift to our community and I'm very grateful.

Judy Gonsalves:

- I love how light and airy the library is.
- Lit Lineup is a GREAT program.
- I'd love for there to be a larger meeting room and a space to store tables for the FHL Book and Plant Sale twice a year.

Anonymous:

- I love the study rooms. It's so helpful to have a temporary office to use, so I'm not doing business bookkeeping in my 18-ft. yurt. It's such a nice, comfortable, yet clean and minimalist space.

Anonymous:

- *What's your favorite library memory from the last 20 years?* Not been in Homer for 20yrs, only 2ish. But my favorite memory of that time is being able to sit in a corner and read a book.
- *How would Homer be different if the current library wasn't built?* Unknown, but from my personal experience a library vastly improves a community for all ages.
- *Other comments about the past:* Looking forward to the next 20 here in Homer.
- *How do you use the library in 2026?* As a great place to go to read books and have a quiet corner to yourself.
- *Other comments about the present:* Glad to be here, moved here in Sep 2023.
- *What will the library look like in 2046?* Hopefully the same but with more areas for programs for all ages.
- *How will people use public space?* Unknown but a small suggestion maybe...my childhood library had movies during the summer.
- *What advice would you give future generations of library patrons?* Respect the space and the books, they are not a thing of the past.

HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY

2046 Roundtable

SPACE

Current building is 17,500 square feet

Meeting room is 19' x 17'

Six study rooms

One fireplace lounge

One children's room

No teen room

TECHNOLOGY

Wi-fi and printing available

25 public computers

Laptops and hotspots for
checkout

60+ online databases

Technology training and support
in-house

COLLECTIONS

60,000 items in print

60,000 items online

100 magazines and newspapers,
but fewer every year

Lots of tools, sports equipment and
other things, and more every year

PROGRAMS

For Kids	Chess Club Toddler Storytime Preschool Storytime Radio Storytime LEGO Club
For Teens	Teen Advisory Board Live-Action Role Playing Crafternoon Games for Teens
For Adults	Knitting Club SPARC Radio Club Tech Help Computer Skills Book Club Conversations with a Councilmember
For Everyone	Summer Reading Program Author visits Special programs

DESIGN THE PERFECT LIBRARY FOR 2046, IF:



You have infinite space
and funding



Your space and funding
are severely limited



Homer Public Library

circ@ci.homer.ak.us

907-235-3180



MEMORANDUM

LAB-26-XXX

Library Advisory Board Schedule for Summer 2026

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Library Advisory Board
Date: April 17, 2026
From: Dave Berry, Library Director
Through:

The Library Advisory Board does not typically meet in June or July, but this year is unusual due to the 20th anniversary celebrations underway. The LAB should consider scheduling a meeting in one or both of those months.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider meeting in June and/or July.



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Memorandum

TO: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
FROM: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager
DATE: April 8, 2026
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for April 13, 2026 Council Meeting

Airport Terminal Update

On March 23rd a water line break caused flooding in the Homer Airport Terminal. The building was closed to the public and remediation efforts got underway quickly. Bald Mountain Air was able to provide space for Aleutian Air to process passengers until the eastern portion of the terminal was able to re-open March 31st. As of April 2nd building restoration crews had completed most of the initial cleanup and stabilization work at the terminal. Flooring has been cleaned, and damaged base molding, sheetrock, and insulation have been removed to allow full drying of the walls. Industrial dehumidifiers remain in place and continue to reduce residual moisture. Water damage assessment continues in the portion of the building that remains closed to the public, and the City is actively looking at solutions for airport tenants should repair and construction carry into the summer months.

With the limited reopening of the facility, public access is available at the northeast entrance with the interior screened to allow use of the ticket counter area only. Aleutian Air, Pioneer Car Rental, and Alaska Bus Company have resumed operations within the terminal under this configuration. We believe this setup can be operated safely on an interim basis while we await further evaluation from our engineers. Porta-potties have been placed at the terminal, two egress points are available, and staff have been instructed to evacuate the building immediately in the event of any seismic activity.

Ditch and Culvert Winter Maintenance

Our usually long stretch of single-digit cold weather days with minimal snow has kept Public Works Staff and the Steam Truck busy as we move through the breakup season and into spring. Frost has been measured up to 8 feet deep in some areas and is causing more issues with glaciation and flooding than usual. Public Works is maintaining a list of frozen culverts and ditches as they are reported by residents and crews respond as quickly as possible, but with these unusual conditions, the ice is filling back up within a matter of days. But why do the ditches and culverts keep filling up? The Homer hillside continuously vents groundwater to the ground surface year-round, even in winter, and the water then flows down through drainages and ditches. During more typical winters, this groundwater flow is not as obvious because snow covers it and provides insulation, so the water keeps flowing. We appreciate the community's support and patience as crews work on the ditches and culverts.

Public Comment Periods are Open for the HERC ABCA and Title 21 Update

Just a reminder that the draft Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) for the Homer Education and Recreation Complex (HERC) and the Title 21 Public Review Draft are available for public comment before they are finalized. Public notice of both comment periods is being provided through local media outlets, the City website <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/> and social media [@cityofhomerak](https://twitter.com/cityofhomerak), fliers, etc.

A digital copy of the ABCA is available at <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/brownfields/assessment-cleanup/dbac-projects/homer-herc-abca/>. The public comment period is open until 5 pm April 24, 2026.

The Title 21 public review draft is available at <https://homert21codeupdate.com/>. The public comment period is open through May 15, 2026.

Easement Clearing for the Raw Water Transmission Line Project

In the last City Manager’s report I shared information that the Raw Water Transmission Line Project was kicking off on April 1st. The first items of business have been to survey the easement and clear the vegetation and trees that have grown in over the past 50-60 years since the first transmission line was built. During the course of the project we’ll be preserving the top soil seed bed so existing plants can regrow, after the new transmission line replacement is completed. If additional supplementation is needed to stabilize the soil, we’ll work to ensure that an appropriate seed mix for this area is used. The anticipated completion date is October 2026.



Closing on the First NOAA Grant Property

Success! The City of Homer closed on a 26.5 acre conservation property, purchased with NOAA grant funds. The project was in partnership with the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust.



Old Police Department Building

In 2020 the new Police Department (PD) building was completed and the department moved over from the old PD located behind the Homer Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD). After the move was completed the HFVD began using the building for storage and training. The old PD building was constructed in 1979, and has shown its age for a while. In early March when Homer experienced some high wind events, Public Works discovered some metal roofing from the building on the sidewalk. Public Works is working compiling information on the status of the roof in anticipation of a future budget request for some needed repairs.

Conversations about a Parking Lot on Homer Spit Lot 88-2

At a recent Port and Harbor Advisory Commission (PHAC) meeting the Commission had a spot on their agenda to talk about highest and best use of City owned property on the Spit. Because parking around the harbor is a big topic for the Commission to discuss, conversations about land use shifted to parking and one of the areas that was discussed was Lot 88-2 that currently holds a short-term lease with La Baleine Café, along with two other short-term leases. The Commission discussed the needs and benefits of the different services around the Port and Harbor, and also talked about another area across the street that had been considered to expand parking some years back, but was denied for that use. In the end a motion was made in support of the notion of Lot 88-2 being transitioned to parking. Following that meeting the City Clerk's office received a significant amount of public input against developing parking in that location and copies of the written comments are attached to this report. I met with the owners of La Baleine Café to assure them that Council has not taken any action to change any use on Lot 88-2 and affirming that they have a lease in place through the end of the year. As I've already mentioned, parking on the Spit is always a hot topic. I just want to take this opportunity to reinforce that before any changes in land use happen on the Spit, there will be a public process through the PHAC and City Council.

Attachment:

Written Public Comments

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

2026 Calendar

	AGENDA DEADLINE	MEETING	CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
JANUARY	Wednesday 1/14 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 1/20 5:30 p.m.	Monday 1/26 6:00 p.m.	
FEBRUARY	Wednesday 2/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 2/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 2/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Library Fees, Policies, Rules & Regulations • Annual Review of Board’s Bylaws • Celebration of Lifelong Learning • Strategic Plan & Goals
MARCH	Wednesday 3/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 3/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 3/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reappointment Notices Sent Out
APRIL	Wednesday 4/15 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 4/21 5:30 p.m.	Monday 4/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms Expire April 1st • National Library Week, Library Workers Day, & Library Legislative Day
MAY	Wednesday 5/13 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 5/19 5:30 p.m.	Tuesday 5/26 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of LAB Officers
JUNE	No Regular Meeting			
JULY	No Regular Meeting			
AUGUST	Wednesday 8/12 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 8/18 5:30 p.m.	Monday 8/24 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Budget Review *may not be applicable during non-budget years • CIP Draft Recommendations • Advisory Body Training Worksession
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday 9/09 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 9/15 5:30 p.m.	Monday 9/28 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Card Sign-up Month
OCTOBER	Wednesday 10/14 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 10/20 5:30 p.m.	Monday 10/26 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve Meeting Schedule for Upcoming Year
NOVEMBER	Wednesday 11/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 11/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 11/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Friends of Libraries Week
DECEMBER	Wednesday 12/9 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 12/15 5:30 p.m.	Monday 1/11/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Strategic Plan/LAB Goals

*The Board’s opportunity to give their report to City Council is scheduled for the Council’s regular meeting following the Board’s regular meeting, under Agenda Item 8 – Announcements/ Presentations/ Borough Report/Commission Reports. If you are unable to attend your assigned meeting to give a report in person, you can submit a written report to the Clerk’s office for inclusion in the Council packet.