City of Homer Solicits Nominations for 2013-2018 Capital Improvement Plan

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Work is now underway to update the City of Homer's Capital Improvement Plan. Community organizations and agencies are urged to contact the City Manager's office by the end of June to request that particular projects be included in the new CIP.
The Capital Improvement Plan is a 6-year planning document for major acquisition and construction projects. Capital projects typically have a value of $25,000 or greater and result in a fixed asset with a useful life of at least three years.
While inclusion in the CIP does not guarantee funding, it does show that the project is a community priority and thus increases the chances of obtaining local, state, federal, and/or private funding. Generally speaking, a project will not be considered for a state legislative appropriation unless it is included in a community's capital improve¬ment plan.
While most of the City of Homer CIP projects are specific to municipal government operations (e.g., roads, water/sewer projects, harbor projects), others are spearheaded by non-profit organizations or state/federal agencies.
Typically the CIP contains about 60 projects and only a handful of those get funded each year. Nevertheless, it is important for any organization that is proposing a project with broad community benefit to contact the City.
The Homer City Council makes the final decision about which projects to include in the CIP and which of those to emphasize during the coming year as legislative priorities (established by resolution). Legislative priorities are those projects for which the City actively seeks state and federal funding through the appropriations process.
Work on the CIP will continue all summer and into the fall, with final adoption of the entire CIP and the legislative priority list in October. Public input is welcome throughout the process.
The current CIP (2012-2017) can be found on the City of Homer website at www. ci.homer.ak.us.
Proposed new project descriptions need to include information about specific features of the project, benefits to the community, progress to date (in planning, design, construction, and fundraising), estimated total cost (including funds already in hand), and contact information. Maps, drawings, and photos are also welcome.

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