

**NOTICE OF MEETING
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
- 4. RECONSIDERATION**
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** *(Minutes are approved during Regular Meetings only)*
 - A. Meeting Minutes for the Regular Meeting on June 3, 2014 **Page 3**
- 6. VISITORS**
 - A. Sue Mauger, Friends of the Homer Public Library
- 7. STAFF & COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS/ AND BOROUGH REPORTS**
 - A. Friends Report
 - B. Next Friends Meeting – Wednesday, , 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Library Conference Room
 - C. Director's Report & Statistics **Page 9**
 - D. Facilities Report
- 8. PUBLIC HEARING**
- 9. PENDING BUSINESS**
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Approval of the 2015 Meeting Schedule **Page 11**
 - B. Proposed Project for the Western Portion of the Library Property **Page 17**
 - C. Creating a Service Area or Joining with Recreation Service Area for the Southern Peninsula For Funding Purposes **Page 19**
 - D. 2015 Budget Requests Submitted **Page 23**
 - E. Membership Drive and Recruitment **Page 25**
 - F. Social Media Policy
 - G. City of Homer Comprehensive Plan Chapter 6 Public Services and Facilities **Page 27**
Objective G. Public Library **Page 37**
- 11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL**
 - A. Strategic Plan 2014 **Page 47**
 - B. 2014 Board Member Attendance at Council Meetings **Page 49**
 - C. Memorandum to City Council dated June 4, 2014 re: Amend Circulation Policy **Page 51**
 - D. Memorandum to City Council dated June 4, 2014 re: Recommendation to Rename a Garden **Page 52**
 - E. Memorandum to City Manager dated June 4, 2014 re: Creating a Permanent "Story Trail" **Page 53**
 - F. Alaska Public Libraries Fiscal Year 2011 Public Libraries Statistics **Page 54**
 - G. 2015 Call for Artists for the Homer Public Library **Page 55**
 - H. Ordinance 14-33, Appropriation of \$6,650 for Books and Library Materials **Page 57**
 - I. Ordinance 14-36(A), Tree Clearing in Town Center and Poopdeck Trail **Page 59**
- 12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**
- 13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**
- 14. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER** *(If one is assigned)*
- 15. COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**
- 16. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**
- 17. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2, 2014** at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Session 14-06 a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Phil Gordon at 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2014 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS GORDON, SMITH, STROBEL, AND PORTER

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBER SLONE, UTLEY (EXCUSED)

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR DIXON
DEPUTY CITY CLERK KRAUSE

AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented by consensus of the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments on the agenda.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items for reconsideration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting Minutes for the Regular Meeting on May 6, 2014

Chair Gordon requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 6, 2014.

STROBEL/PORTER – MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS

There were no visitors scheduled.

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Friends Report

There was no report.

B. Next Friends Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2014. No Board members volunteered to attend.

Ms. Dixon will attend that meeting.

C. Directors Report and Monthly Statistics – May 2014

Library Director Dixon provided a summary of her report. She provided statistics through May to the Board members and staff. She commented on the record breaking month and things are humming along. She noted that they are advertising for a Temporary Library Aide due to the increased need. It is believed that there is enough in the part-time budget for this position.

Ms. Dixon shared a picture on the “Little Library” built by the students at the Flex School and now installed at Fritz Creek General Store.

One complaint has been received regarding cell phone usage at the library.

Ms. Smith recommended looking into cell phone disrupters such as the hospital uses. Ms. Dixon will check with IT but in the meantime she shared the new “sign” that will be displayed.

Ms. Dixon further shared that they have received numerous compliments regarding the improved collection and an inquiry regarding Security Camera footage is Public Information with some constraints.

There was one comment regarding using the history to justify budget requests for additional staff.

D. Facilities Report

There was no report.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chair Gordon read the Public Hearing into the record. Chair Gordon opened the Public Hearing for comments.

There were seven who testified in favor of renaming and dedicating the garden to the memory of Peter Larson.

Chair Gordon closed the public hearing and thanked those participants for attending.

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Amending the Bylaws to Reduce the Number of Annual Meetings and Modify the Creation of Committees to Council Approval Only

Ms. Krause informed the Board that this was the second and final notice for the amendments to the Bylaws. It was realized that these changes were not properly noticed on the agenda.

There was a brief discussion. Chair Gordon requested a motion to approve the changes.

STROBEL/PORTER – MOVED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD BYLAWS ARTICLE FOUR, MEETINGS, REDUCING MEETINGS TO FEBRUARY, MARCH, MAY, JUNE, JULY, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND DECEMBER AND ARTICLE FIVE, COMMITTEES, WILL ONLY BE APPOINTED AND BECOME ACTIVE UPON APPROVAL OF COUNCIL.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. STROBEL, GORDON, PORTER, SMITH

Motion carried.

B. Amendments to the Circulation Policy for General Updates to Language and Circulation Details on Items

Chair Gordon read the title into the record.

Ms. Dixon explained that last month they saw the amendments to the fees adding music. These changes address the updates and general housekeeping to the language plus increasing the loan limit.

There was a brief discussion regarding the difference in Book and Book 3 categories; increasing to a standard three week period for everything; and removing the actual fines or fees from the policy level since realistically policies are only updated periodically where fines and fees are updated or changed on an annual basis.

Chair Gordon requested a motion to approve the circulation policy amendments.

PORTER/SMITH – SO MOVED.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Welcome New Member!

Chair Gordon welcomed Ms. Smith to the Board. Ms. Smith provided a brief personal statement to the board.

There was a statement of welcome from the Board.

B. Recommendation on a Request to Dedicate a Garden

Ms. Dixon provided some personal experience with Mr. Larson and the gardens.

Ms. Porter commented in favor of the request to rename the garden.

Chair Gordon inquired if she was ready to make a motion.

Mr. Strobel was not opposed to the request but asked what the Rotary was and why they were involved with City property. Ms. Krause provided a brief explanation on some things the Rotary does and is involved in. He also inquired if Mrs. Larson was a Rotarian and involved with the garden. Ms. Krause was not positive if she was a Rotarian but knew that she did work in the gardens too.

STROBEL/PORTER -MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO RENAME AND DEDICATE THE ROTARY GARDEN AT THE HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY TO THE PETER LARSON MEMORIAL ROTARY GARDEN.

There was a brief discussion.

VOTE. YES. STROBEL. PORTER, GORDON, SMITH

Motion carried.

C. Review and Recommendation on Installation of a Story Walk on Library Property

Chair Gordon read the title into the record. Ms. Dixon provided background information to the Board.

There was a brief discussion regarding funding and the copyright on "Story Walk". It was suggested that they could refer to this as a Story Trail since it was next to one.

This has been before the Public Works Department and the Planning Department with no one opposed. Ms. Dixon confirmed that grant money from the People's Garden could be used on the Story Trail.

STROBEL/PORTER – MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL ON INSTALLING A PERMANENT STORY TRAIL IF FUNDING CAN BE FOUND.

There was a brief discussion on support only if the responsibility for maintenance does not fall on the library staff and funding can be found.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Strategic Plan

Chair Gordon stated that there were additional priorities agreed at the March regular meeting and according to his notes they were requesting as top priority 1. A temporary summer Library aide, 2. Further increase in collection development funds and development of a comprehensive plan over the next five years.

Ms. Krause will add these items.

He was concerned that with the reduction in meetings to eight per year that they should consider having longer meetings of at least 90 minutes in order to assure the Board completes its work.

Discussion followed regarding the Collection Development Policy and Selection Policy for the benefit of the newest Board members.

Chair Gordon clarified comments made by Mr. Hornaday regarding funding to build the Library; working on a funding request for a contract person to work on the Collection Development Policy and also a Rasmussen grant request.

Ms. Dixon is working on the Selection Policy.

B. 2014 Board Member Attendance at Council Meeting

Chair Gordon thanked Ms. Porter for having her name twice on the list.

There were no further commitments from board members.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There were no comments from the audience present.

COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF

There were no comments from the staff.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER

There was no Council member in attendance.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Gordon commented that he hopes they are an effective board, keep meetings as brief as possible and please be mindful to read your packet before the meetings and spoke about the value on documents recommended from Ms. Dixon.

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

There were no comments from the Board.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, and Alaska.

RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: _____

Homer Public Library Director's Report September 3, 2014

Activity at the Library slowed somewhat during August, which is typical. Nonetheless, both circulation and attendance were higher than last year at the same time.

August Events and Activities

- The Summer Reading Program concluded with Teen Night at the Library on Aug. 1, an event that made national library news in *School Library Journal* (<http://www.slj.com/2014/08/teens-va/national-library-lock-in-event-features-authors-games-and-minecraft/>), spearheaded by our own Youth Services Librarian Claudia Haines.
- The Madison String Quartet performed for a large and appreciative crowd at a noontime concert.
- Author Donna Mack gave a reading and historical background behind her book, *Whispered Secrets Whispered Prayers*.

Meetings

Neither the Friends of the Library nor the Library Advisory Board met during August.

I met with Finance Director John Li and City Manager Walt Wrede to discuss the Library's budget for 2015.

Issues of Interest

Staff. With just a couple weeks remaining of Temporary Library Aide Terry Smith's position, we are already sad she'll be leaving. Her work on the front desk this summer has enabled us to keep up with an increase in summer library use that's been even higher than usual.

E-Cigarettes. The Homer City Council voted to treat e-cigarettes like other cigarettes and ban their use in City facilities.

Western Lot. Public Works awarded a bid to clear brush and small trees from the western lot. Sue Mager, from the Friends of Homer Library, and I will walk the area before cutting begins to mark trees we'd like saved.

Behind the Scenes

I've finished both my requests for the Library's budget in 2015 and my annual report to the Alaska State Library. **Overall circulation was up 10% in 2013 from 2012. Story Time attendance increased by 11%. Annual attendance grew by 8%.**

Terry, Amy, and I have been working on new directional signage for the adult book stacks, a project long postponed for lack of time. Terry has taken the lead on this project.

In addition to her usual work updating the website and keeping our equipment running, Holly has set up our ADA computer with assistive technology that includes a wheelchair-accessible desk, trackball, and ZoomText software.

David, Amy, and Claudia have focused on ordering, cataloging, and weeding materials.

Staff is participating in City-wide Green Dot Training over the next three months.

Facility

We continue to have problems with the button that opens the outside door. New parts are being ordered.

Our fuel cost for heating is less than half of what it was last year, thanks to natural gas and a warm winter. Public Works plans to extend a gas line to the propane fireplace before winter.

Upcoming Special Events

Storytime – now also on Tuesday mornings, as well as Wednesdays, at 10 AM. Small Fry story times on Thursdays at 11:30.

Author presentation – Jennifer Pharr Davis will show slides from her long-distance hiking adventures around the world, including the Pacific Crest and Appalachian Trails. She'll also sign copies of her new book *Called Again: A Story of Love and Triumph*. September 11, 6 PM.

Chamber of Commerce Mixer – The Friends are hosting at the Library on Wed. Sept. 17, 5-7 PM.

Banned Book Week – September 21-27. Check out your “Mystery Date with a Banned Book”!

iFest – Sept. 23 begins a three-month series of events for “igniting innovative entrepreneurs,” in conjunction with the Friends’ BIZ-Idea Contest and new Entrepreneur of the Year Award. “Getting Out of the Box” starts at 6 PM.

Ongoing

Story Times (see above)

Knitting – Mondays, 3-5 PM

Book Club – Third Tuesdays, 4:30-6:30

Drop-In Tech Help – First Saturdays, Second and Fourth Fridays, noon-1 PM

Genealogy – First Saturdays, 2-4 PM

SPARC Meetings and Ham Radio Classes – First Tuesdays, 5 PM and 6 PM



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: COUNCIL'S ADVISORY BODIES
FROM: JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK
DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2014
SUBJECT: 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please review the 2015 meeting schedule for your Advisory Body and approve with or without amendments. The draft resolution includes the entire 2015 meeting schedule. The resolution will be presented to Council on December 8, 2014 for adoption.

A memo or excerpt from the meeting minutes noting the action by your advisory body is requested. Please return this to the City Clerk by December 2, 2014.

Thank you!

1 **CITY OF HOMER**
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

City Clerk

3
4 **RESOLUTION 14-XXX**

5
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
7 ESTABLISHING THE 2015 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR
8 THE CITY COUNCIL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY
9 COMMISSION, LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD, PARKS AND
10 RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION, ADVISORY PLANNING
11 COMMISSION, PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION,
12 PERMANENT FUND COMMITTEE, AND PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE.
13

14 WHEREAS, Pursuant to Homer City Code Section 1.14.020, the City Council annually
15 sets the schedule for regular and some special meetings, noting the dates, times and places
16 of the City Council, Advisory Commissions, and the Library Advisory Board meetings; and
17

18 WHEREAS, The public is informed of such meetings through the kiosks located at
19 Captain's Coffee, Harbormaster's Office, Redden Marine Services of Homer, and the City
20 Clerk's Office, Clerk's Calendar on KBBI, the City Clerk's Home Page on the Internet, and
21 postings at the Clerk's Office at City Hall, and the Public Library; and
22

23 WHEREAS, HCC 1.14.020 - 040 states that meetings may be advertised in a local paper
24 of general circulation at least three days before the date of the meeting and that special
25 meetings should be advertised in the same manner or may be broadcast by local radio at
26 least twice a day for three consecutive days or two consecutive days before the day of the
27 meeting plus the day of the meeting; and
28

29 WHEREAS, HCC 1.14.010 notes that the notice of meetings applies to the City Council
30 and all commissions, boards, committees, subcommittees, task forces and any sub-unit of
31 the foregoing public bodies of the City, whether meeting in a formal or informal meeting; that
32 the failure to give the notice provided for under this chapter does not invalidate or otherwise
33 affect any action or decision of a public body of the City; however, this sentence does not
34 change the consequences of failing to give the minimum notice required under State Statute;
35 that notice will ordinarily be given by the City Clerk; and that the presiding officer or the
36 person or persons calling a meeting are responsible for notifying the City Clerk of meetings in
37 sufficient time for the Clerk to publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the City;
38 and
39

40 WHEREAS, This Resolution does not preclude additional meetings such as emergency
41 meetings, special meetings, worksessions, and the like; and
42

43 WHEREAS, Council adopted Resolution 06-144 on October 9, 2006 establishing the
 44 Regular Meeting site for all bodies to be the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers.
 45

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Homer City Council, that the 2015 meeting
 47 schedule is established for the City Council, Economic Development Advisory Commission,
 48 Library Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, Advisory Planning
 49 Commission, Port and Harbor Advisory Commission, Permanent Fund Committee, and Public
 50 Arts Committee of the City of Homer, Alaska, as follows:
 51

52 Holidays - City Offices closed:

January 1*, New Year's Day, Thursday	February 16*, Presidents' Day, the third Monday	March 31*, Seward's Day, last Monday	May 25*, Memorial Day, last Monday	July 3*, Independence Day, Friday	September 7*, Labor Day, first Monday
October 19*, Alaska Day, Monday	November 11*, Veterans Day, Wednesday	November 26* Thanksgiving Day, Thursday	November 27*, Friday, the day after Thanksgiving	December 25*, Christmas, Friday	

53
 54 *Indicates holidays - City offices closed.

55 **If on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed as the legal holiday; if on a Saturday, the
 56 preceding Friday is observed as the legal holiday pursuant to the City of Homer Personnel
 57 Rules and Regulations.
 58

59 CITY COUNCIL (CC)

January 12, 26	February 9, 23	March 9, 23	April 14, 28	May 11, 26*	June 8, 22
July 13**, 27	August 10, 24	September 14, 28	October 6 Election	October 12, 26, for Oath of Office 20*	Canvass Board October 9 or 12
November 3 Run- Off Election	November 9**, 23	December 14****	December 21**** if needed		

60
 61 City Council's Regular Committee of the Whole Meetings at 5:00 p.m. to no later than 5:50
 62 p.m. prior to every Regular Meeting which are held the second and fourth Monday of each
 63 month at 6:00 p.m. ***The City Council traditionally reschedules regular meetings that fall on
 64 holidays or High School Graduation days, for the following Tuesday. Council will not conduct
 65 a First Regular Meeting in July.
 66

67 AML Annual Conference Week is tentatively scheduled for November 16 – 20, 2015.

68 *Tuesday meeting due to Memorial Day/Alaska Day.

69 **There will be no First Regular Meeting in July or November.

70 **** The City Council traditionally cancels the last regular meeting in December and holds the
 71 first regular meeting and one to two Special Meetings as needed. Generally the second
 72 Special Meeting the third week of December, will not be held.

73

74 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (EDC)

January 13	February 10	March 10	April 14	May 12	June 9
July 14	August 11	September 8	October 13	November 10	December 8

75

76 Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meetings are held on the second
 77 Tuesday of each Month at 6:00 p.m.

78

79 LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD (LAB)

	February 3	March 3		May 5	June 2
July 7		September 1	October 6		December 1

80

81 Library Advisory Board Regular Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00
 82 p.m.

83

84 PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (P/R)

	February 19	March 19	April 16		
May 21	June 18		August 20		
September 17	October 15	November 19			

85

86 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Regular Meetings are held on the third Thursday
 87 of each month at 5:30 p.m. with the exception of January, July, and December.

88

89 PLANNING COMMISSION (P/C)

January 7, 21	February 4, 18	March 4, 18	April 1, 15	May 6, 20	June 3, 17
July 15**	August 5, 19	September 2, 16	October 7, 21	November 4**	December 2**

90

91 Advisory Planning Commission Regular Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of
 92 each month at 6:30 p.m. **There will be no First Regular Meeting in July or Second Regular
 93 Meetings in November and December.

94

95

96

97 PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION (P/H)

January 28	February 25	March 25	April 22	May 27	June 24
July 22	August 26	September 23	October 28	November 18	December 16

98

99 Port and Harbor Advisory Commission Regular Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of
100 each month at 5:00 p.m., with the exception of May, June, July and August meetings that are
101 held at 6:00 p.m. The Regular Meetings in the months of November and December are
102 traditionally scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month.

103

104 PERMANENT FUND COMMITTEE (PFC)

February 12	May 14	August 13	November 12
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105

106 Permanent Fund Committee Regular Meetings are held quarterly on the second Thursday of
107 the months of February, May, August, and November at 5:15 p.m.

108

109 PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE (PAC)

February 12	May 14	August 13	November 12
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110

111 Public Arts Committee Regular Meetings are held quarterly on the second Thursday of the
112 months of February, May, August, and November at 5:00 p.m.

113

114 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 8th day of December, 2014.

115

116 CITY OF HOMER

117

118

119

120 _____
MARY E. WYTHER, MAYOR

121

122 ATTEST:

123

124

125 _____
JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

126

127 Fiscal Impact: Advertizing of meetings in regular weekly meeting ad and advertizing of any
128 additional meetings.



Re-envisioning the Homer Public Library's Western Lot

The Friends of the Homer Public Library's mission is to provide volunteer support for library programs and services, to raise funds that enrich the library experience and to promote the use and enjoyment of the library. FHL has a 9-member volunteer board plus honorary student member who work closely with library staff to publicize the valuable tools and services available at the library to all community members at no cost, without discrimination. Throughout the Friends' history, the organization has provided resources for capital improvements, including raising funds for the new building and outfitting it with items to enhance library patrons' experience, like children's book bins, lamps, benches, and e-readers. Now with the building and library programs and staff flourishing, the Friends is committed to making the entire library property a vibrant and safe part of the Homer community.

Western Lot

The City of Homer embarked on the New Library Project 10 years ago and set aside lots from Hazel Avenue to the Poopdeck Trail, adjacent to Hazel Avenue, as the location of this civic anchor. The original design plans (see Figure 1) included park-like attributes for the western side of the City property. Due to funding considerations, only a gravel foot path was established to link the library's main parking lot to the Poopdeck Trail. Now in 2014, with increasing concern about safety along the existing foot path and adjacent Poopdeck Trail, the time is right to re-visit the potential of the library's western lot and ways to integrate it into the library mission and programs.



Figure 1. Design plans from 2004 for the New Library Project.

Goals

The Friends of the Homer Public Library propose the following as achievable and desirable goals as we re-envision the library's western lot:

1. increase safety by strategically thinning the vegetation to create better sight lines;
2. expand available space for existing library programs (story hour, summer reading program);
3. create potential space for new library programs (StoryWalk, storybook theater);
4. develop new partnerships with community entities who encourage the use of outdoor space;
5. provide a new community space within the city center; and
6. connect with neighbors interested in improving the Poopdeck Trail area to make it a community asset, not liability.

Why Now?

1. Kachemak Heritage Land Trust is moving forward on a trail planning process through the NPS's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) to help them re-envision their property which is adjacent to the Poopdeck Trail.
2. FHL staff and board have current capacity to take on a new project now that the library building has been up and running for 8 years.
3. FHL has available funds to get project planning started and a successful track record of grant and community fundraising.

Considerations

- City of Homer and library staff support
- Lot is mapped as upland wetlands. Need a wetlands assessment to identify drainage issues.
- How might this affect local neighbors and other stakeholders?
- Will there be ongoing maintenance, landscaping, lighting or signage costs?
- Who will manage/reserve space use?

Potential Design Features

expanded footpaths, picnic tables, benches, covered amphitheater, stage, lighting, exercise stations, statues, community art, StoryWalk infrastructure, additional parking, restrooms, greenhouse

Community Partners/Stakeholders

City of Homer's Police Department, Library Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation Department, Safeway, CIRI, Petro Marine, private property owners along Grubstake Ave, Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, MAPP of the Southern Kenai Peninsula, Best Beginnings Homer, Nature Rock's Homer, Colors of Homer, Pier 1 Theater, Homer-area schools.



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2014
SUBJECT: CREATING A SERVICE AREA FOR RECREATION AND LIBRARY FUNDING

Ann Dixon has been approached regarding the creation of a service area to assist in creating a funding source for the Homer area. The ReCreate Rec group is looking into establishing this service area to help fund the desire by several groups and individuals to have a community recreation center and also provide a steady revenue source for recreational activities.

The Library could possibly join this effort but there are many details that are unknown at this time. So what would a Service Area do for the Homer Public Library and the City of Homer?

I have provided the following information from the Kenai Peninsula Borough on Service Areas and the Initiation of a Service Area.

16.04.010. Initiation—Petition required.

The citizens of any given area may petition the borough assembly for establishment of a service area to perform 1 or more governmental services authorized by law; provided, however, that a proposed road service area must follow election precinct boundaries established by the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Alaska, and must include one or more election precincts as the proposed road service area.

(Ord. No. 81-26, § 1, 1981; Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.05(a))

16.04.020. Petition—Form—Contents required—Filing—Borough clerk responsibilities.

The petition shall be in a form prescribed by the borough assembly and shall include:

- A. A designation of the governmental service to be exercised by the service area;
- B. A map which includes a legal description of the area to be encompassed by the proposed service area which shall consist of one or more election precincts if it is a road service area; and
- C. The signatures of eligible voters within the area comprising the proposed service area in a number equal to at least 15 percent of the eligible voters within the area comprising the proposed service area who voted in the last regular election of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

The petition when signed shall be filed with the borough clerk. The borough clerk shall proceed to make a determination as to the validity of the signatures on the petition and

whether the petition contains the required number of signatures. The borough clerk shall then deliver the petition to the mayor.

(Ord. No. 81-26, § 2, 1981; Ord. No. 72-52, § 1(part), 1974; Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.05(b))

16.04.030. Petition—Mayor survey and report duty.

Upon receipt by the mayor of the petition from the borough clerk, the mayor shall make a survey and report to the assembly concerning the need for and the estimated cost of the service area. The report shall contain a plan defining the service area, stating the total assessed valuation within the area proposed to be established as a service area and giving the population of the area proposed to be established as a service area. The report of the mayor shall be made to the assembly in written form at least 15 days before a public hearing on the necessity for the proposed service area.

(Ord. No. 74-52, § 1(part), 1974; Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.05(c))

16.04.040. Public hearing—Required where—Notice—Assembly authority.

The assembly or mayor shall fix the time and place of a public hearing to consider the necessity for the proposed service area or expanded service area. The place of the public hearing shall be within the boundaries of the area proposed to be established as a service area or an expansion thereof, or in a publicly owned building in closest proximity to any of the boundaries of the proposed service area, in the event that facilities within the boundaries are not adequate to hold the public meeting. When expansion of a service area is being considered, a public hearing shall be held in each area under consideration for expansion. Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the proposed service area or expanded area not less than one week prior to the hearing, the notice of the hearing to be posted in each post office which is utilized by the residents of the proposed service area or expanded service area. After hearing the interested persons favoring or opposing the proposed service area, the assembly may extend or shorten the boundaries of the proposed service area or expansion thereof and may introduce an ordinance at the next regular meeting of the borough assembly to establish the proposed service area or expand an existing service area with whatever boundary changes are made by the assembly as a result of the information received on the petition and at the public hearing. The boundaries of a road service area must consist of one or more election precincts as provided in this chapter. The public hearing provided for in this section may be held by a special committee of less than the whole assembly; provided, that the special committee shall make a report of its findings and recommendations to the whole assembly at a regular meeting prior to the assembly's action on the proposed service area or expansion thereof. The president of the assembly shall appoint the members of the special committee to hold the public hearing at a time and place fixed by the assembly.

This section shall only apply to proposed new service areas and service area expansions for which voter approval is required in either AS 29.35.460(c) or AS 29.35.490.

(Ord. No. 2004-32, § 1, 10-12-04; Ord. No. 81-26, § 3, 1981; Ord. No. 79-16, § 1, 1979; Ord. No. 76-50, § 1, 1976; Ord. No. 74-52, § 1(part), 1974; Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.05(d))

16.04.050. Establishment by ordinance—Contents.

The ordinance establishing a service area may provide for appointed or elected boards to supervise the furnishing of special services in the service area, and determine that the new service cannot be provided by any existing service area, or by annexation to a city or incorporation as a city.

(Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.05(e))

16.04.060. Election to establish governmental powers required when.

If the borough assembly shall by ordinance establish a service area, the proposition whether or not to exercise the particular governmental power for which the service area has been established shall be placed on the ballot at the next general or a special election of the borough; except, however, an area that has once been considered and rejected by the eligible voters at either a special or general election shall thereafter be placed before the voters only at a subsequent general election. If the ordinance establishing the service area has provided for elected boards to supervise the furnishing of special services in the service area, then the candidates for election to such board shall be placed on the ballot at the same election for election by the qualified voters residing within the service area.

(Ord. No. 67, § 1, 1967; Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.05(f))

16.04.065. Election of board members.

Vacancies for service area boards requiring elected boards shall be filled by the candidate receiving the highest number of the votes cast for that seat. In the event that no candidate files for election to a seat which is to be filled at said election, then no election shall be conducted for that particular seat, and the seat shall be filled by appointment by the mayor and confirmed by the assembly following certification of the election and in accordance with applicable provisions of title 16 governing filling vacancies.

(Ord. No. 2013-24, § 2, 8-6-13 ; Ord. No. 2013-09(Sub.), § 1, 3-19-13 ; Ord. No. 2000-30, § 1, 8-15-00; Ord. No. 83-13, § 2, 1983)

16.04.066. Board members—Compensation prohibited.

All service area board members shall serve without compensation except reimbursement for expenses as allowed for borough employees. This shall not be construed to require reimbursement of expenses to service area board members.

(Ord. No. 94-18, § 1, 1994)

16.04.070. Establishment by assembly action authorized when—Procedure.

The borough assembly may at any time initiate its own inquiry into the need for service areas for the performance of governmental services within the Kenai Peninsula Borough and may call for a public hearing pursuant to this chapter within any such areas where it determines there may be a need for the establishment of service areas.

(Ord. No. 56, § 1(part), 1967; KPC § 27.10.10)

16.04.080. Administrative employees—Appointment, qualifications, and removal.

A. Service area directors. Except as may otherwise be provided for a specific service area, the director of a service area, whether a paid employee or volunteer shall be appointed by the mayor from a list of recommended names from the service area board. Except for the road service area director, whose board consists of appointed members, and as otherwise provided below, all other service area directors may be removed by the mayor with a concurrent recommendation from the applicable board. Such action by the service area board shall require a majority vote of the board membership. In the event that the service area board and the mayor are unable to agree within 30 days of the date the action is recommended, then the mayor and the service area board shall communicate to attempt to resolve the impasse. Such communication shall occur no more than 60 days after the date of the initial recommendation for removal. Following such communication, the mayor shall have the final authority to determine whether or not to remove the director.

B. Other administrative employees. Other administrative employees serve at the pleasure of the mayor who may suspend or discharge such employees in his or her sole discretion. The service area board may independently make a recommendation to the mayor regarding the suspension or discharge of other administrative employees; however, such suspension or discharge remains within the sole discretion of the mayor.

C. Definition of service area director. For purposes of this section "service area director" means the appointed administrative director or chief of a service area.

(Ord. No. 2012-22, § 1, 7-3-12; Ord. No. 2004-34, § 1, 10-26-04; Ord. No. 2004-12(Sub.), § 1, 7-6-04)

16.04.090. Reserved.

Recommendation

Request staff to ask the city attorney to confirm that this action would not be allowed within city limits.



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2014
SUBJECT: 2015 BUDGET REQUEST

The Budget Request for 2015 has been submitted. Ms. Dixon can provide details on what funding has been requested.

Recommendation
Informational in Nature. No Action Required.



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Memorandum

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2014
SUBJECT: Membership Recruitment

Once again the Library Advisory Board is down to the bare minimum of members in order to hold a meeting.

We have been unable to hold a meeting due to attaining a quorum. This has caused some problems with getting certain items before the board to receive your input for such items as the Capital Improvement Plan and the Budget; two really important responsibilities.

It is imperative with the winter season coming up to try to get three more members. The Board has not met since June and is not scheduled to meet next month.

I would like for the Board to consider actually holding a membership/recruitment event at the Library to be held during the week, a weekend (or several) or have a table at a community event such as the Nutcracker. Board members can volunteer to staff a table for a specific time period so no one is obligated for a whole day, unless desired and there can be posters designed and applications available for the public to review.

Having an effective and active Board is a good thing for the community and the Library.

Recommendation:

Make a motion to conduct a membership drive, then establish day(s), time(s) to have the recruitment effort.

■ CHAPTER 6 PUBLIC SERVICES & FACILITIES

Vision Statement: The City should strive to provide public services and facilities that meet current needs while planning for the future. The City wishes to develop strategies to work with community partners that provide beneficial community services outside of the scope of City government.

Overview

Providing adequate, accessible community facilities, services, and infrastructure is a principal function of the City of Homer. Often government effectiveness is somewhat measured by its ability to plan for and finance these facilities. The City of Homer has been successful in this role with a variety of high quality, well-managed community facilities and services. This chapter outlines actions needed to maintain and improve facilities and services as the city changes.

The City provides public water and sewer services, police, fire protection, and emergency services. It also operates and maintains the port and harbor, public library, parks, animal shelter, airport terminal, and recreation facilities. The Kenai Peninsula Borough and City cooperate to provide education, health care, and certain land use planning functions, solid waste disposal, and other human services such as assistance to senior citizens. Homer residents pay city and borough property and sales taxes to help cover the costs of these services and facilities. In addition, Homer has a wide array of community services that are provided and supported by a robust network of nonprofit organizations and community groups.

The first goal in this chapter focuses on actions to provide and improve the services and facilities for which the City is directly responsible. The second goal addresses activities that the City supports. The third goal identifies strategies for the City to work with partners to provide additional community services. Under each goal are objectives which further describe near-term priorities and long-term needs for the described public services and facilities.

This document identifies general goals for future improvements. Final decisions regarding if and when such improvements are made will be determined by the City Council, considering available funding, competing needs, and other factors. Responsibility to achieve the goals in this chapter, particularly the second and third goals, does not solely lie with the City of Homer. As with any community, it is the active participation, support, and motivation of individuals, businesses, non-profit and other organizations that creates a home for many generations to enjoy.

Summary of Goals

GOAL 1: Provide and improve city-operated facilities and services to meet the current needs of the community, anticipate growth, conserve energy, and keep pace with future demands.

GOAL 2: Seek collaboration and coordination with other service providers and community partners to ensure important community services are improved upon and made available.

GOAL 3: Encourage the broader community to provide community services and facilities by supporting other organizations and entities that want to develop community services.

Goals and Objectives for Public Services and Facilities

GOAL 1: Provide and improve city-operated facilities and services to meet the current needs of the community, anticipate growth, conserve energy, and keep pace with future demands.

Objective A: FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES – Maintain and improve the high level of fire protection and emergency services in Homer to respond to current and anticipated future needs.

Current Status

The Homer Volunteer Fire Department provides fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to the City of Homer and, when necessary, to areas outside of city limits. The department also reviews new building development to ensure it meets certain emergency access criteria. The Department employs six staff. A volunteer core of approximately 30 individuals supports the department's staff. Staff and volunteers are trained in emergency medical services, structural fire fighting, wildfire fighting, marine fire fighting, and some specialty rescue services. Fire hydrant coverage extends throughout the majority of city limits. The city has achieved a fire insurance rating (ISO) of 3 in areas within 1,000 feet of the City's fire hydrants, resulting in significant savings in the cost of home insurance. Structures located more than 1,000 feet distant of a fire hydrant have an ISO rating of 8. Areas located more than five miles from a fire station are rated at an ISO of 10. The goal is to maintain the current ISO ratings as well as the 35 foot structure height limit.

The fire department manages one station in the City of Homer as well as eleven apparatus. The Department also works closely with Kachemak City and Kenai Peninsula Borough's Kachemak Emergency Services Area (KESA). Kachemak City is a Class 2 City with one fire station (at their Community Center) that houses Tanker 1. KESA is a Borough Service Area including the area outside of Homer and Kachemak City up to the Anchor Point Fire Service Area. KESA currently has a station located near McNeil Canyon, approximately Mile 11 East End Road, which houses two engines, a tanker, an ambulance, brush truck, and utility truck. Kachemak City contracts annually with Homer for Fire and EMS.

The majority of calls responded to by the department are for emergency medical services (80 percent). The 2007 adopted budget for the Homer Volunteer Fire Department was \$1,115,031, approximately 5 percent of the City's overall budget.

Near-term Priorities

The fire department's top priority needs relate to facility improvements. Built in 1980 and upgraded approximately 10 years ago, the department's current facility is reaching the end of its functional life span and needs to be upgraded or replaced. Also, the department would like to have an unstaffed satellite facility above town on Skyline Drive in order increase their capability to respond to fires in this high-danger area. With the existing level of marine activity, there is a need for increased marine fire and rescue capacity. Notably, Homer often provides refuge/safe harbor to ships not normally scheduled to stop in port due to the nature of its location, orientation, and protected waters. As Homer continues to grow and develop, the need for code enforcement capabilities is steadily increasing. Enforcement issues are already a concern. Given the recent trends in Homer with the increase in housing construction and residential development, hiring a plans examiner will increase the city's capacity to meet growing demand. Presently this service is deferred to the State.

Implementation Strategies

1. Build a new station and training facility.
2. The Department and City shall develop a plan for a satellite facility on Skyline Drive.
3. Hire or provide for a Homer Fire Department Fire Marshal or Building Plans Examiner.
4. Increase capacity to deal with marine related fire events.
5. Continue to maintain and improve ISO ratings.

Long-term Needs

There is a general need for greater capacity to respond to area demands. The timing and magnitude of this need will be driven by population growth and increases in the fire service area. In regard to marine activities, the Homer port is engaged in determining the feasibility of expanding the deep water port which, if implemented, would attract more marine cargo traffic as well as increased numbers of tourist cruise ships. If the harbor is expanded, the fire department could use a boat in order to deal with an oil leak or ship fire related to an expanded harbor. The fire department with the assistance of other City agencies should continue to address and update their emergency plans, such as the Local All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, as new technology and information become available.

Implementation Strategies

1. Increase the volunteer core from 30 to a target of 50 people.
2. Obtain better equipment.
3. Improve the department's ability to deal with marine related fire and safety issues.
4. Continue to focus on training.
5. Continue to address and update emergency plans such as the All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Objective B: LAW ENFORCEMENT – Provide ample law enforcement services to meet existing demand and anticipated future demands.

Current Status:

Homer has a full service municipal police department and is responsible for emergency and police dispatch, patrol and criminal investigations, managing the Homer Jail, and animal control.

The police department staffing includes twelve full-time police officers, seven full-time dispatchers, and six jail officers. To receive training, department employees attend the Police Academy in Sitka and are often sent out of state for additional training opportunities. The department emphasizes training and has sent an officer to advanced accident investigation training. Despite training opportunities, the police department has a recruitment and retention problem and has seen a large reduction in the number of people being attracted to law enforcement careers. Officers are in need of new automobiles. The current fleet is aged beyond any reasonable expectation of service.

The department’s boundaries and responsibilities do not extend outside of the city limits. The Homer Police Department has a good working relationship with the State Troopers and the agencies support one another when necessary. The highest demand on officers is felt in the summertime due to the large volume of visitors to Homer.

The crime rate in Homer is relatively low, consisting mostly of traffic offenses and drug and alcohol activity. In terms of major offences, 80 percent of crime is related to vandalism and theft. Violent crime is very low. Computer-related crime has increased recently and has had an impact on department staffing because the investigation for this type of crime is very labor intensive. The department has had to shift more staff to investigation work. In addition to criminal investigation, crime solving, and general patrolling, staff also engages in enforcement of City Council ordinances. New ordinances have recently been imposed relating to protection of Homer’s fragile beach ecosystem as well as noise disturbances. The police department responds to ordinance violations on a complaint call basis.

The 2007 adopted budget for the Homer Police Department was \$2,971,715, approximately 14 percent of the City’s overall budget.

Near-term Priorities

Implementation Strategies

1. Increase both the patrol and dispatch staff to better respond to Homer’s growth and change.
 - A. Increase staffing levels seasonally with consideration of adding a dedicated Homer Spit patrol officer for the summer months.
 - B. Develop and implement a plan that addresses the department’s retention and recruitment issues.
2. Implement reasonable vehicle replacement plan.
3. Upgrade technology and information systems as they become available.

Long-term Needs

There is a need for a larger physical structure to serve as police department operations headquarters. The building was constructed in the late 1970's and added onto in 1980. Another remodel of the building is currently taking place; however, the structure is nearing the end of its planned lifetime and has outgrown capacity. While the current structure is inadequate, the police department feels it can operate safely for the next couple of years. The existing site of the police department buildings is not large enough to accommodate a larger structure. The police department will need to build a new building in another location or adapt and reuse an existing structure in town. Another option may be for the police department to work with the fire department to develop a Public Safety/Emergency Services Facility. Since both departments are in need of new structures out of which to operate, a joint facility may be the most cost effective.

Implementation Strategies

1. Build a new police department building.

Objective C: WATER/SEWER SERVICES – Continue to provide high-quality water and sewer services. Anticipate future demand and effectively guide Homer's growth with the extension of water and sewer into areas identified in the Land Use plan.

Current Status

Public water and sewer service for the city of Homer is provided by the City of Homer Department of Public Works (DPW). In July 2006, a Water and Sewer Master Plan was completed for the City to provide guidance on future improvements and expansions for each of the utilities. According to the master plan, approximately 64 percent of the occupied homes in the city are served by the water system and approximately 54 percent are served by the sewer system.



Water System

Homer operates a Class A public water system. Water is supplied from a dammed surface water source which forms the 35-acre Bridge Creek Reservoir. This is the City's sole water source; no other groundwater wells or other surface sources are operated by the City. It is important to note that groundwater in Homer is generally unsuitable for residential and commercial water wells due to low yields, shallow groundwater, lack of a significant freshwater aquifer, and saltwater in wells. The City established the Bridge Creek Watershed Protection District in an effort to preserve and protect the city's drinking water. A recent study on the Bridge Creek Reservoir indicates that this source has capacity limitations for supplying the community's water needs in the future, especially during dry years.

Seasonal summer population fluctuation and increased summer water needs cause summer demands to nearly double the wintertime water production. During times when demand outpaces production, water from the storage reservoirs must be used to meet peaks. Projections from the 2006 Water and Sewer Master Plan report average winter water production is currently at 0.5 mgd and will grow to approximately 1 mgd by 2025. Average summer demands are currently around 0.8 mgd and will

grow to approximately 1.9 mgd by 2025. Peak summer demands are currently around 1.3 mgd and may grow to nearly 3 mgd by 2025.

A new water treatment plant is now under construction. Treated water is distributed and stored in five water storage tanks which have approximately 1,160,200 gallons of operational capacity. These water storage tanks serve as treated water reservoirs for community water demands and fire emergencies.

The water distribution system consists of approximately 40 miles of buried pipe. Pipe materials consist of cast iron, ductile iron, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe. Sizes of pipe range from 4 to 16 inches in diameter. The piping is generally confined to the lower areas of Homer except for two corridors which carry the water down from the reservoir to town. The concentration of the system to the lower areas of town is not a function of engineering but rather of the current density of development. Approximately 1,430 customers are served. There are also 298 fire hydrants connected to the city water distribution system.

Homer residents and businesses not on the public water system typically maintain their own wells or pay to have private contractors haul potable city water to a holding tank. Because groundwater sources are often difficult to find with sufficient production and water quality, many property owners not connected to the City's system choose to purchase hauled water. Water from Homer's reservoir is also hauled to many residences outside of Homer city limits. Bulk water hauled to holding tanks accounts for approximately 20 million gallons/year of the water production at the water treatment plant.

Sewer System

Homer operates a deep shaft wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The wastewater plant capacity is 880,000 gallons per day for peak flow. Homer has an intra-city agreement with Kachemak City to provide sewer service. Currently, the WWTP treats an average daily flow of approximately 390,000 gallons per day. However, summer population influxes and intense rain storms which contribute to inflow and infiltration can substantially increase flow to the plant to as much as 1.7 million gallons per day.

A study was conducted to better understand the inflow and infiltration contribution to Homer's wastewater plant. Inflow is defined as surface water entering the system from various sources (i.e., manhole lids, roof leaders, foundation drains, or connection to the stormwater system). Infiltration is defined as groundwater entering the system through cracks, faulty connections, or other openings. The study found inflow and infiltration to be a significant contributor to the overall wastewater collected. During a typical rain storm as much as 3 percent of the overall collection may be attributed to inflow and infiltration. During major storm events it is thought that over 1 million gallons of flow may be attributed by infiltration and inflow.

The wastewater collection system consists of approximately 37 miles of buried gravity sewer mains. Pipe materials consist of asbestos concrete, ductile iron, and polyvinyl chloride (PVC). About half of the system is constructed with asbestos concrete pipe, especially in the oldest sections built in approximately 1970. These older sections of pipe seem to be major contributors to inflow and infiltration. At one time, cast iron was used for sewer mains, but these lines are no longer active. Sizes of pipe range from 6 to 24 inches in diameter, with the majority being 8-inch size mains.

The sewer system serves a total of 1,366 customers, 956 of which are residential. Parts of Kachemak City are also served by the system under an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Homer.

Homer maintains seven sewage pump stations. Two additional lift stations serve private septic systems on the Homer Spit. Lift stations are used to pump sewage from topographical low points to higher portions of the gravity system. There are approximately 8.3 miles of force main pipe from the lift stations. Force main pipes are constructed from ductile iron or high density polyethylene pipe (HDPE) and range from 3 to 6 inches in diameter.

Many Homer residents and business owners not connected to the piped community system use on-site wastewater disposal systems. According to the Master Sewer and Water Plan, 47 percent of residents have on-site systems. Soil conditions and perched groundwater levels in Homer are not ideal for on-site systems and many are believed to function poorly.

Near-term Priorities

Demand for water will continue to rise as the community grows and as the outlying areas grow, since Homer's water is hauled to residences outside city boundaries. Water conservation measures can help reduce demands on the City's finite supplies, and also reduce demands on the City sewer system and individual septic systems.

Implementation Strategies

1. Provide incentives for water conservation.
2. Support the installation of low flow plumbing fixtures as well as the encouragement of landscaping using natural vegetation that does not require extensive irrigation.
3. Determine and plan for some limited near-term sewer system improvements that include sewer system main repair and rehabilitation for reduction of infiltration.
4. Enact an inflow reduction program.
5. Identify an additional water source for use in the next 10 to 20 years. An important consideration is that the location of any new source could have implications for land use development in Homer. For instance, developing a source in a new location could induce growth into new areas served by the water line.
6. Enact a better cost-share plan for the extension of water and sewer services.

Long-term Needs

The sewer system is judged to have adequate capacity to meet projected needs and does not require any major improvements.

Objective D: PORT & HARBOR—Continue to improve the infrastructure and services of the Port and Harbor to improve its position as an important regional port and harbor facility.

Current Status

The City of Homer owns and operates much of the land and associated facilities on the Spit. As of 2007, the Port and Harbor Department manages and maintains the Homer Small Boat Harbor with approximately 1,000 boat stalls, the Pioneer Dock where the US Coast Guard and Alaska State Ferry moor, the commercial Fish Dock which processes over 20 million pounds of commercial fish annually, the Ice Production Plant which produces several thousand tons of ice, the Fish Grinding Facility, and the Deep Water Dock. The department operates as an Enterprise Fund financially supported by user fees.

The Port and Harbor facilities are a critical component to Homer's economy. The Small Boat Harbor is the largest single basin facility in Alaska. Commercial fishing is a large, but often unseen enterprise. Many of the boats that operate out of the Homer port are million dollar businesses; however, their fish is either landed elsewhere or quickly moved out of town. Only a small percentage is processed locally. Sport fishing is also a large economic generator in Homer, playing a key role in tourism activities. A multitude of charter companies are based out of the Small Boat Harbor. The Port and Harbor is engaged in a delicate balancing act of trying to accommodate the needs of many user groups. Land must be maintained for marine related industrial activities which support the fishing industry and freight and shipping activities, while providing space for recreational and tourist activities.

The Port and Harbor employs 18 staff members, both full and part-time. Their 2007 budget was \$3,347,344.

Near-term Priorities

Implementation Strategies

Many of the projects outlined in Homer's Capital Improvement Program 2007-2012 relate to Port and Harbor activities. Five of the top fifteen CIP priorities are Port and Harbor Projects.

1. Expand the Deep Water Dock. A concept study was completed in 2004 and Phase 1, proposed in the CIP, would widen the existing dock to 88 feet and increase overall length to 744 feet. A driving factor for this dock improvement is to create a facility that can better receive cargo thereby reducing freight costs for goods coming to Homer. Currently most freight is trucked in from Anchorage.
2. Create an East Boat Harbor. This new facility would augment the existing harbor which is essentially full. Boats can be accommodated only by "rafting," tying boats to other boats. In some instances crabbing boats are tied up three deep to the dock. Operating in this manner increases liability for the department and reduces the life of the docks.
3. Pave and improve Freight Dock Road. The improved road is intended to provide upgraded access to the Deep Water Dock and encourage development of a 30-acre marine industrial area on the Spit. In particular, the Port and Harbor would like to attract additional custom fish processing.

4. Address general harbor maintenance and erosion control.
5. Complete the Homer Spit Trail and harbor pathways. The Spit Trail currently stops at the lagoon and if extended along the harbor rim will be a great asset to help link Spit activities together.
6. Improve and provide additional restrooms along the Spit trail. All of these items are outlined in the CIP top 15 list.

Long-term Needs

Many of the Port and Harbor's long-term needs would be best addressed in a Spit Master Plan, as described in the Land Use Chapter, Goal 4, Objective C.

Implementation Strategies

Parking is one the major issues for the Spit. There is not enough parking for all current uses; in the longer term parking for the Spit and Port/Harbor will have to be addressed. Efforts have been made to pave lots and require payment. Additionally, the idea of a Spit shuttle has been discussed; however, little progress has occurred.

1. Upgrade or replace the harbormaster office. The harbormaster office has reached the end of its intended lifespan and is in need of an upgrade.
2. Monitor the changing characteristics of the Homer Spit. The Spit is critical to Port and Harbor operations and private land owners and is susceptible to land loss. Hazard and environmental concerns relating to the Spit are challenging to address. The Spit subsided a great deal during the 1964 earthquake; in the event of another major earthquake Spit subsidence remains a great concern.

Objective E: PARKS & RECREATION – Improve and provide quality parks and recreation facilities to respond to current and anticipated demand.

Homer residents place high value on parks and recreational facilities and activities. Parks and Recreation programs enhance the quality of life for residents and benefit the local economy. City facilities that provide recreational opportunities include several parks, a trail system, playing fields, and campgrounds. The school district, community schools, and other parties offer a range of additional programs and facilities. As Homer continues to grow, both in size and as a tourist destination, demands for parks and recreation will grow. The City of Homer recognizes the value of these facilities and activities as an important asset to the community and supports their continued improvement. *See Parks, Recreation and Culture Chapter for specific recommendations.*

Objective F: STORM WATER CONTROL – Provide for current and future needs and explore options for expanding the quality and extent of storm water control.

Current Status

The majority of Homer's storm water is channeled and drained through an open ditch system. Only the downtown and Old Town area have storm drain lines, specifically along Pioneer Avenue and Main Street. In total, the City maintains approximately 3 miles of storm sewer and associated catch basins. There is one oil/water separator facility, at the intersection of Bartlett and Pioneer Avenue.

The State Department of Transportation maintains drainage along state roadways. Homer's stormwater outflow is located just north of Bishop's Beach. This outflow has not yet reached the threshold which would require monitoring the quality of discharge under NPDES rules.

Currently, drainage needs for large parcel development are dealt with individually, by the developer. Homer's design criteria manual for subdivisions does not address on-site storm water management. However, in the city's denser commercial districts, the zoning code does have provisions requiring developers to prepare storm water management plans. In some recent subdivision developments, property has been dedicated for retention ponds and related facilities due to wetland permit requirements from the Army Corp of Engineers.



Near-term Priorities

The City should develop a long-range plan for stormwater drainage to foster appropriate development and meet increasing federal and state water quality standards. The plan should set a strategy for most efficiently meeting city stormwater needs, incorporating on-site infiltration when possible.

Implementation Strategies

1. Develop stormwater design criteria for large parcel development.
2. Adopt area wide stormwater management standards.
3. Encourage the utilization of green infrastructure mapping as a means to identify and retain natural drainage channels and important wetlands, which serve drainage functions.
4. Enhance stream channels with the creation of ponds, wetlands, and different habitats that allow for trail systems, water bird habitat, overflow surface water and stormwater collection.
5. Encourage on-site stormwater infiltration management.

Long-term Needs

Currently significant areas of the city are not served by storm drains. As the amount and intensity of development increases, the percentage of community covered by impervious surfaces will grow and the City will need to develop new, more active stormwater management strategies. Homer's topography lends itself to drainage issues with highly erodible bluffs and slopes. An effective strategy is to use on-site stormwater infiltration management techniques coupled with limiting development on steep slopes. Under this approach, future subdivisions and other large development projects will retain open space within their boundaries for stormwater collection and infiltration. In addition, development will need to limit impervious areas such as paved driveways and paths to reduce the quantity of runoff and provide more areas for infiltration. Increased reliance on on-site management of stormwater is consistent with the general intent of federal water quality standards, focused on reducing non-point source pollution. Open space areas for stormwater infiltration should become part of Homer's green infrastructure network and could double as space for recreation, community gardens, and similar amenities.

Objective G: LIBRARY– Maintain Homer’s first-class library facility and continuously build on the high-quality library services to meet current and projected needs.

Current Status

A new Homer Public Library opened on September 16, 2006. The building resulted from a collaborative, communitywide effort to raise needed funds. Since 2002, a citizens group spearheaded by the Library Advisory Board and Friends of the Homer Public Library lead a capital campaign which raised millions of dollars through private donations, grant funds, legislative appropriations, and city assistance. The outcome is a premier, environmentally friendly, certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) facility to better serve Homer’s needs.



The Homer Public Library is one of the four largest public libraries in the KPB and serves the greater Homer area. In 2008, the library hosted 133,186 visitors. The facility is approximately 17,000 square feet and houses about 35,000 volumes with a capacity for up to 47,000. The library is a wireless internet access site and offers 20 public computer terminals with Internet access. The library employs five full-time staff. Numerous volunteers support library operations and programs such as Story Hour.

Resources to support the library come from the City’s general fund, the majority of which is from sales and property tax revenue, and extensive local support from the Friends of the Library. The Friends of the Library is a nonprofit organization which provides resources for many library programs as well as funding support for capital improvements.

The 2007 library budget for the City of Homer was \$755,688, approximately 3.5% of the City’s overall budget.

Near-term Priorities

Completion of the new Homer Public Library has lead to increased interest in programs and demand for services.

Implementation Strategies

The new facility allows for this growth; however, additional staff would be helpful. Current staff levels are able to respond to customers at the front desk, but additional staff could assist with the behind the scenes backlog in processing of books and materials.

Long-term Needs

The recent facility expansion is intended to provide capacity to serve projected demand for 20 years. Following this period, another expansion may be warranted. The current site has room for expansion if it becomes necessary. In addition, as technologies continue to change, the library will need to respond.

The library's location near highly used community facilities (bank, post office, grocery store) in the heart of Homer is ideal. Pedestrians can access the library and these facilities easily on an existing trail network.

Implementation Strategies

1. The library should continue to be involved in the planning for the Homer town center to ensure that it will be linked to this important community project and that any future expansion needs are addressed.

Objective H: ADMINISTRATION – Provide adequate administrative services and associated facilities to meet current and anticipated future administration demands on the City of Homer.

Current Status

The City Manager's office is responsible for overall administration including property, personnel, budget and finance, planning and enforcement of ordinances, as well as implementation of policy directed by the City Council. The offices of the City Manager, City Clerk, Planning, Library, Community Schools, and Personnel comprise the City's administrative services. The Finance Department is a stand-alone department. The Public Works Department is located separately from the City's administrative offices; however, it also provides essential administrative functions.

City sales tax, transfers from other funds, and real property taxes make up of the majority of City revenue. The 2007 City budget is based upon a 4.5 mill property tax rate. The City levies a sales tax of 4.5 percent.

Future Needs

Implementation Strategies

The present City Hall building on East Pioneer Avenue has served the City well for several decades. The building houses the City's administrative services, as well as the mayor's office, and the City Council chambers. A new City Hall is required to respond to increased staffing needs. The City Hall will be located in the proposed town center development area in order to help move that project forward and further improve the Homer central business district.

Present and anticipated population growth of the city will result in the need for an increase in municipal staff and resources to meet public service demands, particularly if the City expands its boundaries through annexation.

GOAL 2: Seek collaboration and coordination with other service providers and community partners to ensure important community services are improved upon and made available.

Objective A: SOLID WASTE – Continue to reduce waste and lessen the impact on the environment. Establish and maintain a City recycling program. See also Chapter 9.

The Homer Baling/Landfill Facility (HBF) is located at Mile 169.3 Sterling Highway, north of town. It is owned and operated by the Borough. The HBF receives municipal solid waste,

construction/demolition, land-clearing waste, wastewater treatment plant sludge from the City of Homer, and recyclables.

Currently the HBF municipal solid waste cell has 5 to 7 years remaining life. The construction and demolition cell has at least 15 years of space available. Refuse collection is taken care of by private business and individual residents who haul their own waste to the landfill. Recycling of a variety of consumables is available in Homer; specifically, newspaper, corrugated cardboard/brown grocery bags, glass, aluminum cans, mixed paper, tin cans, plastic milk jugs, used oil, and batteries. Several local private stores offer recycling drop-off. In addition, some individual facilities such as the Islands and Ocean Visitor Center offer recycling receptacles alongside rubbish bins.

While current solid waste services are adequate to meet current and expected near-term demands, there has been community consensus around the need to reduce waste and increase recycling efforts.

Implementation Strategies

1. Demonstrate City leadership by encouraging recycling within municipal departments.
2. Develop or partner with other organizations to create a public education program to encourage recycling within the community.
3. Work with the Borough to develop future strategies for waste disposal.

Objective B: ARTS & CULTURE – Sustain and support Homer’s robust arts and cultural traditions.

Homer has a tradition of fostering arts and cultural activities. These greatly contribute to quality of life and provide economic benefits to the community. *See Economic Vitality Chapter for specific recommendations.* While the City is not the primary party responsible for continuing and expanding cultural activities, it can be a helpful partner.

Community comments expressed during the process of preparing this plan showed strong support for supporting arts and cultural opportunities in Homer. *See Parks, Recreation & Culture Chapter for specific recommendations.*

Objective C: VISITOR SERVICES – Provide and sustain public services and facilities to serve visitors.

Out-of-town visitors are a major local economic generator. Many of the facilities and amenities described in this plan reveal reasons for Homer’s rich tourist activity. Visitor attractions such as the Islands and Ocean Visitor Center, activities, and events abound in Homer. The Homer Chamber of Commerce offers a Visitor Information Center at 201 Sterling Highway. The City supports the Chamber’s visitor activities with approximately \$30,000 annually for tourism marketing. On a broad level, the City works to maintain and improve the attractiveness of the community as a visitor destination through land use, infrastructure, and circulation policies; for example by improving the character of downtown and the Spit. These policies are described elsewhere in this plan. *See Economic Vitality Chapter for specific recommendations relating to visitor services.*

Objective D: HEALTH CARE – Support and encourage health care to provide exceptional cradle to grave services and keep pace with the changing needs of Homer’s community. See *Economic Vitality Chapter*.

Current Status

Homer offers a range of health care service options. Homer has a major hospital facility, South Peninsula Hospital, which is Borough-owned, operated by a nonprofit management board, and part of a borough service area. Homer also has a state funded Public Health Center. This nurse-run facility offers immunizations, health education programs, and prenatal programs. Seldovia Village Tribe also operates a health care facility. South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services, Inc. is Homer’s primary outpatient and emergency services provider of mental and behavioral health service and support.



Implementation Strategies

1. Support activities that increase the ability to respond to intensive behavioral health needs of the community, including residential needs for behavioral health consumers of all ages, by looking at the possibility of developing a residential behavioral health facility, particularly for children and youth, located in Homer.
2. Support the continuation of KBC’s course and degree programs in the allied health occupations, to provide a trained labor force for health care facilities. As Homer’s population ages, there will be increased demands on the health care system and a need for more trained health care professionals.
3. Continue to support the South Peninsula Hospital via the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the South Kenai Hospital Service Area.

Future Needs

1. Support increased local educational opportunities in health care fields, including KBC, that create opportunities for residents to fill these medical industry jobs. See *Economic Vitality Chapter*.

Objective E: SENIOR SERVICES – Keep Homer an attractive place to live for people at all stages of life by providing and supporting public services and facilities to serve the senior population.

Current Status

Many features make Homer attractive to this growing segment of the city’s population, including a relatively concentrated downtown with some walkable areas, senior center, library, university, hospital, doctors, and other health care providers. The community has an effective, active nonprofit agency which provides services to Homer’s seniors.

Implementation Strategies

1. Retain attractiveness as a community that appeals to all ages, from youth through retirement.
2. Effectively respond to the shifting age of the population and Homer's popularity as a retirement and visitor destination.
 - a. Require that all public facilities be accessible by senior citizens and individuals with disabilities.
 - b. Provide amenities and access for seniors in public facilities developed by the City.
 - c. Encourage and/or create incentives that encourage private businesses to make every effort to provide and/or improve accessibility for the senior population.
3. The city, through its land use decisions, will continue to improve the walkability of the downtown core to make the community more habitable and friendly for seniors and for those with disabilities. *See Land Use Chapter.*

Objective F: YOUTH SERVICES – Enhance year-round opportunities for youth to be stimulated and engaged in safe, fun, healthy activities.

Implementation Strategies

1. Promote a healthy lifestyle by increasing activities available for youth. Providing a range of activities and programs in Homer improves the physical, mental, and social health of the community.
2. Support the efforts of Homer organizations that offer a variety of programs for youth. The City supports community-based efforts to increase and maintain opportunities for all citizens to build their physical, emotional, and intellectual strengths.
3. Encourage efforts to remove barriers to youth participation. *See Parks, Recreation and Culture Chapter for specific recommendations.*

Objective G: EDUCATION – Provide high-quality education in Homer and enhance and sustain lifelong learning opportunities.

Current Status

The City of Homer partners with the Borough to use school facilities for the Community Schools programs in which school buildings are used to provide recreational, educational, social, and cultural activities to the entire community after school hours and in the summer. School enrollment for Homer and the entire borough has been declining in recent years, with attendant loss of programs.

Kachemak Bay Campus provides postsecondary education, continuing education, professional development, and vocational training to Homer residents. The Homer campus is poised for growth. The University received \$2.5 million in the 2007 State Capital Budget to acquire and remodel the Homer City Hall. The purchase of Homer's City Hall and the consolidation of KBC in a centralized location will allow KBC to strengthen programs and offerings. Specifically, the college would like to expand and bolster art education, marine biology, allied health opportunities, and to offer technical

and career vocational training. There is a community consensus that KBC expansion would lead to widespread economic and cultural benefits for the area. Development of student housing will allow KBC to attract students to Homer, thereby promoting Homer as a “college town.” The Economic Vitality Chapter, (Goal 5, Objective B) identifies specific actions to support Homer’s post-secondary educational system.

Homer offers additional educational opportunities to both residents and visitors through various nonprofit agencies and has become a popular destination for seminars and learning programs. For instance, many marine related educational programs are offered through the Alaska Islands and Ocean Visitor Center which is the headquarters for both the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. The Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies also offers a broad menu of educational programs attracting participants from across the state.

Implementation Strategies

1. Continue to partner and work to support efforts of the Kenai Peninsula School District.
2. Monitor state education funding if school enrollment continues to decline.
3. Continue active support of the expansion of the KBC.

Objective H: Promote renewable and clean energy. *See also Chapter 9.*

1. Encourage energy utilities to seek renewable sources to meet Homer’s future energy needs.
2. Promote the decentralization of energy production by creating a legal framework for the development of on-grid private systems in collaboration with local energy providers.

GOAL 3: Encourage the broader community to provide community services and facilities by supporting other organizations and entities to develop community services.

Implementation Strategies

In many communities there is disconnect between the services and facilities area residents would like the City to provide and the capacity for providing those programs with current City resources. Homer has the benefit of at least 50 nonprofit entities operating within its borders. Supporting their successes and partnering when possible will only improve City operations.

1. Continue to work with residents and businesses to better understand community priorities, and to the extent possible, find resources to meet these needs.
2. Continue to work with citizen groups and nonprofit organizations which play a large role in providing desired services in Homer.

Objective A: Increase the City’s capacity to provide and expand community services. Improve the synergy between the City and other community partners.

Implementation Strategies

Residents and businesses will continue to have high expectations for the public services and facilities available in the community. To meet the needs and desires of Homer residents, a strong partnership between the City and community partners will help to bring services and projects to the community beyond what the City can achieve on its own. The following actions will strengthen this partnership and expand the capacity to provide services:

1. Increase the net revenues coming into the city, through managing costs and expanding the community's tax base.
2. Improve the ability of the City to provide technical assistance for community organizations seeking to expand their services. The primary steps the City can take to help these organizations is to provide information regarding possible sources of funding for community service projects and to express support for specific fund raising efforts by writing letters when requested and through this comprehensive plan.
3. Continue to create incentives for other organizations to take a lead in community services by providing small matching grants, limited technical assistance, and the option to use city land or facilities at reduced rates.
4. Support the efficient use of existing community facilities. Partner with organizations to keep city facilities operating beyond normal hours.
5. Create an environment in which Homer's robust nonprofit community can thrive and respond to needs not met by the City.

Public Services and Facilities Implementation Table

Project	Timeframe			Primary Responsibility
	Near Term	Mid Term	Longer Term	
<i>Fire & Emergency Services</i>				
▪ Construct new building and training facility.		x		City
▪ Develop satellite facility on Skyline Drive.	x			City
▪ Hire Fire Marshal/Code Examiner.	x			City
▪ Increase volunteer core to 50 people.		x		City, community volunteers
▪ Increase marine fire/emergency response capabilities.		x		City, Port & Harbor merchants & patrons
▪ Obtain better equipment.		x		City
▪ Increase training opportunities.		x		City
▪ Update Emergency Operations & Hazard Plans.			x	City
<i>Police Department</i>				
▪ Hire dedicated Homer Spit Officer for summer months.	x			City
▪ Address retention and recruitment issues, and retain a competitive compensation package.	x			City

▪ Implement a reasonable vehicle replacement plan.		x		City
▪ Construct new building.		x		City
Water & Sewer				
▪ Institute a water conservation program and provide incentives.	x			City
▪ Implement the Water Sewer Master Plan	x	x	x	City
▪ Construct water and sewer lines to developed properties as demand warrants.			x	City
▪ Develop new water source.			x	City
▪ Sewer main repair and rehabilitation for reduction of infiltration.	x			City
▪ Enact a Sewer inflow reduction program.	x			City
▪ Identify an additional water source.		x		City
▪ Enact a better cost-share plan for the extension of water and sewer services.	x			City
Port & Harbor				
▪ Develop a Homer Spit Master Plan.	x			City See land use
▪ Complete the Port and Harbor projects listed in Homer's current CIP.	x	x	x	City
▪ Create an East Boat Harbor (CIP)			x	
▪ Address general harbor maintenance and erosion control	x			
▪ Complete Homer Spit trail and harbor pathways(CIP)	x			
▪ Improve restrooms along the spit trail (CIP)			x	
▪ Build new Port & Harbormaster facility	x			
▪ Address parking/develop spit shuttle	x			City see land use
▪ Monitor erosion of Spit.	x			City, Spit merchants
Solid Waste				
▪ Improve recycling among City departments.	x			City
▪ Develop or partner with an organization to create a public education program to inspire recycling within the community.	x			City, community
▪ Work with the Borough on developing future strategies for waste disposal.	x			City, Borough
Library				
▪ Increase staff to respond to increased demand.		x		City
Administration				
▪ Build new City Hall and Plaza.		x		City
Senior Services				
▪ Improve accessibility for senior citizens. Require all Public facilities be accessible for seniors and	x			City

individuals with disabilities.				
▪ The City will provide amenities and access for seniors in public facilities developed by the city.		x		City
▪ Encourage or create incentives to encourage private businesses to provide or improve accessibility to the senior population.		x		City, business community
<i>Youth Services</i>				
▪ Provide a range of activities and programs to benefit youth.		x		City
▪ Support other organizations' efforts to offer youth programs.	x			City
▪ Encourage youth participation and remove barriers to participation.		x		City
<i>Education</i>				
▪ Continue to partner and work to support efforts of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.			x	City, KPB
▪ Monitor state education funding if school enrollment continues to decline.			x	City, Parents
▪ Continue active support of the expansion of the KBC.	x			City
<i>Storm Water</i>				
▪ Develop storm water design criteria for large parcel development.	x			City
▪ Adopt area-wide storm water management standards.		x		City
▪ Encourage the utilization of green infrastructure mapping as a means to identify and retain natural drainage channels and important wetlands, which serve drainage functions.	x			City
▪ Encourage on-site storm water infiltration management.	x			City
▪ Enhance stream channels with the creation of ponds, wetlands, and different habitats that allow for trail systems, water bird habitat, overflow surface water, and storm water collection.			x	City
▪ See land use section for recommendations for drainage standards, (e.g., limit impervious areas).	x			City
<i>Community Capacity</i>				
▪ Continue to work with residents and businesses to better understand community priorities, and to the extent possible, find resources to meet these needs.	x			City
▪ Continue to work with citizen groups and nonprofit organizations which play a large role in providing desired services in Homer.	x			City, Community

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the net revenues coming into the city, through managing costs and expanding the community's tax base. 	x			City, Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the ability of the City to provide technical assistance for community organizations seeking to expand their services. Provide information regarding possible sources of funding for community service projects. Express support for specific fund raising efforts by writing letters when requested and through this comprehensive plan. 		x		City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to create incentives for other organizations to take a lead in community services by providing small matching grants, limited technical assistance, and the option to use City land or facilities at reduced rates. 		x		City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the efficient use of existing community facilities. Partner with organizations to keep city facilities operating beyond normal hours. 	x			City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create an environment in which Homer's robust nonprofit community can thrive and respond to needs not met by the City. 			x	City

Homer Public Library Advisory Board

2014 Strategic Plan

Mission Statement

The Homer Library Advisory Board is formed pursuant to Chapter 1.48 of the Homer Municipal Code to advise and to advocate for the needs of the Homer Public Library.

Library Advisory Board Values

The members of the Library Advisory Board (LAB) will represent the LAB and will advocate for the needs of the Homer Public Library (HPL) to the public, library staff, city government and the city council.

The LAB will develop a unified vision and message that embodies the HPL.

The LAB will collaborate with stakeholders, library staff and city staff on a comprehensive plan to establish a library that meets 21st century standards.

The LAB will encourage communication and collaboration between and among community, staff, volunteers, policy makers and the media around the needs of the HPL.

Library Advisory Board Goals

To advocate for the needs of the HPL, the staff, patrons and activities.

To recommend increased funding for books to modernize and broaden the collection.

To communicate the strengths and assets of the HPL to the public and to policy makers.

To establish operational policies in collaboration with library staff and recommend those policies to the Mayor, City Manager and City Council for action.

To advise the Library Director on the development of budget priorities as well as to recommend additional sources of funding.

To advocate for adequate staffing to address the changing needs of the HPL including supporting the Library Director's request for seasonal, temporary help.

To strengthen ties with advocacy groups, most especially, the Friends of the HPL.

To identify safety and other facility issues and to bring them to the attention of the Library Director and the appropriate city staff.

To recommend that the City's Economic & Community Development Coordinator assist the Library Director in identifying potential sources of revenue and seeking said grants.

To develop with library staff, the Friends and other interested stakeholders a comprehensive plan for the HPL that includes a vision of where the library will be in 5 years.

To develop an ongoing media campaign to disseminate and promote the Library's vision.

Attend City Council meetings.

Library Advisory Board Priorities:

(Recommend that the LAB prioritize goals into immediate and long-term.)

At the December 10, 2013 Special Meeting the following was prioritized:

1. Correct the lack of drainage and subsequent icing in the handicapped parking area.
2. Writing and Updating Policies –
 - Collection Development Policy which includes the Selection Policy
 - Internet and Security Policy
 - Social Media Policy
3. Strengthen ties with Advocacy groups, especially the Friends of the Homer Public Library.
4. To advocate and support the Library Director's request for seasonal, temporary help.
5. To develop with library staff, the Friends and other interested stakeholders a comprehensive plan for the HPL that includes a vision of where the library will be in 5 years.

2014 HOMER CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE

It is the goal of the Board to have a member speak regularly to the City Council at council meetings. There is a special place on the council's agenda specifically for this. After Council approves the consent agenda and any scheduled visitors it is then time for staff reports, commission reports and borough reports. That is when you would stand and be recognized by the Mayor to approach and give a brief report on what the Board is currently addressing, projects, events, etc. **A Board member is scheduled to speak and has a choice at which council meeting they will attend. It is only required to attend one meeting during the month that you are assigned.** However, if your schedule permits please feel free to attend both meetings. Remember you cannot be heard if you do not speak.

The following Meeting Dates for City Council for 2014 is as follows:

January 13, 27 2014	<u>Phil Gordon</u>
February 10, 24 2014	_____
March 10, 24 2014	_____
April 14, 28 2014	<u>Nan Porter</u>
May 12, 27 (Tues)	_____
June 9, 23 2014	<u>Nan Porter</u>
July 21 2014	_____
August 11, 25 2014	_____
September 8, 22 2014	_____
October 13, 27 2014	_____
November 24, 2014	_____
December 8, 2013	_____

Please review and if you will be unable to make the meeting you are tentatively scheduled for please discuss.

PLEASE NOTE: When additional Board members are appointed the proposed schedule above will reflect those added members.



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: MAYOR WYTHE AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

THRU: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

DATE: JUNE 4, 2014

SUBJECT: AMEND THE CIRCULATION POLICY TO UPDATE LANGUAGE AND CIRCULATION DETAILS ON ITEMS

Background

Following is the excerpt from the June 3, 2014 regular meeting minutes on the recommended updates from Library staff to the Circulation Policy in addition to what the Board reviewed and approved at the May 6, 2014 regular meeting.

PENDING BUSINESS

B. Amendments to the Circulation Policy for General Updates to Language and Circulation Details on Items

Chair Gordon read the title into the record.

Ms. Dixon explained that last month they saw the amendments to the fees adding music. These changes address the updates and general housekeeping to the language plus increasing the loan limit.

There was a brief discussion regarding the difference in Book and Book 3 categories; increasing to a standard three week period for everything; and removing the actual fines or fees from the policy level since realistically policies are only updated periodically where fines and fees are updated or changed on an annual basis.

Chair Gordon requested a motion to approve the circulation policy amendments.

PORTER/SMITH - SO MOVED.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Recommendation: Approve the request to amend the Homer Public Library Circulation Policy.



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(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: MAYOR WYTHE AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

THRU: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

DATE: JUNE 4, 2014

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO DEDICATE AND RENAME A GARDEN LOCATED AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Background

Following is the excerpt from the June 3, 2014 regular meeting minutes on a request to dedicate and rename a garden at the Homer Public Library.

NEW BUSINESS

B. Recommendation on a Request to Dedicate a Garden

Ms. Dixon provided some personal experience with Mr. Larson and the gardens.

Ms. Porter commented in favor of the request to rename the garden.

Chair Gordon inquired if she was ready to make a motion.

Mr. Strobel was not opposed to the request but asked what the Rotary was and why they were involved with City property. Ms. Krause provided a brief explanation on some things the Rotary does and is involved in. He also inquired if Mrs. Larson was a Rotarian and involved with the garden. Ms. Krause was not positive if she was a Rotarian but knew that she did work in the gardens too.

STROBEL/PORTER -MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO RENAME AND DEDICATE THE ROTARY GARDEN AT THE HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY TO THE PETER LARSON MEMORIAL ROTARY GARDEN.

There was a brief discussion.

VOTE. YES. STROBEL. PORTER, GORDON, SMITH

Motion carried.

Recommendation: Approve the request to dedicate and rename the rotary garden at the Homer Public Library to the Peter Larson Memorial Rotary Garden.



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(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: MAYOR WYTHE AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
THRU: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: JUNE 4, 2014
SUBJECT: CREATING A PERMANENT "STORY TRAIL" ON LIBRARY PROPERTY

Background

Library Staff met with city residents, Ken Castner and Neil Wagner to discuss design for a permanent "story walk" on city property next to the Public Library's Bike Trail. Following is the excerpt from the minutes of the regular meeting of June 3, 2014. A rendition of the proposed "trail" is included.

C. Review and Recommendation on Installation of a Story Walk on Library Property

Chair Gordon read the title into the record. Ms. Dixon provided background information to the Board.

There was a brief discussion regarding funding and the copyright on "Story Walk". It was suggested that they could refer to this as a Story Trail since it was next to one.

This has been before the Public Works Department and the Planning Department with no one opposed. Ms. Dixon confirmed that grant money from the People's Garden could be used on the Story Trail.

STROBEL/PORTER – MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL ON INSTALLING A PERMANENT STORY TRAIL IF FUNDING CAN BE FOUND.

There was a brief discussion on support only if the responsibility for maintenance does not fall on the library staff and funding can be found.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

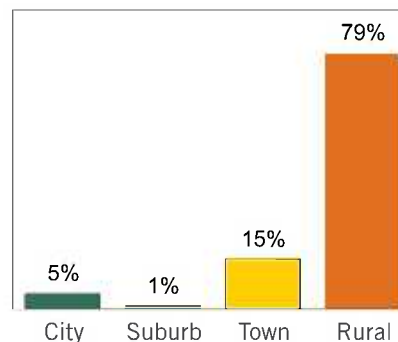
Recommendation:

Approve installation of a Story Trail on Library Property noting exceptions and concerns expressed by Library Advisory Board.

Quick Stats

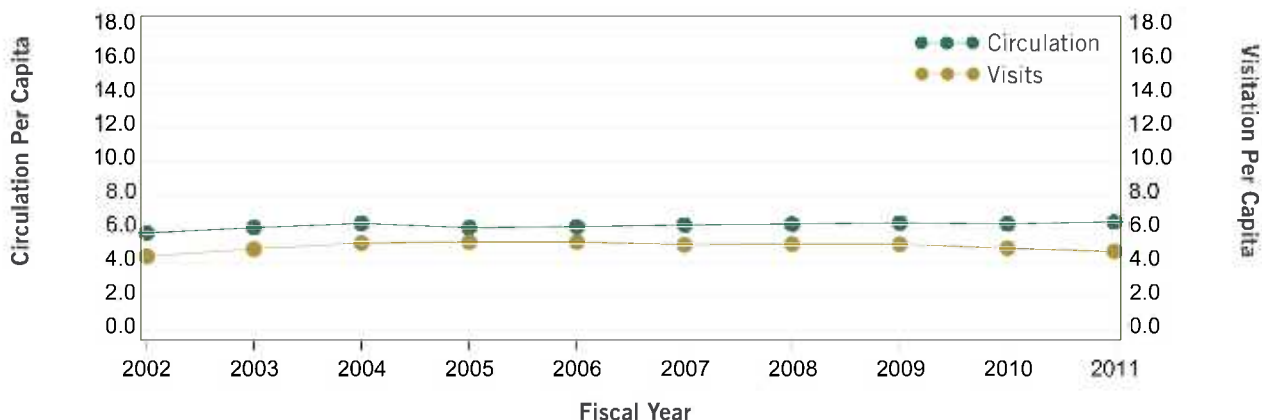
Number of Public Libraries	72
Number of Public Outlets	88
Population Served	717,719
Number of Full Time Equivalent Librarians	117
Number of Full Time Equivalent Staff	306

Public Library Outlets by Locality



Locality based on NCES locale codes.
For additional details see <http://go.usa.gov/YPMW>.

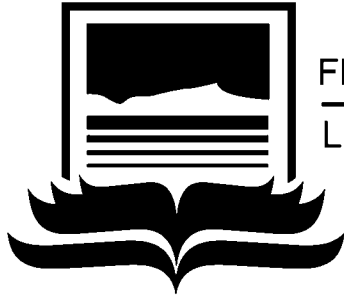
Visitation and Circulation Per Capita (FY 2002-2011)



In Comparison

	FY 2010	FY 2011	% Change	Regional*	National
Services					
Circulation Per Capita	6.28	6.4	▲ 1.93%	8.02	8.14
Visits Per Capita	4.84	4.66	▼ -3.89%	4.88	5.09
Finance					
Expenditures Per Capita	\$46.32	\$44.09	▼ -4.81%	\$35.81	\$35.83
Operating Revenue Per Capita	\$47.70	\$45.94	▼ -3.68%	\$38.29	\$38.09
Resources					
Print Materials Per 1000 Population	3351.85	3164.42	▼ -5.59%	1994.85	2638.27
Public Use Internet PCs Per Capita	1.49	1.27	▼ -14.46%	0.99	1.14

*The Far West region includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington.
For more information about regions see <http://go.usa.gov/gppk>.



FRIENDS OF THE HOMER
LIBRARY

500 Hazel Ave, Homer, AK 99603
P: 907- 435-3195 ~ F: 907-235-3136

News Release
For Immediate Release

Contact: Erin Hollowell, 435-3195
erin@friendshomerlibrary.org

2015 Call for Artists
Artwork Sought for the Homer Public Library

Homer, Alaska, August 12, 2014: Two-dimensional artwork sought for public display at the Homer Public Library. Although the artwork can not be for sale, display at the library is an excellent way for an artist to introduce their work to a wide audience. Artists also have the option of conducting a talk/presentation during the display period for their work. Work is displayed for three months in the Fireplace Reading Area of the library. Deadline for proposals is November 3, 2014. Chosen proposals will be notified by December 1, 2014.

Full Call for Artist information is available at the Homer Public Library or online at <http://friendshomerlibrary.org/art-in-the-library/>.

Please contact Erin at erin@friendshomerlibrary.org if you have questions.

Who: Friends of the Homer Public Library
What: 2015 Call for Art
Where: Homer Public Library
When: Deadline for proposals is November 3, 2014.

#

Friends of the Homer Public Library is a member-supported, non-profit organization that fundraises, advocates, and provides financial support for the Homer Public Library and its programs.

Call to Artists – Public Art at the Homer Public Library

Work Media: Looking for local artists to exhibit two-dimensional work (paintings, prints, collage, photography, etc.) in the Fireplace Reading Room at the Homer Public Library at 500 Hazel Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Exhibit Display Area: Two hanging spaces in the Fireplace Reading Area of the Homer Public Library, 48”x96” and “96x96”. Work does not need to “fill” these spaces. Work may be hung gallery or parlor style.

Entry Requirements: Work may not be for sale at the library. Two-dimensional work only. Artist contact information will be posted. Work should not have been displayed in the Homer community for at least a year prior to your assigned exhibit.

Sample Requirements

1. Email cover letter describing exhibition proposal to erin@friendshomerlibrary.org.
2. Attach digital images of proposed work (actual work to be exhibited, not samples). Images should be presented in JPEG format with image size set to 72 dpi resolution, 600x1000 pixel image size approximately (large enough for good projection quality).
3. Artist Resume including biography, educational background, and exhibition record. Extensive exhibition history is not required of the artist. Looking for established and emerging artists in the Homer Public Library Service Area.

Timeline: Exhibit during 2015, three months starting either in January, April, July, or October

Entries Due: November 3, 2014 at 5pm.

Selection Process: The Community Artwork Selection Panel consists of one member of the Library Advisory Board, one member of the Friends of the Homer Public Library, one member of the Public Arts Committee and the Director of the Homer Public Library. The selection process will be blind, the identity of the artist not included with the work.

Notification to artist: Artists will be notified by December 1, 2014.

Accepted Artwork: Must be ready to hang, either stretched or framed. No unframed, not matted, or otherwise unsupported paper artwork accepted. Fiber arts must be ready to hang from standard hanging equipment. Artists accept all responsibility for the work throughout the exhibit period.

Delivery: Artwork must be delivered one week before scheduled exhibit.

Pickup Artwork by: one week after exhibit is scheduled to end.

Sales: Artwork may not be for sale. Contact information of the artist will be exhibited.

Contact: Erin Hollowell, coordinator of the Friends of the Homer Public Library
erin@friendshomerlibrary.org or 907-491-1001.

CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA

City Manager/
Library Director

ORDINANCE 14-33

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A STATE OF ALASKA PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR FY 2015 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,650.00 FOR BOOKS AND LIBRARY MATERIALS, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS.

WHEREAS, The City submitted an application for the Alaska Public Library Assistance Grant for books and library materials; and

WHEREAS, The State awarded the grant in the amount of \$6,650.00, requiring a local match of \$7,000.00; and

WHEREAS, The match of \$7,000.00 was included in the 2014 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER ORDAINS:

Section 1. The Homer City Council hereby accepts and appropriates a State of Alaska Public Library Assistance Grant in the amount of \$6,650.00 for books and library materials as follows:

Revenue:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
100-030-4507	State of Alaska Public Library Assistance Grant	\$6,650.00

Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to execute the appropriate documents.

Section 3. This is a budget amendment ordinance, is temporary in nature, and shall not be codified.

ENACTED BY THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL this 11th day of August, 2014.

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ATTEST:

[Handwritten signature]

JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

YES: 5
NO: 0
ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0

First Reading: 7/28/14
Public Hearing: 8/11/14
Second reading: 8/11/14
Effective Date: 8/12/14

Reviewed and approved as to form:

[Handwritten signature]

Walt Wrede, City Manager

Date: 8/13/14

CITY OF HOMER

Mary E. Wythe
MARY E. WYTHE, MAYOR

[Handwritten signature]

Thomas F. Klinkner, City Attorney

Date: _____

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WHEREAS, The Homer City Council authorizes and encourages Public Works to bid the two projects separately if they desire.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER ORDAINS:

Section 1. The Homer City Council hereby amends the FY 2014 Operating Budget by appropriating ~~\$35,000~~ **up to \$25,000** from the General Fund / Fund Balance for clearing trees and underbrush on City owned land in the designated Town Center and along the trail from Poopdeck to the library as follows:

Expenditure:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
100-0100	Tree and Brush Clearing	\$35,000 \$25,000

Section 2. **The Homer City Council hereby authorizes and encourages Public Works to bid the two projects separately if they desire.**

Section 23. This is a budget amendment ordinance only, is not permanent in nature, and shall not be codified.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA this ____ day of _____, 2014.

CITY OF HOMER

MARY E. WYTHE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

76 AYES:

77 NOES:

78 ABSTAIN:

79 ABSENT:

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84 First Reading:

85 Public Reading:

86 Second Reading:

87 Effective Date:

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90 Reviewed and approved as to form:

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Walt Wrede, City Manager

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96 Date: _____

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Thomas F. Klinkner, City Attorney

Date: _____

