



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 Agenda Changes/Supplemental Packet

TO: MAYOR CASTNER AND HOMER CITY COUNCIL
FROM: MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK
DATE: JULY 1, 2020
SUBJECT: AGENDA CHANGES AND SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET

Consent Agenda

Ordinance 20-40 An Emergency Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Declaring the Failure of the Woodard Creek Culverts on Fairview Avenue to Constitute an Emergency and Authorizing Emergency Procurement Procedures. City Manager/Public Works Director. Introduction and Public Reading July 1, 2020.

- Memorandum 20-100 from Public Works Director as backup Page 2

Amend the number of Resolution 20-060, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Initiating a Seawall Improvement Special Assessment District for Armor Rock Toe Improvements. City Manager. To Resolution 20-062 to correct a duplicated resolution number. Page 5

New Business

Consideration of City Manager Candidates

- Memorandum 20-099 from City Manager Hiring Advisory Committee Page 8

Memorandum 20-094 from Councilmember Aderhold re: Letter to Governor regarding Development of Homer Specific COVID 19 Mitigation Plan

- Revised Letter to the Governor Page 9
- Written Public Comments Page 11
- Proposed verbiage provided by Councilmembers Evensen and Hansen-Cavasos Page 33

Memorandum from Mayor Regarding Bald Mountain Air Page 35



Memorandum 20-100

TO: City Council
THROUGH: Rick Abboud, Acting, City Manager
FROM: Jan Keiser, PE, JD, Director of Public Works
DATE: July 1, 2020
SUBJECT: Need Funding to Rehabilitate Woodard Creek Culverts

- I. **Issue:** One of the culverts at Woodard Creek, crossing Fairview Avenue, has failed, causing a sinkhole in Fairview Avenue. We have made emergency repairs, but a permanent solution is needed. We have asked the City Council to declare the Fairview Avenue Culvert Failure an emergency, in a separate memorandum and proposed ordinance. In the subject memo, we are identifying two options for making permanent repairs. One option involves sliplining the two existing culverts. The second option involves replacing the existing culverts with a large arch culvert, which would allow the creek to flow naturally; in other words – “daylight” it. We are seeking guidance from Council on its preferred option.

- II. **Background:** On June 19, 2020, we noticed a small hole in Fairview Avenue over Woodward Creek. After investigating the situation, we observed the existing culvert was badly corroded and had separated at a seam, allowing gravel from the road bed to fall into the culvert, creating a sinkhole. We closed the road, dug out the sinkhole, and discovered a massive hole in the Fairview Avenue roadbed. The roadbed gravel had been falling into the culvert and filled it almost 30% full. The culvert metal had so badly corroded that it looked like Swiss cheese. We dug out the worse part of the culvert and replaced it with a “band aid”, but a long term solution is needed.

Time is of the essence because the “band aid” is fragile. A large storm event, laden with high water and debris, could take out the “band aid” and cause one or both existing culverts to fail, before we got the permanent solution in place. If this happened, we would close the road and wait for the permanent fix. There are two options for a permanent solution.

A. Option #1 – Slipline the existing culverts. Approximate cost - \$182,000.

A few years ago, the City rehabilitated a portion of existing storm drain on Bunnell Avenue by using a process called “slip lining”. This involves pulling an inert fiberglass sleeve into the existing storm drain pipe and activating this sleeve with either heat or

ultraviolet light. The fiberglass conforms to the shape of the existing culvert pipe and sets up into a strong, smooth, and durable inner layer. The expected service life on a properly executed installation is 50 years. There was minimal disruption to the public because the road didn't have to be dug up – all the public saw was a truck at one end of the storm drain pushing the fiberglass sleeve into one storm drain manhole and a truck at the other end pulling the sleeve from another manhole.

At that time, there were two contractors that performed this work in the state of Alaska. We contacted these firms to ask if they were willing/able to slip line the Woodard Creek culverts. We discovered the company that did the work on Bunnell Avenue went out of business in March 2020. The only remaining contractor that performs this work is Fawner Corporation. We received a quote from Nicholas Hebnes, Project Manager, at Fawner, to perform the work for both culverts for the price of \$152,000. This quote had numerous exclusions – traffic control, permits, performance bonds and more. We reviewed the list of exclusions to identify the elements, we needed, as a government public works agency, and informed Fawner we could not accept some of their exclusions. We estimate the added costs, to cover specified exclusions, will add another 20% to the quote, thereby increasing the price to \$182,000.

B. Option #2 – Replace the existing culverts with a large arch culvert – approximate cost \$529,610.

Coincidentally, while we were in the process of putting the “band aid” on the existing Woodard Creek culverts, I learned, in discussions with staff and my research of the City’s various planning documents, about the Woodard Creek Watershed Management Plan, promulgated by the Woodard Creek Coalition. This Plan has been incorporated into the 2018 Homer Comprehensive Plan.

I saw that a primary objective of the Woodard Creek Watershed Management Plan was to “daylight” Woodard Creek at Fairview Avenue. If the City was serious about this objective, now would be an ideal time to act on it. To accomplish this objective, we would install a large arch culvert as a “bridge” over Woodard Creek. This would be similar to what was done at Soundview Avenue and Spruceview Avenue. This “bridge” over Fairview Avenue would allow the creek to flow more naturally. Further, it would increase the hydraulic capacity at that location; that is, more water could flow the bridge than what could flow through the culverts, thereby reducing risk of water backing up behind the upstream side of the creek and flooding.

City Engineer Meyer prepared a Conceptual Cost Estimate for installing the large arch culvert. The rough order of magnitude is \$530,000. About 25% of the cost is related to protecting the multiple utilities existing at that location, including: water, sewer, gas and fiber optic cable.

The choice is to (1) spend \$182,400 to fix what’s there and probably forever close the window of opportunity to “day light” the Creek at that location, or (2) make a larger

investment in a construction solution that would allow the creek to flow more naturally; that is daylight it.

III. Funding is available. The City Council, on April 24, 2017, passed Resolution 17-038, which adopted the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails Program (“HART”) Manual. The HART Manual identified a set of nine criteria for projects that may be considered for HART funding. The criteria that would be addressed by the Woodard Creek Rehabilitation Project include:

- Improves life, safety and traffic flow
- Corrects Drainage Problems
- Reduces maintenance costs

There is currently over \$5 million in the HART-Roads Fund that could be used to fund this project.

IV. Proposal: Authorize the City Manager to, as soon as possible, execute a permanent solution for the Woodard Creek Culverts under Fairview Avenue. This would take the form of one of two options.

The first option is to authorize the City Manager to execute a sole source contract with, and issue a notice to proceed to, Frawner Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$182,400, with the work to be performed in accordance with the proposed schedule:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| • Finalize/execute contract | July 2-3, 2020 |
| • Notice to Proceed | July 3, 2020 |
| • Materials arrive | August 15, 2020 |
| • Mobilize on site | August 17, 2020 |
| • Complete work | August 31, 2020 |
| • Demobilize | September 2, 2020 |

This schedule assumes the lead time to acquire the necessary materials is at least 6 weeks, which Frawner advised us it would be.

The second option would be to authorize the City Manager to procure contract(s) for the design and installation of a large arch culvert, as a replacement for the existing twin culverts. The approximate cost of the second option is \$529,610.

V. Action Recommended: That the City Council pass an ordinance identifying its preferred option and authorizing expenditure of appropriate funds from the HART-Roads Fund to execute said option.

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

3 City Manager

4 **RESOLUTION 20-062**

5
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
7 INITIATING A SEAWALL IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT
8 DISTRICT FOR ARMOR ROCK TOE IMPROVEMENTS.
9

10 WHEREAS, At the request of homeowners for the City's assistance, a seawall was
11 engineered and constructed along the Ocean Drive Loop bluff in 2002 as an effort to mitigate
12 erosion impacts to lots along the ocean bluff; and
13

14 WHEREAS, This effort began with the adoption of Resolution 00-89(A) finding a need to
15 create the Ocean Drive Loop Bluff Erosion Control Improvement District; and
16

17 WHEREAS, Over the years regularly occurring winter storms with high tides and high
18 winds have caused major storm damage to the seawall and resulted in the need for continued
19 repair of the wall; and
20

21 WHEREAS, Emergency Ordinance 11-49(S) created the Ocean Drive Loop Special
22 Service District (ODLSSD) to collect tax revenues from benefitted property owners to support
23 maintenance and repair of the seawall, which they own and is located on their properties; and
24

25 WHEREAS, The ODLSSD total tax revenues received from benefitted property owners
26 range from \$25,000 to \$30,000 annually and don't sufficiently cover the increasing seawall
27 maintenance costs; and
28

29 WHEREAS, Emergency repairs to the seawall have to be performed on an emergency
30 basis in order to prevent further damage and remain in compliance with the U.S. Army Corps
31 of Engineers (Corps) permit for the seawall; and
32

33 WHEREAS, In the most recent winter storms the seawall received significant damage
34 that threatens the wall's integrity with 20 of the 85 wood panels needing complete rebuild, and
35 more frequent sink holes behind the wall indicate failure of the fiberglass sheet piling along
36 the toe of the wall; and
37

38 WHEREAS, Upcoming winter storms with high winds and high tides will continue to
39 damage the wall and could potentially result in complete wall failure; and
40

41 WHEREAS, HDR, Inc. provided a technical review of the seawall and provided a Homer
42 Seawall Alternatives Analysis dated June, 27, 2019 that reviewed and provided concepts for

43 improving the structure to reduce maintenance costs and extend the functional life of the
44 structure, and indicated armor rock placement to protect the toe of the wall to be the most
45 practical and cost effective solution which the homeowners who attended the community
46 meetings in 2019 also agreed to as the best approach; and

47
48 WHEREAS, The creation of a Seawall Improvement Special Assessment District (SAD) for
49 the cost of placement of the armor rock was addressed at a worksession held May 18, 2020 and
50 financing for the armor rock may be available through a low interest Alaska Department of
51 Environmental Conservation (ADEC)/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revolving loan;
52 and

53
54 WHEREAS, The ODLSSD, which is responsible for generating maintenance funds
55 through an annually established mil rate, will remain in place to provide for long-term
56 maintenance costs; and

57
58 WHEREAS, HCC 17.02.040(a)(1) authorizes the City Council by a vote of not less than
59 three fourths of its membership to initiate a SAD; and

60
61 WHEREAS, The City Council deems it necessary and in the best interest to initiate a SAD
62 for the benefitted property owners along and within proximity to the seawall as identified in
63 the Seawall Improvement Special Assessment District for Armored Toe Improvement Proposal
64 (Attachment A) to provide necessary improvements to the seawall, pursuant to HCC 17.02.040;
65 and

66
67 WHEREAS, Including properties beyond those directly impacted will provide owners of
68 real property that may be impacted by future seawall failure the opportunity to receive SAD
69 notices, engage in discussion of the improvement plan presented at the meeting of record
70 owners of property in the proposed district, and participate in the objection process if they so
71 choose; and

72
73 WHEREAS, HCC 17.02.040(c) provides that upon the Council's initiation of a SAD the
74 Clerk shall schedule a meeting of record owners of property in the proposed district, and refer
75 the proposed district to the Public Works Director for the preparation of an improvement plan
76 for the district; and

77
78 WHEREAS, The City has been facilitating maintenance of the wall, as required by the
79 Corps permit. If the property owners fail to create the Seawall Improvement SAD, based on the
80 increasing cost of maintenance, the City will not have the financial resources necessary to
81 continue maintaining the wall.

82
83 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:
84



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 20-099

TO: MAYOR CASTNER AND HOMER CITY COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER HIRING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DATE: JUNE 30, 2020
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

The City Manager Hiring Advisory Committee met on Monday, June 29, 2020, at 5:00pm via Zoom webinar to conduct its interview of Rob Dumouchel. Committee members read from a list of 11 pre-scripted questions, in which Dumouchel was not privy to prior to his interview. This process allowed for committee members to evaluate Dumouchel's non-scripted response to each question integral to the city manager's job description and responsibility. Committee members were offered the opportunity to provide question or comment following Dumouchel's response to each individual question. Meeting attendees were allowed the opportunity to provide public comment at the conclusion of the reading of the final interview question.

Throughout the interview, Dumouchel provided thoughtful, substantive, and accurate responses to each question. His demeanor was engaging and articulate. Committee members focused on his well-rounded career and positions held within the city of Eureka's Public Works, Planning and Development Services Departments as key qualifiers, offering suitable workplace experience for transitioning to the role of a city manager.

The committee placed emphasis in Dumouchel's strong degree of familiarity with a maritime community, his work as a research and industry consultant in development of city planning documents for a sustainable commercial fishing community, his understanding of a municipality's efforts in addressing homelessness and drug addiction, and his training in interest based conflict resolution.

Upon completion of the interview questions, the committee considered and deliberated the merits and qualifications of Dumouchel's interview and career versus his lack of prior city manager experience. Ultimately, a motion was introduced, voted on, and unanimously passed in favor of recommending Homer City Council consider Rob Dumouchel for the position of City Manager for the City of Homer.

Recommendation:

Recommend City Council consider Rob Dumouchel for the position of City Manager for the City of Homer



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

(p) 907-235-8121

(f) 907-235-3140

1

2 July 1, 2020

3

4 Office of the Governor

5 P.O. Box 110001

6 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

7

8 Re: Request for State Consultation in Developing Homer-specific COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

9

10 Dear Governor Dunleavy,

11 The City of Homer thanks you and your administration for early implementation of statewide
12 health mandates in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that minimized the number of
13 illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths in Alaska.

14 Since state health mandates were lifted during May as part of the Reopen Alaska Responsibly
15 plan, Homer's City Council and EOC have become alarmed by the outbreak of cases in our city
16 and elsewhere on the southern Kenai Peninsula for which Homer serves as a hub. The southern
17 Kenai Peninsula accounts for 2% of Alaska's population, but carries 10% of the State's COVID-
18 19 cases. Recently, Homer's infection rate was three times that of Anchorage, initiated by an
19 outbreak that followed gatherings during Memorial Day weekend.

20 Homer's EOC has coordinated access to resources to implement mitigation mandates and
21 managed a robust area-wide public information campaign with positive messaging about
22 methods to protect our community. Yet, out of state travelers are entering our city and not
23 abiding by mandates to test and/or quarantine. Large gatherings have occurred in which
24 participants do not maintain physical distance or wear masks. Individuals choose to not wear
25 masks when shopping at local businesses and sometimes become highly agitated when asked
26 by a business to wear a mask.

27 As a first class city, Homer does not have health powers and cannot implement a city-wide
28 mitigation plan on our own. The Department of Health and Social Services has made it clear
29 through the Reopen Alaska Responsibly process that you are willing to work with individual
30 communities to support local mitigation needs.

31 Homer's City Council has two requests for you:

- 32 1. We request that you assign staff to consult with city staff and unified command team
33 members (including South Peninsula Hospital and Homer-based state public health
34 nurses) to develop a Homer-specific mitigation plan that you can issue on our behalf.
35 Such a plan will provide the City of Homer the flexibility to respond when the local
36 situation worsens but State COVID-19 metrics and mitigation approach remain
37 unchanged.
- 38 2. We ask that you issue a statewide mandate for individuals to wear masks in places
39 where the public can gather.

40 As you and your staff have wisely said many times, “open is not over.” In Homer we are open
41 and the pandemic is definitely not over! We want Homer to remain open for our local
42 businesses and our residents and visitors to move around our city as freely as possible while
43 looking out for each other’s health and safety. We need the state’s support in developing a
44 mitigation plan. Together we will make a difference.

45 CITY OF HOMER

46
47
48 _____
Ken Castner, Mayor

49
50 Enclosures: City of Whittier COVID 19 Recovery Plan; City Seward COVID 19 Recovery Plan;
51 Code Orange Rules

52
53 cc: Adam Crum, Commissioner, Department of Health and Social Services
54 Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Services
55 Derotha Ferraro, Public Information Officer, South Peninsula Hospital
56 Lorne Carroll, Public Health Nurse, Homer Public Health Center

57
58

From: [Carssow via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:30:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Kathryn Carssow
Email: kcarssow@live.com
Phone: 907 399-3738
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I support the City Council requesting the governor to assign staff to consult with city staff and unified command team members (including South Peninsula Hospital and Homer-based state public health nurses) to develop a Homer-specific mitigation plan that the governor can issue on our city council's behalf. Such a plan will provide the City of Homer the flexibility to respond to the local impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I feel this action is in the best interest of the health and welfare of Homer residents, including the ability of our business community to recover and to allow people in all sectors of our economy to return to work safely.

Electronic Signature: Kathryn L. Carssow

Submitted on Sunday, June 28, 2020 - 4:30pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42841>

From: [Lewis via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:40:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: David Lewis
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:

Regular Meeting

Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I support and I hope all of you will support Memorandum 20-094. We need to do something so we can open up the economy and right now this is the best way forward.

Thank You

Electronic Signature: David G Lewis

Submitted on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 - 12:40pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42951>

From: [David Duke](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Memorandum-020-094
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:25:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I am sending this email in support of Memorandum 20-094 which requests the city to send a letter to Governor Dunleavy requesting consultation in developing a Homer specific COVID 19 mitigation plan. The city of Homer needs to be prepared to respond to this pandemic. For those who are in favor of local control this makes perfect sense as who knows better how to protect the community than those who live here.

I am a Homer resident and am very concerned that the city be proactive and not reactive to this COVID19 pandemic.

Thank you for supporting this Memorandum 20-094

David Duke



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [Jennifer Edwards](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: CoVid response assistance
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:46:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I just became aware of the July 1st mtg to discuss the possibility of asking for state assistance to create CoVid response measures in Homer.

I am in Anchorage for several days for appointments and am unable to take the time to look for links for each council member's email and to write a thorough letter.

I, obviously wrongly, assumed that the Mayor would have called Gov Dunleavy the day following Dr Zinke's participation in the city council meeting. People certainly should be wearing masks in indoor spaces. I applaud the businesses that have had the good sense to implement this policy. Some folks do not take the pandemic seriously. At one business in town, one that had to lock its doors for a 2 week quarantine, the front desk person was still without a mask one week after they opened their doors.

The only acceptable excuse for not wearing a mask would be a severe health issue and should be verified by a physician. Many of us already have Med-alert type information with us at all times so this is not an infringement on one's privacy or rights.

Thanks for your time.
Jennifer Edwards

From: [Erd via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:57:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Wendy Erd
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Hearing Comments - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing. Letter of support for Homer-specific mitigation plan for Covid 19

Written Testimony:

As a resident of Homer, and a very concerned citizen about the rapid rise in Covid 19 positive cases in our area coupled with many individuals who refuse to wear masks or practice social distancing in public places, I fully support the city council and the major's letter to the governor requesting that he support Homer specific Mitigation Plan developed by our local covid task force and hospital. It is critical that we have power to mandate local safety protocols to keep our town safe and ensure respect from citizens for everyone's health. Wearing a mask is an act of kindness and respect for others, especially for the many vulnerable citizens in our town. Recent science confirms that full compliance with wearing masks and practicing social distancing would knock down new cases and allow us to continue to shop and work.

I am a senior and our family is more vulnerable to serious effects and possible mortality if we were to be infected with Covid 19. We have been fortunate to do our grocery and other shopping curbside so as not to risk going into inside public spaces where many don't wear masks. Over the last several months I have gotten to know our shoppers. They have no choice but to continue to work in less than safe environments. It is not just for my family I urge you to support local health mitigations. It is also for the many workers who keep us going at the risk of their own health.

With deep thanks to our City Council members, the Mayor, city staff and the Health Task Force for your tireless effort to keep us safe.

Sincerely,
Wendy Erd

Electronic Signature: Wendy Erd

Submitted on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 - 10:57am

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42921>

From: [Clyde Boyer and Vivian Finlay](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Support for letter to State and Governor for assistance
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 1:52:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear City Council members,

We support the Council members who propose sending a letter to Governor Dunleavy requesting that the State work with the City of Homer to support mitigation efforts to contain, and reduce the transmission of the COVID-19. We know that Homer has had high rates of infection in comparison with most other areas of the State, and our City cannot "mandate" the use of masks or require public gatherings to be restricted and people to socially distance etc. We should have some safety procedures mandated in Homer, because we have noticed that many people follow no such procedures. We do not go to restaurants or bars or to the Spit businesses because of the lack of safety procedures in place. Essentially most of Homer feels "off limits" to us and to other senior/vulnerable people because of the lack of care for safety that we notice among the "public". This is a sad state of affairs for us, and for many others who we know. We do patronize some of the businesses that we know require masks, social distancing and hand sanitizing.

Thank you.

Vivian Finlay and Clyde Boyer

--

455 Elderberry Drive,
Homer, AK. 99603 USA
(907) 435-3903

June 28, 2020

Dear City Council,

I am writing in support of the letter to the Governor to request the development of a Covid-19 Mitigation Plan for Homer. While I am not a resident of the city, I am affected directly by the decisions that are taking place in Homer and the surrounding areas as it relates to the virus.

Right now the Kenai Peninsula is being inundated with tourists thanks in part to a very successful campaign that the Kenai is Alaska's Playground. Our local businesses really need this revenue, but the health of the workers and the general public is compromised with this influx of people.

Many businesses are struggling in decided if they should require masks, have hand sanitizer and social distancing as it might cause them to loose business. Some have made the independent decision to do so for their own and the communities health even if it causes a loss of revenue and conflicts with some customers It would be easier if there was an area wide plan. Towns that are isolated and cities with influx of fishermen were able to develop local mitigation plans. If we are going to be able to keep our businesses open and our locals healthy we need an overall plan.

Thank you for all your effort on this an on all your other projects.

Janet Fink
Janetfink17@gmail.com

From: [Gonsalves via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 10:18:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Judy Gonsalves
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

Greetings from Bristol Bay. I'm a Homer resident but I'm currently at our Fish Camp in Dillingham for our family commercial fishing set net operation. I am writing to encourage the City Council approve Memorandum 20-094. I appreciate your concern, and in light of the recent surge in positive cases on the lower Kenai Peninsula, I feel that asking for help is justified.

As I run my errands in and around Dillingham, it appears to me that about 95%+ of folks here are wearing masks in public shared spaces, and I'll tell you, it feels like an affirming and confirming action to take in effort to help each other stay healthy.

Again, I support your effort to request state assistance with developing mitigation strategies.

Thank you for your continued hard work.

Electronic Signature: Judy Gonsalves

Submitted on Sunday, June 28, 2020 - 10:18pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42861>

From: [Hal.smith](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Memorandum 20-094
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 9:15:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Mayor Castner and City Council members:

I heartily support the request to the governor for assistance with a specific mitigation plan for the city of Homer and the lower peninsula. The increase in cases of Covid 19 is shocking and will certainly stress the medical community and hospital if it goes unchecked. A recently published peer reviewed article has reinforced previous knowledge that masks prevent the spread of the Corona virus and it is most important that mask wearing in Homer become universal. Only masks and social distancing can slow and prevent spread and avoid another shutdown of travel and business. Please add my name in support of your efforts. Thank you. Hal Smith MD, Emergency Physician.

From: [Hatfield via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:02:06 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Jean Hatfield
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I support Memorandum 20-094 from Councilmember Aderhold re: Letter to Governor Regarding Development of Homer Specific COVID 19 Mitigation Plan. Thank you.

Electronic Signature: Jean Ann Hatfield

Submitted on Monday, June 29, 2020 - 10:02am

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42871>

From: [Judith James](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: COVID 19 mitigation plan
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 11:34:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I support the Council developing a plan for Homer to encourage -- and to mandate where appropriate -- residents and visitors follow CDC and Alaska State recommendations for reducing the risk and spread of the novel coronavirus in our community.

Best Wishes in this important and difficult endeavour
Judith James
40951 China Poot Street

From: [Kaufmann via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:09:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Peter Kaufmann
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:

Special Meeting (if scheduled)

Wed, 07/01

Public Hearing Comments - Citizens may comment on items scheduled for public hearing. Developing Homer COVID 19 Mitigation Plan

Written Testimony:

As a resident of Homer I am very concerned about the rapid rise in Covid 19 positive cases in our area. This coupled with many individuals who refuse to wear masks or practice social distancing in public place all of us at greater risk, especially those whose jobs require public interaction on a regular basis.

I fully support the city council and the major's letter to the governor requesting that he support Homer specific Mitigation Plan developed by our local covid task force and hospital. It is critical that we have power to mandate local safety protocols to keep our town safe. Science confirms that full compliance with wearing masks and practicing social distancing would knock down new cases and allow us to continue to shop, work and live as normally as possible.

Electronic Signature: peter kaufmann

Submitted on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 - 12:09pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42941>

From: [Raymond via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:11:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Lani (Lynda) Raymond
Email: lanibirder@gmail.com
Phone: 9073999477
Residency: Non-City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I urge the Council to vote to ask Governor Dunleavy to assign staff to work with Homer City officials and the medical professionals here in Homer in order to create a plan that will respond effectively to the increasing number of Covid-19 cases that we are seeing in our community.

Nothing is more important than being able to deal with this menace that is upon us now. And if we do not take some major steps soon, it may be too late.

Electronic Signature: Lani (Lynda) Raymond

Submitted on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 - 7:11pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42981>

From: [Lau via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:55:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Fred Lau
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

My comments are directed towards Memorandum 20-094. While I agree with the Memorandum and the letter to the Governor, it should have been written and forwarded a month ago. Sending a letter to the Governor now and then working to develop a plan, if the Governor agrees, puts us at least another two weeks behind. Instead, the letter to the Governor should request that he institute a mandate requiring the wearing of face coverings in public indoor spaces in Homer, including all businesses. This should specifically state that employees at businesses must wear face masks or any other material covering their mouth and nose at all times while at work. Leading experts, including those in the federal government, indicate a covering not only protects others but also helps to protect the individual from getting the virus. The last few days we have been lucky but look at the situation in Seward. That could just as easily be Homer. Let's get ahead of the curve instead of behind it, which is where we are now.

Electronic Signature: Fred Lau

Submitted on Monday, June 29, 2020 - 1:55pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42891>

From: [Doug Meeker](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Covid 19 mitigation
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:31:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I feel that at this time masks should be required in all public places where a safe distance cannot be maintained. It is disrespectful to not wear a mask and risk infecting others !

Sincerely Douglas Meeker, resident since 1978

From: [Munns via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:40:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Linda Munns
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:

Regular Meeting

Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I am writing in support of Memorandum 20-094 and the letter to the Governor requesting a Homer specific Covid 19 mitigation plan. Covid-19 is on the rise nation-wide and scientific evidence proves that wearing masks in public places is the best way to stop the spread. Refusal by many in Homer to comply with this simple, perhaps even life-saving measure requires intervention and a mandate for the health and safety of all. Please support a mask mandate. Thank you for your service.

Electronic Signature: Linda Munns

Submitted on Monday, June 29, 2020 - 1:40pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42881>

From: [Murdock via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Saturday, June 27, 2020 11:24:53 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Karen Murdock
Email:
Phone:
Residency: Non-City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:
Dear City Council Members and Mayor Castner,

I am writing you to ask that you wholeheartedly support Memorandum 20-094. Thank you to all of you for your concern for the health of our community members. Even though I live outside the city limits (Fritz Creek area), I consider Homer my home. I conduct the majority of my business in Homer.

I continue to be alarmed at the number of people I see in Homer who are not wearing masks and not maintaining social distancing. As we are all aware of, Homer and the outlying areas have a higher rate for Covid case per capita than the rest of the Peninsula. The City of Homer has done a great job with public messaging about safe practices. Testing sites are readily available, thousands of masks from community distribution have been made through volunteer efforts, some stores. i.e., Save-U-More have free masks available at the customer service desk and other businesses, i.e., Homer Bookstore, have hand sanitizer readily available. And yet, we have a high infection rate! I think it is time for a mandate requiring people to wear a mask. Not all Alaskans are doing the right thing.

I understand that the City of Homer, unfortunately, does not have the health powers and cannot implement a city wide mitigation plan on its own. That's why the Memorandum 20-094 is so important to every citizen's well being. Please vote to send the letter to the Governor requesting a development of a Homer Specific Covid 19 Mitigation Plan, one which would include immediate action and implementation for a safe community.

Thank you for all that you are doing!
Karen Murdock

Electronic Signature: Karen Murdock

Submitted on Saturday, June 27, 2020 - 11:24am

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42831>

From: [Nicole Szarzi](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Homer Covid plan
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:43:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I live outside, but nearby, the City of Homer and do most of my shopping for essentials in Homer. I support the Mayor and Council obtaining authority to implement mitigation measures to protect Homer and adjacent citizens from Covid19. In specific, Homer Mayor and City Council should be able to mandate and enforce (at some level of their choosing) mask-wearing at businesses and enclosed spaces, social distancing, banning risky gatherings and closing businesses that are at risk for spreading Covid19.

Thanks for passing this on to the Mayor and City Council.

Sincerely,
Nicky Szarzi

From: [Swartz via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 9:34:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Carol Swartz
Email:
Phone:
Residency: Non-City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I ask you to please support Memorandum 20-094 and on behalf of the City of Homer, send a letter to Governor Dunleavy, urging him to support state staff in working with City officials and medical professionals to quickly develop and implement a Homer-specific Corvid19 mitigation plan. Such a plan is critical to Homer's economy and residents' health.

Electronic Signature: Carol Swartz

Submitted on Sunday, June 28, 2020 - 9:34pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/42851>

From: [Vernon via City of Homer Alaska Official Website](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Submittal
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:00:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Written Testimony for City Council

Name: Robert Vernon
Email:
Phone:
Residency: City Resident

City Council Meeting to Participate In:
Special Meeting (if scheduled)
Wed, 07/01

Public Comments Upon Matters Already on the Agenda - Citizen may comment on regular agenda items not scheduled for public hearing such as Consent Agenda items, Memorandums, Pending Business, New Business, Resolutions, and Ordinances to be introduced.

Written Testimony:

I'd like to be at the meeting urging the governor to endorse the use of face masks (like McConnell and Pence are now doing) but I have better things to do (like collect signatures for Recall) !

Electronic Signature: Robert Vernon

Submitted on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 - 10:00pm

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/60081/submission/43001>

From: [Anne Wieland](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Memorandum 20-094 Letter to Governor Dunleavy re Developing Homer COVID 19 Mitigation Plan
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:48:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Members of Homer City Council and Mayor Castner

My partner and I have been more and more concerned by people in Homer, residents or visitors not wearing masks anywhere, in or out of stores and even less likely on Homer Spit. He and I are older Seniors and so have stayed away from crowds except for shopping for food. We have given up attempts at socializing, resorted to texting, but are missing spending time with friends. It's especially hard that I am afraid of spending time with my children who, though wearing masks, work on the Spit and are exposed daily to many maskless visitors and locals. So it is encouraging to see that the City Council is meeting regarding what can be done to make all of us safer from exposure to Covid19.

I am very grateful that the City Council and the Mayor are seeking help from Governor Dunleavy to find ways to mitigate the situation on the Spit and in town. I hope that he will listen and help Homer and other towns experiencing similar situations. It is good to see that Anchorage's Mayor has taken action to help the situation there. Perhaps we can follow their example.

Thank you,
Anne Wieland
Homer Resident

From: [Pat Westbrook](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: Memorandum 20_094
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:09:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Please share this message for the July 1 special meeting if the City Council.

I strongly support memorandum 20-094 to send a letter urging governor Dunleavy to assign state staff to consult with Homer officials and local medical professional to develop a Homer-specific Covid mitigation plan that the administration could issue on the city's behalf.

As a senior, a homeowner and an employee at 2 local Homer businesses I am very concerned about interactions with people during this pandemic. I do wear a mask and feel my personal health, daily life activities, and our economy are negatively impacted by residents and visitors who do not follow Recommended COVID safe practices.

Your actions to slow spread of Covid are important and appreciated.

Patricia Westbrook
166 W Bunnell Ave #10
Homer, AK
907-299-9294

Sent from my iPhone



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

(p) 907-235-8121

(f) 907-235-3140

July 1, 2020

Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

RE: Mandatory masking request by the City Council of Homer

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

On behalf of the City Council of Homer, I formally request that your office issue a mandate requiring mandatory masking in all indoor public places within the City of Homer, effective July 3, 2020. We appreciate your continued support with the health crisis of COVID-19.

CITY OF HOMER

Ken Castner, Mayor

cc: Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer, Dept. Health and Social Services
Adam Crum, Commissioner, Dept. Health and Social Services
Derotha Ferraro, PIO, South Peninsula Hospital, Homer
Lorne Carroll, Public Health Nurse, Homer Public Health Center



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the Mayor

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

mayor@ci.homer.ak.us

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

To: Homer City Council

From: Ken Castner, Mayor

Date: July 1, 2020

Re: Bald Mountain Air's Waiver

Gary Porter operates Bald Mountain Air. They are a Part 135 air carrier and are allowed to operate non-scheduled service around the state. They operate, in their fleet, Twin Otter aircraft, which are high-winged, twin engine aircraft with anti-icing capabilities.

With the demise of Ravn Air, there are no scheduled carriers in or out of Homer. Bald Mountain Air has requested the FAA grant them a waiver to allow scheduled service.

I have drafted a short letter supporting their application and respectfully request the Council's approval as it is a matter of urgency and will be decided well before our next scheduled meeting.



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the Mayor

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

mayor@ci.homer.ak.us

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

July 1, 2020

IN RE: The Matter of Bald Mountain Air's Application for a Waiver

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The City of Homer supports the application by Bald Mountain Air for a waiver to allow scheduled service into and out of Homer, Alaska.

Homer has long enjoyed scheduled service by various air carriers. With the recent bankruptcy of Ravn Air, and the continued pressure of the COVID-19 pandemic, scheduled flights into Homer have ceased.

It is very important for the town's economy to resume scheduled twin-engine service. A waiver to allow scheduled service by Bald Mountain Air is currently the best opportunity for a quick resumption.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely:

Ken Castner, Mayor