



City of Homer

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Office of the City Manager

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Memorandum

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

Winter AML Conference and Lobbying Trip

During the week of February 14th, I was joined by Special Project Coordinator Jenny Carroll, Mayor Castner, and Councilmembers Lord, Erickson, and Davis to attend the Alaska Municipal League's winter legislative conference in Juneau. Harbormaster Bryan Hawkins was also in Juneau with the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators. While in Juneau, we were able to engage in quite a bit of lobbying on behalf of the City of Homer. Our lobbyists, J&H Consulting, set up meetings for us which included many legislators, Rear Admiral Moore, and the State Commissioner of Transportation & Public Facilities. The feedback we received in Juneau was positive and I believe we made a strong case for funding the State's share of the large vessel harbor expansion project's new start general investigation.



Top left: Jenny Carroll, Rear Admiral Moore, Bryan Hawkins, Rob Dumouchel; Top Right: Rachel Lord, Representative Sarah Vance, Jason Davis, Shelly Erickson, Bryan Hawkins; Bottom: Shelly Erickson, Commissioner Anderson, Bryan Hawkins, Jenny Carroll, Deputy Commissioner Rob Carpenter

Homer's Former Dais Finds New Life in Seldovia

In August of 2021, the City Council endorsed a donation of the dais formerly in Council Chambers to the City of Seldovia (see Memorandum 21-144). We held the dais in storage at the HERC until Seldovia was able to make the arrangements to ship it across the bay. The dais is now in use for in-person meetings at Seldovia City Hall.



Seldovia City Council at the repurposed Homer dais

TsunamiReady Community Status Renewed

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

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

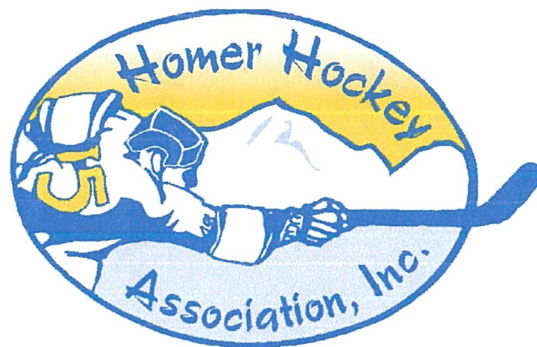
Traffic Complaints

We recently received a complaint related to vehicle safety concerns within a specific residential area. These complaints are infrequent, but we do take them seriously when received. The Police Department will be

increasing their presence in subdivisions and residential areas. I expect that we will deploy speed monitoring units later in the year when road and weather conditions improve.

Enclosures:

1. Letter from Homer Hockey Association
2. Letter from Bunnell Street Arts Center



P.O. Box 2703, Homer, Alaska 99603 - (907) 235-2647
www.kevinbellarena.org

January 17, 2022

Homer City Council
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

Dear Members of the City Council,

I would like to thank the Homer City Council on behalf of the Homer Hockey Association for providing funding to the City of Homer Grants Program administered by the Homer Foundation.

The Kevin Bell Arena provides recreational opportunities from September to April. These activities provide an opportunity for those in our community, who represent a diverse population, to interact with acceptance and respect for each other's differences while sharing a common interest.

Some of the programs offered include USA hockey, high school hockey, men's and women's adult hockey, figure skating, broomball, curling, Learn to Skate programs, and recreational programs.

In addition to the varied recreational opportunities listed above, the KBA has brought thousands to our community since opening in 2005. We again want to thank the Homer City Council for their continued support of the Homer Hockey Association and the Kevin Bell Arena.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Mink".

John Mink
HHA President

BUNNELL STREET ARTS CENTER

106 W Bunnell Ave | Homer, AK 99603
907-235-2662 | info@bunnellarts.org
www.bunnellarts.org

*sparkling artistic inquiry, innovation, and equity to
strengthen the physical, social, and economic fabric of
Alaska*

February 22, 2022

Dear Homer City Council and staff,

The City of Homer's Grants Program through the Homer Foundation provides critical support and recognition of Homer's non-profit sector. Homer's non-profit sector provides the educational, recreational, cultural, social and civic programs that make our community a great place to live.

Bunnell Street Arts Center is grateful City of Homer Grants Program support. City recognition allowed Bunnell to leverage over \$500 for every \$1 of City funding through other grants, contributions, art sales and program revenue. Bunnell's mission is *to spark artistic inquiry, innovation, and equity to strengthen the physical, social, and economic fabric of Alaska*. Bunnell remained a steady, safe and vibrant place to visit in-person or connect online throughout 2021. We worked to raise standards for artist compensation and to provide opportunities for artists and audiences all year long.

Pandemic adaptations like Artist Talks, Bunnell Arts by Air KBBi concerts, and virtual exhibit tours used technology to create greater accessibility. Bunnell's core programs like Artist-in-Schools, residencies, exhibits, performances and workshops helped create an abundance of creative opportunities despite the stresses imposed by the pandemic. We continued efforts like the ArtMap, supporting the Homer Pottery Tour, partnering with the Peony Festival and working on an incredible public art project, *Tuyanitun: Tuggeht* to be installed in 2022. These arts-based strategies help meet the vision and goals of our City. The City Grants Program helped leverage these efforts and we sincerely thank the City of Homer and the Homer Foundation for the support.

Sincerely,



Adele Person, Executive Director
Bunnell Street Arts Center