



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Manager

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Memorandum

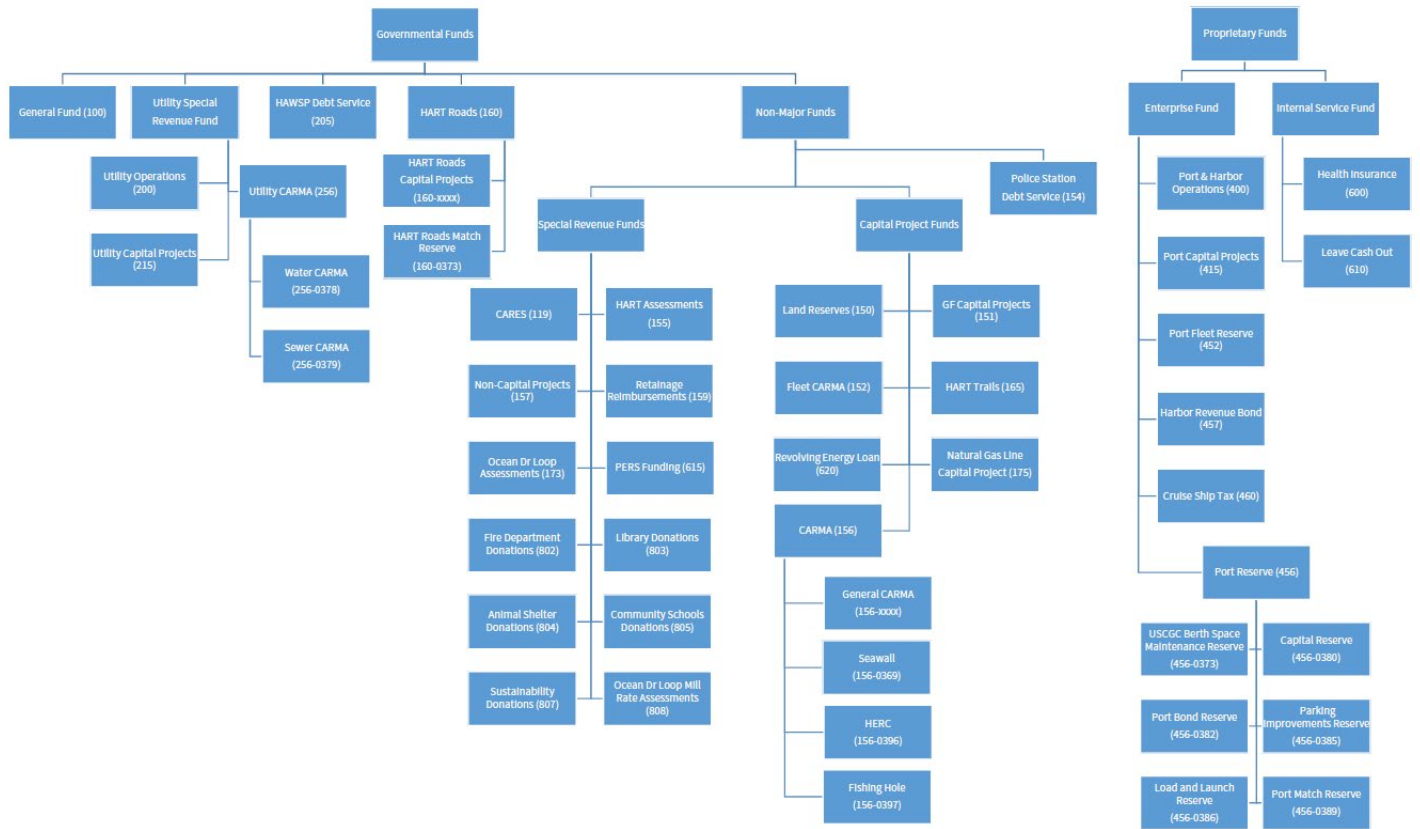
TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: September 20, 2023
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for September 25, 2023 Council Meeting

Bayview and Hornaday Park Public Engagement Meetings

Consultants Peter Briggs and Linda Pringle from Corvus Designs were in Homer on the 12th and 13th to host a series of meetings with the public, user groups, and staff as part of the initial process for the Bayview Park and Karen Hornaday Park Master Plans. I attended the two rainy in-park meetings along with an intrepid crew of community members and City staff who didn't let a little precipitation get in the way of the public engagement process. Fans of Bayview Park had a great discussion about their visions for the future of the well-used neighborhood resource. Later in the afternoon, the Hornaday Park meeting offered some shelter under the gazebo and an interactive stakeholder experience (a local five-year old's birthday party). From here, Corvus will be working with staff on plans for both parks. We expect results will come back to Council later this year.



Fund Review



Staff is preparing for a work session on October 23rd that will be the first in a series related to the various funds within the City. We'll evaluate each and give Council an opportunity to give policy guidance. We are currently developing a work sheet that can be used to ensure we have a consistent approach to the 40 plus funds that need to be reviewed. I anticipate that we will start with internal service funds and possibly a few special revenue funds. This process will take a while for Council to review each fund, but I expect that it will be worth the effort to have a refreshed understanding and written policy for all funds.

Transportation Plan Update

The public review draft of the Transportation Plan is out! Copies of the plan and comment forms are available at City Hall and the library, or via the City website. There will be a public presentation and open house on Tuesday, September 26th at the college, 6-8 pm. Comments on this draft will be accepted until October 10th. Thereafter, a draft with revisions based on public comment will be presented to the Planning Commission in late 2023, followed by the City Council in 2024. Council will be provided with a full project update in September.

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/publicworks/inviting-public-comment-transportation-plan-draft>

Sinkhole at Deep Water Dock

In July staff noticed a hole developing next to the approach to the Deep Water Dock. Upon investigation we found erosion spanning from under the approach to where the dock trestle transitions to shore. Immediately after discovering the damage we closed off one lane of the trestle so as to keep the dock schedule open. We then rented a large 1" steel plate to span over the damage so as to accommodate truck and crane movement. Working with Public Works and HDR, Harbor staff came up with a plan for what will hopefully be a permanent solution. The affected area had to be excavated and built back with concrete blocks and heavy road fabric. We will also be working toward reinforcing the water side of the approach bulkhead before winter sets in, but

that will be a separate project. This is the second time that we have had to make emergency repairs to this general location and we are trying our best to install a long-lasting solution. We may need to come to Council at a future meeting to access Port Reserve funds for this emergency repair.



Community Jails

In 2022 we had a lobbying success related to Community Jail funding. Homer and the other approximately 15 communities that hold jail contracts with the State of Alaska were able to get an increase for the program that was shared equally between programs. Through meetings hosted by the Alaska Municipal League, Chief Robl, Lt. Browning, and I have continued to engage in advocacy regarding issues with jails and our relationship with the Department of Corrections. It's uncertain as to whether we'll see more changes or elevated funding this year, but we are actively collaborating in the process.

Fire Hall Plumbing Issues

Over the last couple years we have had ongoing issues at the Fire Hall with plumbing. This past week we worked with a plumber to fix some problems that were making the kitchen unusable. Fire and Building Maintenance are working together to figure out a plan for keeping the Fire Hall's plumbing system functional. We may come back to Council at a future meeting to discuss an appropriation to support repairs at the Fire Hall.

Alaska Hazardous Waste Program Changes

The State of Alaska is considering regulation changes that would create a hazardous waste program under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The reason this is exciting for Homer is that it could lead to changes in landfill regulations that may make it possible for a future facility to accept construction and demolition waste with amounts of PCBs under the current federal threshold (like we've determined through testing of the small HERC building). Staff is doing research and may come to a Council meeting in October with a resolution providing direction to staff to comment to the State on behalf of the City (comment period closes October 30th).

Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code Update

We anticipate bringing a resolution to Council on October 9th which would authorize award of a contract for the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code update project. City Planner Ryan Foster discussed it with the Planning Commission at a recent meeting, and we should be ready to go at our next Council meeting.

FY23 Project Supported	TPC	Grant Fund	Grant Funds Req	Match/Local Cost	Status	Notes
Slope Stability-Erosion Mitigation Program						
Kachemak Drive Peatland Water Quality Improvement (Kahcemak Sponge)	\$4,388,791	NOAA Habitat Conservation KBNERSS led/City partner	\$ 1,188,275.00 (land acquisition)	\$ 418,000.00 (land acquisition)	Submitted Awarded 4/1/2023 Award Executed	UAA accepted award; sent sub-award agreement to City Ord 23-46 to accept sub-award introduced 6/26/23 Grant is for Kachemak Drive peatlands acquisition
Beluga Slough Stormwater Treatment System	\$ 690,000.00	Alaska Clean Water Actions	\$ 153,307.00	\$ 107,182.00	Submitted 11/9/2022 Awarded 3/1/2023 Accepted via Ord 23-16(S)	City Council approved grant agreement Ord City costs in-kind + elibigle for funds from ADEC Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund
Transportation						
Transportation Planning	\$ 960,000.00	Safe Streets For All KPBA Applic/City partner	\$ 960,000.00	\$ 23,000.00 (in-kind)	Award announced KPBA executing grant agreement	Application approved Reso 22-063
Non-Motorized Trans Network (REACH Project)	\$ 1,500,000.00	Fed RAISE Planning Grant	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	Submitted 2/28/2023 NOT FUNDED 6/28/23	HDR application support Reso 22-087 approved Project support Reso 23-012 approved Application made it to Secretary of Transportation Desk Not awarded but deemed a Merit Application; encouraged to apply again next FY.
Homer All-Ages & Abilities Pedestrian Pathway	\$ 3,900,000.00	State of AK Transportation Alternatives (TAP)	\$ 3,432,000.00	\$ 468,000.00	Submitted 2/15/2023 Advanced to final round: Public Evaluation Board (PEB) Awaiting DOT cost estimate (AK DOT&PF manages/constructs project)	HAPP sections in PW's 5-year road plan Project support Reso 23-011 approved Date of PEB Review pending Unknown award date; Perf period end date June '25 (\$500,000 set aside in HART for grant matching)
Main Street Rehab/ Sidewalk South	\$ 4,200,000.00	State of AK Community Transportation Program (CTP)	\$ 3,696,000.00	\$ 504,000.00	Submitted 2/15/2023 Advanced to final round: Public Evaluation Board (PEB) Awaiting DOT cost estimate (AK DOT&PF manages/constructs project)	Main St in 7-10 year horizon in PW Road Plan Project support Reso 23-011 approved Date of PEB Review pending Unknown award date; Perf period end date June '25 (\$500,000 set aside in HART for grant matching)
Port & Harbor						
Float Systems 4 & 1 Replace	\$ 59,289,547.00	Fed Port Infrastructure Development Projects (PIDP)	\$47,135,190	\$ 12,154,357.00 (20.5% match)	Submitted 4/28/2023 Awaiting decision	HDR application support Ord 23-12 approved Council approved project support Reso 4/24/2023 Could apply for PIDP or RAISE '24 if '23 unsuccessful Added to STIP as illustrative project Revenue bond or TIFIA loan for match
		Municipal Harbor Grant	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 5,000,000.00	Grant for construction only must complete design to apply	If funded, leverages State match to lower City match on Federal PIDP Grant

FY23 Project Supported	TPC	Grant Fund	Grant Funds Req	Match/Local Cost	Status	Notes
Float Systems 4 & 1 Replace		Denali Commission Grant			Application not begun Due date 4/14/24	Can be used as non-Federal Match May not be competitive - \$1M max award Could apply in '24 for Design/Engineering
Fish Grinding Building Replace & Drainage Improvements	\$ 374,978.00	ADFG Dingle-Johnson	\$ 250,000.00 (preliminary)	\$ 93,744.50 (preliminary)	Submitted 7/12/2022 Preliminary award announced 7/7/2023	Finalizing project cost estimate and award amount 25% local match funds in FY23 capital appropriation Ordinance to accept the grant forth coming
Building Code Development	\$ 587,500.00	State BRIC Sub-Grant (Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities)	\$ 470,000.00	\$ 117,500.00 (covered by State of Alaska)	Submitted 12/21/2022 Accepted for further review Awaiting decision	Council Approved application Reso 22-086 As a sub-applic State covers local match
Parks & Recreation						
Bayview Park Renovations	\$ 139,230.00	State of AK Healthy & Equitable Community Round 2	\$ 74,919.00	\$ 52,314.00 Addl redistribution funds requested	Submitted 4/24/2023 Awarded 5/8/2023 Accepted via Ord 23-36	Council Approved Resolution 23-031 \$12,000 donation from Kach Bay Rotary Additional funds from HART approved in COH Cap budget
Utilities - Infrastructure Resilience						
Spit Road Erosion Mitigation	\$ 1,812,052.00	Federal PROTECT Grant	\$ 1,812,052.00	-	Submitted 8/18/2023	Application requested planning funds for Homer Spit Erosion Mitigation. City of Homer is project sponsor, but if awarded City will enter MOU with DOT to implement grant activities
Raw Water Transmission Main		FEMA Disaster Mitigation	\$ 1,988,650.00 (direct project costs)	-	Submitted 1/30/2020	4/11/23: Responded to latest FEMA request for information 5/2/23: Congressional Delegation approved award 7/11/23: FEMA working on Period of Performance Waiver
IT - Communications						
Cybersecurity (City-wide Cybersecurity Assessment and Remote Backup System for Cybersecurity Response & Recovery)	\$ 252,794.00	AK Division of Homeland Security FY22 State & Local Cyberscurity Grant Program	\$ -	\$ 252,794.00	Submitted 8/31/2023	
Public Safety Communications (HPD Backup Repeater & Radio Equip HVFD APX-600 Radio Upgrade)	\$ 119,046.56	AK Division of Homeland Security FY23 State Homeland Security Grant Program	\$ 88,196.56	\$ -	Submitted 1/31/2023 Prelim Award Announcement 9/18/2023	Ordinance to accept the grant will be forth coming after receipt of Obligating Award Document



City of Homer Transportation Plan

OPEN HOUSE

**Doors open at 5:30 for a light snack
Presentation + breakout groups start at 6 pm**

Co-Hosted With Homer Drawdown

**The public
review draft of the
Transportation Plan is out!**

Please attend a public presentation and open house on the draft City of Homer Transportation Plan. Comments on this draft will be accepted until October 10th, 2023.

**SCAN ME
to access the latest
Transportation Plan draft
and updates**



**TUESDAY
September 26th 2023
6:00 PM — 8:00 PM**



**UAA/KPC Kachemak Bay Campus
Pioneer Hall, Room 201
533 E Pioneer Avenue
Homer, AK 99603**

Next steps: a revised draft based on public comment will be presented to the Planning Commission late 2023, followed by City Council in 2024. Council will be provided with a full project update in September 2023.

Copies of the plan and comment forms are available at City Hall and the library, or via the City website.



**Submit Draft Feedback to Kenny Engineering, LLC at:
homer.transportationplan@kinneyeng.com**

**Open House Questions? Contact:
Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager
Phone 907-435-3119
jengebretsen@ci.homer.ak.us**

