



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Manager

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Memorandum

TO: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
FROM: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager
DATE: August 19, 2026
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for August 24, 2026, Council Meeting

Ramp 4 Project Update

In 2025 the City issued an invitation to bid and awarded a contract for the design and construction of Homer Harbor's System Ramp 4 to Turnagain Marine. There are several moving pieces with this important project because we are working with funding from the Denali Commission Transportation Program and the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD). Since the contract award, we've received our pre-award notice from MARAD and worked with our attorneys at JDO to accomplish a final contract with Turnagain Marine. We've also received our pre-award spending authorization from MARAD and are awaiting one final item regarding extension information from the Denali Commission. Once that's in place we'll be ready to issue our Notice to Proceed (NTP) 1 to Turnagain for the design phase of the project. Progress was slowed as we worked through the contract, but that was necessary to ensure we are compliant with our funding requirements.

Hornaday Park Lower Trail

In my July 27th report I provided a write up about some clearing that took place along Fairview below Karen Hornaday Park, explaining that it was a combination of right-of-way clearing and trail work. The trail work is ongoing and now passersby can see the trail taking shape. The team is currently laying the filter fabric layer and preparing it for laying gravel. Once the trail work is completed the area will be hydroseeded. Future plans include seeding with a wildflower mix that's appropriate for our area and installing a bench.

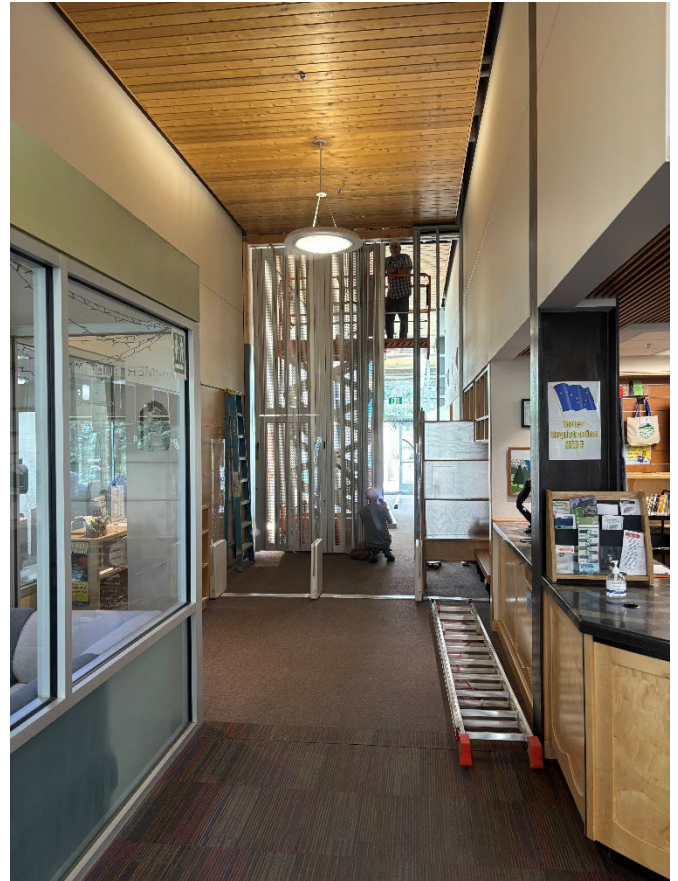


Homer Airport Night Closures Scheduled

The Homer Airport Improvement Project contractor will be performing maintenance on the airport electrical system from August 20 through August 31, 2026. The airport will be closed to all air traffic nightly from 9 PM to 7 AM during this period. The project engineer advises the dates are tentative and information will be updated as it becomes available. Thank you for your patience and understanding as they wrap up this project. For updates, please contact the QAP project engineer directly. Andrew Loman (720) 951-0162. This closure is not related to the City's work related to the airport flooding.

Library Security Grille

After a brief Library closure, the Library Security Grille is installed and ready to use! Here's a little photo montage of the installation.



City of Homer
Budget Development Schedule
for Fiscal Year 2028 and 2029

Dates	Event
8/24/2026	Budget Development Schedule delivered to Council
October - November 2026	Budget Worksessions (as needed)
Beginning of November 2026	Submit to departments, budget work sheets including salary and fringe benefit costs
11/23/2026	Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget priorities for the coming year
	Regular Meeting, Public Hearing - public input on budget priorities for the coming year
End of December 2026	Departmental Draft Budget and narratives to Finance
January 2027	City Manager - Budget Review with Finance Director and Department Heads
	Budget Discussions (Boards/Commissions)
2nd Meeting January 2027	Worksession - Department Budget Discussions
	During Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss Revenue Sources for General Fund and preliminary budget assumptions.
1st Meeting February 2027	Worksession - Department Budget Discussions
2nd Meeting February 2027	City Manager's Budget (Proposed Budget) to Council
	Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget
	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing
1st Meeting March 2027	Worksession - Budget Discussions
	Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget
2nd Meeting March 2027	Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget
	Regular Meeting - to introduce Budget and Water/Wastewater Rate Ordinances
1st Meeting April 2027	Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget
2nd Meeting April 2027	Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget
	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing
1st Meeting May 2027	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing & FY 28/29 Budget Adoption



PRATT
museum

homer society of
natural history, inc.

July 30, 2026

Melissa Jacobson, City Manager
Rachel Lord, Mayor
Homer City Council Members
City of Homer
491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Ms. Jacobson, Ms. Lord, and City Council Members,

On behalf of the Pratt Museum staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers of the Pratt Museum, thank you for the City of Homer's contribution of \$77,000.

The Pratt Museum is a dynamic cultural cornerstone that connects people to the Kachemak Bay region and each other. Building on a tradition of excellence, the Pratt continues to bring regionally relevant topics into focus for locals and visitors of all ages through our dynamic array of exhibits, educational programming, and permanent collection. Our nine-acre campus offers a peaceful escape in the heart of downtown Homer, with a thriving Botanical Garden and Forest Ecology Trail System directly connecting Homer Middle School, the downtown business district, and surrounding neighborhoods.

Support from the City of Homer is vital to our mission-driven work and ensures that we continue to be a resource for learning and safe place for meaningful conversation and connection decades into the future. We are proud that the vibrancy of this institution contributes tangibly to local quality of life, helping make Homer a place where people want to live, work, and play.

Again, thank you very much for your investment in our community Museum. We hope to see you at the Pratt soon!

Sincerely,

Whitney Harness
Executive Director

