



# City of Homer

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

## Office of the City Manager

491 East Pioneer Avenue  
Homer, Alaska 99603

[citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov](mailto:citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov)

(p) 907-235-8121 x2222

(f) 907-235-3148

### Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council  
FROM: Melissa Jacobsen, Acting City Manager  
DATE: April 4, 2024  
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for April 8, 2024 Council Meeting

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#### Winter King Tournament

Harbormaster Matt Clarke reported that the 2024 Homer Winter Tournament commenced as scheduled on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> with 1,056 anglers registered and 301 boats. About 75% of the boats arrive via trailer in the days prior to the tournament. Port & harbor admin and operations worked closely with HCOG to facilitate the tournament. The deep water dock staging area is used for the tournament derby headquarters. This includes use of the staging area, restroom pavilion, guard station (VHF radio room), chip pad (overflow parking), and Freight Dock & Outer Dock Roads for traffic pattern and access control. Port operations staffing and labor is adjusted to cover the shear demand created by the influx of boaters and derby participants. The day prior to the tournament, we double up harbor officers for swing shift and graveyard shifts to accommodate demand. During the morning of the tournament as the vessels depart the harbor, harbor officers patrol the waterways for traffic control and for rapid assist with potentially disabled vessels. Upon the conclusion of the tournament when the vessels return, harbor officers focus on traffic management at the load & launch ramp for retrieval and haul-out. Parking lots swelled in the vicinity of the DWD tournament event headquarters with several hundred people watching the weigh-in, enjoying food & beverage, and listening to live music. As the harbormaster (and derby participant), I was introduced to the Pacific Northwest regional Honda managers as Honda was a primary sponsor of the event. Port & Harbor admin spend numerous hours disseminating information, processing moorage fees and identifying vessels eligible for the one-free night of moorage provided as a concession. Amy Woodruff estimates 75 vessels took advantage of the one free night of moorage. On a positive note, there were no vehicle or vessel accidents, vessel floodings or EMS calls associated with the tournament.

#### Beluga Slough/Mariner Slough

The education process regarding the mouth of the Beluga Slough has continued since my last report on March 26th. Historically a property owner received a one-time permit for maintenance of the mouth of the slough that is good for 10 years, but the one-time work has been completed. The City has reached out to ACOE to determine if the permit can be modified to allow for another maintenance opportunity or if a new permit will be required. If a new permit is required that will take additional time and the work to open the mouth to allow the slough to drain will be delayed and likely won't happen until after the Shorebird Festival. The work is important to the City because our storm water outfalls are in that area and a lower water level helps the drainage. Also there is a lift station close by and increased water backed up into the slough has the potential to negatively impact that lift station.

Regarding Mariner Slough, the City has a permit and a schedule for maintaining the mouth of that slough and completed the work on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Public Works Director has expressed interest in adding the Beluga Slough to the maintenance schedule and Steve Delahanty from Fish and Wildlife has expressed support for that action.

### **Fire Truck Update**

Chief Kirko provided this update and attached change order for the fire truck build that was started 2 years ago. Over that time there have been increases to the construction of the truck that were not completely unexpected, plus some changes that were made to reduce the cost. Last month he went to the Pierce factory in Wisconsin to work with the sales staff and engineers that are going to provide the final drawings in a few weeks. During that visit he was able to inspect other similar truck builds that were currently in production. This provided him with the opportunity to see things we may have missed during the initial specification meetings, and to see choices that reduced some of the cost to the build. The original change order document came in above \$32,000 and after reviewing other options he was able to reduce it the \$26,188.00 as shown in the attached change order. Once he receives the final engineered drawings, they should begin sometime in August for an October delivery.

### **Comprehensive Plan Community Visit #1**

City Planner Foster shared an update on the Comprehensive Plan's Community Visit #1 with Agnew::Beck that took place from March 26-29. It consisted of a Joint Work Session with City Council and the Planning Commission, a meeting with the Port & Harbor Commission, a public open house, a meeting of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, and several meetings with local organizations and City staff members. The public open house had approximately 75 participants providing feedback on a range of subjects including land use, housing, economic development, growth, recreation, and more. Findings from this first visit will be posted on the project website in April, in advance of the Community Visit #2 anticipated for mid-May. Go to the Homer Comprehensive Plan Update website for project updates at [www.homercompplanupdate.com](http://www.homercompplanupdate.com)



### **City of Homer Audit Information**

Since the last meeting the finance team completed the corrective action plan for the findings identified in the FY22 audit, and the remaining required documents have been submitted to BDO so we can receive our final statements for Council approval. Once the financial statements are adopted we'll engage with BDO for FY23 and keep our positive forward momentum going on our audit work.

### **Baycrest Overlook Bathrooms**

Public Works Director Kort and I have been in discussion about the bathrooms at the Baycrest Overlook. He's explained that existing pit toilet restrooms at the Baycrest Scenic Overlook were constructed in 1998 by the AK-DOT and have been maintained by the City of Homer Public Works Department since they were constructed. The City is obligated to maintain these Restrooms by an agreement with the AK-DOT with no end date in the agreement. The restroom building has aged past its useful life and is in need of replacement. One side of the restroom is closed, leaving only one stall available for use this season. We will be working to bring some recommendations to Council for consideration on how the City would like to proceed, whether it be funding a rebuild of a more robust structure, request termination of the agreement with the State, or some type of collaborate project.

### **Congressionally Designated Spending (CDS) Requests**

Special Projects and Communications Coordinator Jenny Carroll reports that City staff submitted four FY2025 Congressionally Designated Spending (appropriations) requests to Senator Lisa Murkowski and Representative Mary Peltola. The four requests submitted responded to eligibility criteria of the appropriations subcommittees and are: Homer Harbor Critical Float Systems 4 and 1 Replacement, Homer Spit Climate Resiliency/Erosion Mitigation, A-Frame Water Transmission Line and Beluga Sewer Lift Station. Projects that are selected to move forward to an appropriations committee will be reviewed and must be deemed eligible by the appropriations committee. The City will work with legislative staff members to supply additional information as requested for any projects forwarded to an appropriations committee. The annual appropriations is part of the Federal budget process, which is lengthy, has uncertain timing, and with limited funding, carries no guarantee that Congressionally Directed Spending requests will ultimately be included in the FY2025 spending bills.

### **Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Study**

BOEM shared the informational flyer attached to this report regarding their Recreation and Tourism Study in the Cook Inlet region. This is part of their ongoing outreach efforts to inform regional stakeholders about the study. They are now in the process of collecting baseline recreation and tourism data and making plans for next year's site visits and focus group meetings.

### **Attachments:**

- April Anniversaries
- Fire Truck Change Order
- BOEM Flyer
- Homer Foundation's Grant Report to the City



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## Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and City Council  
FROM: Andrea Browning  
DATE: April 8, 2024  
SUBJECT: April Employee Anniversaries

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I would like to take the time to thank the following employees for the dedication, commitment and service they have provided the City and taxpayers of Homer over the years.

<b>Joe Young</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Rick Pitta</b>	<b>Police</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Erica Hollis</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Jean Arno</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Jaclyn Arndt</b>	<b>Fire</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Dave Berry</b>	<b>Library</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Ricky Borland</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Aaron Yeaton</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Will Kern</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Years</b>
<b>Joe Kahles</b>	<b>Fire</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Years</b>

Bid 996: Homer VFD Enforcer Pumper Tender - Job 38962

Enforcer Chassis, Aerials/Tankers, Tandem Axle

Homer AK

Last Updated: 3/28/2024

Change order

Item #	Date	Option	Change Type	Description	Change Total
1	3/20/24	0004218	Changed	Changed from 35' ladder to 28'	\$185.05
2	3/20/24	0097930	Changed	Changed rear warning lights from single color to Duo	\$678.87
3	3/20/24	608055	Changed	Changed to aluminum hose cover on front bumper	\$768.71
4	3/20/24	698960	Changed	Changed to raised hose tray with 2 inch lip on front bumper	\$133.86
5	3/20/24	632103	Changed	Changed to two tone body paint	(\$401.07)
6	3/20/24	751129	Changed	Changed to painted front grille	\$991.61
7	3/20/24	590424	Added	Added painted rear compartment door below tank dump	\$211.21
8	3/20/24	805652	Changed	Changed to painted steel bumper	\$993.96
9	3/21/24	0698960	Added	Added Line-X to front bumper	\$1,114.19
10	3/20/24	770192	Added	Added (1) body power duplex to compartment	\$390.54
11	3/20/24	40475	Changed	Changed inverter to battery charger with shoreline connection	(\$1,699.03)
12	3/20/24	742003	Changed	Deleted radio installation by Pierce	(\$890.88)
13	3/20/24	607217	Added	Added headsets for driver, officer, and 4 crew cab positions	\$8,170.96
14	3/20/24	632658	Added	Added mounting surface for entire engine tunnel	\$551.45
15	3/20/24	0760404	Added	Added black out package to rear scene lights	\$1,169.46
16	3/20/24	080294	Changed	Changed wiper control location	\$136.28
17	3/20/24	802940	Changed	Added moose light switch	\$591.37
18	3/20/24	548009	Deleted	Deleted Golight spotlights on cab roof and added light bars at 15 degree	\$1,670.26
19	3/20/24	548015	Added	Added (2) scene lights on side of body each side	\$2,041.77
20	3/20/24	781466	Added	Added vinyl hosebed cover	\$1,136.14
21	3/20/24	742770	Added	Changed rear warning beacon lights to red and blue	\$625.23
22	3/20/24	-	Deleted	Deleted special crosslay construction	(\$278.67)
23	3/20/24	813848	Changed	Added blackout to cab steps	\$1,579.45
24	3/20/24	59024	Changed	Changed to black cab mirrors	\$327.94
25	3/20/24	0632103	Added	Changed to rear cab wall painted, removed aluminum treadplate	(\$203.46)
26	3/20/24	783153	Changed	Changed spare wiring circuits, added power USB, remote head power, 30A radio power	\$297.34
27	3/20/24	804651	Added	Added blackout to headlight, directional lights, and warning light bezels	\$751.18
28	3/20/24	746142	Added	Added blackout to stepping surface lights on cab and pump panel	\$169.21
29	3/20/24	889577	Added	Added blackout to rear taillights	\$591.80
30	3/20/24	794744	Deleted	Deleted officer switch for side and front scene lights	(\$403.87)
31	3/20/24	892330	Deleted	Deleted telescopic lights on pump house	(\$6,279.61)
32	3/20/24	97930	Changed	Changed to rubber rub rails and fender crowns	\$200.33
33	3/20/24	776357	Added	Added front of body brushed scuffplate	\$233.91
34	3/20/24	776995	Added	Added blackout to handrails	\$2,319.30
35	3/20/24	740249	Changed	Painted air bottle compartments, fuel/def doors with black latches	\$622.56
36	3/20/24	740247	Added	Added blackout to steps on rear and pump house area	\$710.53
37	3/20/24	0004990	Changed	Changed rear discharge to hosebed area	\$197.72
38	3/20/24	889306	Added	Added blackout to whelen m6 warning lights with M6V2 tied to reverse and perimeter circuit	\$1,057.24
39	3/20/24	733343	Added	Added blackout to rear beacon warning light mounting brackets	\$217.69
40	3/20/24	733336	Changed	Recessed traffic director into rear wall	(\$4.23)
41	3/20/24	891982	Added	Additional Blackout to front grille, Pierce logo	\$425.53
42	3/20/24	40803	Added	Blackout front bumper discharge	\$124.57
43	3/20/24	57300	Added	Added blackout to side warning lights and tied M6V2 to reverse and perimeter circuit	\$854.76
44	3/21/24	0002283	Changed	Painted tow hooks	\$223.00
45	3/21/24	0091106	Added	Added TFT Extenda gun deluge	\$3,883.91

Change Order Total	\$26,188.09
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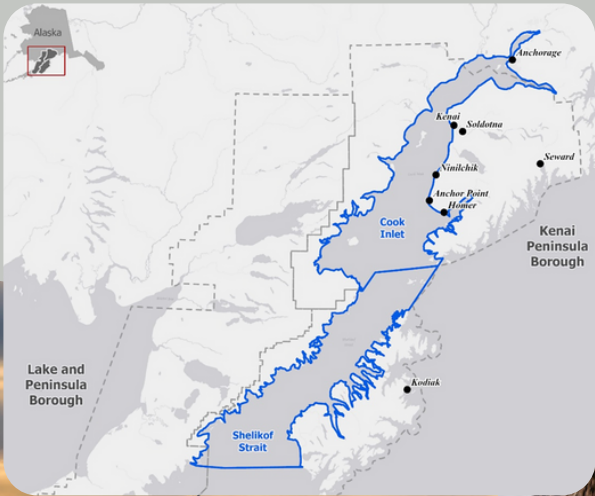
By signing this form, I do hereby authorize the representing Pierce Dealer to coordinate the changes, additions, and deletions listed on the preceding page(s) for the prices listed on each change made. I understand and agree that any additions or changes that were not part of the original contract may adversely impact the scheduled completion of the apparatus. If the scheduled completion is affected, the Pierce authorized Dealer will notify you of such a change at the time this change is presented. I understand and agree that once this change request is signed, it becomes part of the original contract entered into between the authorized Pierce Dealer and the customer.

Customer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Sales Representative Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Study on Recreation and Tourism in the Cook Inlet

This study will inform our understanding of the effects of energy development activities in the Cook Inlet on recreation and tourism, helping guide future analysis and resource management decisions.



The Study Area



## Goals of the Study

Map recreation sites in the region

Collect data on activities, levels of use, and expenditures

Discover what people value about recreational opportunities

Gauge attitudes about how offshore energy development could impact recreation and tourism



## Activities

2024: Baseline data collection

2025: Site visits and focus groups to inform survey development

Contact us if you have any questions or have information that can help inform the study

**BOEM TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Jeffrey Brooks

**BOEM** jeffrey.brooks@boem.gov

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Maura Flight

**IEc** mflight@indecon.com

**STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH LEAD:** Leah Cuyno

**IE Northern Economics** leah.cuyno@norecon.com

**TECHNICAL LEAD:** Eric Horsch

**IEc** ehorsch@indecon.com



City of Homer  
City Manager  
491 East Pioneer Ave  
Homer AK 99603

March 28, 2024

Re: City of Homer Grants Program 2024

Dear City Manager:

The Homer Foundation has administered the City of Homer Grants Program since 2000. In that time over \$960,719 has been awarded to local nonprofits to support the programs and services they provide to the community.

A total of \$34,170 was available for distribution in the 2024 funding cycle. This funding included \$25,000 from the city budget line item and earned income from the City of Homer's endowment fund. The total amount is administered under an agreement between the City of Homer and the Homer Foundation. Recommendations for awards are at the discretion of the City of Homer Grants Committee.

This year's City of Homer Grants Committee consisted of HF Board of Directors Paul Seaton (chair), Sara Reinert, and Ken Taylor, with community members Kathy Hill, Uran Christensen, Francie Roberts, Karen Wuestenfeld, and Britta Frank. All participants adhere to the Homer Foundation's Conflict of Interest Policy. Karen Wuestenfeld disclosed that she is on the board of Kachemak Heritage Land Trust. Ken Taylor disclosed that he is on the committee of Kachemak Heritage Land Trust.

A total of 14 applications were received and reviewed. Kachemak Nordic Ski Club applied but were deemed ineligible due to receiving in-kind support from the City of Homer during the previous fiscal year. The committee's recommendations for the following awards were approved by the Homer Foundation board of trustees at their March 27th board meeting:

<b>Organization</b>	<b>2024 Awards</b>
Bunnell Street Art Gallery	\$ 1,000
Center for AK Coastal Studies	\$ 3,000
Cook Inlet Keeper	\$ 1,000
Homer Animal Friends	\$ 1,500
Homer Community Food Pantry	\$ 4,170
Homer Council on the Arts	\$ 4,000
Homer Farmers Market	\$ 1,500
Homer Hockey Association	\$ 3,000
Homer OPUS	\$ 3,000
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic	\$ 4,500

Kachemak Heritage Land Trust	\$ 1,000
KBBI	\$ 3,500
<u>SPROUT</u>	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
Total:	\$ 34,170

It is a difficult task to review organizations with very different missions, but all committee members agreed these nonprofits are high-functioning organizations providing valuable programs and services to the community. The committee this year was very impressed by these organizations and the broad services they provide to our community.

Each year, we take the opportunity to compile a synopsis of the economic impact of the nonprofits that have submitted applications. In 2023, these organizations generated over \$7.1 million in revenues, including \$3.6 million in new money coming into Homer from State, Federal, and Foundation grants. They also employ 100 full, part-time, and seasonal employees with combined personnel expenses exceeding \$4.1 million. The data from these organizations help to illustrate just how important Homer's nonprofit sector is as an economic driver in our economy.

During times of economic downturn which were apparent in these organizations' decrease in revenue this last year, the City's continued support is more important than ever by providing important general operating support. These organizations are also able to leverage additional funding with City support. The community benefits because a strong nonprofit community makes Homer a safer, healthier, and more vibrant place to live, play, and work.

On behalf of the nonprofit community, the Foundation Board thanks the City of Homer for its continued support for Homer's vital, and economically important nonprofit community.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Miller, Executive Director  
Homer Foundation  
235.0551  
mmiller@homerfoundation.org

cc: City Council  
Mayor



# 2023 City of Homer Grants Program: Project Report – Homer Farmers Market

**GRANT AWARD PERIOD: FY2023**

**GRANT NUMBER: 23-COH6**

**REPORT DATE: 02/29/24**

**APPLICANT: HOMER FARMERS MARKET**

**CONTACT PERSON: LAUREN JEREW**

**PROJECT TITLE: CITY OF HOMER GRANTS PROGRAM**

**FISCAL YEAR START DATE: 01/01/24**

**AMOUNT AWARDED: \$3,000**



## HOMER FARMERS MARKET – GRANT SUMMARY

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The Homer Farmers Market was honored to be a recipient of the 2023 Homer Foundation's City of Homer Grants Program. This was our seventh year participating in this grant program and the board and staff would like to send their deepest gratitude for the continued support. We look forward to future collaborations between our organizations to serve our community with quality programming and to building a more equitable and healthy local food system.

This past season the Homer Farmers Market celebrated its 24th Year in operation. Generous grants from the Homer Foundation, Alaska Farmers Market Association, and other private donors were crucial to our success this season.

We were honored to bring back many returning vendors in 2023, as well as welcome new faces to the market! We also started hosting kids vending days and brought back Zucchini Fest for the first time since 2019. It was great to feel the sense of community at the market, and welcome people from all walks of life to explore and have fun together!



***Homer Farmers Market***  
on Ocean Drive

**Sat. 10-3 & Wed. 2-5**

**May 27 – September 30, 2023**

WIC, FMNP & EBT coupons accepted • Please bring cash in small increments

## SUMMARY OF PROJECT

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### HOW FUNDS WERE EXPENDED: \$3,000

As a “general operating support” grant, funding was distributed throughout many programs. Below we describe these programs and their impacts.

### LIST OF PROGRAMS & CORRELATING COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL BENEFITS:

- **SNAP/Quest EBT Program**
  - This program allows those with SNAP (formally known as food stamps) benefits to access funds to spend on allow items at the market
  - Through funding from the Alaska Farmers Market Association, we were able to match \$6,291 in SNAP this year!
  - This program allows us to also run credit cards for “market coins,” eliminating the need for individual vendors to have a credit card terminal. The market pays all fees for their program, saving vendors money, time, and effort.
- **Kids Activities & Kids Vending Days**
  - Collaborating with the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, we hosted a weekly kids activity tent. It was well attended by kids ranging in age from 2-15!
  - We also brought back three opportunities for kids in the community to vend for free on Wednesdays. We had 15+ kid vendors, who sold everything from artwork and jewelry to dandelion syrup!

### MARKET DEMOGRAPHICS

- SNAP Users: 12 new users in 2023
- Estimated Visitor Total for Season: 19,200
- Number of Vendors: 60
- Age range of grant recipients: ALL! 0-75+

### EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIONS:

- **Private Anonymous Donors-** \$3,000 in funding for SNAP/EBT Program operation
- **Food Pantry** - \$18,000 partnership with the Homer & Anchor Point Food Pantries, where goods were purchased directly at the market and donated to the Food Pantry. This was made possible by the Alaska Farmers Market Association.

### PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC THANK YOUS:

- Homer News
- Homer Farmer Market Facebook
- Homer Farmers Market Annual Meeting presentation
- Word of Mouth at the market and beyond

**OTHER ATTACHMENTS:**

- 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT (BUDGET TO ACTUAL)
- LETTERS TO EDITOR
- DIRECTOR'S REPPORT
- THANK YOU LETTER TO HOMER FOUNDATION



October 5, 2023

City of Homer  
Homer Foundation City Grant Program  
491 East Pioneer  
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Mayor Castner, City of Homer Council members, and Homer Foundation Board of Directors,

I am writing on behalf of Kachemak Heritage Land Trust to thank you for the 2023 grant award from the City of Homer through the Homer Foundation (Grant #23-COH10). This grant funded general operating support including outreach and stewardship of Homer and Anchor Point properties.

Funding from the City shows our other supporters and grant funders that we are supported by our local government which is highly valuable to our organization. We so appreciate the City's dedication to our work and look forward to continuing to build and maintain a strong connection to the City's goals, including work under consideration in the Beluga wetlands area and on the Poopdeck Trail.

Sincerely,

Carson Chambers  
Communications and Development Manager



February 7, 2024

Homer City Council  
City of Homer  
491 East Pioneer Avenue  
Homer, Alaska 99603

Dear City Council Members:

Thank you to the City of Homer for your continued commitment to supporting the nonprofit community through funds administered by the Homer Foundation. This consistent support makes a big difference to our organization and constituents in our capacity to provide a wide range of services to local residents.

As a community-based organization, Cook Inletkeeper develops programs that combine science, advocacy, and education to further our mission of protecting Alaska's Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains. In Homer a shining example is, our annual Electronics Recycling Event which in its 18<sup>th</sup> year facilitated safe and responsible recycling of potentially harmful electronic devices. In partnership with communities across the Bay, on the Central Peninsula and Seward, we facilitated recycling of 39,237 lbs. of electronic waste from the Kenai Peninsula in 2023.

Additionally, this support has aided in the continuation of Homer Drawdown which in 2023 focused on non-motorized transportation and worked closely with the City to assist with the public process of the 20-year Master Transportation plan- garnering over 500 public comments. We've continued to expand our focus on local foods; helping to build a local food economy through the Alaska Food Hub, which provided 1052 Homer-area citizens locally grown, harvested and crafted products this past year. Keeping money circulating locally helps us all.

So, thank you. Support from the City of Homer demonstrates the Council's commitment to making Homer a world-class place to live, work and play. And thank you too for your dedicated service to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loren Barrett".

Loren Barrett  
Co-Executive Director

cc: Homer Foundation



February 6, 2024

Homer City Council  
Homer City Hall  
491 East Pioneer Ave.  
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Council,

On behalf of Homer Council on the Arts and its Board of Directors, I would like to express our gratitude for funding from the City of Homer Grants Program during FY23. This operating support is a crucial component of HCOA's budget, providing stability for operations and allowing us to offer our mission-driven programs.

We're proud of the programs we've been able to build and expand over the past year. Eight solo and six group gallery exhibits featured a total of 115 artists, and the Nutcracker Faire continues to grow as a venue for local artisans. Education offerings have included spring and summer camps, popular ceramics classes, and a variety of workshops. We hosted six touring performers, many including outreach and workshops in their visit to Homer. These included traditional Irish music, a Scandinavian week with fiddle and dance, and a teaching residency and performance by Brazilian multi-instrumentalist Eduardo Mendonça. Mendonça took the outreach record, engaging with 269 students at four schools.

Thank you for continuing to support and promote the arts as a key aspect of our city's culture and economy, and for your financial support to Homer Council on the Arts.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Bartlett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "B".

Scott Bartlett  
Executive Director

To: The Homer Foundation  
3733 Ben Walters Lane  
Suite 7  
Homer, AK, 99603

From: Homer Farmers Market  
P.O. Box 2274  
Homer, AK, 99603



February 28th, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

The Homer Farmers Market would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of The Homer Foundation staff, board members, and donors that support and administer the City of Homer Grant Program. We were awarded \$3,000, and your generosity was vital to the success of the Homer Farmers Market's 2023 season.

The City of Homer Grant managed by the Homer Foundation allowed us to support multiple programs in 2023: SNAP matching, collaborations with both the Homer and Anchor Point Food Pantries, Zucchini Fest, and Kids Activities hosted by Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies. All of these programs and events add value to our community, and we are fortunate to have such a great organization working to support local nonprofit organizations.

From the Homer Farmers Market Board of Directors & Staff - thank you!

Sincerely,

Lauren Jerew, Market Director





P.O. Box 2703, Homer, Alaska 99603 - (907) 235-2647  
[www.kevinbellarena.org](http://www.kevinbellarena.org) | [info@homerhockey.org](mailto:info@homerhockey.org)

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Dear Members of the Homer City Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. On behalf of the Homer Hockey Association (HHA), I extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Homer City Council for their unwavering support in providing funding to the City of Homer Grants Program administered by the Homer Foundation.

Our collaboration has played a pivotal role in the success of the Kevin Bell Arena, and we are thrilled to share the exciting developments of this season. HHA and the Kevin Bell Arena are experiencing an exceptional year, and we take immense pride in offering on-ice recreational activities to our local community, as well as to individuals and groups across the State of Alaska.

Here are some highlights of our programs and achievements:

**Diverse Recreational Programs:** We conduct a range of weekly programs, including school field trips, community public skate, home ice for the Mariner's high school hockey team, girls and co-ed youth hockey teams, men's and women's adult hockey leagues, figure skating, broomball, curling, Learn to Skate programs, and skating opportunities for the underserved.

**Tournaments:** This season, we are excited to host several tournaments catering to different age groups and skill levels. These tournaments combined will be hosting 60 teams:

- Adult Coed Tournament
- Adult Women's Tournament
- Youth (8 years and Under) Tournament
- Youth (14 years and Under) State Championship Tournament
- Youth (12 years and Under) State Championship Tournament
- Adult Men's Advanced & Intermediate Level Tournaments

The impact of the Kevin Bell Arena extends beyond our city, bringing thousands of visitors to our community since its opening in 2005. This has not only contributed to the vitality of the service industry but has also generated significant tax revenue for the City of Homer.

We deeply appreciate the City of Homer's recognition of the health and economic benefits that our non-profit organization brings to the community. Your continued financial support is invaluable to us, and we want to express our sincere thanks to the Homer City Council for their ongoing commitment to the Homer Hockey Association and the Kevin Bell Arena.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support. We look forward to further enhancing our community through the joy and camaraderie that our programs and facilities bring to all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Barth". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike Barth, President  
Homer Hockey Association



Dear Homer City Council (Sprout Champions),

In 2023, Sprout Family Services was awarded the Homer Foundation City Grant to support programming for families with young children. Because of this funding, we were able to offer more opportunities for caregivers to build social connections, learn about child development, and positively foster their child's growth. It is our mission at Sprout to promote the healthy development of children *in partnership* with families and *community*. The Homer Foundation City Grant is one way the Homer City Council can play an active role in this partnership. *How does the Homer Foundation City Grant positively impact the families served by Sprout?*

#### *Playgroup Champions*

Funds from the city grant were used to purchase developmentally appropriate equipment, toys, food, and safety supplies for use at Sprout sponsored playgroups. These items allow us to create safe, play environments that engage families and encourage young children to explore. Funds from the grant were also used to support increasing a caregiver's knowledge of child development. We offer families valuable information on early childhood development through the Parents As Teachers curriculum. If a caregiver has a question about development, including topics ranging from sleep to dental health, we can give them information that is grounded in research, relationship based, and relevant to their child's needs.

#### *Parenting Workshop Support*

Funds from the city grant were also used to purchase an annual subscription to the Conscious Discipline e-course "Building Resilient Homes & Schools." Up to 75 individuals/families now have access to content that builds family resilience through brain-based social emotional learning. Sprout will also be able to dedicate staff time to leading workshops that focus on the skills of Conscious Discipline and how they can uniquely apply to families.

There are many ways to partner with families to ensure their children have healthy, safe, and positive starts. We are grateful for the Homer City Council and their contribution to programming that puts Sprout's partnerships with families first. Sprout's vision is that all children are valued and fully nurtured and give the same to the next generation. Thanks to City Council we can work on that vision together!



Kachemak Nordic Ski Club  
Box 44  
Homer, Alaska 99603

Homer City Council

Dear Homer City Council,

The town of Homer is a beautiful place to call home. Those of us who are fortunate to live here have great access to many services you would typically find in much larger communities. Our schools, library, art activities, outdoor trails and recreational opportunities are a large part of what makes the community of Homer such a special place. Many of these opportunities would not be possible without the support of the Homer City Council.

As a board member for the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club we were delighted to receive a \$3,500 grant this year from the Homer City Council via the Homer Foundation. Our club is pleased that you recognize the important role we play in the health (both mental and physical) of Homer residents during the winter. Over the last several years our enrollment has seen a marked increase of members of all ages. Our goal is to provide world class ski trails to Homer residents and to foster a lifelong love of skiing. We continue to expand our trail systems, programs and rental of skis to Homer youth. As with all operations the cost of doing business continues to increase. Your contribution enabled us to fill in the gaps so that we are looking forward to yet another great winter of skiing. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Cloud



Kachemak Bay Broadcasting, Inc.,  
*Listener Supported Public Radio*

*We provide news, information, and entertainment  
to foster community engagement.*

January 31, 2024

Dear Homer City Council,

KBBI would like to recognize the importance of the Homer Grants program, or which KBBI was an award recipient in Fiscal Year 2023. Our distribution of \$3,000.00 was used for General Operating Support. An essential component of what we do here that is often overlooked and difficult to fund.

We thank the City of Homer for partnering with the Homer Foundation to administer this funding to KBBI and our incredible Nonprofit community. One of Homer's greatest strengths is its Nonprofit sector, and this partly due to the leadership of the City of Homer and the Homer Foundation. It is rare to find funds for operating support in any grant program and to be able to apply for it locally is extremely valuable to us at the station and to our cohort in the community.

Thank you for your support of our community,

Loren Barrett  
KBBI Development Director



3959 Ben Walters Lane  
Homer AK 99603  
Tel: 907.235.3436 Text: 907.435.7505  
www.kbfpc.org

January 9, 2024

Dear members of the Homer City Council,

At Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic (KBFP), we understand the Homer community is diverse, and therefore our community's approach to health and wellness must also be. Our agency saw this firsthand while working with our collaborative partners on the MAPP Steering Committee and the oversight committee for the 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) which MAPP conducted with South Peninsula Hospital. This assessment helps our agency and other nonprofit partners across the region direct our resources and efforts proactively, efficiently, and economically. Good reproductive health through education, prevention, testing, and care is important for everybody and KBFP looks forward to using the results of the CHNA to help guide our future plans. An unrestricted City of Homer grant through the Homer Foundation allows KBFP and other organizations like ours to put funds where they are needed most throughout the year and helps us garner additional financial support from other funders; critical because we provide services on a sliding fee scale or at no cost, making quality care available regardless of a client's insurance status or ability to pay.

KBFP is one of multiple nonprofit agencies in the Homer area that works alongside government partners and businesses to support the many facets that make up community wellness. Thank you for recognizing the valuable role nonprofits like KBFP play in the Homer community as service providers, employers, and civic partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Claudia Haines".

Claudia Haines, CEO  
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic