City of Homer

2020-2025 Capital Improvement Plan

Homer's Port & Harbor is a regional asset serving commercial fishing vessels from nearly every fishery in the State, the US Coast Guard and industrial support vessels whose delivery of supplies to industries and remote communities is foundational to Alaskan commerce at all levels.

Development of a haul out repair facility for large commercial vessels (pictured above) and a new large vessel moorage facility are top priorities in the City's CIP.

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September 23, 2019

To The Honorable Mayor and Homer City Council:

This document presents the City of Homer 2020 through 2025 Capital Improvement Plan. The CIP provides information on capital projects identified as priorities for the Homer community. Descriptions of City projects include cost and schedule information and a designation of Priority Level 1 (highest), 2 or 3. Projects to be undertaken by the State of Alaska and other non-City organizations are included in the CIP in separate sections. An overview of the financial assumptions can be found in the Appendix.

The projects included in the City of Homer's 2020-2025 CIP were compiled with input from the public, area-wide agencies, and City staff, as well as various advisory commissions serving the City of Homer.

It is the City of Homer's intent to update the CIP annually to ensure the long-range capital improvement planning stays current, as well as to determine annual legislative priorities and assist with budget development. Your assistance in the effort is much appreciated.

Katie Koester

Katie Koester

City Manager

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Funded Projects from the 2019-2024 Capital Improvement Plan

The City of Homer is pleased to report that the following projects have been completed and/or funding procured:

- Emergency Radio Communication System
  The Police Department secured FY2018 and reallocation grant funds from the AK Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to complete upgrades of the Homer Police Department radio system and repeaters. The City's systematic upgrade of its Emergency Radio Communication System will continue as other components of the project remain to be upgraded.

The following community project has been completed:

- Haven House Safety/Security Improvements

Introduction: The Capital Improvement Program

A capital improvement plan (CIP) is a long-term guide for capital project expenditures. The CIP includes a list of capital projects the community envisions for the future, and a plan that integrates timing of expenditures with the City's annual budget. The plan identifies ways a project will benefit the community, indicates the priorities assigned to different projects, and presents a very general target construction schedule.

A carefully prepared capital improvement plan has many uses. It can assist a community to:

- Anticipate community needs in advance, before needs become critical.
- Rank capital improvement needs in order to ensure the most important projects are given consideration for funding before less critical projects.
- Plan for maintenance and operating costs so expenses are budgeted in advance to help avoid projects that the community cannot afford.
- Provide a written description and justification for projects submitted for state funding so the legislature, governor and appropriate agencies have the information necessary to make decisions about funding capital projects.
- Provide the basis for capital projects as part of the annual budget.

A capital improvement project is one that warrants special attention in the municipal budget. Normally, public funds are not expended if the project is not listed in the CIP. A capital expenditure should be a major, nonrecurring budget item that results in a fixed asset with an anticipated life of at least three years. Projects eligible for inclusion in the City of Homer CIP have a lower cost limit of $50,000 for City projects and $25,000 for those proposed by non-profit organizations. Projects proposed by non-profit organizations and other non-City groups may be included in the CIP with City Council approval, but such inclusion does not indicate that the City intends to provide funding for the project.

The municipality's capital improvement plan is prepared in accordance with a planning schedule, usually adopted by City Council at the onset of the CIP process. A copy of the City of Homer CIP schedule appears in the appendix of this document.

The number of years over which capital projects are scheduled is called the capital programming period. The City of Homer's capital programming period coincides with the State's, which is a six year period. The CIP is updated annually, due to some of the projects being funded and completed within the year.

A capital improvement plan is not complete without public input. The public should be involved throughout the CIP process, including the nomination and adoption stages of the process. The City of Homer solicits input from City advisory bodies, advertises for public input during the CIP public hearing, and invites the public to participate throughout the entire process.

The City's capital improvement program integrates the City's annual budget with planning for larger projects that meet community goals. Though the CIP is a product of the City Council, administration provides important technical support and ideas with suggestions from the public incorporated through the entire process.

Determining project priorities: City of Homer CIP projects are assigned a priority level of 1, 2, or 3, with 1 being the highest priority. To determine priority, City Council considers such questions as:

- Will the project correct a problem that poses a clear danger to human health and safety?
- Will the project significantly enhance City revenues or prevent significant financial loss?
- Is the project widely supported within the community?
- Has the project already been partially funded?
- Is it likely that the project will be funded only if it is identified as being of highest priority?
- Has the project been in the CIP for a long time?
- Is the project specifically recommended in other City of Homer long-range plans?
- Is the project strongly supported by one or more City advisory bodies?

Once the overall CIP list is finalized, the City Council names a subset of projects that will be the focus of efforts to obtain state and/or federal funding in the coming year. The overall CIP and the legislative priority list are approved by resolution.

Integration of the CIP With Comprehensive Plan Goals

Each project listed in the CIP document has been evaluated for consistency with the City's goals as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. The following goals were taken into account in project evaluation:

Land Use: Guide the amount and location of Homer's growth to increase the supply and diversity of housing, protect important environmental resources and community character, reduce sprawl by encouraging infill, make efficient use of infrastructure, support a healthy local economy, and help reduce global impacts including limiting greenhouse gas emissions.

Transportation: Address future transportation needs while considering land use, economics and aesthetics, and increasing community connectivity for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists.

Public Service & Facilities: Provide public services and facilities that meet current needs while planning for the future. Develop strategies to work with community partners that provide beneficial community services outside of the scope of City government.

Parks, Recreation & Culture: Encourage a wide range of health-promoting recreation services and facilities, provide ready access to open space, parks, and recreation, and take pride in supporting the arts.

Economic Vitality: Promote strength and continued growth of Homer's economic industries including marine trades, commercial fishing, tourism, education, arts, and culture. Support development of a variety of well-defined commercial/business districts for a range of commercial purposes. Preserve quality of life while supporting the creation of more year-round living wage jobs.

Energy: Promote energy conservation, wise use of environmental resources, and development of renewable energy through the actions of local government as well as the private sector.

Homer Spit: Manage the land and other resources of the Spit to accommodate its natural processes, while allowing fishing, tourism, other marine-related development, and open space/recreational uses.

Town Center: Create a community focal point to provide for business development, instill a greater sense of pride in the downtown area, enhance mobility for all forms of transportation, and contribute to a higher quality of life.

State Legislative Request FY2021

City of Homer FY2021 State Legislative Priorities
approved by the Homer City Council
via Resolution 19-061

1. **Barge Mooring & Large Vessel Haul Out Repair Facility - $1,129,136**
2. **Port & Harbor: New Large Vessel Moorage Facility - $250,000**
3. **Storm Water Master Plan - $250,000**
4. **Main Street Sidewalk Facility: Pioneer Avenue North - $848,750**
5. **Multi-Use Community Center, Phase 1 - $450,000**

1. Homer Barge Mooring & Large Vessel Haul Out Repair Facility

Project Description & Benefit: This project provides safe moorage and an associated uplands haul out repair facility for large shallow draft vessels. This improvement supports the marine transportation needs of central and western Alaska. Because of the lack of facilities, these vessels currently have to travel to perform annually required maintenance and repairs which could otherwise be completed here in Homer. The facility benefits the local fleet of larger vessels as well as local marine trades businesses, and can accommodate the growing freight needs of existing Homer businesses.

The mooring facility, proposed along the beach front of Lot TR-1-A (between the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon and Freight Dock Road on the west side of the harbor) will stage barges in the tidal zone with the bow end pulled tight to the beach for accessing a haul out ramp. A dead-man anchoring system will be provided for winching vessels up the ramp above the high tide line for maintenance and minor repairs. Upland improvements will include a large vessel wash down pad (which can also be used by recreational/sport boats), electrical pedestals, lighting, security fencing and a drainage/water management system to facilitate local, efficient and environmentally sound vessel repairs. This site has accommodated approximately six to eight vessels (depending on size) with ample workspace; it will offer barges the ability to complete their required annual maintenance at the uplands repair facility while wintering over.

Plans & Progress: Project development is being carried out in phases. Phase 1, initiated in 2014, consisted of forming a Large Vessel Haul Out Task Force to assist with site selection and completion of Best Management Practices, vessel owner use agreements, and vendor use agreements. Staff additionally completed a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation for a portion of lot TR-1-A. Since completing these basic requirements, the haul out area has become a popular repair site option for some of our large vessel owners. This further justifies additional investments to improve our ability to serve these customers and bring more of these customers to Homer.

Three vessels hauled out for repairs on Homer Spit Lot TR 1 A.

Phase 2 is the design and construction of the barge mooring stations. Design and permitting for Phase 2 was initiated with $255,000 in State Legislative Grant funds and is being completed with $42,626 in additional City of Homer funds. Phases 3 will design and construct the upland improvements.

The project earned top ranking among four Kenai Peninsula projects that were ultimately submitted to the Alaska Office of the Economic Development Administration for inclusion on a list for potential federal infrastructure funding.

Total Project Cost: $4,932,526

2019: Phase 2 Barge Mooring Engineering/Permitting/Geotechnical/Design: $297,646 (Funding competed.)
2021: Phase 2 Barge Mooring Construction: $1,255,000
2022: Phase 3 Haul Out Repair Facility Design: $178,400
Haul Out Repair Facility Construction: $3,201,500

FY2021 State Request for Phase 2: $1,129,136
(City of Homer 10% Match: $125,500)

2. Homer Port & Harbor: New Large Vessel Moorage Facility

Project Description & Benefit: This project will construct a new large vessel moorage facility to the north of Homer's existing Port and Harbor. It will enhance port capabilities by:

- Accommodating large commercial vessels (fishing vessels, work boats, landing craft, tugs, etc.) outside the small boat harbor. Currently, large vessels are moored at System 4 and System 5 transient floats. Due to shortage of moorage space, large vessels are rafted two and three abreast constricting passage lanes, creating traffic congestion and overstressing the floats. The new facility will address overcrowding and associated navigational safety concerns and high maintenance costs in Homer's small boat harbor,
- Enabling Homer to moor an additional 40 to 60 large commercial vessels that potentially would use Homer Port & Harbor as a home port, but have been turned away due to their overall size, draft, or that the systems are working beyond capacity and we simply lack the space;
- Positioning Homer's Port and Harbor to meet the demands of emerging regional and national economic opportunities such as the Cook Inlet Oil & Gas industry, a possible LNG export plant in Nikiski, the opening of the Arctic for research, transportation and resource development and the US Coast Guard's long-term mooring needs. Currently, the USCGC *Hickory* moors at the Pioneer Dock which provides inadequate protection from northeasterly storm surges. The large vessel harbor will be built to provide protected and secure moorage suitable to accommodate USCG assets.

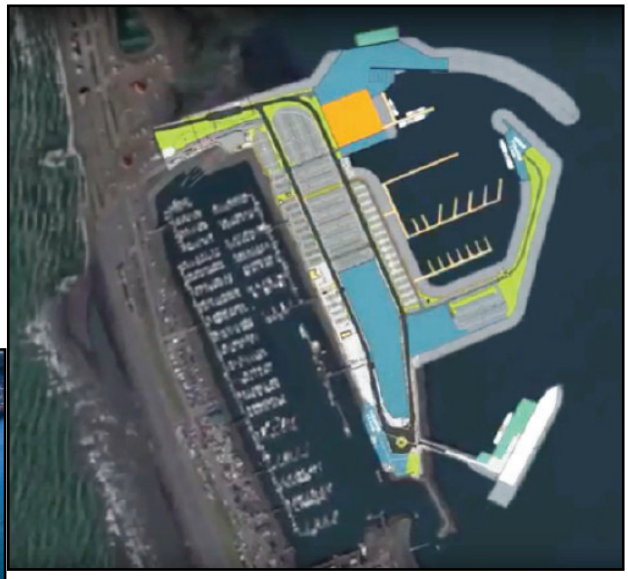
Centrally located in the Gulf of Alaska, Homer's Port & Harbor is the region's only ice-free gateway to Cook Inlet, the port of refuge for large vessels transiting the Gulf of Alaska, Cook Inlet, and Kennedy Entrance, and is the marine industrial and transportation system hub for central and Western Alaska. The new moorage facility will fill the unmet needs of large commercial vessels operating in the maritime industrial, marine transportation and commercial fishing industries.

Plans & Progress: The City, State of Alaska ADOT, and Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) partnered on a port expansion feasibility study in 2004. At that time, preliminary results indicated the project's Benefit to Cost ratio would be non-competitive for Federal funding so the study was put on hold. High demand and favorable changes in cost drivers since then prompted the City and the ACOE to reexamine feasibility utilizing a Section 22 Planning Assistance to States Program Study grant in 2018. The study's positive results led to a recommendation by the ACOE to resume work on the Navigational Improvement Feasibility Study to dredge and build the new moorage facility. The City has formally expressed its intent to work with the ACOE on the Study and renew our partnership with the State of Alaska for technical expertise and funding, with costs sharing (50% Federal, 25% State, 25% City) over three years.

Total Project Cost: $124,233,000
Phase 2: General Investigation Study $3,000,000
Federal $1.5 M
State: $750,000
Local: $750,000

FY2021-FY2023 State of Alaska Request: $250,000 (annually)

FY2021-FY2023 City of Homer Match: $250,000 (annually)



The large vessel port expansion adds a new basin with its own entrance adjacent to the existing Small Boat Harbor. It will relieve large vessel congestion and navigational safety hazards in the small boat harbor while providing secure moorage compatible with the USCG's assets .

3. Storm Water Master Plan

Project Description & Benefit: The City of Homer has an outdated storm water master plan. The current plan was prepared in the 1980's, projecting only basin runoff flows. The existing storm drainage system is expanding and a comprehensive storm water plan is needed to more effectively plan and construct storm water infrastructure, including sedimentation/detention facilities, snow storage and water quality improvements.

A new master plan will outline how the City can:

- Identify current and future storm runoff flows from individual drainage basins within the community.
- Identify infrastructure needed to effectively collect, transmit, treat, and discharge surface water runoff to Kachemak Bay.
- Provide a staged approach to constructing needed infrastructure to serve an expanding/developing community.
- Establish pipe sizing, detention basin volumes, and cost estimates.
- Mitigate storm water runoff through the use of a wide variety of gray and green infrastructure practices and technologies that improve the quality and reduce the quantity of runoff discharging directly to receiving waters.
- Develop public education programs targeting specific stream degradation from storm water runoff.
- Provide storm water management systems and practices including collection, storage, conveyance and treatment structures that are components of a comprehensive plan to preserve or restore natural/stable in-stream hydrology.
- Identify projects that incorporate green infrastructure to manage, treat or reduce storm water discharges and urban non-point source runoff to the critical wildlife habitat of Kachemak Bay.

Plans & Progress: In 2019, the Department of Environmental Conservation awarded the City an Alaska Clean Water Actions stewardship grant to begin work on the Stormwater Master Plan. Grant funds will be used to produce baseline stormwater runoff information and identify low-impact development (or green infrastructure) opportunities for stormwater collection and treatment to minimize the ecological, economic and community impacts of runoff. Local planners, engineers and the public will use this information as a tool in the development of the Master Plan. Funds will also construct green infrastructure features at the new Homer Police Station which will include interpretive signage to teach the public about the value of green infrastructure .

Total Project Cost: $320,000

2019 ACWA Grant: 70,000

FY2021 State Request: $225,000
(City of Homer 10% Match: $25,000)

A master plan is needed to address storm water management issues.

4. Main Street Sidewalk Facility: Pioneer Avenue North

Project Description and Benefit: This project will provide ADA-compliant sidewalks, curb and gutter on Main Street from Pioneer Avenue north to Bayview Park.

Main Street is Homer's primary north-south corridor extending from Bayview Avenue (near the hospital) to Ohlson Lane (near Bishop's Beach); it crosses Homer's primary east-west thoroughfares, Pioneer Avenue and the Sterling Highway. It provides access to residential neighborhoods, South Peninsula Hospital and Bayview Park, yet has no sidewalks, making pedestrian travel unpleasant and hazardous. Sidewalks on this busy street will provide pedestrian safety, accessibility and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Plans and Progress: The need for Main Street sidewalks was first articulated in Homer's 2004 Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan. Main Street sidewalk improvements for the State-owned portion of Main Street (from Pioneer Avenue south) have long been a project in the CIP. Completing a sidewalk facility on the City-owned portion from Pioneer Avenue northward would provide a continuous, safe pedestrian route through the heart of Homer.

The overall project is conceived as sidewalks on both sides of Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bayview Park. A phased approach is suggested, beginning with sidewalk on the west side of Main Street only, first to Fairview Avenue, then to Bayview Park.

Plans & Progress: A engineer's conceptual cost estimate for both phases of the project has been developed.

Total Project Cost: $943,055

Phase I: $422,604
Phase II: $520,451

FY2021 State Request: $848,750
(City of Homer 10% Match: $94,305)

Pedestrian safety along Main Street, one of Homer's primary north-south roads, would benefit from a sidewalk facility.

5. Multi-Use Community Center, Phase 1

Project Description & Benefit: This project is the first phase in designing and constructing a multi-use Community Center to adequately serve the social, recreation, cultural, and educational needs of the Homer community. Years of growing numbers of requests to Parks and Recreation for access to indoor facilities highlights the need for this project. A 2015 City of Homer Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture (PARC) Needs Assessment validated this perceived need. Incorporating an extensive public input process, the PARC Needs Assessment reflects the community's high priority on community access to public recreational and educational spaces and identifies a community center as a significant future investment for the community.

The PARC Needs Assessment included a statistically valid survey question asking the community's interest for constructing and funding an $18 million facility. 30% of respondents agreed with the statement that this facility is a priority in the next five years; an additional 27% placed it as a priority in the next five to ten years. The success of this project requires sources for capital funding and a sound feasibility study to determine how ongoing operations would be funded.

Public input identified a general-purpose gymnasium and a multi-purpose space for safe walking/running, dance, martial arts, performing arts, community meetings and events, and dedicated space for youth as priority features. The PARC Needs Assessment describes the community center as a comprehensive multi-generational facility that offers something for people of all ages; an important part of the feasibility study will be to help avoid overbuilding, building without considering other area amenities, or underestimating operations and maintenance costs to create a vibrant, sustainable multi-purpose public space.

Plans & Progress: In 2017, community members completed construction on the South Peninsula Athletic and Recreation Center (SPARC) on Kenai Peninsula Borough School District property located adjacent to the Homer Middle School. SPARC offers indoor recreation and event space for activities such as indoor soccer, walking, and running; parent/child play groups; roller skating and roller derby; pickleball (with a non-regulation ball); and open gym.

In 2018 the Homer Education and Recreation Complex (HERC) Task Force completed several months of study and provided recommendations to the City Council regarding the future of HERC1. Based on Task Force recommendations the City Council requested letters of interest for use of the facility and issued a request for proposals to upgrade and manage HERC1 in spring 2019. No proposals were received and the City Council initiated steps to evaluate HERC1 demolition.

A reconnaissance or preliminary feasibility study will evaluate the size and type of facility, recommend functional spaces based on community need and not duplicating services, develop conceptual floor plans and site plans, estimate total construction cost, project ongoing operational costs and identify funding mechanisms.

Total Project Cost: $500,000

FY2021 State Request: $450,000
(City of Homer 10% Match: $50,000)

The City of Unalaska'S Community Center is the hub of community activities. Centrally located, the Community Center is widely used by both residents and visitors. It has everything from a cardio and weight room to music and art areas.

Mid-Range Projects

Part 2: Mid-Range Projects

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ADA Transition Projects

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- **Public Restroom Accessibility Barrier Removal 11**
- **Removing Parking & Pavement Accessibility Barriers at City Facilties 12**
- **Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan for City Parks, Trails and Campgrounds 13**

City Hall Access Barrier Removal

Project Description & Benefit: Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all State and local governments must be accessible to, and usable by, people with disabilities. The basic principles of the ADA are equal opportunity, integration, and inclusion. From 2017-2019, the City of Homer ADA Compliance Committee and City Staff evaluated City Facilities to identify accessibility barriers. The results were compiled into the City's Transition Plan, in accordance with Title II of the ADA regulations. City Hall is one of the most used city buildings throughout the year and this project corrects access barriers (ADA Priority Level 1 issues) to get into the building.

City Hall access barriers include:

- Cross slopes that exceed 1:48 ratio for all designated accessible parking spaces;
- absence of van accessible parking;
- incorrect dimensions of accessible parking spaces;
- improperly located signage;
- absence of a level landing at the top of the curb ramp below the front entrance ramp;
- handrails on ramp protrude into the path of travel and reduces the width to less than 36" width requirement;
- push bar on main entrance door protrudes into the doorway and reduces the width of the opening to less than 32" width requirement; and
- front door entrance threshold height.

Plans & Progress: Public Works Staff assisted the ADA Compliance Committee during the self-evaluation process, and together with Port and Harbor staff helped develop solutions and remedies included in the Transition Plan. City Council approved the Transition Plan in Resolution 19-024. This project could potentially be addressed in conjunction with DOT&PF's Pioneer Avenue Repaving Project (currently scheduled for 2020) to take advantage of the paving equipment and contractors which will be mobilized locally.

Total Project Cost: $400,000

Schedule: 2020

Priority Level: 1

The cross slope of the accessible parking spaces at the lower entrance to City Hall exceeds the maximum allowed 1:48 under ADA standards.

Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon Accessible Ramp and Retaining Wall

Project Description & Benefit: The Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon located on the Homer Spit (also known as the "Fishing Hole") is a man-made marine embayment approximately 5 acres in size that is annually stocked with king and silver salmon smolts to provide sport fishing opportunity. Salmon fishing at the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon brings visitors to Homer throughout the summer and is also popular with city residents. This outdoor recreation activity provides a local, road accessible, shore-based salmon fishery that attracts a wide array of sport anglers, including handicapped accessible and youth-only fishing opportunities. This outdoor recreational activity helps stimulate and diversify local businesses and the economy. During the summer when salmon are returning, up to 250 bank anglers have been present at any one time between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. The parking area, shoreline and tide line 17 feet above mean high water are owned by the City of Homer. Below mean high water, the tidelands and water are owned by the State of Alaska.

Over the years the accessible ramp has fallen into major disrepair and is no longer complaint or usable by anglers with mobility challenges. In 2018 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game attempted to provide funding for improvements to the accessible ramp, however funding was pulled.

Plans & Progress: The City of Homer ADA Compliance Committee has identified this improvement as a significant benefit and ADF&G has submitted a request for Fiscal Year 2021 to replace the South ADA ramp.

Total Project Cost: $59,300

Schedule: 2021

Priority Level: 2

Homer Harbor and Public Works personnel working with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game developed this plan to make the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon ramp accessible.

Public Restroom Accessibility Barrier Removal

Project Description & Benefit: Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all State and local governments must be accessible to, and usable by people with disabilities. The basic principles of the ADA are equal opportunity, integration, and inclusion. From 2017-2019, the City of Homer ADA Compliance Committee and City Staff evaluated City Facilities to identify accessibility barriers. The results were compiled into the City's Transition Plan, in accordance with Title II of the ADA regulations. This project corrects barriers at City public restroom facilities. A clear path of travel to a bathroom and clearance for entry, maneuverability inside, and access to water closets, toilet paper, soap and hand towel dispensers or dryers, are just some of the key requirements of the ADA. These accessible features are required for public restrooms whether they are restrooms with stalls in a City building or individual bathrooms that are located on the spit and in town. Correcting these issues are a benefit the entire community.

Barrier removal in existing bathrooms include:

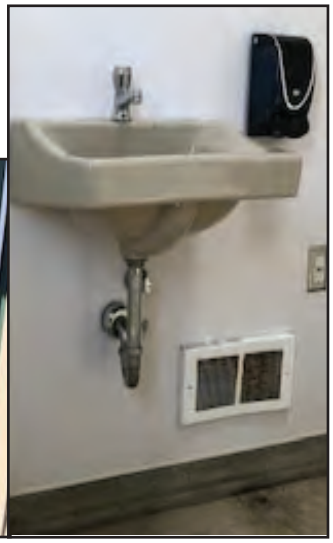
- Relocation of grab bars, toilet paper dispensers, coat hooks, and mirrors;
- moving tactical signage to the appropriate location on the left side of the entrance;
- adjusting the entrance threshold height;
- replacing toilets that are too high or have flush lever to the open side of the water closet;
- covering pipes below lavatories;
- replacing hardware on stall doors and bathroom doors;
- removing obstacles to clear floor space for wheelchair maneuverability, and;
- complete bathroom facility replacement.

Plans & Progress: Public Works Staff assisted the ADA Compliance Committee during the self-evaluation process, and together with Port and Harbor staff helped develop solutions and remedies included in the Transition Plan. City Council approved the Transition Plan in Resolution 19-024. This project could proceed in phases. Phase 1 would remove accessibility barriers in existing City restrooms, bringing them into ADA compliance. Many of the barriers exist in several restrooms and could be addressed through one project. ADA improvements to the Karen Hornaday Park restroom is not recommended due to the buildings advanced age and poor condition. Phase 2 is to remove and replace the bathroom at Karen Hornaday Park.

Total Project Cost: 400,000

Schedule:
2020-2021: Phase 1 Barrier removal in existing bathrooms $75,000
2022-2023: Phase 2 Demo and replace existing bathroom at Karen Hornaday Park $325,000

Priority Level: 1



This project will correct accessibility issues at City of Homer public restrooms.
Some depicted here include improperly placed dispensers and grab bars, lack of wheel chair space from bench, incorrect door swing and lack of cover on the lower pipes

Removing Parking and Pavement Accessibility Barriers at City Facilities

Project Description & Benefit: Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all State and local governments must be accessible to, and usable by, people with disabilities. The basic principles of the ADA are equal opportunity, integration, and inclusion. From 2017-2019, the City of Homer ADA Compliance Committee and City Staff evaluated City Facilities to identify accessibility barriers. The results were compiled into the City's Transition Plan, in accordance with Title II of the ADA regulations. This project corrects parking and pavement barriers (ADA Priority Level 1 issues) at City facilities to aid the entire community in accessing and participating in programs, services or activities provided by the City of Homer.

ADA regulations standardize the size and number of marked accessible parking spaces in a lot and appropriate signage placed such that it cannot be obscured by a vehicle parked in the space. Accessibility standards also require firm, stable and slip resistant surfaces. Many City of Homer facilities do not meet these standards.

This project will correct the following parking barriers in the vicinity of the Homer Harbor, and at Public Works, Homer Public Library, the Animal Shelter, Baycrest pullout bathroom facility and the Fire Hall:

- Absence of accessible parking;
- absence of van accessible parking;
- incorrect dimensions of accessible parking spaces;
- improperly located signage;
- accessible parking spaces where water pools and snow melt creates icy conditions that become hazardous in the winter;
- parking space identified in gravel lots that fail to provide a path of travel to a sidewalk or facilities; and
- cross slopes that exceed 1:48 ratio on paved lots.

Plans & Progress: Public Works Staff assisted the ADA Compliance Committee during the self-evaluation process, and together with Port and Harbor staff helped develop solutions and remedies included in the Transition Plan. City Council approved the Transition Plan in Resolution 19-024. This project proposes to proceed in two phases. Phase 1 includes at least eight paved accessible parking spaces and at least two van accessible spaces in the vicinity of Harbor Ramps 3, 4 and 5 and at public restrooms and resolving non-compliant signage and pavement marking. Phase 2 includes resolving non-compliant parking lot cross slopes and non-compliant signage and pavement marking at the remaining city facilities listed above. If not already completed, this project could potentially address cross slope corrections at City Hall (included in a separate CIP project) to take advantage of mobilized paving equipment and crews.

Total Project Cost: $400,000

Schedule:
2020-2021: Phase 1 Harbor Accessible Parking, $50,000
2022-2023: Phase 2 City Facility Parking Lot Cross Slopes & Signage, $350,000

Priority Level: 1

Accessible parking spaces at Ramp 4 in the Port & Harbor provide an example of where spaces need to be paved and a path of travel provided to the sidewalk.

Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for City Parks, Trails & Campgrounds

Project Description & Benefit: Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all State and local governments must be accessible to, and usable by, people with disabilities. The basic principles of the ADA are equal opportunity, integration, and inclusion. The Self-Evaluation is a comprehensive report that outlines the barriers for people with disabilities as they seek to use local government services and programs. It is drafted by the state or local government in collaboration with and review by a sample user group of people with disabilities. It includes a transition plan of architectural and administrative barriers to programs that need to be removed in order to make the program accessible. Completion of this project will be a significant step meeting the requirements of Title II of the ADA, by having a full Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for the City of Homer.

A completed Self Evaluation and Transition Plan will:

- Acknowledge the City's obligation to comply with ADA Title 2 Subpart D- Program Accessibility § 35.149 Discrimination prohibited;
- meet the requirement of ADA Title 2 Subpart D- Program Accessibility § 35.150 Existing Facilities, (d) Transition Plan;
- identify barriers to be resolved and establish a timeline for completion; and
- bring the City of Homer closer to its goal of being a Universally Accessible City as identified in Resolution 17-075(A).

Plans & Progress: In 2017, the City of Homer ADA Compliance Committee and City Staff began evaluating City facilities to identify accessibility barriers and prepared a Transition Plan, which City Council approved in 2019. Evaluating and preparing a plan for City Parks, Trails and Campgrounds exceeds the ability and time allowance of City staff and ADA Compliance Committee members. This project entails hiring a consulting firm that specializes in preparing ADA Transition Plans to evaluate City parks, trails and campground facilities for inclusion in the City's Transition Plan.

Total Project Cost: $60,000

Schedule: 2020

Priority Level: 1

Accessibility improvements to trails, parks and campgrounds allows everyone to recieve full benefits of Homer's park & recreation amenities.

Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture

- **Bayview Park Restoration Project.....15**
- **Homer Spit Trailhead Restroom 16**
- **Jack Gist Park Improvements, Phase 2.....17**
- **Karen Hornaday Park Improvements, Phase 2 .....18**

Bayview Park Restoration

Project Description & Benefit: Bayview Park is a small, relatively quiet fenced neighborhood park at the top of Main Street. The goal of this project is to improve the accessibility and safety of the Park and its playground elements with a focus on making the park more user-friendly to young children (infant-toddler-preschool age) and for children and parents/caregivers with disabilities or mobility issues.

A dedicated group of volunteers in Homer's Early Childhood Coalition have adopted the park, created a park Master Plan and completed some improvements to the park: an embankment slide, log steps, and an alder fort and boulders. Homer's Early Childhood Coalition continues to work to complete elements included in the Park's Master Plan. In 2014, they completed an ADA accessible pathway and made temporary repairs to the perimeter fence. They are currently working to replace the fence, add new play equipment and extend accessible pathway to all play features.

- Summer 2021**:** Replace existing white picket fence with a wood frame-chain link fence to improve the stability and durability of the fence (current fence is in constant need of repair). Parents and caregivers appreciate having a fence as it provides a level of safety for young children around the busy roads and ditches surrounding the park.
- Summer 2022: Upgrade ground cover to playground standards, replace jungle gym, add additional swing port, and extend ADA trail to new elements as needed. The goal is to provide new playground elements that are designed for younger/toddler age and to have some accessible for children with disabilities.

Plans & Progress: In 2011 Homer Early Childhood Coalition raised money and funded a new slide and boulders that were installed by the City of Homer. Several parents built and installed stepping logs and 2 small "bridges". In 2013 Homer Early Childhood Coalition coordinated with Corvus Design to meet with local families and children for project ideas and create a master plan with cost estimates. $5,347.76 was raised to pay for design costs and install new play elements. ADA parking and access trail improvements were completed in 2014 utilizing in-kind donations of equipment and labor and an additional $5,118 in fundraising dollars.

Total Project Cost: $189,974

Schedule: 2021-2022

Priority Level: 2

Though charming, the white picket fence that surrounds Bayview Park is in need of constant repair. A more practical chain length fence is needed to keep young children out of roads and ditches.

Homer Spit Trailhead Restroom

Project Description & Benefit: The parking lot at the intersection of the Ocean Drive bike path and Homer Spit Trail gets heavy use year round. The Spit trail is a popular staging area for biking, running, walking, and roller blading. Parents bring their young children to ride bikes because the trail is relatively flat and has few dangerous intersections. An ADA accessible restroom would be used by recreationalists and commuters using both trails.

Total Project Cost: $295,000

Schedule: 2023

Priority Level: 3

The parking lot at the Spit trail head full of cars on a sunny day.

Jack Gist Park Improvements, Phase 2

Project Description & Benefit: Jack Gist Park has been in development since 1998 on 12.4 acres of land donated to the City of Homer by a private landowner. As originally envisioned by the Jack Gist Recreational Park Association, this parcel has been developed primarily for softball fields. It also features a disc golf course.

The proposed project will complete Phase 2 by improving drainage around the upper ball field, constructing a concession stand/equipment storage building adjacent to the softball fields, and developing an irrigation system utilizing a stream on the property in conjunction with a cistern. Phase 3 will provide potable water (water main extension), construct a plumbed restroom, and acquire land for soccer fields.

Plans & Progress: Phase 1 of this project was completed in 2011 after a five year period of incremental improvements. In 2005-2006, a road was constructed to Jack Gist Park from East End Road, a 70-space gravel parking area was created, and three softball fields were constructed including fencing, dugouts, and backstops. In 2008, bleachers were installed at all three softball fields. In 2009, three infields were resurfaced. In 2010, with volunteer help, topsoil was spread and seeded on two of the three fields and the parking area was improved and expanded. 2011 saw improvements to the third ball field: drainage improvements on the outside perimeter (right and left field lines), imported material to improve the infield and topsoil and seeding to improve the outfield.

Total Project Cost: $160,000
Drainage: $50,000
Concession Stand and Equipment Storage: $75,000
Irrigation System: $35,000

Schedule: 2021-2022

Priority Level: 2

One of the softball fields at Jack Gist Park.

Karen Hornaday Park Improvements

Project Description & Benefit: Homer's popular Karen Hornaday Park encompasses baseball fields, a day use/ picnic area, a playground, a campground, and a creek on almost 40 acres. It also hosts community events such as the Highland Games. The Karen Hornaday Park Master Plan, updated and approved in 2009, sets forth goals and objectives to be accomplished over a 10-year period.

Presently, Phase 2 improvements providing safe and inclusive access to the park and its essential facilities are underway. Thanks to volunteer efforts and HART Program funding, significant trail access improvements were completed in 2018: (1) an access trail along Fairview Avenue on the southern border of the park that extends up into the park along the park access road, and (2) the Woodard Creek Nature Trail provides pedestrian access from Danview Avenue and allows people to enjoy and appreciate Woodard Creek. In 2019, the City plans to adjust the road alignment entering the park, and better delineate the eastern overflow parking area. This will increase pedestrian safety from the parking areas to the main portion of the park.

Phase 3, is the replacement of the central restrooms for the park, and increasing ADA accessibility to the restrooms, parking area and main picnic facility. The current restrooms are well past their useful life and will need total replacement in the near future. The travel surface from the parking area to the restrooms and the main picnic shelter is too steep and uneven for universal access. This phase includes rebuilding ADA compliant restrooms, parking spaces, path to restrooms, path to the picnic shelter, and paved area around the BBQ's and fire pit area.

Plans & Progress: Phase 1 of park improvements were accomplished through an Alaska Legislature appropriation of $250,000 in FY 2011. This money, together with City funds and fundraising by HoPP (an independent group organized to make playground improvements), helped complete Phase 1: drainage improvements, ballfield improvements, new playground, new day use area and northern parking lot improvements. The City received a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant for campground improvements and development of a new day use area between the two ball fields which was completed in 2014. For 2019, the City budgeted funds for minor road alignment work, speed bumps and parking lot reconfiguration.

Phase 3: The City has conducted a site visit with the local independent living center to access the access problems and potential solutions. Additionally, the City has an adopted ADA Transition Plan, adopted in 2019, that prioritizes upgrades to parking, access routes, equitable access, and restrooms.

Total Project Cost: $1,970,750

Schedule: 2019 - 2022

Priority Level: 1

Upper Woodard Creek Nature Trail and an access trail along Fairview Avenue were completed in 2017 with volunteer labor and a small amount of City funds.

The road into Karen Hornaday Park is between the park and the parking lot, requiring children to have to cross traffic to get to the park's attractions. Traffic calming features are scheduled to be completed in 2019.

Port and Harbor

- **Deep Water/Cruise Ship Dock Expansion, Phase 1 ..... 20**
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- **Truck Loading Facility Upgrades at Fish Dock 28**
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Deep Water/Cruise Ship Dock Expansion, Phase 1

Project Description & Benefit: Upgrades to the Deep Water/Cruise Ship Dock are necessary to provide a facility that can accommodate multiple industry groups and provide the greatest economic benefit to the area. A feasibility study of expanding and strengthening the dock (with later phases including a terminal building and other upland improvements) is nearing completion. Expansion increases the Port & Harbor's capability to support regional resource development initiatives with moorage and a staging area for freight service to the Lake and Peninsula Borough (via the Williamsport-Pile Bay Road) and to potential future Cook Inlet region resource development projects. There is current demand for modifications to the existing dock to accommodate long-term mooring of large resource development vessels such as timber, mining and oil and gas barges, and as designed, the dock will be able to handle icebreakers, of particular importance given Alaska's strategic arctic location.

The facility will boost cargo capability. The City has a 30-acre industrial site at the base of the dock which can support freight transfer operations and serve as a staging area for shipping to and from the Alaska Peninsula, the Aleutians, and Bristol Bay. Handling containerized freight delivery to the Kenai Peninsula would reduce the cost of delivering materials and supplies to much of the Peninsula. The dock expansion will also enhance cruise ship-based tourism in Homer by providing moorage at the dock for two ships (a cruise ship and a smaller ship) at the same time, reducing scheduling conflicts.

Finally, improvements to the dock will fulfill a contingency planning requirement under Homeland Security provisions. The Port of Anchorage, through which 90% of the cargo for the Alaska Railbelt areas and the Kenai Peninsula passes, is vulnerable. If the Port of Anchorage were to be shut down and/or incapacitated for any reason, Homer's port would become even more important as an unloading, staging, and trans-shipping port.

Plans & Progress: In 2005 the City of Homer spent $550,000 for cathodic protection of the existing dock and conceptual design of an expanded dock. $2 million in federal transportation earmark funds were appropriated in FY2006 to prepare preliminary design and conduct further economic analysis. The Alaska Legislature appropriated an additional $1 million for FY2011. Homer City Council has authorized the sale of $2 million in bonds to help fund the construction of this project. The City started on project design and feasibility with R&M consulting to begin design and feasibility. To date, the team completed an extensive conditions survey of the existing infrastructure, bottom condition survey, soils core drilling, and a very detailed tide/current profile for the dock. The feasibility study helped identify the best option for expansion to improve freight and cargo handling capabilities. Some uplands improvements have been completed to benefit cargo movement and storage on land close to the deep water dock: paving outer dock truck bypass road, removing the old wooden fence around the concrete storage yard and replacing it with a chain link fence, stormwater runoff handling, lighting and security cameras.

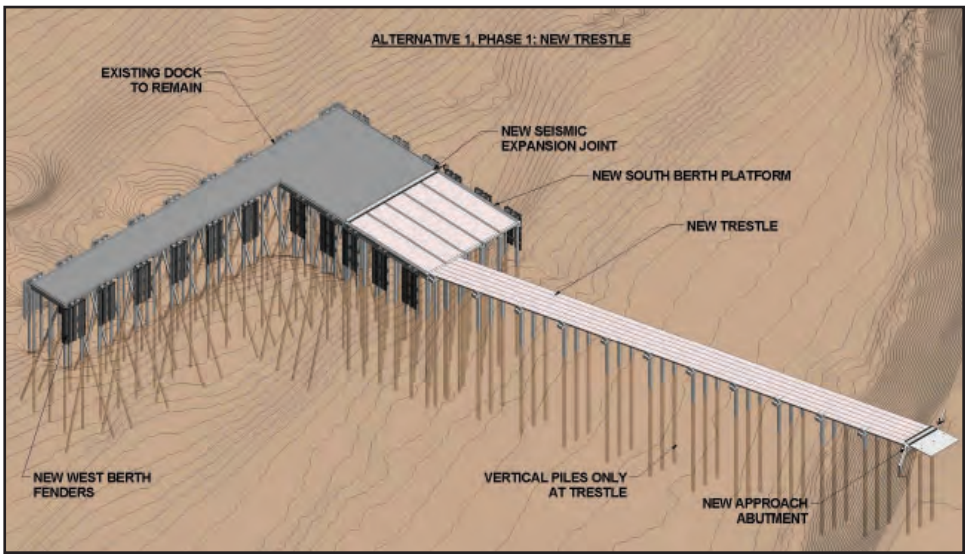
Total Project Cost: $35,000,000

Feasibility: $1,250,000 (Completed September 2016)

Design: $1,750,000

Construction: $32,000,000

Priority: 2



Deep Water Dock Expansion proposed design.

Harbor Ramp 8 Public Restroom

Project Description & Benefit: Ramp 8 serves System 5, the large vessel mooring system. Previously, restroom facilities for Ramp 8 consisted of an outhouse. This outdated restroom brought many complaints to the Harbormaster's office. Sanitary restroom facilities are expected in modern, competitive harbors along with potable water and adequate shore power. The Ramp 8 outhouse was removed in 2015. A new public restroom in this location is needed to serve the crew members of large vessels when they come to port.

Plans & Progress: Design costs for this project would be minimal as the City has standard public restroom plans engineered that can be easily modified for this location.

Total Project Cost: $295,000

Schedule: 2024

Priority Level: 3

Ramp 8 sees heavy use from crews of large vessels moored in System 5.
Since this outhouse was removed in 2015, crews either use a porta potty provided by the Port & Harbor, or walk 1.5 blocks to use the nearest restroom facility.

Homer Harbor Cathodic Protection

Project Description & Benefit: Homer Harbor's float system is comprised of 161,000 square feet of concrete and wood floats supported by over 500 steel pilings. Steel has a number of characteristics that make it desirable for structural use in harbors, including the ability to last almost indefinitely if properly protected from the destructive effect of electrolysis. Corrosion stemming from electrolysis, however, dramatically shortens the useful life of the pilings.

Most of the float system piling in Homer Harbor predates the 1999 ownership exchange from the State to the City of Homer. When originally installed, a hot-dipped galvanized coating protected the piling. This coating is typically effective between 15 and 20 years. Harbor pilings range in age from 34 to 26 years old.

Over time, electrolysis has depleted this original protective coating to the point where it is no longer protecting the pilings. The potential readings obtained in a cathodic protection half-cell survey in 2018 were -0.60, a reading that indicates freely corroding steel according to National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) Standards.

This project proposes to install a passive cathodic protection system to fully protect the saltwater and soil submerged harbor pilings from corrosion. The method selected provides zinc anodes attached externally to the pile as a "sacrificial" source of positively charged ions. The anode material oxidizes preferentially to the steel, greatly reducing or eliminating the rusting of the steel piles.

The long-term benefit is to extend the remaining safe and usable service life of the harbor float system, at least an additional 20 years and perhaps indefinitely, avoiding the high costs of limiting allowable loads on corroded load-bearing piles and eventually repairing or replacing structurally disabled piling.

Plans & Progress: The City began the process of installing cathodic protection in 2018. As part of that project, R&M Engineering designed a cathodic protection program for the entire harbor float system. The sacrificial anode system was selected as it has the advantage of being relatively simple to install, is suitable for localized protection, and less liable to cause interaction on neighboring structures.

Utilizing $200,000 in Port and Harbor reserve funds, the City contracted a firm to install zinc anodes on 139 of the 500 harbor piles. Test results from a post-construction cathodic protection survey verified that the system is providing adequate levels of cathodic protection to the piles as defined by the applicable NACE International Standards SP0176-2007.

It is our goal to get this work done as quickly as possible to preserve the integrity of the foundation of the float system harbor-wide.

Total Project Cost**:** $914,240

Cathodic Protection 2018: $200,000
(139 pilings completed with City of Homer Port & Harbor Reserve funds)

Cathodic Protection 2019 $714,240
(protect remaining pilings)

Example of the damage electrolysis causes to harbor pilings. This broken piling in 2012 caused the R & S floats in the harbor to be condemned until it could be repaired.

Schedule**:** 2020

Priority Level: 1

Ice Plant Upgrade

Project Description & Benefit: The ice plant at the Fish Dock is a critical component of the overall Port and Harbor enterprise, providing more than 3,500 tons of flake ice each year to preserve the quality of more than 20 million pounds of salmon, halibut, sablefish, and pacific cod landed at the Port of Homer.

Although the Ice Plant has been maintained very well since being built in 1983, efficiencies may be gained by upgrading certain key components of the plant with current technologies, which may include replacing the refrigeration compressors, integrating natural gas into the process, and/or upgrading the control systems to increase the plant's efficiency and reduce operating costs.

Plans & Progress: This project is proceeding in a two-phase approach. Phase 1 initiated in 2019 with the City awarding a contract to Coffman Engineering Firm from Anchorage for the purpose of performing a site visit to Homer's Ice Plant to create a list of recommendations/options for upgrading the facility. Goals for this evaluation are to address energy savings solutions to help lower operational costs, plant maintenance, longevity and return on investment. We would specifically ask if and how natural gas could lower costs and we would also want to address the need of creating a year-round cold storage refrigeration system as an upgrade to the original plan.

Total Project Cost:

Phase 1: $40,000

Phase 2: TBD based on consultant recommendations and upgrade plan adopted.

Schedule:
2019: Phase 1 completion and upgrade plan finalized;
2020: Design and engineering for upgrades;
2021: Upgrade ice plant.

Priority: 1

Four of the Ice Plant's aging compressors are shown here.

Large Vessel Sling Lift, Phase 1

Project Description & Benefit: During the investigation conducted in 2014 by the Large Vessel Haulout Task Force, the Task Force quickly recognized a need to provide haulout services to all vessels that moor in the harbor. As a first step in filling this need, the Port & Harbor developed an airbag haul-out system on available tidelands within the harbor. This system has proved successful.

However, it works only for part of the fleet: large, flat-bottomed, shallow draft vessels. Much of the fleet in the harbor is not able to use this system because of the vessel's deep draft hull configuration. A lift in a local commercial yard is being expanded to accommodate vessels up to 150 tons, which will accommodate most limit seiners and many of our larger boats. Homer will still lack haulout services for deep draft vessels larger than 150 tons.

A sling lift has been proposed as a possible haulout solution for vessels that are not currently being served in Homer. The lift, coupled with an on-site repair yard would provide these vessel owners the option to perform their annually required maintenance and repairs locally without having to travel, similar to how large shallow draft vessels currently utilize the airbag system. Haul outs ease the burden of travel for the vessel owners during the winter season and, as an added bonus, generate business to help sustain local marine trades.

The sling lift facility is proposed for the old chip pad to provide an on-site repair yard.

Plans & Progress: Project development will have two phases. The first phase will be a comprehensive study about how to best build and operate this new service at the Port of Homer. It will address if the proposed location is compatible, and include engineering and design options and a cost-benefit analysis. The study will also research options for operating this new service, providing an analysis of various ownership and operating models such as privately owned and operated with a lease to the Enterprise, a public private partnership, or alternatively, municipally owned and operated by the City using Enterprise employees. It will also work on regulatory requirements such as a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

Phase 2 will be acquisition of the sling lift and construction of the support infrastructure after considering the results of the phase one study.

Total Project Cost: $65,000 (Phase 1)

Schedule: 2021

Priority Level: 2

An example of a sling lift and and adjacent repair yard area.

Old Main Dock Removal and Disposal

Project Description & Benefit: This project will remove the old Main Dock from inside the Pioneer Dock facility and dispose of or salvage all associated materials. The old Main Dock was the original ocean dock in Homer, built in 1965 at the time of the first dredging for the Homer Harbor. When the Main dock was no longer safe to be used as a commercial pier in 2001, the City built the new Pioneer Dock around it, leaving the Main Dock in place.

The Main Dock has become a safety hazard and potential liability for the City. It has deteriorated to the point that it is unsafe even for an individual to walk on.

Plans & Progress: Identifying this project in the Capital Improvement Plan aids in the project's first step, which is to search and solicit sources of financial aid for the project. For instance, it is possible it would quality under a State or Federal initiative for waterfront renewal or rehabilitation. Removal of the Main Dock can be achieved using a variety of heavy equipment and disposal methods that satisfy safety, environmental and building requirements.

Total Project Cost: Unknown. Methods for removal presented by interested contractors at a later date will help hone the scope of work and cost requirements for this project.

Priority Level: 3

Schedule: 2023

The former Main Dock in Homer's Port & Harbor is over fifty years old, defunct and deteriorated to the point that it is a hazard and a liability.

System 4
Vessel Mooring Float System

Project Description & Benefit: System 4 is made up mostly of floats that were relocated from the original harbor construction in 1964. In the 2002 Transfer of Responsibility Agreement (TORA) project, System 4 was completed by moving the old floats into place. Within two years it was filled to maximum capacity. System 4 floats are over 20 years beyond their engineered life expectancy and are showing their age. This project can be done in phases.

Plans & Progress: Phase 1 floats HH, JJ, and headwalk float AA between those floats were replaced in fall of 2014. Power and water was extended from ramp 7 to JJ and HH as part of the same project. A new landing float was installed for Ramp 7 in the spring of 2014. Phase 2 floats CC, DD, EE, GG will be replaced next.

Total Project Cost: $5,600,000

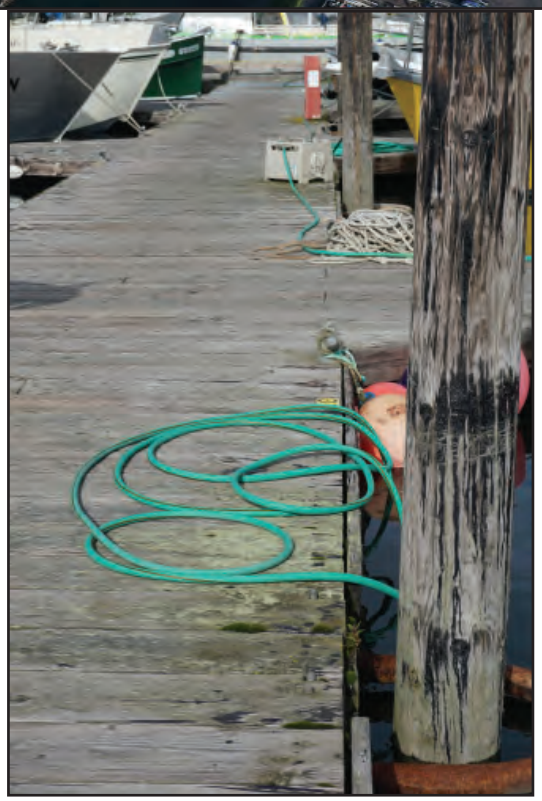
Schedule:

2021 Design: $600,000

2021-2024 Construction: $5,000,000

Priority Level: 3

System 4 ramps to be replaced next.



Detail of aging Float DD, at right.

Seafarers Memorial Parking Expansion

Project Description & Benefit: This project would use materials from dredging the harbor to build up a parking lot between Seafarers Memorial and the east end of the nearby boardwalk complex. The additional parking will be a welcome improvement as it is often hard to find parking during peak summer months on this section of the Spit. The project has the added benefit of replenishing the beaches on the east side of the Spit and protecting infrastructure from erosion. The material will be placed on the beaches as part of the Army Corps of Engineers' dredging/disposal operations. Funding is needed to supplement hauling costs, compact material, cap with gravel and pave the lot. A Corps permit will be needed to accomplish this work.

Plans & Progress: The City has appropriated $15,000 for the Homer Area Roads and Trails (HART) fund for preliminary engineering design and permitting. 95% of engineering design work was completed in 2015. A phased approach to construction will be used.

Total Project Cost: $635,000

Schedule:

2017: Design and Permitting at 95% complete: $8,000
2019: Conditional Use Permit Application submitted to Planning Department
2020: Dredged Material Placement by Corps: In kind
2021: Install drainage, riprap protection, paving/striping and all parking lot delineation: $627,000

Priority Level: 1

This project would fill in, level and pave the grassy area pictured above between the Seafarer's Memorial and the nearby boardwalk.

Truck Loading Facility Upgrades at Fish Dock

Project Description & Benefit: Approximately 22 million pounds of fish are landed at the Homer Fish Dock each year and loaded onto trucks. The resulting truck, fork lift, and human traffic creates considerable congestion as fish buyers jockey for space to set up portable loading ramps. Lack of adequate drainage in the area creates further problems as the vehicles must maneuver in soft and often muddy conditions.

This project will construct a loading dock to facilitate the loading of fish onto trucks. In addition, it will provide for paving of Lot 12-B and other improvements to address the drainage problems that impact the area.

Total Project Cost: $300,000

Schedule: 2022

Priority: 3

Currently at the Fish Dock, fish buyers have to contend with a muddy lot and lack of a loading dock to facilitate the transfer of fish to trucks.

Wood Grid Replacement

Project Description & Benefit: The Wood Grid is a series of benches (in this case wooden beams) laid out on intertidal land that can support a boat for hull repairs during low tides. Vessels float over the grid at high tide and then set down on the grid as the tide resides. Vessel owners are able to do minor repairs and inspections to their vessels hulls while "dry" on the grid and refloat with the incoming tide.

The Wood Grid is one of two tidal grids that the Port and Harbor operates. Because of our large tidal exchange in Kachemak bay, Homer's tidal grids are likely one of the most useful vessel grid systems in the world. They utilize the tides to our advantage to provide an inexpensive way for vessel owners to maintain their vessels' hulls.

Homer's Wood Grid was originally built 40 years ago and accommodates vessels up to 59 feet with a 50-ton limit. Other than the walkway replacement that occurred in 2001, the wood grid has seen very little in terms of upgrades since.

Three particular issues would likely be addressed in an upgrade. Gravel has migrated downhill and filled in between the benches, making it increasingly difficult for people to actually to get under the vessels on the grid to perform repairs. A second issue is with the Wood Grid's retaining walls. Due to age, the upper wall is no longer retaining infill from the bank above and the lower submerged wall has degraded to the point that staff are not able to repair it. Another concern is that the benches and the buried pile that support them have deteriorated to the point that staff is unable to repair them. At a minimum the piles and benches will need to be replaced.

Plans & Progress: This project would consist of two phases. The first phase is preliminary engineering and design to ascertain the scope and cost of the improvement, including what permitting is required. The second phase would be construction.

Total Project Cost:
Phase 1: Engineering and design: $25,000
Phase 2: Construction: to be determined in Phase 1.

Schedule: Phase I: 2021

Priority Level: 1

The Wood Grid in Homer's Port and Harbor was originally built 40 years ago and accommodates vessels up to 59 feet with a 50 ton limit. Other than replacing the walkway in 2001, the wood grid has seen very little in terms of upgrades since.

Public Safety

- **City of Homer Radio Communications System Upgrade 31**
- **Fire Department Fleet Managment 32**
- **Fire Hall Expansion, Phase 1..... 33**

City of Homer Radio Communication System Upgrades

Project Description & Benefit: The City's radio communication system is a complex, high-tech, multi-component communication infrastructure that serves the daily needs of the Homer Police, Fire, Port & Harbor and Public Works Departments and is critical for effective emergency response to natural disasters and man-made incidents. Communication system technology has changed tremendously during the last thirty years of the digital age. It is now completely digital, can carry encrypted data in addition to voice communications and must comply with FCC bandwidth requirements.

Homer's communication system (consisting of the Public Safety Radio System, the Port and Harbor Radio System and the Public Works Radio system) needs upgrading to keep up with technological advances, comply with new FCC bandwidth requirements, maintain interoperability with all local, borough and state agencies utilizing the ALMR system and maintain software updates and other manufacturer product support.

The goal of this project is to upgrade the entire radio communication system by 2020 to stay within FCC compliance.

Plans and Progress: Progress on this project has been incremental with assistance from Alaska State Homeland Security grant funds. To date, the main dispatch console, two City of Homer repeaters, two emergency backup dispatch radios and all Police Department radio units have been upgraded. Components still needing upgrades are listed under the Total Project Cost section below.

Total Project Cost: $850,362 - $950,362
($560,362 of total project cost has been funded through State Homeland Security and Emergency Management grant awards.)

Public safety repeater relocation on Homer Spit:	$ 35,271 (completed)
Dispatch consoles and associated equipment:	$ 296,000 (completed)
Public Safety repeater upgrade:	$ 63,430 (completed)
HPD Public Safety radios:	$ 165,661 (completed)
HVFD Public Safety radios	$ 100,000 - $120,000
Port & Harbor radios and possible repeater:	$ 40,000 - $ 70,000
Public Works radios:	$ 100,000 - $120,000
Public Works data radio system:	$ 50,000 - $ 80,000

Schedule: 2019-2022

Priority: 1

City-wide radio system upgrades are needed to maintain full communication operability.

Fire Department Fleet Management

Project Description & Benefit: To meet the community's fire protection needs and Insurance Services Office (ISO) requirements, Homer requires two Tankers for off-hydrant operations, three front-line Fire Engines and one Reserve Fire Engine. National Fire Protection Agency codes recommend maintaining apparatus with the latest safety features and operating capabilities to maximize firefighting capabilities while minimizing the risk of injuries. Apparatus in first-line service should not be more than 15 years old; apparatus over 25-years old and properly maintained should be placed in reserve status.

Many of the apparatus and specialized vehicles in the Homer Volunteer Fire Department fleet are 15 years to over 30 years old and at the end of their functional life. Functional capabilities and safety features of fire apparatus has greatly improved in the last 10-15 years. Current apparatus have fully enclosed cabs, modern seat belt configurations, improved roll-over stability, significantly improved braking systems, better roadability, and many other safety improvements. Apparatus over 25 years old also become unreliable. Systems fail, putting both firefighters and the public at risk. Extending the life to 30 years may be marginally acceptable with the volume of HVFD runs, but anything beyond that poses an unacceptable level of risk.

The HVFD fleet is in need of a number of vehicle replacements to safely and efficiently protect the lives and property of Homer residents. The Department has developed a strategic, cost saving approach to meeting Homer's fi e protection needs with the following top-prioritized replacements:

Tanker-2 is a 31-year old Tanker/Pumper. Tanker/Pumpers combine the capabilities of a Fire Engine and a Tanker, fulfilling response vehicle requirements with four vehicles rather than six at a huge savings of two fewer apparatus and reduction of the number Fire Station Bays needed. This project replaces Homer's Tanker-2 while Kachemak City simultaneously replaces its 34-year old Tanker-1. This will require coordinating the acquisition of the two apparatus to potentially reduce the unit cost and to assure matching Apparatus for interoperability. $650,000

Brush-1. Brush-1 is a 1990 Ford F-350 Crew Cab Pickup with a forestry firefighting slip-in unit. It is HVFD's single front-line wildland firefighting apparatus and is 15 years past its useful life. The entire City of Homer is in the Wildland-Urban Interface (with the exception of most of the Spit) and at significant risk from wildfire. The City is also oft en called to provide mutual aid in wildland fires in neighboring Anchor Point and KESA districts. Brush Trucks are designed to provide a rapid response to wildfires and to provide access to areas that will not support the weight or dimensions of larger fire tucks. Brush-1 is overloaded with a crew of four firefighters, a slip on firefighting unit with 200 gallons of water and the required firefighting tools and hoses. It has none of the safety systems on current vehicles, including airbags for the front seat occupants. $95,000

Command-1, a 2006 Ford is as a rolling command post that sets up at incidents to provide for incident command especially at complex or lengthy incidents. At 15-years old, Command-1 lacks a command module used for properly providing scene control and tactical decision-making and lacks eff ective communication capabilities, which is a key component to incident command and a safety priority. $75,000

Plans and Progress: HVFD developed a fleet replacement plan that places apparatus on standard replacement cycles consistent with NFPA requirements and community needs. These three pieces of equipment are the highest priority.

Total Project Cost: $820,000

Schedule: 2020-2021

Priority Level: 1

At 31 years old, HVFD's Tanker 2 has aged out of its function life. Newer models, like the one above, have greatly improved functionality and safety features.

Fire Hall Expansion, Phase 1

Project Description & Benefit: In 2014, in response to aging and crowded conditions, the City assessed Homer's emergency services space needs. Initial plans to correct building and space inadequacies was to co-locate the Police and Fire stations within a new Public Safety facility. However, ultimately, the decision was made to build a stand-alone Police Station and defer expansion of the Fire Hall. For the interim, the City addressed much needed deferred maintenance at the Fire Hall, which included conversion to natural gas, improved air handling, fixing floor drainage issues in Bays 2 and 3, and general refurbishing of wall and floor finishes and kitchen cabinets. While the plan initially called for adding 2,000 square feet to meet minimum space needs, in the end, nothing was done to address inadequate facility space.

This project resumes the process to expand the Fire Hall, either through enlarging and extending at the current site or replacement. The current site, centrally located with access to Pioneer Avenue and Lake Street is an optimum location, but expansion is required to meet minimum space requirements for firefighting apparatus, provide an adequate number of offices and bunk rooms and sufficient storage, parking and drill training spaces.

Plans & Progress: This project can progress in phases. Phase 1 includes pre-development work: updating the needs assessment to reflect current departmental conditions/needs and a stand-alone Fire Station facility, determining site feasibility, the potential to include the old Police Station into the design and preliminary design drawings.

Total Project Cost: Design phase $350,000

Schedule: 2020

Priority Level: 1

Two examples illustrating the department's need for additional space: parking area in the equipment bay does not meet minimum space requirements for firefighting apparatus and insufficient storage capacity .

Public Works Projects

- **New Public Works Facility 35**
- **Raw Water Transmission Main Replacement 36**
- **Water Storage/Distribution Improvements 37**

New Public Works Facility

Project Description & Benefit: The Public Works Department, located at the bottom of Heath Street, has outgrown its facilities. Additionally, the new Tsunami Inundation map shows the potential for a 30' high wave moving through the complex. The Public Works facility and associated heavy equipment is critical infrastructure for response and recovery activities before, during and after a disaster. To be best prepared to safeguard public health and safety, a new site and administrative/maintenance support infrastructure for Public Works should be developed. Building maintenance (located in HERC 2) may soon need a new location as well.

Based on an evaluation of current and future needs (see table), it is expected that a new site containing all Public Works maintenance facilities would require 4.6 acres. Ideally, this site would be located outside the tsunami inundation zone, within or close to the Central Business District, and compatible with adjacent land uses. The facility will be sized to provide for current and future administrative and customer support personnel; road, drainage, building, water, sewer, motor pool maintenance activities; and equipment/materials storage

The existing Public Works site could be converted into public summer use open space (adjacent to the animal shelter, Beluga Slough, and conservation land) and provide space for environmentally sensitive snow storage in the winter.

Plans & Progress: This project will most likely be completed in three phases consisting of concept design and property acquisition, full design and construction. The proposed timeframe is to prepare a concept design in 2020/2021; purchase property in 2025; design facility in 2026/2027; begin construction in 2029, with a new facility ready in 2030. Availability of funding would change these time periods.

Total Project Cost: $12,027,750

2020-2021 (Concept Design):	$ 100,000
2025 (Purchase Property):	$1,150,000
2026-2027 (Facility Design):	$ 828,500
2029-2030 (Construction):	$9,949,250

Priority Level: 1

City of Homer existing Public Works facility.

Future Public Works Footprint/Cost Estimates

Use	SF	Constr. Cost
Building - Office	3,000	$ 1,200,000
Building - Motor Pool	4,500	$ 2,250,000
Building - Water/Sewer	3,000	$ 1,275,000
Building - Building Maintenance	2,500	$ 937,500
Building - Parks	1,500	$ 562,500
Building - Heated Vehicle Storage	3,000	$ 750,000
Total Building	17,500	$ 6,975,000
Parking - Customer & Employee	30,000	$ 450,000
Large Equipment Storage	20,000	$ 400,000
Small Equipment Storage	10,000	$ 250,000
Gravel Storage	7,500	$ 10,000
Sand Barn	5,000	$ 875,000
Material Storage	7,500	$ 75,000
Access Corridors	5,000	$ 150,000
Watering Point	1,000	$ 100,000
Total Parking/Storage/Missc	86,000	$ 2,310,000
Construction		$ 9,285,000
Design		$ 928,500
Inspection		$ 371,400
Furnishings		$ 200,000
1% for Art		$ 92,850
Total Design/Construction		$ 10,877,750
Land Purchase	4.6 acres	$ 1,150,000
Total Project Cost Estimate		$ 12,027,750

Raw Water Transmission Main Replacement

Project Description & Benefit: This project replaces the two 45-year old cast iron raw water transmission mains that transfer raw water from Bridge Creek Reservoir to the treatment plant. These aging cast iron transmission mains are susceptible to earthquake damage. Multiple repairs have already been made to these mains. The last two repairs made were in response to earthquake damage. Major damage to the raw water transmission mains would make it impossible to serve the town with treated drinking water for domestic use and would reduce the City's ability to provide adequate water pressure for fire protection. Both mains will be replaced with High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe, which is extremely durable and is less susceptible to damaged by earthquakes or other natural disasters.

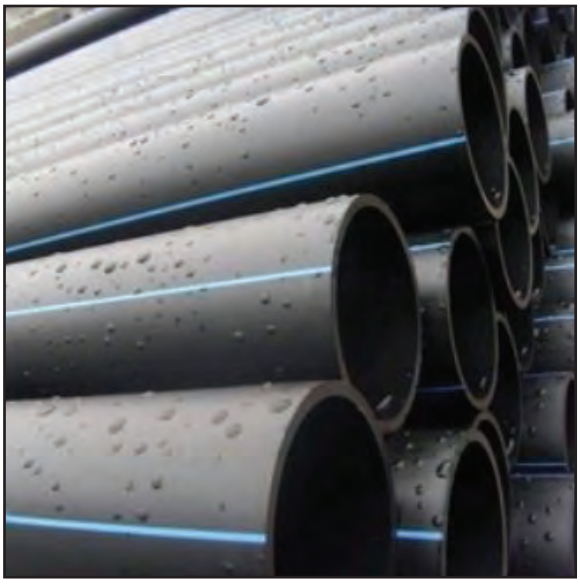
One of water mains, at 8 inches, is under-sized to meet the maximum capacity of the Water Treatment Plant. The other main, a 10-inch line, is at capacity now. The Water Treatment Plant produces 2 million gallons a day. However, the capacity of the treatment can be increased to 2.9 million gallons a day to meet increased demand in the future. The 10-inch transmission main would not be able to provide the plant with enough water to serve the City's needs at this higher rate.

Plans & Progress: The plan is to replace both lines with larger 12-inch HDPE pipe. HDPE pipe is more resilient to damage by earthquakes or other natural disasters; larger pipes provide system redundancy and will be able to transport an adequate amount of raw water to the treatment plant for plant maximum daily flow both now and for future expansion of the treatment facility.

Total Project Cost: $975,000

Schedule: 2020

Priority Level: 1



HDPE pipes do not rust, rot or corrode and are more resilient to earthquakes than the cast iron pipes currently in use.

Water Storage/Distribution Improvements, Phase 3

Project Description & Benefit: This project replaces aging water storage/distribution system components and makes other system improvements to increase water storage capabilities and drinking water quality, improve water system distribution and water transmission effectiveness and safeguard public health. A dependable water system ensures public safety and contributes to Homer's growth and economic vitality. First identified during the formation of the 2006-2025 Homer Water & Sewer Master Plan, these critical infrastructure improvements have been designed and partially completed:

- **Phase 1:** was completed in 2016. 2,600 linear feet of 10" and 12" water distribution main was installed across Shellfish Avenue and a new pressure reducing vault (PRV) was constructed to provide water supply to a new tank site; 4,500 linear feet of 12" water main was extended on Kachemak Drive, both connecting isolated sections of town and eliminating dead end mains. The City removed an old redwood tank and purchased property on which the new tank will be constructed.
- Phase 2: consists of installing water transmission main in support of a future new water storage tank, rehabilitation of the existing A-Frame existing storage tank, and demolition of the A-Frame pressure reducing vault (PRV).
- Phase 3: consists of the construction of a new 0.75 million gallon water storage tank on the east side and a 0.25 million gallon tank on the west side to provide increased capacity for domestic use, fire flow and future micro hydro power generation, modifying/replacing three PRV station and the installation of micro-hydro turbines that can efficiently produce power back onto the grid, reducing the City's electricity costs and creating green power.

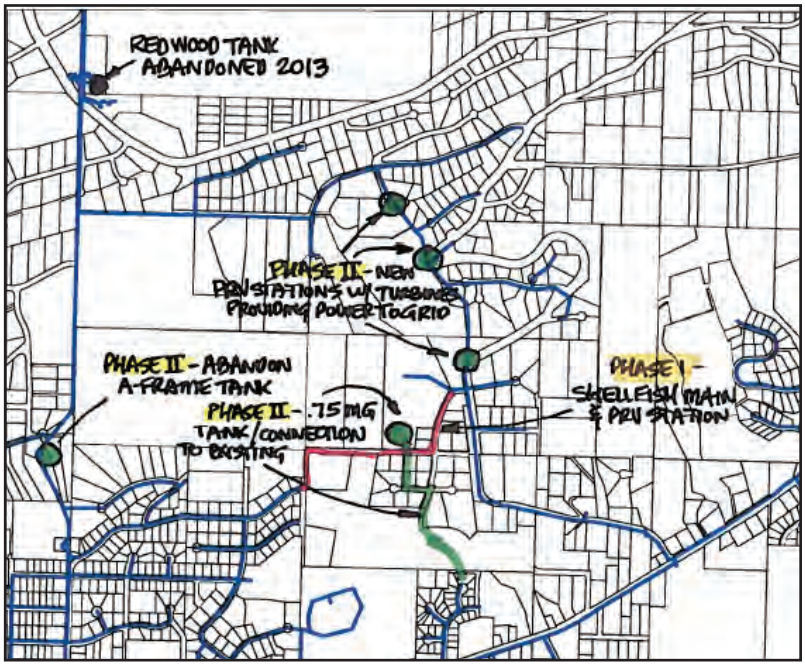
Plans & Progress: Project design was completed in 2014 utilizing $485,000 in Special Appropriation project grant funds from the Environmental Protection Agency and $399,214 (45%) in matching funds from the City . Phase 1 construction was completed in 2016 utilizing $1,980,254 in FY16 State of Alaska Municipal Matching Grant program funds, $848,680 City of Homer funds and benefitted property owner's assessments. Phase 2 construction work will be completed in 2019 using ADEC grant monies and water reserve funds using State of Alaska Municipal Matching Grant program funds and City of Homer water reserve account funds.

Phase 3 construction can be completed after phase 2 is finished and funding has been identified.

Total Project Cost: $10,438,214
2014 (Design, Completed): $884,214
2016 Phase 1 Construction(Funded, Completed):$1,980,000
2018-2019 Phase 2 Construction: $1,600,000
2020 Phase 3 Construction: $5,974,000

FY2016 State Capital Allocation: $1,980,254
(City of Homer 30% Match: $848,680)

Priority Level: 1



Phase 1, Shellfish Subdivision Main and PRV Station (indicated by red line) was completed in 2016. Phase 2 (green line) will be completed in 2018 - 2019.

State Projects

The City of Homer supports the following state projects which, if completed, will bring significant benefits to Homer residents.

Transportation projects within City limits:

- **Baycrest Overlook Gateway Improvements, Phase 39**
- **Homer Intersection Improvements 40**
- **Kachemak Drive Rehabilitation/Pathway 41**
- **Main Street Reconstruction 42**
- **Sterling Highway Milepost 172: Drainage Improvements 43**

Transportation projects outside City limits:

- **Sterling Highway Reconstruction, Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill 44**

Baycrest Overlook Gateway Improvements Phase 3

Project Description & Benefit: When you drive to Homer on the Sterling Highway, it is hard to resist pulling over at the Baycrest Hill Overlook, even if you have been there before. The overlook (constructed in the 1990's by visionaries at Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities during a Sterling Highway reconstruction project) has become the primary entrance to Homer. The first experience of that Baycrest view is cited by many residents as the primary reason for deciding to settle in Homer.

Baycrest Overlook is one of three gateways into Homer and is part of Homer's Gateway Project, which entails enhancing visitor and resident experiences at the entrances to Homer.

This project requests that the State Department of Transportation complete Phase 3 of the Baycrest Overlook Interpretive Plan -- paving the parking lot near the Welcome to Homer sign and upgrading the restroom facility -- as part of the Sterling Highway Reconstruction project Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill.

The City of Homer's ADA Transition Plan identified immediate needs to bring the site into ADA compliance, making the site accommodating for all visitors. The Van Accessible parking space needs clear demarcation with new painted lines and a "Van Accessible" sign. Public restroom improvements include relocating the grab bars to meet all location requirements, specifically addressing objects below the grab bar, and marking the restroom for the visually impaired.

Plans & Progress: The Gateway Project began in 2009 when a collaborative effort (involving the City of Homer, Alaska State Parks, National Park Service, Kachemak Research Reserve and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) created a beautiful diorama in Homer's airport terminal highlighting the wealth of public and private lands available to everyone who comes to Kachemak Bay.

In 2013, the City and State of Alaska DOT continued the focus on Homer's gateway sites by collaboratively producing the Baycrest Overlook Interpretive Plan which outlines three phases for improving the overlook. Many of the goals of the first two phases have been achieved, including making the site more welcoming, orienting visitors to the natural landscape and community, helping encourage commerce and allowing travelers a comfortable place to linger, rest and enjoy the spectacular setting.

To address the immediate accessibility issues, the City of Homer Public Works Department will evaluate the options of scheduling repairs in house as time and budget allow, and preparing cost estimates and requesting funds for a contractor to correct many accessibility barriers cited in the ADA Transition plan at once.

Baycrest Overlook is often the first stop and introduction to Homer for many visitors.

Homer Intersection Improvements

Project Description & Benefit: This project implements recommendations of the 2005 Homer Intersections Planning Study commissioned by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. The study analyzed the needs of twelve intersections according to traffic forecasts, intersection safety records, pedestrian concerns and intersection options. The benefit of the improvements will be to enhance traffic safety and quality of driving and pedestrian experiences, particularly as the community continues to grow.

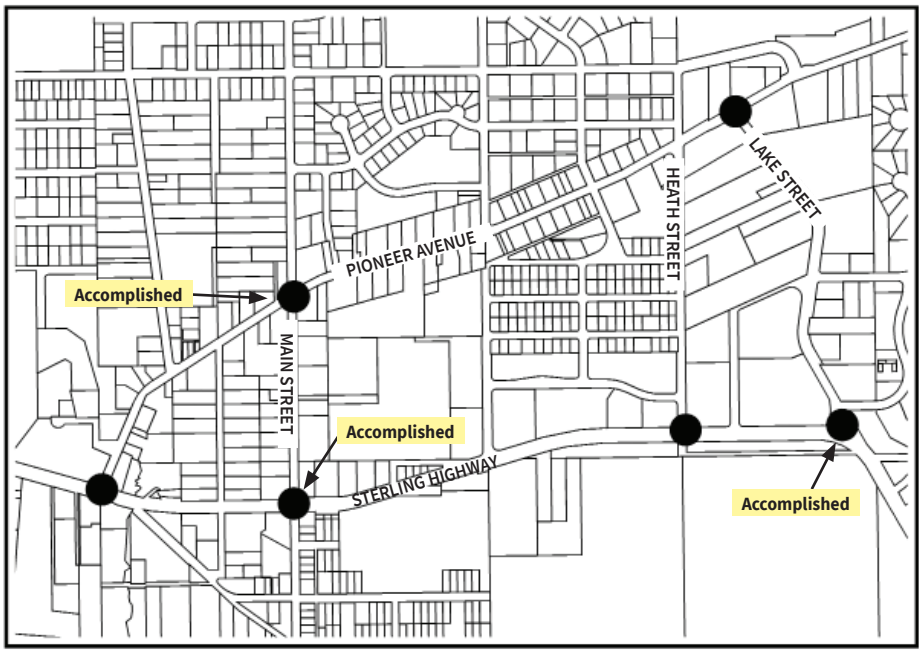
The study noted six Homer intersections needing traffic controls to 1)provide gaps for turning vehicles and 2) provide safer crossings for pedestrians on Homer's main thoroughfares where traffic volumes are increasing and worsening in the summer months. Three intersections have been improved; the three remaining include:

- Sterling Highway and Pioneer Avenue;
- Sterling Highway and Heath Street;
- Pioneer Avenue and Lake Street/East End Road.

The intersection study also analyzed areas with poor or non-existent lane and crosswalk pavement markings, missing or inadequate crosswalk signage and heavy traffic volumes. While the City and DOT&PF have improved pedestrian mobility and safety through some crosswalk projects, accessible standards have not been met by the State when they make intersection improvements. City Council passed two resolutions formally requesting DOT&PF Include additional enhanced pedestrian safety measures in two area road improvement projects: Pioneer Avenue and Lake Street. Resolution 18-034 asked DOT&PF to install a pedestrian crosswalk across Lake Street at Grubstake when DOT&PF installs sidewalks and repaves Lake Street. Resolution 19-029 requests DOT&PF include crosswalks with lighting features across Pioneer Avenue at intersections in the Pioneer Avenue Pavement Preservation Project.

The City also expects the State of Alaska to adhere to 2010 ADA standards when constructing, altering or repaving streets and intersections, including mandated curb ramps or other sloped areas at intersection having curbs or other barriers to entry from a street level pedestrian walkway. Further, while not mandated, the City's ADA Committee endorses upgrading Homer's four traffic signals to audible pedestrian signals and evaluating potential additional traffic control/pedestrian crosswalk installation in areas where there are major pedestrian traffic generators or where multi-use trails crosses the roadway.

Plans & Progress: State of Alaska DOT/PF installed a four-way stop with flashing overhead beacon at the Pioneer Avenue and Main Street intersection in 2016. They installed a traffic signal at the Main Street and Sterling Highway intersection in 2019.



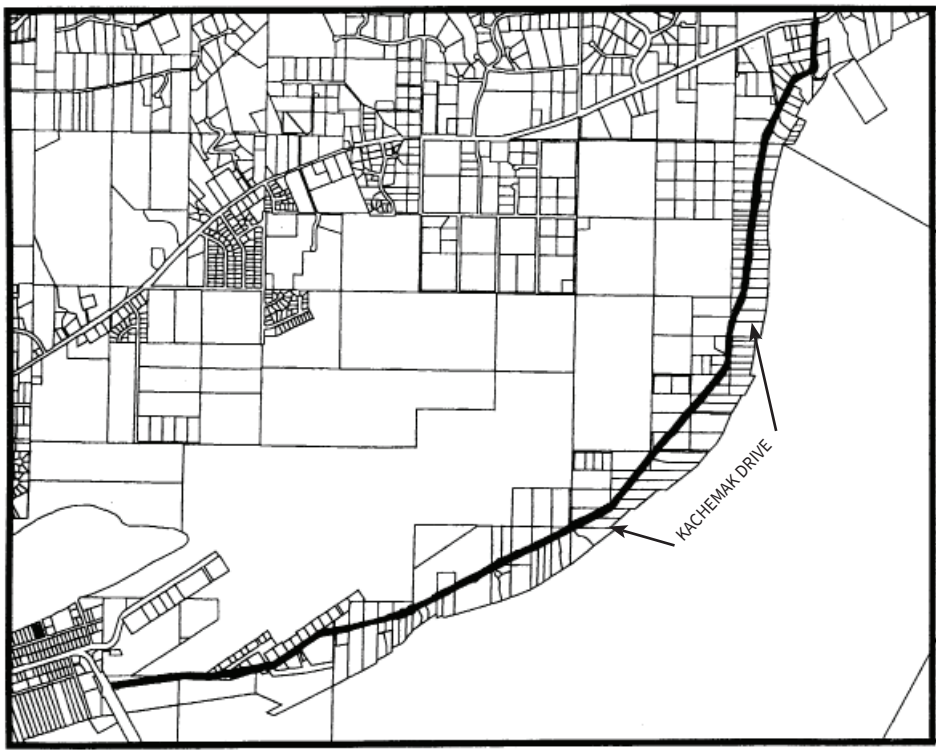
Alaska DOT/PF's traffic study recommended traffic control signals at four central Homer intersections shown above.

Kachemak Drive Rehabilitation/Pathway

Project Description & Benefit: Kachemak Drive connects Homer Harbor with Homer's industrial boat yards, serves drivers as a connector from the Homer Spit to East End Road, has a residential community, and serves as an alternate route to the airport. Truck, boat trailer, residential and commuter traffic are often heavy, with an approximate daily traffic of 1,500 vehicles. The road needs rehabilitation including raising the embankment, resurfacing, widening the road, and drainage improvements.

Bicyclists, pedestrians and occasional moms with strollers use Kachemak Drive to connect to the Spit, Ocean Drive, and East End Road bike paths. Kachemak Drive has narrow to non-existent shoulders, forcing cyclists to the left of the fog line. Motorists typically slow down behind bicyclists, wait until there is no oncoming traffic, then pass by crossing the center line. This procedure is dangerous to motorists and cyclists, especially on the hill leading up from the base of the Spit to the airport, where visibility is low. Bicycle traffic has increased in the past couple of years due to the advent of wide-tire winter bicycles and Homer's increasing popularity as a bicycle friendly town. Construction of a separated pathway along East End Road will increase recreational and commuter bicycle and pedestrian traffic on Kachemak Drive and will improve driver, bicycle, and pedestrian safety. Because of the significant right-of-way acquisition involved, this project will likely take several years to complete.

Plans & Progress: The Kachemak Drive Path Committee has worked with the City of Homer Advisory Parks and Recreation Commission and Transportation Advisory Committee to explore potential alternatives. The City performed preliminary engineering in 2012 on a portion of the trail and found significant grade and easement challenges to the project.



Project location for Kachemak Drive pathway.

Main Street Reconstruction

Project Description & Benefit: This project will provide curb and gutter, sidewalks, storm drainage, and paving for Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bunnell Street.

Homer's Main Street is a primary north-south corridor running from Bayview Avenue (near the hospital) to Ohlson Lane (near Bishop's Beach). In the process, it connects Homer's primary downtown street, Pioneer Avenue, with the Sterling Highway and provides the most direct access to the Old Town district. It also provides the western border to Homer's undeveloped Town Center district.

Despite its proximity to the hospital, businesses and residential neighborhoods, Main Street has no sidewalks, making pedestrian travel unpleasant and hazardous. Sidewalks on this busy street will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike and provide economic benefits to local businesses and the community as a whole.

Plans & Progress: Main Street is a City street from Pioneer Avenue northward, and a State street from Pioneer Avenue south. The Homer Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan, adopted by the City Council in 2004, calls for construction of sidewalks on both sides of Main Street to provide a safe means for pedestrians to travel between Old Town and Pioneer Avenue, and stresses that this should be regarded as a "near term improvement" to be accomplished in the next two years. The Homer City Council passed Resolution 06-70 in June 2006 requesting that Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) "rebuild and upgrade Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bunnell Avenue as soon as possible in exchange for the City assuming ultimate ownership, maintenance, and operations responsibility."

State of Alaska DOT/PF has obtained $2.8 million to make safety improvements to Main Street Intersections. In 2016, they installed a four-way stop and flashing overhead beacon at the Pioneer and Main Street intersection. They will be moving ahead with the preferred alternative of installing a traffic signal at the Sterling Highway and Main Street intersection (2019). However, much work remains to be done to improve and reconstruct of the entire section of Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bunnell Street.

A mother pushes a stroller along Main Street between the Sterling Highway and Bunnell Street, while another pedestrian walks on the other side of the road.

Sterling Highway Milepost 172 Drainage Improvements

Project Description & Benefit: The Baycrest Subdivision neighborhood (downslope from a beehive collector installed at milepost 172 on the Sterling Highway by the Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT)) is built on sloping terrain of unconsolidated soils containing blue clay with a high water table and incidental springs. Properties in this subdivision experience unusually high levels of flooding, runoff and erosion.

Some Judy Rebecca Court properties in this neighborhood in particular have suffered damage due to water saturation including cracked windows and shifting foundations. The property damage is related to the amount of water in the soil and every effort needs to be extended to control the amount of water introduced into the soil, including water runoff from the Sterling Highway. These homes are located 750 linear feet distant and 125 feet vertical downslope from the beehive collector outfall. While certainly not all the problematic water is coming from the outfall, attention to drainage in the area is important to reduce the potential for slope failure and possible loss of property and life.

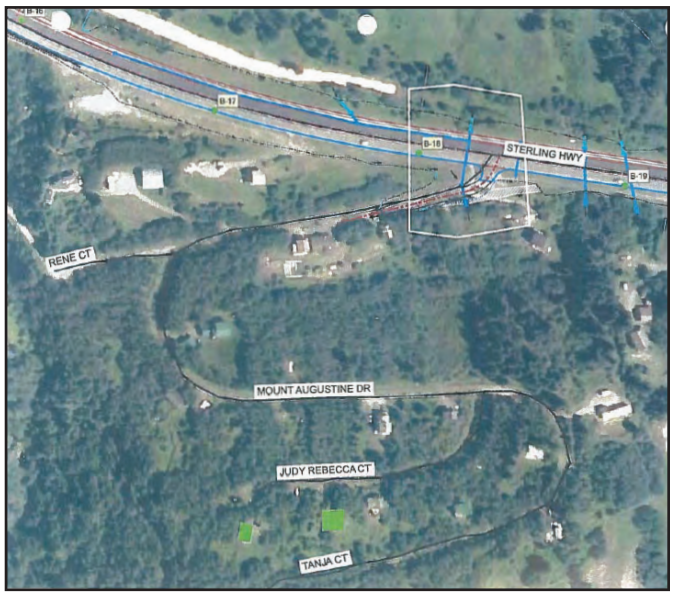
Water flow volume measurements from the beehive collector over time indicate that the outfall is directing a concentrated discharge of water onto the Baycrest neighborhood slope, adding to an already precarious water saturated soil condition. The City of Homer requests that ADOT divert the beehive collector outfall off the slope and into a natural drainage similar to the one that exists below the next Sterling Highway concrete encased cross-drain some 80 paces east of the Mt. Augustine Drive intersection with the Sterling Highway.

Keeping water off this slope where possible helps mitigate the potential for catastrophic slope failure; discharging the beehive collector outfall into a naturally occurring drainage mitigates the potential for impacting other area properties with the additional runoff.

Plans & Progress: At the request of affected home owners and Homer City Council members, a local retired geologist studied and provided mitigation recommendations to the City of Homer and ADOT. Additionally, Newton Bingham, a PE with ADOT evaluated the situation in November of 2017. In recognition of the potential hazard to property and life, Homer City Council passed Resolution 17-082 in September 2017 directing the Homer Advisory Planning Commission to consider a Natural Hazards Overlay District or other appropriate zoning regulation on and around Baycrest Subdivision. In line with an Alaska Administrative Order 175 under Order item 1 which states, “To the maximum extent possible consistent with existing law, all state agencies with construction ...shall encourage a broad and united effort to lessen the risk of flood and erosion losses in connection with State lands and installations and state-financed or supported improvements...”, City Council passed Resolution 18-008 in January 2018 requesting ADOT fix Sterling Highway drainage effecting the Baycrest Subdivision.

In February 2018, a group from Homer met with ADOT Deputy Commissioner Amanda Holland and telephonically with Central Region Director Dave Kemp about Homer’s request.

A February 2019 letter from ADOT refutes that the highway and culvert are altering the drainage pattern as the highway and culvert predates development of the Baycrest Subdivision by twenty years. The letter also states that no engineering analysis would suggest that moving the culvert to a new location would improve conditions in the subdivision. On the contrary, it would (rightly) result in claims that ADOT is altering drainage patterns and then would be held responsible for any and all erosion in the area downhill.



Aerial photo of the area downslope of the outfall from a Sterling Highway beehive collector.

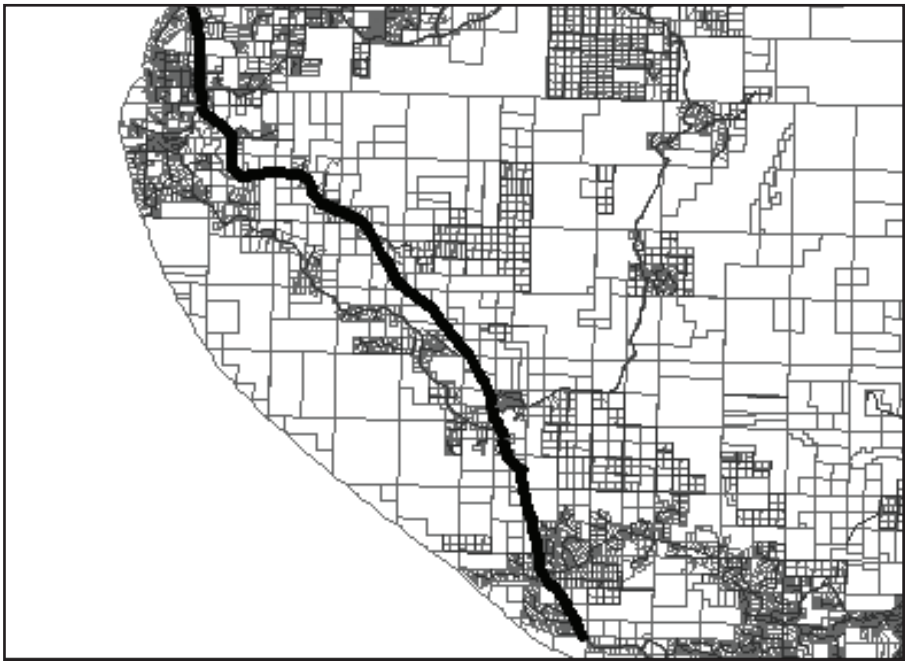
Sterling Highway Reconstruction Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill

Project Description & Benefit: This project will reconstruct 12 miles of the Sterling Highway between Anchor Point (MP 157) and the top of Baycrest Hill in Homer (MP 169) to address severe safety issues resulting from curves, hills and blind spots on the existing road. The project has been identified as a high priority of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Many major side road intersections, gravel hauling operations, and school bus stops contribute to dangerous conditions on the 12-mile section of highway, which has been the scene of several serious accidents, many with fatalities, over the past several years. Continued population growth has led to more subdivisions with intersecting roads and more traffic on the highway, exacerbating the problem. School buses must stop in some locations with blind corners and hills.

According to the 2018-2021 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan, the project will provide passing lanes, widening and realignment a to address safety and passing opportunities, and pavement resurfacing between Anchor Point and the top of Homer Hill. The South Fork Anchor River Bridge (deemed structurally deficient by DOT&PF) will be replaced and a new bridge is proposed to replace culverts that currently carry the North Fork Anchor River under the Sterling Highway.

Plans & Progress: $2.5 million dollars was included in the FY2013 capital budget for design and right of way phases of this project. Preliminary engineering and environmental assessment services began in the summer of 2014. DOT&PF is still working on project plans. As a full rehabilitation project, it has a high level of environmental work. $1.7 million dollars was in the FY19 budget for Right of Way funding. DOT does not expect to go into construction on it for several years. $80.8 is currently budgeted after 2021.



Location of DOT&PF's Sterling Highway Reconstruction Project.

Projects Submitted by Other Organizations

The City of Homer supports the following projects for which local non-profit organizations are seeking funding and recognizes them as being of significant value to the Homer community:

- **Beluga Slough Trail Extension 46**
- **Homer Hockey Association:**
  Kevin Bell Ice Arena Acquisition 47
- **Homer Senior Citizens Inc.:**
  Alzheimer's Unit 48
- **Kachemak Heritage Land Trust:**
  Poopdeck Platt Trail 49
- **Kachemak Shellfish Growers Association:**
  Kachemak Shellfish Hatchery 50
- **Kachemak Ski Club:**
  Homer Rope Tow Access & Equipment Upgrades 51
- **Pratt Museum:**
  New Facility and Site Redesign 52
- **South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services**
  The Annex Upgrade 53
- **South Peninsula Hospital:**
  Hillside Stability Study 54

Beluga Slough Trail Extension

Project Description and Benefit: The goal of this project is to extend the existing Beluga Slough Trail around the northern perimeter of Beluga Slough to expand recreational and educational opportunities for the Homer community and its visitors. Beluga Slough is a unique environment which has been the focus of environmental education activities for decades. Naturalists from federal, state and non-governmental agencies bring local families and visitors to the existing trail to share the rich natural history of the slough's vegetation, wildlife and invertebrates. The 0.5 mile extension provides greater viewing opportunities for shorebirds, salt marsh habitats and intertidal flats. The extension would create a quiet, non-motorized trail away from the Sterling Highway with connections to Bishop's Beach, Homer's Old Town District and Ben Walters Park.

Plans and Progress: This trail concept is included in the 2004 Homer Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan. A community-based project team has formed to honor Carmen Field, who taught so many about Beluga Slough through her work at the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This trail extension would allow Carmen's memory and her love for bringing people out into the natural world to live on.

The proposed trail (see map below) would be on City of Homer property. Owners of the new Aspen Suites Hotel, which opened in May 2019, anticipate re-platting their private parcel and donating the lower portion to the city (indicated by yellow star). Planning for the project and discussions with the private landowner is under way. Construction of Phase 1 is anticipated to start in fall of 2019.

Project proponents have discussed potential project sponsorship and/or trail coalition membership with The Homer Foundation and other area organizations. Discussions with City of Homer Park, Arts, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission and City staff, yielded the following issues that will need to be addressed and budgeted for as the project moves forward:

- security vulnerability of the Public Works complex and sewer treatment facility;
- places recreational feature in floodplain, which is inconsistent with AK Department of Transportation & Public Facilities emergency response plan in the event of potential Beluga Slough Dam failure;
- mitigation of illegal use of lands newly accessed by the trail and the added security measures (landscaping/patrol time) it requires to insure public safety; and
- environmental permitting /land use authorizations.

Total Project Cost: The project will be accomplished in three phases with significant community-based labor and supplies anticipated.

Phase 1: negotiation with private land owner for donation or easement, project design work, and construction of 375 feet of the western-most part of the trail (backcountry – recreational trail design): $25,000 - 75,000

Phase 2: construction of 1,200 feet of the eastern part of the trail (backcountry - recreational trail design): $150,000 - 250,000

Phase 3: construction of 1,000 feet of the middle and wettest section requiring a semi-improved trail design: $300,000 - 450,000

Proposed extension of the Beluga Slough Trail indicated by white dashed line.

Homer Hockey Association Kevin Bell Ice Arena Acquisition

Project Description & Benefit: The Kevin Bell Arena was constructed in 2005, with initial funding from grants associated with the 2006 Arctic Winter Games combined with a loan from English Bay Corporation /Homer Spit Properties. Homer Hockey Association (HHA) has successfully operated the Arena since its opening. HHA has met operating and capital acquisition costs within a yearly budget of $300,000 to $350,000. HHA is seeking financial support to retire the remaining debt of $2,087,000 million dollars from purchasing the Arena.

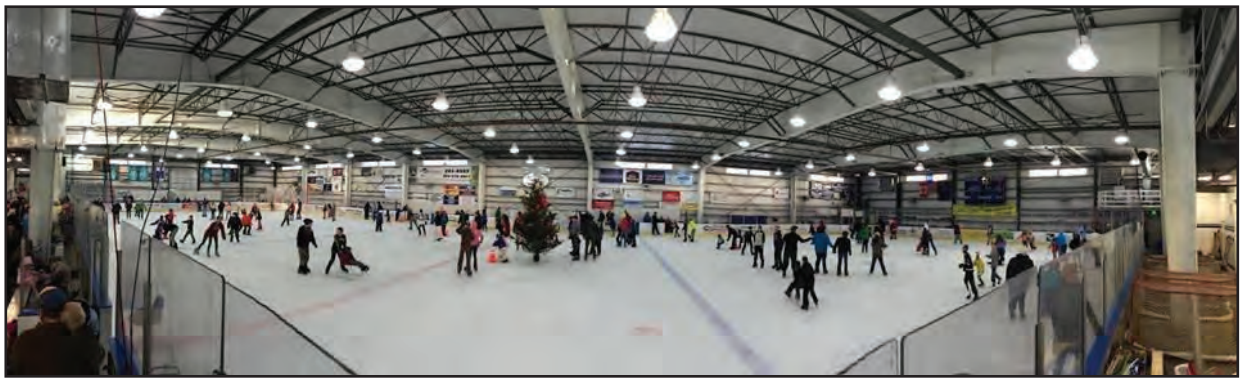
HHA's mission is to cultivate on-ice recreation of all kinds, for all ages, on the Lower Kenai Peninsula. HHA has been accomplishing this mission for more than a decade as one of the few non-profit, volunteer run ice rinks in the United States. Volunteers contribute an estimated 14,000 hours annually, representing a huge commitment of time and effort by our community. Over the years, programs have been expanded to include activities for all: figure skating, hockey at all age and skill levels, broomball, curling and numerous community and school open skate events. The public and open skate events bring up to 1000 additional users during the busiest months. These efforts earned HHA the 2012 Alaska Recreation and Parks Association Outstanding Organization award and more recent recognition from the USA Hockey Association.

The Kevin Bell Arena hosts numerous games, tournaments and events that bring commerce to the City of Homer. This is especially important during the winter when tourism and occupancy rates are low. HHA hosts several separate youth and adult hockey tournaments totaling approximately 150 games each year. In 2015-2016 these games brought over 1,160 out of town players to Homer, accompanied by family and fans that contributed an estimated $646,187 to the local economy through lodging, transportation, dining and merchandise purchases. KBA has hosted several consecutive youth State Hockey Championship Tournaments which are widely attended by families from all over the State.

Plans and Progress: HHA has an active and committed Board of Directors and membership. The volunteer hours are leveraged by several successful fundraisers, sponsor and advertising campaigns, grant awards and donations each year. This covers approximately one third of the annual operating and capital expenses. The remaining expenses are covered by user fees.

The purchase of the building would provide HHA the opportunity to open more programs and expand existing programs to include more of the community. The high user fees are a barrier for many families but necessary just to meet annual expenses. The building purchase would allow HHA to adequately fund and plan for the replacement of the major mechanical components of the ice arena. It would also allow for major building maintenance projects to be funded. It could allow for heating and additional seating to accommodate the spectators. Major projects that could increase revenue such as permanent year-round flooring could become feasible. The building purchase would allow this important community resource to grow and prosper into the future.

Total Project Cost: $2, 087,000



Christmas Eve public skate at Kevin Bell Arena is well attended.

Homer Senior Citizens Inc. Alzheimer's Unit

Project Description & Benefit: Seniors are the fastest growing population for the State of Alaska. Homer is projected as the second city in the State which will see the most significant growth in this demographic. Homer Senior Citizens (HSC) operates a 40 bed assisted living facility. We have sent four seniors from our community due to Alzheimer's disease in the past four years. Losing one senior a year is unacceptable as it tears away the fabric of our community. All of the seniors have families remaining in the Homer community.

In order to maintain the health of our senior population, a full continuum of care is required. Maintaining physical, mental and social capacity supports the dignity of our most vulnerable adults. An Alzheimer's Unit has been a strategic priority for the HSC's Board of Directors to keep our seniors home in the community.

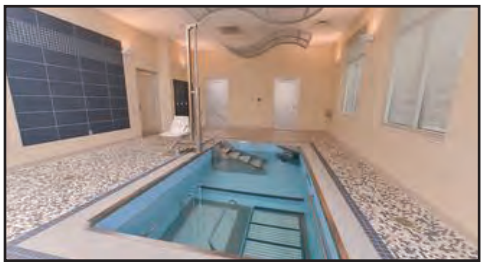
The Alzheimer's Unit will include fifteen beds and 24/7 nursing care. Additionally, it will include a memory care unit to help maintain residents' existing cognitive capacity. Specific features of the facility (therapy pool and activities room) will be open to all seniors 55 years of age and older. The activities room will be Phase 2 of the project and will incorporate low-impact exercise equipment to maintain seniors' physical capacity. This also opens up the possibility to contract with South Peninsula Hospital for use of the therapy pool for other age groups, benefiting the entire population of Homer.

Operating funds will be secured from "fees for service;" room and board; billing for Physical Therapy in both the therapy pool and the exercise program in the activities room (once Phase 2 has been completed) and fees for contracted use of therapy equipment and the pool. Projected five year profit will be approximately $1,508,600. This does not include contractual arrangements with third party vendors.

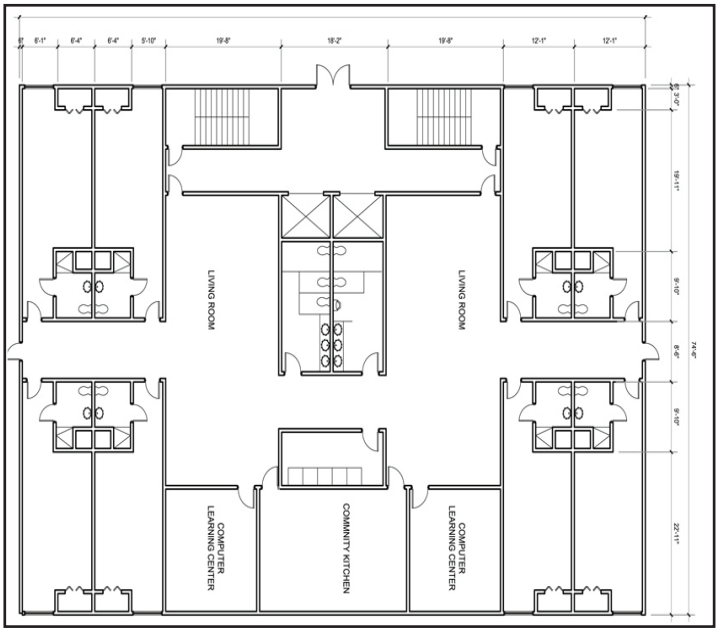
Plans & Progress: Currently HSC staff is completing the State of Alaska Certificate of Need. Design work continues; HSC has met with HydroWorx to incorporate the Therapy Pool with the Alzheimer's Unit.

HSC is in the initial stages of fundraising for the Alzheimer's Unit. Three foundations that fund this type of project have been identified. HSC sponsors annual fundraising events to secure the match for foundation grants.

Total Project Cost: $3,000,000



Example of a HydroWorx Therapy Pool Room .



Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Poopdeck Platt Trail

Project Description & Benefit: Kachemak Heritage Land Trust (KHLT) owns the 3.47-acre Poopdeck Platt property at the end of Klondike in Homer. Over the years, KHLT has worked with the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance Program, architects, Alaska State Parks, the City, the Independent Living Center (ILC) and community members on a conceptual site plan for a community park and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible trail on this property.

Most of the trail will be on KHLT land (KPB Parcel #17719234). Part of the trail will be situated on adjacent City of Homer land (KPB Parcel #17719231) though to minimize the crossing of delineated wetlands in the southern portion of the Poopdeck Platt property. An added advantage is to provide potential ADA connectivity between Pioneer Avenue and Bishop's Beach. This project will benefit the Homer community by providing a universally accessible trail in the town center area, open to use by all people.

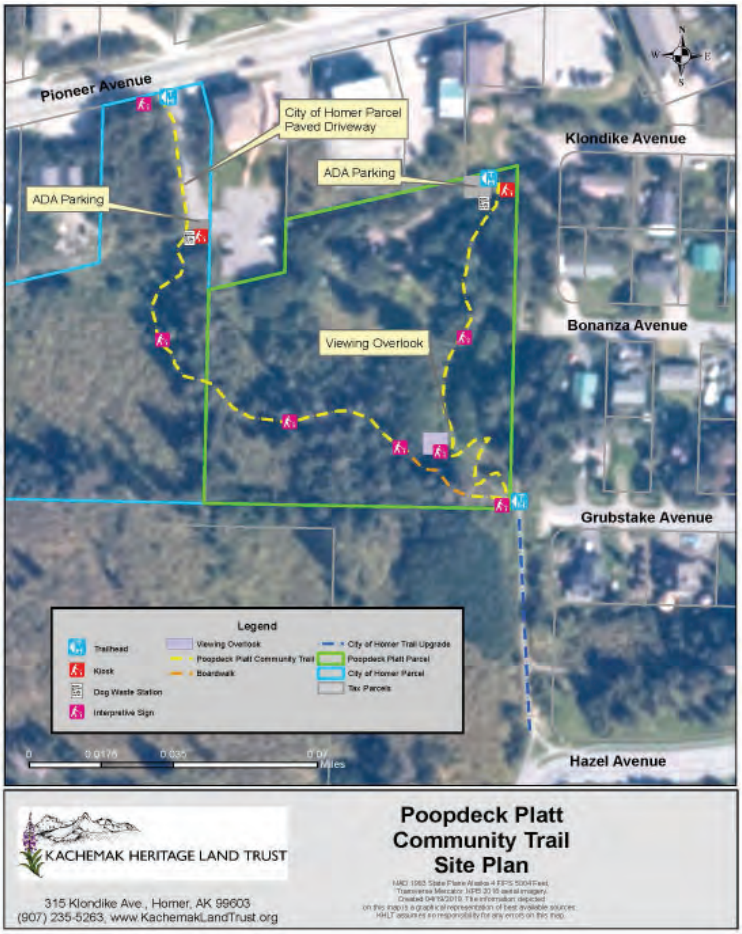
Plans & Progress: KHLT, working with a design consultant, completed the trail design and cost estimate in August 2018. Homer City Council adopted Resolution 18-29 supporting the project and authorized funds from the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails Program for trail design. Design has been completed with $1200 funds donated by community businesses and individuals and $4000 from the City of Homer.

KHLT applied for and was awarded a $45,921 Recreations Trails Program grant from the State of Alaska for trail construction. The City of Homer is providing a 10% match in the amount of $5,103, bringing total trail construction costs to $51,023. Trail construction is scheduled to begin July 12, 2019 with an expected completion by September 2019. The City of Homer will be resurfacing the Poopdeck Trail from Grubstake Avenue to Hazel Avenue.

KHLT is seeking additional funding for trailhead kiosks, ADA compliant interpretative signs, ADA accessible benches (not on map), dog waste receptacles, dog leash lending program, and ADA compliant parking spaces as depicted on the trail plan map.

Total Project Cost: $88,546
- Trail Design: $5,200
- Trail Construction: $51,023
  - Upgrade City of Homer Trail: $5,253
  - Trail Signs Design: $9,500
  - ADA Parking: $19,400
  - Dog Waste Disposal & Leash Lending: $1,870
  - ADA Benches: $1,500

Community members and representatives of KHLT, the Homer Independent Living Center and City of Homer worked with Ptarmigan Ptrails consultant to design the Poopdeck Platt trail.



Kachemak Shellfish Mariculture Association
Kachemak Shellfish Hatchery

Project Description and Benefit: Since 1994 Kachemak Mariculture Association (KSMA), a 501c5 organization, has steadfastly upheld its primary mission of assisting shellfish growers in Kachemak Bay to establish an economically sustainable oyster industry. Today through its close partnership with the Kachemak Shellfish Growers' Coop (KSGC), eleven aquatic farms are providing jobs for processing, marketing, and shipping half-shell oysters. For the last seven years the processing facility on the Spit is also culturing, marketing, and shipping oyster seed to the eleven member farms and to farms outside of Kachemak Bay.

Seven years ago KSGC farms were severely impacted by an oyster seed shortage affecting the entire Pacific Coast. The farmers wrestled with the financial realities of unpredictable seed shortages. KSMA farmers had to be in charge of their own seed production. It was decided to build a small experimental seed hatchery / setting facility at the KSMA building to address the seed needs of the growers. This experimental hatchery has consistently set millions of spat seed every year thanks due to the nutrient rich waters, dedication of two KSMA employees, and the growers volunteerism. The local nursery has been undermanned and underfunded, but the resulting seed has proven to out perform all other seed—it grows faster and mortality rates are significantly better that all previous seed grown outside of Alaska. However, this past year, severe tides and storms have hastened the degeneration of a critical piece of nursery equipment.

The piece of equipment is called a FLUPSY — a FLoating UPwelling System. Microscopic spat cannot go directly from the hatchery to the farm sites. The spat must spend six months to a year in appropriately graded bins, at great labor expense of cleaning and grading, in salt water that is constantly being moved by an electrically-driven paddle wheel. At 18 years old, the FLUPSY lacks AK DEC compliant floatation, and is showing the wear-and-tear of the harsh maritime climate coupled with winter storm damage. The present FLUPSY is also unsecured making it a vandalism target. The project includes new safety equipment and covered, lockable dry storage for tools and laborer's needs.

The economic benefits of this oyster industry in Homer are great. Oysters have become a sparkling year-round addition to Homer's seafood options for locals and tourists alike. Every cooler of oysters delivered to the dock represents approximately $150 to the grower. By the time the end user receives those oysters, the economic ripple effect becomes approximately $725. Excess seed is sold to other growers in and out of state helping to fulfil an economic development priority in Alaska's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Our local hatchery and a new , safe state-of-the-art FLUPSY can also provide a viable educational lab for high school and university students, who currently have to travel to Seward for mariculture studies. Mariculture courses could easily be developed around aquatic farming opportunities including the raising of sea vegetables and kelp.

Plans and Progress: The new FLUPSY is being developed in two phases. The design phase is complete. With the help of the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District, KSMA is pursuing grant funds to assist with the construction phase. Should funds be secured, KSMA will be seeking grant matching funds.

Total Project Cost: $247,500

Left: Oyster spat ready to sell to growers. Right: FLUPSY bins taken out of the water. Spat in the right bin have been cleaned,sorted, graded and counted.

Kachemak Ski Club
Homer Rope Tow Access & Equipment Upgrades

Project Description & Benefit: The Kachemak Ski Club was founded more than sixty years ago to operate a rope tow on Ohlson Mountain near Homer. Our founders wanted to get Homer kids out of the house on the weekends and it is no different today. Over the years, this historic public recreational treasure has hosted thousands downhill sports enthusiasts as well as family and social gatherings.

This project improves access to the base of the ski hill from Ohlson Mountain Road, making the lodge and slopes more welcoming for youngsters and newcomers. It relocates and refurbishes the hill's aging bullwheel at the top of the slopes and includes grade work to the upper slope's towpath to lower the rope's haul angle. It also includes purchase of equipment used to prep the slopes as well as terrain park devices to challenge the skills of today's skiers and snow boarders.

Plans and Progress: The Homer Rope Tow recreation area is separated from Ohlson Mountain Road by private land, but has legal access via a section line easement. A circuitous quarter mile long trail connects the road to the hill, avoiding several structures that encroach into the easement. To make access safer and quicker, Kachemak Ski Club plans to purchase easement that would halve the walk-in distance from the road and construct a new Ohlson Mountain Road turnout with a widened parking area. These upgrades will make access shorter and more manageable for parents juggling both gear and young children and minimize the need for double parking on Ohlson Mountain Road during crowded weekends.

In addition to the above-described relocation of the electric motor bullwheel house and grade work to the upper slope, Kachemak Ski Club plans to acquire grooming equipment such as a tracked 4 wheeler vehicle capable of towing the Club's existing slope grass mowing device and snow groomer, and some limited freestyle terrain park features (such as a rails, boxes or table tops).

Total Project Cost: $91,000
Equipment: $44,500
Access Trail & Right of Way: $46,500

Youth enjoying Homer's own downhill ski area.

Pratt Museum
New Facility and Site Redesign

Project Description & Benefit: The national award-winning Pratt Museum strengthens relationships between people and place through stories of the Kachemak Bay region. For over 50 years, the Pratt's exhibits, education programs, and collections have fostered self-reflection and dialogue among the Museum's community and visitors. Today, the Pratt serves up to 30,000 visitors annually, with more than 5,000 young and adult learners participating in its programs. The Pratt Museum is consistently viewed as one of Alaska's most important cultural institutions and a leader among small community museums across the country.

The Pratt Museum opened its doors to the public in May 1968. The Museum's collection has grown with the community through that period and our current facility does not meet the needs of the Museum's growing collection, which are held in public trust and require specific conditions and storage practices for preservation and display. In addition, the building's current design limits community engagement activities. To better serve our community and visitors long into the future, the Pratt Museum plans to renovate the current museum building so that all gallery and meeting areas are ADA-accessible, the roof protects the collection, and collection items are stored and cared for according to best practices for cultural and natural history artifacts. The front area of the museum will be renovated to improve the visitor experience, and community engagement areas will be modified to better accommodate community conversations, presentations, and school group activities. The Museum may also renovate the aquarium curatorial area and the kitchen to ensure that these areas meet standards for animal care and food prep. The outcome of this immediate renovation will maintain the building as a well-functioning Museum through the next 10 years, allowing the Museum to expand its outreach programs with a growing membership and student base, even as the organization continues to work towards a new museum facility in the future.

Plans & Progress: Since 2008, the Pratt Museum has been working on a capital project for a new museum building. By 2015, $3.4 million had been secured for building design and early site work. In 2016, the trail expansion and architectural designs for the new building were completed at the cost of $2.2 million. It is anticipated that a new museum building, designed to incorporate museum-quality climate controls, accessibility for all community members, and new programming areas, will require another decade to complete.

At this time, the Museum will focus on renovating the current building to move our mission and community engagement goals forward through that decade. This renovation will also serve the larger project by preparing the current building as an auxiliary storage and outreach building and/or as an improved building for lease once the new museum is built. The remaining $1.2 million in the capital budget will be used for renovations that provide physical accessibility throughout the building (where currently visitors must exit the building and re-enter at a different floor level, vastly improved storage and workspace for the Museum's artifacts, and provide enhanced education opportunities. Phase 1 designs for these renovations will be completed by July 2018 and Phase 2 construction will occur September 2018 – May 2019. We are hoping to raise an additional $800,000 to upgrade mechanical systems, install new exhibit kiosks, and expand new outreach space on the south side of the building.

Total Project Cost: $2,000,000 (Renovation of Current Building)

Design of New Building: $2,200,000 (completed)
Construction of New Building: $7,500,000
Funding Raised to date: $3,400,000

Architectural rendering of the new Pratt Museum facility.

South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services: The Annex Upgrade

Project Description & Benefit: South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services provides services at multiple sites throughout Homer. Our customers include children, adults and families that may be struggling with mental illness, development disabilities, substance use disease, or combinations of all three. One of our older facilities, 948 Hillfair Court, also known as The Annex, houses several of our important programs serving over 140 individual customers annually. Programs include:

- ***Journeys***, day treatment and adult rehab.
- ***Souply***, our vocational training soup delivery program.
- ***Individual Placement and Support (IPS)***, our vocational training program that partners with local business to provide vocational experience for those struggling with a variety of issues;
- As well as treatment and case management support for our customers in need.

The building is old and annual repairs to plumbing, painting, the Souply kitchen, and the treatment rooms often exceeds our maintenance budget for our entire agency. We are in the initial planning stages of rebuilding and redeveloping this property to better accommodate the needs of our clients, our staff and the community.

The updated building will include a revitalized commercial kitchen; treatment rooms that are private and secured; group and community rooms that are designed to meet the needs of our population; updated electric, plumbing and network services; and expanded services to meet the health needs of the community.

Plans and Progress: SPBHS has completed phase one of the project with a $50,000 dollar grant. Improving the foundation and addressing structural issues. This also included clearing space next to the building and addressing drainage issues created by neighboring properties. SPBHS has also received a grant to assist in upgrading the Souply kitchen equipment.

The SPBHS Board of directors Facilities Committee and the Client Council have been reviewing possible next steps for updating/expanding the building. This has included developing plans to remodel the current footprint while expanding internal square footage to better meet the needs of the program. It has also included proposals to build an additional building immediately adjacent to meet the needs of the clients and the community.

Upon finalizing the next steps the agency will begin moving forward with a two-year project to remodel The Annex. This will include fundraising from foundations and other charitable organizations, determining the full scope of services to implement in the new building, and developing a two-year work plan. SPBHS has included in its budget for the coming year an effort to end the year with a $250,000 surplus earmarked for the project.

T**otal Project Cost:** $500,000-$750,000.

Annual maintenance to the Annex, an older, former residential building that houses several SPBHS programs, often exceeds SPBHS' entire agency maintenance budget.

The Annex's group treatment space needs remodeling to make the space more private and separate from a public entrance, public bathroom and stairway to offices..

South Peninsula Hospital Hillside Stability Survey

Project Description & Benefit: South Peninsula Hospital sits on a very steep hillside, with all parking lots and outbuildings being terraced down from the main hospital building. Both the lot the hospital sits on and the lot behind it continue with a very steep elevation incline. A 12 foot wide cut into the hillside behind the hospital is the only buffer before the terrain continues with the steep incline for as far as 300 yards. The remaining hillside has thick vegetation and is not utilized or developed in any way at this time.

The facility has had numerous additions and structural work completed in the last ten years which may have impacted and affected the stability of the hillside. The hillside runs continuously from the entrance parking lot, along the entire length of the building and beyond. No part of the main hospital building is out of the risk zone for damages from hillside erosion and sloughing.

A site evaluation is necessary to establish the current condition of the hillside, and make any recommendations to secure it from further erosion and sloughing. Such evaluation would include a survey, soils testing, geologic hazard assessment and mitigation report, landslide evaluation, earthquake assessment, and recommendations for options to minimize risk to the facility. The recommended options would include cost estimates.

Plans and Progress: The estimated cost of such a study, evaluation, and report is $110,000. This could include work by the Army Corps of Engineers, and/or a private engineering firm.

Total Project Cost: $110,000

A hillside stability study on the slope behind the South Peninsula Hospital will yield recommendations on ways to minimize risk to the facility.

Capital Improvement Long-Range Projects

The following projects have been identified as long-range capital needs but have not been included in the Capital Improvement Plan because it is not anticipated that they will be undertaken within the six-year period covered by the CIP. As existing CIP projects are funded or as other circumstances change, projects in the long-range list may be moved to the six-year CIP.

Local Roads

Fairview Avenue – Main Street to East End Road: This project provides for the design and construction of Fairview Avenue from Main Street to East End Road. The road is approximately 3,000 linear feet and the project will include paving, water and sewer mains, stub-outs, storm drains, and a sidewalk or trail. The project extends from the intersection of Main Street to the Homer High School, and finally to East End Road, and will provide an alternative to Pioneer Avenue for collector street access east/west across town. This roadway would benefit the entire community by reducing congestion on Pioneer Avenue, the major through-town road, and would provide a second means of access to the high school. It would also allow for development of areas not currently serviced by municipal water and sewer.

This improvement is recommended by the 2005 Homer Area Transportation Plan. Necessary right of way has already been dedicated by the Kenai Peninsula Borough across the High School property.

Cost: $1.75 million Priority Level 3

Fairview Avenue – Main Street to West Hill Road: This project provides for the design and construction of Fairview Avenue from Main Street to West Hill Road. The road is approximately 4,200 linear feet and the project will include paving, water and sewer mains, stub-outs, storm drains, and a sidewalk or trail. In conjunction with the Fairview to East End Road project, this project will benefit the entire community by providing an alternative to Pioneer Avenue for collector street access east/west across town, thereby reducing congestion on Pioneer Avenue and developing alternative access for emergency vehicle response. The need for the road extension has increased markedly with the development of three major residential subdivisions in the area.

This improvement is recommended in the 2005 Homer Area Transportation Plan.

Cost: $3 million Priority Level 3

Parks And Recreation

Beach Access from Main: This project will provide residents and visitors with coastal viewing stations and access to the beach at the southern end of Main Street, utilizing City-owned land. The project will enhance connectivity in Homer's developing trails and park system, providing additional access so that beach-goers can walk onto the beach at one point and off at another, on a loop through Old Town, Town Center, etc. For those not physically able to walk all the way to the beach, platforms near the roads will provide nice views and benches on which to relax. Interpretive signage could provide information on Homer history, beach formation, and other topics.

The Main Street beach access point is envisioned to have a small parking area, a viewing platform with a bench, and stairs with landings.

Cost: $250,000 Priority Level 3

Capital Improvement Long-Range Projects

East Trunk/Beluga Lake Trail System: This project will create two connecting trails:

- The Beluga Lake Trail will partially encircle Beluga Lake with a raised platform trail that includes a wildlife observation site. The trail will connect neighborhoods and business districts on the north and south sides of the lake.
- The East Trunk Trail will provide a wide gravel pathway from Ben Walters Park east along the City sewer easement, along the north side of Beluga Lake (connecting with the Beluga Lake Trail), and eventually reaching East End Road near Kachemak City.

The completed trail system will connect Paul Banks Elementary School, the Meadowood Subdivision, and other subdivisions and residential areas to Ben Walters Park. It will additionally provide hiking, biking, and wildlife viewing opportunities around Beluga Lake. In addition, it will provide an important non-motorized transportation route.

The Beluga Lake Trail, a trail connection to Paul Banks Elementary School and East End Road are included in the 2004 City of Homer Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan.

Cost: Beluga Lake Trail—$1.5 M East Trunk Trail—$2 M Priority Level 3

Horizon Loop Trail, Phase 1: The Homer Horizon Loop Trail is proposed as a four to five mile route that would run clockwise from Karen Hornaday Park up around the top of Woodard Creek Canyon, traverse the bluff eastward, and then drop down to Homer High School. The parking lots of Karen Hornaday Park and Homer High School would provide trailhead parking. Those wishing to complete the loop will easily be able to walk from the high school to Karen Hornaday Park or vice versa via Fairview Avenue. A later stage of trail development will connect the Horizon Loop Trail with the Homestead Trail at Bridge Creek Reservoir.

Cost: Staff Time Priority Level 3

Jack Gist Park Improvements, Phases 3: Jack Gist Park has been in development since 1998 on 12.4 acres of land donated to the City of Homer by a private landowner. As originally envisioned by the Jack Gist Recreational Park Association, this parcel was developed primarily for softball fields. The long-term goal is to acquire adjacent properties that will provide space for soccer fields. Phase 3 development will construct a plumbed restroom at the park and develop soccer fields.

Cost: $400,000 Priority Level 3

Karen Hornaday Park Improvements, Phase 4: Phase 4 park improvements will include building a concession stand, shed, landscaping, signage, and revegetating Woodard Creek.

Cost: $860,000 Priority Level 2

Mariner Park Improvements: This project will provide significant improvements to Mariner Park as called for in the park's master plan: Construct a bike trail from the "Lighthouse Village" to Mariner Park ($325,000); Construct a pavilion, additional campsites, and interpretive kiosk ($150,000); and improve the appearance of the park with landscaping ($75,000).

Total: $500,000 Priority Level 3

Capital Improvement Long-Range Projects

UTILITIES

Water Storage/Distribution Improvements Phase 4 - Spit Water Line: The existing Homer Spit water line is 40 years old and is constructed of 10-inch cast iron. In recent years it has experienced an increasing number of leaks due to corrosion. The condition has been aggravated by development on the Spit resulting in increased load from fill material on an already strained system. This project consists of slip lining approximately 1,500 linear feet of water main to the end of the Spit. Slip lining the Homer Spit waterline, versus replacing, will reduce cost while ensuring an uninterrupted water supply for public health, fire/life safety needs, and expanding economic activities on the Spit. Grant funds from the EPA allowed the City to complete project design in 2014.

Cost: $400,000 Priority Level 3

Bridge Creek Watershed Acquisition: Currently, the Bridge Creek watershed is the sole source of water for Homer. To protect the watershed from development that could threaten the water supply and to ensure the availability of land for possible future expansion of water treatment operations within the watershed, the City seeks to acquire additional acreage and/or utilize conservation easements to restrict development that is incompatible with clean water.

Cost: $1,000,000 Priority Level 3

Alternative Water Source: Currently Bridge Creek Reservoir is Homer's sole water source. Population growth within the City, increased demands for city water from residents outside City limits, increasing numbers of tourists and summer residents, and climate change that has reduced surface water availability are all factors in the need for a new water source to augment the existing reservoir. An alternative water source also builds redundancy into this essential life/safety municiapal infrastructure, making it possible to serve town with treated drinking water and adequate fire protection in the event of contamination or earthquake damage to Bridge Creek Reservoir.

Cost: $16,750,000 Priority Level 3

West Hill Water Transmission Main and Water Storage Tank: Currently, water from the Skyline treatment plant is delivered to Homer via two transmission mains. One main (12-inch) is located along East Hill Road and delivers water to the east side of town. The other (8-inch) runs directly down to the center of town. A third transmission main is needed to deliver water to the west side of town, provide water to the upper West Hill area, and provide backup support to the two existing transmission mains. A new water storage facility is also needed to meet the demands of a rapidly growing community.

The addition of a third water transmission main has been identified in comprehensive water plans for over 20 years.

Cost: Design—$500,000 Construction—$4.5 M Priority Level 2

STATE PROJECTS

Ocean Drive Reconstruction with Turn Lane: Ocean Drive, which is a segment of the Sterling Highway (a State road) connecting Lake Street with the Homer Spit Road, sees a great deal of traffic, particularly in the summer, and has become a source of concern for drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, and tour bus operators. This project will improve traffic flow on Ocean Drive and reduce risks to drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians by creating a center turn lane, providing well-marked crosswalks, and constructing a separated bike path. The project will also enhance the appearance of the Ocean Drive corridor by moving utilities underground and providing some landscaping and other amenities.

Currently, a bicycle lane runs on the south side of Ocean Drive. However, it is common for cars and trucks to use the bicycle lane to get around vehicles which have stopped in the east-bound traffic lane in order to make a left turn. Some frustrated drivers swing around at fairly high speeds, presenting a significant risk to bicyclists and pedestrians who may be using the bike lane. In recent years, the Homer Farmers Market has become a popular attraction on the south side of Ocean Drive during the summer season, contributing to traffic congestion in the area. In addition, Homer is seeing more cruise ship activity which also translates into more traffic on Ocean Drive. All of these factors have led to increased risk of accidents.

Capital Improvement Appendices

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- **Resolution 19-061 .....60**
- **City of Homer Financing Assumptions 61**

Capital Improvement Appendices

CITY OF HOMER
2020-2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING PROCESS

FY 2021 LEGISLATIVE REQUEST DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

ACTION	TIME FRAME
City Council Approval of CIP Planning Schedule	April 22, 2019
Solicit new/revised project information from City Departments, local agencies and non-profits	April 30
Input for New Draft Requested By	May 31
Prepare and Distribute Draft CIP to City Advisory Groups for Review and Input:	Meeting dates:
Economic Development Advisory Commission	June 11, August 13
ADA Compliance Committee	June 13, July 11
Planning Advisory Commission	June 19, July 17
Park, Arts, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission	June 20, August 15
Port and Harbor Advisory Commission	June 26, July 24
Library Advisory Board	August 6
Administrative Review and Compilation	August 15- August 21
City Council Worksession to Review Proposed Projects	August 26
Introduction of Resolution on CIP/Legislative Request	September 9
Public Hearing on CIP/Legislative Request	September 10
Adoption of Resolution by City Council	September 23
Administration Forwards Requests for Governor's Budget	September 30
Distribution of CIP and State Legislative Request	October 2
Compilation/Distribution of Federal Request	October 2019 & January 2020

Capital Improvement Appendices

CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA

Mayor/City Council

RESOLUTION 19-061

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, ADOPTING THE 2020-2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND ESTABLISHING CAPITAL PROJECT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021.

WHEREAS, Duly published hearings were held on September 9 and September 23, 2019 to introduce the final draft of the 2020-2025 CIP and to obtain public comments on capital improvement projects and legislative priorities; and

WHEREAS, The Council received comments from all of the City of Homer Advisory Commissions and held a CIP worksession on August 26, 2019; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the City Council to provide the Governor, the State Legislature, State agencies, the Alaska Congressional Delegation, and other potential funding sources with adequate information regarding the City's capital project funding needs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Homer, Alaska, that the "City of Homer Capital Improvement Plan 2020-2025" is hereby adopted as the official 6-year capital improvement plan for the City of Homer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following capital improvement projects are identified as priorities for the FY2021 State Legislative Request:

1. Homer Barge Mooring & Large Vessel Haul Out Repair Facility
2. Large Vessel Port Expansion
3. Storm Water Master Plan
4. Main Street Sidewalk North
5. Multi-Use Community Center, Phase 1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that projects for the FY2021 Federal Legislative Request will be:

1. Homer Barge Mooring & Large Vessel Haul Out Repair Facility
2. Large Vessel Port Expansion

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby instructed to advise appropriate State and Federal representatives and personnel of the City's FY 2021 capital project priorities and take appropriate steps to provide necessary background information.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council for the City of Homer on this 23rd day of September, 2019.

CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELISSA JACOBSEN, CITY CLERK

Capital Improvement Appendices

City of Homer Financing Assumptions: Capital Improvement Program

Implementation of the City of Homer Capital Improvement Plan requires utilization of various financing mechanisms. Financing mechanisms available to the City of Homer include:

- Federal grants or loans
- State grants or loans
- General obligation bonds
- Limited obligation bonds
- Revenue bonds
- Special assessment bonds
- Bank loans
- Pay as you go
- Private sector development agreements
- Property owner contributions
- Lease or lease–purchase agreements

The use of any of the financing mechanisms listed above must be based upon the financial capability of the City as well as the specific capital improvement project. In this regard, financing the CIP should take into consideration the following assumptions:

1. The property tax cap of six-mill (at which point sales tax goes away) precludes use of this revenue source for major capital improvements. Available revenue should be utilized to fund operation and maintenance activities.
2. The operating revenue of enterprise funds (Port & Harbor, Water & Sewer) will be limited and as such, currently only fund operation and maintenance activities.
3. The utilization of Federal and State grants will continue to be significant funding mechanisms. Grants will be pursued whenever possible.
4. The 1½ percent sales tax approved by voters of Homer for debt service and CIP projects is dedicated at ¾ percent to sewer treatment plant debt retirement, with the remaining balance to be used in water and sewer system improvement projects, and ¾ percent to the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) Program for building, improving and maintaining Homer's roads and trails. The annual budget will transfer a minimum of $550,000 of the 3/4% dedicated sales tax exclusively for road and trail capital improvements and construction. The HART Program will require property owner contributions of $30 per front foot for road reconstruction, with an additional $17 per front foot for paving.
5. The Accelerated Water and Sewer Program will only be considered if the fund has a debt service of 1.25 or greater.
6. The private sector will be encouraged to finance, construct, and operate certain nonessential capital improvements (e.g., overslope development).
7. The utilization of bonds will be determined on a project-by-project basis.
8. The lease and/or lease–purchase of capital improvements will be determined on a project-by-project basis.