



AGENDA

Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM

City Hall Cowles Council Chambers In-Person & Via Zoom Webinar

Homer City Hall

491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Zoom Webinar ID: 990 0366 1092 Password: 725933

<https://cityofhomer.zoom.us>
Dial: 346-248-7799 or 669-900-6833;
(Toll Free) 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247

1. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, 6:00 P.M.**
2. **AGENDA APPROVAL**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** (3 minute time limit)
4. **RECONSIDERATION**
5. **CONSENT AGENDA** (Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Commission and are approved in one motion. If a separate discussion is desired on an item, a Commissioner may request that item be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda under New Business.)
 - 5.A. EDC Meeting Minute Approval **Page 3 - 7**
[Unapproved February 14, 2023 Minutes](#)
6. **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**
 - 6.A. Transportation Plan & Old Town Updates - Jan Keiser, Public Works Director
7. **STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS** (5 minute time limit)
 - 7.A. EDC Staff Report for March **Page 8**
[Agenda Item Report EDC 23-011](#)
 - 7.B. Chamber of Commerce Report
 - 7.C. Homer Marine Trades Association (HMTA) Report **Page 9 - 13**
[HMTA January 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes](#)
[HMTA March 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes](#)
8. **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**
9. **PENDING BUSINESS**
 - 9.A. Housing Update **Page 14 - 15**
[Agenda Item Report EDC 23-012](#)

- 9.B. EDC Mission Statement and Defining Positive Economic Development **Page 16 - 18**
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- 9.C. Wayfinding and Streetscape: Banner Design **Page 19 - 20**
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- 9.D. Land Allocation Plan – Part 2 **Page 21**
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- 9.E. Economic Development Advisory Commission & Homer Chamber of Commerce Conversation Regarding Economic Development in Homer **Page 22 - 25**
[Agenda Item Report EDC 23-016](#)
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
- 11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**
 - 11.A. City of Homer Newsletter **Page 26 - 37**
[March 2023 Issue](#)
 - 11.B. City Manager's Reports **Page 38 - 40**
[CM February 27, 2023 Report](#)
 - 11.C. EDC Strategic Plan **Page 41 - 43**
[2022-23 EDC Strategic Plan](#)
 - 11.D. EDC Meeting & City Council Report Calendar **Page 44**
[EDC 2023 Calendar](#)
- 12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)**
- 13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**
- 14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**
- 15. ADJOURNMENT** Next Regular Meeting is **Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**
All meetings are scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Session 23-02 a Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Karin Marks at 6:00 p.m. on February 14, 2023 at the City Hall Conference Room located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS MARKS, PITZMAN, CHEROK, AREVALO, GAMBLE, PEREZ

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER BROWN (excused)

CONSULTING: STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE PEARSON, MAYOR CASTNER

STAFF: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER ENGBRETSSEN, DEPUTY CITY CLERK TUSSEY

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

PITZMAN/CHEROK MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. CONSENT AGENDA (Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Commission and are approved in one motion. If a separate discussion is desired on an item, a Commissioner may request that item be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda under New Business.)

5.A. EDC Meeting Minute Approval
Unapproved January 10, 2023 EDC Minutes

Deputy City Clerk Tussey read the Consent Agenda. Chair Marks requested a motion.

AREVALO/PITZMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS READ.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

6. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

7. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.A. EDC Staff Report
Agenda Item Report EDC 23-004

Economic Development Manager Engebretsen spoke to her written report and answered questions from the commission. She confirmed with commissioners that March 14th, which is during Spring Break, will still work for the next regular meeting.

7.B. Mayor's Report

Mayor Castner reported on his work with the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission on the harbor expansion project, efforts to seek out funding sources to pay for everything, and securing approval from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to conduct a general investigation study.

There was discussion on City revenue sources through sales tax and bed taxes, the Mayor's goals regarding planning and zoning code updates, and responses to questions from the commission.

7.C. Homer Marine Trades Association (HMTA) Report
HMTA Meeting Minutes 1/4/2023
HMTA Meeting Agenda 1/26/2023

Chair Marks noted the HMTA items in the packet and reiterated Economic Development Manager Engebretsen's efforts to get HMTA members to come to future meetings to give in-person reports.

8. PUBLIC HEARING

9. PENDING BUSINESS

9.A. Housing and Short Term Rentals
Agenda Item Report EDC 23-005

Chair Marks introduced the agenda item by reading the title. She reported on her involvement with a greater Homer housing event that is scheduled for March 25th at the Homer Community Christian Church. More details to come. It will be an opportunity for community stakeholders to come together and discuss solutions to the Homer housing issues.

Mayor Castner interjected to include additional housing issues, particularly related to worker housing, that the group should be addressing. He opined how a housing association should be established.

There was discussion on the purpose of the event, what kind of aspects commissioners would like to see addressed, and how individuals or professionals can participate in the event.

Chair Marks explained how she will be attending other advisory body meetings to share the event information.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.A. Wayfinding and Streetscape: Banner Design
Agenda Item Report EDC 23-006

Chair Marks introduced the agenda item by reading the title and deferred to Economic Development Manager Engebretsen.

Ms. Engebretsen spoke to the banner design work from Corvus Design and invited commissioners to give feedback. Commissioners shared their opinions on the designs, their support for the direction of the artwork, and their suggestions for using other animals or various aspects of Homer.

10.B. Land Allocation Plan
Agenda Item Report EDC 23-007

Chair Marks introduced the agenda item by reading the title and deferred to Economic Development Manager Engebretsen.

Ms. Engebretsen explained the process for the EDC's annual review of the Land Allocation Plan. She gave an overview of staff's recommendations for removing Overslope Areas 2, 3, and 4 from Section A, land available for lease, and updating the descriptions for Lots 9A and 10A to reserve them for fisheries uses or short term leases. She facilitated discussion with the commission on the rationale for removing those overslope areas, or if there were ways to leave the areas on.

Chair Marks asked for a motion.

PITZMAN/CHEROK MOVED TO REMOVE OVERSLOPE AREAS 2, 3, AND 4 FROM SECTION A OF THE LAND ALLOCATION PLAN, AND RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

AREVALO/PITZMAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT LOTS 9A AND 10A ON FISH DOCK ROAD BE DESIGNATED FOR FISHERY USE LEASES.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

10.C. Chamber of Commerce Strategic Plan Worksession
Agenda Item Report EDC 23-008

Chair Marks introduced the agenda item by reading the title. She noted the EDC Strategic Plan and the Homer Chamber of Commerce's Strategic Plan in the packet and explained the purpose behind the joint worksession will be to discuss their mutual economic development goals.

Economic Development Manager Engebretsen spoke to the structure of the worksession and that Adele Person will be facilitating the dialogue and asking the groups questions, so to come prepared.

10.D. EDC Mission Statement and Defining Positive Economic Development
Agenda Item Report EDC 23-009

Chair Marks introduced the agenda item by reading the title and deferred to Economic Development Manager Engebretsen and Commissioner Perez.

Ms. Engebretsen summarized the EDC wanting to work on a mission statement and some guiding principles for what the EDC does, and Commissioner Perez volunteered to work on that statement.

Commissioner Perez explained his work behind writing the draft EDC mission and vision statement, what characteristics it should include, the sources he pulled from to come up with the vision, and then using that to write out the mission statement. He expects to have a final draft for the next meeting.

There was discussion on the document, the overall support of Commissioner Perez's work, and the commission's consensus to hold off on making a motion to approve the statement until their next meeting. Chair Marks asked commissioners to submit their input to Ms. Engebretsen before the next agenda deadline and that they would have it on the March agenda.

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- 11.A. Small Business Development Center Quarterly Report
SBDC Homer Quarterly Report 2022 Oct-Dec
- 11.B. Kachemak Bay Campus Job Fair
Job Fair Flier 3/3/2023
- 11.C. City of Homer Newsletter
February 2023 Issue
- 11.D. City Manager's Reports
CM Report for February 13, 2023 Council Meeting – Laydown
- 11.E. EDC Strategic Plan
2022-23 EDC Strategic Plan
- 11.F. EDC Meeting & City Council Report Calendar
EDC 2023 Calendar

Chair Marks noted the informational materials in the packet and facilitated comments and discussion on each item. Commissioners discussed which Council reports they would be able to volunteer for: Commissioner Pitzman – August, September; Commissioner Perez – April; Commissioner Cherok – May.

12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Scott Adams, city resident, commented on the banner designs for wayfinding and streetscape and how they tie into aspects of the community, and his experiences with the housing issues in Homer.

13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Tussey noted the polls for the Borough Mayor Special Election were still open for a few more minutes if any commissioners had not voted yet. She announced reappointment notices will be sent out at the end of the month/early March to Commissioners Marks and Perez, and to complete the reappointment application that will be with that notice if they're interested in serving for another 3-year term.

Economic Development Manager Engebretsen wished the commission a Happy Valentine's Day.

14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Arevalo reported there is a new partnership between the college's new agriculture program and the Natural Resources Conservation Service that offers "Know Your Land" talks at the

college and online. There are free workshops coming up for those interested. She announced the Alaska Food Hub is reopening for the season; there won't be much food offered yet but there will be items such as microgreens and locally made food products. She encouraged everyone to support local farms by buying through the food hub.

Commissioner Arevalo left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Student Representative Pearson commented it was great to see the harbor expansion project design concepts; her mom owns a business out on the Spit so it would be good to see more traffic.

Commissioner Perez commented on the Kachemak Bay State Park has launched the new management plan and are rezoning for more recreational use among other things. He opined it's something the EDC should keep in the back of their head as far as development planning for that space that they could be promoting.

Commissioner Gamble wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and thanked Mayor Castner for attending.

Commissioner Cherok noted it was a good meeting and apologized for having to keep his video off while he is in the middle of traveling.

Commissioner Pitzman voiced his appreciation for the warm welcome as a new commissioner. He commented on the EDC materials he was reviewing and how it struck him how lucky our community is to have these incredible economic development spring boards to start with, and the amount of work that has gone on by people with their hearts in the right place to secure our bright future. He appreciates being here.

Chair Marks commented on the upcoming joint worksession with the Chamber of Commerce, highlighted the Library Western Lot project that the Friends of the Homer Library secured grant funding for, and looking forward to the new Chamber Visitor Guides that are expected to incorporate more wayfinding. She thanked the commission.

Mayor Castner thanked the commission for their service and his hopes that they will focus on the business elements of all the plans that the City is working on. There are a lot of things happening, stuff in the works, and encouraged them to stick with it and ask questions.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Marks adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m. A Worksession is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room and via Zoom Webinar, and the next regular meeting is Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. and scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers and via Zoom Webinar.

RACHEL TUSSEY, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved: _____



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

March Staff Report

Item Type: Informational Item
Prepared For: Economic Development Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 14 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

Staff Activities:

I will provide a verbal update on the following:

- Job Fair
- State child care licensing conversation
- City Budget – draft budget out by the end of March
- Pioneer Ave Gateway/HERC project update – Council worksession Monday March 20th, 4-6 pm.
- East End Bike Path Parking Lot

Planning Commission Update:

The Commission continues to work on platting issues and will review two conditional use permits at their March 15th meeting.

**Homer Marine Trades Association
Regular Business Meeting
January 26, 2023
Harbor Master's Office**

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Vice President, Eric Engebretsen

Officers/Directors present: Eric Engebretsen, Jen Hakala, Cinda Martin, Kate Mitchell, Bruce Friend, and Mark Zeiset. Aaron Fleenor, Claire Neaton, Josh Hankin-Foley and Adam Smude were absent. Amy Woodruff was also present. A quorum was established.

Guests Present: Harbor Master Bryan Hawkins – presented a new conceptual drawing for the large vessel harbor plan prepared for their visit to Juneau. The new drawing shows a larger buildout to accommodate a deep-water dock looking to the future.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Kate Mitchell to approve the Agenda with the addition of our Annual To-Do List under Old Business and the Letter of Support to Governor Dunleavy for the MXAK system upgrade, 2nd and carried.

Approval of Minutes of the January 4th, 2023 Meeting: Motion by Mark Zeiset to approve the minutes as written, 2nd and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Jen Hakala presented a current Statement of Financial Position, A/R Aging Summary as well as a 3-year Fiscal Year Comparison of Activity. She stated that we received the bill for the Anchorage Boat Show that we will be splitting with Bay Welding; our portion is \$12,450. She will be billing members for booth space next week (@ \$750 each) and paying the invoice. The Fish Expo deposit is coming up @ \$5,175. HMTA pre-paid some advertising that will be reimbursed by the Port & Harbor. With regard to the Activity Comparison, there are large differences primarily due to COVID and the shows being cancelled. Also, it seems that members have been slower to pay than in the past. Lastly the 990N is on Jen's radar but the IRS is not yet accepting them. Reports are attached for the record.

Committee Reports:

- Advertising – Kate reported that we have paid Pacific Fishing and Fishing Magazine for the upcoming ads and submitted the bills to the City for reimbursement. We have not renewed any ad with Work Boat at this time. She will do an ad in the Homer News with a notice of all the member businesses attending the Anchorage Boat Show.
- Website/Social Media – Mark reported that the website categories could use some updating; suggestion to create a cross reference alpha directory.
- Radio – Mark details of Alpha Media ad pricing. In 2020 we did radio ads May thru August on the CBS sports station tagged onto the fishing report @ \$2,100. Discussion held regarding creating and presenting an easy way for our members to sign up for radio ads. Will look at KGTL as well as the Anchorage stations. Will discuss further at the next meeting.
- Workforce Development –
 - FOLs – no further contact from Walter; discussion held regarding the possibility of moving FOLs to the FLEX. Kate volunteered to contact Lindsey Martin there.
 - KPC courses – Cinda will invite Jill to the next meeting to check status of courses.
 - Career Fair at KPC 3/3 – Cinda is putting an HMTA panel together and would like to target welding, electronics, commercial fishing and boatyard work. She will send out an email to those target members with the Career Fair date/time information. Career Fair flyers are ready to distribution on our website and social media. Cinda will email to Amy.

- Scholarship – Cinda reported that there have been no Marine Tech Series applications all year. It is time to get our spring scholarship advertised; Cinda will check the website for a current application and email to Amy and the schools.
- Membership – Discussion held regarding potential new members. ACDC is interested in hosting a Round Haul, Bruce will put that together and shoot for March. Also discussed the need for an updated membership list imported into Mail Chimp; needs to be a priority and be sure all new members are included, several are still not receiving communications through that platform.

Old Business:

- Anchorage Boat Show – Feb 17, 18, 19, 2023 at Dena’ina Center
 - Set up – Eric reported that cost is up this year but we have a little more space this year, could have had a lot more at a discount but didn’t want to over-commit. Bay Weld will have two boats and a separate booth for their new service department. Set up for boats is early Friday morning with booth setup beginning at 10 AM.
 - Booths – Bruce reported on the layout and will be sending out an information sheet to all HMTA participants.
 - Banner – a single HMTA banner will be hung from the ceiling facing the entry.
- Communications Director Amy Woodruff – welcome Amy!
 - Tasks to start – goal is to connect with our membership with relevant information often. Current tasks include: Advertise Boat Show, Career Fair, Scholarship applications and Round Haul. Information on each event will be emailed to her by the respective chair.
 - Update Member Lists/Mail Chimp for broadcast emails – work with Claire and Jen; Claire and Josh worked on updating the list which is located in Google Docs.
 - Access to email, Social Media accounts – Jen will email Amy usernames and passwords
 - Upload minutes to website and email link with next meeting date to all members each month
- Annual To Do List – (keep on agenda) will review list at next meeting; Eric suggested that board members bring the list to each meeting to review and refer to.
- Letter of Support for MXAK proposal written by Josh – Copy attached for the record. Motion by Mark Zeiset to approve the letter as written by Josh Hankin-Foley in favor of the appropriation of funds to upgrade the MXAK communications system and have Aaron Fleenor sign on behalf of HMTA as president, 2nd and carried. Cinda will put on letter head, have Aaron sign and email to the Governor.
- PME 2023 – no report/no action

New Business: None

Next Meeting: March 1st at 6 pm at Bay Welding

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the board members, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cinda Martin
Secretary

**Homer Marine Trades Association
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2023
Bay Welding**

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Aaron Fleenor at 6:06 p.m.

Officers/Directors Present: Aaron Fleenor, Eric Engebretsen, Kate Mitchell, Jen Hakala, Cinda Martin, Bruce Friend, Adam Smude, Claire Neaton, Mark Zeiset and Amy Woodruff. Josh Hankin-Foley was absent. A quorum was established.

Guests Present: Jill Burnam from Kenai Peninsula College; Amber Fleenor of A&A Boats; Troy Laky and Dave Inman from ACDC Electric; Homer Harbor Master, Bryan Hawkins

Guest Presentations:

- ACDC – Troy Laky and Dave Inman reported that they offer marine electrical, solar systems, lithium batteries and Star-Link internet. They would love to host a Round Haul April 29th and will provide refreshments.
- Bryan – reported that all the money is in place to move forward with the harbor expansion feasibility study and the City has already accomplished some of the tasks needed for the study; they should be getting a start date soon, anticipating spring 2023. They are also considering a full float system replacement project, estimated cost of \$72MM; federal funding provides 80% funding, they are investigating various grants for the balance. He also reported that the harbor is taking over the camping and parking and are looking at a new digital parking program where visitors can pay on their phones.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Eric Engebretsen to approve the Agenda as presented, 2nd and carried.

Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2023: Motion by Mark Zeiset to approve the minutes of January 26th as written, 2nd and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jen gave her report, a Statement of Financial Position was presented and reviewed, copy attached. The 1st half 2023 Fish Expo bill of \$5,000 has been paid. The storage unit annual bill will be coming due in August and it will be HMTA's year to cover the cost of \$900 (year on/year off with Port & Harbor). She also reported that we were \$992 short of covering the cost of the booth space primarily due to the last-minute cancellation of the Homer Charter Association; Bruce will have a conversation with them to discuss. Total 116 members to date with a couple of new members; Daigle Boat Works, Bob's Trophy Charters, and Mako's Water Taxi.

Communication's Director Report: Amy reported that she is planning to reconcile the membership lists against the invoice list and report back with who is unpaid and needs contact. She is also thinking of a better way to handle new members and smoother process. Website – she met with Grady and did a walk-through of the platform; she added the menu and uploaded current minutes. She plans to contact members in groups to have them review their profiles and make revisions, it will also give her a chance to meet the business owners and understand what they do. Social Media – has posted Career Fair flyers and updates about the HMTA panel; nothing coming up until the Round Haul but will post. Mail Chimp has been updated and linked to QB so that new members added in QB will automatically be added in

Mail Chimp. She plans to send out links to minutes and will be ready for any newsletter content. She will send out Scholarship Application news. She's met with Cinda and Jen. She's been keeping track of her time and is managing well. Regarding EDC, we are a standing agenda item and they do publish the minutes if sent. We don't have to attend but we should let them know if we want to stay on the agenda. Eric expressed an interest in attending.

Committee Reports:

- Advertising – Kate reported that we have been reimbursed by the City for both print ads; she purchased an ad and sent in a story with the Homer News regarding our presence at the Anchorage Boat Show. She is keeping a scrap book of our history since 2011 to keep track of our history 😊
- Website – See Amy's report above
- Radio – Alpha Media ad Mark reached out to previous radio advertisers and 2 have said they would advertise again; Great Alaska Fishing Report details attached for the record. Ads generally include tags for Port and Harbor, HMTA and various members. We would need to submit our ad by May 1st to run May - August. Need to choose station and length of ad.
- Workforce Development
 - FOLs – Aaron reported that he spoke with Walter and he is willing to do FOLs, field trips are doable but the bus fees have increased; nothing scheduled and we are running out of weeks
 - KPC Courses – Jill Burham reported that they have the 100-Ton scheduled 3/17 – 4/9, 11 seats are full at this point. Anna Borland has agreed to teach the Deck Hand course; Adam Smude is scheduled to teach in April and Mark Zeiset will teach a Maritime Computer Navigation course in March. Brad is teaching a CAD class in April and an AB course will be scheduled in the fall. KPC/Kachemak Bay Campus can now proctor exams. They are trying to offer courses that complement the 100-ton course. They finally have welding courses set up in collaboration with Bay Welding and are working on offering pre-requisite welding courses in Kenai. She encouraged us to think about utilizing the college space for off-hours courses. She is willing to put together any classes we'd like to offer.
 - Career Fair – Cinda reported on the Career Fair happening this Friday; reviewed panel questions for the HMTA panel happening at 1:30pm. HMTA will have a table and have a list of open jobs with members. Eric, Bryan and Aaron all have jobs to list and will email their information. Scholarship applications for the spring scholarship and Marine Tech Series will be available. Bryan will also email the Harbormaster's Scholarship application.
 - Scholarship – marketing is on Amy's action list; upload current application to the website and drive traffic with a link
- Membership

Old Business:

- Annual To-Do List – attached; work in progress
- Anchorage Boat Show – Eric recapped the show; bigger show and better attendance and had more conversations referring customers to other HMTA members for outfitting. Observation that the HMTA triangle sign was more effective than the double-sided sign hung at this show. Eric also mentioned that he is not opposed to the placement of boats in the center of the booth

to allow members to circle around them, he is not set on being on the aisle. The mini aisles were okay but not the most efficient arrangement.

- Round Haul – ACDC scheduled for April 29th between 11 and 1pm at 528 E Pioneer Ave (old Wildberry building) Amy will handle marketing on the HMTA side.
- PME 2023 – 1st ½ payment has been sent; suggested that we begin sending out notices to recruit members for PME booth planning, including price, to avoid last minute rush and vacancies. Will base booth space on member participation and will consider decreasing size.

New Business:

None

Action Items for Amy:

1. Scholarship - upload current form to website; post notices on SM and drive traffic to website – deadline is April 15th
2. Member outreach re: radio ads – check in with Mark, he will be calculating how many ads will be available
3. Kachemak Bay Campus/Marine Technology Series flyers – post to SM; connect with Jill Burnham
4. Round Haul scheduled at ACDC, Saturday, April 29th 11 – 1; market on SM
5. Email meeting notice w/minutes link – also extend invitation to member to attend our board meetings and make a presentation about their business if they choose.
6. PME 2023 – member recruitment for booth space planning and banner advertising

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5th at 6pm at the Homer Harbor or KBC

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the board members, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cinda Martin
HMTA Secretary



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Housing Update

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Economic Development Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 14 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

Summary Statement:

This is a standing agenda item, no action at this time.
Chair Marks will provide a brief update on the upcoming Housing Conversation.

Staff Recommendation:

No action; discussion only.

Attachments:

[Housing Conversation Event Flyer](#)



COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: Housing Solutions in the Greater Homer Area

SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2023

9:00 AM TO 12:30 PM

Christian Community Church, 3838 Bartlett Street, Homer, AK

Doors open at 9 AM - Meeting begins at 9:30 AM

9:30-12:30 PM AGENDA

- Homer Housing Survey Results
- Workshop: What are our priorities?
- Workshop: Solutions and Next Steps!

For more information email:
hannah@gsquared.solutions

**SCAN HERE FOR
MORE INFO:**



SUPPORTED BY:





AGENDA ITEM REPORT

EDC Mission Statement and Defining Positive Economic Development

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Economic Development Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 14 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

EDC Goal: View economic development through the lens of balancing growth with quality of life.

Task: Create an EDC Mission statement as a guiding principle for what the EDC does.

Task: Define positive economic development, and what is the role of the EDC is in balancing growth and quality of life.

Step 1: Create a Vision Statement (March 2023)

Step 2: Create a Mission Statement (April 2023)

Summary Statement:

At the last meeting, Commissioner Perez presented some research and ideas on a Vision Statement for the EDC. By consensus, the commission arrived at the following:

“The City of Homer Economic Development Commission strives to provide a forum for civic and business engagement for the City of Homer with the goal of supporting the growth of a diverse community and economy while preserving its cultural and natural heritage.”

Staff Recommendation:

Discuss the Vision Statement; make any amendments and adopt by motion.

Attachments:

[Homer EDC Vision Statement Development Document from EDC February Meeting](#)

Homer EDC - Vision Statement Development

Below Excerpted from - Strategic Management Concepts - Fred David

Vision Statements: What Do We Want to Become?

It is especially important for managers and executives in any firm to agree on the basic vision the organization strives to achieve in the long term. A **vision statement** should answer the basic question, “What do we want to become?” A clear vision provides the foundation for developing a comprehensive mission statement. Many organizations have both a vision and mission statement, but the vision statement should be established first. Examples of vision statements are provided in Table 2-1. The vision statement should be short, preferably one sentence, and as many managers as possible should have input into developing the statement. Recall Proverbs 29:18 that says “Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

TABLE 2-1 Six Exemplary Vision Statements (paraphrased)

-
- Dr Pepper Snapple: to be the best beverage business globally; our brands are synonymous with refreshment, fun, and flavor today and tomorrow.
 - IBM: to be the world’s most successful information technology company focused on helping customers apply technology to solve their problems now and in the future.
 - Hilton Worldwide: to fill the Earth with the light and warmth of hospitality by delivering exceptional experiences—every hotel and guest for all time.
 - Starbucks: to be the premier purveyor of the finest coffee in the world while maintaining uncompromising principles as we steadily grow.
 - Kellogg: to enrich and delight the world through foods and brands that matter today and tomorrow.
 - Harley-Davidson: to fulfill dreams through the experiences of motorcycling for all time.
-

Characteristics of a Vision Statement:

1. Clear: Reveals type of industry and what firm strives to become
2. Futuristic: Reveals what the firm strives to become or accomplish within time frame
3. Concise: One sentence
4. Unique: Reveals firm’s competitive advantage
5. Inspiring: Motivates the reader’s to support firm

Workshop: Developing the Homer EDC Vision Statement

EDC Vision Statement Current Examples:

1. “To nurture and enhance the economic well-being of the community through the promotion of a sustainable economy. To develop a resilient strategy for economic development that promotes economic health and vitality for all stakeholders in Great Barrington, one that is recognized for its quality of life, diverse entrepreneurial energy, and pride of place.”

[Great Barrington, MA - EDC Vision & Mission - 2019](#)

2. “The City of Corinth’s Economic Development Corporation will become a vital factor in the successful development of businesses and jobs, tourism trade, and a higher quality of life to contribute to an overall self-sustaining economy for the City.”
[Corinth, TX - EDC Vision & Mission](#)
3. “To be a healthy, proud, and business oriented community that is economically self-sufficient.”
[West Bank First Nation - EDC - Strategic Plan - Vision](#)
4. “The Economic Development Commission consists of business and citizen volunteers dedicated to supporting the business community and striving to provide a healthy, thriving, high quality experience for all our residents, businesses and visitors. The Commission works together with its partners, The Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce, (GMACC) and The Mount Airy Main Street Association, (MAMSA) as well as other civic groups and organizations to support all the industries within our business community. Whether your business is new, existing, or looking to expand, we are here to help and guide you in any way that we can. To achieve this vision, the Commission will work to maintain Mount Airy’s reputation as a highly desirable place to live, work, and play, with a well-rounded workforce as well as maximize the community's strategic location as a valuable resource and a robust, prosperous suburban hub encompassing many industries from restaurants and retail, food service and catering, finance and technology, medical and professional, automotive, and other trades as well as agricultural and manufacturing.”
[Mount Airy, MD - EDC - Overview/Vision Statement](#)
5. “Des Moines, an economically thriving community that maximizes the potential of its natural assets.”
[Des Moines, IA - EDC Vision](#)
6. “Queen Anne’s County Economic Development Commission envisions an economically and demographically vibrant community, full of promise for current and future residents and businesses, yet uncompromisingly dedicated to the preservation of the County’s environment, heritage, and rich culture.
[Queen Anne’s County, MD - EDC Vision](#)
7. Alternate example - Seattle 10 Year Vision (2013-2023) - vision mapping of how the commission envisions the city in 10 years & outlines steps for EDC to support vision
[Seattle, WA - EDC - 10 year Vision Statement](#)

Option 1: David Model

- Concise, Forward Looking, Inspirational , & Competitive Advantage

1. Example below drafted by T. Perez:
“The Homer Economic Development Commission strives to provide a forum for civic and business engagement for the City of Homer with the goal of supporting the growth of a diverse community and economy while preserving its cultural and natural heritage.”

Option 2: Seattle Example - 10 Year Model

1. Run a workshop mapping out 10 year vision (align with strategic plan)



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Wayfinding and Streetscape: Banner Design

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Economic Development Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 14 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

Summary Statement:

I relayed the Commission's comments on the banners to Peter Briggs (Corvus Design consultant). He commented about the desire to include a banner with reference to Alaska Native culture:

“As to Alaska Native, due to cultural appropriation sensitivity, we don't generate Alaska Native-esque work unless we do have an Alaska native partner. Is there an Alaskan Native artist in the area we might reach out to for an idea we'd put into the same style?”

I asked Adele Person, as Bunnell has done a lot of work on culturally sensitivity and native artists. Her comment:

“I think it would be worth doing a training about cultural sensitivity and land acknowledgement. I can recommend Melissa Shaginoff as a person who conducts workshops like this. I know she is incredibly busy through May, but as a long term learning goal, this could be valuable.

The other person who might be interesting to reach out to is Ivan Encelewski, the Executive Director of the Ninilchik Village Tribe's governing body, the Ninilchik Traditional Council. Again, I think this is about relationship building.

Nadia Jackinsky might be another good contact. She is of the Ninilchik Tribe and works for the Ciri Foundation. She would be a good sounding board and even a person who could recommend artists down the line. She curated the Salmon Cultures exhibit at the Pratt Museum recently and is very knowledgeable. Her email is nsethi@thecirifoundation.org.”

There is LOTS of potential for the City and private businesses to incorporate Native Alaskan topics through interpretive panels etc. It's a great idea. But we need to have an intentional and inclusive process. I asked Peter to move forward on the other comments so this project can keep moving. As of yet I do not have an Alaska Native artist to work with; if we can work something out we can include a banner in the future.

I hope to have revised banner designs at the meeting for EDC review.

Staff Recommendation:

For discussion, no motion necessary.



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Land Allocation Plan – Part 2

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Economic Development Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 14 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

EDC Goal: Use the Commission’s SWOT analysis to develop strategies to implement policies that support Homer’s quality of life.

Summary Statement:

Staff will give a brief presentation on how the Land Allocation Plan, Comprehensive Plan, and Zoning Codes fit together. The “Comp Plan” and zoning code rewrite project is on the Council agenda for Monday, March 13th. Special Projects Coordinator Ryan Foster and I gave a version of this presentation to the Port and Harbor Commission last month, also including some port specific topics such as the harbor expansion.

No action is needed by the EDC but I’d like to keep you informed of what’s going on. These plans and resulting actions have a direct effect on Homer’s Quality of Life, an area of interest for the EDC.

Staff Recommendation:

No recommended motion from staff.



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Economic Development Advisory Commission & Homer Chamber of Commerce Conversation Regarding Economic Development in Homer

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Economic Development Advisory Commission
Meeting Date: 14 Mar 2023
Staff Contact: Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

Summary Statement:

The EDC held a worksession with members of the Homer Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors on Tuesday, February 28, 2023. Attached to this staff report are meeting notes from facilitator Adele Person.

Follow up:

1. I suggest we add one of these hosted joint meetings to the EDC calendar; this was a good use of time.
2. Our EDC SWOT includes the following language: "Rethink Chamber marketing. Marketing the community away from aggressive tourism to other industries could give Homer time to manage the tourism we have, and grow in different directions."

After the conversation with the Chamber, is the EDC interested in changing this up? Could it say something more like "Continue working with the chamber to market Homer away from aggressive tourism..."?

3. Any other outcomes or actions you'd like the EDC to take?

Staff Recommendation:

For discussion, no motion necessary.

Attachments:

[EDC-HCOC Worksession Notes from Adele Person](#)

**Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDC)
& the Homer Chamber of Commerce (HCOC)
Joint Worksession**

February 28th, 2022. 530-7pm

Facilitator: Adele Person

A few Goals :

1. To understand what each entity does
2. To discover common goals to support economic development and quality of life
3. To imagine how EDC & HCOC might work together
4. To open lines and methods of communication

Working agenda:

1. (10 min) Introductions & Goals - Your name & something you hope to gain from today's worksession or a question you would ask this group.

Gordon Pitzman - Currently Red Bird real estate. Has had a water taxi, taught at HHS, fished. Interested in supporting businesses including non-tourist businesses.

Marcia Kuszmaul - on the board of HCOC, Bed & Breakfast association, Library Advisory Board. Interested in learning how to work together more closely

Michael Daniels - Chamber Board. Has developed a workforce housing area. Veterans charity. Here to listen and learn.

Brad Anderson - Joined the HCOC in Dec 2019 as the ED. Recently updated HCOC Strategic Plan. Looking to support a more diverse economy.

Karin Marks- On EDC and KPEDD with Brad. Ran the Artshop for years and now has Artshop rentals. Interested in the Comp plan and updated zoning codes and the effect on the economy. Wants to think about downtown Homer just as much as Harbor expansion and other areas of town. Need to un-silo commissions, council and other entities to work together to solve our local challenges.

Julie Engebretson - 21 years at the City as planner and now Econ Dev Manager. No blueprint for that role so lots of opportunities.

Luke - owner of a year round business. Not always a tourist business. Sees workforce development as key. Very hard to find sufficient staff these days.

Nicole - Has lived in Homer for years and worked extensively in the food & beverage industry. Now at Homer Soil and Water Conservation District. Champions protecting our natural resources and habitats like water, wildlife and forest that bring many of us here.

2. (10 min) Role, mission & overview of the Homer Chamber of Commerce - Brad Anderson.

The Chamber is 99% small business. Are charged by the City for marketing. Also do advocacy. Hold events. Are Membership Based. Attend trade shows. Have 4 Visitor centers. Host working groups. Market trades. Trying to have an event / month that focuses on community, business, visitors on a rotating basis. There are 5 staff and 25 volunteers.

3. (10 min) Role, mission and overview of the City of Homer Economic Development department - Julie Engebretson

EDM has a standing seat on the HCOC board and is able to point people to good partnerships. City has not focused on business community extensively in the past. Comments on a big push to develop the Town Square that maybe took a lot of energy away from supporting Pioneer as sour downtown corridor. Now looing at Development and housing among other topics. City recently awarded a 1.2M green infrastructure grant. Applied for a RAISE/REACH grant to get to 65% design on some of our transportation challenges (KDrive, others)

4. (5 min) Role and current focuses of the Economic Development Advisory Commission - Karin Marks

EDC is a proactive commission that can be a great community sounding board. EDC was almost cut, but has really shown its value in the last few years. Ran the Wayfinding and Streetscape plan project. Recently conducted a SWOT analysis for Homer as a very first step towards the Comprehensive Plan. Working on Mission and Vision currently.

Discussion questions -

5. (5 min - popcorn) In your view, what are some of the major sectors of Homer's economy that we need to be aware of?

Over 100 non profits and 1100 businesses in our area in overlapping sectors like:

Artists & Arts

Manufacturing

Harbor Expansion - large vessels

Marine trades - Board building, support businesses like ice, hydraulics, electricians, welders, etc

Fisheries - encompassing Commercial, Sports, and Subsistence

Aquaculture -

Tourism - nature, arts, food, wildlife; intra-Alaska tourism, out of state, and international.

Government

Food & Beverage industry

Health Care

Education - public and private schools, KPCollege

Non-profits - over 100!

Science and Research organizations

Homer Services / trades - construction, plumbers, electricians, house cleaning, lawn mowing, roofing, etc..

Professional Services - accountants, printing, lawyers etc. Also hairdressers, etc. .

Small businesses -

Retail -

Farming / Agriculture

--> Some lacks - Hairdressers, accountants, lawyers, other professional services. Workforce. Also tech.

6. (5 min - popcorn) What are some of the major challenges in our economy today?

Housing

Workforce shortage

Childcare

Professional services like accountants, lawyers, hairdressers

Transportation

Differing views on how much growth is desired

Demands on infrastructure - tech, roads, water, sewer, services

Keeping Homer "Homer" - How to involve newcomers, keep community involvement and care

Community Development - challenges of where and how, vision, and needs

Competition with online businesses

State / Borough fiscal constraints - state/borough cuts mean COH has to fund more of jail, roads, schools, etc

Taxes - balancing need for revenue for desired services / burden on taxpayer

Protecting green space / habitat. Some development done with little regard for green space, drainage, wildlife corridors.

Land use - having a strategy to have interconnected green and wildlife corridors

Tech - broadband for our community

Youth retention

7. In your view, what are the best opportunities / mutual goals for the EDC and the Chamber to work together to support a healthy economy and great quality of life? What are some of the strengths of the EDC and Chamber's working relationship? What opportunities exist for strengthening that relationship?

Workforce / Youth retention - partnerships with AVTEC or AVTEC satellite. Career Fairs. Training programs.

Scholarships. Veterans programs.

Engagement - partnering to conduct another Business Retention and Expansion Survey. Taking advantage of COH "statistics guy"

Housing - COH holding a community conversation with other entities soon. Looking at Seasonal, long term needs. Great discussion around Anchor907. Discussion around Development and some pros/cons. Thinking about how we are missing the codes to be able to develop housing like apartments that might be needed to address housing shortages.

Continue to maintain some marketing, but looking beyond high season tourism. Homer has gotten "discovered." We can be so full that visitors cannot find lodging or a restaurant reservation in high season. Partnering to emphasize shoulder seasons and year round businesses. Partnering to address quality of life issues and needs of year round businesses, residents, and community.

Community Events - recognizing Chambers role. Many of HCOC events have a visitor and local component. Could perhaps consider redirecting COH financial support to quality of life activities beyond visitor marketing. The Chamber does relocation, marketing, 4th of July parade, Winter parade, Winter King derby, other derbies, Tree lighting ceremony, Business meetup, Halloween. HCOC also provides key support for community efforts like the AK World Arts Festival, Shorebird, Peony festival, Pioneer Avenue Revitalization.

HCOC as an action arm of EDC. EDC as a sounding board and advocate for HCOC ideas.

8. Final thoughts and conclusions

Excited to work together and consider both economic and community development as synergistic efforts. Community Development is Economic Development. Excited to cooperate on our biggest challenges like housing, workforce, and seasonality. Learned a lot and shifted perceptions of what each entity does. Maybe we market less, but still not nothing. Must consider youth and perception that this is not a place they want to stay. Community events and keeping businesses open are important goals. Nice to think of community and business sectors coming together.

VOL. II - ISSUE VI | MARCH 2023

CITY OF HOMER



Monthly Newsletter from the office of the City Manager

Homer Officials Spread the Word in Juneau Twice this Winter

Every year, municipalities across the state travel to Juneau to visit their legislators in person to advocate for priority projects. In January, Homer's Special Projects Coordinator *Jenny Carroll*, Port Director *Bryan Hawkins*, and City Manager *Rob Dumouchel* traveled to Juneau to spread the word and build awareness about



Council Members Erickson, Lord and Aderhold (l-r) awaiting Senator Murkowski's speech in Juneau.

the harbor expansion project along with other City priorities included in the FY24 Capital Improvement Plan.

City lobbyists, J&H Consulting, successfully arranged meetings for Homer City officials and staff members to spend valuable time with numerous legislators.

In addition, US Coast Guard Rear Admiral *Nathan Moore*, Department of Transportation Commissioner *Ryan Anderson*, and Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner *Jason Brune* were available for a great round of productive conversations about upcoming projects, grants, environmental issues and more. See photos on page 4. The January trip concluded with a visit to the Marine Exchange of Alaska to explore ways to collaborate to support Homer's port expansion project.

The second trip at the end of February was to attend the Alaska Municipal League's Winter Legislative Conference. City Manager *Rob Dumouchel* was joined by Mayor *Ken Castner* and Council Members *Donna Aderhold*, *Shelly Erickson*, and *Rachel Lord*. The agenda included presentations from numerous elected officials and State agency executives. They also met with legislators in their individual offices to talk about the top priorities for the City of Homer. Overall, we were encouraged by the very productive trip. Thank you, Juneau!

WHAT'S NEW?

- Library Events
- Community Corner
- Community Recreation
- Economic Development
- Finance Department
- Fire Department
- Planning Department
- Police Department
- Port & Harbor
- Public Safety Notes
- Public Works
- Meet the Staff
- Municipal Art Collection
- Stay Connected with City Council
- Join Our Team

We hope you'll discover something new today as we share the latest information and ways you can tap into what's going on at City Hall and in the Homer community.

Check us out on Facebook

- City Hall - @cityofhomerak
- Parks & Recreation - @homerparksandrec
- Homer Public Library - @homerpubliclibrary
- Homer Police - @homerpolice
- Fire Department - @HomerVolFireDept



Share this link with your friends, so they can get the newsletter too - <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/citymanager/monthly-email-newsletter>

LIBRARY EVENTS

Virtual Author Talks

Zoom in and listen to your favorite authors talk about their latest books.



March 13: *Range: Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World*, David Epstein - 9:00 a.m.

March 21: *Southern Inspired: More Than 100 Delicious Dishes from My American Table to Yours*, Chef Jernard A. Wells - 12:00 p.m.

March 24: *Woman, Captain, Rebel*, Margaret Willson - 6:15 p.m.

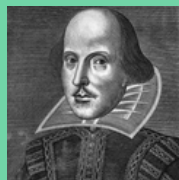
March 28: *Code Name Sapphire*, Pam Jenoff - 3:00 p.m.

2nd Sunday Shakespeare

March 12: *Measure for Measure*

April 9: *Pericles*

May 14: *Henry VIII*



Friends of the Homer Library, in partnership with Pier One Theatre and Kachemak Bay Campus, invite you to participate in an online reading of a play by William Shakespeare. [Zoom instructions found here.](#)

Lunch with a Council Member

March 14 - Rachel Lord

Noon - 1pm

Join the conversation with Council Member **Rachel Lord**. Bring your questions and topics for discussion and enjoy lunch over Zoom.

[Follow instructions here.](#)



Teen Advisory Board

Have ideas? Want to make things happen? We're looking for teens to join our teen advisory board. You can plan fun and exciting events and programs at the HPL with Cinda, the Youth Services Librarian.

Email Cinda for more info at cnofziger@ci.homer.ak.us or sign up online at



www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library/teen-advisory-board

Check out the complete Line-up of Library programs 



Homer Public Library
500 Hazel Street - (907) 235-3180
circ@ci.homer.ak.us
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library

Community Corner

What's happening around the City of Homer

Homer Resident Joan Edens is Turning 90!

Meet **Joan Edens**, Council Member Shelly Erickson's mom. Joan has always been an adventurous lady! She came to Homer when she



was 3 and turns 90 this month. For those who know her, she is an inspiration and continues to garden, ride her 4 wheeler and work around the pasture, fix trails in the summer, and ride snow machines in the winter, just for starters. A person can never be too old to enjoy the beauty and life around Kachemak Bay.

Looking for something fun to do outside this winter? Want to connect with new friends or join a new club? Check out Snowmads Snowmachine Club at <https://www.snomadsonline.org>.

Winter Carnival 2023

Mayor Ken Castner was aboard HVFD Engine 1 in the 69th Annual Winter Carnival Parade on February 11th organized by the Homer Chamber of Commerce. From public safety vehicles and SVT penguins, to cheerleaders, vintage trucks, boats and race cars, the community broke out of hibernation! Festive Homer people lined the streets to cheer the parade and celebrate. Did you see the ice races on Beluga Lake afterward?



Community Recreation

Check out these fun and exciting featured programs. To see the entire program list, go to <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec>



Light Therapy Lamps Now Available Sports Gear Lending Program

Thanks to the South Peninsula Hospital, there are four Light Therapy Lamps available to check out through the Sports Gear Lending Program at the Homer Public Library. Did you know that light therapy can help ease your mood and reduce symptoms of Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)?

Want to know more about the Sports Gear Lending Program at the Homer Library? <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec/sports-gear-lending-program>



Community Recreation Manager Mike Illg and Library Director Dave Berry show off one of the new light therapy lamps.

Jewelry Making with Art Koeninger

Sign up now for these great jewelry making classes with Homer artist Art Koeninger. Space is limited, so reserve your space today! Call Art at 907-235-1014 or email akoeninger@me.com. Cost per class is \$150, (\$90 for students repeating the same class) + cost of materials. To read more: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec/jewelry-making-classes-spring-2023>

March 4 & 5: *Introduction to Silversmithing*

March 24 - 26: *Lost Wax Casting*

April 1 & 2: *Intermediate Silversmithing*



Associate Planner *Bella Vaz* enjoyed a warm, bluebird day while ski touring Manitoba near Cooper Landing.



Economic Development

Old Town Road Improvements Conversation Continues

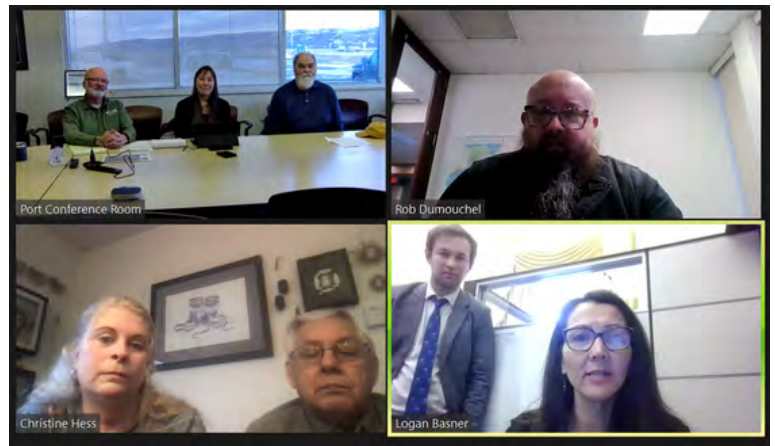
The City partnered with Bunnell Street Arts Center to host a series of neighborhood meetings to discuss road improvements in Old Town, latest of which was Tuesday, February 7. In July 2022, City staff and consultants Nelson Engineering asked these community members for ideas on what road improvements they would like to see in the Old Town area. At the February 7 meeting, Nelson Engineering presented design options in response from that conversations including landscaping, parking, and sidewalks along Ohlson Lane and Bunnell Avenue. Residents and business owners had the opportunity to voice their concerns and provide feedback, and staff was able to gather more valuable community input on the proposed project as a result of the meeting.



City Engineer/Public Works Director Jan Keiser with Nelson Engineering rep.

Meeting with Representative Mary Peltola and Staff

The City of Homer had its first official meeting with our new Congressperson via Zoom. Mayor Ken Castner, Special Projects Coordinator Jenny Carroll, and Port Director Bryan Hawkins participated from the Harbor Office, City Manager Rob Dumouchel called in from Anchorage, our lobbyists joined from Juneau, and Representative Peltola and staffer Logan Basner spoke with us from Washington D.C. The call was an opportunity to discuss priority City projects and begin to build a good relationship with Representative Peltola's office. We look forward to hosting her in Homer sometime in the near future!



Above: Senate Finance Co-Chair Stedman stops to chat with the Homer Delegation and City staff.
Below: City staff meets with DOT Commissioner Anderson and key staff.



Finance Department



Sales Tax Update for 2022

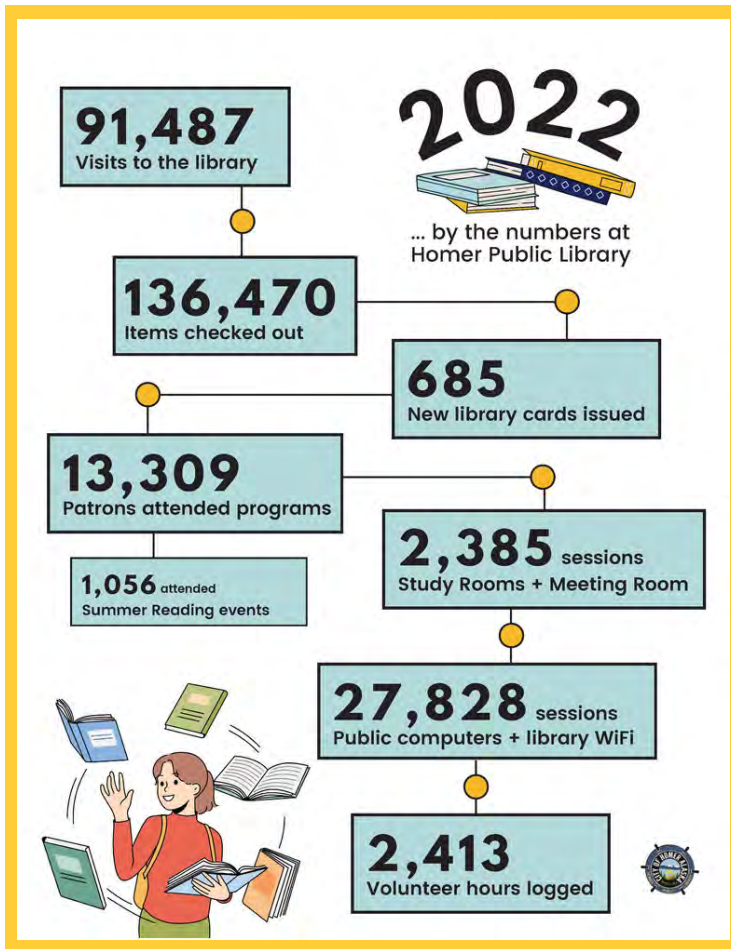
Complete sales tax numbers for calendar year 2022 have been released by the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The 4th quarter (or 2nd quarter of Fiscal Year 2023) saw a 2.6% increase in taxable sales over the previous year and is expected to bring in approximately \$2 million in total sales tax revenue (not including remote sales tax). Year over year, the City's taxable sales increased 7.2% and should amount to approximately \$12.5 million in total sales tax revenue (not including remote sales tax).



Homer Public Library 2022 by the Numbers...

The **Homer Public Library** was a busy place this year with over 91,000 visits! Other numbers were equally impressive, as seen to the right. Thank you for making the Homer Public Library a great place to visit. Your patronage is highly valued as are the thousands of hours logged by our many volunteers from the Friends of the Library.

Be sure to stay in touch to see what's new for 2023! Go to cityofhomer-ak.gov/library to find out more about upcoming programs and events.



Become a Volunteer Firefighter or EMT
Stop by the Homer fire station for more information



If you would like to become a volunteer firefighter or find out about the next training class, call the HVFD at 907-235-3155 or email jkahles@ci.homer.ak.us

Fire Department



HVFD Gains Two New Firefighters

Two new Firefighters have joined the ranks of the Homer Volunteer Fire Department staff. As the community's needs grow, so does the need to expand our services. This addition will allow the extra help needed when overlapping calls occur, which is often.

Pictured right, excerpts from the February Firefighter-1 class brought personnel from your three local departments - Homer VFD, Western Emergency Services and Kachemak Emergency Services with (Deputy Chief Joe Kahles, far left). The class trained on ropes, ladders, knots, and getting out of confined spaces. Good times!

If you would like to become a volunteer firefighter or find out about the next training class, give us a call at 907-235-3155 or email jkahles@ci.homer.ak.us.



Homer Special Olympics Team Qualifies for State Competition

On February 16th Homer Community Special Olympics held their local competition at the DOT ski trails. Seven local athletes competed in various events from the 25 meters to 800 meters. All have qualified for state competition March 11th in Anchorage to compete against Alaska athletes. The athletes have been practicing twice a week since December in preparation. Athletes can compete in three events as well as a relay.

A winter competition in Homer hasn't taken place since 2014, so it's great to see this event happening again. Special thanks go out to **Kachemak Nordic Ski Club** for the beautiful grooming and support in utilizing a portion of the DOT ski trails; **Homer Police Department**, *Evangelina Campuzano* and *Jessica Poling*, for presenting awards; and to **Homer Volunteer Fire Department** for attending for medical standby.

Head Coach: *Jaclyn Arndt*

Assistant Coach: *Dana Snyder*

Athletes:

Caleb Arndt

Mike Daily

Christopher Gregoire

Lee Grundstad

Nick Kvasnikoff

Kinna Ledger

Robby Reeves

Special Olympics is looking for a coach for the Summer or volunteers in either Track, Swimming or Basketball.

Email homer@specialolympicsalaska.org





New Online Permitting Process Launched

The City of Homer Planning Department is pleased to announce a more customer-friendly and efficient way for Homer builders, contractors, and property owners to apply for and track development projects through our new software called SmartGov.

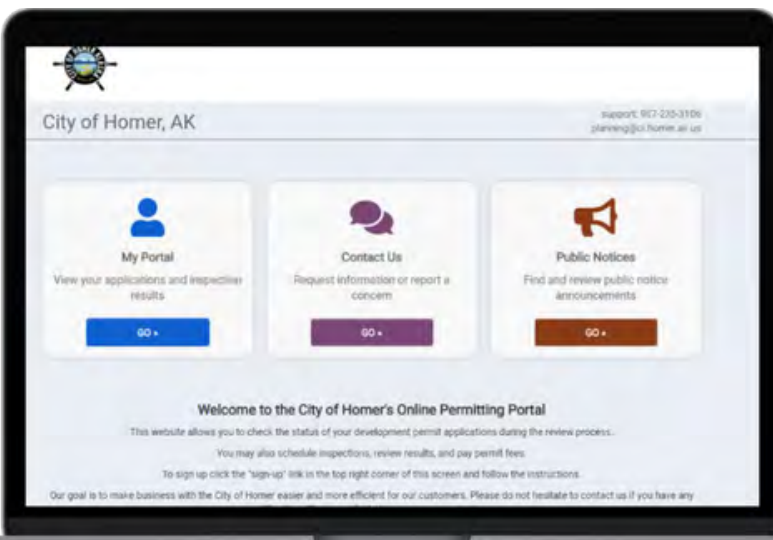
SmartGov provides an intuitive, easy-to-use platform for permit applications, eliminating paperwork and manual data entry. It also enables administrators to track applications in real-time, providing visibility into the entire process.

“Our department’s goal is to provide responsive, reliable, consistently-good customer service from the moment a development starts to the moment we issue a permit,” said Rick Abboud, Planning Director, *“We are proud to provide this innovative solution and look forward to seeing how SmartGov will transform the permitting process.”*

Using the SmartGov Portal is easy!

New customers, without existing permits or applications, can create a new account by clicking [Sign Up on the Online Portal](#). For customers with existing accounts, the Planning department will provide an access code that will link to existing applications and active permits. Customers can call the department at **907-235-3106** to receive the access code.

More information about how to create a portal can be found on the City’s [Permits webpage](#).



City of Homer's New SmartGov Online Permitting Portal

TSUNAMI



Tsunamis are generated by a disturbance most commonly associated with earthquakes, which occur below or near the ocean floor. Other sub-marine landslides and volcanic eruptions can also generate a tsunami.

Tsunami waves are destructive and affect beaches that are open to the ocean, tidal flats and anything in their path. Secondary hazards occur from erosion, destruction of roadway embankments, foundations, cause damage to structures, roads, bridges and more caused from extreme floodwaters and debris. Toxic materials and sewage released from damaged wastewater treatment plants can pose health risks and contaminate water and food supplies. Tsunamis can cause the most devastating damage in a short time than any other hazard to a community.

The tsunami inundation zone for Homer is nearly the entire Homer Spit along with low-lying areas around Beluga Lake and to the coast, excluding the airport.

The 1964 Great Alaska Earthquake triggered several tsunamis between 20 and 40 minutes after the quake. Homer was struck between 2 and 5 minutes after the earthquake, which caused most of the deaths and damage here.

The Alaska Earthquake Center and University of Alaska Fairbanks created a model for tsunami waves and inundation map for Homer. You can read more about it in the **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, Table 3-8: Tsunami**. They conducted several scenarios to simulate various degrees of inundation depending on the severity of the earthquake. The likelihood of a tsunami is hard to predict; however, previous events have shown that an earthquake-generated tsunami could impact the Homer community in the next five years (up to 1 in 5 chance of occurring).

Homer is a Tsunami Ready community!

Check out the great resources available on the City of Homer's [Emergency Information](#) page or call the Homer Volunteer Fire Department for help to prepare.

Click here for the [Know Your Tsunami Hazard brochure](#)

Police Department



Community Outreach: Parenting in a Digital World

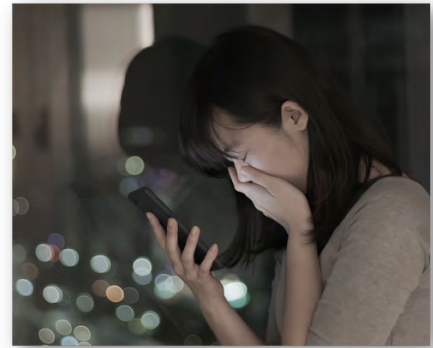
Lt. Ryan Browning has been busy meeting with Homer parents to present helpful tips and valuable information through candid and honest conversation to help families understand what kids are up against in today's cyber world.

- Did you know that since 2007 the number of high school students attempting suicide has doubled in our state?
- Do you know how many teenage girls report being so depressed they've stopped doing normal activities?
- Did you know that almost 60% of students report being bullied via social media or on digital devices?
- Do you know what your children are looking at online and with smartphones?

Attendees will walk away with tools to help navigate their digital world. More dates will be scheduled, so stay tuned to our popular [Facebook page](#) for details about this and other community outreach programs. In Alaska, help is available through [CareAlaska.com](#) or by calling **988** for the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.



Taylor Crowder captured the Northern Lights while on duty.



Parenting in the Digital Age

A Candid Conversation & Presentation with Lt. Ryan Browning, Homer Police Department

Tuesday, March 14
at 6-8pm
Homer Public Library -
Fireplace Lounge

- What are kids seeing & experiencing online?
- How can we help them navigate responsibly & safely?
- You're invited to participate in this open, safe place to talk candidly about what kids are exposed to online.

ADULTS-PARENTS-GUARDIANS ONLY

Port & Harbor



Ice Plant Gets Update

The Ammonia replacement project happened this month at the Ice Plant. The first time in 40 years! Although the Ice Plant has been maintained very well since being built in 1983, bringing the plant up to date with efficiencies of today's technologies will have an exponential benefit to the overall operation system. The upgrade will also reduce operating costs, optimize energy savings, and give everyone peace of mind.

Ice Plant Manager *Del Masterhan*, (top photo), is shown masked up and working on the system during the project. New ammonia tanks (below right) were carried and put into place to replace the aging system.

The Ice Plant & Fish Dock produces over 3,500 tons of flake ice per year to preserve the quality of more than 20 million pounds of salmon, halibut, sablefish, and pacific cod landed at the Port of Homer.

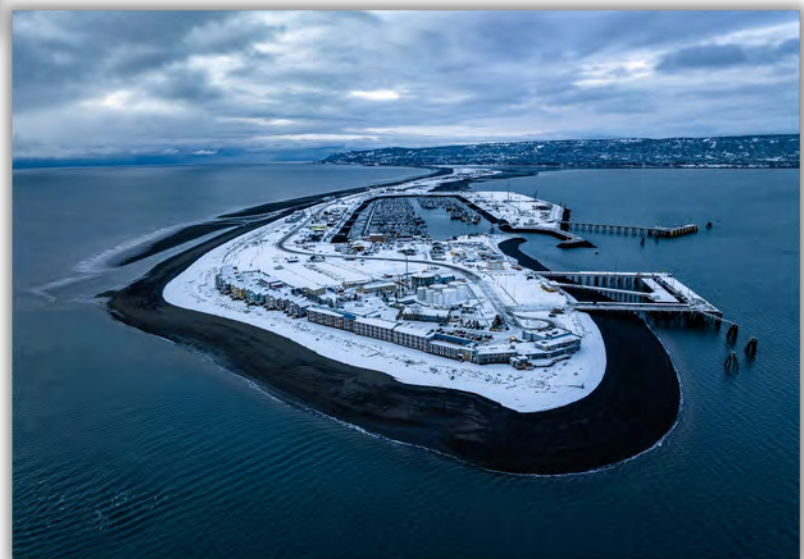


Anchorage Boat Show

Port Director Bryan Hawkins exhibited at the Anchorage Boat Show in February. Bryan has said many times that the Anchorage Boat Show feels more like the Homer Boat Show in Anchorage. Homer definitely had a dominant presence at the show, so Bryan was in good company among marine vendors of the industry. It was a great chance to spread the word about the Homer Port Expansion.

Tsunami Siren Network Expansion

The Kenai Peninsula Borough's Office of Emergency Management has been working with HPD Chief Robl and others to determine an appropriate location for a new siren. Working with Northern Enterprises Boatyard management, several potential locations were identified in the boatyard and transmitted to engineers for final planning. Installation is expected to occur this summer and the new siren will provide coverage to the inundation zone located on Kachemak Drive at the northeast end of the Beluga Lake Drainage.



Arial view of the Homer Spit taken on 1/19/23 by Andrew Tomey (Arctic Stills Photography)

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

"Public Safety" covers a lot of areas - from health and wellness to fire safety, safe driving practices and winter tips for safe travel. Don't forget our pets too! Each month we strive to provide relevant information to help you live well and stay healthy. If you have a tip to share, please let us know - email us.



Difference Between Flu and COVID-19

Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses. COVID-19 is caused by infection with a coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2, and flu is caused by infection with influenza viruses. You cannot tell the difference between flu and COVID-19 by symptoms alone because some of the symptoms are the same. Some PCR tests can differentiate between flu and COVID-19 at the same time. If one of these tests is not available, many **testing locations** provide flu and COVID-19 tests separately. Talk to your healthcare provider about getting tested for both flu and COVID-19 if you have symptoms. Learn more about Diagnosing Flu at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/testing.htm#have-flu>



Public Works



Grant Award for Green Infrastructure Project

The City of Homer has been awarded a grant from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) program to design and construct the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Project.

This project is one of the four green infrastructure storm water management projects introduced in early 2022. It will capture sediment and other contaminants from one of Homer's primary storm drain systems, before the water is discharged into Beluga Slough, which in turn flows into the waters of Kachemak Bay, a designated critical habitat area. The remediation will be accomplished through the use of green infrastructure strategies, including a sediment/pollutant collection device, bio-swales, and wetland vegetation.

The City has been collecting data related to water volumes to help with project scoping as well as design of the sediment/pollutant trap and swales. The City will collect water quality data before and after the green infrastructure installation to document treatment effectiveness. The grant agreement and request for matching funds will be presented to Council soon.



New Grader is Here! After over a year of waiting, about as long as it takes to gestate an elephant, our new grader has arrived. Lead Mechanic Mike Parrish getting the City's new grader ready for heavy duty on Homer's roads!!



Public Works Utilities crew hard at work!
From (R-L) Sean Love, Ralph Skoog, Jason Hanenberger, Page 35 of 44



Go Jaclyn!

Jaclyn Arndt's Call to Adventure: Iditarod Trail Invitational -ITI 2023

As we 'speak', Homer Volunteer Fire Department's *Jaclyn Arndt* is on her way to uphold her crown in the ITI 2023. For a second year in a row, Jaclyn will face a true test of human endurance while traveling 350 miles on the historic Iditarod Trail. Competitors are given 10 days to complete this journey. On skis, Jaclyn is hoping to break the record of 7 days and 3 minutes. Last year she made it in 7 days and 20 hours which included a nap. Wow!

Competitors bike, run or ski the Iditarod Trail with only six check points, they haul their own survival gear and are self-powered through all types of winter terrain. They will face bone-numbing temperatures in one of the most remote places on the planet. Competitors will no doubt reach deep inside themselves to persist relentless physical and mental challenges and adversities to reach the finish line.

Two other entrants from Homer will be on foot for the journey - *Derek Bynagle* and *Brian Burns*. From all of us at the City of Homer and the Homer Community, loud cheers - **Go HOMER! Go Jaclyn!**

If you'd like to track the Jaclyn and the other racers, go to: <https://italaska.com/tracking>

February Anniversaries

We would like to recognize City staff members with anniversaries this month. Thank you for the dedication, commitment and service you've provided the City and taxpayers of Homer over the years. You all are an integral part of what makes the City of Homer a great place to work and the community.

Jenny Carroll	Admin	7	Years
Morgan Tracy	Police	6	Years
Kevin Co	Library	4	Years
Tyler Jeffres	Police	4	Year

The City of Homer has current Job Openings!

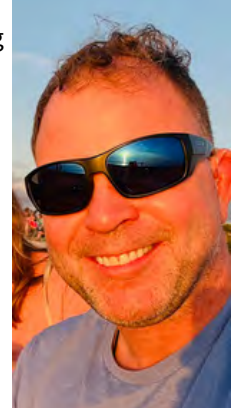
Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at: cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs

Meet the Staff



This section is to highlight staff, their achievements, promotions, retirements, departures and new hires to the City's workforce.

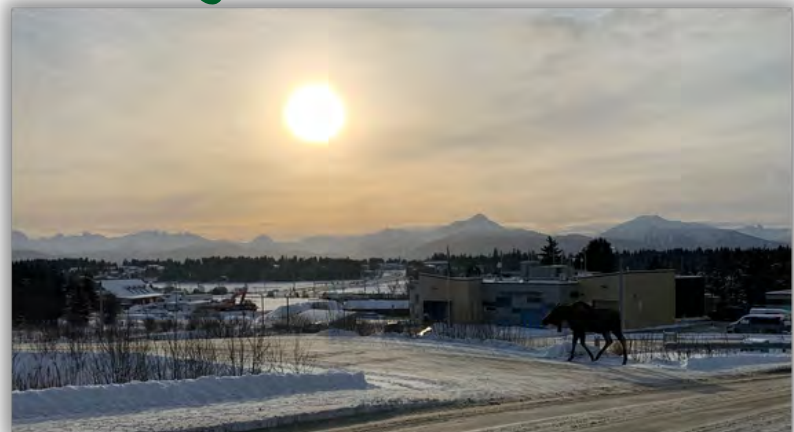
Recreation Manager **Mike Illg** has been serving the Homer community by orchestrating thousands of educational and recreational opportunities and special events for the past 20 years. Originally hired as the coordinator for the Homer Community Schools program in 2003. As the program evolved it changed its name and was taken over by the City of Homer in 2006.



Originally from Lowell, Massachusetts, Mike took a semester off of college to visit his sister Vicki in Homer for a few months in 2000 with the goal to help convince her to move back home at the urgency of their Mom. A story like many others, he quickly fell in love with this amazing place and the incredible people, and took a job coaching wrestling at the high school and became a substitute teacher in the public schools.

Fast forward to today, Mike has been heavily involved with leadership and advocacy on a local and state level for his two greatest passions: education and recreation. Mike recently served as the President of the Alaska Recreation & Parks Association as well as five years representing Homer on the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education. He is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional, holds a Bachelor of Science in Parks and Recreation Management and a Master of Science degree in Recreation, Sports & Tourism from the University of Illinois. In addition to spending time with family, Mike enjoys watching football, jogging and telling cheesy jokes. If you have an idea or suggestion for a new class, program or event, please reach out to Mike at millg@ci.homer.ak.us.

Your Pics



I spy with my little eye, a moose walking along the edge of the road. Looks like she got a get out of jail free card and is heading over to Ulmer's. Photo credit: Bethany Christman

City of Homer Roster

Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk/Deputy Director of Administration
Andrea Browning, Personnel Director
Rick Abboud, City Planner
Mark Robl, Chief of Police
Mark Kirko, Fire Chief
Bryan Hawkins, Port Director/Harbormaster
Elizabeth Walton, Finance Director
Jan Keiser, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Dave Berry, Library and IT Director
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager
Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

Mayor - Ken Castner (2024)

City Council

Donna Aderhold (2024)
Jason Davis (2025)
Shelley Erickson (2024)
Storm P. Hansen-Cavasos (2025)
Rachel Lord (2023)
Caroline Venuti (2023)

Commissions & Boards

ADA Advisory Board
Economic Development Advisory Commission
Library Advisory Board
Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission
Planning Commission
Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION

Learn more about the municipal art collection at:

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/prac/city-homer-municipal-art-collection>



Bookshelves by Evelyn Wythe is a hand quilted/machine pieced quilt sized 58" x 68" and is displayed at the north end wall outside fireplace lounge of the Homer Public Library. through the Friends of the Library 2006 Endowment fund recognition project.

STAY CONNECTED TO CITY COUNCIL

Go to: cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/stay-connected-city-council. Here you will find instructions on how to listen, provide testimony and participate in the meetings via Zoom.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March

- | | | |
|----|---------|--|
| 1 | 5:30pm | Planning Commission Worksession |
| | 6:30pm | Planning Commission Regular Meeting |
| 13 | 5:00pm | City Council Committee of the Whole |
| | 6:00pm | City Council Regular Meeting |
| 14 | 6:00pm | Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 15 | 5:30pm | Planning Commission Worksession |
| | 6:30pm | Planning Commission Regular Meeting |
| 16 | 5:30pm | Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 21 | 5:30pm | Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting |
| 22 | 4:00 pm | Port & Harbor Advisory Commission Worksession |
| | 5:00pm | Port & Harbor Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 28 | 5:00pm | City Council Committee of the Whole |
| | 6:00pm | City Council Regular Meeting |

JOIN OUR TEAM

The City of Homer has current Job Openings.

Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at:

cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs

CURRENT JOB LISTINGS

- Building Custodian, Full-time
- Firefighter/EMT I, II or III, Full-time
- Public Safety Dispatcher I, Full-time
- Port Maintenance Technician I or II, Full-time



City of Homer

491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska 99603

907-235-8121

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Manager

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-8121 x2222

(f) 907-235-3148

Memorandum

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
 FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
 DATE: February 22, 2023
 SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for February 27, 2023 Council Meeting

Return to Juneau

At the time of this report, I am attending the Alaska Municipal League's winter legislative conference in Juneau. I am joined by Mayor Castner and Councilmembers Aderhold, Erickson, and Lord. The agenda for the conference includes presentations from numerous elected officials and State agency executives. We are also meeting with legislators in their individual offices to talk about priorities for the City of Homer.

Sales Tax Update 4th Quarter of Calendar Year 2022

Complete sales tax numbers for calendar year 2022 have been released by the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The 4th quarter (or 2nd quarter of Fiscal Year 2023) saw a 2.6% increase in taxable sales over the previous year and is expected to bring in approximately \$2 million in total sales tax revenue (not including remote sales tax). Year over year, the City's taxable sales increased 7.2% and should amount to approximately \$12.5 million in total sales tax revenue (not including remote sales tax). The chart below (published by the Borough) shows taxable sales for all entities within the borough collecting sales tax.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Totals
Year 2022					
Seldovia	\$976,951	\$1,744,367	\$2,303,795	\$989,749	\$6,014,862
Homer	\$36,299,758	\$77,827,446	\$101,172,183	\$42,218,086	\$257,517,474
Kenai	\$61,624,319	\$79,967,139	\$88,845,665	\$74,181,082	\$304,618,205
Seward	\$17,369,593	\$62,459,008	\$87,677,358	\$18,794,482	\$186,300,442
Soldotna	\$61,058,785	\$77,209,406	\$109,067,307	\$71,464,092	\$318,799,590
Borough	\$222,280,216	\$402,256,222	\$545,582,919	\$257,832,071	\$1,427,951,428
Year 2021					
Seldovia	\$846,411	\$1,544,322	\$2,043,438	\$963,554	\$5,397,725
Homer	\$34,077,478	\$71,539,394	\$93,480,940	\$41,134,740	\$240,232,551
Kenai	\$60,664,356	\$76,511,978	\$84,681,697	\$72,433,401	\$294,291,432
Seward	\$15,782,733	\$53,738,399	\$81,034,345	\$18,497,772	\$169,053,249
Soldotna	\$59,209,295	\$75,808,900	\$101,951,279	\$71,429,985	\$308,399,458
Borough	\$206,324,193	\$367,279,005	\$502,422,365	\$251,701,471	\$1,327,727,034

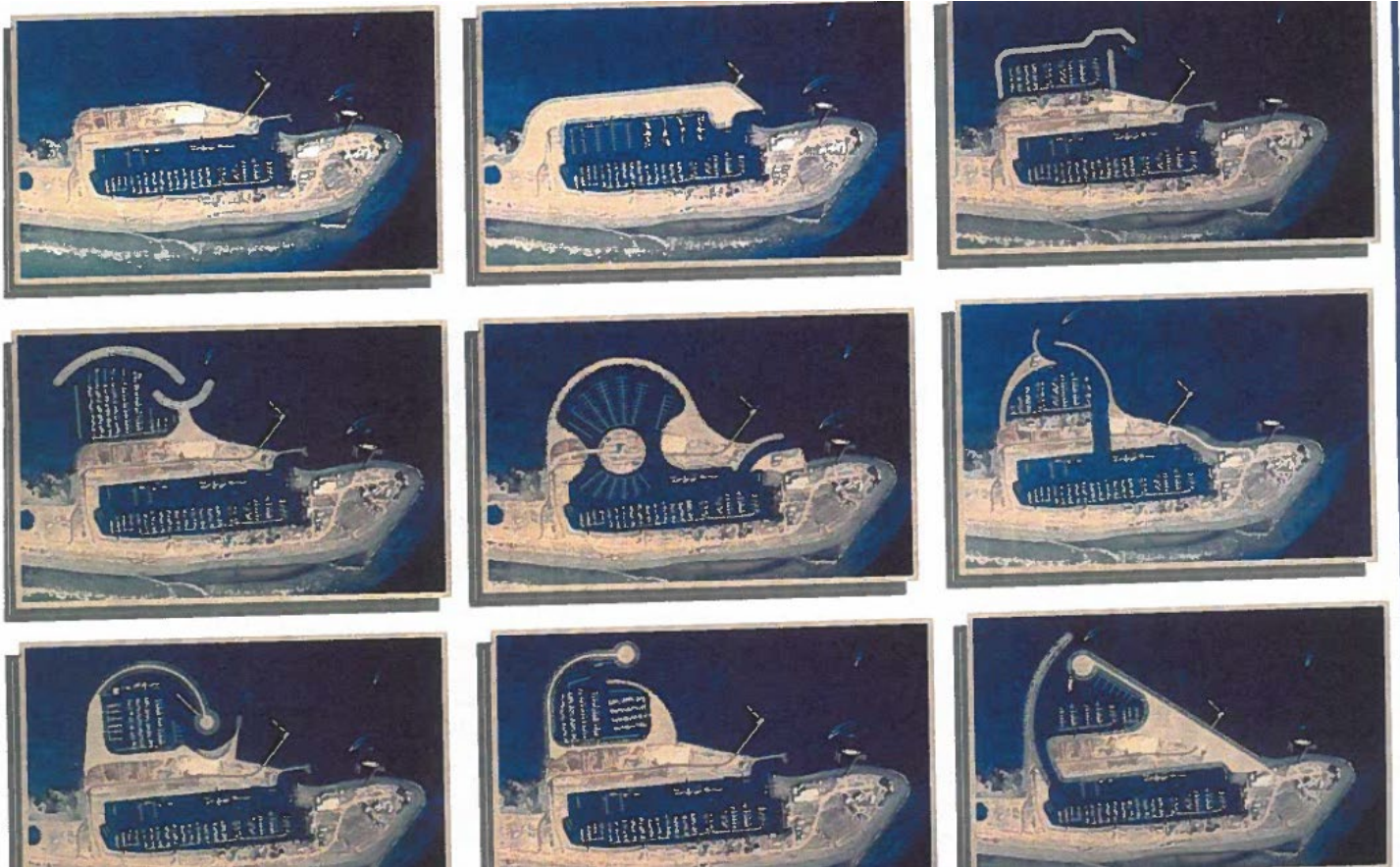
Budget Prep

Staff has been hard at work putting together draft numbers for the FY24/25 Operating and Capital Budgets. I have gone line by line through the General Fund, Utility Fund, and Enterprise Budgets with department heads and division managers. Moving into March we will be assembling that information, along with the sales tax

forecasting we've been working on to get a complete draft operating budget to begin Council discussions on the next two-year budget.

Port Concepts of the Past

I've mentioned a few times that we should all expect to see a number of different conceptual designs as the Army Corps goes through their process of completing a General Investigation on the Port expansion project. I recently came to be in possession of nine designs that were published back in 2008 when we first started working with the Corps on this project. I don't think any of the below would be remotely adequate for our large vessel needs today, but they at least show the creativity that can be applied in the investigation phase.



Library Annual Report for 2022

Attached to this report is a document prepared by the Homer Public Library outlining the events, challenges, and successes the Library experienced in 2022.

Alaska Clean Water Actions Grant

The City of Homer has been awarded a \$153,308 grant from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) program to design and construct the Beluga Slough Green Infrastructure Project. The total project is expected to cost \$234,620. This project is one of the four green infrastructure storm water management projects introduced in early 2022. It will capture sediment and other contaminants from one of Homer's primary storm drain systems, before the water is discharged into Beluga Slough, which in turn flows into the waters of Kachemak Bay, a designated critical habitat area. The remediation will be accomplished through the use of green infrastructure strategies, including a sediment/pollutant collection device, bio-swales, and wetland vegetation. The City has been collecting data related to water volumes to help with project scoping as well as design of the sediment/pollutant trap and swales. The City will collect water quality data before and after the green infrastructure installation to

document treatment effectiveness. The grant agreement and request for matching funds will be presented to Council soon.

Anchorage Boat Show

I've heard Port Director Hawkins say many times that the Anchorage Boat Show feels more like the Homer Boat Show in Anchorage. I visited this year's iteration and confirmed that Homer is indeed the dominant presence at the show.



Tsunami Siren Network Expansion

The Kenai Peninsula Borough's Office of Emergency Management has been working with Chief Robl and others to determine an appropriate location for a new siren. Working with Northern Enterprises Boatyard management, several potential locations were identified in the boatyard and transmitted to engineers for final planning. It is expected that installation will occur this summer and the new siren will provide coverage to the inundation zone located on Kachemak Drive at the northeast end of the Beluga Lake Drainage.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION
2022-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN & GOALS**

<p>Ongoing Goals</p>	<p>1. Use the Commission’s SWOT analysis to develop strategies to implement policies that support Homer’s quality of life.</p>
	<p>2. Keep our ears to the ground and seek out areas of "lack." Confer with Julie about communicating with City Council and advising them on ways to overcome barriers- "the nexus of economic goals."</p>
<p>Near Term Goals < 6 Months</p>	<p>1. Familiarize with smart growth principles and best practices, and also green infrastructure concepts. Have these in our toolbox when development decisions come our way for consideration.</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Staff to provide smart growth resources.</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Promote energy resiliency through diversity and efficiency. Invite a speaker to talk about energy as that impacts cost of doing business and cost of living. (Perez)</p>
	<p>2. View economic development through the lens of balancing growth with quality of life.</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Create an EDC Mission statement as a guiding principle for what the EDC does.</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Define positive economic development, and what is the role of the EDC is in balancing growth and quality of life.</p> <p>(Perez volunteered, first quarter 2023)</p>
	<p>3. Housing: affordable short and long term housing. Seasonal workers, general work force, seniors, etc. affordable year round housing. (Marks)</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Stay engaged with the City for all housing conversations</p>
	<p>4. Present an annual report of EDC accomplishments to the City Council</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Approve memo to Council, read accomplishments to Council</p>
	<p>5. Have a conversation with the Chamber of Commerce about other economic development beyond tourism. How can the City and the Chamber work together to promote quality of life, and economic development for industries other than tourism, including messaging?</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Have a work session with the Chamber</p>
<p>Mid Term Goals 1 - 3 Years (2022 – 2025)</p>	<p>1. BR&E – review annually and plan for a new report (5 year mark is 2022-2023) <i>Opportunity:</i> Consider a funding request for the FY 2024-2025 budget</p>
	<p>2. Downtown vitalization momentum and wayfinding/streetscape plan</p> <p><i>Status:</i> Wayfinding and Streetscape work ongoing through 21 and implementation activities in 2022-2024</p> <p><i>Task:</i> Participate in the Transportation Plan, focusing on a walkable town with greenspace and connected business districts</p> <p><i>Longer term:</i> Consider storefront/Downtown and landscaping improvement program</p>

	<p>3. Economic resiliency planning.</p> <p><i>Opportunity:</i> EDC provide suggestions to KPEDD on the business tool box. EDC promote tool box to community.</p> <hr/> <p>4. Assess jobs training needs, workforce development, availability of workers and workforce supports including child care, housing.</p> <p><i>Opportunity:</i> Invite KBC Director Reid Brewer as speaker, how does the college make course offering decisions? How is work force development part of the planning? What does the KBC Advisory Board do?</p> <p><i>Opportunity:</i> Invite 9-Star to make a presentation</p> <p><i>Opportunity:</i> Brief survey to businesses and employees on their needs.</p>
<p>Long Term Goals 5 Years or More (2025+)</p>	<p>1. Multipurpose community center (HERC)</p> <p><i>Status:</i> Scoping study has been funded. Demolition of the smaller building has been funded; tear down planned in 2023.</p>

OVERALL EDC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Economic Development Advisory Commission will act in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the overall economic development planning for the City of Homer in accordance with Homer City Code Chapter 2.76; www.codepublishing.com/AK/Homer. The EDC also assists with official City planning documents including the following:

- Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District (KPEDD) – Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (link will bring you to all KPEDD reports): <https://kpedd.org/reports>
- Homer’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS): www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/economicdevelopment/comprehensive-economic-development-strategy
- Business Retention and Expansion Survey Report (BR&E): <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/economicdevelopment/2017-business-retention-expansion-survey-report>
- Homer Comprehensive Plan: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/comprehensive-plan>

DUTIES OF COMMISSION/STAFF

Commissioners

- Attend City Council meetings as assigned.
- Attend work sessions and training opportunities.
- Come prepared to make a motion for action at meetings, or ask staff before the meeting for more information.
- Communicate with City Council members to gain support on EDC-related projects that need sponsorship at the Council level.

Staff (Julie Engebretsen)

- Aid the Chair in setting the agenda.
- Compile packet material from commissioners, write backup memos, and submit to Clerk.
- Provide information on items the commission needs to review annually.

- Inform the Commission of City Council actions and discussion of economic development related issues.

Clerk's Office

- Aid Staff in compiling packet materials and print/distribute them to the Commission.
- Aid Staff and Chair in setting the agenda.
- Tracking yearly items such as reappointments and elections.
- Help the Commission learn to be more efficient and effective in their meetings.
- Support the Commission's ability to communicate with the Mayor and City Council (through Memorandums, Resolutions, and Ordinances).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION 2023 Calendar

	AGENDA DEADLINE	MEETING	CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
JANUARY	Wednesday 1/4 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 1/10 6:00 p.m.	Monday 1/23 6:00 p.m. [Arevalo]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Budget Review/Develop Requests *may be n/a during non-budget years • Land Allocation Plan Review • KPEDD Industry Outlook Forum
FEBRUARY	Wednesday 2/8 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 2/14 6:00 p.m.	Monday 2/27 6:00 p.m. [Gamble]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KPC Job Fair
MARCH	Wednesday 3/8 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 3/14 6:00 p.m.	Tuesday 3/28 6:00 p.m. [Perez]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk Reappointment Notices Sent Out • Update from Public Works Director • KPEDD CEDS Review
APRIL	Wednesday 4/5 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 4/11 6:00 p.m.	Monday 4/24 6:00 p.m. [Perez]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms Expire April 1st • Advisory Body Training Worksession • Election of EDC Officers
MAY	Wednesday 5/3 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 5/9 6:00 p.m.	Monday 5/22 6:00 p.m. [Cherok]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Plan Review • Annual Review of Commission's Policies
JUNE	Wednesday 6/7 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 6/13 6:00 p.m.	Monday 6/26 6:00 p.m.	
JULY	No Regular Meeting			
AUGUST	Wednesday 8/2 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 8/8 6:00 p.m.	Monday 8/14 6:00 p.m. [Pitzman]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Improvement Plan Review • Update from Public Works Director
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday 9/6 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 9/12 6:00 p.m.	Monday 9/25 6:00 p.m. [Pitzman]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Development Speaker
OCTOBER	Wednesday 10/4 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 10/10 6:00 p.m.	Monday 10/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of EDC's Strategic Plan/Goals & BR&E
NOVEMBER	Wednesday 11/8 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 11/14 6:00 p.m.	Monday 11/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber's Annual Presentation to EDC • Approve Meeting Schedule for Upcoming Year
DECEMBER	No Regular Meeting			

*The Commission's opportunity to give their report to City Council is scheduled for the Council's regular meeting following the Commission's regular meeting, under Agenda Item 8 – Announcements/ Presentations/ Borough Report/Commission Reports.