



City of Homer

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Memorandum 19-160

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager
DATE: December 4, 2019
SUBJECT: Authority to Clear Hazardous Trees in the Right of Way on Mt. Augustine and E. Bayview

Resolution 19-073(S) passed by the Homer City Council on October 14th, 2019 established a moratorium on cutting, clearing or removal of trees and vegetation located within public rights of way between October 15, 2019 and May 1, 2020.

Since the last City Council meeting on November 25, 2019, the City of Homer has experienced a number of high wind events that have damaged trees and prompted homeowners to call Public Works requesting the removal of potentially dangerous trees in the right of way (ROW).

This memo seeks to obtain approval to clear trees in the ROW for two property owners who have requested City assistance and where Public Works has identified safety hazards if the damaged trees remain standing.

- 1) Removal of trees on Mount Augustine Drive that threaten a parked car and building.
- 2) Removal of trees on E. Bayview Avenue. During the wind storm over Thanksgiving, a tree from the Calhoun Street trail ROW fell onto E. Bayview doing some damage to a parked vehicle. A second tree fell between the house and a parked truck. Public works believes there are at least 3 additional trees in the E. Bayview ROW that could cause property damage and need to be removed as soon as possible.

With winter weather and the potential for storm events, the Public Works department may again find itself in the situation of having to deny requests from members of the public to perform work in the ROW until Council approval can be obtained at the next meeting, January 13th, 2020.