



City of Homer

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Planning

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Memorandum 20-204

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Caroline Venuti, Councilmember
DATE: December 14, 2020
SUBJECT: Moving forward on the Wayfinding Streetscape Capital Project

Due to COVID-19, the City Council paused most major capital projects in May. Council passed Resolution 20-05, Conserving Operational Spending, until there is a clearer picture of the economic impacts to the City budget. This pause included the Wayfinding Streetscape project.

At the November 10th Economic Development Commission (EDC) meeting, the EDC requested Council allow the wayfinding project to proceed in 2021, using HART Funds as authorized in the approved budget. At the November 23rd City Council meeting, Council heard from EDC Chair Karin Marks on the topic and there was consensus to move forward in 2021. This memo serves as documentation for the decision making process for the project to proceed in 2021.

Recommendation: Authorize the Wayfinding Streetscape Capital Project to proceed in 2021.

Attachments

1. Minutes Excerpt from the November 10th, EDC Meeting:
2. Resolution 20-050
3. Ordinance 19-54 (S-2)(A-2)
4. Memorandum 19-161
5. Memorandum 19-148

Minutes Excerpt from the November 10th, EDC Meeting:

Chair Marks introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Deputy City Planner Engebretsen.

Ms. Engebretsen gave background information on City Council's decision in May to pause most major projects with the expectation that COVID-19 would have a negative impact on City tax revenues. Since May, Council has approved several projects that use HART funds, which is sales tax specifically used for roads and trails projects. The Wayfinding and Streetscape project will utilize this funding source, so if the commission would like to see this project move forward in 2021, they would need to make a recommendation to Council to re-approve the funding. She further explained how the funding is good for three years; if the funds aren't used by 2021 then they would have to ask for funding again.

BROWN/JOHNSON MOVED TO REQUEST THAT CITY COUNCIL ALLOW THE WAYFINDING AND STREETScape PROJECT CONTINUE IN 2021.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES: AREVALO, MARKS, SPEAKMAN, RICHARDSON, JOHNSON, BROWN
ABSTAIN: MINK

Motion carried.