



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Homer Public Library

500 Hazel Avenue
Homer, AK 99603

library@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) (907)-235-3180

(f) (907)-235-3136

Memorandum 21-039

TO: Homer City Council

THROUGH: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager

FROM: David Berry, Library Director

DATE: Jan. 26, 2021

SUBJECT: Western Lot Trail Project

The Friends of Homer Library (FHL) are moving ahead with planning for trail improvements on the western lot, immediately to the west of the library building. FHL is seeking planning assistance from the National Park Service through the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>). The RTCA provides no monetary support for projects, but it does provide expertise with formal planning and design, and with developing a long-term structure to ensure that projects are sustainable.

The RTCA application requires demonstrated support from community partners. FHL has already secured support from a variety of interested organizations, but would particularly like to request a City Council resolution expressing such support, given that the land is a City-owned lot.

Here is the project summary, copied directly from the current draft application:

Project Summary

Our project idea is to utilize an existing 2.24-acre land parcel, which belongs and is adjacent to the Homer Public Library, and create a new community space within the city center that extends the library's mission beyond the limits of the physical building. We hope to maintain the character of the landscape while making use of its location to turn it into a greater asset for the community.

The project has three broad aims:

1. Develop passive and active program components that educate and inspire curiosity about the cultural and natural history of Homer and the Library's large service area surrounding Kachemak Bay. To accomplish this successfully, we intend to develop partnerships with several community entities that encourage the use of outdoor space, provide historical resources, and promote knowledge about local Native culture and language.

2. Build on work being done by Kachemak Heritage Land Trust and the City of Homer to connect existing trails within the city, improve accessibility, and establish way-finding signage.
3. Conserve and provide access to the wetlands that exist on the land. Our project area also contains a small wetland portion, offering an opportunity to both educate about the role of wetlands in an ecosystem and allow access without damage.

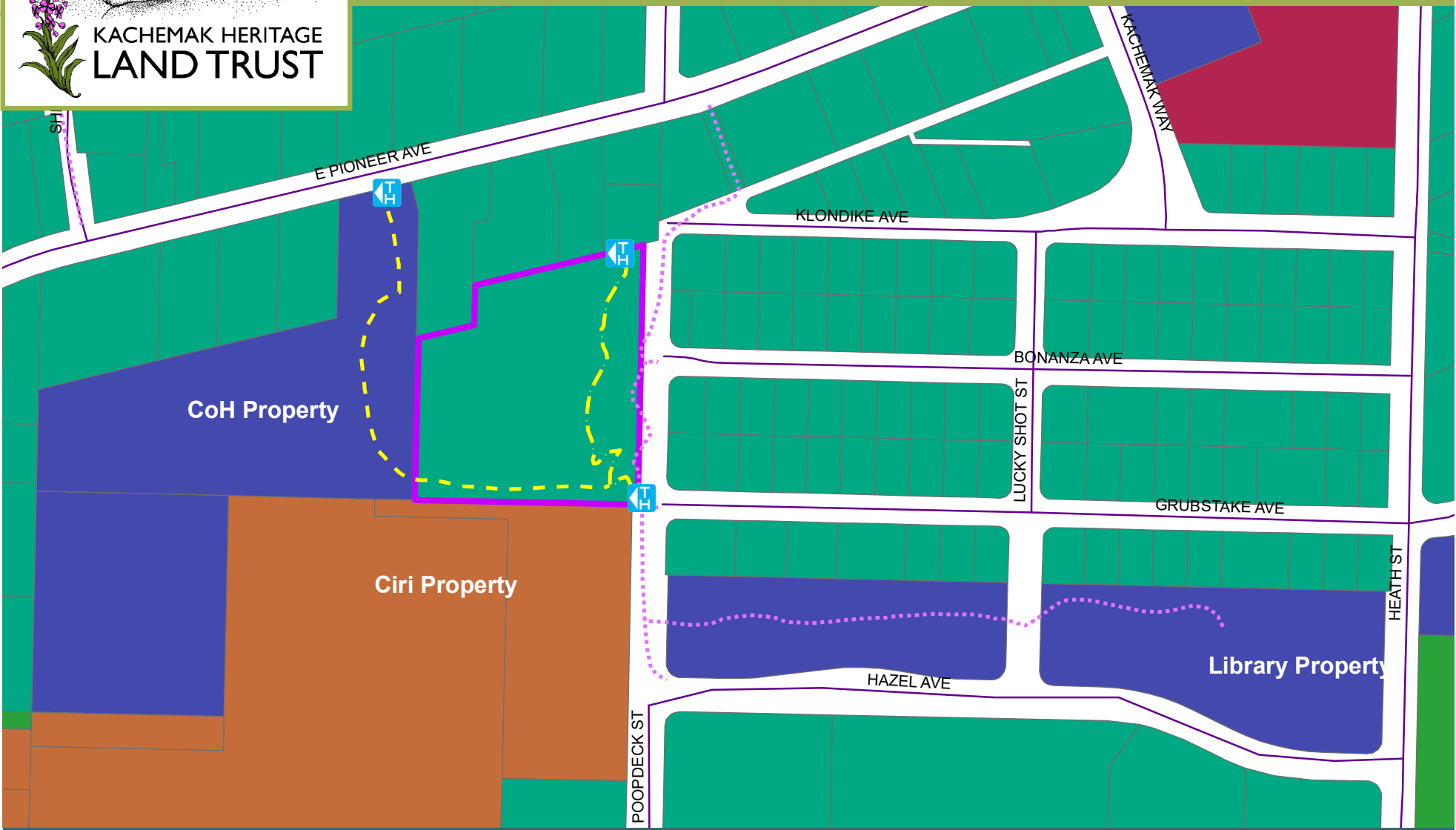
If successful, the RTCA application will help FHL formalize its plans and produce a proposal that can be brought to the community at large.

RECOMMENDATION

FHL requests a resolution from the City Council expressing support for the RTCA grant application.

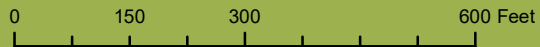


Poopdeck Trail and Surrounding Property



Legend

- Trailheads
- Poopdeck Trail
- City Trails
- Streets
- KHLT Poopdeck Property
- Parcels
- Borough
- Federal
- Municipal
- Native
- Native Allotment
- Private
- State

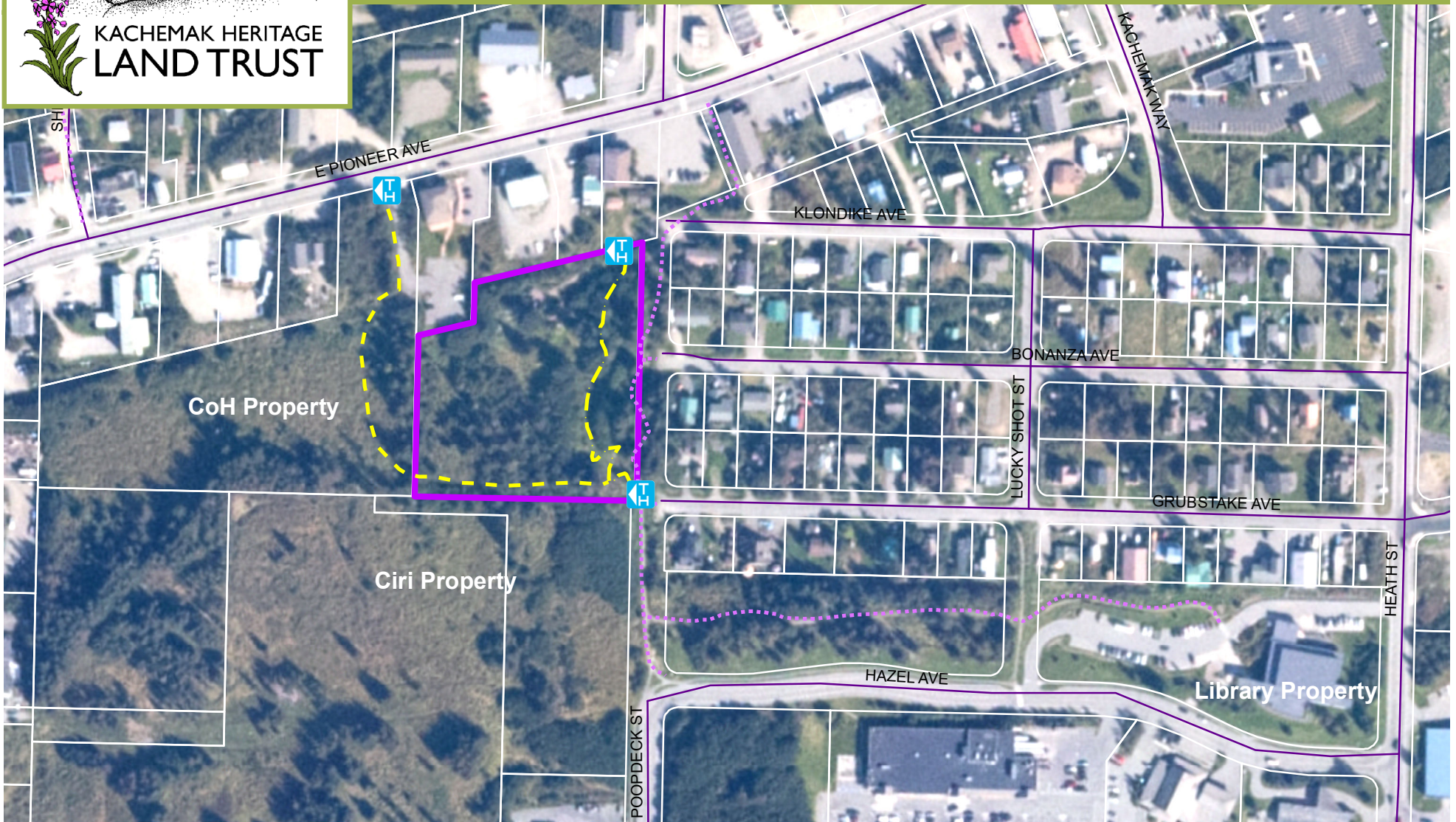


Coordinate System: Transverse Mercator
 NAD 1983 State Plane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet.
 Created 12/27/2020
 The information depicted on this map is a graphical representation of best available sources.
 KHLT assumes no responsibility for any errors on this map.





Poopdeck Trail and Surrounding Property



Legend

- Trailheads
- Poopdeck Trail
- City Trails
- Streets
- KHLT Poopdeck Property
- Parcels

0 150 300 600 Feet

Coordinate System: Transverse Mercator
NAD 1983 State Plane Alaska 4 FIPS 5004 Feet
Created 12/27/2020

The information depicted on this map is a graphical representation of best available sources.
KHLT assumes no responsibility for any errors on this map.

