



City of Homer

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Port and Harbor

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Memorandum 21-062

TO: HOMER CITY COUNCIL & MAYOR CASTNER
THRU: ROB DUMOUCHEL, CITY MANAGER
FROM: BRYAN HAWKINS, HARBORMASTER
DATE: APRIL 1, 2021
SUBJECT: AMEND HCC 19.20.020 TO ADDRESS PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

With the repeal of the Personal Water Craft (PWC) ban by the State, PWCs are currently allowed in Kachemak Bay as of January 9, 2021. This change in State policy triggered public interest and questions on what that might mean for the City of Homer.

At City Council's January 11th meeting, City Council passed and adopted Resolution 21-008 to provide comment on the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR)'s Management Plan for the Kachemak Bay State Park in regards to how they address PWC, and held discussion on what the introduction of PWCs might mean for the City. Based on the discussion held at that meeting, the City Manager initiated gathering staff and public committee input on how the City could address PWCs within City-jurisdiction waters, and to bring it back to Council at a future meeting.

The Port and Harbor Advisory Commission addressed Resolution 21-008 and PWCs in Kachemak Bay at their January 27th regular meeting, making policy implementation recommendations to the City Manager and staff. At their March 24th regular meeting, the commission reviewed Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission's draft ordinance and approved the suggested changes to HCC 19.20.020 with their own revision. The final addition, as written, reads:

j. No person may launch, load, or retrieve a motorized watercraft from city owned beaches except for official business use or with Harbormaster approval.

Meeting minutes are attached to reflect the discussion held and motions made.

PARCAC, PHC, and staff now ask the City Manager to bring their recommendations and the draft ordinance before Council for review and approval.

Recommendation

Approval and adoption of Ordinance 21-23.

Attached: PHC January 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes Excerpt
PHC March 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes Excerpt
Memo from PARCAC to PHC Re Recommendations on use of Personal Watercraft