



# City of Homer

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

Public Works

3575 Heath Street  
Homer, AK 99603

[publicworks@cityofhomer-ak.gov](mailto:publicworks@cityofhomer-ak.gov)

(p) 907- 235-3170

(f) 907-235-3145

## Memorandum 22-018

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council  
THROUGH: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager  
FROM: Janette Keiser, Director of Public Works  
DATE: January 14, 2022  
SUBJECT: Request for Funding to Update Design Criteria Manual

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**Issue:** The purpose of this Memorandum is to follow up on the January 10, 2022 Council Worksession regarding green infrastructure and storm water management by recommending that the City Council authorize funding to Update Homer's Design Criteria Manual.

### I. Background

The City of Homer Design Criteria Manual is a cookbook that governs how the City's infrastructure will be designed and built, whether the design/construction is accomplished by the City staff, consultants or private developers. A standard set of criteria ensures that the City's roads, water lines, sewer lines and drainage works are developed in a consistent manner that uses best management practices. The current Design Criteria Manual was developed in the 1980's. It was based on the Municipality of Anchorage's (MOA) Design Criteria Manual and focused mainly on roads and traditional drainage design. The MOA has updated its manual multiple times since its origin, to incorporate progressive strategies for storm water management and modern materials. It is past time for the City of Homer to do the same. For example, the MOA's Design Criteria Manual contains guidelines for rain gardens, for both residential and commercial applications. As another example, new materials have been developed over the past decades, such as new sealants to help prevent storm water from infiltrating sewer manholes.

We propose to conduct a detailed review of our current Design Criteria Manual, as well as its companion documents, the Standard Construction Specifications and Standard Construction Details, and updating them to current best management practices. In particular, we will be focusing on addressing how storm water management is planned and executed. In addition, we will be reconciling the Subdivision Development Standards in the Homer City Code with the updated design standards. The final work products will guide the planning, design and execution of City capital projects and private developments for years to come.

We have received a proposal from Seaboard Engineering, Inc. (Carey Meyer, PE) to perform this work for the Lump Sum cost of \$25,000. For the level of review we are contemplating, this is fair and

reasonable. Mr. Meyer is uniquely suited for this project because of his long familiarity with the City's existing manuals, specifications and Codes.

## **II. Funding**

We propose to fund this project from the HART Road Fund (50%), the Water CARMA Fund (25%) and the Sewer CARMA (25%) as follows:

HART Road Fund	\$15,000
Water CARMA Fund	\$ 5,000
Sewer CARMA Fund	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Total Estimated Cost	\$25,000

Funds are available in the accounts listed:

- a. The minimum available balance in the HART Road Fund is \$3,286,278, even after the most recent request for the purchase of the grader and service truck.
- b. The minimum available balance in the Water CARMA Fund is \$1,264,021
- c. The minimum available balance in the Sewer CARMA Fund is \$668,366