



City of Homer

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Memorandum 22-027

TO: Homer City Council and Mayor Castner
THRU: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
FROM: Bryan Hawkins, Port Director
DATE: February 9, 2022
SUBJECT: Resolution 22-012 Requesting AKDOT to join as a partner in Homer's prospective Port Expansion General Investigation Study

Staff has a reasonable level of expectation that the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will receive authorization and funding in their 2022-23 budget to begin the Homer Port Expansion general investigation (GI) study. We have been working with the State (AKDOT) administration to invite them to join the team but, as of yet, have not received authorization or funding from the state.

At their January meeting, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly passed a resolution in support of USACE's initiation of the Homer Port Expansion GI, and federal allocation of funding for such, and addressed it to the Secretary of the Army. They will introduce a similar resolution to the State in their first meeting in March, addressed to AKDOT Commissioner Anderson and State Legislators.

It's very important to the City that the State take an active role in the GI study for two main reasons.

1. If the State declines to engage as a partner in the study they're in effect saying that they believe this improvement has no benefit to the State. It would make it very difficult for the city to access state funding for construction monies when the project moves into that phase.
2. The City is currently stepping up for half of the local share of \$750,000 for the GI study expense. If the State does not give DOT authorization and funding the burden of financing the entire cost for the local share (1.5 million) would fall on the city.

Recommendation

Adopt Resolution 22-012 addressed to the State of Alaska DOT and direct staff to deliver it to Governor Dunleavy and AKDOT Commissioner Anderson in Juneau.