

**MEMORANDUM**

Resolution 23-125, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order with RESPEC Engineering in the Amount of \$61,990 for the Construction Documents and Engineering Support for the Fish Waste Grinder Building Replacement Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. City Manager/Port Director.

Item Type: Backup Memorandum
Prepared For: City Council
Date: November 21, 2023
From: Bryan Hawkins, Port Director
Through: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager

Homer harbor is a working harbor and that means we have to think about fish waste disposal. Homer's fish grinder and outfall line are our answer to the question of how we deal with all the fish carcasses on the Homer Spit. Our facility is fully permitted through DEC and gives us the pathway to dispose of fish waste in a way that doesn't negatively impact the environment around us. Every year hundreds of thousands of pounds of fish waste are processed through this facility. It's a foundational component of the recreational sport fishing, charter tours, and commercial fishing industry on the Spit.

Port Maintenance performs the maintenance on the fish grinder facility and they have done a great job keeping it functional, but when it comes to the building there is little they can do as it rots away at an accelerating rate. The City also needs to address the fish tote staging area in front of the building and the issue with gurry draining into the storm drain system. Installing a drainage system that will carry the fluids away from the street to the outfall pit is imperative to keep up with required permitting and safe management of effluent.

The need to replace the building and update the drainage pathways led to it being included in the City's CIP, and to FY22 Capital Budget funding for the conceptual design (\$15,000) and building replacement (\$100,000). Term contractor RESPEC was contracted through a Task Order with the City for conceptual design work. The resulting plan is to replace the metal building with a concrete block one and fit it out with marine tough materials like wood trusses, and fiberglass doors and plastic framed windows. In short, everything we can do to build a corrosion resistant building and upgrade these critical fisheries support facility.

The engineer's conceptual design and cost estimate provided by RESPEC under a Task Order was used to seek grant assistance from the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act administered by Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Dingell-Johnson grant funds cover 75% of the total project cost and

require 25% local matching funds. We recently learned that a Dingell-Johnson award for the Fish Grinding Replacement Project was Federally approved and an award obligating document is anticipated to be delivered to the City in January 2024. At that time, staff will bring an Ordinance before City Council to accept and appropriate the grant funds. The Capital Budget appropriation for the Fish Grinding Building will be used as local match funds for the project.

In order to move the project forward and achieve construction in fall 2024, work needs to begin on the full engineered drawings/plans and associated construction documents. The project will also need engineering support during the construction build process. This engineering design work is an eligible expense under the Dingell-Johnson grant.

Given that RESPEC is already under contract with the City and has familiarity with the project, staff asked RESPEC for a quote for these further services, to which they replied with a scope of work and quote for that work in the amount of \$61,990. With RESPEC's engineering assistance we have made significant progress towards our objective of replacing the Fish Grinding building. Approving a Task Order to RESPEC for continued design services will assure continuity in the project and the most efficient and cost-saving construction schedule.

Recommendation

Approve Resolution 23-125 awarding Task Order to RESPEC for construction documents and engineering support during construction for the fish waste grinder building replacement project, for a total not to exceed \$61,990, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents.