



MEMORANDUM

Resolution 24-007, A Resolution Of The City Council Of Homer, Alaska Authorizing a Task Order to HDR Engineering In An Amount Not To Exceed \$19,000 For Grant Writing Services For A FY2024 Federal Raise Planning Grant to Support Homer's Non-Motorized Transportation Infrastructure and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents.

Item Type: Backup Memorandum
Prepared For: Mayor and City Council
Date: December 20, 2023
From: Jenny Carroll, Special Projects and Communications Coordinator
Through: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager

- I. **Issue:** The purpose of this Memorandum is to recommend a Task Order to HDR to assist with revising the City's FY23 REACH (Realizing Equitable and Accessible Connectivity in Homer) planning grant application for resubmission the FY24 RAISE grant round.
- II. **Background:** Ordinance 22-39, adopted by City Council in August appropriated \$125,000 to support development and submission of grant applications under the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Last year, some of these funds were used to contract with HDR to assist with a grant application to the FY23 RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) Federal discretionary grant program.

The application, titled REACH (Realizing Equitable, Accessible Connectivity in Homer), sought Federal planning funds to conduct system-wide planning and prioritization, data collection and analysis, feasibility, environmental review and 65% design for selected sidewalk and trail projects in Homer's Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. The planning grant does not require any City match funds.

While not selected for funding in the FY23 round, Homer's REACH application made it to the Secretary of Transportation's desk for final funding consideration, was Highly Rated and earned the designation as a "Project of Merit." At an application debrief, the Transportation Department encouraged the City to consider applying again in the FY24 round.

The FY24 RAISE program opened in late November with a February 28, 2024 application submission deadline. A Resolution approving a Task Order to HDR to help update and resubmit the REACH application for FY24 RAISE funding is before you for consideration. The scope of work (attached) is estimated not to exceed \$19,000 based on time and effort. The Professional IIJA Grant Writing Services fund has \$44,976 remaining to cover this cost.