



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Request for Authorization to Allow the ADA Advisory Board to seek Recommendations on Possible Accessibility Options and Solutions for the Homer Harbor Floats.

Item Type: Action
Prepared For: Mayor Lord and City Council
Meeting Date: January 2, 2025
From: Renee Krause, ADA Coordinator
Through: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager

Background

In August 2023 Boardmember Lepley proposed and the ADA Advisory Board agreed to submit a new Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project for an ADA Accessible Platform Lift/Elevator at Ramp 7 in the Homer Small Boat Harbor. This project was not included because it didn't address the extreme tidal and winter conditions that are experienced at the Homer Harbor. The ADA Advisory Board was recommended to work with Harbor personnel to refine the project and come up with alternatives that could provide the accessibility to the float system.

The ADA Advisory Board met with the Port Director and Deputy Harbormaster in May 2024 and discussed possible solutions and difficulties the Homer Harbor experiences that other ports and harbor don't. The Board continued to meet through September and worked to refine a CIP submission, however were unable to develop a proposal for the 2025-2030 CIP

At their November 14, 2024 regular meeting the ADA Advisory Board moved to submit a formal request to City Council for authorization to allow members to pursue information in regards to accessibility options for the Homer Harbor Float system.

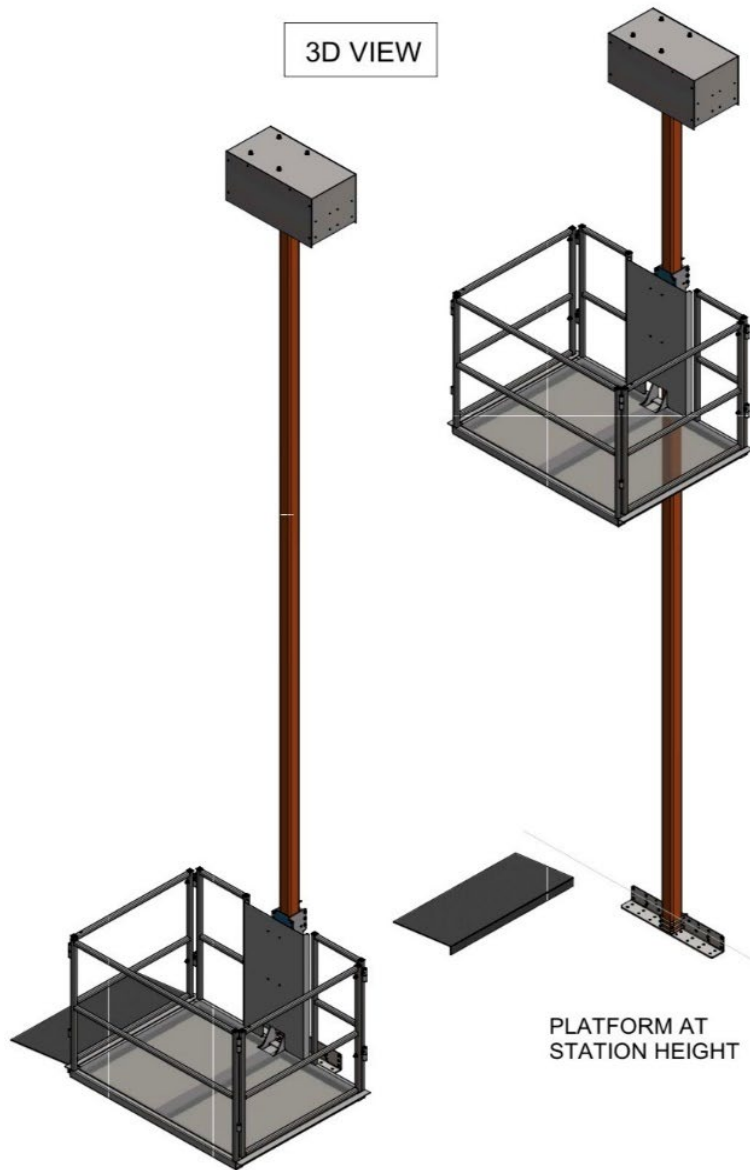
Recommendation

Approve request to authorize the members of the ADA Advisory Board to research options for accessibility solutions for the Homer Harbor Float System.

Attachments

2023 Capital Improvement Plan Proposed Project
Approved Minutes from the August 10, 2023 Meeting
Approved Minutes from the May 9, 2024 Meeting
Approved Minutes from the June 13, 2024 Meeting
Approved Minutes from the August 8, 2024 Meeting
Approved Minutes from the September 12, 2024 Meeting
Unapproved Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2024

3D VIEW



PLATFORM AT
STATION HEIGHT

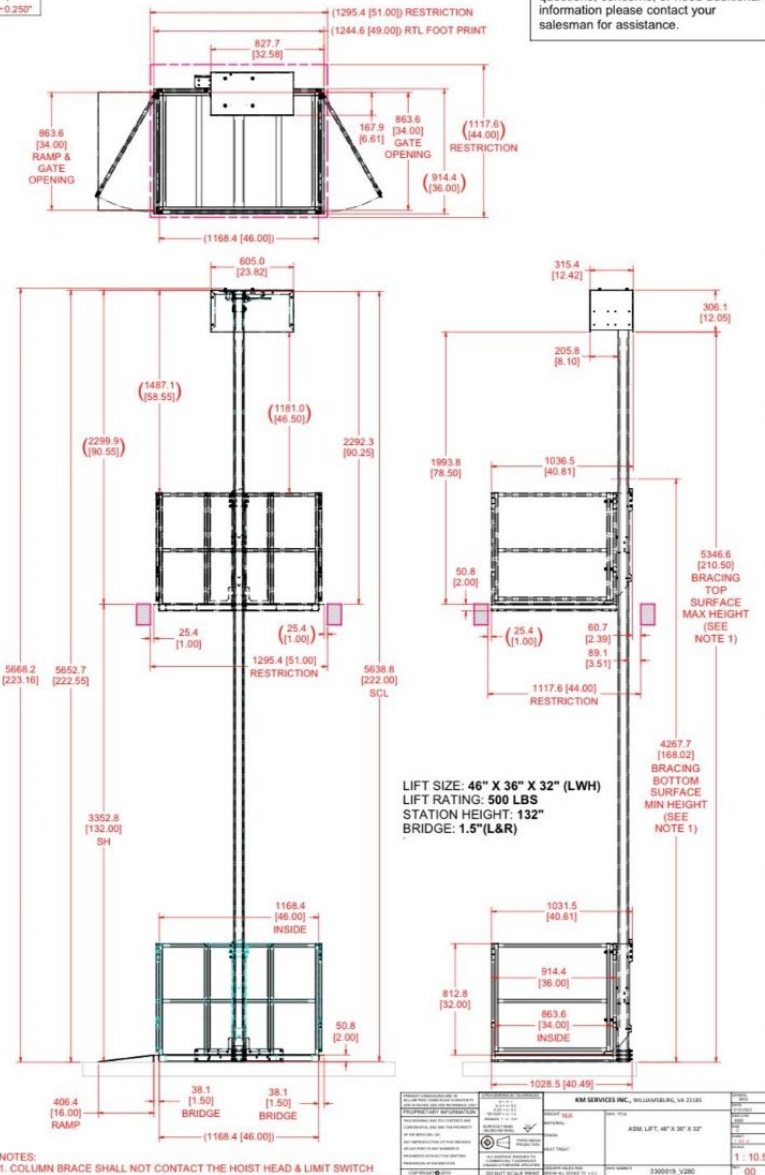
PLATFORM AT
FLOOR LEVEL

KIM SERVICES INC., WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185

GENERIC TALL LIFT DRAWING-1TONNE HOIST MOTOR



Sample drawings shown may not exactly match your requirements. If you have questions, concerns, or need additional information please contact your salesman for assistance.



City of Homer Capital Improvement Plan Project Nomination Form

Project eligibility

- A. Does the proposed project represent a major, nonrecurring expense (\$25,000 or more for non-profit organizations; \$50,000 or more for government organizations)? YES NO
- B. Will the proposed project result in a fixed asset (e.g., land, major equipment, building or other structure, road or trail) with an anticipated life of at least two years? YES NO
- C. Will the project provide broad community benefit? YES NO
-

If you were able to answer YES to all three questions, please provide the following additional information:

Organization submitting the nomination form

Contact name

Contact phone number

1. Project title (Suggested heading in CIP):

2. Project description and benefit. Describe the project in half a page or less, including specific features, stages of construction, etc. Explain how the project will benefit the Homer community.

3. Plans and progress. Describe in one or two paragraphs what has been accomplished so far. This may include feasibility study, conceptual design, final design/engineering/permitting, fundraising activity, and total funds raised to date.

4. Project cost:
 - A. TOTAL COST (including funds already secured) = \$ _____
 - B. For construction projects, break out preconstruction costs (feasibility/design/permitting):
Preconstruction costs = \$ _____ Construction costs = \$ _____

5. Timeline: Indicate when you hope to complete each phase of the project.

6. Attach a quality digitized photo, drawing, map, or other graphic image of your project with your nomination form submission.

For more information, call Jenny Carroll at 435-3101 or email jcarroll@ci.homer.ak.us



Contact Us  1 800 663 6511 [Privacy - Terms](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER, 5:00 P.M.

Session 23-06 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Vice Chair Joyanna Geisler at 5:06 p.m. on August 10, 2023 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS GEISLER, LEPLEY, PARSONS, SAFRA, THORSRUD

STAFF: ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK PETTIT

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

PARSONS/SAFRA MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

There was brief discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

Pat Case, city resident, commented on the lack of auditory signal at the crossing lights on Sterling Highway. Pat noted that there are two crosswalks, and there is no auditory signal at either light, thus they cannot be considered ADA compliant. He also stated that the Poopdeck Trail is in "major need of a redo." He suggested putting that forward as one of the Capital Improvement Plan projects.

Fred Agee, city resident, praised the Board on how well of a job they do.

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5. A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for July 13, 2023

LEPLEY/PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

There was no discussion on the motion to approve the minutes.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

6. A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for June 8, 2023

LEPLEY/PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS MODIFIED.

Mr. Parsons thanked the Clerk's office for correcting the section that Pat had mentioned. There was no other discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

6. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

7. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

7. A. ADA Coordinator Report ADA 23-018

ADA Coordinator Krause reviewed her report that was included in the packet. Ms. Krause informed the Board that building maintenance at the airport expects to start constructing the new ADA compliant restroom at the airport around September or October. Ms. Krause also noted that the China Poot personal use subsistence fishing was extended. She also let the Board know that trail site audits have been scheduled for next Thursday and Friday to finish, if needed. It was also stated that Board member Sorter turned in her resignation due to a family emergency.

7. B. ADA Advocacy Efforts Report

Board member Safra explained that she is still trying to meet with Brad at the Chamber in regards to an event to help create disability tourism in Homer. She's coordinated with Jan Knudson at the visitor center, but as it is, there's no working title for the event yet. The date will be set for some time in October. The chamber is still trying to decide whether it will be a luncheon or an evening mixer. Ms. Knudson has suggested the community church be the location for the event due to the fact that it's accessible. The goal of the event is to promote disability tourism in Homer, to create a section of the Homer Visitor's Guide for accessible businesses, and to also make businesses more accessible at an affordable cost. Ms. Safra also noted that Maggie Winston with the ILC will be giving a presentation about ableism.

There was brief discussion clarifying event details.

Board member Parsons issued a report on the ILC barbeque on July 26th. More than 50 people attended to enjoy lawn games and food. A highlight from the event was Pat Case leading about 20 people on a walk that went down the All Persons Trail. Pat then guided the group down Hazel Street to near the library where it crosses to the post office. There, the group had a long discussion about all the ADA absent or missing curb ramps, and how that affects people of all ages and abilities. Mr. Parsons noted that he's received word that Jan Keiser has asked engineering to take a critical look at

putting in a crosswalk and at least make a sharp right turn to reduce vehicular speed. Mr. Parsons stated that it was a fantastic advocacy event that led to direct action very quickly.

There was brief discussion.

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

9. PENDING BUSINESS

9. A. ADA Advisory Board Strategic Plan and Goals Draft v4 – Review and Approve
Memorandum ADA 23-019

ADA Coordinator Krause noted that Chair Aderhold didn't recommend any further changes on the Strategic Plan, and opened the floor to anyone who had any changes or amendments to offer.

PARSONS/LEPLEY MOVED TO ADOPT THE STRATEGIC PLANS AND GOALS AND FORWARD TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL

There was brief discussion from a few of the members thanking Ms. Krause for the changes that she had made. Board member Thorsrud inquired with Ms. Krause about how long it would ideally take to implement these changes. Ms. Krause informed Ms. Thorsrud that Title 21 will be re-written within the next six months or so. She added that the City is hoping to have draft building code within the next year or two.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

9. B. ADA Transition Plan for Facilities Update – Review and Adopt
Memorandum ADA 23-020

ADA Coordinator Krause stated that Board member Aderhold has requested that the memorandum be forwarded to all commissions and the Library Advisory Board once approved by the Board and City Council. Ms. Aderhold also suggested to leave the group as a "Compliance Committee" in the first sentence under Self-Evaluation Process, or alternatively use the words "Advisory Board." Ms. Aderhold noted under the load and launch ramp to add in "Harbor" to designate where it's at. The last suggestion was to delete the "and" and capitalize the "T" to make it a sentence in the section that reads "and this building." Ms. Aderhold added another comment that the HERC 2 is "unoccupied and slated for demolition" rather than "used by Public Works Maintenance Staff."

Board member Thorsrud asked for clarification whether ADA issues for employees are covered separately. Ms. Krause informed her that was correct, they're similar but dependent upon what accommodations are necessary for the employees.

Vice Chair Geisler asked if the issue of training would be under “Implementation of the Training Plan.” Ms. Krause voiced that would be a good spot for it.

Mr. Parsons asked about 2019-2020 being struck through under “Baycrest Overlook” and whether that inferred that those dates were going to go away or that portions of it had been completed. Ms. Krause confirmed that portions of it had been completed, and that the completion of it was scheduled for this year. She reassured Mr. Parsons that the dates won’t be removed for historical purposes.

There were no further recommendations or questions.

PARSONS/LEPLEY MOVED TO ADOPT THE UPDATED FACILITIES TRANSITION PLAN AND FORWARD TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

9. C. ADA Transition Plan for Parks, Play Areas & Campgrounds – Review and Adopt
Memorandum ADA 23-021

ADA Coordinator Krause proposed either postponing the matter to the October Regular Meeting or approving the memo with the ranking and the timeline dates. Mr. Parsons added that he would prefer the group wait in order to see what the rankings are and what the timeline is looking like. Ms. Krause noted that doing so will hold the Facilities Transition Plan due to the fact that she would like to present them together.

Ms. Krause then reviewed the recommendations from Ms. Aderhold. Ms. Geisler suggested to insert “remove the barrier” in line 154 and strike out “make is accessible.” Ms. Krause then reviewed the insertion of “and” before “developed” in line 160. Ms. Aderhold then suggested putting a space between lines 163 and 164, lines 167 and 168, and lines 178 and 179 to help delineate the paragraphs.

There was further discussion for some clarifications.

Mr. Parsons made a comment about universally designed picnic tables, Ms. Krause said she could address it and put in on the next agenda.

SAFRA/PARSONS MOVED TO POSTPONE THE ADA TRANSITION PLAN FOR PARKS, PLAY AREAS AND CAMPGROUNDS UNTIL THE BOARD RECEIVES THE REPORT.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECT: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

9. D. City of Homer Draft 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan
Memorandum from Special Projects & Communications Coordinator

Vice Chair Geisler introduced the item by reading the title and then the group discussed which projects each individual felt should receive the highest priority.

PARSONS/LEPLEY MOVED TO ASSIGN KAREN HORNADAY PARK PUBLIC RESTROOMS AS THE BOARD'S FIRST RECOMMENDATION, A COMBINATION OF REMOVING PARKING AND PAVEMENT ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS AT CITY FACILITIES AND THE CITY HALL PARKING IMPROVEMENT AS THE BOARD'S SECOND RECOMMENDATION, AND THE FISHING LAGOON ACCESSIBILITY RAMP AND PLATFORM AS THE BOARD'S THIRD RECOMMENDATION.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECT: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was brief discussion related to adding a barrier removal project at the library parking lot to the Capital Improvement Plan.

PARSONS/LEPLEY MOVED TO RECOMMEND INCLUSION OF THE REGRADE AND REPAVE HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY PARKING IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECT: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

11. A. ADA Board Annual Calendar 2023

Mr. Lepley agreed to present at the next City Council Meeting on August 14, 2023.

PARSONS/LEPLEY MOVED TO HAVE A SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE ADA ADVISORY BOARD ON SEPTEMBER 7TH AT 5:00PM.

There was brief discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECT: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

- 11. B. City Manager's Report
CM Report for July 24, 2023 City Council Meeting
- 11. C. City Newsletter 2023
August Newsletter
- 11. D. Disaster Resilience Tool Kit

12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Pat Case, city resident, suggested that someone follow in regards to the public funding for the Fishing Hole that was on the Capital Improvement Plan last year. He also relayed some complaints to the Board about the dirt and lipping that is occurring on the Beluga Slough Trail, and how this presents a hazard for those using the trail.

13. COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

ADA Coordinator Krause addressed the comment from Mr. Case in regards to the funding for the Fishing Hole. She stated the Public Works looked into the funding and that three different designs were presented for the Fishing Hole. The City is now in the process of trying to work with the State and Fish & Game in hopes of receiving some federal grants and funding.

14. COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBER (If Present)

14. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Board Member Thorsrud addressed Mr. Case in regards to the front Pioneer Avenue entrance to the University of Alaska Anchorage/Kenai Peninsula College. Maintenance with the college assured the Board that the school will need to get involved if anything is going to be done. Additionally, maintenance noted that the doors aren't designed for ADA compliance. Ms. Thorsrud thanked the Board, audience, and staff for a good meeting.

Board Member Safra thanked the Board and the staff, as well as thanking Pat Case for always attending meetings and providing his input.

Board Member Parsons thanked the Board, staff, and audience for a good meeting.

Vice Chair Geisler thanked everyone for a good meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Geisler adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m. There will be a special meeting on September 7, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., and the next regular meeting is Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.



Zach Pettit, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved: Sept. 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-03 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Acting Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:04 p.m. on May 9, 2024 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS LEPLEY, PARSONS, THORSRUD, SAFRA, VENUTI

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBER GEISLER (EXCUSED)

STAFF: ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE
DEPUTY HARBORMASTER GLIDDEN
PORT DIRECTOR HAWKINS

AGENDA APPROVAL

VENUTI/LEPLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

Pat Case, city resident, commented on the Transition Plan regarding sidewalks and combining them within the Transition Plan. He believed it would be a bad idea and that they should stay with roads and believed that there is a lot of change regarding sidewalks in Homer and they should be kept separate.

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Unapproved Special Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2024

LEPLEY/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2024 AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

A. ADA Training and Community Conversation Event Report - Boardmember Venuti

Boardmember Venuti reported on the event that was conducted at the Kachemak Bay College Campus regarding hearing impaired and deaf etiquette and assistive technology availability. She noted the availability of closed captioning and assistive technology for city meetings and plans for upgrading the city's equipment in the near future. Ms. Venuti reported speaking with a gentleman regarding his experiences and related he reported having difficulties with voting as he was unsure where his ballot went.

Boardmember Safra expressed her appreciation that Boardmember Venuti attended. She then reported on the State level inability with regards to hearing impaired and assistive technology.

Boardmember Venuti responded to questions regarding new equipment that the city would be implementing. She then noted that she would be asking for a worksession on ADA by Council.

B. Community Awareness on ADA Compliance Project Status Update Report

Acting Chair Thorsrud commented on previous issues that were previously brought forward with the Kachemak Bay College Campus and local businesses.

Boardmember Venuti commented on the difficulty opening the lower lobby doors and local banking facilities.

Boardmember Safra commented that she is about ready to give up as she is finding it very difficult to get the interest of the Chamber to have a seminar on ADA compliance for the local businesses and the potential revenue that compliance and accessibility would bring to the business and community.

Discussion points made by Boardmembers included the following:

- Cruise Ships
- Possible outlets are a Letter to the Editor regarding accessibility;
- Airport improvements;
- Improvements at the College;
- Parking on the Spit
 - o Improvements and delineations
 - o Reducing the Speed Limit
 - o Crosswalks
 - o Safest place to walk in Homer
- Local businesses inaccessibility points

C. Monthly ADA Coordinator Report - April/May 2024
Memorandum ADAB-24-003 from ADA Coordinator as backup

Acting Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause reviewed Memorandum ADA-24-003 for the Board. She noted that Ordinance 24-21 was being introduced to re-appropriate funding for the Airport Terminal Sidewalk Replacement Project since other funding was used for the restroom project.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. Capital Improvement Plan - ADA Harbor Ramp Lift Project
Discussion with Port and Harbor Staff

Acting Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to Port Director Hawkins. Deputy Harbormaster Glidden was unable to stay for the meeting due to a prior commitment and left prior to this item on the agenda.

A project for a chair/person lift on a ramp in the small boat harbor to provide better accessibility was discussed in depth with difficulties noted, specifically the severe tides that are not typically experienced by other ports/harbors in most locations. Deputy Harbormaster Glidden has been researching the alternatives. The Board and Port Director shared ideas and will come back to a future meeting with some proposed solution to submit for the Capital Improvement Plan before September.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. City Trail Transition Plan Appendix Draft
Memorandum ADAB-24-004 from ADA Coordinator as backup.

Acting Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to Ms. Krause.

Ms. Krause reviewed the memorandum and noted that the Board did not review Karen Hornaday Park Trail or Calhoun Trail. She further requested assistance matching photos to the trails to pinpoint the issues identified as this will better assist the Parks Maintenance Coordinator in repair.

Boardmember Parsons offered to work with Ms. Krause on matching up the photos.

The Board agreed on the week of the June 17th being good for the majority to attend the Trails Site Audits and Ms. Krause will coordinate with Parks Maintenance Coordinator.

Further discussion ensued on the viability of performing a Site Audit for the Karen Hornaday Park Trail but that it would be extremely difficult to bring that perimeter trail into compliance with the steep slope and Ms. Krause noted that the City has a minimum amount of trails that are maintained and

while there are currently no adopted, mandatory regulations requiring the city to have ADA accessible trails it is requested that there should be a percentage that are accessible.

The Board agreed by consensus to remove that trail from the audit and added the upper Poopdeck Trail since that was a heavily used public trail.

B. Amending the Meeting Time to Fill Vacancy on the Board

Acting Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause

Ms. Krause reviewed her memorandum and reported that at the end of the last meeting it was noted that this subject could be brought forward if there were no applicants over the next several weeks since it was indicated that there were some interested people. The Clerk's Office has received no applications and believes this is because of the meeting time. While it may be advantageous to have an earlier meeting time for some of the members on the Board, it does not allow members of the working demographic to participate or those with young families. She was requesting the Board to consider the time change in order to attract applicants.

The Board weighed in on the amendment of the meeting time from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a split in the preference. Boardmember Venuti did not want to keep staff past 5:00 p.m. due to the workload.

Boardmember Lepley preferred the earlier time but could meet at the later time as well.

Boardmember Parsons expressed preference for the later meeting time due to his children getting out of school later today noting it was difficult getting to this meeting only five minutes late.

Boardmember Safra commented that if the meeting time was amended they might get applications from the demographic that represents families with children or younger persons which would be a benefit to the work of the Board.

The Board agreed by consensus to postpone this item to the next meeting.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. City of Homer Newsletter for April 2024

B. City Manager's Report for City Council April 22, 2024

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Pat Case, city resident, blessed Port Director Hawkins' grant application. He then said that he would like to recruit on behalf of the ADA Advisory Board to fill their vacancy after declining to apply for the vacancy himself stating that he has more freedom attending the meetings as a member of the public.

Mr. Case reported that the HAP Loop project has been passed and noted that a cross walk at SVT to Ben Walters Sidewalk and at Lake Street are needed.

COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Boardmember Safra welcomed Boardmember Venuti and thanked Mr. Case for always attending the meetings.

Boardmember Lepley expressed his appreciation and thanked Port Director Hawkins for attending the meeting and working with them on presenting a project that will be able to fit the Homer Harbor and that will be able to showcase in the Chambers welcome information.

Boardmember Thorsrud expressed her appreciation for everyone's work and efforts.

Boardmember Parsons expressed his thanks for everyone's work and Port Director Hawkins for taking the Board's efforts seriously on the accessibility project and bringing information to them.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Acting Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, ACTING CITY CLERK

Approved:_____

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-04 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:00 p.m. on June 13, 2024 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS LEPLEY, PARSONS, THORSRUD, SAFRA, VENUTI, O'BRIEN

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBER GEISLER (EXCUSED)

STAFF: ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE, PARKS MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR FELICE

AGENDA APPROVAL

SAFRA/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

Pat Case, city resident, welcomed Mr. O'Brien and reported that he did contact the High School counselor and she was going to put a list of potential interested candidates together so the next time there was a vacancy they may already have a list to select from.

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Unapproved Special Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2024

VENUTI/LEPLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FOR MAY 09, 2024 AND INCLUDE IN THE RECORD.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

A. Monthly ADA Coordinator Report - June 2024

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause noted that there was not much to report and provided an update on the Airport Sidewalk Replacement Project, the Resolution to award the work will be on the June 17, 2024 Special Meeting agenda for approval.

B. Quarterly Public Works Director Update

Chad Felice, Parks Maintenance Coordinator reported that he was attending the meeting to provide a report on projects that are ADA related. Public Works Director Kort was currently starting his vacation. He noted that they are currently in the process to put a project scope of work together to issue the bid packet and the final designs for the Bayview Park project to put it out to bid.

Chair Thorsrud inquired if there was any problems, concerns with communications or working with the Board or ADA issues.

Mr. Felice responded that there were no concerns at this time and if any questions he usually spoke with Ms. Krause as the city's ADA Coordinator or Councilmember Aderhold but now that he has met the other members and Council member Venuti he feels comfortable reaching out to the Board if needed.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Trail Site Audits

Ms. Krause explained the actions requested from the Board regarding performance of the trails site audits for Calhoun and Upper Poopdeck and was requesting feedback on availability of members for next week. After a brief discussion by Board members it was determined the Tuesday, June 18th from 9-noon starting at Upper Poopdeck worked best for the majority of the members that were interested in taking part in the activity.

Mr. Felice confirmed that he will pick up copies of the paperwork from Ms. Krause.

Boardmember Safra volunteered to take the photos and Boardmember O'Brien offered to take the notes.

Boardmember Parsons noted on the draft trails transition plan, the slopes are in percentage and degrees and it would be preferred to have it all in percentages. He reported that the Lower Lucky Shot Trail has some pretty steep slopes.

Mr. Felice reported that he would contact Aaron Yeaton, GIS Technician at Public Works who has an electronic device that can determine the slopes and cross slopes.

Boardmember Safra advocated for more than what was required when it came to amenities such as picnic tables or benches. She explained that they could do better by providing more than the requirement.

B. Capital Improvement Plan Projects Discussion

Acting Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause explained that these are the ADA related projects for the upcoming Capital Improvement Plan and the Board is being requested to review and make sure the language and description is appropriate.

There were no comments on the projects included in the packet.

Discussion by the Board covered the following:

- Chair Lift for the Small Boat Harbor; and
- Contacting the State Congressional representatives on what they could propose to facilitate the transfer of those with mobility issues to the floats; and
- Having Port & Harbor make access a priority issue; and
- Costs for the projects should not make the City hesitate to ask for the appropriation; and
- Various options that could be employed to make the harbor more accessible since they are considering to expand the Harbor.

This will be an ongoing subject for the Board's consideration and may be on future agendas.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Acting Chair Thorsrud introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Ms. Krause.

Ms. Krause explained the process that the Clerk's Office has used over the years and noted that the office of Vice Chair is filled first then the Office of Chair. She noted that a second is not required and members can nominate themselves if desired.

Acting Chair Thorsrud called for nominations for vice chair.

Board member Venuti nominated Board member Lepley.

Boardmember Lepley responded that he was willing but would be out of town for several meetings attending via Zoom.

Hearing no further nominations Acting Chair Thorsrud closed the nominations.

Boardmember Lepley was congratulated on his election to the Vice Chair and then opened the floor for nominations of Chair.

Boardmember Parsons nominated Boardmember Venuti.

Boardmember Venuti declined stating that she would like to remain as a member, will report at the Council meetings but did not want to sit as chair.

Boardmember Venuti nominated Boardmember Thorsrud noting that she conducted the last two meetings and did very well.

Boardmember Thorsrud questioned Boardmember Parsons if Boardmember Geisler would serve as chair if she were nominated.

Ms. Krause responded that Ms. Geisler would decline the nomination if she was present and Boardmember Parsons concurred.

Vice Chair Lepley hearing no further nominations closed nominations and congratulated Ms. Thorsrud turning the meeting back over to Chair Thorsrud.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. 2024 Annual Calendar
- B. City Manager's Report for June 10, 2024 City Council Meeting

Boardmember Parson stated that he was interested in a Spit parking update; having free parking in the area between the Seafarer's Memorial and the boardwalk, and accessible parking equity issues regarding paying to park even for accessible parking, stating there are not many free spaces and it may be worth having a discussion.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Pat Case, city resident, commented on culture, ask the question, "How can we do it better?" He wanted to comment on crosswalks, since sidewalks and benches are being addressed, noting Heath Street was in design, and the benefits of creating a crosswalk from the Post Office to the Library would be a safety factor for pedestrians and he wanted assurance that it is included in the project. He then commented on the East End Road and Lake Street crosswalks, which are state owned and maintained roads but noted a discussion he had with Department of Transportation and the grant that they may have funding through that grant. Mr. Case believed he may need a resolution of support from the Board and Council but will let them know.

COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

Parks Maintenance Coordinator Felice expressed his appreciation for the Board and if they needed anything in the future just let him know or let Renee know and she can forward the request to him.

ADA Coordinator Krause thanked everyone for a great meeting and welcomed Boardmember O'Brien.

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Boardmember Parsons commented that he was a member of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Safety Committee and noted the recent meetings, another public meeting is scheduled for September, the Homer Culture and when to schedule meetings. He mentioned that they were seeking members of the public to be actively engaged with the group and he did submit Mr. Case's name. Mr. Parson's reported that a former city planner Beth McKibben is chairing the group so she is really familiar with Homer.

Boardmember Lepley welcomed Boardmember O'Brien and expressed his appreciation for the confidence in being nominated for Vice Chair.

Boardmember O'Brien thanked everyone and asked questions regarding taking notes during the audits on Tuesday.

Ms. Krause responded that she will provide the forms and tools needed and Mr. Felice will pick them up.

Boardmember Safra expressed her appreciation to Mr. Case stating that he inspires her for all he does and he is not a member of the Board per se, but he has attended every meeting since she has been appointed, so Thank you. She then welcomed Boardmember O'Brien and congratulated Boardmembers Thorsrud and Lepley stepping up and taking on the leadership. Ms. Safra expressed looking forward to working with Mr. Felice and working with the other Boardmembers on the trail audits next week.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, ACTING CITY CLERK

Approved: _____

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-04 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:00 p.m. on August 8, 2024 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS LEPLEY, PARSONS, THORSRUD, VENUTI, O'BRIEN, GEISLER

ABSENT: BOARDMEMBER SAFRA (EXCUSED)

STAFF: CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE
SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CARROLL

AGENDA APPROVAL

VENUTI/LEPLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Unapproved Special Meeting Minutes for July 11, 2024

LEPLEY/VENUTI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FOR JULY 11, 2024.

There was a brief recess to allow members to read the minutes that were provided in the supplemental packet.

Chair Thorsrud called the meeting back to order and asked if there was any changes or corrections to the minutes. None were offered.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

A. Monthly ADA Coordinator Report – August 2024

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause provided clarification on the omission of the Harbor Access Project as staff was unavailable to attend the meeting, the trail transition plan is on hold at this time due to the lack of time to devote to the final drafting of the document. Hopefully by the first of October they will be fully staffed again in the Clerk's Office.

Ms. Krause facilitated a brief discussion on locations that available positions with the city are advertised noting that it was handled by the Personnel Director and topics for the joint worksession with City Council that the ADA Board would like to have Council direction or input on.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Nick Dudiak Lagoon Ramp and Fishing Platform Funding

Ms. Krause provided her report and the Board discussed the following:

- advocacy and how to promote the project to get more awareness
 - o Funding is limited since there is no boat access so applicable grants that were thought to be applicable are not.
 - o Candidate support for upcoming elections
 - o Bringing the issue forward to the Assembly representative
 - o Tourism
- It would be beneficial to have the City Lobbyist work on House Bill 287 for the next legislative session.
- How does the Homer Harbor Expansion Project affect the Fishing Lagoon
 - o The City will probably review the impacts and how this would affect the lagoon
 - o Corps of Engineers may review the effects
- How would that project effect Accessibility and ADA Compliance
- Data collection on sport fishing from Alaska Department of Fish & Game

NEW BUSINESS

A. Joint Worksession with City Council Topics for Discussion

The Board discussed at length and determined the following topics should be submitted for the Joint Worksession with City Council:

- Homer Harbor Accessible Ramp Project – Request for Proposals
- Authorize ADA Board to work with the Port & Harbor Staff to perform research access availability

- issue a challenge to college engineering departments or other entities that could provide ADA access solutions
- Include the Harbor Lift project in the Capital Improvement Plan
- City to embrace above and beyond ADA regulations and or compliance
 - How we discuss ADA regulations to include all ages and abilities
 - Such as picnic tables should ALL be accessible
- Public Transit with City Funds or Match
- Heath Street Renovation Project Status
- Ownership and Renovation of Pioneer Avenue into a walkable pedestrian friendly environment

B. Accessible/Disabled Parking on the Homer Spit

Memorandum CC-24-150 from Councilmembers Lord and Aderhold

Chair Thorsrud announced the topic and requested input from Ms. Krause

Ms. Krause reviewed the memorandum and the requested actions from the Board.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Two schools of thinking
 - Accessible parking should be free no matter where its located
 - Accessible parking should be available but not necessarily free in a paid parking lot
- Tone of response when filing a complaint with the Harbor
 - Form letter distributed to complainant
- Failure to keep accessible parking spots available
 - Work around to being able to park in those spaces
 - No way to adequately police the parking spaces
- Parking on the Spit in the summer is horrendous
- All shops/Boardwalks are required to have accessible parking
- Enforcement
- Examples of Accessible Parking at large public venues, theme park, etc.
- Have more than the required accessible parking spots

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. 2024 Annual Calendar
- B. City Manager's Report for July 22, 2024 City Council Meeting

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Boardmember Parsons expressed that they had some really good topics to dig into and it was a long meeting but great.

Boardmember Geisler commented that it was a good meeting and noted that they have some work to do hoping that they “stick to their issues” as “guns” may get them in trouble. She noted that she comments frequently to people over the last couple of years that this is the most productive and great use of their time, wonderful individual members that she enjoys working with and regardless of her role. She appreciates working with everyone.

Boardmember Venuti commented being proud of Kristin Faulkner winning two gold medals at the Olympics and viewing a lot of young kids on bicycles. She added comments regarding interest in availability of homes in Homer, bicycle trails. Ms. Venuti congratulated Renee on moving into the City Clerk position and maintaining the ADA Board and will remind everyone to be mindful of staff time as she does a lot for us.

Boardmember O’Brien confirmed the date and time for the Joint Worksession with Council and the Special Meeting for the ADA Board.

Boardmember Lepley commented on the proposed CIP project and noted that the Port & Harbor Commission is a force to be reckon with and it may be expensive but it shouldn’t be millions of dollars but believe that it could be accomplished if we put our minds together and think about it.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, October 18, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. A Special Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Conference Room located upstairs at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK

Approved:_____

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-06 a Special Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:00 p.m. on September 12 2024 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS PARSONS, THORSRUD, VENUTI, O'BRIEN, GEISLER

ABSENT: BOARDMEMBERS LEPLEY, SAFRA (EXCUSED)

STAFF: CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE

AGENDA APPROVAL

VENUTI/GEISLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

Pat Case, city resident, commented on the Transportation Plan and requested the Board to prioritize this plan, claiming that in his opinion the first submittal was not suitable and addressed the important things the community desired. He then announced that the audible signals were installed and Homer is finally entering into the 21st century.

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

Comprehensive Plan Update and Survey Review - Shelly Wade Agnew::Beck Consulting

Ms. Wade introduced herself and provided a summary background of the project and company.

Ms. Wade presented on the updated timeline, survey results and facilitated discussion on the following:

- Growth scenarios
- Early January first draft document
- March Final Draft document
- Phase 2 encompasses the Title 21 Zoning Code Update

- Timeline was shifted by three months to allow for preparation of the different scenarios

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for August 8, 2024

GEISLER/VENUTI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 8, 2024

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

- A. Monthly ADA Coordinator Report – September 2024

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause reported on the Site Audit conducted by the State on the Homer Airport and will provide an update on that with the Board when received.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. Capital Improvement Plan Proposed Project 2026-2031 CIP Draft -
Accessible Passenger Elevator/Gangway for the Homer Harbor

Chair Thorsrud introduced the topic by reading the title and defer to Boardmember Lepley to open the discussion.

Port Director Hawkins and Deputy Harbormaster Glidden attended the meeting and facilitated discussion on possible solutions and shared an information sheet on a piece of equipment that may offer a solution called the Super Trac noting that the device is an option that would be usable for Ramp #3, cost is \$25,000 and will still require Staff Assistance to use.

Port Director Hawkins reported on the upcoming Port Conference in October and will be connecting with other cities to see if they can provide possible solutions. He then noted that a grant has been applied for to redo the float systems, in the project is replacement of Ramps 1-2, 4-6-7-8 and Federal Requirement is 88 feet for replacement so those new ramps. He will look into accessible options if any are available.

Board members expressed appreciation for the continued efforts of the Harbor Staff.

B. Accessible Parking on the Homer Spit

Chair Thorsrud introduced the topic and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause reviewed the 'parking requirements and facilitated discussion on parking on the spit, accessible parking at various boardwalks and that the city did not control all the areas. Some of the areas were the land owners, and or the state.

Port Director Hawkins responded to current policy and processes were entirely within requirements and the difficulty in maintaining "free" accessible spots and how people are getting around paying so they charge everyone.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Transportation Plan – Review and Comment

Memorandum ADAB-24-021 from Community Development Director as backup.

Chair Thorsrud introduced the topic and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause reviewed the memorandum in the packet and requested input from the Board on recommendations to City Council. She facilitated discussion on the following:

- Additional time to fully review the document
- A few language choices that could be amended
- There are many next steps or items to be developed but no direction as to how or who is to make sure those are done such as staff, department or even a task force to oversee that those items are developed.
 - o Develop a traffic calming program.
 - o Develop a Complete Streets – All Ages Policy
- Wayfinding should be included within the action plan

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. 2024 Annual Calendar

B. City Manager's Report for September 9, 2024 City Council Meeting

There was brief discussion on the Library Grant received, Hazard Mitigation meeting with staff.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

Julie Engebretsen reported on the information provided at the meeting held at the college and hoped that Boardmember Parsons was able to answer any questions.

Boardmember Parsons stated that the Board is passing with a recommendation to create the Task Force or Committee to address the items in the plan that are action items.

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Boardmember Parsons commented on the path forward and working with the Harbor on parking.

Chair Thorsrud expressed her appreciation for everyone work.

Boardmember Venuti appreciated the meeting and will provide a report to Council on their discussion at this table.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Conference Room located upstairs at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK/
ADA COORDINATOR

Approved:_____



Super Trac

Portable Inclined Platform Wheelchair Lift

Technical Information

System

1. **Headrest**
Adjustable for passenger comfort.
2. **Control Panel**
Simple operating controls include a battery charge indicator and a key switch to prevent unauthorized use.
3. **Battery Powered**
Power is provided by 24 volt rechargeable battery pack for complete portability. Includes automatic battery charger.
4. **Wheelchair Tie-Down Straps**
Wheelchair is securely attached to platform with 4 adjustable tie-down straps.
5. **Platform**
Large platform accommodates virtually any wheelchair including electric models and sports chairs.
6. **Parking Brake**
Electrically activated parking brake ensures stability during boarding.
7. **Tracks**
Rubber tracks are steel-reinforced to ensure strength and durability. The unique tread design grips all types of stairs.
8. **Auxiliary Wheels**
Large wheels allow easy travel across landings and between flights of stairs.
9. **Seatbelt**
Electrically interlocked seatbelt provides additional passenger security. Super-Trac will not operate unless seatbelt is fastened.
10. **Loading Ramp**
An integrated loading ramp with non-skid surface makes wheelchair boarding easy.
11. **Hydraulic Tilt**
A powerful hydraulic piston tilts the wheelchair platform position for travel on the stairs.



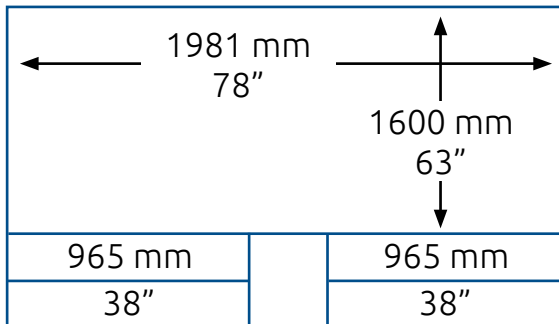
Specifications & Dimensions

Specifications

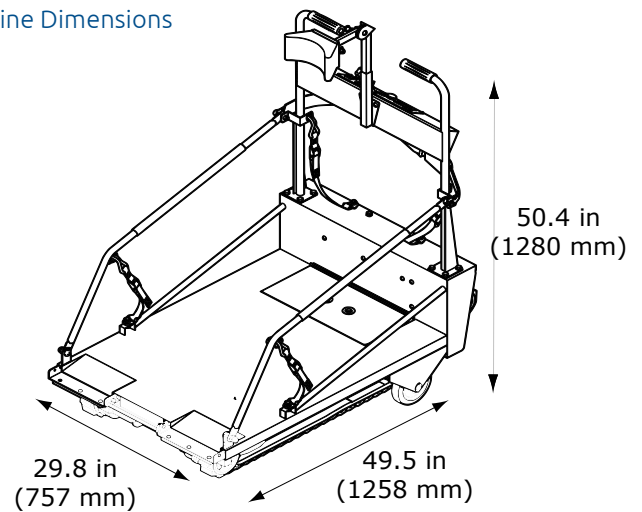
Max Capacity	440 lbs/200kgs	Brake	Fail-safe Electromagnetic
Max Stair Angle	35°	Weight	253 lbs (115 kgs)
Power	Sealed Batteries 24 V	Speed Up	21.4 ft (6.5 m) / min
Charging	Automatic 110/220 VAC	Speed Down	34.7 ft (10.6 m) / min

Dimensions

Stair Turnback Dimensions



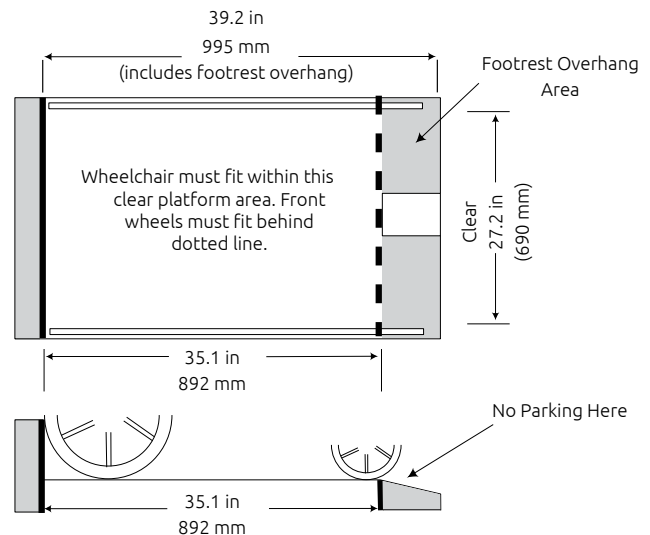
Machine Dimensions



Benefits

- Instant accessibility solution
- Economical compared to elevators and custom designed wheelchair lifts
- Requires no building renovations, no installation permits or licenses
- No permanent impact on stairway egress width
- A single unit provides access into many buildings
- Easily stored in a secure area when not in use
- Requires minimal maintenance compared to an elevator or wheelchair lift
- Great backup system for an elevator if power fails

Clearance



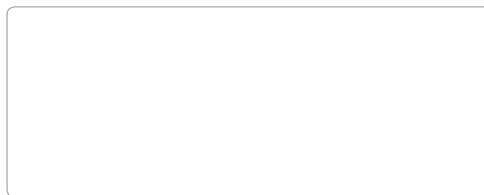


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CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-07 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:00 p.m. on September 12 2024 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS PARSONS, THORSRUD, O'BRIEN, GEISLER, SAFRA, LEPLEY

ABSENT: BOARDMEMBER VENUTI (EXCUSED)

STAFF: CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE
DEPUTY CITY CLERK I APPEL

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Thorsrud read the supplemental items: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Item A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes for the Special Meeting on September 12, 2024 into the record and requested a motion.

GEISLER/PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Unapproved Special Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2024

GEISLER/PARSONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

A. Monthly ADA Coordinator Report – October/November 2024

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause provided a verbal report on the following:

- Requests by the Board on the Capital Improvement Plan project could be to submitted via memorandum to City Council requesting approval of the actions desired regarding design options. This memorandum will be submitted to the board for review at their January meeting and then forwarded to City Council for the second January meeting.
- The site meeting with the ADA Coordinator Robespierre with the State of Alaska Department of Transportation was cancelled.
 - o Clarification on the removal and qualification of compliant benches and removal of the non-compliant benches.
 - o No official order has been received at this time.
 - o Homer is the first to be addressed of the rural airports that has come under review.
 - o The restrooms are non-compliant even though we have the new ADA/Family restroom that does not bring us into compliance.
 - The existing restrooms have non-compliant ADA stalls but to bring these restrooms into compliance will require a capital project. This issue has been known and is included in the city facility transition plan.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. Staff Report ADA-24-022 Harbor ADA Accessibility Capital Improvement Plan Project Development

Ms. Krause provided a brief report on the information provided regarding accessible kayak launch which she felt was worthy of consideration for a Capital Improvement Plan Project and has requested information on a Trolley system similar to what is used for the harbor but has not received the information.

Mr. Lepley stated that the Board has not received definitive response on their question of access project for the harbor and wanted to put a motion before the Board.

LEPLEY/GEISLER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE HOMER ADA ADVISORY BOARD AS A WHOLE OR ANY OF ITS MEMBERS MAY ACTIVELY SOLICIT INFORMATION IN REGARDS TO HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE LIFT SYSTEM FOR THE HOMER HARBOR.

There was a brief discussion on amending the motion to remove the word “handicapped” or replacing with “all ages and abilities”.

Mr. Lepley repeated the motion as amended:

MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE HOMER ADA ADVISORY BOARD AS A WHOLE OR ANY OF ITS MEMBERS MAY ACTIVELY SOLICIT INFORMATION IN REGARDS TO ACCESSIBLE TO ALL AGES AND ABILITIES LIFT SYSTEM FOR THE HOMER HARBOR.

VOTE. (Amendment). NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Mr. Lepley stated that in putting this motion before the Board that he believes they will have more clout with a company or a university if it is presented by the Board or the City a request for an accessible lift system that can be user operated to see if they would be interested in providing information or pursuing, has pursued or willing to pursue. He opined that if the Board has this motion on the record and then presents to Council and since they have a newly minted Council member that happens to serve on the Board, inform Council of the intent is to get information. Mr. Lepley continued stating that they are not the only ones who experience extreme tides and someone may have a design that can be used.

Mr. Parsons questioned if the Board would be interested in stepping up a notch and submit a request for the City Council to approve the request for submitting a Request for Design/Proposal to Colleges and Universities. He then asked if he could approach others in the city to see what comes out of that discussion.

Mr. Lepley explained further his idea was to have a form letter to submit to companies providing an explanation, what the goal is and what they are looking for.

Ms. Krause stated that the motion is great, staff can draft a memorandum to forward to Council for approval and authorization to take that action.

Ms. Krause lost connection at 4:51 p.m. and was unable to reconnect.

Further discussion on previous attempts to bring forth information on lift systems for a marine environment and this approach would be a more formal approach allowing them to contact teaching schools, engineering schools, etc.

Ms. Safra provided information on possible organizations that the Board can target.

Chair Thorsrud commented on a recent program she watched regarding “flinging” and advocated for expanding our thoughts outside of the box.

Mr. Parsons recommended passing the motion and Ms. Krause can draft a memorandum.

Mr. Lepley restated the motion as amended and will email that to Ms. Krause:

MOVE TO AUTHORIZE THE HOMER ADA ADVISORY BOARD AS A WHOLE OR ANY OF ITS MEMBERS MAY ACTIVELY SOLICIT INFORMATION IN REGARDS TO AN ACCESSIBLE LIFT SYSTEM FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES FOR THE HOMER HARBOR.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. (Main as amended) NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Further discussion was facilitated by Chair Thorsrud on the following:

- Ms. Krause can include the information regarding the Board's intent within the memorandum
- The information on the Kayak Launch was presented to the Trails Director who does adaptive recreation who reported using these before and that they are fantastic
 - o If people cannot get down to the harbor to use it, it would be pointless
 - o Did not want to distract from the Board's main goal for an accessible harbor
 - Having this project on the CIP might be a distraction.
- Recalled previously asking for the city to have an ADA person or appointed staff with additional duties or responsibilities to oversee that ADA requirements
 - o using the airport issues as an example
- Speaking to business owners, including commercial fishing and charter businesses
 - o Approximately \$58 billion dollars' worth of disability tourism in the United States and we are not seeing it here in Homer and that relates to economic development
 - Making the harbor accessible, being able to get people on boats.
 - If we build it, then that revenue will come, then they will make the boats accessible and the city will have revenue to fund that position.
 - The business community has to buy into the fact that it makes economic sense to make sure their businesses are accessible.
 - They have to want to do the minimum of compliance.
- In the process of developing the transition plan, recommended the language is included in the contracts that are issued by the city, providing the requirements of ADA and compliance is enforced.
 - o Having forms and review by qualified city personnel as a standard.
 - o There should be formulas and when the letter is received from the FAA or AKDOT ask where they got their conclusion
 - o Software availability
- Noted the recent renovated building on Pioneer and Greatland with a new sidewalk to the front door and the ramp is not ADA compliant.
 - o Has one-inch lip at the gutter
 - Review of plans does not include the ADA compliance viewpoint
 - Support inclusion of ADA Compliance in contracts that are city issued

B. Staff Report ADA-24-024 Draft Trails Transition Plan Status Upgrade

Chair Thorsrud deferred to Mr. Parsons since Ms. Krause was not available. She referred to the parking item on page 5 of the Supplemental Packet.¹

Mr. Parsons reported that he had a meeting with the City Manager approximately one month earlier and provided pictures of the property lines on the spit and performed a walking audit with former Public Works Director Jan Keiser, whom confirmed that the west side of the Spit has an obvious ADA compliance issue when it comes to parking. Ms. Keiser suggested that the Alaska Department of Transportation be contacted and request the lease agreements that are made with the City and the businesses since permission has to be granted to use that area for parking. Mr. Parsons did not want to move too far ahead without the explicit permission of the Board and would like to request the Board's permission to proceed further on their behalf.

Chair Thorsrud facilitated discussion on the topic with the points made as follows:

- State of Alaska owns the right of way in which the parking is allowed or being conducted in front of the boardwalks
- It is out of compliance even when you count the vehicles there is only two accessible parking spots for the whole stretch
 - o Both spots are non-compliant, not near an accessible path of travel, no accessible ramp
 - o Possibly need more spaces that are designated accessible depending on the count formula/method
- Recommend joint meeting with the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission to really work through the parking issues on the east side of the road.
 - o It was believed that the east side of the spit was compliant
 - o Countered comments that some areas were great others not
 - Example was provided with the area by the Boathouse Pavilion for accessible parking and recommendation to duplicate this around the harbor
- Spit Parking Study conducted in 2022 did not address the private parking areas
 - o Would like to expand that scope of work
- Events conducted by the Chamber and using the Accessible Parking spaces
 - o Chamber should be educated on the rights and ADA regulations
 - ADA Regulations already address requirements for special events
 - o Should be addressed in the Special Event Permit
 - Enforcement by the City

¹ This topic will be forwarded to the January agenda since the Board did not discuss it at the meeting. There was miscommunication on addressing an item in the September 12, 2024 meeting minutes that was provided in the supplemental packet.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item by reading of the title. She requested a motion and second.

PARSONS/SAFRA MOVED TO APPROVE THE DRAFT RESOLUTION MEETING SCHEDULE AS WRITTEN AND FORWARD THE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL.

Discussion followed on having additional meetings to have review of the transition plans, memorandum for approval, and direction to solicit designs for accessibility, adding meetings every month and adding those topics annual monthly agenda items.

PARSONS/SAFRA MOVED TO ADD THE MONTHS OF JANUARY, MARCH AND SEPTEMBER TO THE MEETING SCHEDULE AND THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF TRANSITION PLANS TO THE AGENDA TOPICS.

There was brief clarification on substantiating the need for the Board to meet.

VOTE. (Amendment) NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Chair Thorsrud reviewed the amended motion noting that they can always make further motions in January if needed.

VOTE. (Main as amended) NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

B. Staff Report ADA-24-023 Strategic Plan Review and Update

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and opened discussion. She noted the previous goals and duties of staff and the Board.

Discussion by the Board focused on the following:

- Funding ADA compliance projects
 - o Identifying funds and appropriating them for specific projects
 - Not allowing Council to re-appropriate funds for other projects that are not ADA compliance projects
- Including ADA compliance requirements in city projects using a form or other method to ensure regulations are followed.
- Postpone action on the strategic plan until the January meeting to allow the Board time to thoroughly consider goals and action items.

- Requested copies of the adopted transition plans for the Board to review to determine the actions required to accomplish the compliance issues noted in those plans.
- Focus on the successes and completed tasks before addressing new ones

The Board postponed this item by mutual consent to the January 9, 2025 regular meeting. No formal motion was made by the Board.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. City Manager's Report for City Council Meeting on October 28, 2024
- B. City of Homer Fall Newsletter – October 2024
- C. ADA Annual Calendar 2024
- D. ADA Annual Calendar 2025

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Appel commented that a text received from Ms. Krause apologizing for not being able to attend and that she will listen to the audio and will address any actions items, questions and concerns of the Board.

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Mr. Lepley expressed his appreciation being able to attend the meeting via Zoom, support expressed from the Board on his motion and Bradley's appointment to City Council. He expressed looking forward to having something that they all can address, while he understands that the Port Director is looking into possibilities he understands that they have a million other things to do and he has the time to apply himself to this project every day such as sending out emails. He is looking forward to it and really appreciates the time spent at this meeting.

Mr. O'Brien commented that it was a great meeting and he was glad to be part of the group.

Ms. Safra congratulated Brad on his appointment to the City Council and was very excited when Caroline informed her of their selection. She stated that this community of people who are more challenged with disabilities with have a better representation in Homer and for her that was really exciting and will take on a new meaning in Homer. Ms. Safra expressed her appreciation of being part of supporting the journey Brad will be taking and thanked him for stepping up.

Mr. Parsons stated that he was excited to be elected to the Council and looking forward to bringing some of these discussions to Council. He stated his intent to remain on the Board and be the representative for the ADA Board but admitted that it does need to be officially sorted out. He offered his appreciation to the Clerk's Office in dealing with back to back elections and apologized for adding more to Ms. Krause' work schedule by adding additional meetings but believes that just shows the level of passion around the table here and we are all looking at doing more work. Mr. Parsons

expressed his appreciation to Mr. Lepley for perseverance in attending the meeting via Zoom and he has the support of the Board for the accessible harbor project and welcomed Deputy City Clerk Appel. He expressed his excitement about the changes in the Council and local government staffing.

Ms. Thorsrud commented that each and every one of the members brings something unique and individual to the board along with Ms. Krause. She recognized their very noticeable passions and time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Conference Room located upstairs at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK/
ADA COORDINATOR

Approved:_____