



MEMORANDUM

Ordinance 25-62, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending the FY26 Capital Budget by Accepting and Appropriating a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Grant in the Amount of \$1,500,000 for Land Acquisition and Work Related to the Bridge Creek Watershed Protection District and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute the Appropriate Documents. Community Development Director/City Manager.

Item Type: Backup Memorandum
Prepared For: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
Date: October 13, 2025
From: Julie Engebretsen, Community Development Director
Through: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager

Introduction

The purpose of this memo is to provide clarification on this project which includes land acquisition and two sub-awards.

Sub-awards

Under the system of federal grants, subawards are specific to contractors who helped develop the grant application and whose participation in the project is key. This project includes two subawards: one to the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve, which is the NOAA partner that makes the City eligible for these funds and the second is the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust (KHLT) which is the Land Trust that serves the Kenai Peninsula. Buying conservation lands with federal dollars is a complicated process, and KHLT has been instrumental in the Kachemak Peatlands Project. Staff will bring forward resolutions to award these subcontracts at a future Council meeting.

Land Acquisition

This project includes potential land purchases as outlined in the attached map. NOAA required the City to be specific about which lands we may purchase. The 160-acre tract is the priority land purchase, but should that acquisition fall through, the City has identified, and NOAA has approved the additional properties shown as approved under this grant program. Staff will bring forward a resolution before the end of the year to initiate the first land purchase. It will take approximately a year to complete a land purchase.

Attachments

Grant application property map

