

CITY of HOMER WATER and SEWER DEPRECIATION RESERVES POLICY MANUAL

Table of Contents

- I. Purpose
- II. Definitions
- III. Qualifying Project Criteria
- IV. Financing
- V. Special Provisions
- VI. History

I. PURPOSE

The intent of the City of Homer Water and Sewer Depreciation Reserves is to fund improvements, repairs, and replacements to the City's existing water system and sewer system.

In addition to the Water and Sewer Depreciation Reserve funds, the City has a Homer Accelerated Water and Sewer Program (HAWSP). The intent of the Water and Sewer Reserve is to fund projects associated with the existing water and sewer system. HAWSP is intended to fund new water and sewer projects (see HAWSP policy manual for more information).

II. DEFINITIONS

- a. **Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)** – A multi-year document that lays out priorities for capital projects, including descriptions of each project, rationale for why each project is needed, schedule and progress to date, and estimated total cost
- b. **Fund Balance** – The balance within the water and sewer reserve funds that are not allocated to a project
- c. **HART** – Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails program, a fund established by the voters of the City of Homer and funded by a voter-approved dedicated sales tax, intended to improve roads, sidewalks, and trails within the City of Homer, thereby improving property values and quality of life
- d. **HAWSP** – Homer Accelerated Water and Sewer Program, a fund established by the voters of the City of Homer and funded by a voter-approved dedicated sales tax, intended to improve the health and welfare of the Citizens of Homer by connecting residences to City water and/or sewer, thereby increasing the number of users on the system, increasing property values, and improving the quality of life; the funds may also be used on other water and sewer infrastructure that expand the systems

- e. Water and Sewer System Improvements** – Any work, such as planning, design or construction, etc., which improves the City’s water and sewer infrastructure, including, but not limited to, the extension, expansion, repair or rehabilitation of
- i. The City’s water supply, raw water transmission lines, water treatment facilities, water storage facilities, water distribution lines, fire-fighting devices, and related or similar appurtenances.
 - ii. The City’s sewer collection lines, sewer lift stations, RV Dump Stations, waste water treatment facilities, discharge outfall and related or similar appurtenances.
 - iii. Other facilities related to providing public access to clean water and the sanitary disposal of human wastes to protect public health.

III. QUALIFYING PROJECT CRITERIA

Criteria for Qualifying Water and Sewer System Improvements: Water and Sewer Reserve funds may be used for projects, which meet ### of the criteria below are met:

- A. The project must be located within City limits.
- B. The project is listed on the citywide CIP, Water or Sewer CIPs, or Water/Sewer Master Plan.
- C. The project addresses exigent issues related to public health and safety as well as actual or imminent regulatory changes.
- D. The project repairs, rehabilitates, or corrects deficiencies in existing water or sewer systems.
- E. The project would reduce maintenance costs.
- F. Other factors deemed appropriate by the City Council.

G. FINANCING

- Water and sewer reserve expenditures are subject to the availability of funds.
- Projects may be funded through the reserve fund, bonds, grants, or a combination of these or other funding mechanism that may be identified by the City.
- Depending on the nature of the project, reserve and HAWSP funds may be used to fund a project. Reserve funds should be used for portions of the project that improve, repair, or replace existing water or sewer infrastructure while HAWSP funds should be used for portions of the project that result in new water or sewer infrastructure.

H. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- The City Council shall review the Water and Sewer Reserve funds biannually during the budget process.
- The Public Works Department will maintain CIPs for Water and Sewer that are presented to City Council for review annually. The Public Works Department may nominate projects from the Water and Sewer CIPs to the Citywide CIP

I. HISTORY

Listing of Ordinances & Resolutions