

1 **CITY OF HOMER**
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

3 Aderhold

4 **ORDINANCE 20-81(A)**
5

6 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA
7 ESTABLISHING A MORTGAGE AND RENT RELIEF GRANT (MARRG)
8 PROGRAM TO CITY OF HOMER RESIDENTS EXPERIENCING
9 ECONOMIC HARDSHIP DUE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH
10 EMERGENCY, APPROVING UP TO ~~\$339,200~~ **\$763,200** TO BE USED
11 FOR MARRG, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER
12 INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ALASKA HOUSING FINANCE
13 CORPORATION (AHFC) FOR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.
14

15 WHEREAS, On May 26, 2020, the Homer City Council passed Resolution 20-051 to accept
16 \$7,899,085.29 in grant funds from the State of Alaska, Department of Commerce, Community
17 and Economic Development for necessary expenditures due to the COVID-19 public health
18 emergency; and
19

20 WHEREAS, These funds were made available to State, Local and Tribal governments
21 through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to cover necessary
22 expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus
23 Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and
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25 WHEREAS, To be eligible for reimbursement through CARES Act funding, expenses must
26 be incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020;
27 and
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29 WHEREAS, The Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) administered the Alaska
30 Housing Relief Program earlier this summer, which provided up to \$1,200 as a one- time
31 payment to assist with housing costs for each eligible household, payable directly to their
32 lender or landlord; and
33

34 WHEREAS, Approximately ninety households in the City of Homer qualified and took
35 advantage of this statewide funding opportunity for one month of mortgage and rent relief
36 payments; and
37

38 WHEREAS, These households have an income that is at or below 80% of the
39 community's area median income as calculated by the US Department of Housing and Urban
40 Development and were able to demonstrate how their household income was reduced on or
41 after March 11, 2020 as a result of COVID-19 related closures, hour reductions or other lost
42 income that is attributable to COVID-19; and

43 WHEREAS, The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic contributes to an ongoing need for
44 housing support which will continue and grow as the public health emergency extends into the
45 fall and winter; and

46
47 WHEREAS, The MARRG program compliments the Household Economic Relief Grant
48 (HERG) program previously established by Homer City Council in that it allows qualifying
49 households to utilize HERG funds for eligible expenses other than rent or mortgage payments;
50 and

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52 WHEREAS, AHFC has agreed to continue administering the housing relief program for
53 Homer residents via a sub-recipient grant agreement with the City; and

54
55 WHEREAS, Providing grants to residents experiencing economic hardship and housing
56 insecurity follows CARES Act requirements as interpreted by the US Department of the
57 Treasury's guidance for local governments, which allows for necessary expenditures incurred
58 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and for second order effects of the emergency;
59 and

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61 WHEREAS, It is necessary and in the best interest of the City of Homer to approve grant
62 funding for emergency rent and mortgage relief to assist Homer residents and households
63 affected by COVID-19.

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65 NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER ORDAINS:

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67 Section 1. ~~\$339,200.00~~ **\$763,200.00** is appropriated for AHFC to carry out the MARRG
68 program which will provide individual grants to qualifying households in the City of Homer of
69 up to \$1, 200 per month for each of the ~~four~~ **six** months from ~~September~~ **July** through
70 December, 2020 for mortgage or rent relief.

71
72 Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with
73 AHFC for the administration of the grant, and may establish and make amendments to grant
74 guidelines as necessary to carry out the lawful and efficient administration of the program.

75
76 Section 3. This is a budget amendment ordinance, is not permanent in nature, and
77 shall not be codified.

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79 ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, this 26 day of October, 2020.

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CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

85 ATTEST:

86 Melissa Jacobsen
87
88 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

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91 YES: 6
92 NO: 0
93 ABSTAIN: 0
94 ABSENT: 0

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96 First Reading: 10.12.20
97 Public Hearing: 10.26.20
98 Second Reading: 10.26.20
99 Effective Date: 10.27.20



100
101 Reviewed and approved as to form:

102 Robert Dumouchel
103
104 Robert Dumouchel, City Manager

105
106 Date: 29 Oct 20

Michael Gatti
Michael Gatti, City Attorney

Date: 11/11/2020