

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

3 Erickson/Lord

4 **RESOLUTION 24-048**

5
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
7 REQUESTING THE PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
8 DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CRUISE SHIP CAPACITY AND POLICY
9 ADOPTION FOR THE PORT AND HARBOR OPERATIONS AND THE
10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION DISCUSS
11 AND CONSIDER BROADER COMMUNITY EFFECTS AND POTENTIAL
12 CITY CRUISE SHIP POLICIES.

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14 WHEREAS, The City of Homer has been a port of call for numerous cruise ships over the
15 years; and

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17 WHEREAS, The City should expect continued interest in cruise ship calls in the coming
18 years; and

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20 WHEREAS, The City's Deep Water Dock can accommodate cruise ships up to certain
21 sizes, but larger ships cannot dock there and must anchor out and tender, or lighter,
22 passengers to harbor floats to disembark; and

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24 WHEREAS, The City operates the Port and Harbor under written policies that may not
25 fully encompass the considerations for cruise ships, especially larger vessels that have to
26 lighter passengers; and

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28 WHEREAS, In addition to effects on the City, large cruise ships also influence the
29 business community and the community-at-large; and

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31 WHEREAS, Cities around Alaska and the country have addressed cruise ship tourism
32 through the implementation of different policies.

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34 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Port and Harbor staff will engage the Port and
35 Harbor Advisory Commission (PHC) in discussion around cruise ship calls to the Port, including:

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- 38 • The capacity of our current docks for different size classes of large vessels;
 - 39 • Passenger lightering considerations, including moorage and safety;
 - 40 • What responsibilities and potential liabilities the Port and Harbor has for accepting
41 cruise ships of any size, including what amenities we advertise as available as a City
42 for cruise ship companies looking to make a call at our public Port;
 - 43 • What the emergency response plan is for potential tsunami evacuation;
 - What are the costs and impacts of cruise ship landings on our HVFD and HPD staff;

- 44 • What increased staffing considerations are made by Harbor operations staff to
45 address additional trash and restroom cleaning needs;
- 46 • What criteria are used currently for deciding capacity to accept a cruise ship,
47 including when there is passenger lightering required, and are those criteria
48 adequate;
- 49 • How this topic will be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan;
- 50 • Revenue and expense considerations surrounding cruise ship business at the Port;
- 51 • The broad legal landscape of local policies around the cruise ship industry.

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53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDC)
54 should develop an understanding of City/Municipal cruise ship policies from other
55 communities, and engage in a conversation with the Chamber of Commerce and other
56 stakeholders about the effects of the Cruise Ship industry on the local businesses and the
57 community to help inform any potential City policy development.

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59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Both the EDC and the PHC will provide reports back to the
60 City Council with summaries of their conversations, noting where further discussion may be
61 needed, and any immediate policy recommendations by:

62 Port and Harbor Advisory Commission: July 22, 2024 Council Meeting
63 Economic Development Advisory Commission: September 23, 2024 Council Meeting

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65 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 22nd day of April, 2024.

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67 CITY OF HOMER
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70 KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

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72 ATTEST:
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75 RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, ACTING CITY CLERK

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77 Fiscal Note: NA

