1	CITY OF HOMER
2	HOMER, ALASKA
3	Mayor/City Manager/
4	Port Director
5	RESOLUTION 24-114
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7	A RESOLUTION OF THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL URGENTLY
8	CALLING FOR THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
9	AND PUBLIC FACILITIES AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS
10	OF ENGINEERS TO IMPLEMENT EMERGENCY REPAIRS AND THE
11	COOPERATIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF A LONG-TERM EROSION
12	MITIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN TO STABILIZE EROSION
13	CONDITIONS ON THE HOMER SPIT
14	
15	WHEREAS, The Homer Spit is a 4.5-mile-long glacial sand and gravel spit extending into
16	Kachemak Bay and the Spit road is a State highway that serves as a critical infrastructure
17	corridor supporting Homer Port and Harbor, a multimodal transportation hub, and essential
18	recreational, commercial, industrial, and residential activities, as well as valuable State of
19	Alaska and Federal assets; and
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21	WHEREAS, The Homer Spit is experiencing accelerated erosion due to changing storm
22	patterns that have disrupted historical sediment movement patterns along the spit, resulting
23	in severe coastal degradation; and
24	
25	WHEREAS, Previous mitigation efforts, including the United States Army Corps of
26	Engineers' 1992 installation of 1,000 feet of rock revetment and 1998 extension of 3,700 feet,
27	proved insufficient without the recommended beach renourishment, leading to beach
28	lowering and increased erosion south of the protected area; and
29	
30	WHEREAS, Despite emergency revetment projects by the Alaska Department of

WHEREAS, The City has been monitoring and reporting the intensified erosional damage on the Homer Spit to the State of Alaska through the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) and the federal government through the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the two parties responsible for the funding, approval and implementation of State road maintenance, erosion mitigation measures and a long-term maintenance plan to stabilize erosion conditions on the Homer Spit; and

Transportation and Public Facilities, unchecked erosion continues to actively undermine the

State-owned Sterling Highway, the sole transportation lifeline connecting the Homer Spit to

the Kenai Peninsula mainland and a tsunami evacuation route; and

 WHEREAS, An October 16, 2024 storm with southwest winds of approximately 25 miles per hour and a 22-foot tide caused significant damage to the road bed in the unprotected section of the road, brought erosion to within two feet of the edge of the pavement and created an immediate public safety concern; and

WHEREAS, Any additional moderate wind and high tide events now threaten to compromise the outbound lane of the Spit Road, risking partial or complete closure of this vital transportation corridor; and

WHEREAS, Multiple technical studies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 2017 Dredged Material Management Guidance Manual, their 1989 *Storm Damage Reduction Final Interim Feasibility Report with Engineering Design and Environmental Assessment* report, and HDR, Inc.'s 2019 Coastal Erosion Assessment, have provided detailed erosion management strategies, with the HDR report recommending a traditional revetment coupled with a beach renourishment program and sediment management plan for long term viability of the Spit and maintenance of the Spit Road.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The City of Homer urgently calls upon the ADOT&PF and the USACE to:

1. Immediately implement emergency erosion mitigation measures to protect the threatened Homer Spit Road from imminent failure; and

2. Simultaneously develop and execute a comprehensive, long-term erosion mitigation and stabilization strategy that includes both hardened protection strategies (including perched bench, groin field, offshore breakwater) and sediment management for improving resilience of existing roadway embankment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The City of Homer implores the Alaska State Legislature to prioritize this critical infrastructure project by:

1. Allocating necessary state funding to protect this vital transportation and economic corridor; and

2. Advocating for and supporting a long-term Homer Spit erosion mitigation and stabilization project in partnership with the USACE; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The City of Homer calls upon Alaska's federal delegation to:

1. Champion the Homer Spit protection project at the federal level; and

2. Secure federal funding required for both immediate emergency measures and long-term stabilization efforts through the USACE.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, this 28th day of October, 2024.

Page 3 of 3 RESOLUTION 24-114 CITY OF HOMER

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RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK
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CITY OF HOMER

RACHEL LORD, MAYOR

