

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Erickson/Mayor

RESOLUTION 25-088

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA
SELECTING TWO CITY OWNED PROPERTIES IN DOWNTOWN
HOMER AS THE PREFERRED LOCATION FOR A FUTURE MULTI-USE
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER.

WHEREAS, Recreation has been a stated and long-time priority of the City of Homer, with over 1000 participants in the City's Community Recreation Program; and

WHEREAS, Indoor recreation space is highly coveted around town with Borough schools often unavailable to community use due to school sports and activities; and

WHEREAS, Other recreation spaces cannot meet all of the indoor recreation needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, A Multi-Use Community Recreation Center, which can meet the needs of the Community Recreation program and other community needs, has been a project in the City's Capital Improvement Plan since 2016 and listed as a top City of Homer priority since 2020; and

WHEREAS, The existing site of the Homer Education and Recreation Center (HERC) has significant challenges with the age and condition of the buildings, and the clearing of that lot has been determined to be on a longer timeline than is desired by the community for pursuing a community recreation center; and

WHEREAS, The City has been looking for another site to put a Recreation Center since fall 2023; and

WHEREAS, The City owns Tract 38A Homer FAA Site Subdivision in the Town Center and in Resolution 14-084, identified this lot as a viable location for a community center; and

WHEREAS, The City owns a second property in the Town Center, Nils O Svedlund Subdivision 2013 Replat Lot 7-A and these two properties are centrally located and would provide an adequate footprint for a Multi-Use Community Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer and hundreds of community members have spent significant time visioning the vibrant development of Town Center with a civic cornerstone helping to spur mixed-use and community-minded development; and

WHEREAS, The development of the City's Town Center properties would increase resiliency for the water distribution system by allowing more "looped water connections"

creating more balanced pressures and flows, further expanding the customer base for both water and wastewater systems which offsets the cost of owning and operating these utilities for all users; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has begun setting aside funds for this project, and is ready to develop a budget, building plan, and business plan for long-term operations and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Selecting a location for the project is an important step forward in this process; and

WHEREAS, The Planning, Economic Development Advisory, and Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commissions each reviewed Town Center as a preferred location for the project in June 2025, along with other possible properties for this project; and

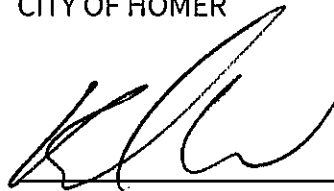
WHEREAS, Commissioners discussed many topics surrounding the development of a Multi-Use Community Recreation Center, providing diverse viewpoints back to the Council on the specific question of the Town Center lots as a preferred location that are salient to the continuing development of this project; and

WHEREAS, The City's Town Center properties have the most potential for growth and expansion, for community involvement, recreation, and catalyzing additional growth and development for the City of Homer and are already in City ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska will hereby pursue continued planning for the Multi-Use Community Recreation Center to be located on the City's two properties in Town Center.

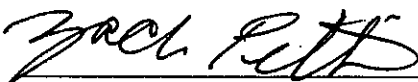
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 13th day of October, 2025.

CITY OF HOMER



RACHEL LORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:



~~RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, ADAC, CITY CLERK~~

Zach Pettit, Acting City Clerk

Fiscal Note: N/A



MEMORANDUM

Resolution 25-088, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Selecting Two City Owned Properties in Downtown Homer as the Preferred Location for a Future Multi-Use Community Center. Erickson/Mayor.

Item Type: Backup Memorandum
Prepared For: Mayor Lord and City Council
Date: October 8, 2025
From: Councilmember Shelly Erickson

Resolution 25-088 is intended to make a final decision on locating a new Multi-Purpose Recreation Center on one of the two City owned lots in the Town Center area. In thinking about how best to use two lots for community purposes I'd like to propose the following for consideration.

1. The larger lot below Alices would be for the Multi-Purpose Recreation Center and activities related to that. It has the most room to allow for expansion, parking and other types of recreation (fields, skate parks, etc.).
2. The 3-acre smaller lot on the Main Street side could/would be set aside for a multi-use: street fairs, farmers market, outdoor concerts - basically outdoor community gatherings. I believe there would be a way to bring people in from Main Street also into Town Center.

In addition to these developments, trail systems on the east side and ensuring there is connection from both properties.

