

**NOTICE OF MEETING
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** *(Three minute time limit)*
- 4. VISITORS** *(Visitors normally have 10 minutes for their presentation.)*
 - A. Michele Miller, Chair, Public Arts Committee
Re: Combining the Public Arts Committee with the Parks and Recreation Commission
- 5. RECONSIDERATION**
- 6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA** *All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by the Parks & Recreation Commission and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Parks & Recreation Commissioner or someone from the public, in which case the item will be moved to the regular agenda and considered in normal sequence.*
 - A. Minutes for the Regular Meeting on February 18, 2016 **Page 3**
- 7. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORT**
 - A. Staff Report - Julie Engebretsen
 - B. Community Recreation Report - Mike Illg
 - C. Parks Management Report - Angie Otteson
- 8. PUBLIC HEARING**
- 9. PENDING BUSINESS**
 - A. Amending the Commission Bylaws **Page 15**
 1. Packet Material and Agenda Approval Conducted by the Chair
 - B. Combining the Public Arts Committee with the Parks and Recreation Commission **Page 19**
Recommendation to Council
 - C. Protecting Our Parks and Green Spaces - **Page 25**
Continued Discussion on How to Best Protect, Preserve and Maintain City Parks and Green Spaces
 - D. Drafting a Parks and Recreation Commission Strategic Plan **Page 27**
Completion of Revisions to Existing Strategic Plan and Adding New Items
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Recommendation and Approval of Annual Trails Symposium **Page 39**
 - B. Main Street: Pedestrian Safety **Page 41**
 1. Sidewalks, ADA Compliance and Getting this On the Capital Improvement Plan
 - C. Beach Policy Review and Update **Page 43**
 1. Beach Policy with Ordinance 16-05(S-2)(A-2) Updates
- 9. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**
 - A. Commission Annual Calendar 2016 **Page 81**
 - B. Commissioner Attendance at City Council Meetings 2016 **Page 82**
- 10. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**
- 11. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER** (If one has been assigned)
- 12. COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS**
- 13. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**
- 14. COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**
- 15. ADJOURNMENT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016** at 5:30pm in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer Alaska

Session 16-02 Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order on February 18, 2016 at 5:32 pm by Chair Matt Steffy at the Cowles Council Chambers City Hall located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS LOWNEY, STEFFY, ARCHIBALD, BRANN, ROEDL, ASHMUN, AND HART

STAFF: JULIE ENGBRETSSEN, DEPUTY CITY PLANNER
RENEE KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Steffy called for a motion to approve the agenda.

LOWNEY/BRANN – MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was a brief discussion on being efficient, limiting conversations and making motions.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments from the audience present.

VISITORS

A. Lisa Asselin-Martin, Homer Early Childhood Coalition, Bayview Park Improvements

Ms. Asselin-Martin presented the commission a PowerPoint presentation on the improvements made to the city park by the Coalition and Best Beginnings and the needed improvements, many of which were general repair and replacement of aging structures. This is a park that is designated for smaller, younger children and is designed to host features that make it accessible for children with mobility issues. She noted that the Coalition has been working with Angie Otteson, Public Works Parks Manager and Rick Malley, ADA Specialist with the Independent Living Center. They are requesting the support of the Commission in submitting a Request for funding from Council to continue improvements to the park first priority is a new fence. They have received an estimate in excess of \$37,000 to remove the existing fence and replace with a new fence. She hoped that the Commission would support the recommendation and request to Council.

There were a few questions on providing in-kind services, use of a different fence design that would be less costly and bringing back more concrete pricing.

B. Friends of Woodard Creek, First Steps, Woodard Creek, Karen Hornaday Park

Robert Archibald, member of the group, presented a brief plan on the long proposed trail along Woodard Creek including a foot bridge over the creek at or about Danview Avenue. The Friends have funds and are proposing to hire a surveyor and obtain a survey along the eastern boundary of the park **which the creek runs along. There are several private property owners and the group doesn't want to encroach on private property.** This plan has been given support and approval by previous commission's

and Council's and they want to start on the project. They are seeking the support and recommendation to the City Manager to get the survey. At this time no city funds will be needed for the completion of a survey.

There were a few questions and comments from the commissioners regarding the project concerning the placement of trail.

Commissioner Archibald returned to his seat on the dais.

RECONSIDERATION

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes for the regular meeting of January 21, 2016

Chair Steffy called for a motion to adopt the consent agenda.

LOWNEY/BRANN - MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Staff Report – Julie Engebretsen, Deputy City Planner

Ms. Engebretsen reviewed her report briefly and inquired if there were any questions. She advised the Commission regarding the reconsideration on Ordinance 16-05 which covered the driving on beaches issues. She noted that if reconsidered Councilmember Lewis was presenting a substitute ordinance for consideration. She was not aware of the details at this time and recommended Commissioners go to the city website.

Commissioner Archibald offered that Council member Lewis was presenting an amendment to allow vehicles in a limited area at Mariner Park.

Commissioner Lowney inquired about the steel caps at the park and she invited the commissioners to approach Public Works. She has advised the City Manager on their request.

C. Community Recreation Report – Mike Illg

Recreation Specialist Illg was not present and did not provide a written report for the meeting.

D. Parks Report – Angie Otteson

Ms. Otteson was not in attendance and did not provide a written report.

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Additional Trash Cans on the Spit Trail

Chair Steffy requested a motion to discuss.

Ms. Engebretsen provided a laydown of the recommendations submitted by the commissioners that included the following:

- **2196 Homer Spit Rd Honey's Place B & B**
- Top of Crittenden Trail to the beach
- Bottom of Crittenden Trail – on the beach – removed from list
- Mud Bay Parking Lot – bottom of Airport Beach Access Road
- base of Spit Parking Lot – Homer Spit Trailhead
- top of Main Street beach Access
- bottom of Main Street on the beach – removed from list

Discussion ensued on recommendations for more trash receptacles are needed in the winter time as well as summer particularly along the Spit Trail at minimum adding three additional cans. Further spots that were recommended was at the head of Reber Trail, it is a matter of location with regards to staff time and accessibility such as Reber Trail and on the beach. Further discussion was the problems with the public using private or city dumpsters to get rid of household trash. Commissioner Lowney expressed concern regarding educating the public more.

LOWNEY/ARCHIBALD – MOVED TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL TRASH CANS PLACED AROUND TOWN.

Commissioner Lowney requested additional trash cans along the spit trail in the middle of the spit. Further discussion on the collection of trash and addressing the frequency of placement in coordination with the ones already in place and that they should be covered ensued. One more additional spot in winter that would be good is the RV Dump Station and in one of the pocket parks along Spruceview due to all the foot traffic. The commissioner removed the beach locations.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Lowney advised the commission that HOWL will not be cleaning up trash this year and the Chamber is very interested in doing something with the trash cans and she will advise the commission on her progress. She stated that if businesses buy in on the program then they would be responsible for maintenance, etc. This is a separate issue and all ideas should be sent to her.

B. HERC

Chair Steffy requested a motion to discuss.

BRANN/ROEDL – MOVED TO DISCUSS THE HERC BUILDING.

There was no objection.

Commissioner Lowney brought this issue up again since it keeps coming up in other discussions. She noted that she attended the Lunch with Council at the Library and the issue came up then as well. However she felt that they should table any further discussion until Council makes a decision on the Public Safety Building. Commissioner Lowney did state that if a group of citizens wanted to save the HERC they could start an initiative to get the issue on the ballot.

Staff cautioned the commission on the involvement in the initiative in the capacity as a Commissioner **but could contact the Clerk's Office to get the information and details as a private citizen.** Deputy City Planner Engebretsen further stated that they should be aware of measures that there is enough information that the public can vote and make an informed decision. The topic will be tabled until someone brings back a specific action for the Commission to address on the HERC.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Request for Recommendation of Support to Determine the East Boundary of Karen Hornaday Park

BRANN/LOWNEY - MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO SURVEY THE EAST BOUNDARY OF KAREN HORNADAY PARK AND SUBMIT RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY MANAGER.

There was a brief discussion regarding the approval is for completion of a survey only to be funded by Friends of Woodard Creek and Karen Hornaday Park and report back to the commission.

VOTE. YES. ASHMUN, ROEDL, BRANN, STEFFY, HART AND LOWNEY

Motion carried.

Commissioner Archibald abstained due to his involvement in the project and group.

B. Funding Request for Bayview Park Improvements

Chair Steffy read the title into the record and requested a motion.

LOWNEY/ROEDL - MOVED TO SUBMIT A REQUEST TO CITY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE \$35,000 FOR BAYVIEW PARK IMPROVEMENTS.

The commission discussed the funding when the group brings back a more concrete estimate of costs, and questioned the amount remaining in park reserves. Staff provided the information that the reserves were used for the cemetery design and recommended that the commission make a motion and submit it to Council; it will be up to the Council to find the funding sources or they may even fund them a set amount and the group will have to cost share the remaining funds needed to complete the

improvements.

VOTE. YES. LOWNEY, HART, STEFFY, ARCHIBALD, BRANN, ROEDL

Motion carried.

C. Protecting Our Parks and Green Spaces

Chair Steffy read the title into the record and asked if Commissioner Lowney had any additional information to add.

Commissioner Lowney noted that the photos did not make it into the packet showing the damage to Karen Hornaday Park. She expressed her concerns with vandalism and asked how they could effectively deal with this and save money by not having to re-do work, also taking care of deferred maintenance. The vandalism up at Karen Hornaday Park in the field next to the new pavilion, the damage is not severe, but how to they stop that. There are numerous things such as the picnic tables near the dugout need replacement, protecting the areas of beaches. Taking care of things such as a board falling off and laying on the ground with nails up presenting a danger, removing new fencing that was supposed to come down is still standing; who manages this and sees that agreements are made and upheld.

Commissioner Lowney did not appreciate that the lack of repairs and the vandalism provides the wrong message to the community. She was not sure what the commission could do about these issues.

BRANN/ROEDL – MOVED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION ON PROTECTING OUR GREEN SPACES.

The commission discussed the lack of deferred maintenance, and possible placement of barriers to **dissuade vehicles. That taking care of the community's green spaces will show that we care, not offering** a spot where people can hide out of sight; requesting cooperation from the users of the parks and facilities; there is no money and most residents are not aware of the problems how do they provide awareness. Further discussion covered the remedies to block any future vehicular access to the fields up at Karen Hornaday Park and use of agreements and making sure the organizations will take care of the equipment they have, contacting Angie to speak with those organizations.

Commissioner Lowney only visited those areas and parks in town. Karen Hornaday Park seems to be the only issue at this time.

ARCHIBALD/ MOVED TO REQUEST PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL PLACE LARGE BOULDERS OR SIMILAR VEHICULAR BARRIERS TO PROTECT SENSITIVE GREEN SPACES, PARK FACILITIES AND KEEP THE PUBLIC FROM SPECIFIC AREAS OF KAREN HORNADAY PARK.

Further discussion on using alternative materials or barriers to keep vehicles in the past did not work and were not aesthetically pleasing.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

LOWNEY/ROEDL - MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT A POLICY REGARDING MAINTENANCE FOR PARK FACILITIES BE CREATED.

A brief discussion ensued on the possibility of an existing policy, what was done currently to deal with issues at the city parks.

LOWNEY/STEFFY – MOVED TO POSTPONE DISCUSSION ON THIS MOTION TO THE NEXT MEETING.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. (POSTPONEMENT) YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

D. Amending the Commission Bylaws Regarding Adding Items to the Agenda

Chair Steffy read the title into the record and requested a motion.

ASHMUN/LOWNEY – MOVED TO DISCUSS AMENDING THE BYLAWS.

Discussion on the proposed amendment was met favorably by a majority of the commission.

LOWNEY/ARCHIBALD – MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS TO HAVE AGENDA PROCESS VETTED BY THE CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR AND ADD IT TO THE MARCH MEETING AGENDA FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was additional brief discussion on the benefits of making this change. If the Chair is not available the Vice Chair will be delegated the task or if he/she is not available then the Chair will appoint a commissioner to fill the role of acting chair. Staff explained that previously the Chair determined the agenda. A draft agenda containing items that were carried over, on the annual calendar or submitted by the Clerk, such as the regular meeting schedule would be forwarded to the Chair then they would add the additional items that were submitted to him from commissioners. This process was changed to staff and the Clerk preparing the agenda and the commissioners requesting items to be added because the Chair was not being responsive in a timely manner in completing the agenda. Staff would like to have it changed back to the way it was done.

VOTE. YES. ASHMUN, ROEDL, BRANN, ARCHIBALD, STEFFY, HART, LOWNEY

Motion carried.

E. Land Allocation Plan 2016 Recommendation

Chair Steffy read the item into the record. He requested a motion to approve Staff recommendations.

LOWNEY/ASHMUN - MOVED TO INCLUDE THE OLD HARBORMASTER OFFICE PROPERTY ON PAGE D20 AND IS DESIGNATED FOR PARKING AND RESTROOMS BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE THE BOAT HOUSE PROJECT IN THE DESIGNATION.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

LOWNEY/BRANN - MOVED TO DESIGNATE THE 40 ACRES ON PAGE F7, ACQUIRED THROUGH TAX FORECLOSURE, FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION PURPOSES.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Chair Steffy inquired if the commission had any further recommendations on land for lease.

BRANN/LOWNEY - MOVED TO RECOMMEND LOTS 9A AND 10A NOT BE LEASED BUT USED FOR SHORT TERM, FEE PARKING, TO INCLUDE RV PARKING.

Discussion centered on the high need for parking in that area and especially for RV parking. This was opined that it would be the best highest use. The Commission acknowledged that the area has been used for storage for equipment in the past.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There were no further recommendations for leased land.

Chair Steffy inquired about previous recommendations on the Land Allocation Plan and if they had to reiterate those recommendations. Staff responded that it was not necessary. Commissioner Brann requested a clarification on what options entailed with regard to leases.

The commissioners commented on the following:

- Page D-2 Old Middle School and High School Property
Noting the basketball courts on the property since the Skateboard Park is mentioned. It was opined that they offered a value to the community.
- Page C-3 Mariner Park and Mud Bay are included in the Whisfern and Council should be aware of that importance with regard to the Ordinance before them currently.
- Page D-8 Recommend a trail project be flushed out from East Hill to the High School
- Page E-6 Previously Recommended Council designate a lot for a park. Council has designated these

lots for sale and though none have received an offer. No lot lines have changed. Reserve for further discussion at a later meeting.

- Page E-11 Recommendation to clear it out and install bench with garbage can to designate this as a pocket park
- Page E-12 Recommend same treatment as page E-11

Staff is happy to answer any questions but if they want Council to address something that they need to make a motion.

Page G-4 Staff noted that Council will not deal with this when addressing land to be leased. This has already been designated as conservation.

Page E-25 Staff noted that this is actually water and noted where the park was and was one of those things and is more informational in case someone wanted to build a duck pond.

Page D-18 Recommended use for the dredge spoils. Staff noted that this may be the area recently designated for Deep Water Dock Uplands Improvements. Ms. Engebretsen will double check that information.

Page D-20 **Questioned why the land “may” be required to remain parkland in perpetuity. Staff responded that there are questions and clarification could not be determined so using the word “may” alludes to the possibility of issues with the land.**

Commissioner Brann inquired about the Hickerson Cemetery expansion. Chair Steffy commented on the receipt of many phone calls regarding the cemetery. Deputy City Clerk Krause updated the contact information for the chair on the city website.

F. Strategic Plan

Chair Steffy introduced the item and commented on using the Needs Assessment to revise the existing Strategic Plan. He invited Deputy City Planner Engebretsen to provide instruction to the commission.

Deputy City Planner Engebretsen acknowledged that this is a big task for one meeting, she would like to review the existing document and remove or update items under each section. Then offer new ideas, she has offered comments in bold before adding new items.

General Goals of the Commission

- Add quarterly Parks & Recreation Comments, Opinions and Reviews for the local paper/website
This can be snippets of information that the organization is doing through staff reports, reports to Council and discussions such as vandalism issues.

Commissioner Lowney left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Staff Additions: There were no cuts this year. Staff will quantify the FTE so this can be tracked.

Under 1-2 Year Projects

Remove Kayak Launch for Water Trail. Change to Picnic Pavilion

Commissioner Brann updated the commission on the status of funding for the pavilion.

Dog Park – Not in any Strategic Plan or Needs Assessment. There was consensus to remove.

Diamond Creek Recreational Improvement Plan – it is complete, to be removed.

- Rogers Loop Land Acquisition – Make calls to City Manager, funds have been allocated and will stay allocated for 3 years then return to the Fund. It will have to be reallocated if not used within the time period.

- Additional Funds can be allocated from HART Fund if required to complete transaction

- Funds can be expended on city property outside city limits

- Woodard Creek Trail - This can be removed allowing those commissioners involved in projects outside the commission to provide updates to the commission as the need arises.

- Karen Hornaday Park – Identify small projects that are in concert with the Master Plan

- Research available LCWF grants that may be able to be used for any of the small projects

- Staff will address the possible grants available

- Drainage issue is still a problem

- Increase city budget for parks and recreation

- Advocate for increase in staffing – .50 FTE time maintenance and .25 FTE community recreation

In review of the budget situation advocating for additional employees when we were looking at a big possibility of reducing personnel is too much and Council would be more receptive to putting money in the reserve account.

- Increase the reserve so that funding is available as needed for general maintenance and repair

- Uniform Sign Design – Completed and approved by Council – to be removed

- Bike Path on Ocean Drive around corner of Spit - repaving offers a wider shoulder but not legal width to be an actual bike path

- Review Town Center Plan – remove not timely in the scheme of things

- HERC building – remove from list to be kept within the radar of commission business, possible ballot measure for bonding Public Safety Building project.

- **Recommendation was sent to Council, continuing to bring this to Council's attention will only bring disdain from the body.**

- Staff will bring information to the next meeting within staff report regarding ballot measure.

3+ Year Projects

- Advocating for a Parks and Recreation Department

- Focus on Department only – Staff will discuss with Administration

- Talking Points

Doing great remove from list

- Plan and Develop Footpaths in Town Center Area

Remove from list this is still in the Comp Plan but there is no interest from property owners not funding to accomplish

- Construct Bike Path along Kachemak Drive

Remove from the list. There are issues surrounding land ownership, right of ways, private property owner concerns and disapproval; and Homeland Security issues with the airport property.

Still in Comp Plan and on the CIP; city council is not willing to expend funds on this project

- Community Recreation Center

Staff recommendation to remove from Commission list - bigger project than the commission can field, requires significant support from Council.

- Council has approved resolution to designate Town Center parcel for community recreation center. Staff noted that Mayor Wythe has stated publicly that she will support the funding for a facility that includes a gym and office/work space for city maintenance personnel that is currently housed in the

smaller building on the HERC property.

- Recommend new commissioners to travel to Sterling to view the recreation center in Sterling
- Leave on the list for the time being

Explore the idea of a Service Area

- The tax base is not there
- **remove from the commission's strategic plan as this is more of a community plan**

Mariner Park Site Improvements

- Site Visit by Commissioners Memorial Weekend and then make specific recommendation
- Improvements needed to the individual sites – to increase availability and parking
- Consult with Angie Otteson on design and budget issues

Chair Steffy inquired if the commission wished to extend the meeting time or postpone to the next meeting the remaining topics.

The commission agreed by consensus to postpone until the March meeting.

There was a brief discussion on creating a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- Commission Annual Calendar 2016
- Commissioner Attendance at City Council Meetings 2016

There was a brief discussion on Commission presence at the upcoming meeting. Staff recommended that unless the commission felt it prudent to attend they advised skipping this meeting since it is projected to be a very long meeting and a lot of controversy.

Commissioner Archibald stated he will be in attendance at that meeting and would mind offering the Council a respite from the more volatile issues. He will update the Council on the commission starting the process of melding the results of the Needs Assessment into the Commission Strategic Plan update.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Barb Brodowski, resident, commented that she has spent the last two years picking up trash along the perimeter of the harbor and in the parking lots; she has picked up about 1000 pounds of trash each year and approximately 15,000 cigarette butts. She has spent 135 days which comes to approximately 300 hours in 2015 picking up trash. She stated that she can work with the commission on the best places to place more cans, especially where the stores are on the boardwalk. Ms. Brodowski commented on advising the best position for the dumpsters too.

Ms. Engebretsen requested Ms. Brodowski contact information to pass on to the Harbormaster and Parks Maintenance personnel. Ms. Brodowski stated that email will be better,

Ms. Brodowski also commented on who is dumping garbage, wind and birds and the negative impact that lids actually have for the general public. She stated that she cannot fix the problem and the other problem is that it is needed year round, not just once or twice a year.

Chair Steffy thanked her for doing what she does. It was greatly appreciated.

Ms. Brodowski wanted to present a good image to the visitors and cruise ship visitors.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Planner Engebretsen commented that Council will be talking about adding revenue to the city so that any idea that they may have please forward them to Council or the City Manager please do. We have a stop-gap right now but the conversation is not over yet.

Deputy City Clerk Krause applauded the efforts of the commission towards efficiency and provided **information from the City Manager's report on the outcome of the Hickerson Cemetery Neighborhood** meeting in response to questions asked earlier.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER *(If one is present)*

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Hart commented on having Main Street on the agenda for the March meeting regarding accessibility and sidewalks. She mentioned issues regarding ADA compliance with all the city parks.

Commissioner Archibald good meeting, regarding the cemetery and the subject of decaying bodies and that the state does not require vaults, he mentioned the get together at the Pratt

Commissioner Brann good meeting, thanks to staff as usual and the audience for sticking to the end, and he commented on doing parks and rec work in Kauai and he noticed that there they do park clean-up every Saturday morning and local vendors provide coffee and he thought they might be able to do a similar program here, but not every Saturday. He also mentioned the Friday Night Lights ski coming up this weekend and next, he said there is fun stuff on Saturday morning at 11 am with a the water trail and lots of stuff happening with State parks. Homer is a great place to live with lots happening.

Commissioner Roedl asked if Main Street was going to be on the March agenda, Chair Steffy confirmed that he would make it so and commented it was a good meeting.

Commissioner Ashmun commented that she, Deb Lowney, Adele Person, Dave Lewis have come together as an Ad-Hoc Trails Committee that has met to take on where the Trails Symposium left off. They are looking at the areas and issues in questions so, it was a good meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Commissioner **Steffy commented on the efforts of staff and that he really appreciated the Chair's Agenda** provided by Ms. Krause. This really helped him tonight. He mentioned the Alaska Trails is conducting some training in Anchorage, he has met and working as a rep for ARPA they have hammered out a reciprocal agreement between ARPA and AK Trails and as a benefit the commissioners will all **become members with AK Trials. He appreciated everyone's efforts and it was a great meeting it was like** coming back from vacation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Acting Chair Lowney adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The next REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall Cowles Council Chambers 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

Approved:_____



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Memorandum

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: MARCH 9, 2016
SUBJECT: AMENDING THE COMMISSION BYLAWS TO HAVE PACKET REVIEW AND AGENDA APPROVAL CONDUCTED BY THE CHAIR

In order to keep the agenda at a manageable level for the commission and staff and conduct the meetings within a two hour time frame staff is requesting a change to the bylaws to have the chair approve all agenda item requests.

This change to the Commission Bylaws was introduced at the regular meeting on February 18, 2016. The Commission reviewed and discussed the proposed amendment to the bylaws to revert back to a previous process whereas the Chair or Vice Chair (if he/she were unavailable) would receive all requests from the commissioners to add items to the agenda or for inclusion in the packet, the Clerk would draft the agenda and submit for final review and approval to Staff and the Chair/Vice Chair no later than the Wednesday prior to the meeting.

Attached is an excerpt of the minutes of that discussion and subsequent motion.

Recommendation

MOVE TO AMEND THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION BYLAWS TO HAVE THE CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR AS APPROPRIATE CONDUCT PACKET CONTENT REVIEW AND AGENDA APPROVAL.

D. Amending the Commission Bylaws Regarding Adding Items to the Agenda

Chair Steffy read the title into the record and requested a motion.

ASHMUN/LOWNEY – MOVED TO DISCUSS AMENDING THE BYLAWS.

Discussion on the proposed amendment was met favorably by a majority of the commission.

LOWNEY/ARCHIBALD – MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS TO HAVE AGENDA PROCESS VETTED BY THE CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR AND ADD IT TO THE MARCH MEETING AGENDA FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING.

There was additional brief discussion on the benefits of making this change. If the Chair is not available the Vice Chair will be delegated the task or if he/she is not available then the Chair will appoint a commissioner to fill the role of acting chair. Staff explained that previously the Chair determined the agenda. A draft agenda containing items that were carried over, on the annual calendar or submitted by the Clerk, such as the regular meeting schedule would be forwarded to the Chair then they would add the additional items that were submitted to him from commissioners. This process was changed to staff and the Clerk preparing the agenda and the commissioners requesting items to be added because the Chair was not being responsive in a timely manner in completing the agenda. Staff would like to have it changed back to the way it was done.

VOTE. YES. ASHMUN, ROEDL, BRANN, ARCHIBALD, STEFFY, HART, LOWNEY

Motion carried.

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
BYLAWS**

The Homer Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission is established with those powers and duties as set forth in Title 1, Section 74, of the Homer Municipal Code.

The Commission is established to act in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the problems and development of parks and recreation facilities and public beaches within the City.

The Commission's jurisdiction is limited to the area within the City Boundaries except for those extra territorial interests, such as trails and city properties, subject to city jurisdiction.

The Homer Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission consist of seven members; up to three members may be residents from outside the city limits, preference shall be given to City resident applicants.

Members will be appointed by the Mayor for three-year terms (except to complete terms) subject to confirmation by the City Council.

One Homer area High School student selected by his or her student body shall serve as a consulting member of the Commission in addition to the seven appointed members, and may attend and participate in all meetings as a consultant, but shall have no vote. (Ord. 99-04, 1999)

There will be regular monthly meetings except January, July and December of the Commission and permanent records or minutes shall be kept of the proceedings. The minutes will record the vote of each member upon every question. Every decision shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk and shall be public record open to inspection.

HISTORY

The By-laws were passed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on October 20, 1983 by the Homer City Council on February 13, 1984, and shall be in effect and govern the procedures of the Commission.

The duties and responsibilities of the Commission are:

A. Act in advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the problems and development of park and recreation facilities and public beaches in the city. Consideration may include existing facilities, possible future developments and recommendations on land use.

B. Consider any specific proposal, problem or project as directed by the City Council.

BY-LAWS

A. To abide by existing Alaska State Law, Borough Code of Ordinance, where applicable, and Homer Municipal Code;

B. To abide by Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, in so far as this treatise is consistent with Homer Municipal Code.

C. REGULAR MEETINGS:

1. January through November on the third Thursday of the month, at 5:30 p.m.

2. Items will be added to the agenda upon request of staff, ~~the Commission or a Commissioner.~~ **through the Chair or upon approval by the Chair and in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair.** Agenda deadline is the Wednesday of the week preceding the meeting date at 5:00 p.m.

3. Removing items from the published agenda will be by consensus of the Commission. No items may be added.

4. Commissioners will give staff or Chair a minimum of two weeks notice or as soon as possible regarding their potential absence from a meeting.

D. COMMITTEES

1. The Chair shall appoint committees for such specific purposes as the business of the Commission may require. Committee membership shall include at least two Commissioners. Other Committee members may be appointed from the public.

2. One Committee member shall be appointed Chair and be responsible creating an agenda and notifying the City Clerk of meetings so they may be advertised in accordance with Alaska State Law and Homer City Code.

3. One Committee member shall be appointed responsible for furnishing summary notes of all Committee meetings to the City Clerk.



City of Homer

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Memorandum

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: MARCH 9, 2016
SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL - COMBINING THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE WITH THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

There are several factors to consider when looking at combining the efforts of the Public Arts Committee (Committee) and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (Commission).

I have attached the Homer City Code related to each entity and note the following:

- Both can solicit donations and funds for their respective uses.
- Both use the support of staff from the following Departments: City Clerk, Planning, Administration and Public Works.
- Both submit recommendations on proposed artwork that is placed in parks
- Both have recreational aspects to them
- Art and Recreation have been combined successfully in many cities
- Both are valued components of a community and are compatible with each other

Why consider this now:

- The Committee has had a steady decline in interested public members to participate within the confines of the committee. There are many times they have been unable to obtain a quorum to conduct the business brought before them.
- The Commission has enjoyed strong support through the very programs that have been established along with a funding mechanism that allow them to leverage volunteers and grant funding to complete many of their projects.
- The financial uncertainty in the coming years adds further stress upon department staff to accomplish more with less
- The likelihood of less capital projects that would allow some funding for public art
- Support to grow the City of Homer as an Art Destination as well as a Recreational Destination

Recommendation

MOVE TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL COMBINE THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION WITH THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE TO FORM A NEW COMMISSION ENTITLED HOMER PARKS, ART, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION (PARCAC).

Chapter 2.60 PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE

Sections:

- [2.60.010](#) Created – Membership.
- [2.60.020](#) Terms of members – Vacancies.
- [2.60.030](#) Proceedings of Committee.
- [2.60.040](#) Powers and duties.

2.60.010 Created – Membership.

a. There shall be a City of Homer Public Arts Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee. The Committee shall consist of five members, who shall be appointed by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the City Council. Prior to making appointments, the Mayor may solicit nominations from the Pratt Museum, community arts groups, and the public. All members of the Public Arts Committee should have a demonstrated interest and familiarity with arts and culture, either through professional practice or volunteer work. When considering applicants, preference may be given to:

1. A working professional artist.
2. A person working in the public education community.
3. A City Council member.
4. A person with experience or training related to the arts, such as art history, or employment in fields such as architecture, education, curation, conservation, performing arts or visual arts.
5. A person representing the public at large.

b. One Committee member may reside outside the City limits; provided, that preference shall be given to City resident applicants. [Ord. [13-17\(S\)](#) § 2, 2013. Code 1981 § 1.70.010].

2.60.020 Terms of members – Vacancies.

a. Members of the Committee are appointed for two-year terms, with two terms and three terms commencing in alternate years.

b. A vacancy on the Committee is filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the City Council.

c. The Committee may declare a vacancy in the office of a Committee member with three or more unexcused absences from successive regular and special meetings of the Committee. [Ord. [13-17\(S\)](#) § 3, 2013. Code 1981 § 1.70.020].

2.60.030 Proceedings of Committee.

a. The Committee may adopt, and from time to time amend, regulations governing its proceedings, which shall be effective upon approval by City Council resolution.

b. The Committee annually shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from its membership. The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Committee. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair. [Code 1981 § 1.70.030].

2.60.040 Powers and duties.

The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- a. Advise the City Council and City boards, commissions and departments regarding the support of the arts.
- b. Establish, subject to approval by City Council resolution, policies and procedures regarding the acquisition, maintenance and disposition of works of art by the City.
- c. Perform the functions related to the funding of works of art in public places that are prescribed in Chapter [18.07 HCC](#).
- d. Advise the City in its administration of the public arts fund established by HCC [18.07.090](#).
- e. Further the development and public awareness of the arts in the City. [Ord. 10-55(A) § 1, 2011. Code 1981 § 1.70.040].

**The Homer City Code is current through Ordinance 16-03,
passed January 25, 2015.**

Disclaimer: The City Clerk's Office has the official version of the Homer City Code. Users should contact the City Clerk's Office for ordinances passed subsequent to the ordinance cited above.

Chapter 2.68 PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sections:

- [2.68.010](#) Created – Membership.
- [2.68.020](#) Terms of members.
- [2.68.030](#) Proceedings of Commission.
- [2.68.040](#) Duties and responsibilities of Commission.

2.68.010 Created – Membership.

- a. There is created the City of Homer Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission. Such Commission will be made up of seven members, who shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. Up to three members of the Commission may be residents from outside the City, but preference shall be given to City resident applicants.
- b. A Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission shall be selected annually and shall be elected from and by the appointive members.
- c. The Mayor, the City Manager, and one Homer area high school student selected by his or her student body shall serve as consulting members of the Commission in addition to the seven appointive members, and may attend and participate in all meetings as consultants, but shall have no vote. [Ord. [99-4](#), 1999; Ord. [90-20](#) § 1, 1990; Ord. [83-21](#) § 1, 1983; Ord. [81-21](#) § 1, 1981; Ord. [81-17](#) § 1, 1981. Code 1967 § 5-700A.1; Code 1981 § 1.74.010].

2.68.020 Terms of members.

- a. Voting members of the Commission shall be appointed for three-year terms.
- b. The member serving from Homer High School class shall be appointed to a one-year term.
- c. Any Commissioner who shall have two successive unexcused absences shall be subject to removal from the Commission by a majority vote of the members present. [Ord. [83-21](#) § 2, 1983; Ord. [81-21](#) §§ 2, 3, 1981; Ord. [81-17](#) § 2, 1981. Code 1967 § 5-700A.2; Code 1981 § 1.74.020].

2.68.030 Proceedings of Commission.

The Commission shall meet regularly once a month in the months of February through June and August through November, and at the call of the Chairperson or a majority of the Commission. Permanent records or minutes shall be kept of the vote of each member upon every question. Every decision or finding shall immediately be filed in the office of the City Clerk, and shall be a public record open to inspection by any person. Every decision or finding shall be directed to the City Council at the earliest possible date. [Ord. [14-24](#) § 1, 2014; Ord. [11-29\(A\)](#) § 1, 2011; Ord. [09-32](#), 2009; Ord. [89-21\(A\)](#) § 2, 1989; Ord. [85-2](#) § 1, 1985; Ord. [81-17](#) § 3, 1981. Code 1981 § 1.74.030].

2.68.040 Duties and responsibilities of Commission.

- a. It shall be the duty of the Commission to act in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the problems and development of parks and recreation facilities and public beaches within the service area. Considerations of the Commission may include existing facilities, possible future development and recommendations on land use.
- b. Any recommendation the Commission may have regarding park and recreation facilities and public beaches is to be directed to the City Council through the City Manager or the recommendations of the Commission concerning policy issues shall be sent directly to the Council upon request of the Commission.

c. The Commission shall consider any specific proposal, problem or project as directed by the City Council and any report or recommendations thereon shall be made directly to the Council, unless otherwise directed by the Council.

d. The Commission may solicit donations of money and property for the benefit of parks and recreation facilities in the City. Any money donations shall be deposited to the City treasury in a reserve fund designated for parks and recreation facility use. If property, it shall be accepted by deed or other conveyance subject to approval by the City Council. Such property shall be held or disposed of for public parks and recreation purposes as the Council may direct. The Commission may make recommendations for disposition of money or property so received and such recommendations shall be considered and acted upon by the Council.

e. The City Council may at a future date expand or withdraw duties and responsibilities of the Commission. [Ord. [11-24](#) § 1, 2011; Ord. [07-01\(A\)](#) § 1, 2007; Ord. [89-21\(A\)](#) § 2, 1989; Ord. [85-2](#) § 2, 1985; Ord. [81-17](#) § 4, 1981. Code 1981 § 1.74.040].

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To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
Date: March 9, 2016

Subject: Protecting our parks and greenspaces

At the last meeting, the Commission moved to “Request Public Works Personnel place large boulders or similar vehicular barriers to protect sensitive green spaces, park facilities and keep the public from specific areas of Karen Hornaday Park.” Motion passed.

The Commission further discussed the state of City parks and the need for more maintenance and repairs. The Commission did not have specific ideas at that time and moved to postpone discussion to the March meeting.

Staff recommends resuming the discussion about deferred maintenance, with an action item in mind. Is this a budget request?





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To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Deputy City Planner
Date: March 9, 2016
Subject: Strategic Plan

Recap: at the last meeting, the Commission worked through the plan up to the “Actions of the Commission” Portion. We will finish the last parts at the March meeting. Additionally, please be prepared to add priorities from the PARC needs assessment.

Requested Action: Goals and priorities: Please bring one or two ideas from the PARC plan (or beach recommendations) that you would like to work on, or choose an existing goal from the strategic plan!

Steffy:

Lowney:

Roedl:

Hart:

Archibald:

Brann:

Ashmun:

What is a strategic plan?

A strategic plan is a written document stating what your goals are, what you are trying to accomplish, and what steps you will take to achieve the desired outcome. There are City documents to guide you; the Comprehensive Plan and the Park Art Recreation and Culture Needs Assessment in particular.

Why have a Strategic Plan?

It helps keep the group focused on measureable, achievable goals. And the plan tells us who is supposed to do what, to make the goals become reality!

Attachments:

2016 Draft Strategic Plan

Executive Summary of the PARC Needs Assessment

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 Draft

MISSION STATEMENT

The Commission is established to advocate in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the problems and development of parks, recreation facilities and public beaches within the City.

STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE COMMISSION – What is the focus for the commission?

General Goals of the Commission

- Advocate for obtaining open and green space
- Receive notification of future land disposals with attention to park and recreation needs
- Keep existing green space and public open space
- Preserve areas of natural beauty and access
- Receive notification of vacations of public access
- Receive report on City cemetery maintenance costs, future land use, budget orientation funds, how many plots and where the revenues are applied from plot sales
- Improve Public Outreach for parks, recreation and trails opportunities. Provide a quarterly point of view article in the newspaper to update the community.
- Keep existing staffing levels for Parks Maintenance (FTE?).
- Increase Community Rec staffing by .25 FTE over the 2015 budget.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMISSION – Must have achievable results, an action statement.

1-2 Year Projects

- Develop a Kayak Launch for the Water Trail @ the Pier 1 lot, and picnic shelter. When the shelter is completed this project will be complete.
- Diamond Creek Recreational Improvement Plan –
 - o Next Steps, Trails improvements, Trail head parking lot (*Rogers Loop land acquisition*)
- Work with community groups to plan and build Woodard Creek Trail (***What is commission's roll?***)
- Continue work on Karen Hornaday park drainage, the parking lot, and master plan implementation. Immediate goal of identifying small projects in concert with the master plan. Drainage issues behind the ballfields are immediate goal.
- Increase the city budget for parks and recreation. Increase reserve savings and add 0.5 FTE.
- Improve pedestrian access to Mariner Park from the Homer Spit Road and the bike path
- Explore what should be done with the HERC building, after the fall 2016 ballot measure for the Public Safety Building.

3+ Year Projects

- Advocate for a Parks and Recreation Department
- Create a long term plan for a multiuse community facility. See what evolves after the public safety vote in fall 2016, perhaps working with Council and the EDC.
- Mariner Park Site Improvements – Level parking area, delineation of day use area and camping area, define and improve campsites and relocate kiosk, increase number of spaces and revenues *(place on June Agenda for August budget recommendations)*

BEGIN MARCH REVIEW FROM THIS POINT:

ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION –Who will do what, when and how?

- Have quarterly reports in the newspaper.
- Have a committee go to City Council with recommendations, action plan and time frame. ***(doing great)***
- Every time there is a memo from the Commission to City Council a Commissioner should go to the meeting and speak about it. ***(doing great)***
- A commissioner should attend every council meeting to speak with council and keep them informed about what they are working on. ***(doing great)***
- One member of the Commission attend meetings of other user groups – skiing, co-host, etc. Create better working relationship and communication with user groups. ***(where are we at? Update this? Are there other methods like face book of ways to stay in touch?)***
- Educate other city commissions, committees and boards ***(educate about what? Revise and refine.)***
- Staff to send notice of commission projects

SHARED ACTIONS STAFF/COMMISSION

- Focus and monitor the HNMTTP implementation
- Research and create best use plans for all parks, with WKFL being the next park. ***(staff comment: not going to happen with the resources we have. Great idea, but for the most part we seem to be doing OK with what we have.)***

Figure 19: Priority Identified Needs

Table Key							
●	Indicates primary tier priority						
◆	Indicates secondary tier priority						
Project				Outreach Source			
Priority	Project	Category	Potential Community Center Element	Fall 2014 Outreach	Community Survey	Provider Survey	Previous Planning
●	Community recreation facility	Multi-purpose Indoor		■	■	■	
●	Multi-purpose gym	Multi-purpose Indoor	○	■	■	■	■
●	Convention center	Multi-purpose Indoor	○	■			
●	Multi-purpose community art space and more art classroom space (e.g., wood shop, kiln, press, darkroom)	Multi-purpose Indoor		■	■	■	■
●	200-250 person theater	Specialized Indoor	○	■	■	■	■
●	Children's art space; toddler/family/pre-school space, indoor play structure	Specialized Indoor		■	■	■	
●	Indoor walking facility/track	Specialized Indoor		■	■		■
●	Kevin Bell Arena financial support	Specialized Indoor		■	■	■	■
◆	Affordable weight room	Specialized Indoor		■	■		■
◆	Indoor and outdoor racket sports, including tennis	Specialized Indoor		■	■		
◆	Martial arts gym	Specialized Indoor	○		■		
◆	Music/recording studio	Specialized Indoor	○	■	■	■	
◆	Private music and art studios	Specialized Indoor	○	■			

Project				Outreach Source			
Priority	Project	Category	Potential Community Center Element	Fall 2014 Outreach	Community Survey	Provider Survey	Previous Planning
●	Space and programming for children and teens when school is not in session (e.g. Boys and Girls Club)	Central space/ headquarters (Indoor)	○	■	■	■	■
◆	Space and/or programs for music (e.g. open jam, mentoring/volunteer taught lessons, community band, practice spaces)	Central space/ headquarters (Indoor)	○	■	■	■	
●	Maintained, car free ice skating at Beluga Lake	Outdoor			■		
◆	Outdoor stage/amphitheater	Outdoor	○	■		■	■
◆	Warming hut on spit for water sports	Outdoor		■	■		
◆	Adequate parking at some facilities (e.g., Karen Hornaday Park, Jack Gist Park).	Outdoor		■		■	■
◆	Upgrade softball fields	Outdoor		■	■	■	■
●	Construct more non-motorized trails; bike and walking trails throughout the city and on main roads and neighborhoods; enhanced trail connections	Trails		■	■	■	■
●	Provide more ski trails in Anchor Point	Trails		■	■		■
◆	Improved maintenance for trails	Trails		■	■		
◆	Move toward multi-use trails in future	Trails		■	■	■	
●	Multi-generational activities	Programing		■			
●	Longer hours for programs or facilities (e.g. late night and/or early morning)	Programing		■	■		
●	More indoor activities (e.g. laser tag, bumper cars, go cart track, child play area)	Programing		■		■	■

Project				Outreach Source			
Priority	Project	Category	Potential Community Center Element	Fall 2014 Outreach	Community Survey	Provider Survey	Previous Planning
●	More for mentally and physical disabled older people, and for seniors in general	Programing	○	■			■
●	Marine safety programing	Programing		■	■		
●	More activities at McNeil Canyon School	Programing			■		
●	More activities in Anchor Point	Programing		■	■		
●	Parent-toddler classes	Programing			■		
◆	Folk school classes	Programing			■		
◆	Healthy cooking classes	Programing		■	■		
◆	Indoor soccer (adults only)	Programing			■		
◆	More short courses/workshops (1 day or less) with smaller time and financial commitment (e.g. at the University)	Programing		■	■		
◆	Vocational-technical classes and apprenticeship programs	Programing		■		■	■
◆	Wildfoods safety class	Programing			■		
◆	Zumba	Programing			■		
●	Improved, central community calendar (flyers, website, email updates, social media)	Coordination + Information		■	■		■
●	Continue to work with school district to enable off hours and off season use to the extent possible; Elementary, Middle and/or High School open to public for community schools or evening programs, as possible	Coordination + Information		■	■	■	■
●	Centralized Parks and Recreation Department	Coordination + Information		■		■	■
●	Expand capacity to maintain facilities and offer programs	Coordination + Information		■		■	■
●	Consolidate recreation and culture leadership. Reduce the number of volunteer boards; more coordination among providers (e.g., calendaring, networking, partnerships on projects, joint fundraising or grant applications, reciprocal membership agreements)	Coordination + Information		■	■	■	■
◆	More recreation and culture employees to provide project coordination and fundraising support, particularly grantwriting; could be	Coordination + Information		■		■	■

Project				Outreach Source			
Priority	Project	Category	Potential Community Center Element	Fall 2014 Outreach	Community Survey	Provider Survey	Previous Planning
	shared by various providers.						
◆	Meeting room List	Coordination + Information		■		■	
●	Park endowment fund	Funding		■			■
●	Park, Arts, Recreation and Culture, and Trails Foundation	Funding		■			
●	Sliding payment scale for participation in sporting activities and equipment, lower gym fees, including teen discount	Funding		■	■	■	■
◆	Recreation Service District	Funding		■			
◆	Reevaluate senior property tax exemption	Funding		■			
◆	Charge people who live outside of the city more to use city facilities and programs	Funding			■		
●	Transportation improvements, especially for those who don't drive (e.g. carpooling/ridesharing, improvements to trails and sidewalks, bike lanes, road crossings, better signage, connecting trails and paths through town, make places for people to park and walk)	Supporting		■	■	■	■
◆	Affordable transport across the bay	Programing		■	■		■
◆	Town center/square/plaza	Supporting	○	■			■

OPPORTUNITIES TO USE EXISTING FACILITIES

The community felt strongly that Homer’s many existing resources should be used to meet existing needs before any new facilities were built or programs started. Agnew::Beck analyzed the extent to which priority needs could be met with existing resources, based on the needs and existing resources inventories generated through the needs assessment process. The results are summarized in the table below. Many identified needs could potentially be met through existing or new resources, depending on the will of the community.

Figure 20: Opportunities to Use Existing Resources to Meet Priority Recreation and Culture Needs

Identified Need	Improve Coordination, Calendaring and Communication	Space Dependent	New Facility	Existing Resource(s)
Community Center				
Multi-purpose facility with gymnasium	Yes	Yes	Yes	HERC, High School, Middle School
Centrally located convention center	No	Yes	Yes (for larger events that require a central location)	Land’s End, Bidarka Hotel, Islands and Ocean, Kevin Bell Ice Arena (with flooring), Pratt Museum
200-300 seat performance venue ⁷	No	Yes	Yes	Mariner Theater, Pier One, Homer Theater, Homer Council on the Arts, Pratt Museum (if renovated)
Martial arts gymnasium/mat room ⁸	Yes	Yes	Yes	High School, private businesses
Toddler-family spaces	Yes	Yes	Maybe (depends on specific activities)	Senior Center, Library, Islands and Ocean , Homer Council on the Arts, Pratt Museum, Kevin Bell Arena, Pool, Schools, private businesses.
Teen space	Yes	Yes	Yes	High School, others (e.g., rec room)

⁷ 200-300 seat performance venue could be integrated with a main multi-purpose space, with green room (backstage warm-up/dressing room/rehearsal space for performers) as auxiliary space or additional black box (flexible space that is less constrained for other uses than the typical raised stage, permanent seating of a traditional theater).

⁸ A martial arts gymnasium/mat room could be designed to also serve as the green room noted above.

Identified Need	Improve Coordination, Calendaring and Communication			
	Space Dependent	New Facility	Existing Resource(s)	
Music hub	Yes	Yes	Yes	High School, private businesses (e.g., Lindianne’s Music Garden)
Art studios and art classroom space	Yes	Yes	Yes	Schools, Kachemak Bay Campus, Homer Council on the Arts, Pratt Museum
Affordable weight room	Yes	Yes	Maybe	High School
Indoor walking track	Yes	Yes	Yes	High School, Kevin Bell, Elementary Schools
Outdoor amphitheater	Yes	Yes	Maybe	Pratt Museum, Library, Islands and Ocean
Other Projects				
Community calendar MAPP Calendar	Yes	No	No	Homer News, City of Homer, Individual arts, recreation, civic organizations, Homer Council on the Arts, Homer Public Radio AM 890, Pop411.org, KBBI calendar
Address scheduling conflicts with Kenai Peninsula Borough District Resources. ⁹	Yes	Yes	Maybe	High School (has scheduling application), other schools, Community Recreation, others
Consolidated community recreation and culture leadership	Yes	No	No	Recreation and Culture Committee
Centralized City Park and Recreation Department ¹⁰	Yes	No	No	City of Homer Park Maintenance, Community Recreation

⁹ Schools may already be used to capacity. The high school is used for school, Kachemak Bay Campus, Community Recreation activities and other community events. All space availability is dependent on scheduling and budgets for the associated operations and maintenance costs.

¹⁰ A centralized City Park and Recreation Department would be a new City department; it would require additional staff members, who could potentially leverage additional community involvement/coordination.

Identified Need	Improve Coordination, Calendaring and Communication			New Facility	Existing Resource(s)
	Space Dependent				
Programming					
Indoor soccer (adults only)	Yes	Yes	Yes		Community Recreation
More indoor activities (e.g. laser tag, bumper cars, go cart track, child play area)	Yes	Yes	Yes (at a large scale)		At a limited scale, opportunity for future offerings by new or existing providers. Community Recreation
Winter event space and programing	Yes	Yes	Maybe (depends on specific activities)		Community Recreation, Schools, Kachemak Bay Campus, Bunnell St. Art, Homer Council on the Art Center, Islands and Ocean, Pratt Museum
More for mentally and physical disabled older people, and for seniors in general	Yes	Yes	Maybe (depends on specific activities)		Community Recreation, Independent Living Center TRAILS Program
More activities in Anchor Point ¹¹	Yes	Yes	Maybe (depends on specific activities)		Anchor Point library, senior center
Longer hours for programs or facilities (e.g. late night and/or early morning)	Yes	Yes	Maybe		Private businesses and various providers
Multi-generational activities	Yes	No	Maybe (depends on specific activities)		Community Recreation, Senior center, non-profits, library
Marine safety programing ¹²	Yes	No	No		High School (pool), Kachemak Bay Campus, boat harbor (working boats and boat yard businesses)

11 Specifically: general and summer-specific activities, swimming at the Anchor Point pond, bike route to Anchor Point, trails in Anchor Point.

12 The high school and college are already working to increase marine-industry related curricula and secure appropriate space(s).

Identified Need	Improve Coordination, Calendaring and Communication			
	Space Dependent	New Facility	Existing Resource(s)	
More activities at McNeil Canyon School	Yes	Yes	No	McNeil Canyon School
Parent-toddler classes	Yes	No	Maybe (depends on specific activities)	Community Recreation, SPROUT, Pratt Museum, Harbor School of Music and Dance, Homer Soccer Assoc., other providers
Folk school classes	Yes	No	Maybe (depends on specific activities)	North Pacific Folk School, Kachemak Bay Campus, High School classrooms
Healthy cooking classes	Yes	No	No	SVT Health and Wellness, South Peninsula Hospital, local churches
Short courses/ workshops (1 day or less) with smaller time and financial commitment	Yes	Maybe	No	Kachemak Bay Campus, various providers
Vocational-technical classes and apprenticeship programs	Yes	Maybe	Maybe ¹³	Kachemak Bay Campus, High School
Wildfoods safety class	Yes	No	No	
Zumba	Yes	No	No	Community Recreation, Bay Club, Senior Center

¹³ The college and High School work together to fulfill their space needs.



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To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
Date: March 9, 2016

Subject: Trails Symposium

Suggested Language *'I move to schedule the Trails Symposium for the month of May.'*

Commissioner Lowney has requested this item be on the agenda. The trails group would like to have the symposium on Tuesday, May 3rd from 6-8 pm. Deb will arrange for a location.

Staff recommends leaving the exact details of time and date to commissioner Lowney, dependent on what meeting venues are available.





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To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
Date: March 2, 2016

Subject: Adding Main Street Improvements to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Suggested Language *'I move to add Main Street Improvements north of Pioneer Ave to the CIP.'*

Commissioner Hart met with staff and requested this item be on the agenda. We specifically discussed the idea of adding a sidewalk on the west side of Main Street, to increase pedestrian safety. This will be an expensive project; the first step is to have this project included in the CIP.

By nominating the project now, staff can research the issue and get a rough cost estimate, prior to the regular CIP process in May and June.



41
Where the Land Ends and the Sea Begins



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Planning

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To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
Date: March 9, 2016

Subject: Beach Policy Update

Suggested Language 'Move to suspend the rules to work session mode.'

Purpose of the plan: The intent of the Beach Policy is to keep Homer's beaches safe and enjoyable for all users, and preserve natural environment.

The plan sets out guidelines for how this will be accomplished. Council then adopts ordinances or resolutions so the guidelines match the laws.

GOAL: *A document for the public and Council to use to understand how city rules and polices can keep the beaches safe and enjoyable for all users, and preserve the natural environment.*

- *Council adopts any changes to the Plan.*

Staff recommends the Commission spend two meetings going through the beach policy. By the time of the meeting, Council may have already updated the policy to reflect the new rules for vehicles on various parts of the beach.

NOTE: Most of this plan was written in 2001, with an update in 2007. A LOT has changed. So look closely at the recommendations and decide if they still make sense or if you can identify the problem that was trying to be addressed. For example one item says increase parking on the Spit. Since this plan was written, the Spit trail has been completed, the loading areas at the top of each ramp have been created, and 7 day parking regulations have been instituted. Do we still need to increase parking on the Spit to protect the beaches?

Staff recommends looking at each beach section, and also the recommendations for signage. Specific beach area recommendations start on the bottom of page 6 and continue through page 11.

Signage: As you can see from the plan, previously signage language was not open to being changed; that required amending this policy by resolution of Council.

Attachments

City of Homer Beach Policy

200716

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26 **1. Purpose and Intent**

27 This document is an update to the Beach Policy Task Force Final Recommendations,
28 adopted June 25th 2001. Since 2001, the City of Homer has annexed more land and
29 beaches, and implemented parts of the original plan. The purpose of this document is to
30 update the Beach Policy and make recommendations for future actions. The intent of the
31 Beach Policy is to keep Homer’s beaches safe and enjoyable for all users, and preserve
32 natural environment.

33 **Goals**

34 **Education**

35 Educate beach users by provide signage and beach information at convenient locations.

36 **Prevention**

37 Limit conflicts between motorized users and pedestrians by encouraging courtesy and
38 common sense.

39 Protect sensitive beach habitat and wildlife from inappropriate use of beaches – i.e. keep
40 motorized vehicles out of lagoon areas.

41 **Enforcement**

42 Ensure adequate staffing on holiday weekends.

43 **2. Definitions**

44 **a. “Berm”** means a natural, linear mound or series of mounds ~~of sand or gravel~~, **in a beach**
45 **area composed of sand, gravel,** or both, generally paralleling the water at or landward of
46 the **elevation of mean** ~~line of ordinary high tide~~ **water.**

47 **b. “Storm berm”** – means a berm formed by the upper reach of storm wave surges or the
48 highest tides. Storm berms generally include an accumulation of seaweed, driftwood, and
49 other water-borne materials. A beach **area** may have more than one storm berm.

50 **Example:** Grassy areas of Mariner Lagoon and Beluga Slough where highest
51 tides and storm deposit logs and driftwood. Tall grasses grow there most of the time, and
52 only at the highest tides and largest storms are logs thrown up on the beach.

53 **c. “Submerged land”** means **land covered by tidal water from the elevation of mean**
54 **low water seaward to the corporate boundary of the city.**

55 **d. “Tideland”** means **land that is periodically covered by tidal water between the**
56 **elevation of mean high water and mean low water.**

57 **e. “Beach area”** means **all of the following, whether publicly or privately owned:**
58 **submerged land, tideland, and the zone of sand, gravel and other unconsolidated**
59 **materials that extends landward from the elevation of mean high water to the place**
60 **where there is a marked change in material or physiographic form.**

61 **f. “Motor vehicle” means a device in, upon, or by which a person or property may be**
62 **transported or drawn upon or immediately over land, that is self propelled except by**
63 **human or animal power.**



64

65 **3. General Recommendations for all Homer Beaches**

66 **1. Identify and improve beach access points.** Heavy impacts are created by a large
67 number of people accessing the beach at a small number of places. By finding, improving
68 and publishing all public beach access points, we will diffuse the impacts and provide a
69 more enjoyable experience to all.

70 A. Improve Access via: Crittenden Dr., Ocean Dr., Spit, Kachemak Dr.

71 B. Provide signage at all public access points.

72 1. Specifically, signage shall be maintained at Bishop’s beach park, Ocean Drive
73 Loop, the parking areas on the east side of the Homer Spit, on the Airport Beach
74 Road, and Kachemak Drive.

75 C. Appendix A documents other public access points and the pros and cons of their
76 development. The appendix should be expanded to include Homer Spit public access
77 points, particularly on the east side of the spit.

78 **2. Signage should be positive and informative.**

79 A. Sign examples for the Mud Flats, Berms & Driftwood

80 1) Help build our beach berms and protect our critical habitat areas.

81 2) Please do not drive on or remove any material from the storm berms. The
82 grasses growing here provide habitat and are an important part of berm
83 stabilization. Driftwood plays an important role in building and protecting our
84 berms.

85 3) The Mud Flats are fragile and important habitat for wildlife. They are
86 hazardous and off-limits to vehicles and foot traffic.

87 4) Encouraging courtesy to other users.

88 B. Examples for private property:

89 1) Please be aware that private property extends 100' or more toward the water
90 from the high tide line.

91 **3. Ask for City Attorney opinion on location of seaward property lines.** Although
92 many people believe property lines stop at a water boundary, it has become apparent this
93 is not the case in Kachemak Bay. Normal property lines next to the ocean are established
94 at mean high tide, and slow erosion does change boundaries. The 1964 earthquake caused
95 the sinking of the Spit and Homer area. The sea flowed over the lowered land. This
96 sudden change is called avulsion and legally does not change land boundaries. (See
97 attached opinion by State Attorney General)

98 **4. Encourage better enforcement of applicable existing state and local laws.**
99 Examples of applicable laws include: HCC 19.08 Campgrounds, HCC ~~19.16 Vehicles on~~
100 ~~Homer Spit Beach,~~ **7.16 Vehicles in Beach Areas;** HCC 18.28.200 Waste or injury to
101 land, and Alaska State Traffic Regulations regarding: DWI, Reckless Driving, Negligent
102 Driving, Basic Speed, and Littering.

103 A) More evening enforcement in City campgrounds, and encourage/post quiet hours.

104 B) More enforcement of city driving laws on city beaches.

105 **5. Develop and distribute brochures with a coordinated public relations campaign.** It
106 is important to enlist the public in the campaign to keep our beaches enjoyable for all, to
107 limit the human damage to fragile areas and to minimize friction between user groups.
108 We need everyone's help.

109 A. Prior to major holiday weekends, advertise beach rules and etiquette in the local
110 newspapers. Consider a public services announcement on local radio stations. Budget at
111 least \$500 annually for this advertising.

112 B. Budget at least \$500 a year for sign replacement.

113 C. Provide beach maps and brochures on beach etiquette at city campground facilities.

114 **6. Perform an annual assessment of beach health and developing impacts.**

115 A. City staff & Parks and Recreation Commission representatives prepare an assessment
116 with reports to City Manager, City Council, & City Commissions. The report should be
117 prepared in a timely manner so that items requiring maintenance or ongoing funding may
118 be considered during the budget process. Include an assessment of the condition of the
119 storm berm at Mariner Park, specifically including pedestrian impacts.

120 B. Add each annual assessment to the original BPTF report with updated photos to create
121 a continuous record.

122 **7. Driftwood from berm areas should not be removed.** Testimony by scientists
123 emphasized the importance of the natural berm building process to protect the spit,
124 lagoon and slough. The berms also provide important wildlife habitat. It was found that
125 driftwood plays an important role in building and stabilizing berms. Thus, it is hoped that
126 providing an alternate source of campfire wood for campers serves the important function
127 of protecting the berms. Driftwood was also described as an important esthetic
128 enhancement to the beach and a material resource.

129 A. Direct City Administration to investigate providing firewood to beach users or
130 allowing firewood concessions in city campgrounds.

131 **8. Find ways of supporting beach cleanup.**

132 A. Support the efforts of spring clean-up day to include Homer beaches. The City should
133 actively continue to support the efforts of volunteers by providing trash bags for the event
134 and dumpsters or trash removal at locations such as Bishop's Beach.

135 B. Support the efforts of the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies for their annual
136 CoastWalk and beach trash removal. Support may be in the form of providing trash bags,
137 dumpster service at beach parks, and city funding for newspaper advertising for
138 CoastWalk educational and beach clean-up activities.

139 **9. Increase Parking on the Spit**

140 A. We need more parking and areas for people to access the beach. These parking areas
141 distribute the impact of beach users, provide safe off-highway parking for vehicles.

142 B. Situate the parking close to Spit Road for aesthetic purposes.

143 C. Better parking further down the spit will allow pedestrians to enjoy to the beach
144 where vehicles are not present.

145 **4. Recommendations by Area** (Following the beach line, East to West)

146 **1. Area 1 - Miller's Landing to Airport Access Road.**

147 A. Miller's Landing. Create a public viewing spot in the Beach Access Road Right of Way
148 off of Kachemak Drive, by posting a sign stating the location of the public access.
149 In the future, as use warrants, create a small parking area, and use boulders to discourage
150 trespassing on adjacent properties.

151 B. Airport Access Road Signage (with diagram of berm-slope-flats).

- 152 • No camping
153 • Please keep vehicles between the storm berm and the mud flats.

- 154 • All of the areas above high tide (and much below) are private property and there are no
155 designated camping areas. ~~Voluntary limits to the areas used by vehicles will help protect~~
156 ~~sensitive areas.~~

157 **C. Vehicle use at the bottom of airport beach access road on the beach is not allowed.**

158 **D. Vehicles are allowed on the beach east of the vacated easement formerly known as**
159 **Shirlene Circle (refer to map), under the terms of HCC 7.16**

160 **Vehicles are not allowed on the beach at the bottom of the airport beach access road.**
161 **Vehicles are allowed east of that area, but there is no public vehicle access point to get**
162 **to that part of the beach. Land owners or those with land owner permission may access**
163 **the beach from private vehicle access points. Once on the beach, nothing in City laws or**
164 **policy condones trespassing on**
adjacent private lands.



2. Area 2 - Airport Beach Access Road to North End of Berm outside of Louie's Lagoon and Louie's Lagoon.

A. Due to expert testimony, it was agreed by the BPTF that limiting vehicle use in this area was necessary to protect the fragile habitats from Mud Bay to Louie's Lagoon.

176 B. Signage - identifying access and informing the public as to where vehicles are
177 prohibited.

178 C. Vehicles are ~~should be~~ prohibited in this entire area - outside of access driveways and
179 parking.

180 D. Conservation zoning is suggested for all public lands in this area. Much of Area 2
181 already has a conservation easement.

182 E. Designate the platform area as a park and initiate cleanup of surface debris in Louie's
183 Lagoon. A layer of dredge spoils to cover debris and more grass around the platform is
184 also recommended. Investigate potential as a bird viewing platform.

185 F. Long term goal: Reconfigure the section line easement. The current section line
186 easement goes across the mud flat in the bird sanctuary. A reconfiguration would provide
187 better access to the beach, and protection for the sanctuary. As designated on attached
188 map.

189 G. Preserve subsistence fishing access for vehicles, and public access to that part of the
190 Spit. This has traditionally included an access across the northern portion of the English
191 Bay property

192 I. Budget for rock placement at the Airport Beach Access to discourage travel to the west
193 into Mud Bay. Contract the work out.

194 **3. Area 3 - From Louie's Lagoon - South to end of Homer Spit and then North to City**
195 **Campground across from Fishing Hole**

- 196
- 197 A. Long range goal: Removal of beached barge on English Bay Corporation property.
- 198
- 199 B. Encourage the elimination of unsightly waste on properties near the beach by working
200 with owners. Several highly visible properties have allowed the accumulation of waste
201 and industrial junk. The City has also allowed this to occur on City land, and should lead
202 the way in the cleanup effort.

203 **4. Area 4 - From City Fishing Hole Campground to the Outlet of Mariner Park Lagoon**

204 A. At campground building across from the Fishing Hole, make beach use maps
205 available, as well as information and signage that is interpretive about the berm building
206 process, encourages courtesy to pedestrians, and states where vehicles are permitted.

207 B. Install signage at a controlled exit from the City Fishing Hole campground to the
208 beach to direct vehicles to the base of the spit, and away from the no recreational vehicle
209 area.

210 C. Define limits to Mariner Park campground by utilizing logs, rocks or other means to
211 restrain vehicles from entering the lagoon. Similar to Parks & Recreation Advisory
212 Commission Draft Master Plan for Mariner park campground, which extends a revetment
213 to protect berms, grasses and tidal mud, with no additional incursion into the lagoon.

214 D. Create a cost estimate for placing boulders at Mariner Park to better define the park
215 and places where motorized vehicles are prohibited. Include the project in the annual
216 budget in the near future, and contract the work out.

217

218 E. Budget for a new kiosk at Mariner Park. Include a large interpretive map with beach
219 access and user information. Include the project in the annual budget and contract the
220 work out.

221 **G. Vehicles are prohibited between the former campground building site, and the**
222 **south end of Mariner Park.**

223 **H. Between the south end of Mariner Park and the east end of the sea wall, vehicles**
224 **are allowed on the beach from October 31 through March 1st, solely for the purpose**
225 **of gathering sand and coal. The beach is closed to vehicles at all other times and for**
226 **all other uses.**

227 **5. Area 5 - Mariner Park Lagoon including the storm berm**

228 A. Install and maintain signage stating vehicles are prohibited in the Lagoon and above
229 the high-tide line near the berm. This is a fragile berm.

230 B. Signage should also indicate the high potential of vehicles getting stuck in this area.

231 C. Finish transfer of ownership of parcels to City of Homer. Two large parcels in Mariner
232 Park Lagoon were obtained by the City from DNR, but the transfer paperwork was not
233 completed.

234 D. Enact Conservation Zoning and continue work on the conservation easement. Zoning
235 changes may begin at any time. The land ownership transfer must be complete prior to
236 the conservation easement completion.

237 **6. Area 6 - Mariner Park Lagoon outlet (below the berm) to Beluga Slough outlet.**

238 A. Provide signage discouraging motor vehicle usage and encouraging courtesy to
239 pedestrians. Vehicle prohibition is not necessary, but use of vehicles in this area often
240 leads to driving or parking on the storm berm.

241 B. Improve and identify with signage the Ocean Drive Loop beach and Beluga Slough
242 access.

243 **C. Vehicles are allowed between the south end of Mariner Park beach and the east**
244 **end of the seawall from October 31 through March 1st solely for the purpose of**
245 **gathering sand and coal. The beach is closed to vehicles at all times for any other**
246 **purpose. The area in front of the sea wall west to the Beluga Slough outfall is closed**
247 **to vehicles.**



Red = No vehicles
Yellow = Vehicles only
under the terms of HCC
7.16, paraphrased in C,
above.

248

249

250 **7. Area 7 - Beluga Slough Outlet to Bishops Beach Park access.** This is a heavily used area,
251 and has the greatest potential for conflicts between user groups. ~~We do not wish to prohibit~~
252 ~~vehicle use, but would rather encourage a separation to enhance user experiences.~~

253 **A. This area is closed to vehicles.**

254 **BA.** Support Fish & Wildlife efforts to protect berm and promote rye grass and
255 driftwood buildup.

256 **CB.** Support Fish & Wildlife work to develop a plan to maintain the ecological integrity
257 of their educational reserve, including possible conservation zoning.

258 **DC.** Increase at Bishop's Beach Park.

259 **ED.** Signage at Bishop's Beach access:

260 1. "Pedestrian Zone" ~~please limit vehicle use East to outlet of Beluga Slough."~~

261 2. "Unauthorized vehicles are prohibited on the storm berm and in the Beluga
262 Slough area."

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Vehicles are allowed west from Bishop's beach Park access, and prohibited to the east.

269 **8. Area 8 - West from Bishops Beach Park Access to City Limits**

270 **A. This area is open to vehicles, following the laws under HCC 7.16.**

271 **BA.** Construct a kiosk with interpretive signage (Visitor information, berms, driftwood,
272 private property, compass rose), encourages courtesy to pedestrians, ~~and that vehicles are~~
273 ~~permitted to the west towards Anchor Point.~~

274 **CB.** Provide and maintain signage requesting;

- 275 • Please do not remove driftwood from storm berms and private property

276 **DC.** Develop Charles Way as a footpath for better pedestrian flow. Do not develop for
277 vehicle access as the bluff is eroding and it is not worth the expense to the public to build

278 a road that will have near future erosion problems. Improve erosion control and access at
279 Crittenden Drive and at Main Street.

280 **ED.** Improve access at Main Street. Construct a stairwell to the beach. Use the right of
281 way at the end of Main Street for an erosion control project, using seeding, native grasses
282 and other low impact techniques. Develop a stairway so people may access the beach
283 without treading on the eroding bluff face.

284 **FE.** Correct the drainage ditch from Crittenden Drive so that the water is not eroding
285 neighboring private property. Extending the culvert system down to the beach may be a
286 solution. Work with adjacent landowners to secure public access easements to the beach,
287 using a route that is sustainable.

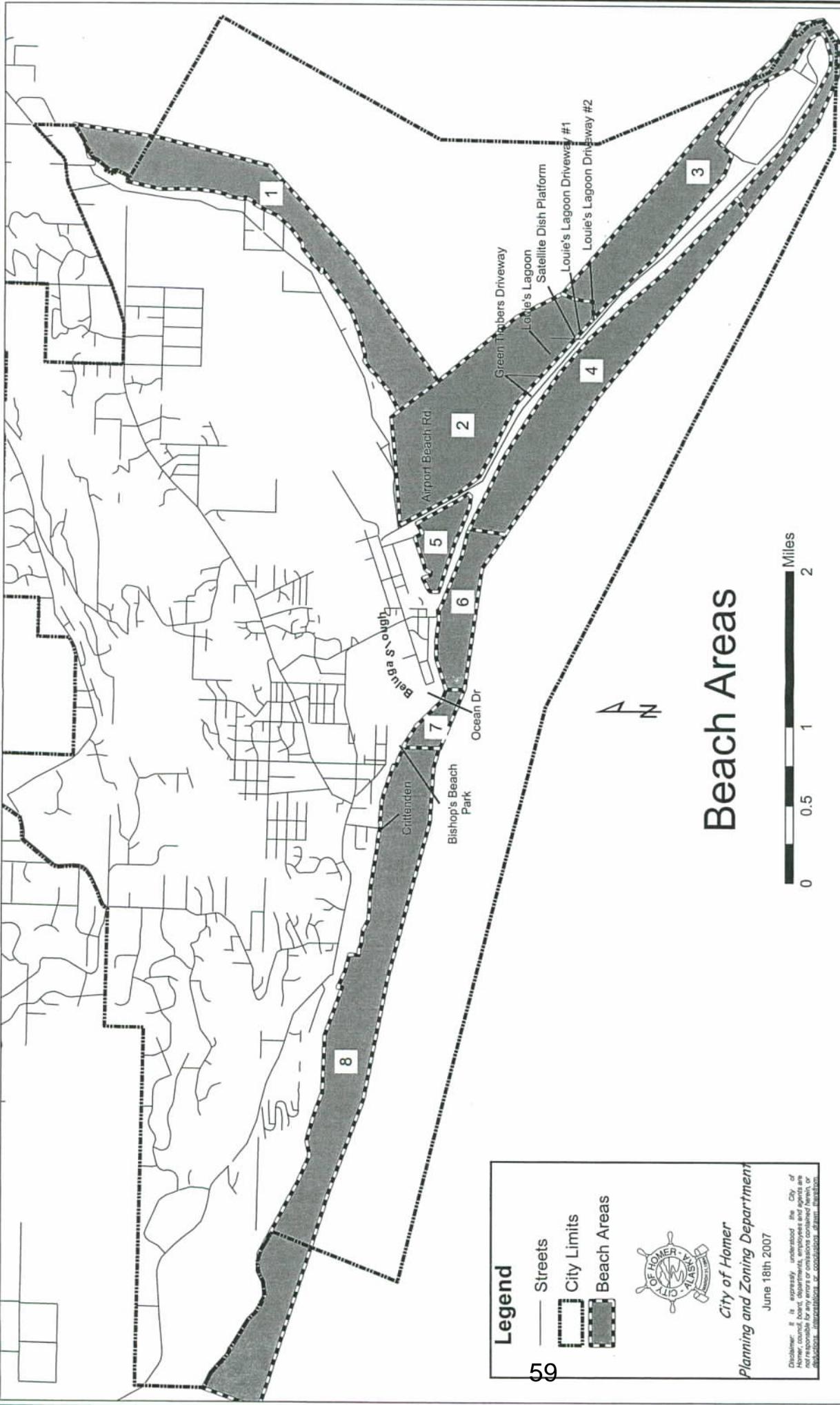
288 **GF.** Work with property owners and interested volunteers to remove the junk cars from
289 the beach near the bottom of West Hill.

290 **5. History**

291 The original Beach Policy Task Force was established in 2000 and completed the beach policy in
292 2001. The City adopted it on June 25, 2001. In 2003, Ordinance 03-27, the city was awarded a
293 \$75,000 Coastal Impact Assessment grant to fund beach access restriction improvements,
294 regulatory signage, a GIS coastal erosion and beach habitat information mapping project and
295 funds for the 2004 United States Geological Survey sediment transport study camera operation.

296 The Task Force made further recommendations in 2005, in Memorandum 2005-78, and
297 concluded their work. In 2007, the City Council added advising on public beaches to the duties
298 of Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (Ordinance 2007-01(A)). The Commission
299 formed a Beach Committee to update the Beach Policy, which resulted in this document.

300 **In fall of 2014 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was directed by Council to**
301 **review and recommend revisions to the Beach Policy. The Commission worked on the**
302 **policy the first six months of 2015 and made recommendations via Memorandum 15-102.**
303 **Council adopted Ordinance 16-05 (S-2)(A-2) on February 23, 2016. The Beach Policy was**
304 **amended to reflect these revisions through Resolution 16-029.**



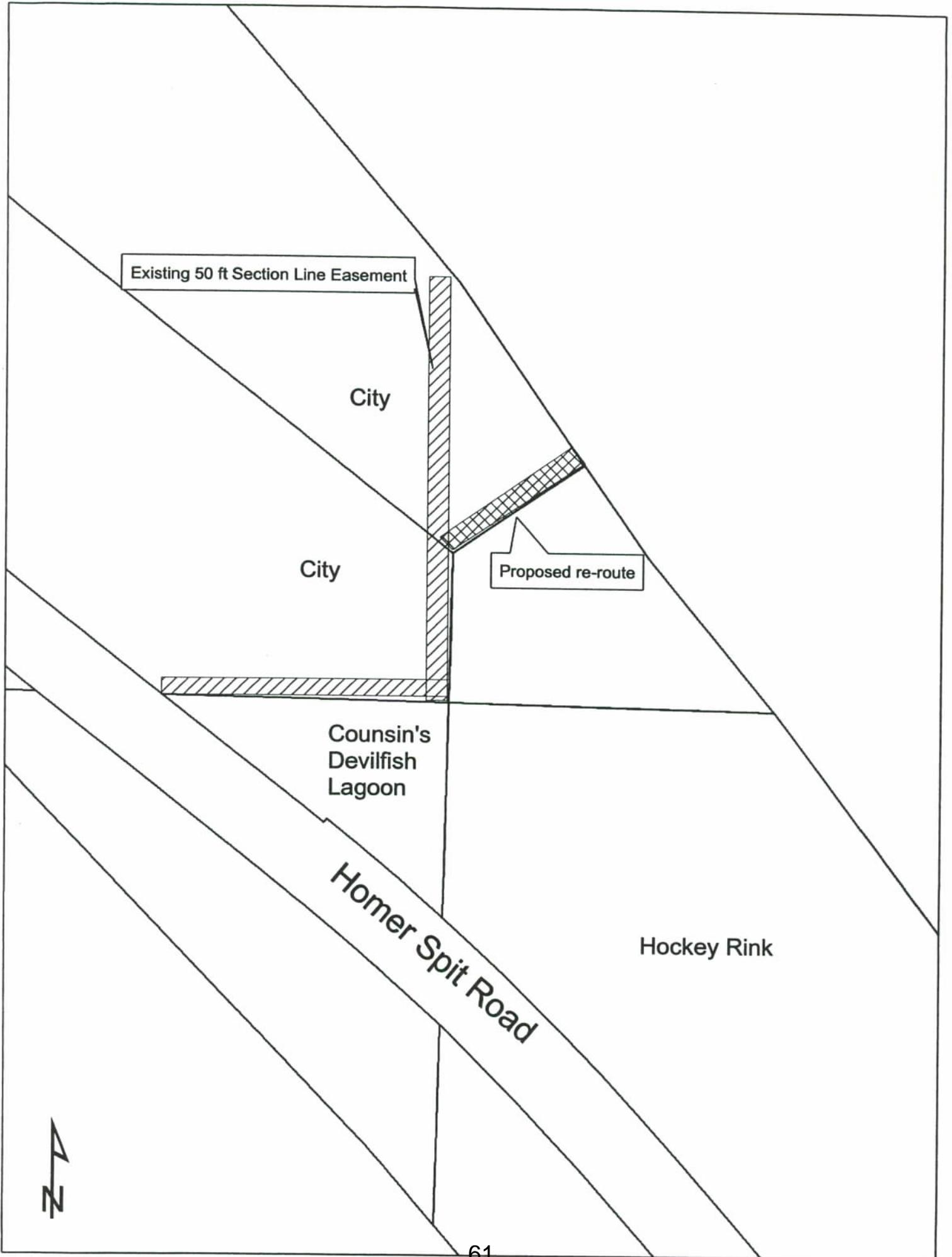
Legend

- Streets
- ▭ City Limits
- ▭ Beach Areas



City of Homer
Planning and Zoning Department
 June 18th 2007

Disclaimer: It is expressly understood the City of Homer, council, board, departments, employees and agents are not liable for any errors or omissions in this document. Information is subject to change without notice.



TOWNSHIP RANGE
MERIDIAN
SEC SECTION

BIRD
SANCTUARY

612 Meander Line

Lot 6-B
Louie's Lagoon

EASEMENT
PROPOSED

ABANDON THIS
SECTION OF
EASEMENT

Section Line Easement

Lot 1-
Louie's

Lot 6-A
Louie's Lagoon

STAR
OFFR

Note: Section line controls
location of R/W Jcg.

N 88°50'20" W
5.023

Section Line Easement

S 88°50'20" E

STAR
OFFR

Entry Date 4/2/23
Govt. Lot

S 51°28'54" E 132.797

00 996.405 2+900

3+000

3+100

3+200

15.240

Govt. Lot 1

STAR
OFFL

P.C. STA. 3+206

ine

STATE OF ALASKA

WILLIAM A. EGAN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL / BOX 2170 - JUNEAU

1964 Opinions of the
Attorney General No. 6

September 14, 1964

F. L. L.

F. L. L.

RECEIVED

SEP 22 1964

The Honorable Phil R. Holdsworth
Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources
Juneau, Alaska

Re: Effect of Earthquake on Tideland Boundaries

Dear Commissioner Holdsworth:

You have requested our opinion on the ownership of shoreline property enlarged or reduced, gradually or suddenly, the earthquake of March 27, 1964, and its after-effects.

Accretion is the increase of riparian land through the gradual deposit of various materials which create dry land out of that formerly covered by water.^{1/} Erosion is the gradual washing away of land bordering on a body of water by the action of that water.^{2/} Reliction is the uncovering, whether gradual or sudden, of land by the withdrawal of waters previously covering it.^{3/} Avulsion is a sudden and perceptible addition or loss to land by the action of water or otherwise.^{4/}

1/ St. Louis, I. M. and S. R. Co. v. Ramsey, 53 Ark. 314, 13 S.W. 931, 933 (1890)

2/ Oklahoma v. Texas, 268 U.S. 252, 45 S.Ct. 497, 69 L.ed. 937, 943 (1925)

3/ Jefferis v. East Omaha Land Co., 134 U.S. 178, 10 S.Ct. 518, 33 L.ed. 872, 875-6 (1890)

4/ Nebraska v. Iowa, 143 U.S. 359, 12 S.Ct. 396, 36 L.ed. 186, 187 (1892); Barakis v. American Cyanamid Co., 161 F.Supp. 25, 29 (1958)

The Honorable Phil R. Holdsworth
Juneau, Alaska

September 14, 1964

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The means by which the change in shoreline occurs has significant legal consequences. If the location of the boundary of a tract of land at the mean high tide line is gradually and imperceptibly changed by accretion, erosion, or prolonged reliction, the margin of a tract at mean high tide, as so changed, remains the boundary. "Where . . . a boundary bank is changed by these processes, [accretion and erosion] the boundary, whether public or private, follows the change."^{5/} Lands eroded from a tract which, as a result, are below mean high tide are thereby re-vested in the State.^{6/}

On the contrary, if a tract undergoes sudden or violent change by reliction or avulsion, its boundaries remain the same and no change in ownership occurs.

"When land bordering a body of water is increased by accretion, . . . the new land thus formed belongs to the owner of the upland to which it attaches. . . . [Where] land [is] . . . lost by erosion, [it] returns to the ownership of the State. This is not the rule where the loss of the land occurs by avulsion, . . . the effect or extent of which is perceptible while it is in progress. In such cases, the boundaries do not change."^{7/}

In land precipitously lowered by the earthquake, the upland owner would have title out to the old high-water mark, regardless of the fact that the tract may now be partially submerged; if the owner previously owned the tidelands, he would still own the land out to his old low-water mark boundary. The character of the body of water as tidal, non-tidal, navigable or non-navigable is immaterial as respects the application of

^{5/} Oklahoma v. Texas, 268 U.S. 252, 45 S.Ct. 497, 69 L.ed. 937, 943 (1925)

^{6/} AS 44.03.020

^{7/} Arkansas v. Tennessee, 246 U.S. 158, 38 S.Ct. 301, 62 L.ed. 638, 647 (1918); In re City of Buffalo, 206 N.Y. 319, 99 N.E. 850, 852 (1912)

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The Honorable Phil R. Holdsworth
Juneau, Alaska

the rules relating to sudden reliction and avulsion. The rules governing changes of boundaries of tidelands and uplands are equally applicable to the State and to private persons.^{8/}

When land shifts occur by earthquake-generated avulsion, then, the element of suddenness creates a situation where no change occurs in the limits of State boundaries or private tracts; the old State and private boundaries, submerged or otherwise, survive.^{9/}

Briefly, then, these are the answers to your specific questions:

(a) Boundaries follow accretion and erosion because the change is gradual; boundaries do not change where land displacement occurs suddenly, as through avulsion or some kinds of reliction.

(b) State ownership of tidelands is measured by the old boundaries where sudden earthquake displacement has occurred.^{10/}

(c) Yes, the boundaries of tidelands set by pre-earthquake survey are fixed. See (a) and (b).

(d) Where old tideland boundaries were surveyed and known, they must be followed. Presumably, unsurveyed tideland

8/ Waynor v. Dibciff, 9 Alaska 230, 232 (1937). See also footnote 5, supra.

9/ Louisiana v. Mississippi, 282 U.S. 458, 465, 51 S.Ct. 197 (1931)

10/ However, boundaries may be changed by State action and Congressional assent. Then, of course, the new mean high tide mark could be used to ascertain the extent of tidelands ownership. U. S. v. Louisiana, 363 U.S. 1, 8-9 (1960). c.f.: 43 U.S.C.A. 1311. Ownership of submerged lands.

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boundaries may now be surveyed and specified according to presently existing land contours, as there are no previously established boundaries to recognize.

We trust this information will be of help to you.

Yours very truly,


WARREN C. COLVER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

WCC/grg

cc: William A. Egan
Governor

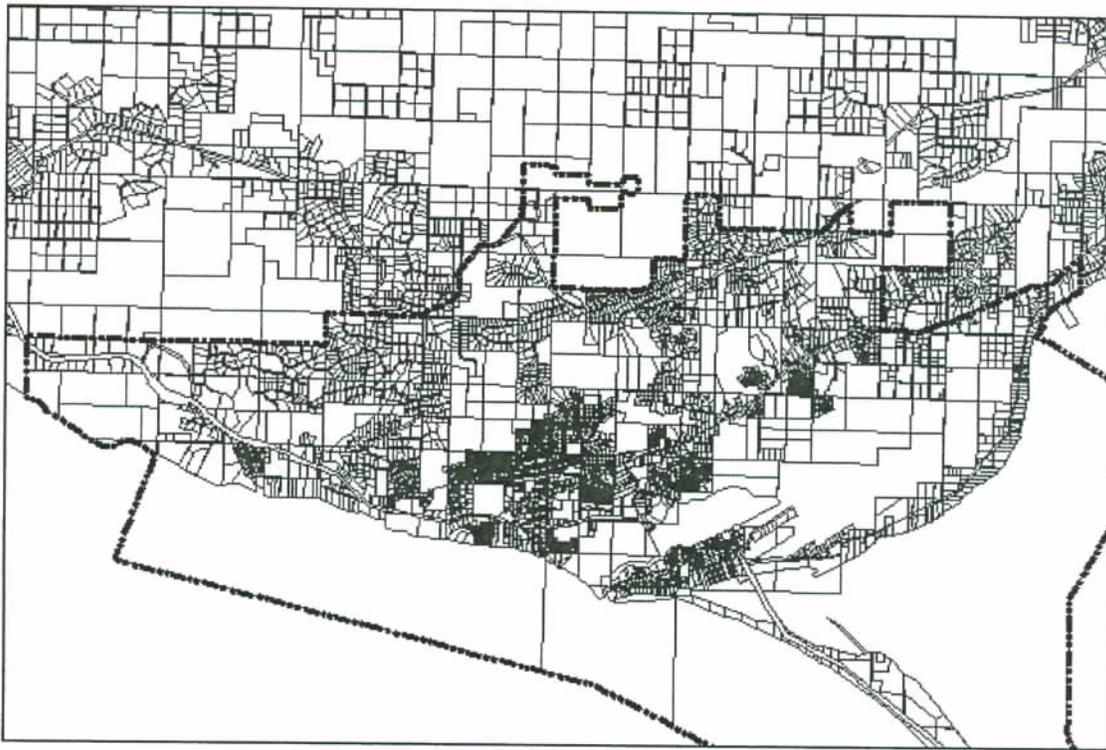
Floyd L. Guertin, Commissioner
Department of Administration

Appendix A: Beach Access Notes

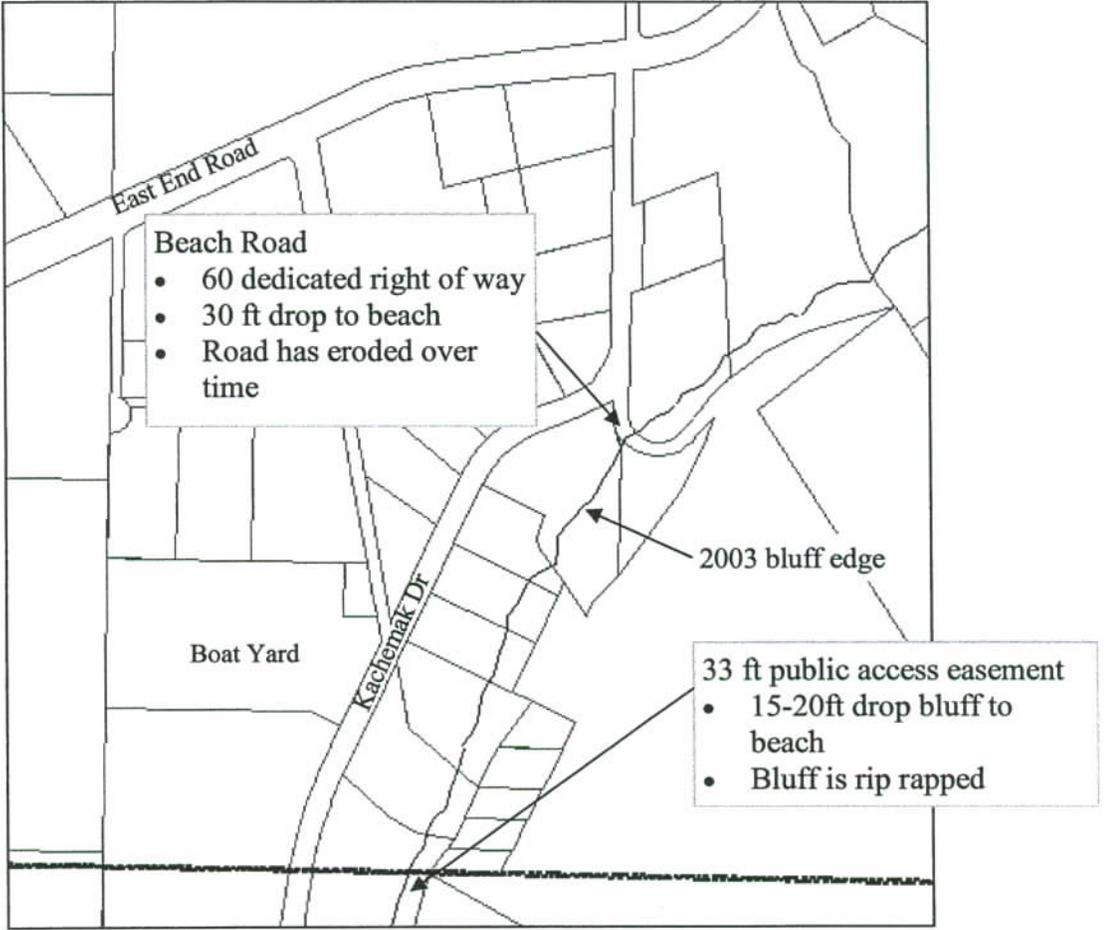
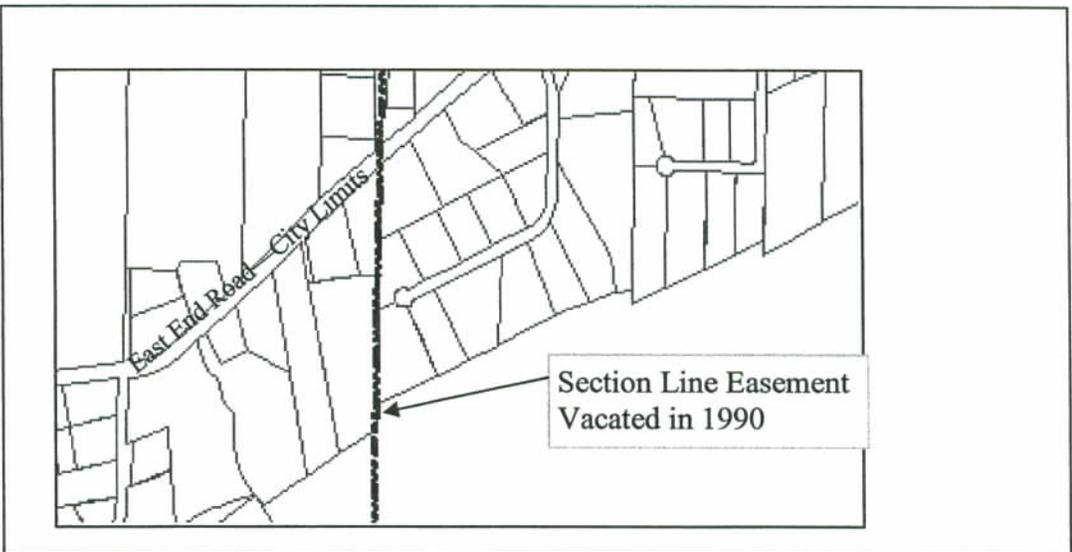
Public access points

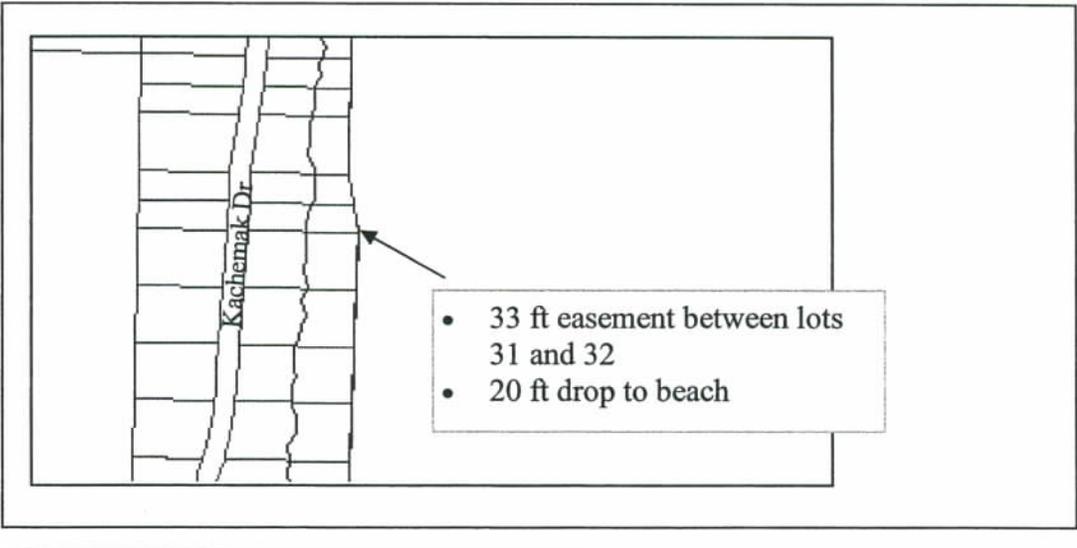
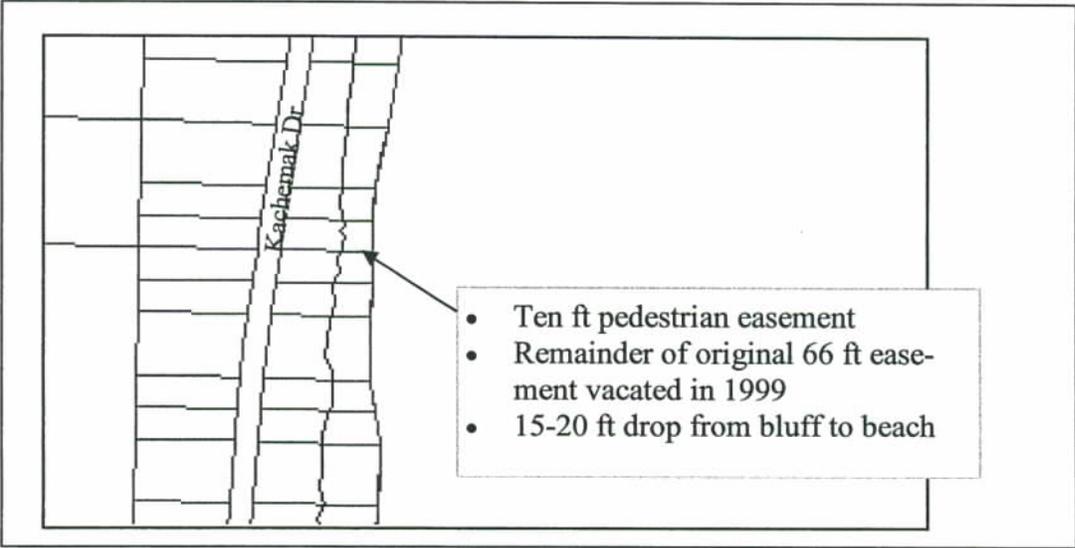
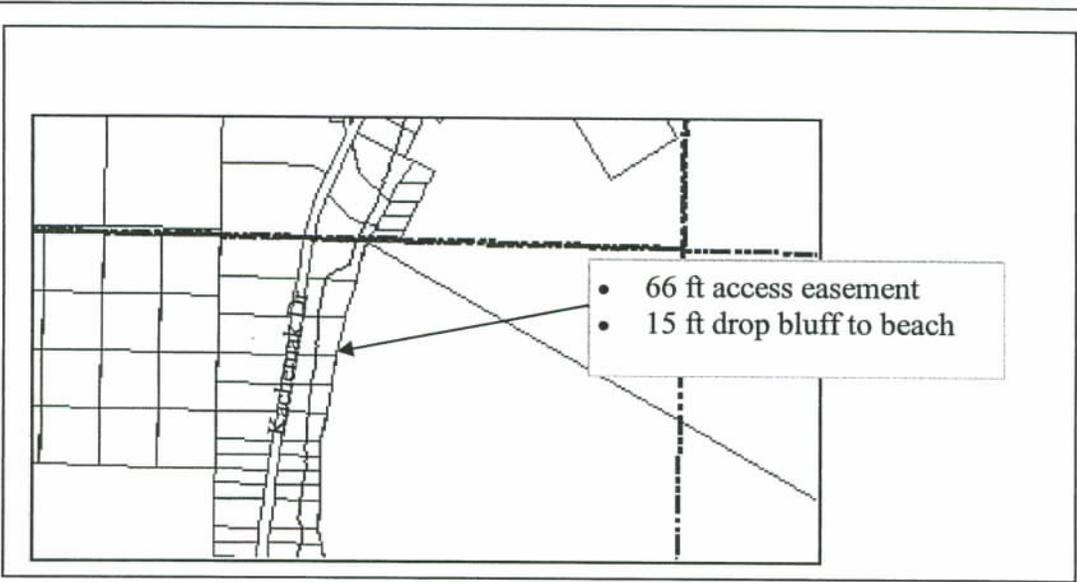
	Pros	Cons	Comments
Miller's Landing beach Road	Nice picnic spot Difficult trek down to the beach	No defined parking area	
Airport Access Road			
Spit			
Mariner Park	Large parking area for campers and day users	Occasionally motor vehicles drive around in the lagoon. There are user conflicts between pedestrians, vehicles and horses	Need more enforcement here Need more education here/kiosk
Lake Street			
Oscar Munson/Bell			Neighborhood Access Point
Bishop's beach	Flat beach access, public parking	High user conflicts	
Main Street	Section line easement access	Highly erosive, very steep trail	
Crittenden	Right of way access	Actual trail is on private property	Landowner allows neighborhood use of his trail to the beach.

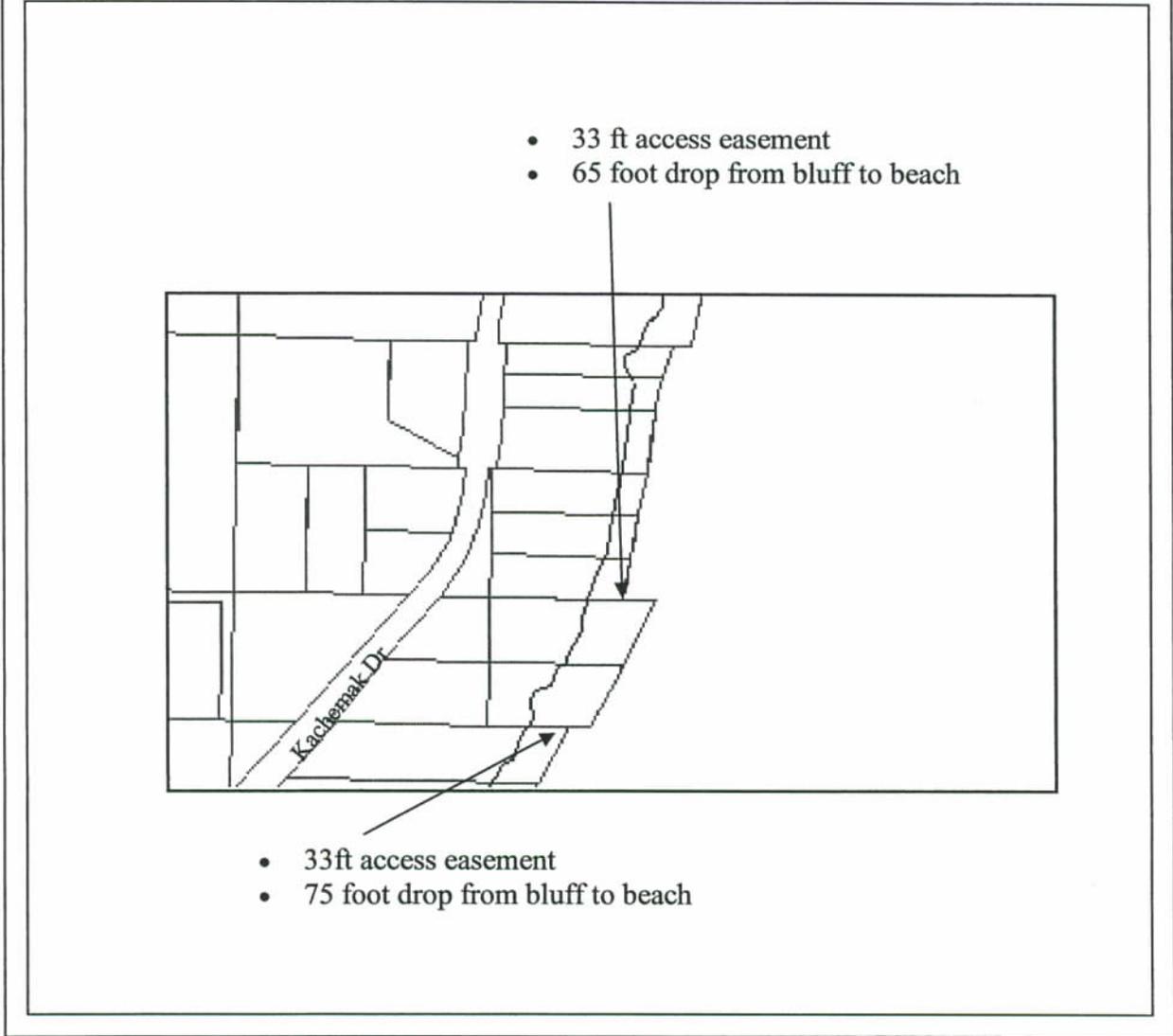
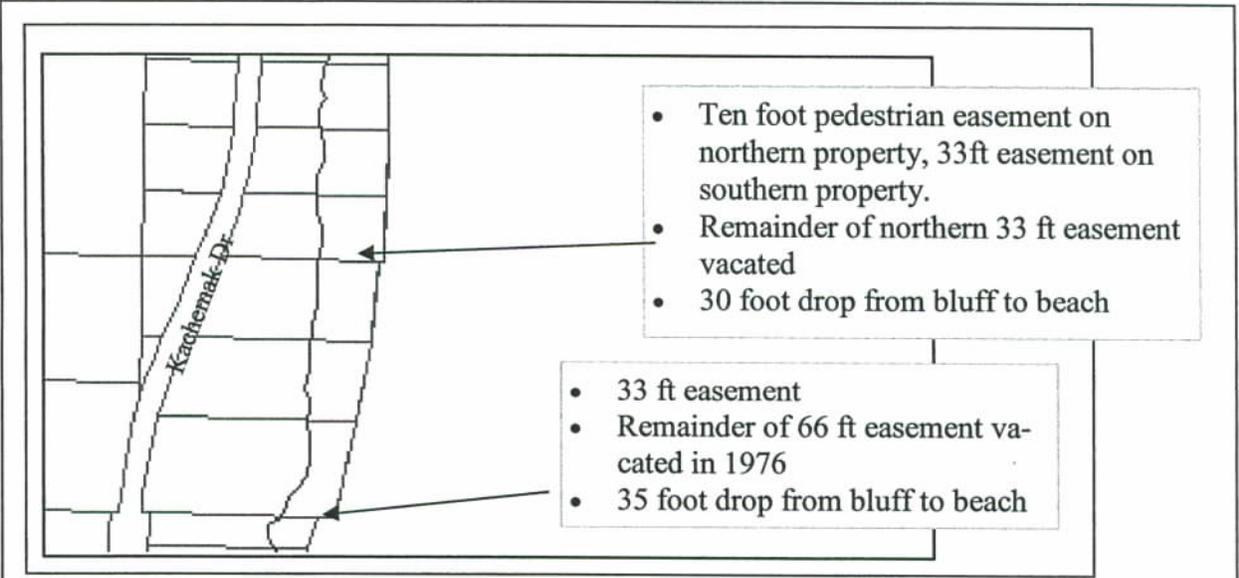
Beach Policy Appendix: B
Mainland Public Access Points to Kachemak Bay
Spring 2007

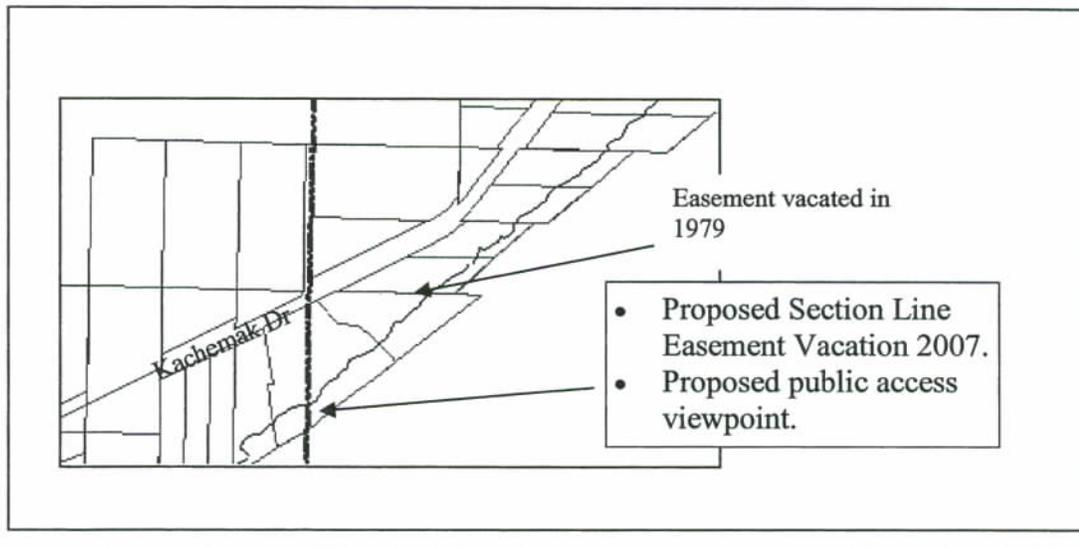
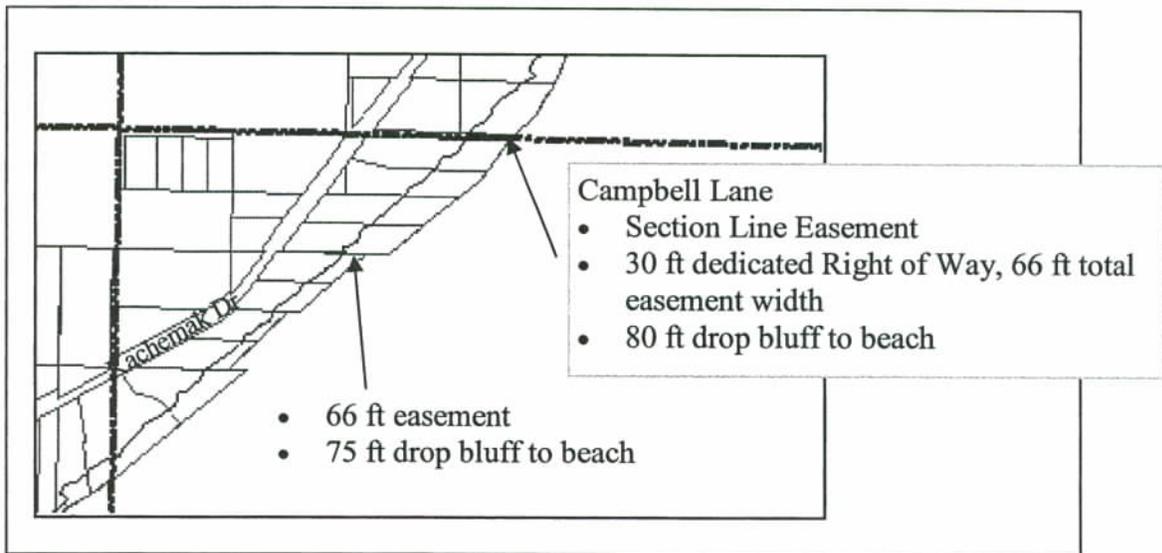
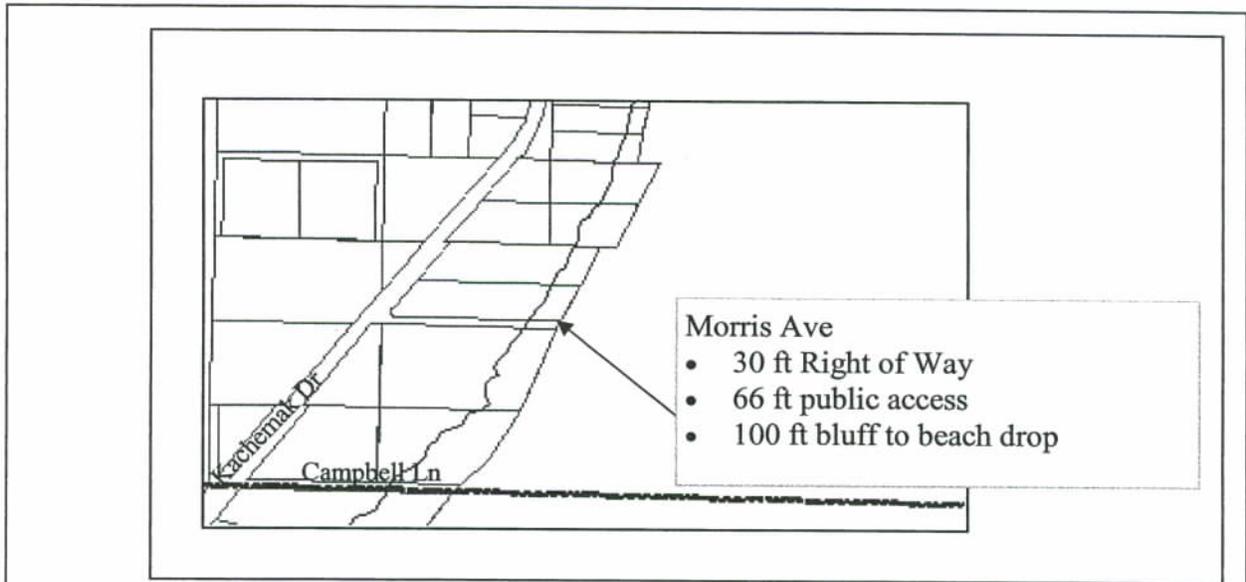


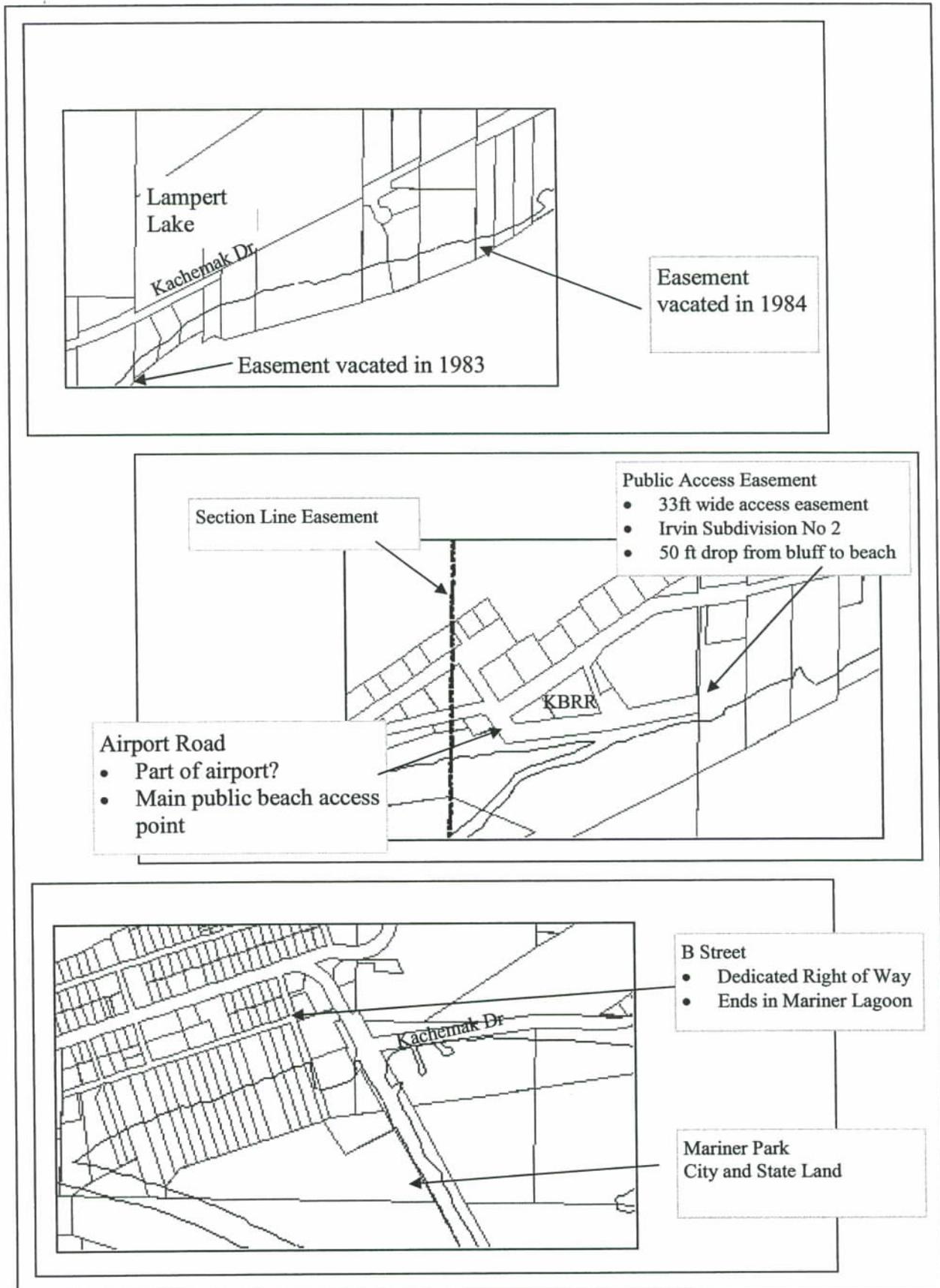
Prepared by the City of Homer Planning and Zoning Office.
Erosion data from KBRR 2004 coastal erosion study. Easement
data from plat research, and from 1982 Homer and Vicinity
orthotopographic map by Walker and Associates.













Lake Street

- Dedicated 60 ft Right of Way
- Sea wall cross the Right of Way

Section Line Easement

- 66 ft wide
- 30 ft drop from bluff to beach

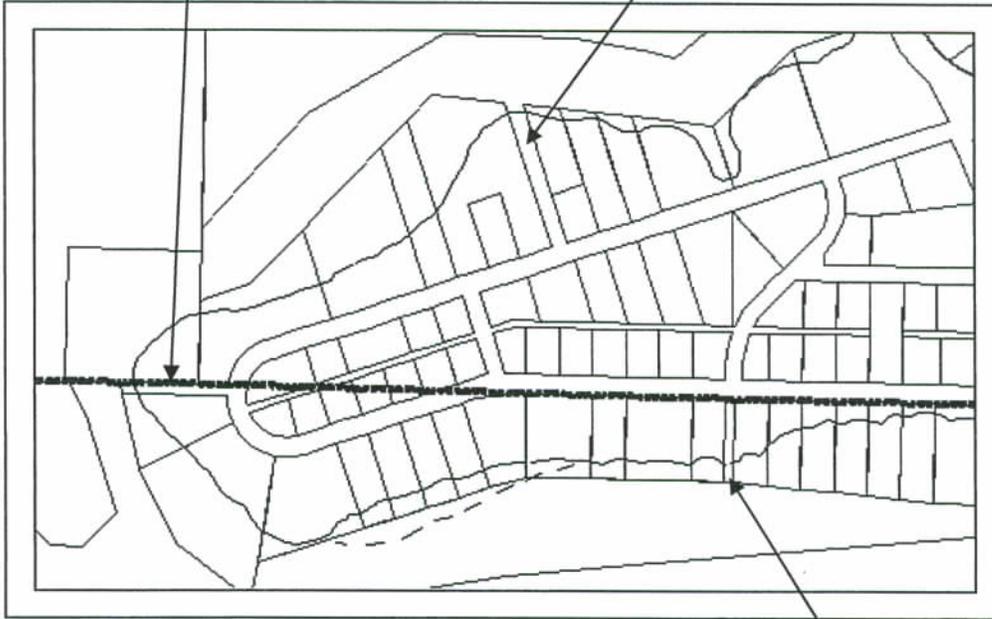
Oscar Munson Subdivision

Victoria Place

- 50 foot Right of Way
- Not constructed

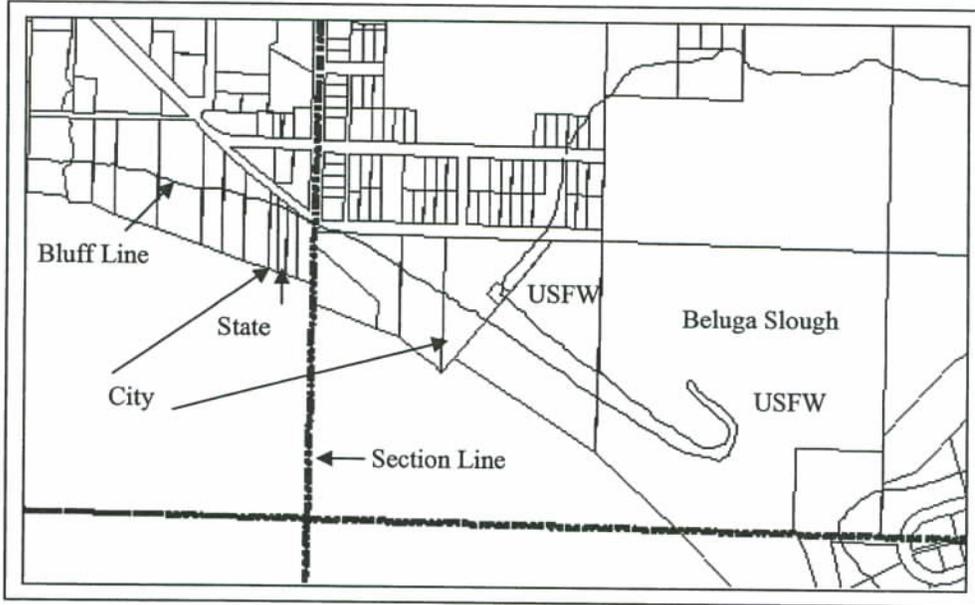
Section Line Easement/Right of Way

- 30 ft Right of Way, 33 ft section line
- Exact width of possible public access not know, but probably about 60 ft



Parson Lane

- 30 ft Right of Way
- About a 30 ft drop from street level to the beach
- Seawall runs along the bluff



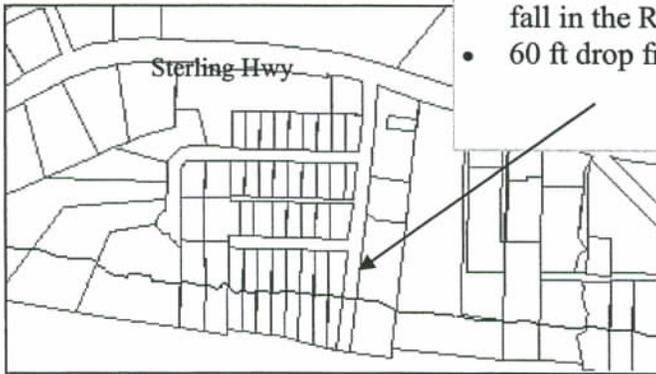
- Ohlson Lane Property**
- 15-20 ft drop from street level to the beach
 - City of Homer owns one lot; the state owns another

- Section Line Easement**
- Main Street is on a section line easement
 - 15-20 ft drop from street level to the beach

- Bishops Beach**
- One of the few easy access point to the beach

This is an area of moderate long term erosion, averaging about 2 and a half feet per year.

Crittenden Dr



- 60 ft Right of Way
- Existing trail is mostly on private property
- Drainage ditch from the street has an outfall in the ROW and is eroding the bluff
- 60 ft drop from Hidden Way to the beach



- Section Line Easement
- 120 ft drop from bluff to beach

- Section Line Easement
- 230 ft+ drop from bluff to beach



Leber Street

- 30 Right of Way Leber St
- Section Line Easement
- 25 foot drop from upland to beach.



- Section Line Easement, north-south along city limit boundary
- 60 foot bluff from beach to upland plateau
- EVOS and other public lands shown



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL CALENDAR
FOR THE 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

MEETING DATE	SCHEDULED EVENTS OR AGENDA ITEM	
FEBRUARY 18, 2016	STRATEGIC PLAN RE-WRITE	
MARCH 18, 2016	LAND ALLOCATION PLAN REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETE STRATEGIC PLAN RE-WRITE	
APRIL 21, 2016	SPRING PARK &/ OR BEACH WALK THROUGH	
MAY 19, 2016		
JUNE 16, 2016	INITIAL BUDGET REVIEW – WHAT DOES THE COMMISSION WANT FOR 2017? REVIEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN & RECOMMENDATIONS	
AUGUST 18, 2016	BUDGET REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS STRATEGIC PLANNING	
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016	FALL PARK WALK THROUGH AND BEACH WALK; ELECTIONS; SELECT KHP CLEAN UP DAY BUDGET DISCUSSION	
OCTOBER 20, 2016	REVIEW AND APPROVE THE 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE	
NOVEMBER 17, 2016	STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW & PLANNING	
DECEMBER 2016	NO MEETING SCHEDULED	HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

