



# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE – WHAT COMES NEXT?


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# TOPICS

- My Story
  - Where we are
  - What tools we have to work with
  - What more do we need
  - Next Steps
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## MY STORY:

- Grew up in Alaska – Fairbanks, Kodiak, Soldotna, Anchorage, Valdez, Homer
- BS - Civil Engineering, UAF; MS – Engineering Management – UAA; JD – UW
- Job history – U.S. PHS, City of Valdez, Skagit County, Sound Transit, JKA LLC
- Homer's City Engineer from 1981 – 1985
- Public Works Director – March 16, 2020



# WHERE WE ARE - THERE'S A LOT OF STUDY!

- Stormwater Master Plan 1979
- Drainage Study – 1980's
- Homer Stormwater & Meltwater Management & Mitigation Handbook – Allegra Bukojemsky & David Scheer, 2007
- Beluga Area Planning Reference – Soil & Water Cons. District – 2014
- Comprehensive Plan 2018
- Low-Impact Development Planning – Kinney Engineering – 2020

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFLICTS ABOUND!

## STUDIES RECOMMEND:

- Slow water down
- Use natural vegetation as filter
- Use natural drainage pathways
- Sustainability matters
- Save the trees

## DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES:

- Get water away from road ASAP
- Clear the ROW
- Pathways change with development
- Cost often rules
- Open the view



# TOOLS

- Comprehensive Plan
  - Subdivision Development Standards
  - Drainage Easements
  - Road Assessment Plan
  - Culvert Inventory
  - Contract with Homer Soil & Water Conservation District
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# WHAT MORE DO WE NEED?

- Updated Drainage Management Plan
- Focused review of subdivision plans to address drainage issues
- Assessment of recommendations from earlier plans
- Conservation easement program
- Verify needs for, locations of, drainage easements
- Green Infrastructure BMPs – What's feasible for Homer?

# NEXT STEPS

- Review our existing tools and identify opportunities for improvement
- Deploy Homer Soil & Water Conservation District
  - CECSL Training
  - Review Drainage Management Plan Update
  - Help create sustainable practices that make sense
  - Help create public education regarding green infrastructure



# MORE NEXT STEPS

- Identify need for drainage easements
  - Study culvert inventory
  - Develop policy & language
  - Present recommended policy to City Council
- Develop policy, language & incentives for conservation easements
- Identify additional opportunities for Green Infrastructure



THANK YOU!

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