



# City of Homer

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## Administration

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### **NEWS RELEASE:**

#### Ribbon Cutting Celebration Planned for New Homer Police Station

#### **For immediate release Friday, October 2, 2020.**

The City of Homer will celebrate the completion of the new Police Station with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 11:00 am.

The new 11,175 square foot police station at the corner of Heath Street and Grubstake Avenue is the department's first purpose-built home. It replaces the department's former home, a converted shop/garage, which, over its forty year lifespan had become undersized, outdated and posed serious health and safety issues for the officers, prisoners and the public.

The police department was able to move in early October. According to Public Information Officer, Jenny Carroll, "the move is the final result of years of careful planning on the part of community task forces, committees and City Council to find the right fit of location, scope and cost to address the critical need for a new station. Being able to provide a safe, modern facility suited to the needs of the town is a credit to the Homer community."

Homer Police Chief, Mark Robl also thanks the community for their support of the police department and our new station. "The building is very well designed and of high quality construction. It should serve the needs of Homer for several decades to come. I am honored and thrilled to be involved in moving police operations to the new building and will endeavor to ensure it is set-up to operate with professionalism and efficiency."

The City developed the project under a General Contractor/Construction Management agreement with Stantec and Cornerstone Construction utilizing a combination of City funds and a \$5 million voter-approved municipal bond. Construction was completed within the projected timeframe and, at about \$7.48 million, within the projected \$7.5 million budget. The new station houses all police units including the crime lab and evidence storage, dispatch, sally port and community jail, officer training space and room for an emergency operations center under one roof in a safe, welcoming building for both staff and the public.

Through an Alaskan Clean Water Action grant, green infrastructure improvements (rain garden, bioswale and storm water detention basin) were incorporated into the site's landscaping to minimize stormwater runoff impacts to Kachemak Bay. On-site interpretive signage explains value of developing these types of improvements community-wide.

Please join us Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 11:00 am to celebrate this significant community accomplishment. It will be held outside the front entrance of the station and is a COVID-19 conscious event. Participants are asked to wear face coverings and maintain a 6 foot social distance from other participants not in your family bubble. Participants are welcome to go inside the lobby

#### **Contact:**

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