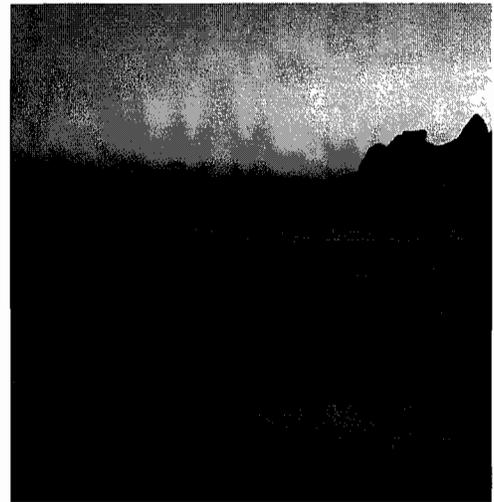


Parks and Recreation
Advisory Commission
Thursday
November 17, 2011
5:30 P.M.

Cowles Council Chambers
City Hall
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603



**NOTICE OF MEETING
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
(Minutes are approved during Regular Meetings Only)
 - A. Minutes for October 20, 2011 Regular Meeting Page 5
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** *(Three minute time limit)*
- 5. VISITORS** *(Visitors normally have 10 minutes for their presentation.)*
 - A. Wayne Aderhold – Creating a New City Park
- 6. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS**
 - A. Parks & Campgrounds Report – Angie Otteson
 - B. Community Schools & Recreation Report – Mike Illg
 - C. Staff Report – Renee Krause
 - D. Spit Parks and Recreation Committee
 1. Synopsis on the November 3, 2011 Meeting Laydown
 - E. Karen Hornaday Park Committee and HoPP Report Page 33
 - F. Kachemak Drive Path Committee Report Page 35
 1. November 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes
- 7. PUBLIC HEARING**
- 8. PENDING BUSINESS**
 - A. Transient Camping Along Trails in City Limits – Discussion and Recommendations Page 41
 - B. Discussion and Recommendation to Request Update on Costs, Plans, or Alternatives to Relocation of the Roadway into Karen Hornaday Park from City Personnel Page 43
 - C. Discussion and Recommendation to Review and Prioritize the Needs of Karen Hornaday Park Page 45
 - D. Discussion and Recommendation to Submit Application for the Soil & Water Conservation District Grant for 2011. *(This item was postponed from October meeting.)* Page 47
 - E. Review and Updating the Strategic Plan for 2011-12 Page 49
(This item was postponed from October meeting.)
- 9. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion and Recommendations on a New Park – City Hall Pocket Park Page 55
 - B. Approval of the 2012 Meeting Schedule Page 61
- 10. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**
 - A. Kachemak Bay Water Trail – Email from City Manager Wrede dated November 8, 2011 Page 67
 - B. Memorandum to Mayor Hornaday and City Council Re: Vaulted Toilets at Mariner Park Page 77
- 11. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**
- 12. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER** *(If one has been assigned)*
- 13. COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS**
- 14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**
- 15. COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**
- 16. ADJOURNMENT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS JANUARY 19, 2011** at 5:30pm in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer Alaska

Session 11-09, a Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Bumpo Bremicker at 5:38 p.m. on October 20, 2011 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS CUMMING, BRANN, LILLIBRIDGE AND BREMICKER

TELEPHONIC: COMMISSIONER ARCHIBALD

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER HARRALD

STAFF: PARKS MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR ANGIE OTTESON
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR CAREY MEYER
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR ANN MARIE HOLEN
DEPUTY CITY CLERK I RENEE KRAUSE

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Bremicker requested a motion to approve the agenda.

BRANN/LILLIBRIDGE – SO MOVED.

Commissioner Cumming requested a correction to Pending Business Item C. within the descriptive title. She explained that the funds from Little League were promised contingent upon the grant application to the Homer Soil and Water Conservation District being awarded to the City of Homer. She requested the agenda to reflect the correction.

The agenda was approved as amended by consensus of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES *(Minutes are approved during Regular Meetings.)*

A. Meeting Minutes for the September 15, 2011 Regular Meeting

Chair Bremicker requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting.

BRANN/CUMMING - MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

Commissioner Cumming pointed out a misstatement on the funds being held by the Kachemak Bay Conservation Society. She clarified what it should read.

BRANN/LILLIBRIDGE – MOVED TO AMEND THE MINUTES TO CORRECT PARAGRAPH THREE ON PAGE 5 OF THE MINUTES, LINE ELEVEN THROUGH THIRTEEN AS FOLLOWS: There was \$9,000.00 being held by the Kachemak Bay Conservation Society according to Commissioner Cumming ~~which encompassed the funds “promised” by Little League.~~ *The funds promised by Little League were contingent upon getting the grant applied for from the Homer Soil and Water Conservation District. The City did not get the grant so Little League did not give the funds.*

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

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments from the public present.

VISITORS

A. Miranda Weiss, City resident and Co-Chair of Community Group HoPP (Homer Playground Project)

Ms. Weiss gave a summary of the actions performed to date by the HoPP group. She provided the Commissioners a verbal summary of how the group came into being, who were some of the members of the group and the goals of the group. The group decided early that the design of the playground would be a hybrid containing both elements of natural play such as logs, boulders, sand and traditional play with swings, slides, etc. They also wanted the playground to represent Homer and have recruited a number of local artisans to design such things as a rock wall, bike rack, etc.

The design process will culminate in a build week and they have designated May 21-27, 2012. A budget has been set at \$200,000.00 after budget feasibility. Without the volunteer effort and donations the monetary amount of this playground design is approximately \$450,000.00.

She further informed the Commissioners that they did get a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Homer and the Homer Foundation was acting as the fiscal sponsor for the group since they are not a non-profit group.

Ms. Weiss further commented that the group has no direct intention to ask for additional monies at this time from the Commission however if the Commission felt so inclined to allocate more funding for the playground the group would accept.

The group fully intends to follow and keep the master plan in consideration at all times. The group has established a strong organizational structure artist wrangler, volunteer coordinator, a finance director, tools coordinator, food coordinator, and two co-chairs.

Ms. Weiss explained that they currently have a major fundraising campaign in the works where they are offering area businesses the opportunity to donate and have their names on the equipment and new play structures. She gave a few examples of donations received so far and a brief outlined on the group's financial status.

She briefly described the initial design concept and noted that there has already been a substantial change to the design that they currently have and will have a new drawing to distribute next month. The group would appreciate a formal recommendation of support from the Commission when the final approved design has been submitted.

Ms. Weiss responded to questions by the Commission on changes to the design; she reported that the design was being slightly scaled back regarding access to the proposed tree fort; making the access from the playground to the lower level for all persons with a variety of abilities. She provided the example of a child's birthday party being held in the pavilion at the lower level and children playing in the playground - these need to be accessible to all children whether in a wheelchair or not. The lower level according to the master plan is as day use and is used quite extensively by little league and other participants. They are changing the lower portion design to house a pavilion and tables, etc. This will offer a covered picnic area.

A brief dialog regarding monetary issues and the possible request in the future for the City to provide additional funding was discussed. The commission expressed concern with the city providing additional funding for the playground negating implementing other visions for the park. Ms. Weiss acknowledged

the concerns and that these were concerns that are considered a higher priority for the commission. She was seeking the support of the commission for this project and the limits of the support.

Commissioner Cumming inquired about future maintenance of the new playground and if the group will be taking those requirements into consideration in their design and planning.

Ms. Weiss stated that they will address that after the design phase and will hope to be able to raise those funds that are necessary to maintain the playground; she spoke about the involvement of businesses and creating a sense of ownership in keeping the playground maintained.

Commissioner Lillibridge who is involved with the HoPP commented on establishing a vehicle for the future where one can leave a legacy or bequeath to the park. This would become a regenerating fund designated for the park/playground. It was stated that it would not be out of the question to establish an endowment fund also. She noted that their group may not be the proper entity and one may be established to oversee an endowment fund if established.

Further comments and discussion on the future maintenance that would be required and community group participation ensued. Commissioners thanked Ms. Weiss for the hard work and all the progress they have made on this project. It was noted that the endowment fund idea was a great idea on taking care of future needs.

Ms. Weiss will present the idea before the Karen Hornaday Park Committee first for a recommendation of support to the Commission who hopefully will at a later date send recommendation of support to the City Council. She confirmed that at this time she is not seeking any recommendation until the final design concept is presented.

There was a brief conversation on what will be done with the existing playground equipment. Ms. Weiss confirmed that the group plans to remove all the existing playground pieces as they will not fit in with the new redesign and the city can repurpose them as they see fit. She did not think that the city would have a difficult time finding new homes for that equipment.

There were no further questions or discussion.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items scheduled for reconsideration.

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

- A. Spit Parks and Recreation Committee
 - 1. Synopsis of August 26, 2011 Meeting
 - 2. Next Meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.
 - 3. All Surveys received on Mariner Park

Commissioner Lillibridge summarized the last meeting of the committee on August 26, 2011. She noted that they agreed to forward a recommendation to the commission to support installation of a vault toilet in the 2012 Budget to City Council. Commissioner Lillibridge stated that the committee distributed a survey to visitors and residents who visited Mariner Park. She stated that with the help of Ms. Krause who created an awesome survey that was available on the website and in paper form; they received some great feedback.

The committee discussed the relocation of the entrance and she noted the recommendation included in the packet.

The top complaints for the park were no doggie poo bags and the steepness of the entrance especially for trailers, and the location of the gazebo could be improved.

Commissioner Lillibridge opined that the survey instrument was a very easy method of feedback and plans on conducting it again at the beginning of the season next year. Her overall impression was that most visitors were very satisfied with the camping facilities and do not believe they should be improved.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Lillibridge stated the committee has decided to focus on the Mariner Park first out of all the recreation areas on the Homer Spit.

Chair Bremicker inquired about the recommendation regarding the vault toilet from the committee. Ms. Angie Otteson elaborated on the budget request and discussion held during the committee meeting.

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN – MOVED TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO INCLUDE \$35,000 IN THE PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET ALLOCATION TO CONSTRUCT VAULTED TOILET FACILITIES AT MARINER PARK.

Commissioner Archibald commented that he was in favor of supporting this request and he acknowledged that the cost was minimal in comparison to the value added to the park. There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Lillibridge then stated that the committee discussed the maintenance of restroom facilities on the Spit and believes that turning those duties and costs over to harbor personnel would alleviate some of the burden on the parks maintenance personnel and budget. The committee made another recommendation to support the maintenance of the restrooms be undertaken by the Port and Harbor staff and budget permanently.

Commissioner Lillibridge then made the following motion for the commission.

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN – MOVED TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO SUPPORT MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF RESTROOMS AT RAMPS 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 AND THE LOAD AND LAUNCH RAMP BE MOVED PERMANENTLY TO THE PORT AND HARBOR PERSONNEL STARTING FY2012.

Ms. Otteson stated that since the meeting of the Committee the decision to have the maintenance taken over by Port and Harbor will not happen. She did note that Port & Harbor did install the new toilet paper dispensers which have removed the need to visit the facilities in the middle of the day which does save a lot of time.

Public Works Director Meyer stated that there were two council meetings left to comment on the budget; he additionally commented on the recommendation to reinstating the additional personnel would be welcome and timely. The City Manager has agreed to support that request and has kept that additional personnel in the budget presented to City Council. He stated that they could not convince Port & Harbor to undertake the maintenance of the restrooms but have negotiated agreement to undertake half the costs. It was noted that there were several factors for this decision; foremost in the beginning an agreement was made that if the revenue from the camping was to go to the "parks and recreation department" then they would maintain the restrooms on the spit. Originally the campground fees went to the port and harbor fund.

Chair Bremicker commented on the requirements and importance of maintaining the restrooms. Commissioner Lillibridge commented on the health and safety issues related to that maintenance. He did note that the vaulted toilets did not make the cut into the budget so City Council will have to put that request back into the budget in order to get funded. Upon comment from the Commission he agreed that a recommendation of support from them would be appreciated and appropriate. It was noted that health and safety issues were a factor in regards to the proper maintenance on the restrooms.

Chair Bremicker inquired if the supporting Commissioners would like to pull their motion from the floor. Pulling the motion was agreeable to all parties.

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN - MOVED TO RECOMMEND AND ENCOURAGE CITY COUNCIL REINSTATE THE BUDGET REQUESTED TO ALLOW THE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO MAINTAIN FACILITIES AS REQUIRED COMPLYING WITH INDUSTRY STANDARDS OF HEALTH AND SAFETY.

Mr. Meyer noted that supporting the additional personnel will be very important since there will be additional facilities constructed in the future and the added personnel will be very helpful. Mr. Meyer noted a few projects in the near future for the construction of additional restrooms.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion on the funding for the Cruise Ship Improvements and what it was to be used for, where it comes from, etc. It was noted that these funds also provide for additional restrooms to be built in town along Pioneer Avenue. These will add to the maintenance requirements of park personnel. Questions were asked about the completion of the Spit Trail.

Commissioner Lillibridge finished her report announcing that the committee has decided to hold a "Meet the Trucks" event at Mariner Park and they will have further discussion at the next meeting and over the winter months. She described the event as the city providing a variety of different large vehicle that kids and adults could explore, sit behind the wheel, and learn all about them and what they do. Comments made by commissioners on the event included possible demonstrations on what the trucks can do such as the fire truck.

There was no further discussion.

B. Karen Hornaday Park Committee and HoPP Report

1. October 27, 2011 Meeting has been rescheduled to November 9, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Lillibridge commented she had a few comments and they already heard from HoPP.

Commissioner Archibald stated that there has not been a meeting in the last few weeks by the committee but work is continuing. He inquired if the contract for the drainage was in progress and if Mr. Meyer had any comments or status report on that work. Commissioner Cumming offered clarification on the exact location of the drainage work and Chair Bremicker wanted status update for the preliminary engineering.

Mr. Meyer responded that there were three areas with drainage issues that would be addressed by this contract. He noted each area and described the work that has and will be performed in the next several weeks by Public Works Personnel to remedy these problems. He noted that additional work was to be completed by taking a bush hog and performing ditching efforts in the campground which may not happen to spring but it is on the work schedule. Commissioner Cumming inquired about an area located above a gate she described as black in color was to be included was dammed up and causing the water to pond up. Mr. Meyer stated that they will add that as area 5 to be addressed. He further responded to

concern Commissioner Cumming expressed regarding work to be completed in the area of the catch basins and that this work has been completed. The contractor did a great job too. He stated that the preliminary engineering to establish the cost of the road relocation would be completed in November, he cited a "cup runneth over" the past few months but assured the commission that he felt he was capable of performing the valuation and there was no need to expend monies unnecessary for engineering work to be done by an outside firm. Commissioner Cumming commented on terracing the parking lots. Mr. Meyer did acknowledge that there would be more earth-work required in relation to the road but that is not the most expensive component of the work required and he believed that there was enough talent with Public Works to handle that aspect of the job.

Commissioner Lilibridge would like to propose a recommendation to remove the red shed at Karen Hornaday Park. She stated that the committee discussed it during the site visit and the HoPP committee has reviewed the possible uses and voted that it is not needed and it needs to be removed this winter if possible but definitely before build week in May and re-purposed as the city sees fit.

Mr. Meyer agreed that they have reviewed what is being stored and if any of the items can be relocated or permanently disposed of and they are in the process of looking for a group that would be interested in the wood from the building. He did not believe that they needed a recommendation from the commission but if it came down to needing a minimal amount of funding approved then it may be good to have the support of its removal from the commission to include with the request from council.

There was a brief discussion on the possible uses and how it would distract from the beautiful new design being created for Karen Hornaday Park playground. There were further comments on showing the state that they are spending the money but that the City has something to show for the work.

Commissioner Archibald thanked Mr. Meyer for coming to the meeting and clearing the air over a few issues. He further noted for the record that he was supportive in re-purposing the red shed if possible.

Mr. Meyer praised Ms. Otteson for her efforts and work done since assuming the position of Parks Maintenance Coordinator.

There was no further discussion.

C. Kachemak Drive Path Committee – Commissioner Harrald

1. October 6, 2011 Meeting Minutes
2. Draft property Owner Notices
3. Memorandum and Attachments on Recommendations from Planning Commission
4. HEA Response

Commissioner Brann spoke about addressing the transient camping along the portion of the Mud Bay Trail along Kachemak Drive.

Commissioner Cumming reported that the committee is arriving at the point that a difficult decision requires a vote. She hopes that the other commissioners will comment on her comments. She was concerned about the content of another resolution submitted to City Council. Chair Bremicker noted that the committee had an in-depth discussion on narrowing the lanes and it was determined that due to public input this option was not recommended and will not be included on the revised resolution.

Chair Bremicker stated that there was a consensus in the committee that an off road trail was needed along the road. He stated that they had the Finance Director attend the last meeting and explain the process pertaining to use of HART funds and the amount that may be available at the end of 2012.

Chair Bremicker noted that there is two separate funds – one for roads and one for trails.

The discussion by the committee centered on the final points to be addressed in the revised resolution which will be the following:

- What do we need to build?
- Where do we need to build it?
- How much do we spend to build it?

It is hoped that there will be a specific plan with specific numbers and funding to present to this commission and city council.

Commissioner Brann reported that the committee also discussed about drafting letters to be distributed to the property owners that will be affected by the proposed trail to see how many would be for or against the proposed project. Ms. Krause responded to the commissioner's inquiry that the letter once agreed upon by the commission will have to be forwarded to the City Attorney for review and drafting the formal document that can be distributed.

Chair Bremicker requested the sample letters to be reviewed by the committee since not all the members have seen it to comment on and then at the November meeting the commission can put forth their recommendations and then forward to the City Attorney.

Commissioner Cumming inquired when they can start re-working the resolution. Ms. Krause stated that the information included in the packet has not been before Council however in the meantime before officially being remand from City Council. It was commented that it may be as late as January or February before resubmittal to City Council. Further observations were made on the time that has been expended on this committee and the task they have undertaken.

Commissioner Archibald left the meeting due to a prior commitment at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Brann responding to Commissioner Lillibridge' question regarding the placement of the path along Kachemak Drive stated that there are still discussion on all options; because of the work being done with the sewer and water easement currently in progress would be ideal but there are several proponents to use that easement including property owners permission; conservation issues; feasibility of placement. The trail will be constructed from one end to the other but it may be along different avenues for different sections. That is one of the reason to sending a letter to the property owners so that they can voice concerns they may have regarding the trail. He further noted that Homer Electric Association has no objection to a trail placed in the utility easement.

Commissioner Brann briefly explained the plans to establishing the Mud Bay Trail and where it would travel. He briefly described the path starting at the end of the existing Spit Trail progressing up the hill; once on top of the hill there has been cleared out a path to the airport access road. He described further more details in placement and thoughts on locating portions of the trail from the portion of the path known as Mud Bay Trail up to the Bay Club. He commented that this portion may be pedestrian friendly only.

There was no further discussion.

D. Parks & Campgrounds Report – Angie Otteson

Ms. Otteson reported that camping season was closing at the end of the month. She said that the revenues were down for this year compared to 2010. The revenues collected were:

\$125,818.00 Spit Campgrounds
\$19,390.00 Karen Hornaday Park Campground

Ms. Otteson stated what she believed some of the circumstances causing the shortages were economy, lack of fish at the Fishing Hole, and the weather was not the best. There were brief comments about dealing with the conditions of the Fishing Hole. The last of the seasonal workers are done and completing

last minute projects. She stated they are starting to already schedule events for 2011; the Highland Games are July 7th; Build Week in May, and Concert on the Lawn. They have the first adopted park, Ben Walters Park by the Rotary. They will be providing firewood this winter for ice skating and work next spring and planting flowers. She noted the work local groups have accomplished this season on the parks.

She reported that a request for designating the amount of revenues provided by the parks on the spit. She stated that Mariner Park provides approximately 25-30% of the revenue for the season. Ms. Otteson also noted that there are doggie poo bags at Mariner Park but she may have to relocate them to a more visible and accessible location for visitors.

Commissioner Brann inquired about the repairs for the Pavilion at Pier One and if they were ready to install the logs he has available. Ms. Otteson responded that she would like to get with Commissioner Brann in the next week or so to discuss that work.

There was a brief discussion with Ms. Otteson regarding the city requirement or need for a greenhouse and location for the beautification project; a permanent home for the community recreation program; having a parks and recreation department; placing camp hosts at the campgrounds on the spit; reserving Mariner Park for May 19, 2011 for the Meet the Trucks event and if funding is approved when the construction of the vaulted toilets be scheduled.

Ms. Otteson commented on the pending business item regarding transient camping and reported that she has found personal items and waits a few days before clearing it out to try and make contact with the owners, she has had people trade work for camping too. She acknowledged that there are multiple reasons that people are homeless, nomadic, etc. A brief discussion ensued regarding locations that could be designated as free camping but that a mechanism and rules must be in place before allowing that and that it can be done on a case by case basis. It was noted that camping in the woods was unsafe with fire threats, unsanitary conditions and health issues. It was noted that most problems were in the summer and shoulder seasons and most people found some lodging or left the area in the winter. It was noted that there were no facilities in town for homeless people.

There was no further discussion.

E. Community Schools & Recreation Report – Mike Illg

There was no report this month on Community Schools and Recreation.

There was no discussion.

F. Staff Report – Renee Krause

She reminded the disclosure forms from the commissioners were due in the Clerk's Office. It was noted that the elections for Chair and Vice Chair would be next month. Ms. Krause explained what type of information that they are interested in and relationships with local businesses, etc. where if they would profit from a decision made or recommended by a commission or board. She responded to questions on the email forwarded by Mike Illg was informational only and it was noted that the services were very expensive. If a survey is needed she offered services to create the document since she now has a template that is very easy to just revise the questions as needed. Ms. Krause informed the commission of the free services offered online.

There was no further discussion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

No public hearings were scheduled.

PENDING BUSINESS

Commissioner Cumming a correction to the agenda item title before discussing pending business.

The correction was made to the title for Pending Business Item C for clarification.

A. Transient Camping Along Trails in City Limits

1. Homeless Encampments Guide No. 56 by Sharon Charmand from the Center for Problem Oriented Policing Website, www.popcenter.org

Commissioner Brann commented on the garbage and debris left along areas of the Mud Bay Trail and has consulted with the Police Chief and visited those areas of concern with and Officer and removed items left by transient camping. He also thanked Ms. Krause for locating and including the information regarding possible solutions to transient camps. He recommended that each Commissioner thoroughly read the document in the packet. He opined that it is not the Commission's responsibility to address the homeless issue.

Chair Bremicker opined that this was a very important topic, and did impact the Parks and Recreation of the city with the camping, trash and other issues. He admitted that he has not had adequate time to fully review the information and moved to postpone the discussion on this to allow everyone to fully review the materials.

BREMICKER/LILLIBRIDGE – MOVED TO POSTPONE DISCUSSION TO THE NOVEMBER 17, 2011 MEETING.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

B. Budget 2012 – Discussion on Advocating for Appropriations for Parks and Recreational Events, Needs and Programs for 2012

1. Memorandum date September 27, 2011 to City Council and Mayor Hornaday through the City Manager Wrede Re: 2012 Budget Requests and Narrative.

Discussion ensued regarding the process to request funding for the commission. Ms. Krause stated that the City Manager did not include the request for the commission funding in his budget to Council. Clarification regarding expressing support for adding the additional temporary personnel and the vaulted toilet at Mariner Park.

Chair Bremicker inquired if there were any additional items or requirements of the commission to encourage council to support the budgetary request. Commissioners offered various reasons why they should get the \$1000 they have requested and some of the following suggestions were made: Winter Ice Skating Party and Park Day were the biggest events; attendance at the Street Faire, 4th of July parade, etc. Further discussion ensued regarding going before Council to advocate for the budget request, how many meetings were remaining and who was scheduled to attend those meetings. There was a mention regarding establishing a continuing fund so that they can get a budget allocation and if they do not use it will roll over instead of disappearing.

Ms. Krause will try to contact Commissioner Harrald to see if she plans to attend the next meeting.

There was no further discussion.

- C. Karen Hornaday Park Funding Postponed from the September 15, 2011 Regular Meeting under Committee Reports – Funds donated from ~~Little League and Others~~ being held by Kachemak Bay Conservation Society.

Commissioner Cumming opened discussion on the funding by distributing a written explanation of monies that had been donated, collected or promised through Friends of Woodard Creek. She stated that the monies that are being held for the Friends of Woodard Creek for Karen Hornaday Park would be used specifically for the road realignment. She just wanted to make sure that the commission had a complete understanding of where and what all the monies that are designated for the park.

Commissioner Lillibridge wanted to offer confirmation since she is on HoPP that there is no intent to request additional funds from the monies that are shown in this handout.

There was further discussion on use of the funds for different ideas that have been bantered about for the park and playground aspect in the park. No one is interested in the monies that were collected and money from the legislative grant will be used to leverage more money. Comments were made that if they had issues come up and they had to use some monies they should use it and if it was to provide matching funds then the commission should approve that grant application as required. It was stated that if they do not use the funds for the park improvements then it could hamper them from getting any more funds from the legislature.

Commissioner Cumming commented that the Friends of Woodard Creek want to see monies expended to relocate the road and it hasn't been expended by the city or any steps needed to effect the road relocation because of the big expense.

Chair Bremicker summarized that Mr. Meyer did state he would be able to get the engineering done in November and they have started some items for next spring.

There was no further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Recommendation to City Council on Extending the 35 MPH Speed Limit on the Homer Spit Road Past the Entrance to Mariner Park and Placement of Additional Port-o-Pottie During Summer Season.

Chair Bremicker read the memorandum into the record.

Discussion was held on relocating the entrance to Mariner Park from the Homer Spit Road. Chair Bremicker opined that it should not require extensive work and design; use existing materials; right of way issues; the approach on a proposed location did not require much fill; this would provide a much safer entrance exit onto the roadway that offers better visual options.

BRANN/LILLIBRIDGE – MOVE TO RECOMMEND STAFF RESEARCH AND PROVIDE INFORMATION AT THE JANUARY MEETING ON CHANGING THE SPEED LIMIT FROM THE BASE OF THE SPIT TO THE ENTRANCE OF MARINER PARK AND RELOCATING THE ENTRANCE TO MARINER PARK TO AN AREA JUST SOUTH OF THE EDGE OF THE LAGOON.

There was no further discussion.

B. Discussion and Recommendation to Submit Application for the Soil and Water Conservation Grant

LILLIBRIDGE/CUMMING – MOVED TO POSTPONE ITEM B AND C UNDER NEW BUSINESS TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion.

C. Review and Updating the Strategic Plan for 2011-12

This item was postponed until the November 17, 2011 regular meeting.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Memorandum to Mayor Hornaday, City Council dated September 7, 2011 Re: Preliminary Engineering at Karen Hornaday Hillside Park
- B. Letter received from the Friends of Woodard Creek dated September 6, 2011 Re: Preliminary Engineering for Karen Hornaday Park
- C. Recommendation to Mayor Hornaday and City Council on Establishing the First Portion of the Trail Along Kachemak Drive.
- D. Annual Calendar
- E. Strategic Plan

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There was no audience present.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER *(if one is assigned)*

None.

COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS

Ms. Krause advised the commission about the request submitted from Mr. Wayne Aderhold on creation of a pocket park and has requested to be on the agenda for November as a visitor and New Business.

There was no further discussion.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Lillibridge clarified the upcoming meeting dates and times for the committees and the next commission meeting.

There were no comments from Commissioners Cumming and Brann.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Bremicker thanked everyone for a good meeting and Ms. Krause for her work and help.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission Chair Bremicker adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m. The next regular meeting is **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20** at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers.

RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: _____

CITY OF HOMER , ALASKA MARINER PARK SURVEY - LABOR DAY WEEKEND 9/1 AND 9/2 2011

Prepared by Park and Rec Commissioner – Tricia Lillibridge

SURVEYS TAKEN AT MARINER PARK AND SATURDAY MARKET

16

ADULTS SURVEYED - 19 CHILDREN PRESENT = 5

QUESTIONS

How often do you visit the park -

Do you bring pets

How long do you stay

Do you camp

Do you make a fire

Do you use the restroom

Do you use the picnic tables

What can be done to improve the park

COMMENTS OF THOSE SURVEYED

Majority of responses were local citizens who visit the park to walk themselves or their dogs 2-4x/wk

Campers responded saying campground was adequate-“basic and nice and affordable”

Low tide is best time to visit

“YEAR ROUND TOILET WOULD BE AWESOME”

“I LOVE THIS PLACE”

“I PREFER THE SIMPLENESS OF THIS PARK”

“I walk the bike path and beach 3-4 times per week depends on tide”

Crossing the street – going south there are signs. No signage toward town. No speed reduction and it is dangerous

DO NOT FILL IN THE LAGOON TO MAKE MORE CAMPING SPACES.

*welcome
turning in
Arizona*

City of Homer, Alaska
Mariner Park

Surveyors Tricia Lillibridge and Robert Archibald, Commissioners
City of Homer Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission



The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission has formed a committee to address the campgrounds, parks and recreational opportunities on the Homer Spit to determine what amenities are available, needed and possible improvements that could be recommended.

If you could take a few moments to answer a few questions regarding the Mariner Park recreational area and campground this will be a big help in developing the recommendations that will eventually be forwarded to City of Homer City Council.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 3 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

WHEN YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK?

*You have garbage cans + tables - so nice
addition*

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
ATTN. RENEE KRAUSE
31 E. PIONEER AVENUE
HOMER, ALASKA 99603

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DATE & INITIALS

City of Homer, Alaska
Mariner Park

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S.M.

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR *off tourist*

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 1 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS *2-3*

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? _____

Like it way it is

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST Entry & Exit

Traffic
No Turning Lane to get off road

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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SM

CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR *1x/week*

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS _____

OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO *dog & horse*

SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? 1-2 HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK?

I like it the way it is

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

YES PLEASE LIST

Don't get stuck behind sea wall

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 3 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? Satisfied

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST _____

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CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
Mariner Park

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 3 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO *I carry mine*

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? _____

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST _____

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR *yearly*

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 2 # OF CHILDREN 1

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK?

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO
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Visit on Sunday

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 2 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? _____

It's Basic + Nice - + it's Inexpensive

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

YES PLEASE LIST _____

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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1 E. PIONEER AVENUE
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DATE & INTIALS _____

u
w
4
330
@
vehicles
camps

CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
Mariner Park

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

Local

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS

1

OF CHILDREN

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS ¹⁻² 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK?

I come for the view & to read -

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST

Entrance Area Bump - tar to gear

Safety Concerns Met for ✓

I came for the triathlon in Spring

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
Mariner Park

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR - *more 3-4 x/week*

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 1 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M. *depends on tides*

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? 1 HOUR 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? _____

Low tide is best
year round toilet would be awesome.....

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST no problem - enhance

"I Love This Place"

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 2 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. *or* P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? _____

Leave as is - it's rustic

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST Not in its nature -

I prefer the simplicity of Mariner

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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5 May 9/13

CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
Mariner Park



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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

Local

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS

+ Company sometimes
OF CHILDREN

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? 1-2 HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK?

* walk bike Path + Beach 3-4x/wk depends on tide

Needs year round toilet!

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

YES PLEASE LIST Crossing the Street - going South there are signs. No Signage towards town No speed reductions signage, yellow caution tape No speed

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
T.N. RENEE KRAUSE
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set market vendor

CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA
Mariner Park

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR ⁽⁴⁾

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 2 # OF CHILDREN 2

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

IF YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M. *afternoon*

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? ⁽¹⁾ HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? Dog Bags - yes

None Motorized

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR *X1-2*

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 2 # OF CHILDREN _____

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES MAYBE NO

WHEN YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS *running*

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? _____

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST _____

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
ATTN. RENEE KRAUSE
11 E. PIONEER AVENUE
HOMER, ALASKA 99603

OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE & INITIALS _____ 31

Mariner Park

Surveyors Tricia Lillibridge and Robert Archibald, Commissioners
City of Homer Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission



The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission has formed a committee to address the campgrounds, parks and recreational opportunities on the Homer Spit to determine what amenities are available, needed and possible improvements that could be recommended.

If you could take a few moments to answer a few questions regarding the Mariner Park recreational area and campground this will be a big help in developing the recommendations that will eventually be forwarded to City of Homer City Council.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT MARINER PARK? OFTEN FIRST VISIT 2 OR MORE TIMES A YEAR

HOW MANY ARE IN YOUR PARTY THIS VISIT? 1-2 3-6 MORE THAN 6

OF ADULTS 2

OF CHILDREN # dogs 2

DO YOU BRING PETS WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES always NO

IF SO, DO YOU USE ANIMAL EXCREMENT BAGS OR WOULD YOU USE THEM IF PROVIDED? YES always MAYBE NO
I pick-up other dog's poop as well.

DO YOU VISIT OFTEN WHAT TIME OF DAY A.M. OR P.M.? A.M. P.M.

HOW LONG HAS YOUR VISIT BEEN THIS TIME AROUND? HOURS 3 1-3 DAYS MORE THAN 3 DAYS

DO YOU CAMP AT THIS PARK OR JUST DAY USE? DAY USE CAMPING

DO YOU MAKE A FIRE WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? YES SOMETIMES NEVER

DO YOU USE THE PICNIC TABLES, WATER, OR RESTROOM FACILITIES WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK?

PICNIC TABLES WATER none RESTROOM FACILITIES NONE

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CITY SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE THIS PARK? Keep it natural, undeveloped,

lots of logs, rocks, driftwood. Provide many excrement bag dispensers, more garbage cans. Develop a volunteer team of "adopt a park" to keep it beautiful year round.

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE ARE ANY EXISTING SAFETY ISSUES WITH THIS PARK? YES NO

IF YES PLEASE LIST Keep the brush cut back south of entrance.

Too much E. coli from dog poop

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY. IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT A COPY AND DROP OFF OR MAIL PLEASE SEND TO CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, CITY OF HOMER
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KAREN HORNADAY PARK COMMITTEE

SYNOPSIS of August 23, 2011 meeting

Members Present: Robert Archibald, Chairman; Ralph Broshes, Beth Cumming, Tricia Lillibridge, Phil Needham, Miranda Weiss, Jack Wiles. Guest: Marti McCleary

Minutes of July 26, 2011 Meeting Approved.

Field Notes of August 10, 2011 KH Park site visit approved.

No Public Comments

Pending Business:

A. Request for Proposals (RFP) Status - Carey Meyers did not attend so no update on the preliminary engineering work proposal.

Robert provided a handout that he received from Carey of a request to bid on drainage improvement work – lower the drainage pipes at the ball fields - No work on the ‘Lake Hornaday’ was included. The lake hornaday work may be done in-house or by a separate contract.

Phil said the Little League hopes to start work on resurfacing the ball fields necessitating a good deal of equipment traffic and suggested that the lake Hornaday work might best be put off until next summer but the Little League could accommodate the work this fall if it all came together. Beth expressed concern about bringing in top soil and reseeding the area and the success of the reseeding effort so late into the fall season.

B. Review of Field Notes - some comments on the future of the red shed. Robert felt that a structural analysis should be done – place sonna tubes for ground support of pole members, secure the roof, replace rotting boards, look at the drainage and ground contact of the building, flooring, and the cost/adaptability of converting the structure to another use.

Beth added that she felt the red shed was affected by the drainage.

Miranda said that the red shed was not part of the playground project site plan.

C. Little League Needs Assessment – Phil handed out a list of Little League priorities:

Rebuild Infields / outfields	\$ 7,500
Dugouts – realign, floor, T1-11	6,000
New Gates	2,500
New fence for junior field / back field / dugout	4,000
Snack Shack floor / doors / locks	3,000 - 4,000
Bathroom and Pavilion roofs*	2,500
Total	\$ 25,500

* Park Committee agreed this should be listed but should Not have to be a Little League function.

Robert informed the Park Committee that the City would transfer the \$10,000 to the Little League for the ball fieldwork. Phil said the Little League will be working with a person from Anchorage who has extensive experience in rebuilding ball fields and maintenance. Phil felt that good surfacing material was available locally at may be donated or provided at cost.

D. Playground Area – design footprint

Jack said that Carey and Walt met and agreed that the playground design could include the lower day use area. The draft design would then be brought to the Park and Recreation Commission for approval and clarification of the master plan. Jack handed out a copy of the two site plans 'A' and 'B-2' that show the parking and road alignment and mentioned that the preferred site plan adopted by the Park and Recreation Commission was 'B-2' contingent on knowing the feasibility and cost – that would be part of the preliminary engineering work.

Miranda said that the lower day use area would connect to the upper playground and the lower area could provide a grassy open space and landscaping, play features, picnicking, and other activities.

New Business

A. Volunteer Program - Phil expressed a concern over vandalism and that a park host program is needed. A park host site could be set up adjacent to the restroom area for a connection to water and sewer. Jack mentioned that a park host site is shown on the site plan at the entrance to the campground but often more than one park host is on-site. Tricia said the topic will be on the next Park and Recreation Advisory Commission agenda.

B. Fund Raising – deferred to next meeting – will review the city budget process

C. Developing Friends of Karen Hornaday Park – deferred to a later meeting, review Adopt-A-Park program.

D. Next Steps - Next Meeting scheduled for Oct. 27, 5:30 pm, City Hall
Tentative schedule for a meeting on Nov. 15
No meeting proposed for December

Comments from Audience : None

Comments from City Staff: None

Comments of the Committee:

Miranda invited everyone to a reception to meet with the playground designer, John Dean on Friday, September 9 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Islands and Ocean Visitor Center and encouraged everyone to attend the community-wide kick-off celebration at Karen Hornaday Park on Sept. 10 from 11:30 am to 3:00 p.m. Lots of free food, entertainment, and an unveiling of the draft site plan.

Tricia invited everyone to the Wooden Boat Society event the same weekend as the playground design event and encouraged everyone to attend the film festival featuring classic films of the sea.

Ralph felt that the Park Committee had made good progress and was encouraged that some actions were being taken to improve the drainage and move the preliminary engineering work forward.

Beth said she is waiting for things to happen.

Jack said he felt the preliminary engineering work is an important domino to set in motion a series of decisions that the Committee and the Park Commission will be addressing on a comprehensive look at improving the park.

Robert said he will continue to pursue the RFP, voice the Committee's frustration on how long it has taken to move the project forward and the importance of being all-inclusive in achieving park improvements.

Kachemak Drive Path Committee

Meeting, November 7, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order – 5:30 by Chairman Bumppo Bremicker

Attending, Beth Cummings, Bumppo Bremicker, Dave Brann, David Clemens, Lindianne Sarno, new member. Ingrid has resigned. Bumppo appoints Lindianne Sarno, who is recording minutes.

Agenda approval. Dave moves to approve. Beth seconds. No objections. Agenda approved.

Motion to approve minutes from last meeting. Dave moves, Beth seconds. Minutes approved. Beth wishes to discuss Mud Bay Trail.

Public Comment on Agenda Matters: Lynn Whitmore, Chair, Kachemak Bay Moose Habitat, visitor.

Lynn Whitmore: Lived here forty-odd years. Seven years Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee. President. Kachemak Drive Moose Habitat, mitigation funds as result of lake of Bradley Lake hydro project. Moose and black bear and goat affected by that project. Ended up with \$187,000 to work with, now have about \$1,000,000 property, \$250,000 in bank. Fairly successful. At request of Fish & Game, trying to acquire habitat around Beluga Lake to save Homer Bench herd. I like to eat moose, I put time in to give them food, get food back from them. Fundamental. Understand a little of what you propose, put trail through our property, how can we help, need to hear what you guys have in mind. Trail design, trail size. My job is to feed moose or give them a quiet resting spot. Beluga land isn't so much food as quiet resting place. They get stressed in March and April, die off occurs then. F&G says not better buying property in lowlands, moose have been coming down to wetlands. Need quiet place to sit and rest. Trails, OK, through good habitat, trails going along right of way, OK.

Bumppo: Conservation easements – is that what your land is called?

Lynn: No. Land Trust deals with conservation easements. We have notes on some our property, in perpetuity agreements. Private donations and parcels, our stuff, some has easements. Around Beluga Lake.

Beth: Three pieces, west of Arctic Tern Road, is Moose Habitat Incorporated willing to let this city-owned trail go across?

Lynn: How wide? Type? Quality? Any place where there is potential for water/sewer services or HEA events, you want to be aware those services could bisect trail. My board would not be glad to have trail in moose habitat. But it would be OK if you keep trail close to Kachemak Drive.

Dave Brann: have not drawn line on map. Starting from Airport Manager's office, keep under power line, all the way to Arctic Tern, that looks do-able. HEA has no objections.

We don't want to do this without full support of landowners. Contacting Moose, Inc is part of education process for us.

Lynn: I recommend you come up with statement of trail width and materials. Do something right on foundation, in case it will have to be paved someday. If I go to talk to my board, they will want to know how big this is. Some landowners have been whacked with assessment and the take. Some people won't be thrilled to have someone else come along. Bisect some other way, may not take it very well. Path of least resistance. Say to folks, look they're changing your front yard anyway, won't plant native vegetation, we'd like to put trail through. Folks may not want trail in front of or behind their house. Easement for water and sewer is already there, concentrate there.

My board will be interested in uninterrupted quiet space, as you get away from road, power line has cushion of trees between road and power line. Keep it quiet. That's what you'd be up against.

Dave: Could you provide us with map of properties you own.

Lynn: City Planning department. On maps. Figure on a ten foot footprint. Water and sewer project. My board includes chair of Alaska Energy Association. Other is in charge of all refuges, McNeil River sanctuary. Both concerned with water flow on surface of Beluga wetland. Water sewer project changed the flow of things. Fish and wildlife made a fuss with city. If you do anything to further change that flow, you'll run into further headwinds. Again, keep it close to water and sewer project.

Bumppo: Most of trail, drains away from the bluff. Most folks didn't get that. It drains towards slough. Put in culverts to deal with that afterwards. Water and sewer takes that into account and is sloped in that direction. Trail on top could interrupt that flow. Needs to be way to let flow get across that trail.

Lynn: Landowners won't soon forget that impact on bay side. Catch it early and design it properly.

Dave: Geoblock. Familiar with? Inch and half thick in delicate areas.

Lynn: Is it a foundation? Can you pave on top of it? PSI? You'll be compressing material.

Bumppo: This helps us a lot. Drainage issues, quiet zones.

Lynn: We've all watched moose die near trees. Need to not get disturbed so they don't burn energy. In a lot of cases, you'll be dealing with already stressed landowners. Better now. I would get a fairly quick professional opinion on trail format and size. Settle what trail will look like, cost at 10 feet, prepping for future pavement. East road, huge substantial trail, had to be designed to repave. State parks will have standards for designs for wetlands. Might be leftover material from Islands and Oceans.

Dave: Bishops Beach material will be replaced. Possible to get that material.

Lynn: High value wetlands. EPA allows people who get in trouble to mitigate properties through us. We get asked to make sure Larry Herndon isn't into wetlands while ground freezes. Did core samples, they

have this amount, allowed to do now, rest after ground is frozen hard. Better to piggy back on water/sewer project.

Lindianne: how best to interface with those guys?

Lynn: (1) decide what trail will look like. (2) High value wetlands, forested HEA right of way, trail design may change. May be able to use Islands and Oceans stuff in drier parts. (3) Where will you put trail? F&W, F&G, ACoE, describe two paths, right of way and other. Have that together, then go sit with them and talk it over. Once you get your route A and route B, and trail design, have accepted building material laid out. Go to entities that have designed trails, those are the two or three types, high value wetlands, drier, highlands, enough due diligence to ask for their opinion. They may say no input until finalize. Or may be helpful. Give them some ownership of project, input up front.

Dave: How do moose deal with boardwalks?

Lynn: Moose would cross without too much problem. Heavy snow year, moose use path of least resistance. Snomads have gone into high country when wolves were getting into big valleys, pack down snow so moose can get around. Make paths to next valley. Next day, moose are out of there. Don't make it high, slick. They go across the highway.

Beth: Who for trail design?

Lynn: Jack Sinclair, in charge of state parks, Kenai Peninsula. DOT for trail design. They've done big ones and small ones. DNR state parks has one landscape architect who does trails. He will send you to somebody.

Dave Brann: Alaska Trails has design people.

Lynn: Homework: pull up borough base maps, turn on feature that shows trees, aerial imaging, look to your designs, you can come along here and see how much of each type, have that available as it goes across different parcels.

Bumppo: We're fortunate to have Kevin Walker, retired highway engineer, here. Thank you for valuable information.

Lynn: My name is in phone book. Also work part time Jay Brandt.

Bumppo: Pending business: specific strategy.

Kevin Walker: I made trip charts, a have a file, can print out to draw a line on a map. This section is wetland, this section is high, steep slope, etc. for different types of trail.

Wet, dry, steep. Three types.

Looked at 38 page sewer and water project, a little less than half the trail. Go up behind the gear shed and boat yard. Legal easement there. Davis Street. There is room for ditch and trail.

SWPP plan, whole plan, say they will grade, and plant. If they are doing that work, park money, access to, equipment is there already, have them lay down typar and put some gravel on top of it. Erosion resistant. Compact. Make sure water doesn't pick up dirt when it flows across it. Piggyback on their corps of engineers and permits. We'll help you out, put in some volunteers, in-kind contributions.

Bumppo: Advantage of putting this on top of existing, we don't have to excavate. Just add something on top. Disadvantage is drainage issue Lynn was talking about.

Kevin: while they're excavating, do our foundation as a trough in the middle of their excavation.

Bumppo they quit because they're waiting for it to freeze up for those wet areas. They seeded already.

Dave: Get in touch with Larry Herndon.

Bumppo: Larry is for this project.

Beth: Ongoing conversation with his wife. He will be gone two weeks, be back late November.

Lindianne: Move that we get in touch with Larry and invite to our December meeting.

Bumppo: I will get in touch with Larry Herndon.

Beth: Part of trail from base of spit to Arctic Tern. Few landowners there. We need to work on both at same time. People need to see section that has been accomplished. I am talking with landowners. One landowner said, you should go across my land. He will try to talk to other landowners. This is doable.

Bumppo: To get approved, we need a plan for whole thing.

Beth: Would like to go into detail for first mile and a quarter. 35 landowners from end of sewer and water to east end road. Middle starts at Arctic Tern. Limited number of landowners, most of whom are businessmen, they will get behind it.

Dave Brann: Progress with water and sewer now. I agree, work on that section. Get Larry in here. Specifics. Later in agenda, letter: has to go to commission and then to landowners.

Beth: Talked to Julie Engebretsen, City Planning, I mentioned the letter. She said the letter is not to you. That's the job of the staff to do.

Dave Clemens: Lynn laid this out perfectly. Width, design, materials. What it is. Do our due diligence. Specifics: City trail manual.

Kevin: East End road is ten foot. Major trail. Paving equipment doesn't go less than ten feet. Can pave eight feet. Dig trench and fill, that will be flat, eight feet with no slope.

Bumppo: Put down decent base, could pave later. Just figure out width and surface.
Wetland area, would need special work to pave later.

Dave Brann: Safe Level 3 trail description. Page 16. Informal trail, semi-urban to rural, through neighborhoods. Use primarily pedestrian and include bike and horse. No shoulders beyond surface top. Surface material type is 4 inches not frost acceptable gravel over geo textile, boardwalk, or other reinforced type materials. Steps discouraged, less than 8% grade. Their preferred design manual for trails. If necessary include boardwalks, same width.

Dave Clemens: Page 32, non-motorized transport plan, description. Multiuse path, ten feet. Like East End path.

Bumppo: Kevin have seen material dredging out of harbor? Lots of it above Pier One Theatre. Wonder if that material would do? Sandy gravel.

Beth: Jeff Middleton said, it's mostly sand, would use as fill, would have to put gravel that impacts on top to be useful for bicyclists.

Kevin: Has to be combination of sizes, sharp compactable particles, crushed. 30% or more have to have sharp fracture faces. Mix dredging with crushed gravel. Presents

Bumppo: Ten foot wide, geotextile under it, level three. Boardwalk included in some areas. Tough enough to have snow removed. Small snowblower. Maintenance cost.

Detailed plan:

From base of Spit, flat on trail, until pull off place at base of hill. Fill along side of road, leave grass strip. Or boardwalk along that section. \$100/foot for boardwalk. (Need permission from Jocelyn Baloon for working in that right of way. Boardwalk in right of way, but would need permission from ACOE and F&W for pilings.) Grass strip or barrier separates bike path from road. This takes us to base of hill.

From parking lot at base of hill, trail goes off through patches of trees, drops down to wet area, next patch of trees, over hill, to wet area, then hugs the edge of the grass, mostly at toe of the bluff. Ten foot wide gravel path. Until airport access road. Multi-use recreation bicycle-pedestrian trail. Plan includes signage out on road for bicyclists who continue to commute on the road: Do not pass bicyclists on this hill!

There is (1) option to go up the long slope to the west end of long term parking, rejoining huge road shoulder; would require bridging culvert; (2) easiest option is to go up airport access road. Consult with experts, Dave Brann suggests asking Kevin Myers about this section. Dave Brann will call Kevin Myers. This is our only problem area.

Up access road to long term lot across from airport. Research Reserve building, all part of Aviation Leasing. Follow yellow line, sewer line, to Bay Club Driveway, filled trail along that section. Little bit of leveling, geotextile, and gravel, will take care of that section. Cross the road right there, to right of airport manager's office. Cross there because few driveways for bicyclists to cross, good line of sight. Now you're on northside of K Drive, follow blue line, along road to end of boat yard. A few puddles in there, mostly dry, gets wet last lot of four. Power line easements go along there. From end of boat yard, follow power line easement across Lampert Lake to Caravan Trucking Company, section there is somewhat wet. Use plastic boardwalk, or Geoblock. Geoblock maintains trail structure, but nature works through it. Plants, water, gravel can all get through. Could help us get across muskeg/wetland. Stay close to road, but separate. Stay under power line on Moose, Inc. property. To Arctic Tern.

At Arctic Tern, powerline continues parallel to road. Stay with it. From Arctic Tern to curve, terrain is dryish, muskegish, dry enough for tyvar and 4 to 6 inches of fill. At curve, just before house, cross the drive way, stay close to the road, then cut back to powerline easement. Terrain is relatively dry, use Geoblock, gravel, or turnpike style. Old mill, go in front of mill, stay on powerline. Right across from Morris Avenue. Property owner says OK to go in front of his house. Cut back to road in front of Rob Zolo's property. Join water and sewer.

On water and sewer line, fabric and gravel construction. Easiest for maintenance of water and sewer line. Until high value wetlands. Short high value wetland sections. Where spruce trees grow, fabric and fill gravel OK; where terrain is grassy, will need Geoblock. All the way to boat yard. May be able to use plastic boardwalk from Beluga Lake trail. Boatyard, use water sewer line. To Davis right of way. Big ditch is there, put in large cement culvert, lay in ditch, cover with non-frost fill.

Bumppo: Agenda: Close meeting. 8:30.

Beth: Carey Meyer said we need formal letter, requesting plastic material to be removed from Bunnell Street. Beth will write the letter, Bumppo will sign. Beth moved, Dave seconded.

Bumppo: meeting dates: City Council is 28 November. Go to City Council and ask for resolution back. Do not need vote on it. Need ten days to advertise. Our next meeting will be Tuesday the 22nd of November, 5:30 here, Parks and Rec is 17th of November.

Bumppo will call Larry Herndon and see if we get him to come to that meeting.

Dave: Will keep chain sawing logs out of Mud Bay path.

Bumppo: Adjourns meeting at 8:30.

Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



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MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011
RE: TRANSIENT CAMPING ALONG TRAILS ON CITY OWNED LAND

BACKGROUND

During the October 20, 2011 Regular Meeting Chair Bremicker requested this item to continue under Pending Business to further discuss solutions that could be offered to persons who do not have a more permanent residence.

Commissioner Brann recommended that the commission should review the information provided by staff.

Please refer to the October packet for the information provided by staff.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Review and discuss the recommendations and suggestions as proposed in the Guide No. 56, Homeless Encampments and direct Staff to draft a recommendation to City Council for review and approval of the Commission at the November meeting.
2. Direct Staff to Send a Memorandum to the Homer Police Chief Robl through City Manager Wrede to Enforce Homer City Code, 19.08.030 and 19.08.070 as applicable to the areas noted for transient campers and the associated problems.
3. Review and discuss the information provided and make a motion to take no further action on this as a commission.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011

RE: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO REQUEST UPDATE ON COSTS,
PLANS OR ALTERNATIVES FOR RELOCATION OF THE ROAD WAY INTO KAREN
HORNADAY PARK

BACKGROUND

This item was requested to be on the agenda by Commissioner Cumming.

She opined that it was very important that the commission submit a request to the City Manager and the Director of Public Works to update the plans on relocating the roadway and if there are alternative plans in place.

There is concern expressed by residents that the City has no plans to relocate the roadway and that the current funds will be whittled away so that this important issue will never be addressed.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the commission entertain discussion and direct staff to submit to the City Manager and Director of Public Works a request for status update on the road relocation if agreed by consensus.

Office of the City Clerk

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MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011
RE: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE THE
NEEDS FOR KAREN HORNADAY PARK

BACKGROUND

This item was requested to be on the agenda by Commissioner Cumming. She opined that it was very important that the commission review and prioritize the needs of the park in accordance with the approved master plan and forward that list to the City Manager and the Director of Public Works.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the commission entertain discussion and direct staff to submit to the City Manager and Director of Public Works a prioritized listing as determined by the commission.

Office of the City Clerk

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MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011
RE: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO APPLY FOR THE SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION GRANT

BACKGROUND

This item was postponed from the October 20, 2011 meeting.

During the Regular meeting on September 15, 2011 Commissioner Cumming requested a discussion and recommendation to apply for the grant offered by the Homer Soil and Water Conservation District to be on this agenda for further discussion and approval by the commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Make a motion to recommend staff send a memorandum to the City Manager to apply for a grant if it is made available for 2012.

Office of the City Clerk

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MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011
RE: REVIEW AND UPDATE TO THE 2011-2012 STRATEGIC PLAN

BACKGROUND

It is that time of year again when the commission should review and update their Strategic Plan. Performing this on an annual basis gives the commission an overall view on what has been accomplished and what remains to be done. It also allows the commission to reclassify some items that require a longer time period to accomplish or complete due to the complexity not known in the beginning.

A good strategic plan should provide a clear explanation of how one or more strategic goals are to be achieved by an organization or program. It typically outlines long-term goals and details the specific strategies and programmatic goals that are to be pursued. Areas of risk are analyzed and specific strategies for overcoming those risks are adopted. The strategic planning process is iterative and maps a clear path between a present condition and a vision for the future. Revisiting the Strategic Plan to review accomplishments against documented objectives, establishes a feedback loop that can then influence future planning and decision making.

The plans take shape through an iterative process of facilitated group discussions, research, drafting, and review. The suggested section headings include a number of questions that a facilitator can utilize to guide the creation of appropriate content for the plan. Not all questions may be appropriate for this commission, but the topic areas covered are all important when considering whether to establish or expand infrastructure. You should define what portion you intend to address by creating this strategic plan (e.g. statewide coordination, standards implementation, data production, common applications development, etc.)

The questions incorporated into the process all pertain (in one form or another) to broad strategic concerns, though some are quite specific. The broader strategic concerns are:

- Who are we?
- Where are we?
- Where do we want to go (or not go) and why?
- How do we get there?
- How do we know when we get there?

The Strategic Plan is broken down into the following sections:

- Executive Summary/Mission Statement
- Strategic Planning Methodology
- Current Situation
- Target End-State
- Requirements
- Implementation Program
- Appendices

In completing this strategic planning process, the commission will have a consistent framework for articulating its purpose, values, roles, objectives, strengths, and weaknesses. This effort is intended to provide a roadmap to the future where the needs of the commission and the community are better served. For each section, a list of questions is provided to facilitate the planning process and yield content for the plan itself through the answers and discussion. As previously mentioned, not all of the questions need to be answered, as the situation may vary.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the commission entertain discussion and review items on the strategic plan and make amendments as desired. Direct staff to make the recommended revisions and include in the January packet.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-11

MISSION STATEMENT

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.

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

3-5 Year Period

- Advocate for retaining open and green space
- Keep on top 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
- Preserve beach access – no vacations of public access

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

1-2 Year Period

- construct a bike path along Kachemak Drive
- Develop park in Town Center and plan for pathways and trails
- Document current and historical trails, create a pamphlet to show hiking trails, beaches, recreational access points, parks, campgrounds and basic rules and etiquette
- Continue work on Karen Hornaday park drainage, the parking lot, and master plan implementation
- Increase the city budget for parks and recreations
- Mariner Park driveway access and pedestrian access from the Homer Spit Road and bike path crossing of Homer Spit Road.
- Create an overall sign design for the City. Work with Public Works.

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

- Have a committee go to City Council with recommendations, action plan and time frame.
- Every time there is a memo from the Commission to City Council a Commissioner should go to the meeting and speak about it.
- A commissioner should attend every council meeting to speak with council and keep them informed about what they are working on.
- One member of the Commission attend meetings of other user groups – skiing, co-host, etc. Create better working relationship and communication with user groups.

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.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL CALENDAR
2011 - 2012

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>MEETING DATE</u>	<u>SCHEDULED EVENTS OR AGENDA ITEMS</u>
SEPTEMBER	SEPTEMBER 15, 2011	FALL PARK & BEACH WALK THROUGH
OCTOBER	OCTOBER 20, 2011	STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW
NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER 17, 2011	
DECEMBER	NO MEETING	HAPPY HOLIDAYS
JANUARY	JANUARY 19, 2012	
FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY 16, 2012	LAND ALLOCATION PLAN REVIEW
MARCH	MARCH 15, 2012	
APRIL	APRIL 19, 2012	SPRING PARK & BEACH WALK THROUGH
MAY	MAY 17, 2012	PLANNING PARK DAY OR SIMILAR EVENT
JUNE	JUNE 21, 2012	COMPLETE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARK DAY OR SIMILAR EVENT
JULY	JULY 19, 2012	REVIEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
AUGUST	AUGUST 16, 2011	BUDGET REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS
SEPTEMBER	SEPTEMBER 20, 2012	FALL PARK WALK THROUGH AND BEACH WALK; ELECTIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624
(907) 235-3130

(907) 235-8121
Extension: 2227
Extension: 2224

Fax: (907) 235-3143
Email: clerk@ci.homer.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2011
RE: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO CREATE A NEW POCKET PARK

BACKGROUND

This item was approved for discussion and recommendation by Chair Bremicker at the October 20, 2011 meeting.

Please review and discuss the request for consideration of creating a pocket park in the location of the city owned parcel on the northwest corner of Kachemak Way and Klondike.

RECOMMENDATION

Make a motion to recommend staff send a memorandum to the City Manager to apply for a grant if it is made available for 2012.

From: "J. Wayne Aderhold" <aderhold@xyz.net>
Subject: agenda item: Parks & Recreation Commission
Date: Thu, October 13, 2011 11:13 am
To: "Renee Krause" <[RKrause@ci.homer.ak.us]>

Renee,
Please accept the attached letter & photo attachments as a submission to the P&R Commission for consideration on the next available agenda slot. I understand that it is too late for the October 20th meeting. I may show up to speak to it at the "public comments" section, but not sure at this point.

I'll wait to hear whether or not the Chairman accepts this item and then plan to follow up accordingly.

I'm available to discuss the particulars with the Chairman or other members and best way to reach me is via this email or home phone, 235-6540.

Thanks,
/w.a./

Attachments:

letter-P&R-101311.pdf
Size: 919 k
Type: application/pdf

October 13, 2011

To: City of Homer, Parks & Recreation Commission

Subject: City Hall-Campus “pocket” park

With the completion of the expansion efforts at both City Hall and the College, the City is accomplishing another important step forward in the development of its core. These necessary steps have, unfortunately, required the conversion of more open space into buildings and parking.

I would like to propose that the City complement this recent growth by incorporating the development of a small piece of nearby public land into a convenient “pocket” park that could be used both as an outdoor respite for City Hall & University personnel as well as pedestrian access and rest stop by the public.

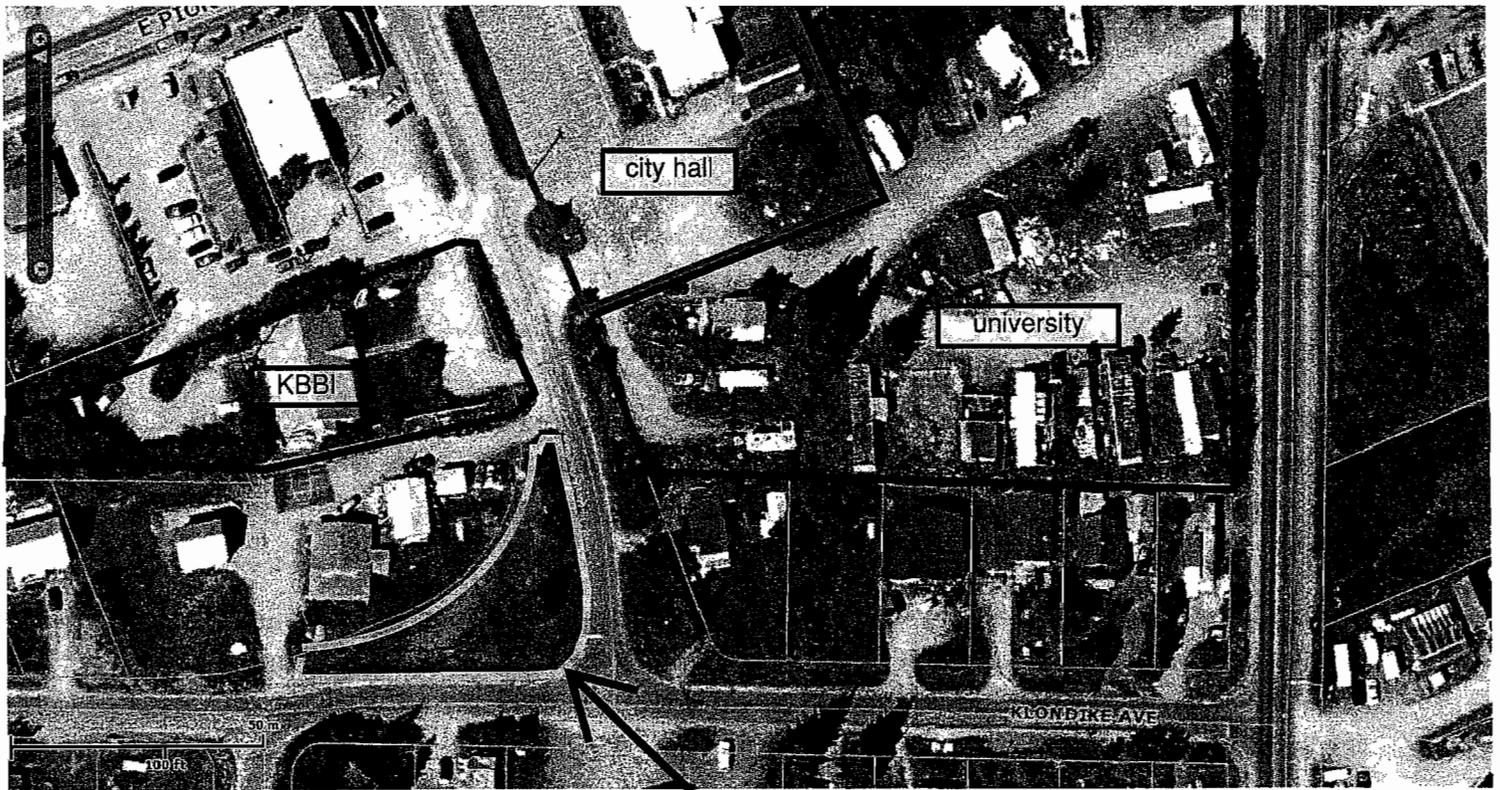
The subject property is already owned by the public as part of a dedicated Right-of-Way that was essentially abandoned during the reconstruction of Kachemak Way and Klondike Avenue in the 1980s. I do not envision a huge expense to develop this park ... mainly some grading and earthwork to develop a gravel pathway, some benches, and probably a nice wooden fence to separate public property from private property. There is already a beautifully-shaped spruce that forms a natural focal point in the center of the public property.

Please consider adding this existing asset to the City’s parks and recreation plan to enrich the urban center. We need more quality indoor and outdoor space.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Aderhold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Wayne Aderhold
353 Grubstake Ave.



KPB Parcel Viewer

Proposed "City Hall" Park

Printed: Oct 10, 2011



Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk
Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603
(907) 235-3130
(907) 235-8121
ext: 2224, 2226, or 2227
Fax: (907) 235-3143
Email: clerk@ci.homer.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: COUNCIL'S ADVISORY BODIES

FROM: JO JOHNSON, CITY CLERK

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Johnson", is written over the "FROM:" line.

DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 2011

SUBJECT: 2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

Please review the 2012 meeting schedule for your Advisory Body and approve with or without amendments. The draft resolution includes the entire 2012 meeting schedule. The resolution will be presented to Council on December 12, 2011 for adoption.

A memo or excerpt from the meeting minutes noting the action by your advisory body is needed. Please return this to the City Clerk by December 6, 2011.

Thank you!

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

City Clerk

RESOLUTION 11-XXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, ESTABLISHING THE 2012 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE CITY COUNCIL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION, LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD, PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION, ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION, PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION, LEASE COMMITTEE, PERMANENT FUND COMMITTEE, PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Homer City Code Section 1.14.020, the City Council annually sets the schedule for regular and some special meetings, noting the dates, times and places of the City Council, Advisory Commissions, and the Library Advisory Board meetings; and

WHEREAS, The public is informed of such meetings through the kiosks located at Captain's Coffee, Harbormaster's Office, Redden Marine Services of Homer, and the City Clerk's Office, Clerk's Calendar on KBBI, the City Clerk's Home Page on the Internet, and postings at the Clerk's Office at City Hall, and the Public Library; and

WHEREAS, HCC 1.14.020 - 040 states that meetings may be advertised in a local paper of general circulation at least three days before the date of the meeting and that special meetings should be advertised in the same manner or may be broadcast by local radio at least twice a day for three consecutive days or two consecutive days before the day of the meeting plus the day of the meeting; and

WHEREAS, HCC 1.14.010 notes that the notice of meetings applies to the City Council and all commissions, boards, committees, subcommittees, task forces and any sub-unit of the foregoing public bodies of the City, whether meeting in a formal or informal meeting; that the failure to give the notice provided for under this chapter does not invalidate or otherwise affect any action or decision of a public body of the City; however, this sentence does not change the consequences of failing to give the minimum notice required under State Statute; that notice will ordinarily be given by the City Clerk; and that the presiding officer or the person or persons calling a meeting are responsible for notifying the City Clerk of meetings in sufficient time for the Clerk to publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the City; and

WHEREAS, This Resolution does not preclude additional meetings such as emergency meetings, special meetings, worksessions, and the like; and

WHEREAS, Council adopted Resolution 06-144 on October 9, 2006 establishing the Regular Meeting site for all bodies to be the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Homer City Council, that the 2012 meeting schedule is established for the City Council, Economic Development Advisory Commission, Library Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, Advisory Planning Commission, Port and Harbor Advisory Commission, Lease Committee, Permanent Fund Committee, Public Arts Committee and Transportation Advisory Committee of the City of Homer, Alaska, as follows:

Holidays - City Offices closed:

January 1*, New Year's Day, Sunday so will be observed on Monday, January 2	February 20*, Presidents' Day, the third Monday	March 26*, Seward's Day, last Monday	May 28*, Memorial Day, last Monday	July 4*, Independence Day, Wednesday	September 3*, Labor Day, first Monday
October 18*, Alaska Day, Thursday	November 11**, Veterans Day, Sunday so will be observed on Monday, November 12	November 22*, Thanksgiving Day, Thursday	November 23*, Friday, the day after Thanksgiving	December 25*, Christmas, Tuesday	

*Indicates holidays - City offices closed.

**If on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed as the legal holiday; if on a Saturday, the preceding Friday is observed as the legal holiday pursuant to the City of Homer Personnel Rules and Regulations.

CITY COUNCIL (CC)

January 9, 23	February 13, 27	March 12, 27*	April 9, 23	May 14, 29*	June 11, 25
July 9**, 23	August 13, 27	September 10, 24	October 2 Election	October 8, 22, for Oath of Office, 15	Canvass Board October 5 or 8
November 6 Run- Off Election	November 12**, 26	December 10****	December 17**** if needed		

City Council's Regular Committee of the Whole Meetings at 5:00 p.m. to no later than 5:50 p.m. prior to every Regular Meeting which are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. *** The City Council traditionally reschedules regular meetings that fall on holidays or High School Graduation days, for the following Tuesday. Council will not conduct a First Regular Meeting in July.

AML Annual Conference Week is tentatively scheduled for November 12 - 16, 2012.

*Tuesday meeting due to Seward's Day/Memorial Day.

**There will be no First Regular Meeting in July or November.

**** The City Council traditionally cancels the last regular meeting in December and holds the first regular meeting and one to two Special Meetings as needed. Generally the second Special Meeting the third week of December, will not be held.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (EDC)

January 10	February 14	March 13	April 10	May 8	June 12
July 10	August 14	September 11	October 9	November 13	December 11

Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each Month at 6:00 p.m.

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD (LAB)

January 3	February 7	March 6	April 3	May 1	June 5
July 3	August 7	September 4	October 2	November 6	December 4

Library Advisory Board Regular Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (P/R)

January 19	February 16	March 15	April 19
May 17	June 21	July 19	August 16
September 20	October 25*	November 15	

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Regular Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, with the exception of December, at 5:30 p.m. *Rescheduled due to Alaska Day Holiday.

PLANNING COMMISSION (P/C)

January 4, 18	February 1, 15	March 7, 21	April 4, 18	May 2, 16	June 6, 20
July 18**	August 1, 15	September 5, 19	October 3, 17	November 7, 21	December 5**

Advisory Planning Commission Regular Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. **There will be no First Regular Meeting in July or Second Regular Meeting in December.

PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION (P/H)

January 25	February 22	March 28	April 25	May 23	June 27
July 25	August 22	September 26	October 24	November 21	December 19

Port and Harbor Advisory Commission Regular Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. The Regular Meetings in the months of November and December are traditionally scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month.

LEASE COMMITTEE (LC)

January 12	April 12	July 12	October 11
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Lease Committee Regular Meetings are held quarterly on the second Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

PERMANENT FUND COMMITTEE (PFC)

February 9	May 10	August 9	November 8
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Permanent Fund Committee Regular Meetings are held quarterly on the second Thursday of the months of February, May, August, and November at 5:15 p.m.

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE (PAC)

February 9	May 10	August 9	November 8
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Public Arts Committee Regular Meetings are held quarterly on the third Thursday of the months of February, May, August, and November at 5:00 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

February 21	May 15	August 21	November 20
-------------	--------	-----------	-------------

Transportation Advisory Committee Regular Meetings are held quarterly on the third Tuesday of the months of February, May, August, and November at 5:30 p.m.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 12th day of December, 2011.

CITY OF HOMER

JAMES C. HORNADAY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JO JOHNSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Impact: Adverting of meetings in regular weekly meeting ad and advertising of any additional meetings.

Renee Krause

From: Jo Johnson
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2011 9:55 AM
To: 'rfbumppo@hotmail.com'
Cc: Renee Krause
Subject: FW: Water Trail

Bumppo,
This is for your information.

Renee,
Please include this as an informational item in the commission's November 17th packet to allow the body to discuss it.

Thank you,

Jo Johnson

City Clerk
City of Homer
491 E. Pioneer Ave.
Homer, AK 99603
907-235-3130 Fax 907-235-3143

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: Most e-mails from or to this address will be available for public inspection under Alaska public records law.

From: Walt Wrede
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 11:11 AM
To: Dave Brann
Subject: Water Trail

Dave:

Congratulations on all of the progress you have made on the water trail so far. That is impressive and it seems like momentum is building for the project. I personally think this is a great project and I hope it keeps moving ahead.

I do have a couple of questions for you though. It was brought to my attention that the Homer Parks and Recreation Commission is listed as an initial partner for the project on some of the news release information that has gone out. That generated a couple of questions and a little concern from members of the public. Following are a couple of things we should address.

First, did the Commission take any formal action on this? The Clerk's office went through the Commission agenda's and minutes and could not find any place where they took action as a group, although it was clear that you briefed them on it. Maybe a mistake was made somewhere in translation but the Commission's name should not be used to endorse anything unless it has taken action as a body.

Second, the Commission is advisory in nature. It does not set policy for the City. Only the City Council can do that. The best way to do this would be for the Commission to place this issue on the agenda, take some action on it, and then send a recommendation to the City Council. The Council could then endorse and express support for the project on behalf of the City, and authorize the Commission to participate, if that is what they think best.

Third, The information circulated indicates that the starting point for the trail will be the Homer Spit. If you and the Commission intend that the starting point for the trail be at the beach near the Pier One Theatre, (or on any other City parcel) you should make that very clear to the Council now. As I noted in a prior e-mail regarding the Wooden Boat proposal, the Council has make no decisions about how it wants to use that parcel. So, it would be good to get that idea out there now for broader discussion.

Sorry this gets complicated. Working through the governmental process can be frustrating some times. But, we owe it to the public to follow the proper procedures and have full disclosure and opportunities for participation. This will help us avoid problems later. Call me if you have any questions.

Thanks, Walt



www.doi.gov

News Release

Date: October 24, 2011

Contact: Adam Fetcher, (DOI) 202-208-6416

AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS: Salazar Highlights Two Proposed Projects in Alaska to Promote Outdoor Recreation, Conservation *Projects Will Be Part of 50-State Report*

WASHINGTON — Just days before the release of a 50-state report outlining some of the country's most promising ways to reconnect Americans to the natural world, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today highlighted two projects in the state of Alaska that will be included in the final report — representing what states believe are among the best investments in the nation to support a healthy, active population, conserve wildlife and working lands, and create travel, tourism and outdoor-recreation jobs across the country.

Developing an all-season trail system at Denali State Park and a water trail in Kachemak Bay are among 100 projects nationwide that will be highlighted in next week's report — two in every state — as part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative to establish a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnect Americans to the outdoors.

The report is a result of 50 meetings with governors and stakeholders held by Salazar and other senior Interior officials to solicit ideas on how to best implement AGO in their states. These projects were identified for their potential to conserve important lands and build recreation opportunities and economic growth for the surrounding communities as part of close engagement with Gov. Sean Parnell and the state of Alaska, as well as private landowners, local- and tribal-elected officials, community organizations and outdoor-recreation and conservation stakeholders. The full 50-state report will be released in the coming weeks.

"Under the America's Great Outdoors Initiative, we are listening to the people of Alaska and communities across America and working with them on locally-based projects that will conserve the beauty and health of our land and water and open up more opportunities for people to enjoy them," Salazar said. "My staff and I have been asking each governor for the most promising projects to support in their states, and we will do all we can to help move them forward."

The two projects in Alaska highlighted by Salazar in the forthcoming report are:

Denali State Park Trails

Denali State Park sits on the south side of the Alaska Range, adjacent to Denali National Park and Preserve. The 325,000-acre park is remarkable for its spectacular views of towering glaciers and ice-carved gorges. Glacial streams wind down to the tundra, home to moose, grizzly bears, caribou, and other wildlife.

With its beautiful views and unique landscape, the region is popular for sightseeing and recreation by both residents and out-of-state visitors, and anticipated developments in the region are expected to increase demand. The state park provides a range of recreation experiences that often complement those available in the national park, including a trail system with several trailheads along the state's major north-south highway.

The state needs assistance to plan, develop, and maintain an all-season trail system that allows for optimum outdoor-recreational use of the area while protecting the natural and cultural resources of the park.

The goal of the Kachemak Bay Water Trails Association in Homer is to identify a designated water trail suitable for small watercraft from the Homer Spit up the north shore of Kachemak Bay and down the south shore to Seldovia. This trail would connect communities at both ends of the bay to one another and to the outstanding recreational and educational offerings of the bay.

The proposed trail is approximately 125 miles long, and the proposal will identify access points, landing sites, and recreational facilities available to the public. Educational information related to flora and fauna, native cultures, and geology will greatly enhance recreational and educational opportunities and promote water safety.

The Kachemak Bay Water Trail will emphasize stewardship of the resources and providing Alaska youth and adults with a fun way to learn about the bay, beaches, estuaries, and uplands and their importance to the marine ecosystem.

The report will also include potential actions by Interior and its bureaus to support the projects identified. At Denali State Park, for example, the Department could provide technical assistance from the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program to develop a trail-management plan with recommendations for design, construction, management, and potential funding sources.

At Kachemak Bay, the Department could provide technical assistance from RTCA to develop a marine-based water trail system, provide recommendations for development of the water trail, build partnerships, identify funding sources, and ultimately designate the project as a National Water Trail.

The Department of the Interior will work with each of its key bureaus — including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — to direct available resources and personnel to make these projects a reality.

“The America’s Great Outdoors Initiative turns the conventional wisdom about the federal government’s role in conservation on its head,” Salazar said. “Rather than dictate policies or conservation strategies from Washington, it supports grassroots, locally driven initiatives.”

For more information on the President’s America’s Great Outdoors initiative, click [here](#).

To view a map of the projects already announced, click [here](#).

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Overcast
 High: 56°
 Low: 38°
 High Tide
 9:02 AM
 Low Tide
 3:17 PM

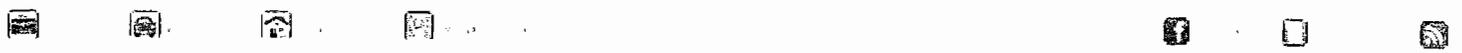
52°

Sunday, October 23, 2011

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April 17

The Revenue Trail

Maine's nationally recognized recreational water route generated \$1.75 million a year in spending over the past nine boating seasons

By Tux Turkel turkel@mainetoday.com
 Staff Writer

Bill Baker got a call recently from a California couple who want to get married this summer on a Maine island. Baker, owner of Old Quarry Ocean Adventures in Stonington, is suggesting a few nearby destinations. They include state-owned Hell's Half Acre and Steve's Island, and Green Island, owned by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

All are on the Maine Island Trail, a 375-mile, recreational water route that's gaining increasing national recognition among paddlers and boaters -- and the occasional wedding party. That awareness, outfitters and guides such as Baker have learned, also has an economic component.

"It's a huge attraction and a big part of my business," he said. "If the Maine Island Trail wasn't there, and those islands weren't open to the public, it would be very difficult to find destinations."

Baker's experience is now being reflected in a first-ever economic benefits study of the Maine Island Trail.

The study was done for the Maine Island Trail Association, the Portland-based, nonprofit group that acts as a steward for the chain of wild, undeveloped isles. It found that the coastal trail generated \$1.75 million a year in spending by visitors over the past nine boating seasons, including \$553,000 annually from travelers who otherwise wouldn't have spent money in Maine.

Out-of-state visitors spent the most on average, \$684 for day trips and \$1,177 for overnights.

The money went primarily to lodging, restaurants, groceries and boat equipment, but also to camping, mooring fees, rentals and guide services. The greatest share was spent in the Deer Isle region, where Baker is based, followed by Casco Bay. As a group, sailors spent the most, followed by kayakers and motorboaters.

The study also estimated that the trail generates \$54,000 a year in state and local tax revenue. That finding was notable: The Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands gives the association \$50,000 a year to help manage the 47 state-owned islands on the trail. That management contract ends in 2014, and the association wanted to quantify the value of the deal.

The findings are being made public during a time of tight budgets and political change in Maine, but also as nature-based, sustainable tourism is being promoted as a form of economic development.



Kayakers from Venture Crew, a senior scouting group, set up camp on Casco Bay's Jewell Island, the most popular stop on the Maine Island Trail. State money contributed to the group that operates the trail is used in part to fund a summer caretaker on the island.

2002 Press Herald file photo



Kayaks, seen here on Jewell Island in Casco Bay, are a familiar sight on the Maine Island Trail. Fully one-half of the trail's users are paddlers, the second biggest source of revenue, behind sailors. A study found that the trail generates \$1.75 million in annual spending, including \$553,000 annually from travelers who otherwise wouldn't have spent money in Maine.

2002 Press Herald file photo

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS BELOW

Select images available for purchase in the Maine Today Photo Store

For more information on the Maine Island Trail Association, visit: www.mita.org

Most...

SHARED COMMENTED

- Bill Nemitz: Fire chief takes heat, cracks down
- Maine man's Honda racks up 1 million miles
- Feature Obituary: Sharon Howard, 60, devoted teacher and loving mother
- Fire rips through Steak 'n' Rib Restaurant

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The study was done by two graduate students at the Harvard Kennedy School, Jonathan Glassman and Vilas Rao. In the summary, they characterize their estimates as conservative.

The water trail, obviously, has no gates and offers unlimited access points, so there's no way to count all the visitors and gather their specific use information.

The students benefited from a previous trail-user census done in the Deer Isle region, and a University of Maine survey that included visitor interviews and a review of logbooks placed each season on key islands. These logbooks received 13,416 entries from 85 islands.

The students conducted an online survey last year to capture spending patterns and other travel details. They received 785 responses.

The study found that most visitors are from New England, with 45 percent from Maine and Massachusetts. Kayakers make up half of the total. Half of all users are day-trippers; for campers, the average trip lasts two or three days.

The Maine Island Trail is considered the nation's first recreational water trail. It was conceived by David Getchell Sr. in 1987, following an inventory of 40 state-owned islands. The trail now touches 183 islands from the southern Maine coast to New Brunswick, as well as several mainland locations.

The trail is widely known in paddling and boating communities, but in recent years, it has been gaining more national media attention. It was recognized two years ago, for instance, as one of the 50 best American adventures by National Geographic Adventure Magazine.

Growing awareness has led to slow but steady growth in trail use, according to Doug Weich, the association's executive director. The group relies heavily on voluntary agreements with private landowners and has worked over the years to balance use of the most popular islands with its overall mission — responsible, sustainable recreation on Maine's coastal islands.

"The mission of MITA isn't to maximize recreation," Weich said.

But it's also possible, the study noted, for the association to reference the economic impact findings to help secure financial support for its management goals. The group has six employees and a \$513,943 budget this year. It collects the largest share of revenues from private donations, and relies heavily on volunteers.

Last month, the association's finances drew public attention when it filed a lawsuit against its former business manager, claiming she had embezzled \$117,000 over more than four years. Despite the loss, the group says it has enough money to meet its financial obligations.

The state's \$50,000 contribution goes to general maintenance and funds a summer caretaker on Casco Bay's Jewell Island, the trail's most popular stop. The study shows that the money is a good investment for the state, according to Rex Turner, an outdoor recreation planner in the parks and lands bureau.

"If MITA disappeared, we'd be in a tough spot," Turner said. "We'd have a hard time filling that gap."

Occasional studies have assessed the economic benefits of state parks and snowmobiling in Maine, for instance, but this report appears to be the first to focus so intensely on a single trail, Turner said.

The findings are similar to those of a 2006 study of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, a 740-mile route from New York through Maine. That study, which included surveys in the Rangeley Lakes and Allagash regions, tallied \$12.6 million of economic impact.

But while the economic benefits of water trails are welcome, they also are limited. Like the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, the Maine Island Trail is diffuse and remote, and not intended for mass tourism.

"It's not Disneyland," Weich said. "This is a wild, ocean-based experience."

Staff Writer Tux Turkel can be contacted at 791-6462 or

tturkel@pressherald.com

Were you interviewed for this story? If so, please fill out our accuracy form

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C.W. 10)
OCT 13 2011 PM03:53

News Release:

Kachemak Bay Water Trails Association meeting

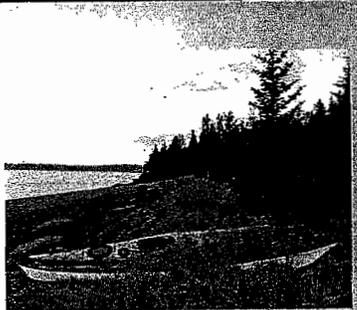
Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2011

Pratt Museum

7:00-9:00 p.m.

A meeting to provide information about the proposed Kachemak Bay Water Trail. Lisa Holzappel, the National Park Service Alaska Program Manager will lead participants in creating a vision and mission statement for the project and discussing / brainstorming ways for people to get involved.

**Contact Dave Brann
brann@alaska.net**



RTCA helps partners give their communities something to “Last a Lifetime”

October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012

The National Park Service—Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as **RTCA**, announces its new outdoor recreation and conservation projects in the Alaska Region for the upcoming fiscal year. Communities can grow from a seed of an idea. RTCA will help communities take their **Ideas** and turn them **into Action!**

RTCA looks forward to working with the following communities on these exciting new projects.

Kachemak Bay Water Trail (Homer, Alaska)

- *Develop a water trail from Homer, to the head of Kachemak Bay, south to Seldovia.*
- *This 125 mile water trail will identify and market access points, landing sites, and associated facilities to enhance the public’s recreational and educational experiences along the marine ecosystem.*
- *Initial Partners: Homer Chamber of Commerce, Homer Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, Kachemak Bay Conservation Society, Seldovia Ferry, Cook Inlet Keepers, Homer Wooden Boat Society, Alaska State Parks.*

Palmer Pump Park (Palmer, Alaska)

- *Build a bike pump park to give kids (and adults!) a safe and fun way to learn bike and safety skills, improve physical activity levels and develop the confidence to get out and enjoy local mountain biking trails.*
- *The pump park will fulfill multiple goals of the city’s community and economic development plan and the current recreation plan.*
- *Initial Partners: Ptarmigan P Trails, Blue Mountain Wellness Center, Backcountry Bikes, Valley Mountain Bikers and Hikers*

Skagway Pullen Creek StreamWalk (Skagway, Alaska)

- *Create the Pullen Creek StreamWalk, a contiguous walking path with interpretive signs that ties together the historical and natural history points between Pullen Pond and the City Museum via the Pullen Creek corridor.*
- *This half-mile trail will help restore and protect riparian and fish habitat by properly guiding pedestrian traffic near the stream and teaching Skagway residents and visitors about salmon habitat and the local watershed.*
- *Initial Partners: Taiya Inlet Watershed Council, the Municipality of Skagway, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office in Juneau, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.*

Sitka NHP River View & Forest Walk Trails (Sitka, Alaska)

- *Develop sustainable trails to create the River View and Forest Walk Trails on the northwest side of Sitka National Historical Park.*
- *The trails respond to the community’s desire for more “in town” recreation opportunities.*
- *Initial Partners: Sitka National Historical Park, the City and Borough of Sitka, the U.S. Forest Service, the Alaska Raptor Center.*

For more information see:
<http://go.nps.gov/alaska/rtca>

Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Assistance Program NPS RTCA Alaska Projects, FY2012

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

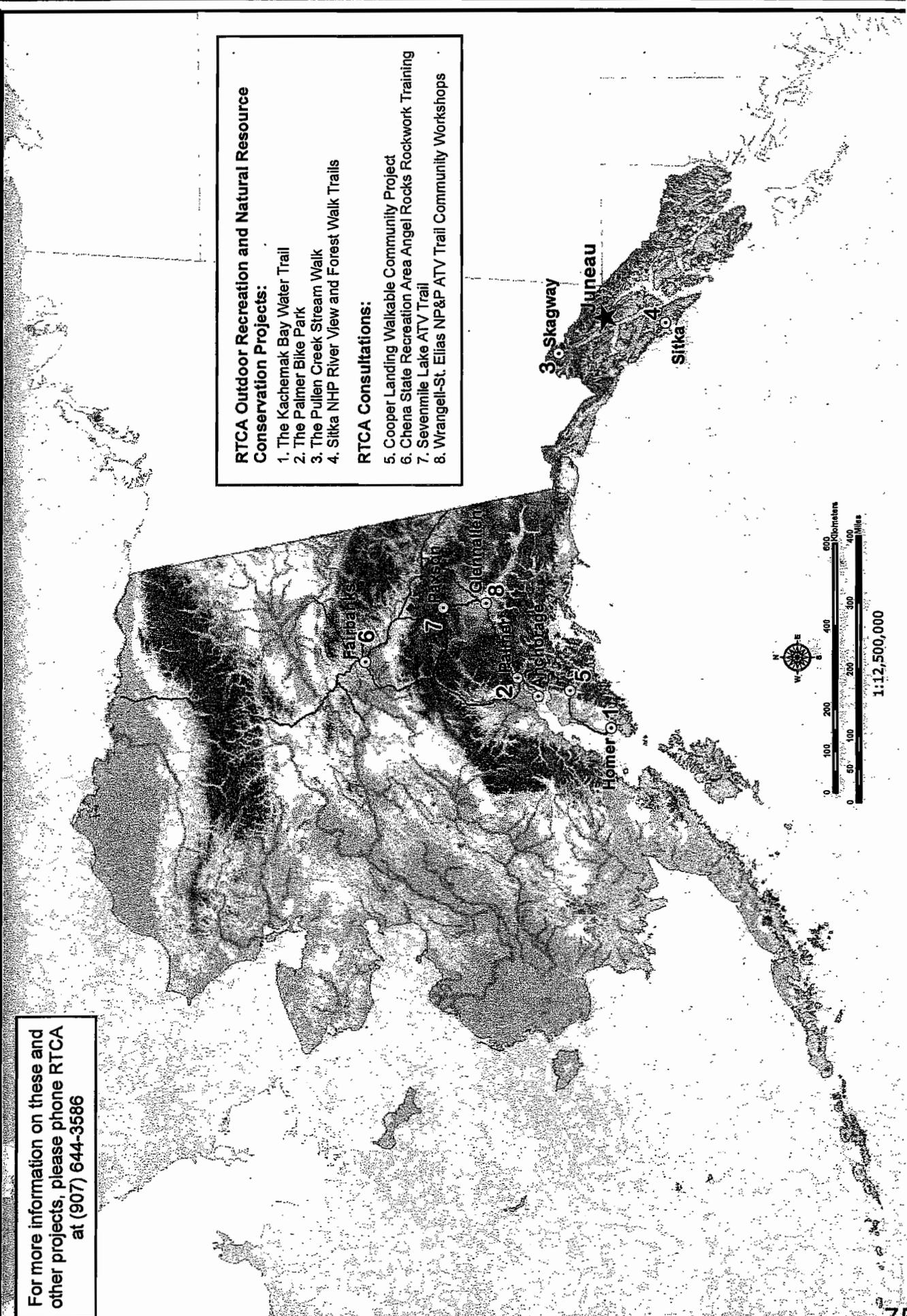
For more information on these and other projects, please phone RTCA at (907) 644-3586

RTCA Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resource Conservation Projects:

1. The Kachemak Bay Water Trail
2. The Palmer Bike Park
3. The Pullen Creek Stream Walk
4. Sitka NHP River View and Forest Walk Trails

RTCA Consultations:

5. Cooper Landing Walkable Community Project
6. Chena State Recreation Area Angel Rocks Rockwork Training
7. Sevenmile Lake ATV Trail
8. Wrangell-St. Elias NP&P ATV Trail Community Workshops



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MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR HORNADAY AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2011

RE: RECOMMENDATION TO SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF VAULTED RESTROOM FACILITIES AT MARINER PARK

Background

The Spit Parks and Recreation Committee discussed with Parks Maintenance Coordinator Angie Otteson on any outstanding needs of the Parks and Recreation Department outside of reinstatement of the temporary summer personnel in the FY2012 Budget during a regular meeting on August 26, 2011.

Seasonal use of port-a-potties at this park detracts from the potential revenues that could be used to perform additional much needed improvements to the park as a whole. It would also alleviate most if not all of the public complaints received on the condition and cleanliness or those port-a-potties.

It was determined that the increasing use and popularity of Mariner Park at the base of the Homer Spit would benefit from the installation of permanent restroom facilities. While having flush toilets would be the overall preferred facility, the cost of construction and overall maintenance, and the high potential for vandalism warrants the construction and installation of vaulted toilet facilities similar to those installed at Bishops' Beach.

The estimated cost to construct and install a vault toilet is \$35,000.00 maximum.

The Committee forwarded their recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for review discussion and recommendation to City Council.

During the Regular Meeting on October 20, 2011 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission reviewed the recommendation submitted and entertained a discussion on the recommendation. Following is the excerpt from those minutes of the meeting:

Chair Bremicker inquired about the recommendation regarding the vault toilet from the committee. Ms. Angie Otteson elaborated on the budget request and discussion held during the committee meeting.

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN – MOVED TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO INCLUDE \$35,000 IN THE PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET ALLOCATION TO CONSTRUCT VAULTED TOILET FACILITIES AT MARINER PARK.

Commissioner Archibald commented that he was in favor of supporting this request he acknowledged that the cost was minimal in comparison to the value added to the park.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Recommendation

Approve the Allocation to Public Works Department Budget to construct and install vaulted toilet facilities at Mariner Park.

