



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Port and Harbor

4311 Freight Dock Road
Homer, AK 99603

port@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3160

(f) 907-235-3152

Memorandum

TO: PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: BRYAN HAWKINS, HARBORMASTER
DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2020
SUBJECT: SEATTLE BOAT SHOW TRAVEL REPORT

I traveled to the Seattle boat show again this year so that I could promote Homer's Port and Harbor in the AAHPA trade show booth. I believe this is the 12th year Homer has attended this very large recreational focused boat show.

The show is always well attended by both the serious boater and the folks that just like checking out all the new equipment. There is plenty to see and vendors always bring their newest coolest equipment to display. Homer Chamber of Commerce sent Jan Knutson down again this year and, as always, it's a great pleasure to be able to work the booth with her. Sometimes I compare working a trade show booth to stream fishing. There are a seemingly endless run of people swimming by and our goal is to get one to take the bait so that we can pull them out of the stream and talk to them about traveling to Alaska. Turns out we're pretty good fishers and we had some great conversations about boating in Alaska and travel in general. It's fun helping people plan a vacation of a lifetime and, of course, sharing our experience and knowledge about this great State.

The Seattle boat show is a 10 day event and in order to be sure the AAHPA booth had full coverage, many harbors have to participate in order to keep fresh faces fishing the stream for the whole show. Juneau, Ketchikan, and Seward sent people to "man" the booth.

While in Seattle I also was able to meet with Bruce Lambert the Gateway Director for the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, US Department of Transportation Maritime Administration (MARAD). We discussed the (NOFO) notice of funding opportunity and specifically the minimum draft restriction for greater than 20' requirement listed in the NOFO recently released by MARAD.

