

Office of the City Manager

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Memorandum 20-009

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council

FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager

DATE: January 8, 2020

SUBJECT: Travel to Juneau to Advocate for AMHS

The City of Homer is an Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) community and the home port of the M/V Tustemena. The Council has long advocated for a healthy marine highway presence in the State, most recently through the passage of Resolution 19-079. Alaska Municipal League (AML) has been organizing efforts for coastal communities to unify and advocate for AMHS through a Ferry Caucus. I have been participating in teleconference meetings to keep Homer engaged and have reported on those meetings in my City Manager's report. AML has scheduled a legislative flyin January 21 through 23 for meetings with legislators on ferry issues and specifically asked for Homer to participate. The next Ferry Caucus teleconference is Friday, January 17, at 12pm.

Recommendation: Approve travel for one Councilmember or Mayor (to be determined at meeting) to travel to Juneau January 21 to 23 to participate in the AML AMHS ferry caucus and advocate with legislators on behalf of AMHS.

Fiscal Note: Cost estimates for travel include round trip airfare from Homer to Juneau \$700 and room rates at \$300 per night. Per Diem is \$58 per day, for three meals.

Enc:

Resolution 19-079
AML AMHS Caucus white paper
Email regarding flyin from AML Executive Director