



City of Homer

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Port and Harbor

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Memorandum

TO: PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
THRU: BRYAN HAWKINS, HARBORMASTER
FROM: MATT CLARK, DEPUTY HARBORMASTER
DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2019
SUBJECT: 2019 PACIFIC MARINE EXPO

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to represent the Port of Homer in partnership with the Homer Marine Trades Association at the 2019 Pacific Marine Expo, located at the Century Link Field event center in Seattle. The Pacific Marine Expo is a three day comprehensive trade show featuring all sectors of the commercial fishing industry, represented by 400 business-exhibitors and attended by 20,000 visitors. Seattle serves as the corporate, financial, and logistical headquarters for many of the participating exhibitors.

While partnering with the Homer Marine Trades Association, my primary goal as exhibitor was to promote Homer as a strategic and beneficial location to conduct maritime related business. Our exhibit featured 20 foot back drop display banner containing an overhead photo and conceptual overlay of Homer's port & harbor and proposed port expansion project, Norther Enterprise's Travel Lift capacity project, and the business logos of the HMTA members. A 50 inch flat screen TV displayed the "Homer is in the Business of Boats" video featuring eye catching overhead drone photography of the port & harbor along with short advertisements, testimonials, and interviews specific to Homer's marine trades industry.

Ultimately, as an exhibitor, I found myself constantly engaged in meaningful, in-depth conversations focused on port & harbor operations. The following are examples of some of those conversations:

- Representative Vance and port commissioner Zimmerman, regarding state assistance in funding the port & harbor's three year general investigation of our port expansion project with the USACOE.
- Bruce Lambert, director of inland waterways gateway MARAD, regarding federal funding sources for port related infrastructure.
- Isaak Hurst, a maritime law attorney, International Maritime Group, PLLC, process and preparation of the US Marshal in the seizure of a commercial fishing vessel located in Homer.
- Councilmember Rachel Lord and Doug Bowen, owner of Alaska Boats & Permits, regarding the Alaska SB-92, vessel registration requirements, and derelict & abandoned vessels.
- Done Lane, Homer resident, commercial fishing vessel owner, F/V Predator, and former lessee of a 75' stall in the port & harbor of 30 years. Closure and reasons for relocating his operation to Peteresburg, Alaska.
- McKibben Jackinsky, Homer News journalist, regarding the value of the port & harbor and HMTA exhibiting at the Pacific Marine Expo and promoting Homer.