



City of Homer

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Public Works

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MEMORANDUM

To: Parks, Arts, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commission.

From: Matt Steffy, Parks Maintenance Coordinator

Date: February 20th, 2020

Subject: Greatest Parks in the Universe Staff Report

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- See attached for 2019 Annual Report
 - There has been no camping at City facilities in this period, but our Camp Host at Fishing Hole has kept busy interacting with our seasonal users and communicating with me over concerns.
 - Staff have been working with the Friends of the Homer Skatepark, a local group of motivated citizens who are forming under the fiscal umbrella of the Homer Foundation in cooperation with the City to raise funds for safety improvements and new elements.
 - I have been making some edits to the website to improve content. Aaron Yeaton created a series of maps for our campgrounds that incorporate ArcGIS online viewer. This viewer has replaced the Google Maps link on each page for directions and orientation.
 - The Hickerson Cemetery viewer has also gone online. It is linked off of the Hickerson Page under Clerks Office.
 - Staff have continued on the process of formulating an effective User Agreement for Softball.
 - The 20/21 budget includes \$10,000 for replacing Banners and Christmas Decorations for Pioneer Avenue. We will be holding off for one year at the request of the Administration to allow for completion of the Streetscape/Wayfinding Plan. Funds allocated in the Capital Projects Budget are available for three years.
 - Staff are coordinating a bench donation to the City of Homer. The family of a deceased former resident would like a bench on the Spit Trail overlooking Mud Bay. Location and bench selection have been made.
 - City Parks have hosted numerous events, including the annual New Year's Fireworks Display at Mariner Park, a Remembrance for the Scandies Rose at the Seafarers Memorial, and several marches and demonstrations at WKFL.
 - Staff have been working with Cycle Logical, Port & Harbor, and Administration to coordinate the placement of three bike rental stations. One each at Ramp 2, Fishing Hole Campground, and the Airport. Bikes are accessed via mobile app, and can be picked up and dropped off at the different locations.
 - We are already plugging events into the 2020 Pavilion Calendar.
 - Public Works Director selection process update: Tentative selection has been made. Candidate is from the Kenai Peninsula, a former City of Homer Engineer, and also has a strong legal background. She will be flying in on February 25th for an in-person interview and meetings.