

Agenda Statement

Meeting Date: April 21, 2026
To: City Council
Through: Jackie C. Wilde, City Manager
From: Shelby Carlson, Assistant City Manager
Agenda Item: Alaska Marine Highway System Parking Lease



BACKGROUND, JUSTIFICATION, & INTENT:

The City of Whittier has received a request from the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS), a state agency, to renew their lease for a 7,000-square-foot parcel of land located adjacent to the northerly boundary of the AMHS Whittier Ferry Terminal for off-site parking. In accordance with Whittier Municipal Code (WMC) 3.38.540, leases to government entities may be exempted from the competitive bidding process and other requirements, provided the City Council determines that it is in the best interest of the City to do so. The lease would support vital transportation services, improve the efficiency of City property use, and promote positive relations with state agencies.

The proposed lease is for a term of one year, from April 12, 2026, to April 11, 2027, with an annual fee of \$14,214.61. The City Manager is authorized to finalize the lease agreement upon Council approval. This action aligns with the City's commitment to supporting essential services, such as ferry transportation, and allows for the efficient use of available property without the need for further competitive bidding procedures. The Council's approval of this lease is a key step in ensuring the continued success and operational efficiency of the Alaska Marine Highway System in Whittier.

CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST:

	Yes	No	N/A
1. Legislative Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Comprehensive Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Whittier Code: <i>WMC 3.38.540</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FISCAL NOTE: This lease price was \$13,922.24 in 2025. When we add in the 2.1% CPI (increase of \$292.37), the new annual lease rate is \$14,214.61, assuming the City wishes to extend the lease.

ATTORNEY REVIEW: Yes No Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends approval of Resolution 2026-018.