



# City of Homer

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

## Administration

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### NEWS RELEASE:

#### Homer Harbor Expansion Study Officially Starts *Design Charrette Scheduled for Public Participation*

**For immediate release May 4, 2023**

To kick off the Homer Harbor Expansion Study, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will host a series of public workshops during a three-day design charrette from Wednesday, May 17 to Friday, May 19 at the Islands and Ocean Visitor Center located at 95 Sterling Highway in Homer. The community is invited to attend any and all of the public work sessions.

The USACE conducts design charrettes in the early stages of a general investigation study to gather functional information from customers and stakeholders, assess the project site, develop alternatives to be considered in the scoping phase and allow for public engagement with the USACE Project Development Team.

This is the first planning event for the Homer Harbor Expansion Study, which officially started in March 2023 when the City of Homer and USACE entered into a Federal Cost Share Agreement for the three-year feasibility study. No final decisions are made during the design charrette. The benefit of the design charrette is to gather preliminary information to better understand project requirements and scope, and explore, with the public and stakeholders, an array of possible design alternatives to meet identified needs.

Participants may attend the workshops either in-person or virtually. The full schedule of events is available at [www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/port/homer-harbor-expansion](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/port/homer-harbor-expansion). The link for virtual participation has not yet available, but will be published at [www.homerharborexansion.com](http://www.homerharborexansion.com) prior to the design charrette.

To ensure successful coordination between USACE and the greater Homer community, the City contracted with HDR as an owner representative. On April 28, 2023, HDR facilitated a joint work session with the Harbor Staff, Homer City Council and Port & Harbor Advisory Commission to draft a Charter Document. The Charter Document, currently in a draft form, defines a shared vision, collective goals and objectives, and success factors for the City's role in the Homer Harbor Expansion. The draft Charter will be on the Homer Port & Harbor Advisory Commission's May 24, 2023 meeting agenda and will then be reviewed for City Council adoption at their June 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.

To stay informed about the Homer Harbor Expansion study, visit the website: [www.homerharborexansion.com](http://www.homerharborexansion.com). Questions about the study can be directed to [info@homerharborexansion.com](mailto:info@homerharborexansion.com).

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