



# Welcome

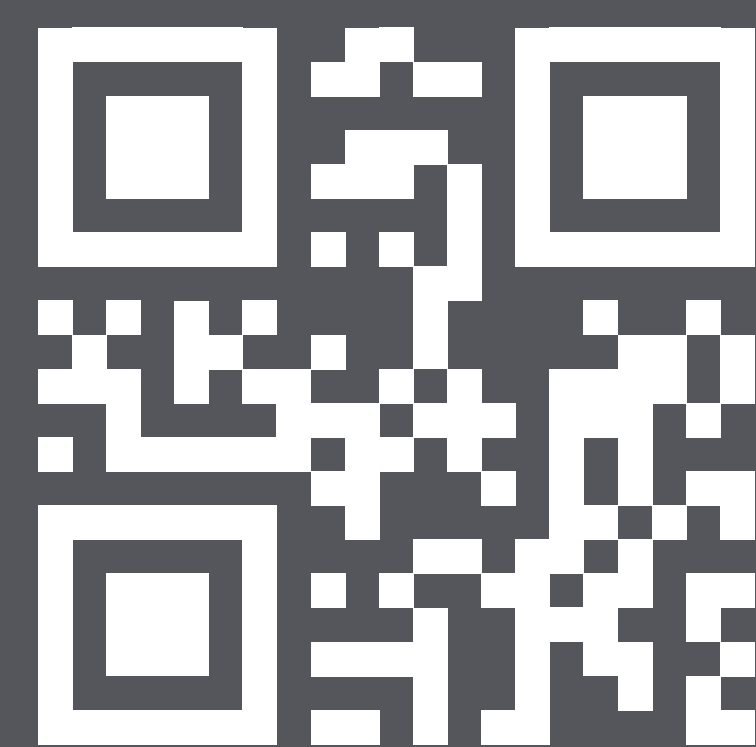
## Homer Harbor Expansion Public Meeting

Feedback is welcomed via email, phone, or web



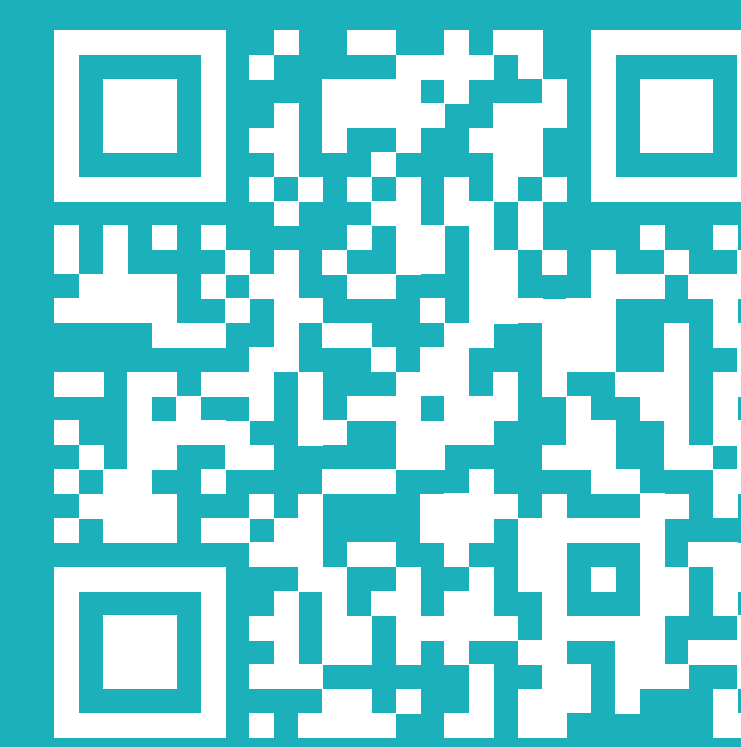
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For more information:

[homerharborexansion.com](http://homerharborexansion.com)

Scan each QR code with your smartphone.





# Charter Document

## Vision

Recognizing Homer's unique environmental setting and our common desire to live, work, and play here, we will enhance Homer's maritime opportunities in a fiscally, environmentally, and socially responsible manner for the benefit of all.

## Mission

Work collaboratively with all segments of the community to explore opportunities to expand necessary infrastructure while ensuring Homer's maritime future, navigational safety, environmental integrity, and regional connectivity. Align the development of any opportunities with the City of Homer Port and Harbor Department Mission Statement.

## Goals and Objectives

- Relieve transportation congestion
- Improve safety and efficiency within the harbor(s)
- Reduce potential for environmental impacts within the harbor(s)
- Foster a collaborative partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Expand the community's economic base
- Foster the maritime trades industry and other year-round economic opportunities
- Enhance navigational safety and regional connectivity
- To the extent feasible, prioritize incorporation of:
  - » Green energy (e.g., solar, wind, tidal)
  - » Green infrastructure (e.g., adding vegetation, capturing runoff)
  - » Food security (e.g., support reliable delivery of food and supplies needed in regional communities)
  - » Polar security (e.g., provide support for federal security measures related to arctic navigation)
- Deliver a balanced harbor design that:
  - » Performs necessary port and harbor functions
  - » Has pleasing aesthetics
  - » Is within a sustainable construction, operations, and maintenance budget
  - » Maintains environmental integrity and quality of life
  - » Minimizes adverse impacts to the community
  - » Provides for flexibility that promotes smart growth and a blue economy
  - » Supports services for large vessels
  - » Supports the U.S. Coast Guard's mission at land and at sea

## Success Factors

- » Proactively collaborate with the community and port and harbor stakeholders to provide meaningful community and stakeholder engagement opportunities
- » Provide transparency of the decision-making process and design development
- » Align with national priorities for investing in future infrastructure
- » Engage scientific agencies through study advancement
- » Promote educational, research, and scientific opportunities
- » Foster collaborative relationships with Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and other key stakeholder agencies
- » Provide applicable utility providers (e.g., water, sewer, electric) with the necessary input to deliver required support infrastructure
- » Promote strong, sustained support and leadership from the City Staff, City Council, and associated Commissions
- » Identify risks early and manage them appropriately
- » Consistently consider community-wide socioeconomic effects that may result from harbor expansion and align with the current community-wide planning policy
- » Create and sustain a safe, respectful, collaborative, and enjoyable work environment for all City, consultant, and contractor staff
- » Complete construction activities on time, to specification, and within target costs
- » Encourage innovation with a focus on reducing costs, enhancing the environment, and fostering thoughtful community growth





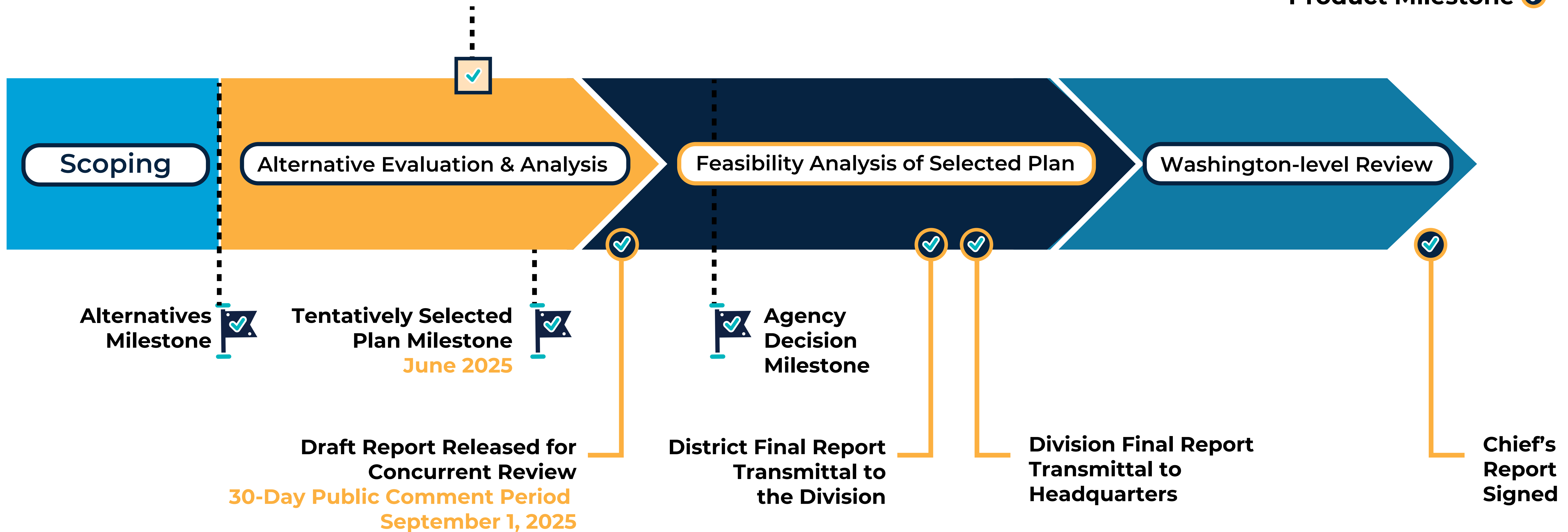
# USACE Process for Study Delivery



We are here  
Public Meeting  
March 15, 2025

Decision Milestone

Product Milestone

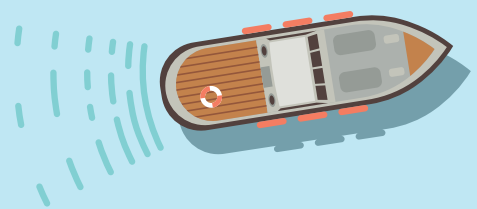
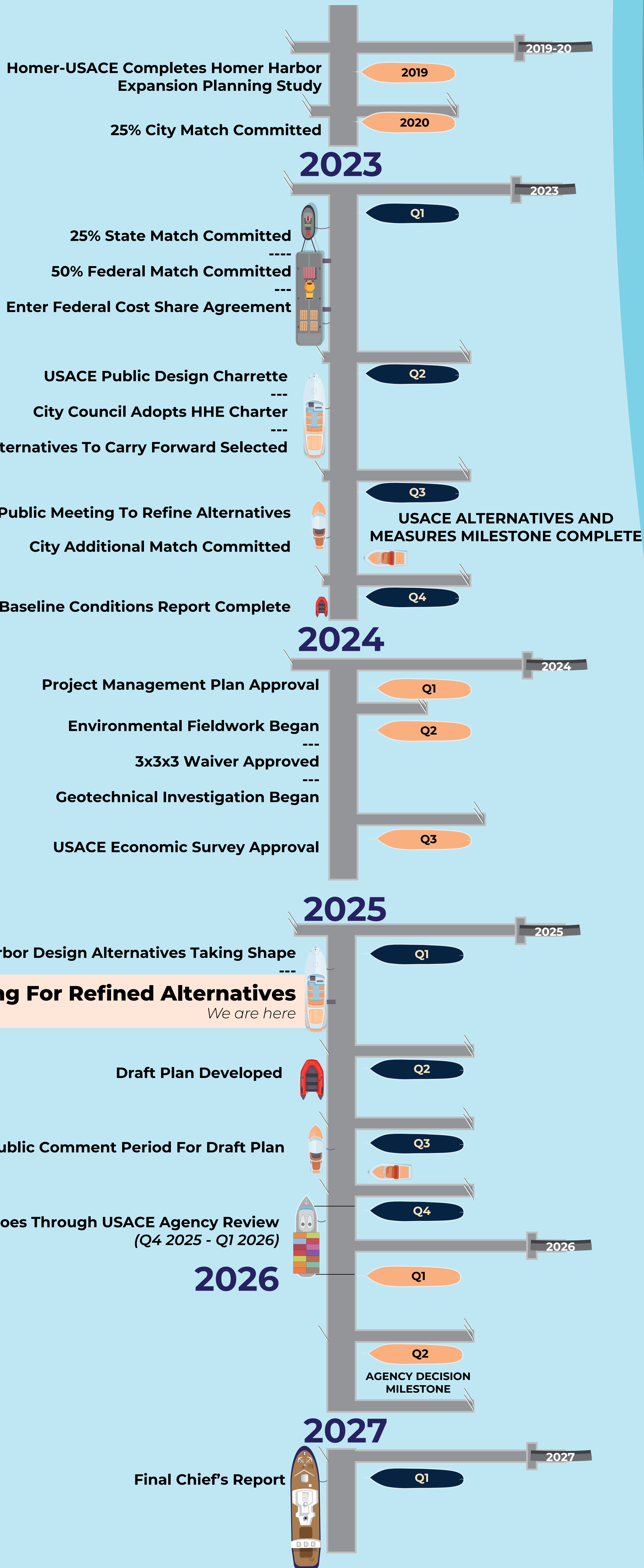


Focus on alternative identification and evaluation to identify a recommended plan for more detailed design

Focus on scaling the measures and features for the recommended plan



# Timeline

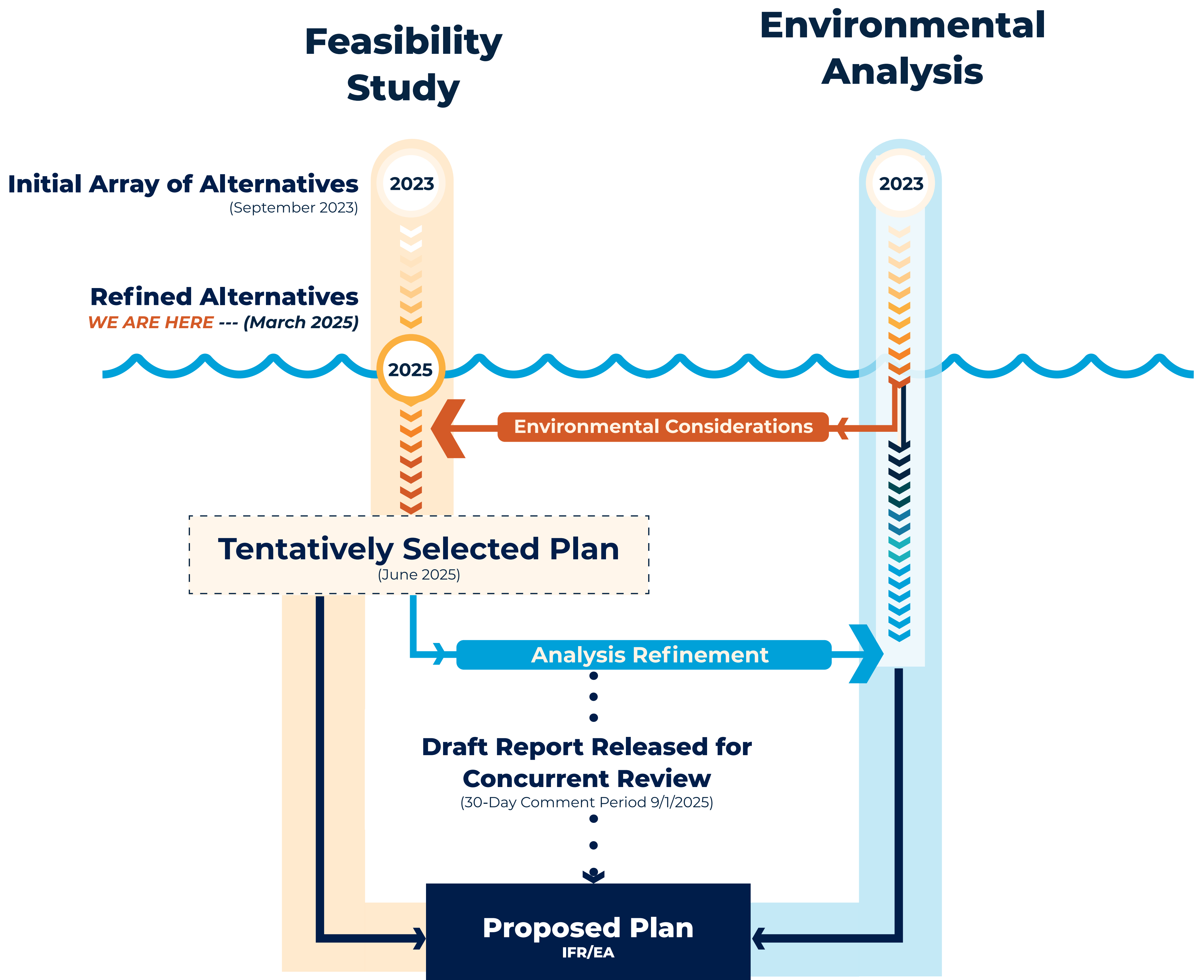




# What is happening now?



The Homer Harbor Expansion Study is both a feasibility study and an environmental analysis that happens simultaneously. We like to call it the Integrated Feasibility Study and Environmental Analysis. They both inform a proposed plan for the harbor called the District Final Report (also known as **Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Analysis [IFR/EA]**) that is submitted to USACE headquarters in Washington, DC





# Why is this work important?

- + Adequate harbor space
- + Planning for Homer's future, for a strong, diverse economy
- + Support safety and efficiency for key users:
  - Barges and cargo transport vessels
  - Commercial fishing fleet
  - Coastal marine research vessels
  - U.S. Coast Guard vessels
  - Pilot and tug boats
  - Recreational boats
  - Commercial sport fishing vessels
  - Ecotourism vessels
  - Water taxis





# Connection with the Community



Since May 2023, the Study Team has worked with the public in innovative ways to both inform and learn from the community. Here are a few ways we have been working with Harbor stakeholders and general public (as of January 2025):



**3,000**  
Postcards to  
the Homer  
Area Residents

**50 Flyers**  
Posted in the  
Kenai Peninsula

**90+ Social Media Posts**  
Facebook & Instagram

**7,300+ Engagement Metrics**  
on boosted Facebook Posts

**10+Email**  
Updates sent to  
subscribers

**30 Comments**  
Received







# What has been done to inform the study?

## Geophysical Data – August 2024

Sub-bottom profiling, hydrographic and topographic surveys conducted in summer 2024 provided updated seafloor elevations and showed that the current harbor seabed is comprised of gravel, pebble, and rock and that the possible expansion area contains impenetrable rock. This data helps inform geotechnical work to be performed summer of 2025 which will provide more accurate designs and construction cost estimates.

## Vessel Simulation – Summer 2024, ongoing

In summer 2024, imagery of Homer was captured that will help build a model of the tentatively selected plan harbor design. Once a preferred design is selected, vessel pilots will virtually navigate a simulation of the design and provide feedback.

## Wave Modeling – ongoing

Wave modeling was performed of the prevailing conditions in Kachemak Bay to characterize wave conditions and impacts to evaluate harbor design, vessel safety, and infrastructure resilience. As alternatives are developed this modeling will be used to improve designs and compare baseline conditions against conditions created by the new harbor design.

## Environmental Review – ongoing

Led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), an environmental review is ongoing and focused on the collection of relevant environmental information about the project and project area. This will be the last milestone to inform the proposed harbor design.

Scan the QR code or visit [homerharborexansion.com/additionalinfo](https://homerharborexansion.com/additionalinfo) to learn more!





# Refined Alternatives Summary

## Alternative 1A

- » New external harbor.
- » Relocates Transient Float System 5 to exterior harbor.
- » Creates additional moorage space in small boat harbor.

## Alternative 1B

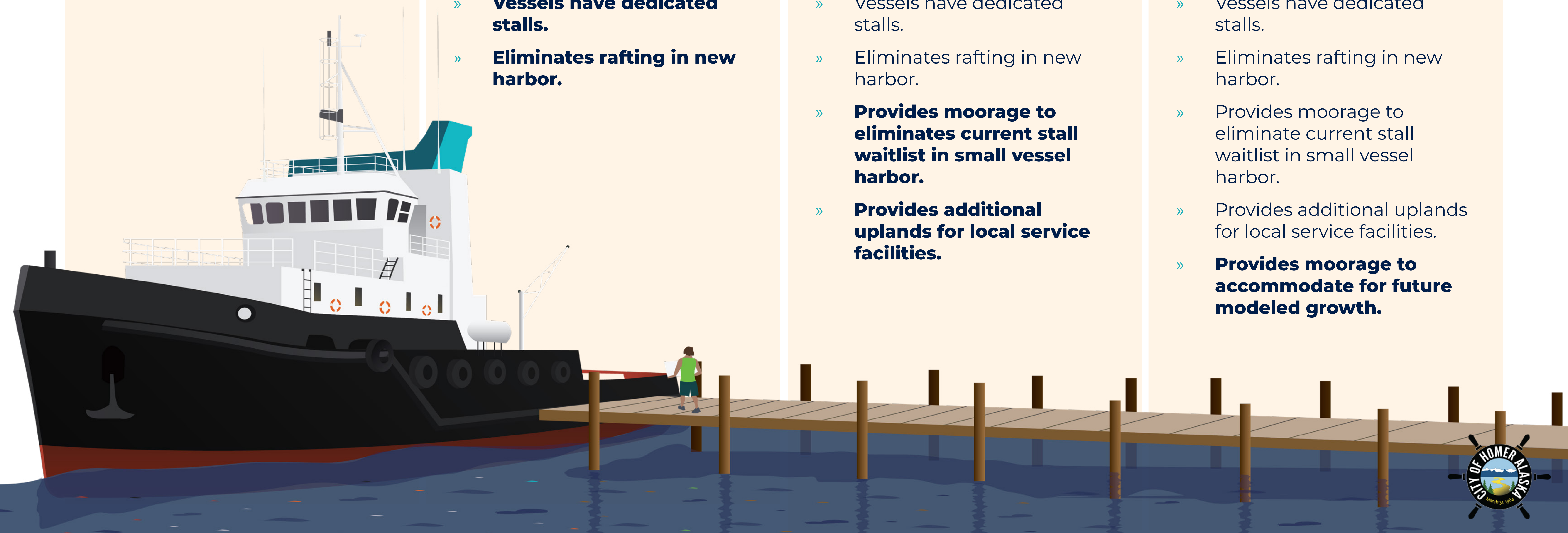
- » New external harbor.
- » Relocates Transient Float System 5 to exterior harbor.
- » Creates additional moorage space in small boat harbor.
- » **Vessels have dedicated stalls.**
- » **Eliminates rafting in new harbor.**

## Alternative 2

- » New external harbor.
- » Relocates Transient Float System 5 to exterior harbor.
- » Creates additional moorage space in small boat harbor.
- » Vessels have dedicated stalls.
- » Eliminates rafting in new harbor.
- » **Provides moorage to eliminates current stall waitlist in small vessel harbor.**
- » **Provides additional uplands for local service facilities.**

## Alternative 3

- » New external harbor.
- » Relocates Transient Float System 5 to exterior harbor.
- » Creates additional moorage space in small boat harbor.
- » Vessels have dedicated stalls.
- » Eliminates rafting in new harbor.
- » Provides moorage to eliminate current stall waitlist in small vessel harbor.
- » Provides additional uplands for local service facilities.
- » **Provides moorage to accommodate for future modeled growth.**

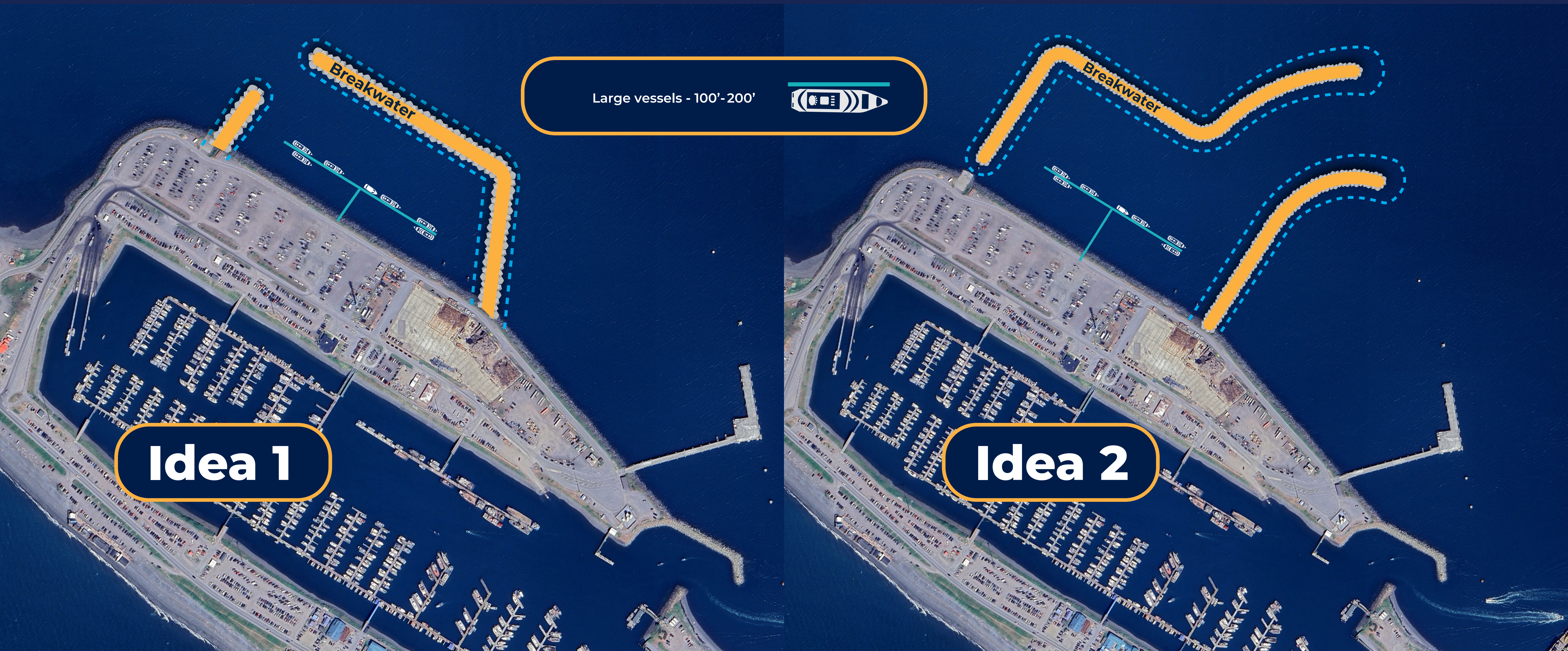




# Alternative 1A: Immediate Needs



Alternative 1A would feature a solution that addresses immediate Harbor needs. This includes a new external harbor that relocates Transient Float System 5 from the small vessel harbor into the exterior harbor, accommodates vessels that use the Deep Water Dock, and provides additional moorage in existing small vessel harbor. Large vessels would still be required to raft within the new harbor basin. A waitlist remains for the small vessel harbor.



Large vessels - 100' - 200'



Idea 1

Idea 2

NOTE: These are refined drafts of potential harbor expansion design and are not final.



# Alternative 1B: Immediate Needs+

Alternative 1B contains all Alternative 1A features as well as provides large vessels with dedicated stalls in new harbor basin and eliminates rafting. This alternative provides opportunity for additional uplands for local services facilities such as a fuel dock or barge ramp. A waitlist remains for the small vessel harbor.



**NOTE: These are refined drafts of potential harbor expansion design and are not final.**



# Alternative 2: Current Needs

Alternative 2 contains all Alternative 1B features and includes additional floats to accommodate current waitlist for moorage in the small vessel harbor and provides additional uplands for local services facilities. This alternative meets the existing harbor needs and demand.



**NOTE:** These are refined drafts of potential harbor expansion design and are not final.



# Alternative 3: Modeled Growth



Alternative 3 features the largest footprint for an expansion to meet current and future projected needs of the harbor by containing all features from Alternative 2 with the addition of extended uplands and floats to accommodate modeled growth over the next 50 years.



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