



Homer Harbor update
September 2023

Harbor Expansion: Key Events

- Project Charter Complete
- USACE Design Charrette Complete
- Project Development Team (PDT) achieved Alternatives Milestone

Key Events Ongoing

- Community outreach and engagement ongoing
 - Promoting opportunities for public input and project status updates
 - Website continuously updated (Homerharborexansion.com)
 - Environmental Stakeholder Working Group regular meetings (led by USACE)
- Continued Development Baseline Conditions (Coastal Modeling Work)
- Numerical Modeling (waves, tides/storm surge, sediment transport of existing conditions)




Harbor Expansion: Geotechnical Scope

- Existing geotechnical data near site is limited and provides large uncertainty that could affect the economics of the study. Geotechnical data informs us of the:
 - Amount of expected initial and long-term settlement from installing large rubble mound features. Settlement has a significant impact on structure cost.
 - Need for pre-loading foundation. Construction action requires multiple mobilizations and has a large impact on project cost.
- Proposed Geotechnical Scope of Work (Work In Kind) Includes:
 - Initial geophysical survey (Fall 2023)
 - Review of results, plan for soil borings
 - Drill soil borings (Spring/Summer 2024)
- Additional Cost to Study (Above the \$3M)
 - Approximately \$800K (50-50 split between City and USACE)

Existing Geophysical test areas that the city had completed as part of other projects and believed would get the study through the first phase.



An aerial photograph of a coastal marina. The marina is filled with numerous sailboats docked in rows. To the left of the marina is a large, light-colored paved area, possibly a parking lot or a construction site. The entire marina and paved area are enclosed by a dark, rocky breakwater. The water is a deep blue-green color. A large, semi-transparent light green polygon is overlaid on the image, starting from the bottom left and extending towards the center of the marina. This polygon represents the project area for geophysical data collection.

Project area that Geophysical data
needs to cover

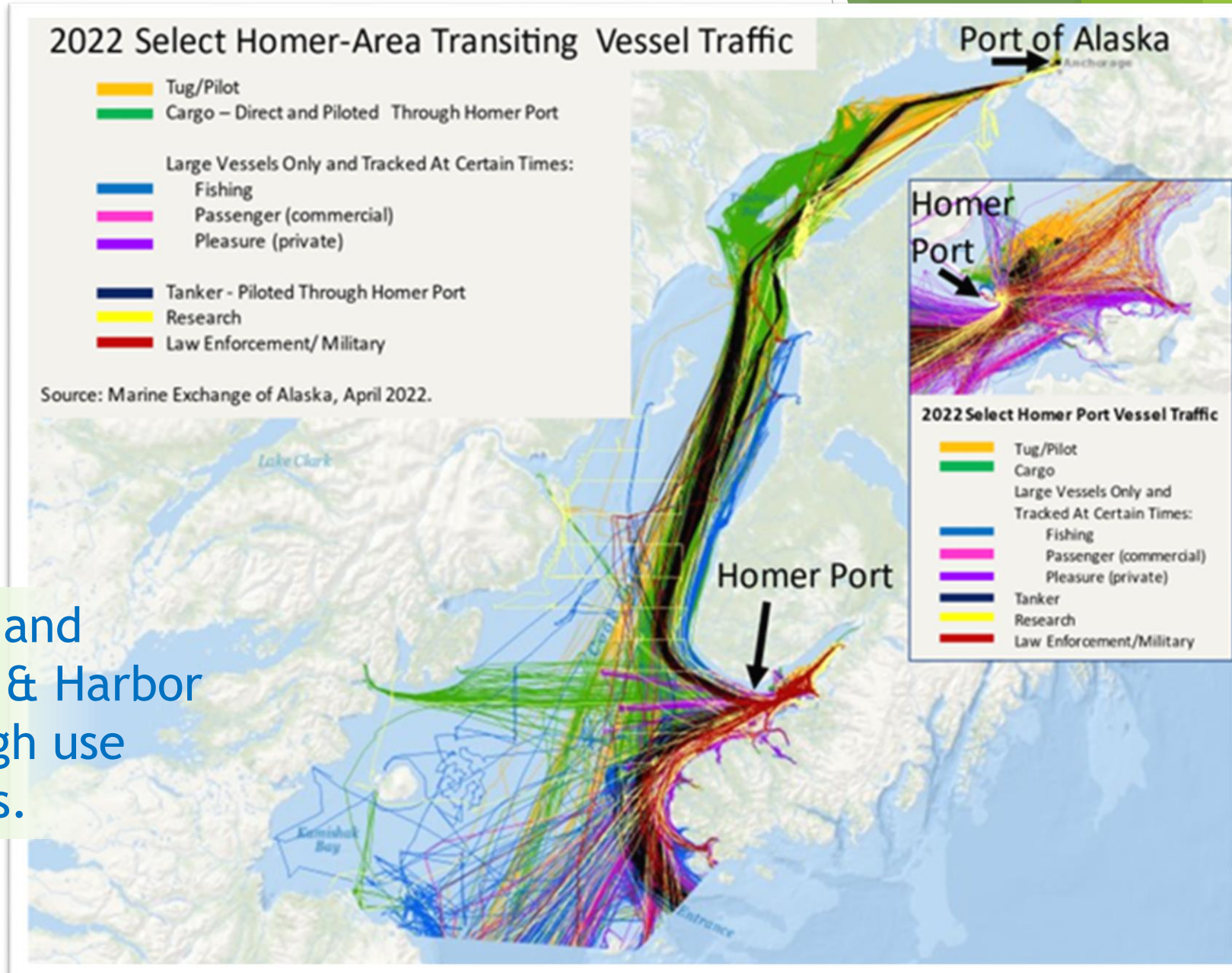
A nighttime photograph of a coastal scene. In the upper left, a thin crescent moon is visible against a dark blue sky. Below it, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the twilight. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the lights from a pier or breakwater that stretches across the middle ground. The pier is illuminated with several bright lights, and its reflection is clearly visible in the calm water. The overall mood is serene and quiet.

Harbor Expansion: Funding Delay

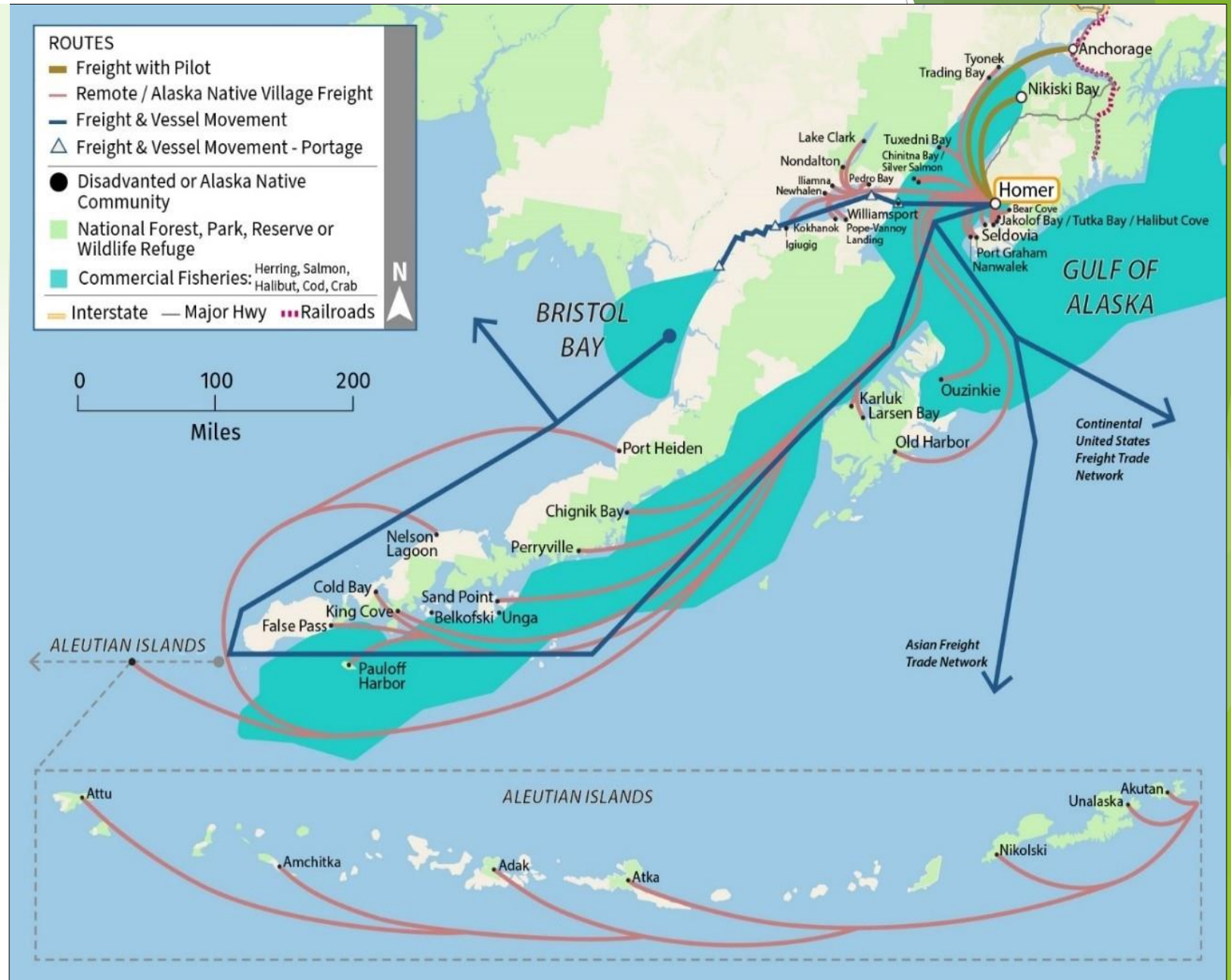
- Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) provided Federal match for the General Investigation Study as a new start.
 - Intent was for the CDS to fund the full \$1.5M
 - The CDS budgeted \$300K in the President's FY23 Budget for the first year of the study
 - This initiated the new start However there were no continuation funds included in the 2024 budget.
- The USACE is anticipating a pause in to the Homer study starting January 2024 through June 2024; potentially longer depending on the source of continuation funds.
- The USACE team just recently secured an additional \$50,000 in reprogrammed funds from a study in Hawaii.
- To our knowledge no General Investigation has ended due to lack of Federal funding.
- All USACE general investigation studies (GI's) are incrementally funded, however a pause for lack of continuation funding is unprecedented.
- We trust that the federal government will ultimately fulfill its commitment to support the Homer Harbor Expansion study.

Harbor Data: vessel movements tracked by the Marine Exchange of Alaska in 2022

Vessel movement through and supported by Homer Port & Harbor illustrates the Harbor's high use and statewide connections.



Harbor Data: 47 non-road connected communities, villages and work sites in Southcentral and Western Alaska depend on essential freight and cargo services from vessels that moor in Homer Harbor.



Tsunami tower upgrades!

We appreciate the Borough's Work in getting this critical public safety infrastructure project recognized, funded and installed. This was a big job, Homer alone has six towers including the new tower located at Northern Enterprises Boat yard.
Great job everyone!





Fish Dock Crane Rebuild

Thanks for supporting the use of the use of the State ARPA COVID relief funds for rebuilding crane 7. Project was completed by a local contractor (Great Northern Hydraulics) last winter and the crane was returned to service in April.



THANK YOU



Homer Harbor Expansion Study Update Public Meeting Notice

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed the design alternatives milestone as part of the Homer Harbor Expansion study. Thirteen innovative design concepts were evaluated and narrowed down to five alternatives. These designs will move into the design alternative formulation and analysis phase. The public is invited to attend the public meeting for an update on the study and to share your ideas. Conversations will be facilitated by project staff from the City of Homer, USACE, and HDR Engineering.


Public Meeting Details

Saturday, September 23, 2023
10am – 12:30pm

Kenai Peninsula College
Kachemak Bay Campus Room 201
533 E Pioneer Ave
Homer, AK 99603

Feedback may be submitted via email or phone:
Email: info@homerharborexansion.com
Phone: (907) 268-2909

For additional information visit:
homerharborexansion.com



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