



# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members

**From:** Thor Christianson, Chris Ystad Assembly Members

**Date:** December 20, 2022

**Subject:** Changing from sealed bit to outcry auction for HCH vendor permits.

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### **Background**

On December 13 the Assembly passed a sweeping change to how vendors and vehicles would be governed at the HCH. At the time a number of changes were suggested, but at the request of city staff, no changes were made in order to move the process along in time for next year's tourist season. This ordinance addresses one of those changes, the type of auction for HCH vendor permits.

### **Analysis**

One of the issues that was brought up when the original ordinance was passed was the preference for an outcry auction vs. a sealed bid auction. This ordinance would change the auction from sealed bit to outcry. This would allow greater transparency, since not only the name of the business would be public, but people behind the business would have to be present. It should also make it easier for local businesses to participate since they would have to be in town to attend the auction. It would also make it easier for a business to up their bid in order to keep their business viable.

### **Fiscal Note**

This should not have any major effect on the amount raised by the permits.

### **Recommendation**

Our recommendation is to pass this ordinance for the following reason: it provides transparency and flexibility for the vendors.