



Municipality of Anchorage

2016 Proposed General Government Operating Budget

**Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor
Anchorage, Alaska**



Municipality of Anchorage

Office of the Mayor

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

October 2, 2015

Dear Residents:

The Municipality of Anchorage faces unique challenges and opportunities as we enter the 2016 Municipal budget process. As my administration started this process, we faced an \$11 million budget gap largely created by decreasing State municipal revenue sharing and the loss of the Municipal Light and Power dividend due to a recent Regulatory Commission of Alaska decision. At the same time, we have a responsibility to improve public safety and foster community development that will make our economy and neighborhoods safe, prosperous, and resilient.

The loss of \$11 million in revenues from the State and ML&P places our community in a difficult position. This funding, traditionally budgeted to offset property taxes, is no longer available to support Municipal services. To maintain basic services in 2016, we asked our departments to find savings in their 2015 budget, make reductions to their 2016 budgets, and find new funding sources.

This budget reflects my commitment to public safety. We will fund one fire and three police academies in 2016. We will maintain core services supporting public health and transportation and keep our streets clean and potholes paved. Our goal is to make sure Anchorage is safe, secure, and strong.

I invite you to review this proposal, ask questions and seek clarification from my administration. Your thoughts and constructive guidance are important components of this budget process.

Regards,

Ethan Berkowitz

Mayor

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ETHAN BERKOWITZ, MAYOR

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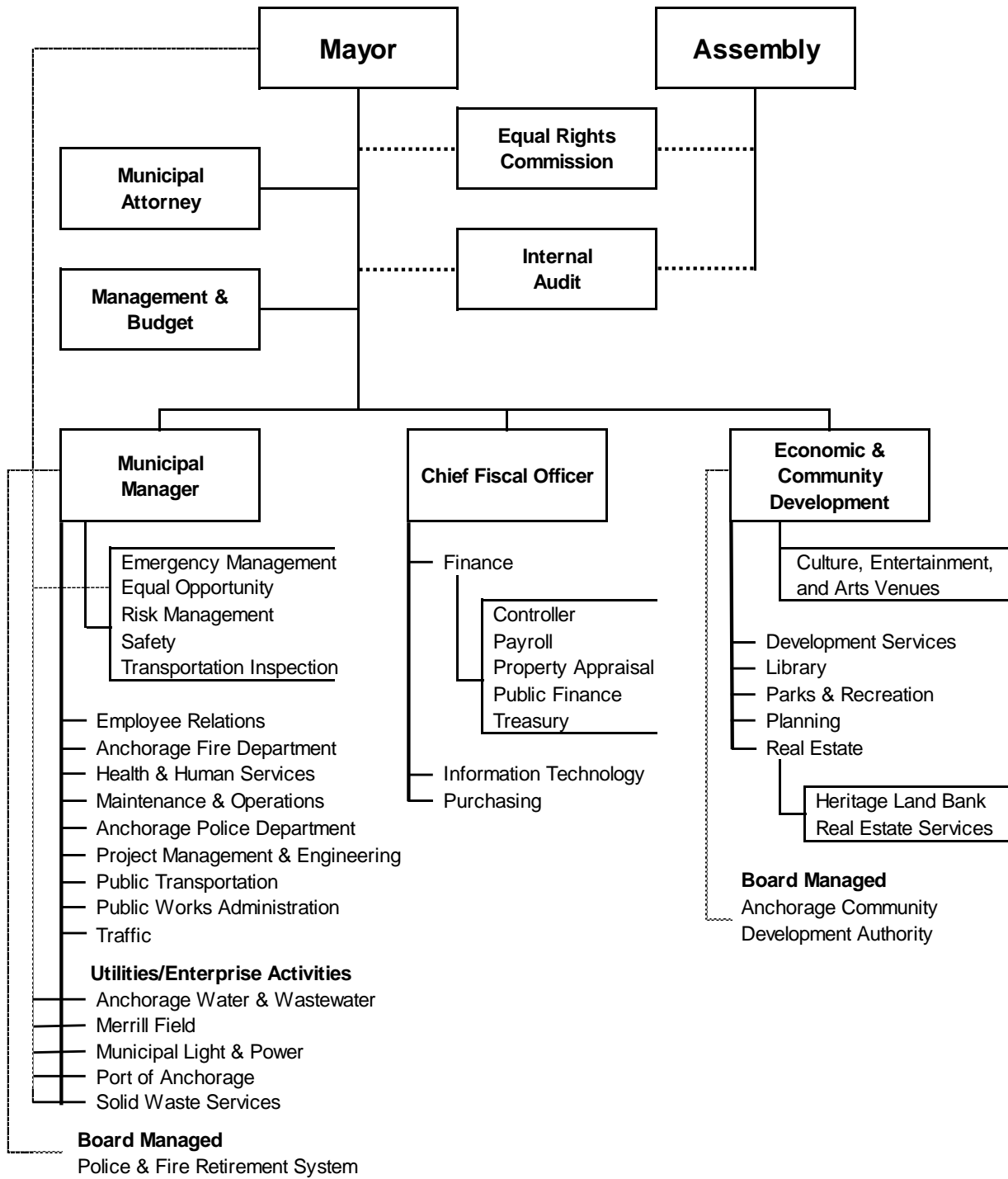
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GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished
Budget Presentation
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**Municipality of Anchorage
Alaska**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

January 1, 2015

Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device.

This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

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