



Public Naming Commission

August 12, 2026

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

City Hall, 632 W 6th Ave, Conference Room #155
Anchorage, AK 99501

Darrel Hess, Chair
Cuckoo Gupta
Kevin Heller

Jennifer Harrison, Vice Chair
Ayse Gilbert

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgement

A land acknowledgement is a formal statement recognizing the Indigenous people of a place. It is a public gesture of appreciation for the past and present Indigenous stewardship of the lands that we now occupy. It is an actionable statement that marks our collective movement towards decolonization and equity. The Public Naming Commission would like to acknowledge that we gather today on the traditional lands of the Dena'ina Athabascans. For thousands of years the Dena'ina have been and continue to be the stewards of this land. It is with gratitude and respect that we recognize the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspectives of the upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina.

4. Approval of the Agenda

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a. June 10, 2026

6. Unfinished Business

- a. Review Public Naming Commission Process Document

7. New Business

- a. Legal Review re: Downtown Library Name
- b. Discuss next steps re: Centennial Park Naming Request
- c. Discuss next steps re: Eagle River Town Square Park Renaming Request
- d. Honorary Naming Request: Girdwood Lions Club
- e. Honorary Naming Request: Northeast Connector Trail

8. Member Comments

9. Audience Participation

10. Adjournment

Vision Statement: We envision a Municipality of Anchorage where the names of public places reflect the full story of our community – the land’s history, Indigenous place names, and the cultural, natural, and civic identities of our city. By recognizing stories and landscapes that shape our community, we aim to foster a sense of shared identity and belonging. Our work includes the careful consideration and recommendation of names for Municipal sites, objects, trails, landscapes, and buildings. The Public Naming Commission uses a culturally aware naming process with active community input.