

Submitted by: Mayor LaFrance, Assembly  
Members Johnson and Perez-  
Verdia  
Prepared by: Municipal Attorney's Office  
For reading: January 13, 2026

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**  
**AO No. 2026-10**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY TO  
PROMOTE SAFE PUBLIC SPACES BY AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL  
CODE CHAPTERS 8.10 AND 8.30 TO EXPAND PROHIBITIONS ON UNSAFE  
AND INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND PROVIDE CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**

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**WHEREAS**, public safety is the primary job of local government;

**WHEREAS**, public spaces, including sidewalks, parks, and trails, must be safe and accessible for everyone, and inappropriate and unsafe conduct by individuals can prevent others from using these areas;

**WHEREAS**, certain conduct is never appropriate in public and must be addressed, including menacing behavior, sexual conduct, and indecent exposure;

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality is taking a multi-pronged approach to improve public safety, including addressing increased drug and alcohol abuse, increasing the number of sworn police officers and non-sworn CSOs, vigorously prosecuting crimes, and more, as described in Mayor LaFrance's Public Safety Strategy;

**WHEREAS**, that strategy includes developing and integrating a full continuum of crisis response and increasing access to behavioral health treatment and supports;

**WHEREAS**, the Anchorage Police Department regularly receives calls from the public about conduct that threatens public safety and deserves law enforcement intervention, but does not currently appear in the Municipality's penal code, Anchorage Municipal Code Title 8;

**WHEREAS**, the Anchorage Police Department's Mobile Intervention Team and HOPE team and the Anchorage Fire Department's Mobile Crisis Team are designed to connect individuals in crisis with services and supports in situations where that response is more appropriate than criminal charges;

**WHEREAS**, our public places must be safe for all, but Anchorage Municipal Code does not currently contain adequate regulation of conduct affecting public places;

**WHEREAS**, updating Anchorage Municipal Code Title 8 to prohibit inappropriate and unsafe conduct in public places will create more opportunities for the Municipality to engage individuals engaged in this conduct, and provide the response appropriate to the situation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality will enforce this law firmly and humanely, connecting individuals in crisis with services and supports, while holding culpable individuals

accountable for inappropriate conduct through the criminal justice system; now, therefore,

**THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**

**Section 1.** Anchorage Municipal Code 8.10.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**8.10.080 Indecent exposure or exhibition.**

A. It is unlawful for any person:

1. To knowingly expose the person's genitals in the presence of another person under 16 years of age with reckless disregard for the offensive, insulting, or frightening effect the act may have.

2. To knowingly expose the person's genitals in the presence of another person over 16 years of age with reckless disregard for the offensive, insulting, or frightening effect the act may have.

**3. To knowingly expose the person's genitals in a public place, or a place reasonably exposed to public view. The previous sentence shall not apply to adult-oriented exposition licensed under AMC 10.40.050.**

B. Violation of subsection A.1. is a class A misdemeanor. Violation of subsection A.2. is a class B misdemeanor. **Violation of subsection A.3 is a class B misdemeanor.**

**C. For purposes of this section, the term "public place" means a place where the public is permitted to assemble, enter or pass through, whether publicly or privately maintained, including but not limited to places of accommodation, transportation, business and entertainment, or any other place which is not a private place. This definition does not include restrooms and other private spaces within public accommodations.**

(AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2000-95, § 2, 10-16-00; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03; AO No. 2014-42, § 1, 6-21-14)

Editor's note— Formerly, section 8.10.050.

State Law reference— Indecent exposure, AS 11.41.460.

**Section 2.** Anchorage Municipal Code 8.10.120 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**8.30.120 Disorderly conduct.**

A. It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Knowingly engage in:

**a. [CONSENSUAL] sexual penetration, as defined in AS 11.81.900(b), in a public place or a place reasonably exposed to public view; or**

**b. any act described in section 8.50.010E.3.a-d, in a public place. This provision shall not apply to acts committed in a place that is compliant with the requirements for restricted access provided in section 8.50.010D.**

2. Knowingly generate loud noise, **or engage in threatening or menacing conduct,** in a public place **[WITH THE INTENT TO DISTURB OTHERS OR IN RECKLESS DISREGARD OF] in a manner that would unreasonably interfere with [THE PEACE AND PRIVACY OF OTHERS] others' lawful use and enjoyment of such public place.**

3. Knowingly generate loud noise in a private place with the intent to disturb others or in reckless disregard of the peace and privacy of others after having been informed that the loud noise is disturbing the peace and privacy of others not in the same place.

4. Knowingly look or peep into an enclosed area for the purpose of observing another person who has a reasonable expectation of privacy therein. As used in this subsection, the term "enclosed area" includes but is not limited to tanning booths, dressing rooms, toilets, and washrooms.

5. Knowingly refuse to comply with a lawful order of the police to disperse in a public place when a criminal offense has occurred.

6. Knowingly challenge another to fight, or engage in fighting other than in self-defense.

7. Knowingly or recklessly create a hazardous condition for others.

8. Intentionally or knowingly spit on, or otherwise transfer blood, saliva, urine, feces, or vomitus onto **[A PUBLIC SERVANT] another person without consent.**

**9. Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly be upon a public sidewalk, on school property, or in a public park, while intoxicated, in such a manner as to interfere with other individuals' reasonable use or enjoyment of the sidewalk, school property, or park.**

**10. Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly be upon a public sidewalk, on school property, or in a public park, while**

**intoxicated, after refusing an offer of transport from a public safety organization, including the Anchorage Police Department, Anchorage Fire Department, or Anchorage Safety Patrol.**

B. For purposes of this section, the term:

1. Loud noise, in a private place, means noise which is loud enough to awaken the average person sleeping in a place other than the private place. If the loud noise constitutes speech, the content of speech or evidence of specific words used by the defendant is admissible in evidence against the defendant only as permitted by court rule.

2. Loud noise, in a public place, means noise which is loud enough to inhibit the ability of the average person in the same place to converse freely without leaving the public place, **or which would unreasonably interfere with others' lawful use and enjoyment of such public place.**

3. Public place means a place where the public is permitted to assemble, enter or pass through, whether publicly or privately maintained, including but not limited to places of accommodation, transportation, business and entertainment, or any other place which is not a private place.

C. Violation of this section is a class B misdemeanor.

(GAAB 18.05.010; AO No. 89-52; AO No. 95-149(S), § 1, 11-2-95; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03; AO No. 2014-42, § 3, 6-21-14)

State Law reference— Disorderly conduct, AS 11.61.110.

**Section 3.** Anchorage Municipal Code section 8.05.025 is hereby amended to add as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

**8.05.025 Minor offense fine schedule; misdemeanor penalty reference table; and state surcharge.**

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B. *Misdemeanor offenses reference table.*

Section	Description	Penalty	Penalty Section
Chapter 8.10 OFFENSES AGAINST PERSONS			
*** **			
<b><u>8.10.080(A)(3)</u></b>	<b><u>Indecent exposure public place</u></b>	<b><u>Class B</u></b>	<b><u>8.05.020H.2</u></b>

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Chapter 8.30 OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER											
* * *				* * *				* * *			
8.30.120(A)(1)—(10[8])				Disorderly conduct				Class B		8.05.020H.2	
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(AO No. 2014-42, § 1, 6-21-14; AO No. 2015-7, § 2, 2-24-15; AO No. 2015-84, § 2, 9-24-15; AO No. 2015-87, § 2, 9-24-15; AO No. 2015-123(S), § 2, 11-10-15; EO No. 2016-1, § 1, 7-12-16; AO No. 2016-83(S), § 1, 7-26-16; AO No. 2016-114, § 1, 12-15-16; AO No. 2017-156, § 1, 12-5-17; AO No. 2018-34(S), § 4, 7-26-18; AO No. 2019-25, § 2, 3-5-19; AO No. 2023-100(S), § 1, 11-7-23; AO No. 2025-074(S-2), § 4, 7-22-25)

**Section 4.** This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Assembly

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk



# MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

## Assembly Memorandum

AM No. 34 - 2026

Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

**FROM: MAYOR**

**SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY TO PROMOTE SAFE PUBLIC SPACES BY AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTERS 8.10 AND 8.30 TO EXPAND PROHIBITIONS ON UNSAFE AND INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND PROVIDE CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**

Public safety is the most important job of local government, and keeping public spaces safe for all is a critical piece of that job. Anchorage, like many other communities around the nation, faces a number of challenges impacting its public spaces. Our public spaces must be safe and accessible for everyone, and inappropriate and unsafe conduct by individuals can prevent others from using these areas. Mayor LaFrance's Public Safety Strategy [\[link\]](#) (Attachment A) aims to ensure that public spaces, including sidewalks, parks, and trails, are safe for all.

The Anchorage Police Department regularly receives calls from the public about conduct that threatens public safety and deserves law enforcement intervention but does not currently appear in the Municipality's penal code.

This ordinance proposes common-sense code changes to provide the Municipality with the legal tools to deter and, when appropriate, impose consequences for conduct that is always inappropriate in public. This conduct includes sexual activity and indecent exposure, as well as public intoxication or threatening behavior that prevents others from using a public space.

At the same time, enforcement of the ordinance will provide more opportunities for first responders to engage individuals who may benefit from connection to services such as treatment.

This ordinance updates the penal code, Title 8, to prohibit the following behavior:

1. Exposing genitals or engaging in sexual conduct in public.
2. Threatening or menacing behavior that interferes with others' use of the public place.
3. Spitting or transferring body fluids onto another person without consent.
4. Being intoxicated on sidewalks, on school grounds, or in public parks

either in a way that interfere with others' use of the public place, or after refusing an offer of safe transport.

The Administration will enforce this law firmly and humanely, as it has done successfully with AO 2025-123(S-1), which imposed penalties for camping in specific high-risk locations.

According to Anchorage Police Department data, between August 2025 and October 2025, enforcement of the camping ordinance resulted in 289 individuals voluntarily complying, 20 individuals accepting services such as treatment and shelter, and 18 arrests. From November 2025 through December 2025, 51 individuals complied voluntarily, 9 more individuals accepted services, and there were an additional 31 arrests, as officers made repeated contact with noncompliant individuals.

The proposed code changes in this ordinance are aligned with the Mayor's Public Safety Strategy and the Municipality's multi-pronged approach to addressing public safety, including:

- Developing and integrating a full continuum of crisis response with the Mobile Crisis Teams (MCT), Mobile Intervention Teams (MIT), Anchorage Safety Patrol (ASP), and HOPE team;
- Adding new Community Service Officers (CSOs) and reducing vacancies at the Anchorage Police Department (APD) to ensure laws are enforced;
- Fully staffing the Municipal Prosecutor's office to ensure people are held accountable for their actions;
- Increasing access to behavioral health treatment and supports, by connecting people who are unsheltered or in shelter to immediate treatment, and by developing transitional housing and substance use disorder treatment.

This ordinance will help make our public spaces safe for all. It balances the need for compliance with safe standards of behavior in public and connecting individuals in crisis with services and supports.

**There are no anticipated economic effects because this ordinance would be enforced with existing resources. Therefore, pursuant to AMC 2.30.053B.1, no Summary of Economic Effects is attached to the ordinance.**

#### **THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

Prepared by:	Municipal Attorney's Office
Approved by:	Eva R. Gardner, Municipal Attorney
Concur:	Ona R. Brause, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Concur:	Sean Case, Chief, Anchorage Police Department
Concur:	Douglas Schrage, Chief, Anchorage Fire Department
Concur:	Rebecca A. Windt Pearson, Municipal Manager
Concur:	William D. Falsey, Chief Administrative Officer
Concur:	Dennis A. Wheeler, Municipal Prosecutor

1 Respectfully submitted: Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor  
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4 Attachments:

5 A: Mayor LaFrance's Public Safety Strategy  
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# SAFE STREETS & TRAILS

ROBUST PUBLIC  
SAFETY WORKFORCE



LESS CRIME & MORE  
ACCOUNTABILITY



MORE ACCESS TO  
CRISIS CARE



SAFE ROADS, PARKS  
& TRAILS FOR ALL



THE PROBLEM

Public safety is Mayor LaFrance’s top priority. Since the first day in office, we’ve consistently heard from residents sharing real concerns about safety in public spaces and neighborhoods. Mayor LaFrance is committed to making the Municipality a safe place to live, work, visit, and raise a family.

WHAT WE WILL DO

The first step to protect public safety is to recruit, hire and retain capable, committed safety professionals including police, fire, and prosecutors. People who break the law should expect clear and prompt consequences. We will reduce the backlog of cases and ensure speedy trials without delays or dismissals.

To reduce crime and enforce local laws we are stepping up efforts to intercept large shipments of illegal drugs, working with state and federal partners. We will increase positive public safety presence and work with communities to pilot proven ways to reduce violence.

To address the overlapping challenges of substance misuse, mental health, and homelessness, will improve crisis response to ensure residents are met with the right resources at the right time. We will work with community partners to increase connections to treatment and supports.

We are investing in clean, safe public spaces for all, including activating parks and trails, improving road safety, and bolstering our emergency response to natural disasters.

OUR COMMITMENT

Whether buying a house, starting a family, running a business, or going on a hike, we are committed to working every day to ensure you can depend on basic public safety.

Our community is a safe place to live, work, visit, and raise a family.

- 1. A robust public safety workforce.
- 2. Less crime and more accountability.
- 3. More people can access crisis care.
- 4. Roads, parks, and trails are safe for all — every day, and in emergencies.



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## 1. ROBUST PUBLIC SAFETY WORKFORCE.

- Broaden **recruitment** at Anchorage Fire Department and Anchorage Police Department.
- Fill **Community Service Officer, other non-sworn positions, and officer vacancies** at Anchorage Police Department.
- Fill **Public Health Nursing and paraprofessional positions** at the Anchorage Health Department Clinic.
- Fill and train all **prosecutor positions**.
- Complete **Anchorage Police Department policy and training review** and implement recommendations.
- Improve **training and professional development** for all public health and safety workers.



## 2. LESS CRIME AND MORE ACCOUNTABILITY.

- Increase coordination for **intercepting large shipments of illegal drugs** and report out to the public.
- Remove backlog of cases and **eliminate speedy trial dismissals**.
- Work with Anchorage Police Department and businesses to **address retail theft** and reduce shrinkage rate.
- Work with community and Tribal partners to increase sexual assault prevention and **reduce recurrence of domestic violence** incidents.
- Work with communities to **pilot evidence-based violence interruption** and prevention programs.
- Increase **positive public safety presence** in high-traffic areas to deter and prevent crime.
- Increase access to **substance use disorder treatment** from contacts with law enforcement, corrections, and courts.



## 3. MORE PEOPLE GET CRISIS CARE.

- Prevent and **reduce substance misuse** using evidence-based harm reduction approaches.
- Ensure the **right response to each person** in crisis by increasing services such as the Mobile Crisis and Mobile Intervention teams, crisis stabilization, and navigation to follow-up care.
- Increase **access to treatment and supports** from first responders, hospitals, shelters, and jails.



## 4. ROADS, PARKS, AND TRAILS SAFE FOR ALL — EVERY DAY, AND IN EMERGENCIES.

- Expand **safe roadways and trails** to increase pedestrian and cyclist safety.
- Reduce reckless driving through **increased traffic enforcement** in areas and at times when more violations occur.
- Improve **lighting and adjust speed limits** in high-traffic areas.
- Address and prepare for **wildfire risks**.
- Support **emergency management** for emerging threats and extreme weather.
- Revitalize **public space**, including parks, community centers and trails.

# SAFE ANCHORAGE