

2025 PRIORITIES - DRAFT

Carry over 2024 priorities? Update? Edit?

- **Housing Action** – communicate the Assembly's housing vision, streamline codes and processes, and spur innovative attainable housing
- **Municipal Workforce** – support recruitment and retention of a productive and qualified municipal workforce
- **Port of Alaska Modernization** – support rapid timeline that launches Phase II construction by summer 2024
- **Public Health, Safety and Quality of Life** – fund public safety & mental health services; support the Crisis Now model; invest in outdoor and public spaces
- **Fully Functional Municipal Services** – closely monitor service delivery to ensure high quality, accessible, and transparent municipal services and operations

Additional ideas from 12/4 Rules Committee for priorities:

- Energy
- Infrastructure – transportation, water, sewer
- Change "Fully Functional Municipal Services" to "Quality Municipal Services" to match nomenclature used over the past year?
- There aren't a lot of goals in Municipal Workforce category – should this be wrapped into Quality Municipal Services?

Ideas for 2025 (from a previous Rules committee meeting):

- Think up and push pilot projects for our priority areas
 - Highlight the large multi-year projects (Port, AMATS/Transportation, Eklutna)
 - Continue to tie the workplan into the committee structure to create a seamless flow for work and review
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2024 ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS/2025 PRIORITIES

December 19, 2024

2025 GOALS - DRAFT

The draft list below was developed by Clare Ross based on existing projects and conversations with Members. The list should be finalized at the Jan. 9 Rules meeting

Housing Action Goals

- Update the B-3 mixed use zone to make it more conducive to housing (DV, AB, MZ)
- Pause multifamily residential design standards for a two-year period to make it easier to build multi-family housing (AB, MZ)
- Update code for housing tax incentives (GM)
- Support Building Services through the Title 23/IBC updates with a focus on ADUs, alternative building materials, laminated timber and modular housing (AB)
- Continue to make it easier to re-use buildings and update buildings by simplifying non-conformity issues (AB)
- Work with Real Estate and other partners to research ways MOA can fund housing development, demolition of abandoned buildings, etc. (GM)
- Work with MOA Real Estate and HLB to develop more housing options, such as land by Totem Theater, Clitheroe Center land, Girdwood HLB land (KB, ZJ)
- Encourage the RFP for housing development at Federal Archives site (MZ)
- Develop pre-approved design program for ADUs (MZ, ML)

Quality Municipal Services Goals

- Investigate the municipality's Intergovernmental Charges (IGCs) to create a more efficient budgeting process (MZ)
- Launch a community-wide conversation on the fiscal future of Anchorage and education campaign on how MOA finances work (AB)

Economic Development Goals

- Update the comprehensive plan and transportation plan for Eagle River and Chugiak (ML, SM)

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- Conduct marijuana and alcohol license updates
- Resolution of support for a fast-track education certificate program at UAA (KB)
- Bring Project Anchorage sales tax proposal to the ballot (RS, FR)
- Reduce burden of inventory tax on small businesses (DV)
- Marijuana licensing code update (CC, AB)

Homelessness Goals

- Host a community summit on homelessness (RS, KPV)
- Support community members working to develop a pilot for a work/living skills program for people experiencing homelessness (KB)

Assembly Business Goals

- Ensure a smooth transition with a large class of new members coming on board after April election (All)
- Support the “Munification” celebration – the 50th Anniversary of MOA unification (AB, CC)
- Continue leadership training and succession planning to prepare members for leadership roles (CC)
- Continue to develop the Youth Representative program and mentor the Youth Reps (CC)
- Develop more balance of Assembly workload to make the job of Assembly Member more sustainable over time
[this general concept was brought up by several members, but not stated as an explicit goal – would you like to include this as a goal?]
- Continue to strengthen and protect Anchorage election system (CC)
- Grow and improve the Assembly Aide program (CC, staff)
- Onboard a third Assembly attorney (CC, MZ)

Public Health, Safety and Quality of Life Goals

- Continue to pursue full restoration of Eklutna River and explore options for Pumped Storage Hydro (MZ, CC, KPV) –
should this move to Infrastructure goals section?
- Complete the Targeted Plan Review for the Anchorage Comprehensive Plan (AB)

2024 ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS/2025 PRIORITIES

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- Develop a more comprehensive approach to community involvement in policing (AB, FR, KPV)
- Reinvigorate the TED plan for a grocery store and other services at Tudor/Elmore (MV, FR, KB)
- Wildfire safety – continue grant requests for fuel removal, collaborate with new AFD position (ZJ)
- Finalize and approve Girdwood Comprehensive Plan (ZJ)
- Develop funding streams for Girdwood and Chugiak-Eagle River cemeteries (ZJ)
- Develop program for licensing and inspections of massage establishments (ZJ)
- Monitor and encourage an RFP from Health Department for the Alaska Center for Treatment (MZ)
- Identify steps needed to complete Crisis Now continuum with AFD and APD, by helping develop a work plan (MZ)
- Work with Real Estate to upgrade the Chugiak Senior Center (ML)

Infrastructure and Transportation Goals

- Support the Administration in securing a contractor for Terminal 1 construction at the Port (MZ, ZJ)
- Approve a six-year Capital Improvement Program for the Chugach State Park Access (CASA) bond (RS, ZJ, KB)
- Integrate LRSAs and RRSAs into the annual community council capital project survey (RS, ZJ, KB)
- Reinvigorate discussions on the Stormwater Utility (DV)

2024 ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS/2025 PRIORITIES

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2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS - DRAFT

Housing Action

- Passed the HOME Initiative (AO 2023-87) to allow 'Two-Family Dwellings' in every residential zone, including detached structures
- Required hosting planforms to submit more detailed data with their municipal tax returns to better track short-term rentals (AO 2024-81(S), As Amended)
- Developed a process for third party review for commercial development (AO 2023-136(S), As Amended)
- Reduce hurdles for rehabbing old buildings by removing nonconformity fees (AO 2024-15)
- Relaxed open space requirements to make it more affordable to build multi-family housing (AO 2024-16)
- Provided \$1.3M to the Anchorage Affordable Housing and Land Trust for a pilot project to rehab vacant and abandoned buildings for housing
- Removed duplication of requirements for Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) (AO 2024-83(S), As Amended)
- Removed barriers to ADU development by waiving non-conformity issues (AO 2024-376)
- Updated transit-supportive corridors and for tax incentives for multi-family affordable and workforce housing (AO 2024-111)
- Ended the future use of special limitations to create transparency for housing development (AO 2024-99)

Quality Municipal Services

- Funded \$280K for employee retention initiatives – equipment for telework for municipal staff, Anchorage Fire Department wellness pilot program, and training for supervisors through the Office of Equity and Inclusion
- Completed first phase of MOA workforce study – an employee survey and initial recommendations for future action
- *Potentially (PH on 12/17)*: Established Assembly and Legislative branch records and information management program (AO 2024-124)
- Title 28 revision to enhance the security and efficiency of the ballot return process, allow the use of a secure document portal as an additional method for electronic ballot transmittal, enhance the contest procedure, and empower the Municipal Prosecutor to charge and prosecute election offenses

Economic Development

- Funded the first year of an online bidding system for MOA contracts

2024 ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS/2025 PRIORITIES

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- Convened a community group to plan implementation of the Anchorage Childcare and Early Education Fund, including standing up a board to oversee funding allocations
- Changed code and provided funding for In Our Backyard tiny home pilot project.
- Made investments to tear down vacant and abandoned buildings to repurpose for housing and other developments

Homelessness

- Funded Emergency Cold Weather Shelter for 2024-25 season
- Assembly-allocated ARPA funds enabled the opening of Providence's Q'et'en Qenq'a for ages 55+ experiencing homelessness with 45 permanent supportive housing units and six recuperative care units and Cook Inlet Housing Authority's Ch'bala Corners II
- Funded year-round shelter at the 56th Avenue Shelter, including obtaining a \$4M state grant

Infrastructure and Transportation

- Determined design concepts for both terminals, approved tariff surcharge increase to supplement grant funding for construction, and terminal one construction will go out to bid this winter
- Held special meeting with the Administration on snow removal in August to plan for the season
- Launched Pedestrian Safety Campaign with October as Pedestrian Safety Month (AR 2024-296, As Amended) and pressured AKDOT to improve pedestrian safety on state roads
- Supported the downtown protected bike lane pilot project
- Supported funding for repairs at Solid Waste Services to repair from a fire in landfill
- Confirmed a director and budget to activate the Anchorage Hydropower utility

Assembly Business

- Held Nerd Nites on Public Finance, Transportation, Healthy Soils and Water, made over 20 presentations to community councils and organizations on HOME initiative, created Food for Thought to highlight positive community work, hosted Assembly Retreat on Energy, and held Assembly 101 trainings for youth groups, to join people together to engage in local government
- Met regularly with Alaska Congressional Delegation and Anchorage Delegation of the Legislature, hosted several Federal Secretaries for site visits to improve understanding of Anchorage issues in Washington, D.C.

2024 ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS/2025 PRIORITIES

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- Upgraded the A/V in Assembly Chambers with new music for intermissions and graphics for meeting livestream
- Secured \$4M state legislative grant for homeless shelter and capital funding for district level projects
- Developed a strategic plan for equitable use of alcohol tax funding
- Reorganized Assembly committee structure to be align with municipal departments
- Completed the audit of the 2022 municipal financials

Public Health, Safety and Quality of Life

- Codified Mobile Crisis Team (AO 2024-113 PH 12/3) and funded 24-7 service
- Added body worn cameras to Municipal Use of Surveillance Technologies (AO 2024-69)
- Passed legislation, pursued legal strategies and conducted advocacy and education to fully restore the Eklutna River
- Voters approved Chugach State Park Access Service Areas and Park Bonds
- Assembly-allocated ARPA funds enabled completion of Coastal Trail Northern Extension in Chugiak, Mountain View Field House groundbreaking, Equity Center ribbon cutting, and Girdwood Master Plan
- Passed a requirement for mandatory ID checks at all alcohol-serving establishments (AO 2024-101)
- Passed resolutions calling on MOA to improve animal care and control practices and calling on state to restrict the sale of unregulated diet pills and supplements to youth
- Negotiated a deal to preserve access to the Small Boat Harbor
- Conducted an Areawide Public Restroom Study to identify areas in need of public restrooms