ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2024-72

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 4.60.250 REGARDING THE HOUSELESS LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY BOARD.

WHEREAS, the Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board was established by the Anchorage Assembly with passage and approval of AO 2021-76, consisting of nine members with current or former real-world experience of being houseless; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has established a system to reauthorize certain boards and commissions every three years, enacted by AO 2011-64(S-1), after an audit report (“sunset audits”) by the Office of Internal Audit and opportunity for a public hearing before the Assembly reviews and considers whether to reauthorize each before the effective sunset date; and

WHEREAS, the Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board shall sunset October 14, 2024, unless affirmatively continued and reauthorized by the Assembly; and

WHEREAS, AO 2024-65 was introduced at the Assembly’s regular meeting June 25, 2024 to reauthorize those boards and commissions slated to sunset in October this year, however the Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board was withheld from that ordinance for separate treatment; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proposed ordinance is to focus solely on the Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board and provide opportunity for the Assembly to restructure, redefine, or terminate the Board; now, therefore,

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Anchorage Municipal Code section 4.60.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4.60.250 (Repealed). [HOUSELESS LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY BOARD.

A. THERE IS ESTABLISHED A HOUSELESS LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY BOARD TO PROVIDE INPUT AND FEEDBACK TO THE ASSEMBLY AND MAYOR ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS WITH THE GOAL OF CENTERING THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE. THE CLERK’S OFFICE OR A DESIGNEE SELECTED BY THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR SHALL ACT AS STAFF FOR THE BOARD.

B. THE BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF UP TO NINE MEMBERS SERVING THREE-YEAR TERMS WHO SELF-IDENTITY AS
HAVING LIVED EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS. THE FOLLOWING EXPERIENCES ARE SUGGESTED, BUT NOT REQUIRED, TO ENSURE A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES ON THE BOARD:

1. FAMILIES.
2. YOUTH.
3. SINGLE ADULT.
4. PHYSICAL DISABILITY.
5. MENTAL HEALTH DISORDER.
6. SUBSTANCE MISUSE DISORDER.
7. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR.
8. VETERAN.

C. THE BOARD SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND DUTIES:

1. ADVISE THE ASSEMBLY AND MAYOR ON ISSUES, SERVICES AND PROGRAMS REGARDING HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING, AND RELATED MATTERS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

2. ASSIST THE ASSEMBLY AND MAYOR IN CONDUCTING EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO CREATE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE NEEDS OF THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

3. MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ASSEMBLY AND MAYOR REGARDING POLICIES, PRACTICES, AND LEGISLATION FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE.

4. ACT AS A LIAISON BETWEEN THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE AND POLICY MAKERS.

5. CONDUCT REGULAR REVIEWS OF THE CURRENT COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE.

6. TO REVIEW BUDGET ALLOCATIONS ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS AND SUPPORT SERVICES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE.

D. THE BOARD SHALL SUNSET ON OCTOBER 14, 2027 [2024], UNLESS AFFIRMATIVELY CONTINUED BY THE ASSEMBLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 4.05.150.]

(AO No. 2021-76, § 1, 8-24-21)

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _______ day of ________________, 2024.
Chair

ATTEST:

__________________________
Municipal Clerk
From: Assembly Chair Constant

Subject: AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 4.60.250 REGARDING THE HOUSELESS LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY BOARD.

The proposed ordinance focuses on the Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board, which sunsets on October 14, 2024 unless the Assembly reauthorizes it by ordinance, apart from the other eleven boards and commissions that are set to terminate this year and will be considered by AO 2024-65. This fulfills my statements in AM 515-2024 accompanying that ordinance, to propose a separate ordinance for this nascent board. The Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board has reportedly not performed any of its functions and duties in AMC subsection 4.60.250C., and failed to convene for meetings in the more than two years since its inception. Yet, to organize and prepare for meetings requires staff time and resources, and it is clearly a burden with no return on that municipal investment.

The purpose of proposing repeal of this board is to send the vision for its goals and duties back to the drawing board. If a proposal to re-establish this board or one similar to it is brought back, it should be thoroughly vetted and set up to prepare the board for success with planned meetings and objectives that are achievable, productive and beneficial to the Mayor and Assembly.

This ordinance is anticipated to have under $30,000 fiscal impact to the municipality by reduced use of staff resources, and has no private sector economic effects, therefore a summary of economic effects is not provided.

I request your support for the ordinance.

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel’s Office

Respectfully submitted: Chris Constant, Assembly Chair
District 1- North Anchorage