

## **Anchorage Public Safety Commission – DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**UPDATED 11.17.25**

This document reflects Task Force input and consolidates decision points into four grouped voting sections.

### **1 – Mission & Duties**

**Vote Options: Approve as written / Amend / Replace**

#### **Mission**

The Anchorage Public Safety Commission shall serve as a structured and independent community body that helps strengthen public safety, transparency, and trust. Its work includes advisory roles, system-level review, evaluation, and oversight functions (if adopted).

#### **Duties**

- Review public safety policies, data, engagement strategies, and systemic issues.
- Convene community input, including public concerns related to homelessness, crisis response, and broader safety conditions.
- Provide recommendations to the Mayor and Assembly.
- Conduct system-level reviews of completed cases (if adopted).
- Identify trends and evaluate system-level issues.
- Prepare an annual public report summarizing findings and recommendations.

### **2 – Authority Options**

**Vote Options: Amend / Replace / Select One**

**Note:** Option B includes all components of Option A. Option C includes all components of Options A and B.

#### **Option A – Advisory Only**

- Serves in an advisory capacity only.
- Reviews public safety policies, data, engagement, and systemic issues.
- Convenes community input on public safety concerns.
- Makes recommendations to the Mayor and Assembly.
- Produces an annual report.
- Does not review individual cases.

- Has no investigatory or subpoena authority.
- Does not handle complaints.

### **Option B – Advisory + System-Level Review + Evaluation**

#### **Includes everything in Option A and:**

- Conducts system-level reviews of completed cases to identify trends and lessons.
- Case review occurs only after the underlying investigation is complete.
- No involvement in personnel matters.
- No involvement in active investigations.
- May request information needed for system-level review (non-investigatory).
- Evaluates systemic patterns and emerging issues.

### **Option C – Oversight**

#### **Includes everything in Option A and Option B, and:**

- Receives complaints from the public.
- Monitors the status of active cases without interfering.
- Reviews completed investigations for thoroughness and consistency.
- May have investigatory and/or subpoena authority with safeguards.
- May conduct follow-up inquiries after cases are closed.
- Has enhanced access to information for oversight purposes.
- Identifies systemic patterns requiring policy or practice changes.

## **3 – Membership, Structure & Staffing**

### **Vote Options: Approve as written / Amend / Replace**

**Note:** Municipal Code establishes baseline eligibility criteria for commission members. The items listed below are additional expectations the Task Force recommends beyond what is set in code. These recommendations do not supersede Municipal Code.

#### **Membership**

- 9–13 members.
- Representation includes individuals with lived experience, youth perspectives, BIPOC, behavioral/mental health expertise, and diverse communities, groups and cultures.
- Appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Assembly.
- Terms are 3 years and staggered.
- Eligibility criteria (needs definition)
- Removal-for-cause criteria to be defined in bylaws.

## **Structure & Independence**

- Operates independently within municipal code.
- Works collaboratively with APD (Anchorage Police Department), AFD (Anchorage Fire Department), and AHD (Anchorage Health Department).
- Members receive training in confidentiality, trauma-informed practice, and culturally responsive engagement.

## **Staffing**

- The Commission receives dedicated staff for operations and public engagement.
- The Assembly allocates sufficient resources for Commission work.

## **4 – Evaluation, Reporting & Bylaws**

### **Vote Options: Approve as written / Amend / Replace**

#### **Evaluation & Reporting**

- The Commission evaluates trends, patterns, and systemic issues.
- Produces an annual public report summarizing findings and recommendations.

#### **Effective Date & Bylaw Development**

- The Commission becomes effective upon adoption of an ordinance by the Anchorage Assembly.
- Within 12 months of formation, the Commission adopts bylaws to include but not limited to complaint intake and forwarding, monitoring active investigations without interference (if adopted), review of completed investigations (if adopted), confidentiality requirements, trauma-informed and culturally responsive practices and cause for removal process.
- Bylaws are submitted to the Mayor and Assembly for acknowledgment and public posting.