

# 2026 MOA Legislative Program – DRAFT

## INTRODUCTION

The 2026 Legislative Program of the Municipality of Anchorage is guided by the overarching goal of ensuring that Anchorage remains **safe, secure, and affordable**. Our top priority for the 2026 Legislative Session is to obtain **capital support for the Port of Alaska Modernization Program** (PAMP).

Mayor Suzanne LaFrance and the Anchorage Assembly appreciate your support. More information on the Municipality's Legislative priorities can be found at:

### Mayor Suzanne LaFrance

#### **Christopher Constant, Chair**

District 1, North Anchorage

#### **Anna Brawley, Vice Chair**

District 3, West Anchorage

#### **Erin Baldwin Day**

District 4, Midtown

#### **Jared Goecker**

District 2, Eagle River, Chugiak & JBER

#### **Zac Johnson**

District 6, South Anchorage, Girdwood & Turnagain Arm

#### **George Martinez**

District 5, East Anchorage

#### **Keith McCormick**

District 6, South Anchorage, Girdwood & Turnagain Arm

#### **Scott Myers**

District 2, Eagle River, Chugiak & JBER

#### **Kameron Perez-Verdia**

District 3, West Anchorage

#### **Felix Rivera**

District 4, Midtown

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## **TOP REQUEST: PORT OF ALASKA MODERNIZATION PROGRAM**

The Municipality has updated its comprehensive Port of Alaska Modernization Project (PAMP) Plan of Finance and issued \$180 million in revenue bonds. These bonds require surcharges on cargo, cement, and petroleum which raise the cost of goods throughout the state.

Our primary ask for the Port is your continued partnership in financially supporting the PAMP to reduce the negative impact of surcharges statewide as we proceed with the \$1.9 billion project to replace the two cargo terminals.

## **SAFE**

The Municipality is committed to ensuring that Anchorage remains a safe place to live, work, and visit by strengthening public safety services, supporting first responders, and investing in community-based approaches that prevent crime and promote wellbeing.

### **APD Real-Time Crime Center Capital**

The Real-Time Crime Center is a hub connecting up to 750 camera feeds to a centralized network. It allows for faster responses and better public safety coverage across the Municipality. A capital request of \$1.5 million would allow for the purchase of equipment to continue developing the center.

### **Blight Reduction Funding**

The Municipality has targeted over two hundred derelict structures for abatement. These buildings, abandoned and left in a state of decay, represent a blight on our community and become hot spots for vagrancy, drug use, and other nefarious activity. They require constant attention from APD, AFD and Code Enforcement, resulting in a enormous drain of municipal resources and decreased neighborhood viability. Request: \$500,000.

### **Inflation Adjust E911 Surcharge**

The E911 surcharge supports emergency dispatch services for first responders. The surcharge on wired and wireless lines has not been adjusted for inflation for several years as operating costs have increased. In addition to adjusting for inflation, the Municipality requests the statute be revised to expand the allowable uses, and ensure the charge applies to voice over IP (VOIP) systems.

### **Fund the Community Assistance Program**

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Make a full contribution for 2026 and fully recapitalize the Community Assistance Fund. These funds will be used to support public safety via the Police and Fire Departments, which together account for nearly half of the Municipal operating budget.

## **SECURE**

Anchorage's future depends on resilience and secure infrastructure. The Municipality will prioritize modernization of essential systems—such as public health, utilities, transportation, and the Port of Alaska—to withstand disruptions and support long-term community stability.

### **Increase Rates for General Relief for Assisted Living**

Many unhoused individuals with disabilities end up in homeless shelters that are unable to provide the support they need. An increase in the rates paid by General Relief Assistance for assisted living could help them secure a more suitable arrangement.

### **Chugach State Park Access Study**

A Chugach State Park Access Study will identify and guide capital improvement projects that improve access to Chugach State Park, with a focus on Chugach State Park Access Service Area (CASA). The study will consider broad stakeholder feedback across CASA, and recommendations may include roadway, parking lot, trailhead, and trail projects. Estimated cost: \$250,000.

### **Prioritized Winter Road Maintenance Coordination**

As Alaska's hub and economic center this movement of people and goods not only effects the citizens of Anchorage, but also the citizens of all Alaska. This is exemplified by the state-owned roads leading to and from the Port of Alaska through midtown and connecting to the State Highway system and the roads leading to Anchorage International Airport. These and other key state-owned routes are among the most traveled roads in Anchorage and should be equal in priority to the Seward and Glenn Highway system for winter maintenance efforts.

### **Remove Hiring Freeze for Alaska Department of Transportation Central Region**

Removing the hiring freeze for positions that design and manage projects will help AKDOT and MOA collectively serve Anchorage and implement projects more effectively.

### **Amend Statutes Concerning Utility Rate Setting**

Allow utilities to include more kinds of infrastructure upgrades ("vertical plant," like water treatment facilities, not just pipes and lines) in the Plant Replacement and Improvement

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Surcharge Mechanism (PRISM). This change would allow utilities to recoup the costs of small capital projects through rate-setting—enabling more housing development.

## **AFFORDABLE**

Anchorage must remain a place where residents and families can afford to live and thrive. The Municipality will pursue policies that reduce the cost of living, expand housing options, and promote economic opportunity across all neighborhoods.

### **Waste To Energy (Renewable Energy Fund)**

The Municipality’s proposed Waste to Energy (WTE) facility would augment current electrical supply by generating 20-30 MW of stable, reliable power, while extending the life of the ARL by up to 100 years and providing significant additional financial and non-financial benefits for Anchorage, the state of Alaska, and JBER. The Municipality is requesting \$2 million through the Renewable Energy Fund for predevelopment work that will inform technical specifications, site location, compliance standards, and stakeholder engagement.

### **Affordable Housing**

Develop new mechanisms through AIDEA and AHFC to provide gap financing and patient capital for housing development. Allow the AIDEA Loan Participation Program to be used for financing multifamily housing development. Increase funding available through grant programs to fund supportive and affordable housing.

### **Weatherization Funding**

With Anchorage facing potential natural gas shortages and an aging housing stock, many homes require significant energy-efficiency upgrades. Supporting a residential weatherization program targeted at mobile homes—through AHFC or a similar partner—would provide meaningful relief for residents.

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## **DISTRICT PRIORITIES**

In addition to the Municipality's areawide priorities, there are also local needs that the State can address to improve the quality of life at the neighborhood level. These projects are all highly prioritized by the residents in the surrounding areas.

### **DISTRICT 1: NORTH ANCHORAGE**

### **DISTRICT 2: JBER, CHUGIAK AND EAGLE RIVER**

### **DISTRICT 3: WEST ANCHORAGE**

### **DISTRICT 4: MIDTOWN**

### **DISTRICT 5: EAST ANCHORAGE**

### **DISTRICT 6: SOUTH ANCHORAGE, TURNAGAIN ARM AND GIRDWOOD**