

## Amendment #1 to AO 2025-106 FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget

**Submitted by:** Assembly Vice Chair Brawley and Member Volland

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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This omnibus amendment reduces recommended appropriation by (\$23,800) to the following departments for the items described. Additional information can be found on the subsequent pages of this packet.

Amendment				Assembly	
Department	Description	R/1	Amount	Sponsor	Ref
Parks	Part-time positions to full-time positions	R	Net-0	AB,CC	1A
Public Transportation	Additional Budget for 65+ transportation	R	100,000	DV,EBD,GM	1B
Planning	Additional budget for Comp Plan	1	50,000	EBD	1C
Office of Management and Budget	Additional Budget for Fiscal Public Engagement	R	10,000	AB	1D
Chief Administrative Office	Additional Budget for Fiscal Public Engagement	R	10,000	AB	1D
Multi	Reduction for Non-Recruited Positions	R	(175,000)	JG,KM,SM	1E
Municipal Manager	Reduction for non-labor	R	(17,280)	JG,KM,SM	1F
Assembly	Reduction for non-labor	R	(16,520)	JG,KM,SM	1F
Health	Additional Budget for ATAX Use Communications	R	15,000	AB	1G
Health	Grant to Best Beginnings	1	Net-0	DV	1H
-	Conforming Amendment	-	-	-	1I

## Amendment #1A to AO 2025-106 FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget

**Submitted by:** Assembly Chair Constant & Vice Chair Brawley

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Amount:** Net-0 [recurring]

**Description of amendment:** This amendment utilizes the Department's existing funding, eliminating 14 seasonal part-time positions in the Horticulture Division, and reallocating the funding to create five full-time positions. These positions have recently been increasingly difficult to fill, and historically the same person may be hired seasonally twice per year but not considered a full-time employee.

Within the Natural Resources Division, the new positions added would be paid for with a reduction of fund transfers to the Department's CIP Fund.

This has been recommended by the Department.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Parks & Rec

**Amount:** See below table *provided by the Parks and Recreation Director*

Division	Description	Direct Cost Dollar Amount Increase / (Decrease)
Horticulture	ADD: Five (5) Full Time Gardener II	\$ 483,055
Horticulture	ELIMINATE: Two (2) Seasonal Parks Operators	\$ (64,022)
Horticulture	ELIMINATE: Five (5) Seasonal Gardener I	\$ (89,540)
Horticulture	ELIMINATE: Three (3) Seasonal Gardener II	\$ (58,677)
Horticulture	ELIMINATE: Two (2) Seasonal Parks Caretaker II	\$ (59,276)
Horticulture	ELIMINATE: Two (2) Seasonal Parks Caretaker I	\$ (51,220)
Natural Resources	ADD: Parks Foreman (Working) - Regular (Funded by reducing transfer to other funds)	\$ 132,854
Natural Resources	ADD: Two (2) Full Time Parks Caretaker II	\$ 193,222
Park Maintenance	Reduce: Transfer to other funds	\$ (486,396)

**Amendment #1B to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Members Baldwin Day, Volland, Martinez

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Public Transportation

**Amount:** \$100,000 [recurring]

**Description of amendment:** This amendment provides additional budget for the department to add an additional weekday for individuals aged 65+ to ride People Mover fare free.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Public Transportation

**Amount:** \$100,000

**Fund:** Areawide General Fund

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**Amendment #1C to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Member Baldwin Day

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Planning

**Amount:** \$50,000 [one-time]

**Description of amendment:** This amendment provides additional budget to utilize the existing term contract with consultant to scope the rewrite project, research best practices, conduct literature review, create a staffing plan, and develop public engagement strategy.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Planning

**Amount:** \$50,000

**Fund:** Areawide General Fund

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**Amendment #1D to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Vice Chair Brawley

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Office of Management and Budget & Chief Administrative Officer

**Amount:** \$20,000 [recurring]

**Description of amendment:** This amendment provides budget for continued fiscal education and outreach for civic engagement, to help the public understand the current situation and make informed decisions about options for addressing persistent fiscal issues. OMB staffs the Budget Advisory Commission, who could also host discussions and listening sessions. Funding may be used to support in-person meetings (such as child care), developing online tools and outreach, and other strategies for increasing public engagement in the topic.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Office of Management and Budget

**Amount:** \$10,000

**Fund:** Areawide General Fund

**Department:** Chief Administrative Officer (for i-Team)

**Amount:** \$10,000

**Fund:** Areawide General Fund

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**Amendment #1E to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Members Goecker, McCormick, Myers

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Multiple

**Amount:** ~ (\$175,000) [recurring]

**Description of amendment:** This amendment eliminates the labor budget for all vacant, funded positions that haven't been recruited for in 2025. Final amount to be calculated by the Office of Management and Budget and Confirmed by the Municipal Clerks Office.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Multiple

**Amount:** ~ (\$175,000)

**Fund:** Multiple

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**Amendment #1F to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Members Goecker, McCormick, Myers

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Assembly and Municipal Manager

**Amount:** (\$33,800.00)

**Description of amendment:** This amendment reduces the non-labor budget for items such as meals during Assembly Meetings and Worksessions.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Assembly

**Amount:** (\$16,520.00)

**Fund:** Areawide General Fund

**Department:** Municipal Manager

**Amount:** (\$17,280.00)

**Fund:** Areawide General Fund

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**Amendment #1G to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Vice Chair Brawley

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Health

**Amount:** \$15,000 [recurring]

**Description of amendment:** Education and accountability communications about utilization of alcohol and marijuana tax funded programs, so the public has visibility and awareness about how tax revenues are utilized.

Sponsor's original intent was to put a similar amount from the marijuana tax for education and communications, but this is not being offered in the amendment because the department is already planning to engage in that activity with existing administration funding as budgeted.

<b>Budget Information:</b>
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**Department:** Health

**Fund:** Alcoholic Beverages Retail Sales Tax Fund

**Amount:** \$15,000

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**Amendment #1H to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Member Volland

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCREASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECREASE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEUTRAL
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**Department:** Health

**Amount:** Net-0 [recurring]

**Description of amendment:** This amendment is budget neutral. It reduces the recommended amount to the Health Department from the Marijuana Sales Tax Fund for Pilot Projects and makes it available for a grant to Best Beginnings for early childhood education.

<b>Budget Information</b>
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**Department:** Health

**Description:** Pilot Projects

**Amount:** (\$125,000)

**Fund:** Marijuana Sales Tax Fund

**Department:** Health

**Description:** Donations

**Amount:** \$125,000

**Fund:** Marijuana Sales Tax Fund

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## Encouraging Early Literacy in Alaska: An Evaluation of the Imagination Library Program

The Imagination Library program provides age-appropriate books by mail each month to children from birth to age 5 in 112 different Alaska communities. The program is supported statewide by Best Beginnings, an Anchorage-based public-private partnership. Best Beginnings provides training and financial assistance to local organizations that manage the program in their own communities. Best Beginnings also administers Anchorage Imagination Library, the largest program in the state. The Dollywood Foundation in Tennessee selects and sends books directly to the homes of enrolled children.

The program has three main goals: supporting improvements in children's home literacy environments, strengthening parent-child bonds, and increasing academic outcomes through early literacy and family engagement efforts. Program funding comes from state, local, and private sources, and individuals.

### *Imagination Library communities in 2018*



This brief summarizes results from a recent evaluation of Imagination Library. The evaluation examined program data from 2010 to 2019 and estimated the relationship of program participation to child outcomes in the early elementary grades.

### **Participation in Imagination Library nearly doubled from 2010 to 2018**

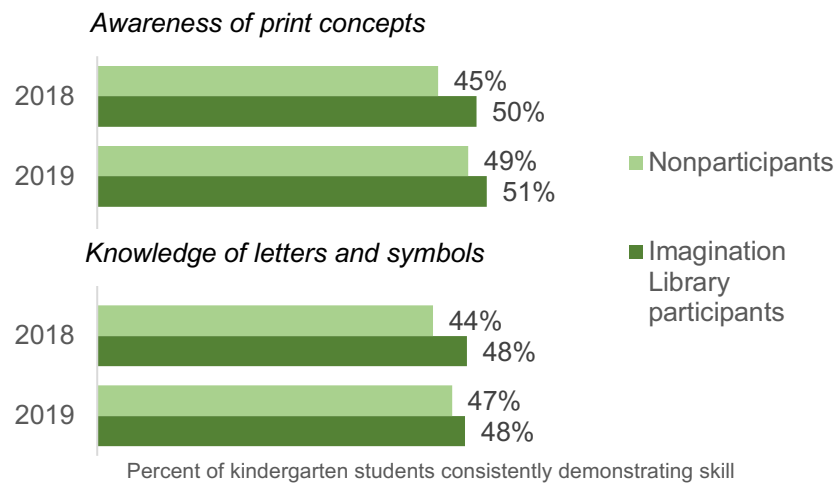
From 2010 to 2018, the number of children served increased by 67 percent and the number of books sent increased by 87 percent. In 2018, 24,586 children across the state received 204,828 books.

### **Participation in Imagination Library is associated with increased kindergarten readiness**

Children who participated in Imagination Library had higher rates of kindergarten readiness than similar children who did not participate. Readiness is defined as consistently demonstrating the skills or behaviors for 11 of 13 Alaska Developmental Profile kindergarten entry assessment indicators. This finding was consistent across student groups, including English language learner students, Alaska Native students, and economically disadvantaged students. For example, among incoming kindergarten students in 2016 across the state, 30 percent of Imagination Library participants were kindergarten ready compared to 25 percent of similar students who did not participate.

### Participation in Imagination Library is associated with higher literacy skills

Imagination Library participants had higher rates of demonstrating literacy skills on the Alaska Developmental Profile, particularly in awareness of print concepts and knowledge of letters and symbols. For example, among entering kindergarteners in 2018, 48 percent of Imagination Library participants consistently demonstrated knowledge of letters and symbols compared to 44 percent of similar nonparticipants.



### Participation in Imagination Library is associated with higher reading and math achievement in grade 3

Imagination Library participation was associated with higher levels of grade 3 reading achievement and higher levels of grade 3 math achievement in certain years. This association was stronger for children who had participated for a longer amount of time in Imagination Library.

### Promising evaluation results demonstrate a need for further research

These results from the first large-scale quantitative evaluation of the Imagination Library program in Alaska show promising connections between program participation and early elementary student outcomes. More research is needed to explore how participation is connected to other outcomes, such as student test performance in grades 1 and 2, and how the influence of participation on student outcomes varies based on the number of years a child receives books through the program.

*For more information about Imagination Library and this evaluation, please contact:*

Abbe Hensley, Best Beginnings executive director, [ahensley@bestbeginningsalaska.org](mailto:ahensley@bestbeginningsalaska.org).

**Amendment #11 to AO 2025-106  
FY 2025 General Government Operating Budget**

**Submitted by:** Assembly Vice Chair Brawley

<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENT</b>
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**Description of amendment:** To add language to allow conformance with budget amendments.

<b>Text:</b>
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**AO at page #**, to insert a new section just before the last section of the AO and number accordingly, the new section to read as follows:

**Section #. The Office of Management and Budget, with agreement of the Municipal Clerk or their designee, is authorized to make conforming changes reasonably necessary to implement approved amendments, to this AO and any attached memoranda, exhibits, or referenced documents.**

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