Committee Scope and Description

Note: Intent is to broaden the scope of work beyond the legislative program, but remain focused on the Municipality’s overall legislative priorities. The committee is also a forum for member discussion about legislative priorities, active legislation or policies, even if it is not an Assembly priority overall.

Current Description

The Assembly Legislative Committee deliberates and makes recommendations regarding the Municipality’s six-year capital budget plans of both general government and the utilities. The Committee also participates in planning the capital budget and formulates an Anchorage Legislative Program which is submitted yearly to the State Legislature to lobby for funding of projects.

Proposed Description (Clean)

The Assembly Legislative Committee provides guidance and recommendations regarding the Municipality’s federal, state, and local legislative priorities. The Committee prepares recommendations for the Municipality’s six-year capital program and budget priorities, and collaborates with the Administration to create the Anchorage Legislative Program submitted annually to the State Legislature. The Committee also serves as a forum for review and deliberation of legislation and policies that impact the Municipality, and Anchorage as a whole, and may work with individual members on communication of district-level priorities and engaging with other levels of government.

Proposed Description (Mark-up from Current)

The Assembly Legislative Committee provides guidance and recommendations regarding the Municipality’s federal, state, and local legislative priorities. The Committee prepares recommendations for deliberates and makes recommendations regarding the Municipality's six-year capital program and budget priorities, and collaborates with the Administration to create the budget plans of both general government and the utilities. The Committee also participates in planning the capital budget and formulates an Anchorage Legislative Program which is submitted yearly to the State Legislature to lobby for funding of projects. The Committee also serves as a forum for review and deliberation of legislation and policies that impact the Municipality, and Anchorage as a whole, and may work with individual members on communication of district-level priorities and engaging with other levels of government.
What kinds of activities will this committee do?

- Identify and recommend priorities of the Assembly as a body, and the Municipality overall
- Prepare funding and policy priorities to communicate to state government (Alaska Legislature, Governor, state agencies as appropriate).
- Prepare funding and policy priorities to communicate to federal government (Congressional delegation, executive branch and agencies as appropriate).
- Communicate and build relationships with the Anchorage Caucus (Alaska Legislature), Governor’s Office, Alaska Delegation (U.S. Congress), and federal executive agencies.
- Coordinate with Alaska Municipal League (AML), national associations (NLC, NACo, etc.), and other entities to support shared policy priorities that impact Anchorage.
- Monitor priority state legislative bills (during Sessions) and priority federal legislation.
- Provide guidance to and receive reports from the Municipality’s contracted lobbyists.
- Review and discuss active legislation that impact Anchorage: this may or may not result in a formal recommendation for a position, or other action.
- Assist individual Assembly members on effective legislative engagement for the Municipality’s overall priorities, and advise (as appropriate) how members can support district-level priorities.

Proposed Meeting Schedule

General Schedule

- This committee is not a committee-of-the-whole, but if there is interest, can become one.
- Outside Alaska Legislative Sessions (June – December): Quarterly meetings, ~1.5 hours max
- During Sessions (January – May): Monthly meetings, 1 hour max
  - January meeting is “Pre-session planning”
  - May meeting is “debrief and post-action”
- 2 briefings per year from state and federal lobbyist(s) team: likely during committee meetings going forward, when possible to schedule.

2023, Q3 and Q4 Schedule

- **Work session, State lobbyist briefing (Chamberlain): Thursday, July 27, 11:00 am - noon**
- Committee meeting 1: Thursday, August 3, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm
- Committee meeting 2: [TBD, late October – collect and discuss draft legislative priorities]
- Committee meeting 3: [TBD, early December – finalize legislative priorities]
- **Set up monthly session meetings for January - May 2024**