ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2022-221

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY
REAPPROPRIATING NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED
THOUSAND DOLLARS ($2,500,000) PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR
OPERATIONAL COSTS FOR SHELTER, DAY CENTER AND/OR TREATMENT
CENTER WITHIN THE ALCOHOL BEVERAGES RETAIL SALES TAX FUND
(206000) AND APPROPRIATING NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FIVE
HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,500,000) OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES
RETAIL SALES TAX FUND (206000) FUND BALANCE, TO BE USED AS A
DIRECT GRANT TO UNITED WAY FOR RENTAL UNIT REHABILITATION, TO
THE ANCHORAGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR EMERGENCY SHELTERING TO
INCLUDE COLD WEATHER RESPONSE, AND TO THE ANCHORAGE COALITION
TO END HOMELESSNESS TO BE USED FOR EXPANDED OUTREACH AND
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly approved on November 1, 2021, AR 2021-350,
As Amended, which identified an exit strategy to end mass care and implement an
integrated client and community centered approach to addressing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly approved on December 7, 2021, AO 2021-
116(S), As Amended, to implement the mass care exit strategy adopted in AR 2021-
350, As Amended; and

WHEREAS, housing unit availability and affordability continues to pose a significant
challenge to housing individuals experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, with the closure of the Sullivan Arena as a mass care facility, there are
now approximately 350 unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in the
Municipality of Anchorage (MOA), which include families with children for the first time
in several years; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) currently has
one-time funding (ESG-CV) through the Municipality to coordinate outreach services
through September 2022, but after that time there is no direct funding from the MOA
to coordinate or conduct outreach activities; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has placed
significant focus on outreach and housing first (unsheltered to housing) efforts in its
2022-2027 strategic plan and with its recent release of a Special Notice of Funding
Opportunity, however those funds won’t be available until late fall at the earliest and
the amount is not sufficient to meet the outreach needs of the increased number of
individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Anchorage; and
WHEREAS, a lack of access to transportation significantly hinders street outreach’s ability to assist individuals in the steps required to secure housing, from obtaining documents to viewing units; and

WHEREAS, the MOA has an obligation under Anchorage Municipal Code chapter 16.120 to provide shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness when the outside temperature drops to 45 degrees Fahrenheit or below on the day when sheltering begins; and

WHEREAS, appropriating funds at least one quarter before cold weather sheltering is required allows time for proper planning, procurement and coordination; and

WHEREAS, family unsheltered homelessness could end with a year-round coordinated emergency sheltering plan; now, therefore,

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

Section 1. That the sum of not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000) previously appropriated for operational costs for shelter, day center, and/or treatment center costs with the Alcohol Beverages Retail Sales Tax Fund (206000) is hereby reappropriated to be used as a direct grant to United Way for the Landlord Housing Partnership to pay for up to 60 rental units to be rehabilitated (up to $2,500 per bedroom, per unit) and to pay for security deposits.

Section 2. That the sum of not to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000) previously appropriated for operational costs for shelter, day center, and/or treatment center costs with the Alcohol Beverages Retail Sales Tax Fund (206000) is hereby reappropriated to the Anchorage Health Department to be used through a competitive process to meet AMC ch. 16.120 requirements for emergency sheltering to include cold-weather response through the end of 2022. For purposes of this appropriation and preparing for compliance with AMC ch. 16.120, none of these funds shall be used for operational costs at the planned Navigation Center at Tudor and Elmore.

Section 3. That the sum of not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1,500,000) is hereby appropriated from Alcohol Beverages Retail Sales Tax Fund (206000) fund balance to be used as a direct grant to the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness for expanded outreach to address the increased number of unsheltered individuals as well as targeted outreach for families and to provide funding for transportation costs.

Section 4. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this ____ day of ______________, 2022.
Chair of the Assembly

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk
From: Assembly Members Perez-Verdia and Rivera

Subject: A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY
REAPPROPRIATING NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION FIVE
HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($2,500,000) PREVIOUSLY
APPROPRIATED FOR OPERATIONAL COSTS FOR SHELTER,
DAY CENTER AND/OR TREATMENT CENTER WITHIN THE
ALCOHOL BEVERAGES RETAIL SALES TAX FUND (206000) AND
APPROPRIATING NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FIVE
HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,500,000) OF ALCOHOL
BEVERAGES RETAIL SALES TAX FUND (206000) FUND
BALANCE AS A DIRECT GRANT TO UNITED WAY FOR RENTAL
UNIT REHABILITATION, ANCHORAGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR EMERGENCY SHELTERING TO INCLUDE COLD WEATHER
RESPONSE, AND THE ANCHORAGE COALITION TO END
HOMELESSNESS TO BE USED FOR EXPANDED OUTREACH
AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

On November 1, 2021, the Anchorage Assembly approved AR 2021-250, As
Amended, which created an exit strategy to end mass care and implement an
integrated client and community centered approach to addressing homelessness.
With the closure of the Sullivan Arena as a mass care facility, there are now
approximately 350 unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in the
Municipality of Anchorage (MOA), which include families with children for the first
time in several years. There are still significant challenges with housing unit
affordability and availability to meet the need of housing individuals experiencing
homelessness. The Landlord Housing Partnership is a way to make available an
additional 60 units of housing by this winter.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has placed significant
focus on street outreach and housing first (unsheltered to housing) efforts in its
2022-2027 strategic plan and with its recent release of a Special Notice of Funding
Opportunity. The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) currently has
one-time funding (ESG-CV) through the Municipality to coordinate street outreach
services through September 2022, but after that time there is no direct funding from
the MOA to coordinate outreach activities.

The MOA also has an obligation under Anchorage Municipal Code 16.120 to provide
shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness when the outside temperature
drops to 45 degrees Fahrenheit or below on the day when sheltering begins.
Providing funds at least one quarter before cold weather sheltering is required to
allow time for proper planning, procurement and coordination.
We request your support for the resolution.

Prepared by:   Assembly Counsel
Respectfully submitted:  Kameron Perez-Verdia, Assembly Member
                       District 3, West Anchorage
                       Felix Rivera, Assembly Member
                       District 4, Midtown Anchorage