

ANCHORAGE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION
YAC Resolution No. 2022-007

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION TO CREATE BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE TO UPDATE THE PUBLIC ON THE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION'S PROJECTS AND CREATE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS ANCHORAGE'S YOUTH FACE.

WHEREAS, the Youth Advisory Commission is a diverse commission, composed of youth ages 14-22, represents and advocates for the youth of Anchorage in our local government.

WHEREAS, some of YAC's work focuses on the youth mental health crisis—through the creation of the Mental Health Advocacy Program.

WHEREAS, the Youth Advisory Commission represents the Youth of Anchorage which is over 31.4% of Anchorage's total population according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

WHEREAS, the Youth Advisory Commission exists to represent youth voices and opinions of Anchorage—a marginalized voice.

WHEREAS, the Youth Advisory Commission seeks to establish a good, working relationship with the members of the public, and the Anchorage Assembly.

WHEREAS, communication between the Assembly and the Youth Advisory Commission has led to a misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the Youth Advisory Commission's principles, purpose, and projects.

WHEREAS, Anchorage municipal code section 4.60.275. (B.1) shows that the Youth Advisory Commission "Advise[s] the mayor and assembly on issues, services and programs from the youth perspective in our community" which is a key and integral part of the Youth Advisory Commission.

WHEREAS, the Youth Advisory Commission concludes that meetings with the Anchorage Assembly and members of the public will allow the Youth Advisory Commission the opportunity to develop deeper relationships with the Assembly and the public to further advance the understanding of the needs of youth, and allow for more voice and perspective.

1 **WHEREAS**, the Youth Advisory Commission strongly believes that this change will
2 improve communication between the Anchorage Assembly and Anchorage community,
3 and allow the Youth Advisory Commission the opportunity to promote initiatives focused
4 on youth, and foster a stronger relationship between the public and members of the
5 Anchorage Assembly.

6 ***Now, therefore by the Youth Advisory Commission, be it resolved:***

7 1. *The Assembly should consider and adopt the following steps:*

8 1. *Create Bi-Monthly informal meetings with the Youth Advisory Commission*
9 *to discuss problems that Anchorage's youth face and propose solutions to*
10 *problems that youth face.*

11 2. *The meetings will also allow for the Youth Advisory Commission to*
12 *present on past, current, and future projects of the Youth Advisory*
13 *Commission and give updates regarding these projects.*

14 3. *The Assembly will be able gain youth perspectives and allow for open*
15 *communication with the Youth Advisory Commission.*