

**Municipality of Anchorage**

***Proposed  
General Government  
Operating Budget***

***2008 - 2009***

**Mark Begich, Mayor  
Anchorage, Alaska**



# Municipality of Anchorage

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October 1, 2007

Dear Fellow Anchorage Resident:

I am pleased to provide the Municipality of Anchorage's biennial budget for the operation of city services for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009. This budget continues the city's investment in the services Anchorage residents tell me are most important to them: protecting public safety, improving our city's transportation, and promoting community and economic development.

The 2008 budget totals \$429.2 million. It includes targeted investments in public safety by adding 20 new police officers, full funding for four COPS in Schools officers, three dispatchers for the Fire Department, and full year funding for Fire Station 12 (14 personnel) that was approved by voters in April. Other voter-approved new investments include street maintenance, traffic communication and electronic resources, and park maintenance and operations. The 2009 budget totals \$442.9 million. It provides for 13 additional police officers and continuation level budgets for all other city services.

Almost 40 percent (\$11.2 million) of the increase between 2007 and this year results from rate increases to cover public employee retirement liability. Fortunately, the State Legislature has already appropriated funds to cover half of this cost, and we fully expect the Legislature to approve funding for the other half when it convenes next spring.

Property tax relief continues to be a top priority. Last year, property taxpayers benefited from a \$37 million tax credit, courtesy of two years of state assistance. We'll be working with legislators to continue this assistance, as the state benefits from record high oil prices and additional revenues from a change in the oil tax. As a result, property tax credits of at least \$13.5 million are proposed for 2008 and also for 2009.

Anchorage citizens deserve confidence that they are getting good value for their money. To this end, I urge you to review the proposed city budgets and to participate in the budget process. Two public hearings will be held in the Assembly Chambers at Loussac Library before the budgets are adopted: October 23 and November 6. The Assembly's final action on proposed budgets is scheduled for November 13.

Sincerely,

Mark Begich

Mayor

**2008/2009 PROPOSED  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET**

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE**

**MARK BEGICH, MAYOR**

**ASSEMBLY**

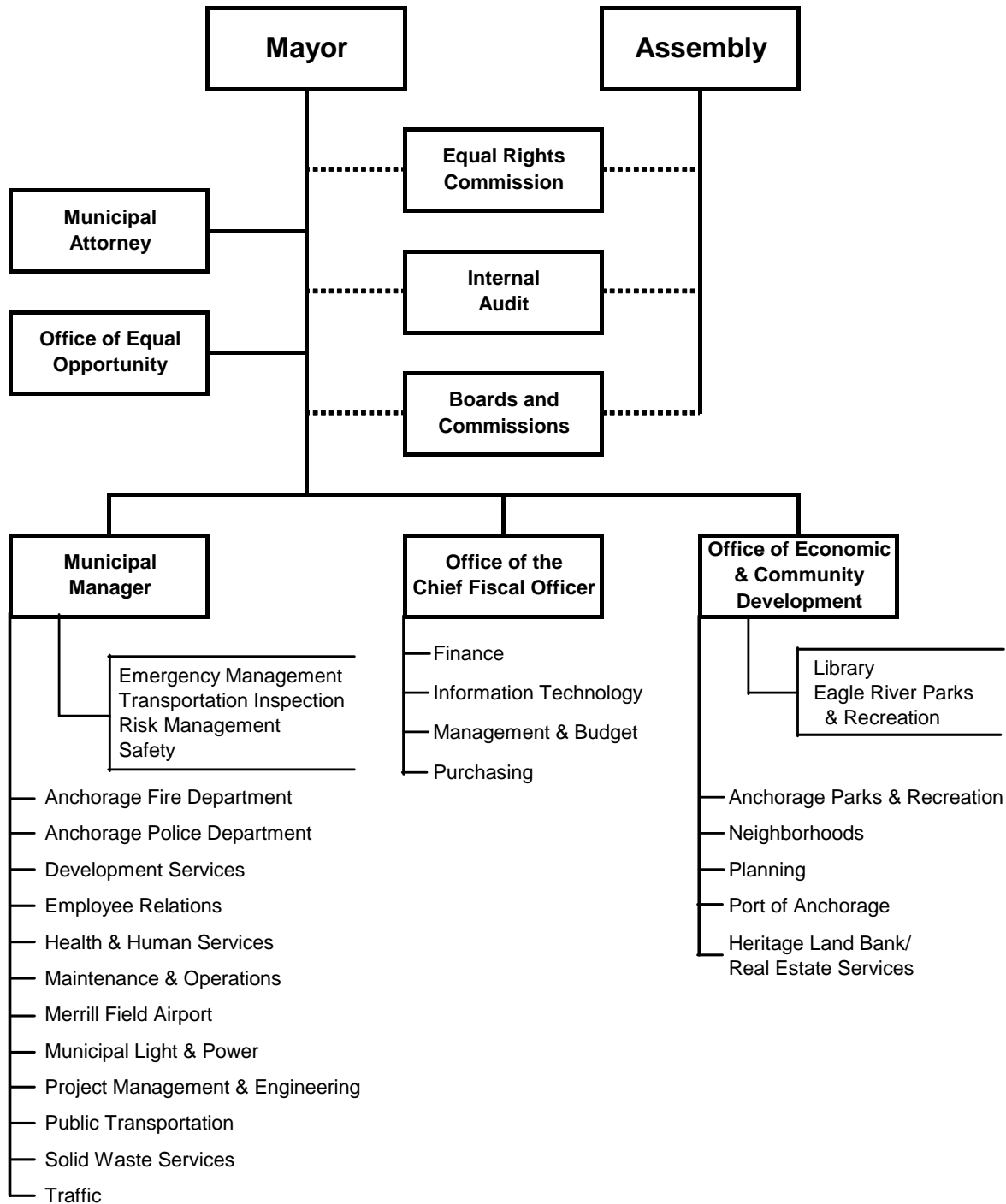
Dan Coffey, Chair	Jennifer Johnston	Dan Sullivan
Paul Bauer	Debbie Ossiander	Allan Tesche
Chris Birch	Sheila Selkregg	Dick Traini
Matt Claman	Bill Starr	

**ADMINISTRATION**

Sharon Weddleton.....	Chief Fiscal Officer
Denis C. LeBlanc .....	Municipal Manager
Mary Jane Michael.....	Executive Director, Economic and Community Development
James N. Reeves.....	Municipal Attorney
Janet Mitson .....	Director, Office of Management and Budget



# MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE



## 2008/2009 Proposed General Government Operating Budget

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## ***2008/2009 Proposed General Government Operating Budget***

# ***User's Guide***

The Biennial General Government Operating Budget for 2008 and 2009 is divided into seven sections for reader convenience. The contents of each section are described below.

### **Budget Overview**

This section presents summary charts and data tables for proposed 2008 and 2009 general government operations.

### **Budget Background**

This section presents a community profile and map; brief description of the local government structure; overview of the biennial budgeting process and implementation procedures, and summary descriptions of the general government budget structure, service areas and funds, appropriation process, and limitations on taxes and tax supported spending.

### **Revenue**

This section presents a summary of all major revenue sources for general government operations and detailed descriptions of revenue accounts.

### **Department Detail**

This section presents the 2008 and 2009 proposed operating budgets for all general government departments. The budget presentation for each department includes an organizational chart, narrative description, department resource plan, reconciliation summary of departmental budget changes from 2007 revised budget to the 2008 and 2009 proposed budgets; budget detail by major divisions/programs within the department, as applicable. Also included, where applicable, is a summary of grant resources.

### **Appendices**

This section presents supplemental expenditure, revenue and tax information for 2008 and 2009.