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Municipality of Anchorage
Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Commission
2025 Annual Report

Executive Summary

In 2025, the HHAND Commission continued its transition from a rebuilding period into a phase focused on alignment, implementation, and clearer system coordination. Building on 2024's re-establishment of core functions, the Commission prioritized strengthening its advisory role to the Mayor and Assembly on housing, homelessness, and neighborhood development issues.

Throughout 2025, the Commission emphasized improved alignment with the Anchorage Continuum of Care (CoC), increased clarity in system roles, and stronger integration between housing policy, homelessness response, and community development.

Commission Purpose and Mandate

As outlined in Municipal Code AMC 4.60.265 and informed by its 2014 foundational goals, HHAND is charged with:

- Recommending long- and short-term strategies to increase access to affordable housing.
- Supporting the development of the HUD-required Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.
- Encouraging community participation in neighborhood revitalization efforts.
- Coordinate with the Anchorage Continuum of Care in the development and implementation of the Anchorage plan to address homelessness.
- Advising the Mayor and Assembly on progress toward Anchorage's housing and homelessness goals.

2025 Key Activities and Highlights

Ongoing Policy and Program Updates
Regular updates were received from the Mayor's office, Municipal Departments, and

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partners to support informed recommendations. This included presentations outlining the Mayor's strategic plan for housing, health, and homelessness, the 10,00- Homes in 10 Years initiative, a presentation from the Reconnecting Fairview project, presentations and discussion surrounding Designated Parking, and an overview of the newly launched Good Neighbor Fund.

Annual Action Plan and Funding Review
The Commission reviewed federal and local funding including CDBG, HOME, and ESG. The 2025 Action Plan was presented and reviewed by Commissioners, and the Anchored Home Plan was presented to the Commission.

Public Engagement and Transparency
Meetings remained open to the public with opportunities for comment. Commissioners also attended a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and presented on the work of the HHAND Commission and future partnerships. Commission staff also added an online public comment form and comments are shared with commissioners as they are received and addressed at the next meeting.

Resolutions
2025-01 - A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT 24-HOUR OPERATIONS OF DESIGNATED PARKING

2025-02 - A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING, HOMELESS AND NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (HHAND) SUPPORTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING GOALS WITHIN THE MAYOR'S 10,000 HOMES IN 10 YEARS INITIATIVE

Key Themes from 2025 Meetings

- System Coordination: Need for clearer coordination across systems.
- Data and Accountability: Importance of consistent reporting.
- Housing Supply: Ongoing affordability challenges.
- Neighborhood Impact: Intersection of housing instability and community conditions.

Recommendations for 2026 and Looking Ahead

Increase public awareness and participation in meetings
- Improve outreach through social media, local media, and community bulletin boards

Conduct regular site visits to key housing and homelessness programs

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- Schedule structured visits to Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC)
- Tour emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, and supportive housing sites
- Use findings to inform policy and funding priorities

Strengthen engagement with community councils

- Assign commissioners to attend local community council meetings on a rotating basis
- Share updates on HHAND initiatives and gather community feedback
- Build relationships with neighborhood leaders to improve trust and collaboration
- Report back key concerns and themes to the full commission

Enhance data analysis on returns to homelessness

- Track and analyze rates of individuals returning to homelessness after placement
- Identify patterns (e.g., housing type, service gaps, timeframes)
- Partner with local data agencies to improve data quality and integration
- Use insights to refine prevention and retention strategies

Rotate project presentations from housing and homelessness partners

- Establish a recurring agenda slot for partner presentations
- Include a diverse range of providers (shelters, outreach teams, housing developers, service organizations)

Receive regular updates on blighted property efforts

- Receive regular briefings on enforcement actions, redevelopment efforts, and barriers
- Explore alignment between blight reduction and housing development opportunities
- Identify policy or funding gaps that hinder progress on property revitalization

Include legislative and policy updates

- Track relevant local and state legislative activity impacting housing and homelessness
- Provide end-of-year briefings summarizing key policy changes and funding decisions
- Assess the impact of new legislation on service delivery, housing supply, and prevention efforts
- Develop recommendations to inform the 2027 legislative agenda

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Conclusion

The HHAND Commission's work reflects a continued shift toward greater alignment, clearer systems, and stronger collaboration.

This report was adopted unanimously at the HHAND Commission meeting May 6, 2026. We respectfully submit this report in service to our community and in support of a just, safe, and housed Anchorage.

David Rittenberg

David Rittenberg

HHAND Commission Chair

Additional Resources:

- HHAND Commission Webpage: https://www.muni.org/Departments/health/PHIP/CSD/pages/hand.aspx
- Anchored Home Plan: https://aceh.org/anchored-home
- Mayor's Homelessness and Health Strategy 2025: https://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Documents/Priorities/Homelessness%20and%20Health%20Strategy%202025.pdf
- Mayor's 10K Homes Strategy: https://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Documents/Priorities/10K%20Homes%20IV.pdf