



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Assembly Information Memorandum

No. AIM 88-2022

Meeting Date: May 10, 2022

Municipal Clerk's Office

Accepted

Date: **May 10, 2022**

1 **From: ASSEMBLY CHAIR LAFRANCE AND MAYOR BRONSON**

2
3 **Subject: PUBLIC NAMING PANEL FOR NAMING A PUBLIC PLACE IN**
4 **HONOR OF DON YOUNG, IDENTIFICATION OF PANELISTS.**

5
6 At the April 12, 2022, regular meeting, the Anchorage Assembly approved AM 208-
7 2022 from Mayor Bronson to establish a public naming panel for the purpose of
8 considering whether to rename the Port of Alaska in honor of the late Don Young,
9 Congressman for All Alaska. The AM stated "an informational memorandum shall
10 be submitted no later than 30 days" from its approval by the Assembly. This is that
11 informational memorandum.

12
13 Pursuant to Anchorage Municipal Code section 3.97.030A.:

- 14
15 1. Gail Schubert and Jim Jansen are appointed by Mayor Bronson to
16 serve on the public naming panel.
17
18 2. Amanda Moser and Aaron Leggett are appointed by Assembly Chair
19 Suzanne LaFrance to serve on the panel.
20
21 3. As stated in AM 208-2022, the Mayor's Chief of Staff Alexis Johnson
22 will be staff to this naming panel to coordinate its work.
23

24 The impetus for establishing this naming panel is the unfortunate passing of
25 Congressman Don Young. Considering whether to name a municipal facility after
26 Congressman Young is the objective of establishing the naming panel, and the
27 Mayor's proposal to rename the Port of Alaska for Congressman Young will be
28 considered. When a public naming panel is established, sometimes the friends,
29 family, colleagues and supporters of a prominent public figure initially propose a
30 specific place to be named after the public official. However, we must be mindful
31 of the Code requirements that drive the process for the panel. The resolution or
32 memorandum establishing a public naming panel may suggest a facility or space
33 to be considered for naming, but rarely includes both the name and public place in
34 the directives to the panel when it is appointed.
35

1 This memorandum reminds the members of this public naming panel that they
2 must follow the requirements of AMC chapter 3.97, *Naming of Municipal Buildings,*
3 *Other Fixed Facilities and Public Places*, during their work, including the
4 subsections listed below.

5
6 AMC subsection 3.97.030.A.6. states: “The panel shall review proposed names
7 and public places, hold public hearing[s], and identify additional potential names
8 or public places as appropriate to the request.”

9
10 AMC subsection 3.97.030.A.7. states: “The panel shall review all requests for
11 compliance with policy and honorary naming criteria under this chapter.”

12
13 AMC section 3.97.020 states in part: “When considering the naming or renaming
14 of municipal buildings, other fixed facilities, and public places, the preferred
15 practice shall be to give the public property historical, cultural or geographical
16 significance considering location, function, prior indigenous name, and natural
17 features.”

18
19 The panelists are reminded of the time requirements as well: that final action by
20 the Assembly “shall be no earlier than one year posthumously for naming of a
21 building, facility, or park.” AMC subsection 3.97.030C.

22
23 We are pleased and thankful for the panelists volunteering their time and valuable
24 insights to this Public Naming Panel for our beloved late Congressman Don Young.

25
26 Prepared by: Alexis Johnson, Mayor’s Chief of Staff and
27 Assembly Counsel

28
29 Respectfully submitted: Mayor Bronson
30 Assembly Chair LaFrance
31
32