

CLERK'S OFFICE
AMENDED AND APPROVED
Date: 1-7-03
IMMEDIATE RECONSIDERATION
FAILED 1-7-03

Submitted by:
Prepared by:
For Reading

Chairman of the Assembly at the
Request of the Mayor
Office of Management & Budget
January 7, 2003

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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR 2003-1

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly and the Mayor wish to continue to develop a strong working relationship with both the Legislature and the Governor to emphasize issues based in Anchorage of local, regional, and statewide significance;

WHEREAS, until the 2002 Legislative Session, Alaska's basic capital infrastructure needs had not been addressed in a meaningful way since Project 80s;

WHEREAS, Anchorage represents over 41% of the State's population and serves as a regional and statewide center for health care, social services, and cultural and recreational services;

WHEREAS, Anchorage needs to receive adequate funding for its public services and critical programs;

WHEREAS, a stable revenue base is critical to the financial well being of Alaska communities;

WHEREAS, steady economic development can be attained through the use of innovative financing tools;

WHEREAS, an effective public safety program is vital to the health and well being of Anchorage residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has developed an overall Legislative Program based on the following guidelines and criteria:

The Municipality supports legislation that provides a stable revenue source for local governments to help minimize local taxes.

The Municipality supports the continuation of state grant programs that help municipalities leverage limited resources for worthwhile projects, including the 70/30 Matching Grant Program and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation 50/50 Matching Grant Program.

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The Municipality intends to request State capital grants that reflect one or more of the following criteria:

Projects that are part of a program providing benefits to substantially all of Anchorage.

Projects that emphasize public safety and health

Projects that will provide our city's youth with positive recreational opportunities/alternatives that, in turn may help to reduce juvenile crime.

Projects expected to produce new long-term positive economic results and strengthen Anchorage's economic base.

Projects that either reduce or do not increase operations and maintenance costs.

Projects that address State/Federal mandates, such as the Americans for Disability Act.

The Municipality supports legislation to provide adequate state funding to local governments for state mandated programs/services.

The Municipality opposes transfers of responsibilities or mandates without appropriate funding.

The Municipality intends to oppose any new or increased State taxes that unfairly impact Anchorage and its residents.

The Municipality intends to oppose any new legislation that unnecessarily impairs the ability of local government to operate effectively and efficiently.

The Municipality will request fair and equitable treatment with regards to State FY 2004 funding decisions.

The Municipality intends to support legislative changes that clarify and refine existing Alaska Statutes that will enhance the ability of local government to promote sound economic development.


The Municipality intends to continue to support legislation that will allow the Municipality and State to more effectively deliver police, fire and emergency medical services in Anchorage; now therefore,

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THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

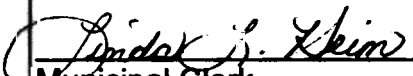
That the 2003 Municipality of Anchorage Legislative Program is adopted.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 7th day of
January, 2003.



Chairman

ATTEST:



Municipal Clerk
Acting



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. AM 5-2003

Meeting Date: January 7, 2003

1 **FROM: MAYOR**

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3 **SUBJECT: 2003 Legislative Program**

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5 The attached Assembly Resolution adopts the Municipality's 2003 State Legislative
6 Program.

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8 The program incorporates some issues unresolved or continuing from the 2002
9 Legislative Program as well as new issues that have been identified in the past year.

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11 The 70/30 Capital Project Matching Grant requests were approved by the Assembly on
12 September 11, 2002 and the remaining capital grant requests were approved through
13 the Capital Budget process.

14
15 **THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE ATTACHED**
16 **RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM.**

17
18 Prepared by: Tim Rogers, Acting OMB Director

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20 Concur: Harry J. Kieling, Jr., Municipal Manager

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22 Respectively Submitted: George P. Wuerch, Mayor

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Millennium Investment Plan

The Municipality appreciates the efforts of the 22nd Legislature in beginning to address Alaska's basic capital infrastructure needs. Passage of the bonding measures last session represented the first meaningful effort to address those needs since Project 80s. New roads, electric utility infrastructure, school construction and other public facility needs are still issues that deserve attention. The Municipality supports the creation of a Millennium Investment Plan, financed by bonds or other finance mechanisms. Among projects to be funded are the following:

Road Construction

In order to help meet demand, the Municipality supports continuation of road construction funding through GARVEE and/or general obligation bonds.

Port of Anchorage

Since the regional Port of Anchorage serves over 80% of Alaska, continued support of its expansion plans is urged.

Railbelt Energy Infrastructure

The Municipality encourages the State to use the Railbelt Energy Fund to finance needed power infrastructure improvements within the Railbelt area.

Water & Wastewater Lines

The lack of water and sewer systems becomes an impediment to sound economic development. Funding for water and sewer lines in areas such as North Eagle River/Chugiak, Sand Lake, and South Anchorage is encouraged.

State Sales Tax and Property Tax

The Municipality opposes the incursion of the State into current municipal taxes such as sales and property tax. Further, the Legislature is encouraged to review current laws on state mandated property tax exemption.

Mandates Legislation: Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption

The Municipality supports legislative efforts requiring the State to provide full funding for State mandated Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans property tax exemption.

Homeland Security

The Municipality supports the exemption of Homeland Security communications from citizens' access to information statutes.

PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES

OPERATING BUDGET

Human Services Community Matching Grant and AHFC Weatherization Program

The Municipality supports the continuation and expansion of these important programs.

McLaughlin Youth Center

The Municipality asks the Legislature to approve funding for in-take officers that previously have been funded by the Municipality.

Education Funding

The Municipality supports full funding and inflation proofing of the State's education program.

University of Alaska Anchorage

The Legislature is encouraged to provide full funding to allow UAA to continue in this vital role by offering quality educational opportunities to Anchorage students.

Restorative Justice Programs

The Municipality supports the continuation of restorative justice programs such as wellness courts, DUI, domestic violence and other community courts.

DOT&PF Operating and Maintenance Budget

It is vital that DOT&PF's operating and maintenance budget for the South-central region is fully funded so that the region's transportation system and its roads in particular are properly maintained and responses to inclement weather are met in a timely manner.

Urban Interface Wild Land Fire Prevention

The Municipality of Anchorage supports full funding of an urban interface wild land fire prevention program in order to protect the lives and property within south-central Alaska.

CAPITAL BUDGET

Capital Matching Grant Program

The Municipality supports the continuation at the FY02 (\$12.9 million) funding level for the 70/30 statutory Capital Project Matching Grant Program. It represents a rational approach to allocating limited state capital dollars to priority projects identified by local communities.

School Construction Debt Reimbursement Formula

The Municipality supports continued school construction debt reimbursement using the 70/30 formula.

Transportation Funding

The Municipality requests the Legislature obtain a more equitable allocation of funding for transportation projects in Anchorage.

ADEC Municipal Matching Grants Program

The Municipality supports continuation of this important water quality grants program and urges the Legislature to increase Anchorage's share of the funding to more accurately reflect the total proportion of the population Anchorage represents.

LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING ISSUES

Long Range Fiscal Plan and Biennial State Budget

The Legislature is urged to adopt a state long-range fiscal plan that considers the direct and indirect impacts of the plan on municipal services and local taxes. A long-range fiscal plan should include a biennial state budget as well as a spending cap.

1986 Agreement for the Conveyance of Lands

The Municipality requests the support of the Legislature in persuading the State Administration to convey the remaining 17,000 acres due the Municipality.

Indemnity Provisions in Railroad Public Land Use Permits

The Municipality supports legislation that would revise the interaction between the Alaska Railroad and affected municipalities through modification of the blanket indemnification provisions.

Utility Liens Against Property

The Municipality supports statutory authority for unpaid utility bills to be used as liens against property.

Business Improvement Districts (BID)

The Municipality supports legislation allowing the State of Alaska to participate as a voting and paying member of business improvement districts such as the Anchorage Downtown BID in order to reimburse the district for supplemental services provided to State owned or leased facilities in the District.

Good Samaritan Program

The Municipality supports enactment of legislation that limits liability of impaired drivers who voluntarily turn over car keys to licensed chauffeurs (taxicab drivers) to drive their vehicles home.

Natural Gas Pipeline

As plans progress toward approving the construction of a pipeline to bring North Slope natural gas to market, the State should ensure there is an adequate supply of natural gas for Southcentral Alaska.

Deferred Maintenance

The Municipality supports continued funding for on-going state and local deferred maintenance of roads, schools, and other public improvements.

Knik Arm Crossing

The Municipality encourages the Legislature to express their support for continued progress on the Knik Arm Crossing.

ADEC Matching Grant Program

Revise the use of grant funds to provide for their use on pre-existing placements of water and sewer lines in private property when the grant funds would relocate them to public right-of-way.

Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA)

RCA provides an important safeguard for Alaska utilities and their customers and should be reauthorized. However there should be a series of statutory changes and performance measurements that address timely clearance and to ensure the agency is operating in an effective and efficient manner. In as much as public advocacy is the function of the Commission, its Public Advocacy Section should be eliminated and those resources shifted to commission staff for improved case clearance.

Liability for Destruction of Property by Minors

The Municipality supports increased liability for destruction of school property by minors.

Assault on School Employees

The Municipality supports the establishment of criminal penalties for assaulting school employees while in the performance of their duties.

Department of Education (DOE) Guidelines on School Debt Reimbursement

DOE guidelines for construction projects eligible for school debt reimbursement should be revised to allow flexibility to meet the needs of individual communities.

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

TITLE: Millennium Investment Plan

Alaska's basic capital infrastructure needs have not been addressed in a meaningful way since Project 80s. Until 2002, new roads, electric utility, water and sewer infrastructure, school construction and other public facility needs had gone largely unmet. The strong support for the passage of Propositions B and C demonstrates that the voters recognize the value of using bonds instead of fund balance to finance our infrastructure needs. The Municipality supports the continuation of the Millennium Investment Plan, financed by bonds or other long term financing mechanisms. Among projects to be funded are the following:

Road Construction

Although Proposition B addressed 2 important road projects in the Anchorage Area, there remains a backlog of needed projects to mitigate traffic congestion. In order to help meet this demand, the Municipality supports continued road construction funding, either through GARVEE or general obligation bonds.

Port of Anchorage

The Port of Anchorage has embarked on a multi-year \$173 million expansion plan. Included in the plan:

- New Intermodal Marine Facility to accommodate petroleum tankers, general and bulk cargo ships, military ships, and cruise ships.
- Harbor deepening to enable larger, modern vessels to access the Port.
- Renovation and widening of existing dock.
- Improvement of landside access into the port.

Since the regional Port of Anchorage serves over 80% of Alaska, continued support of its expansion plans is urged.

Railbelt Energy Infrastructure

As the population of the Railbelt area continues to grow, so does the need to provide stable, economical energy. The Municipality encourages the State to use the Railbelt Energy Fund to finance needed power infrastructure improvements, such as the Southern Intertie and Eklutna Extension to Teeland, within the Railbelt area.

Water and Wastewater Lines

The lack of water and sewer systems becomes an impediment to sound economic development in some areas. Funding for water and sewer lines in areas such as North Eagle River/Chugiak, Sand Lake, and South Anchorage is encouraged.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Office of Management and Budget
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

TITLE: State Sales Tax and Property Tax

As State oil revenues decline, there is discussion about alternative revenue sources. Statewide employment, income, sales & use, and property taxes have all been mentioned as potential candidates.

Unlike the State, local government is limited in the type of tax revenues it can generate. Property, sales & use taxes are the primary methods allowed by State law to be collected by municipalities.

If a statewide sales & use or property tax was implemented, it could have serious detrimental effects on the ability of local government to generate enough revenue to operate effectively. Therefore, the Municipality will oppose any attempts to impose a statewide sales & use or property tax.

If it is determined that the State needs to develop alternative revenue sources, it is strongly recommended that it be accomplished in such a way as to not impede local government's limited ability to generate tax revenue.

The legislature is also encouraged to review the current laws on state mandated property tax exemption to determine whether the mandated exemptions remain appropriate under today's fiscal environment.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

TITLE: Mandates Legislation: Senior Citizens Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption

Encouraging our senior citizens to remain in Alaska continues to be an important goal. The senior citizen exemption is one way of fulfilling this goal through a financial incentive.

This program was started in 1973 with full funding by the State. The following year State funding was insufficient to cover the full costs of the program, thus creating an unfunded mandate for local government. Gradually the program funding was reduced and in 1996 all state funding was eliminated.

The Municipality of Anchorage continues to request full funding under this program according to the original statutory intent.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

TITLE: Homeland Security Records and Communications Exemption from Freedom of Information Act

With increased homeland security activities at both the state and local levels, there has been an accumulation of information, which could be misused to harm our citizens if placed in the wrong hands.

The ability to defend Alaska against attacks could be seriously hindered if information as the assessment of our weaknesses or vulnerabilities, defense plans, and other security measures could be accessed by terrorists through the FOIA.

Under current state law, these documents are available to the general public through citizens access to information statutes. .

The Municipality supports the exemption of homeland security records and communications from access to information statutes..

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE: Human Services Community Matching Grant and AHFC Weatherization Programs

The Municipality supports funding for the Anchorage Human Services Community Matching Grant in the minimum amount of \$1.4 million.

The Human Services Community Grant from the State has become an important funding source for local non-profit organizations. Any cuts will put a severe strain on the Anchorage non-profit human services system at a time when the demand for service has increased. Furthermore, the persons served by these programs are generally those who can least afford to lose the services. They include low-income women, children, senior citizens as well as the homeless.

Utilization of non-profits is an efficient means of delivering needed social services. In most cases, non-profits can provide the service at a substantially lower cost than local or state governments can. As an added benefit, non-profits raise millions of dollars in local contributions and can often use state grant funds to leverage federal grant funds, which would not otherwise be available. Thus, it is important to ensure that the nonprofit system remains intact.

The Municipality also supports funding the AHFC Weatherization Program at the \$4 million level in addition to the \$1 million in Federal funds. This program helps the lowest income Alaskans reduce their energy bills while increasing the health, safety and comfort of their homes.

The AHFC's mission is to provide all Alaskans access to safe, quality, affordable housing. The ability to properly diagnose and correct problems (i.e. health issues related to under-ventilated houses or high moisture in attics and crawl spaces, backdrafting, combustion appliances, etc.) allows residents to remain in their homes when they may otherwise be displaced, requiring them to seek public housing or even become homeless. Correcting health problems permits residents to continue working and helps avoid costly doctor and hospital visits, often paid for by other government agencies.

Contact: Jewel Jones
Director, Department of Health & Human Services
Phone: 343-4667

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE: McLaughlin Youth Center

The Municipality believes the State of Alaska should fund three in-take officers at McLaughlin that provide in-take services at night and weekends. For a number of years the Municipality of Anchorage has funded these positions. Even though during this time the State has expanded funding and positions at MYC, it continues to rely on the Municipality to fund staff that enables MYC to timely process juvenile offenders. The Municipality asks the Legislature to approve funding for these positions.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE: Education Funding

Quality education allows Alaska's children and young adults to become productive members of society. Moreover, a quality educational system is a primary requirement for attracting new businesses and industries to Alaska.

The Municipality believes that if Alaska's children are going to be well prepared to compete in the world marketplace, Alaska must continue to improve its educational system, and reasonably adjust education funding for cost increases. A fully funded foundation program must include an inflation adjustment to the foundation formula. If inflation proofing is necessary for the Permanent Fund, it should also be viewed as necessary for funding our children's education.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE: University of Alaska Anchorage

The University of Alaska Anchorage plays a key role in the health care delivery and the economic development of Alaska. The Legislature is encouraged to provide full funding to allow UAA to continue in this vital role by offering quality educational opportunities to Anchorage students.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE: Restorative Justice Programs

Restorative justice programs, such as wellness, DUI, domestic violence and youth courts and programs for the mentally ill have proven to be effective in the rehabilitation of participating offenders. The Municipality supports the continuation of these programs.

**Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator**
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE **DOT&PF Operating and Maintenance Budget**

The South-central Region of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) contains the majority of Alaska's population as well as a majority of its motor vehicles and road mileage. The South-central Region is also the State's primary transportation hub and its major regional economy. It is vital that DOT&PF's operating and maintenance budget is fully funded so that the region's transportation system and its roads in particular are properly maintained and responses to inclement weather are met in a timely manner.

Contact: **Howard Holton**
 Municipal Engineer
Phone: **343-8109**

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

OPERATING BUDGET

TITLE: Urban Interface Wild Land Fire Prevention

Most of the forest in south-central Alaska is over mature, diseased and infected with spruce bark beetles. Moreover, much development is now interspersed within these forests. These forests are highly susceptible to forest fires, which present a major threat to life and property. The Municipality of Anchorage supports full funding of an urban interface wild land fire prevention program in order to protect the lives and property within south-central Alaska.

Contact: John Fullenwider
Fire Chief
Phone: 267-4934

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

CAPITAL BUDGET

TITLE: Capital Matching Grant Program

The Municipality's capital grant request reflects one or more of the following criteria: projects which substantially benefit all of Anchorage, emphasize public health and safety, provide our youth with positive recreational opportunities, produce net long term positive economic results, reduce or maintain current operations and maintenance costs, and address Federal/State mandates.

The Municipality strongly supports continuation at least at the FY2000 funding level for the 70/30 statutory Capital Project Matching Grant Program since it represents a rational approach to allocating limited capital dollars based on the funding priorities assigned by local communities. The Municipality's support of this program is reflected in the fact that the 16 highest priority projects all propose local matches of 30% or more.

**Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467**

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

CAPITAL BUDGET

TITLE: School Construction Debt Reimbursement

A source of funding separate from the school funding formula should be made available for capital improvement projects each year to prevent a backlog of facility needs in the Anchorage School District and throughout Alaska. In 1998, and again in 2000, the Legislature re-instituted a debt reimbursement program, which increased capital funding for schools. However, the state capital budget and current debt reimbursement program are still inadequate to fully meet current and future school district needs.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

CAPITAL BUDGET

TITLE: Education Capital Project Criteria

The current capital project criteria used to determine the funding eligibility for new schools results in overcrowding, wasted financial resources, and delays in needed new construction starts. Due to the existing criteria, many students spend the school year in over crowded conditions and temporary "portable" buildings, which detract from the educational experience. The Municipality supports modifications to the educational capital project criteria that will make it easier to construct new schools to address over crowded conditions.

Contact: Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator
Phone: 343-4467

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

CAPITAL BUDGET

TITLE: Transportation Funding

Anchorage represents 41.7% of the population of Alaska and 42% of the state's registered vehicles yet receives less than 15% of state and federal highway transportation funding. The Municipality requests the legislature assist in obtaining a more equitable allocation of funding for transportation projects in Anchorage.

Contact: Lance Wilber
 Director of Traffic Department
Phone: 343-8411

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

CAPITAL BUDGET

TITLE: Emergency Preparedness Funding

Anchorage is the hub for the distribution of goods and services for the entire state. Disruption of the infrastructure and loss of life within Anchorage would have a deleterious impact on the residents of the city and many other communities.

To meet the concerns of emergency preparedness, including defense against weapons of mass destruction, the additional funds in the amount of \$10.8 million are requested for:

- Infrastructure- roads, utilities and ports
- Data management to improve emergency management functions
- Emergency medical and public health delivery
- Fire and fire fuels mitigation as well as other hazards.

Contact: Dick Dworsky
 Director of State & Federal Grants
Phone: 343-4487

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
PRIORITY FUNDING ISSUES**

CAPITAL BUDGET

TITLE: Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Municipal Matching Grants Program

The Municipality of Anchorage strongly supports the continuation of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's (ADEC) Municipal Matching Grants Program. This program has been beneficial to Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility, Solid Waste Services, Department of Public Works and the Department of Health and Human Services. Projects identified for this program support the economic development of the Municipality of Anchorage and help provide funding to maintain and improve the local water and wastewater infrastructure and other quality of life essentials. Local job opportunities are provided for within the consulting engineering community, as well as those within the manufacturing and supply industry and construction industry.

This program provides funds for area-wide projects that have made it to the top of a priority list and have been determined to be of the greatest public benefit and need. The Municipality supports continued funding of the ADEC Municipal Matching Grants Program at the FY2000 funding level. This funding allows departments to stretch their area-wide project funds further to benefit a greater number of citizens and prolongs the life of the Municipality's infrastructure.

**Contact: Mark Premo
General Manager, Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility
Phone: 786-5506**

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2003 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING ISSUES**

The following issues are of interest and/or concern to the Municipality of Anchorage. The list is intended to be dynamic and may change from time to time during the session.

Knik Arm Crossing

The Municipality encourages the Legislature to express their support for continued progress on the Knik Arm Crossing.

Natural Gas Pipeline

As plans progress toward approving the construction of a pipeline to bring North Slope natural gas to market, the State should ensure there is an adequate supply of natural gas at competitive prices for Southcentral Alaska.

Long Range Fiscal Plan and Biennial State Budget

The Legislature is urged to adopt a state long-range fiscal plan that considers the direct and indirect impacts of the plan on municipal services and local taxes. A long-range fiscal plan should include a biennial state budget.

1986 Agreement for the Conveyance of Lands

In 1986, the State of Alaska and the Municipality signed an agreement for the conveyance of lands intended to settle all outstanding claims and obligations between Anchorage and the State. 17,000 acres have yet to be conveyed. The Municipality requests the support of the Legislature in persuading the State Administration to convey the remaining 17,000 acres.

Utility Liens Against Property

The Municipality supports statutory authority for unpaid utility bills to be used as liens against property.

Indemnity Provisions in Railroad Public Land Use Permits

Ongoing controversies exist between municipalities and the Alaska Railroad Corporation regarding the liability associated with crossings of Railroad right of way. The Municipality supports legislation that would revise the interaction between the Alaska Railroad and affected municipalities through modification of the blanket indemnification provisions.

Business Improvement Districts

The Municipality supports legislation allowing the State of Alaska to participate as a voting and paying member of business improvement districts such as the Anchorage Downtown BID in order to reimburse the district for supplemental services provided to State owned or leased facilities in the District.

Good Samaritan Program

The Municipality supports the enactment of legislation which limits liability of impaired drivers who voluntarily turn over car keys to licensed chauffeurs (taxicab drivers) to drive their vehicles home.

Deferred Maintenance

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ADEC Matching Grant Program

Revise the use of grant funds to provide for their use on pre-existing placements of water and sewer lines in private property when the grant funds would relocate them to public right-of-way.

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

RCA provides an important safeguard for Alaska utilities and their customers and should be reauthorized. However there should be a series of statutory changes and performance measurements that address timely clearance and to ensure the agency is operating in an effective and efficient manner. In as much as public advocacy is the function of the Commission, its Public Advocacy Section should be eliminated and those resources shifted to commission staff for improved case clearance.

Liability for Destruction of Property by Minors

The Municipality supports increased liability for destruction of school property by minors.

Assault on School Employees

The Municipality supports the establishment of criminal penalties for assaulting school employees while in the performance of their duties.

DOE Guidelines on School Debt Reimbursement

DOE guidelines for construction projects eligible for school debt reimbursement should be revised to allow flexibility to meet the needs of individual communities.



-  Home
-  Library
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- Portal Design
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Content Manager

- New Check In**
- AR_AllOther
- Checked Out Content
- Content Checked Out By User
- Work In Progress
- Active Workflows

Work Flow History Report

Apr 2003-

Workflow Hist

Workflow Name	Action Date	Action	User	Security Group	Content ID
AllOtherARWorkflow	12/13/02 2:52 PM	Checkin	alanodr	Public	000479
OMB_SubWorkflow	12/13/02 2:53 PM	Approve	rogersta	Public	000479
AllOtherARWorkflow	12/16/02 9:29 AM	Reject	bealejl	Public	000479
AllOtherARWorkflow	12/16/02 10:20 AM	Checkin	alanodr	Public	000479
OMB_SubWorkflow	12/16/02 10:50 AM	Approve	rogersta	Public	000479
HLB_SubWorkflow	12/20/02 12:49 PM	Approve	canelosgj	Public	000479
MLP_SubWorkflow	12/23/02 10:09 AM	Approve	scottmj	Public	000479
PDPW_SubWorkflow	12/23/02 3:58 PM	Approve	campbelce	Public	000479
MuniManager_SubWorkflow	12/30/02 5:18 PM	Approve	poseyjm	Public	000479
Mayor_SubWorkflow	12/31/02 8:05 AM	Approve	wuerchgp	Public	000479
MuniMgrCoord_SubWorkflow	1/2/03 2:08 PM	Approve	bealejl	Public	000479

*Addendum -
action*

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2003 JAN -2 PM 3:32
M.O.A
-CHKS FILE