

## PRESS RELEASE



### **PUBLIC ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TESTIMONY TO THE ASSEMBLY BY EMAIL OR PHONE**

March 19, 2020

Due to concerns over large gatherings amid the COVID-19 outbreak, it is the intent of the Assembly Chair to allow members of the Assembly to attend meetings telephonically and to allow the public to testify by email and by phone for the Special Meeting of March 20, 2020 and Regular Assembly Meeting of March 24, 2020.

Community members are strongly encouraged to provide testimony via email or by telephone. Because of the federal, state, and local health department guidance and emergency measures, the number of people allowed in the Assembly Chambers will be limited. Please see below for instructions on how to provide testimony via email and phone.

As of the time of this press release, but understanding that the current events are dynamic and could change before the meetings, the Assembly is still allowing in-person testimony during Regular and Special Assembly meetings. However, in order to practice social distancing, we will limit the number of people inside the Chambers. You may be asked to wait in the lobby until it's time for you to testify on a Public Hearing matter before the body.

#### **HOW TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY**

**Written testimony** is encouraged. You may submit written comments to [Testimony@anchorageak.gov](mailto:Testimony@anchorageak.gov) by 2pm the day of the meeting. These comments will become part of the record of the meeting. In the subject line of the email, please tell us which agenda item you are providing testimony for (Example: 13.A. Ordinance No. AO 2020-15).

**If you wish to provide testimony on the phone**, email [Testimony@anchorageak.gov](mailto:Testimony@anchorageak.gov) by 2 pm the day of the meeting with your Name, Phone Number, and the Agenda Item Number/Title for which you wish to provide Public Testimony. You may follow along with the meeting on Channel 10 or on livestreaming at <http://www.muni.org/watchnow>. When the Assembly reaches your agenda item, the Clerk will phone you at the number you have provided. You will have 3 minutes to provide testimony.

## **GENERAL COMMENTS**

Citizens may also comment on agenda items not scheduled for public hearing, or on any matter not appearing on the agenda. Email comments can be sent to the full Assembly at [AssemblyMembers@anchorageak.gov](mailto:AssemblyMembers@anchorageak.gov). If you wish to provide general comments over the phone during an Assembly meeting, please email the Clerk's Office at [Testimony@anchorageak.gov](mailto:Testimony@anchorageak.gov) by 2pm the day of the meeting with your Name, Phone Number, and Subject line titled: Audience Participation. Audience Participation is taken up at the end of the Assembly meeting after the body has concluded its business for the evening. The Clerk will phone you at the number you have provided. You will have 3 minutes to provide public comment.

## **HOW TO LISTEN TO AND VIEW ASSEMBLY MEETINGS**

All Regular and Special Meetings of the Anchorage Assembly held at the Assembly Chambers at Loussac Library are available through live streaming and archived meetings/podcasts at <http://www.muni.org/watchnow>; live on Channel 9; and rebroadcast Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:00 p.m.

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