
MONTHLY UPDATE

Current news and updates from the Anchorage Assembly

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Alcohol Tax Heading to the Ballot

At the January 28 meeting, the Assembly engaged in an extensive conversation around the three new revenue proposals before us – two versions of an alcohol tax and a sales tax. In the end, the Assembly decided to send one of the alcohol tax proposals to the voters, meaning it will appear on the April 2020 ballot. Along with this debate, the Assembly also considered and approved a resolution by Assembly Member Meg Zaletel laying out a robust process for community engagement and accountability should any new revenue measure pass in April.

Anchorage Assembly Vision

On December 17, the Assembly adopted a document titled “Anchorage Assembly’s Vision and Goals for 2019-2021.” This document was a product of years-long discussion began in 2017 and beginning in earnest in May of 2019. This document outlines priority areas we as a body have agreed to work together on, including Homelessness, Public Safety, Quality of Life, and Economic Development. We also adopted an overarching focus on improved Communications with the public. You can review the document at the top of this page:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Pages/default.aspx>

Infastructure Updates

Port Proposal

The Assembly convened a meeting regarding the Port of Alaska in late January between the Port Users Group and the administration, with the unveiling of a new Port of Alaska Commission that will provide oversight for the Port of Alaska Modernization Project (PAMP). In other Port news, at the meeting on Tuesday, February 11, the Assembly will consider approving the borrowing of up to \$100M to finance the Petroleum Cement Terminal (PCT), the first critical part of the PAMP

Midtown Congestion Relief Update

At the request of the State Department of Transportation and DOWL Engineers, the Assembly will be formally weighing in on the Midtown Congestion Relief Planning and Environmental Linkages Study (PEL). Several community councils have already had a chance to weigh in and provide feedback, giving a starting point for the Assembly.

SWS Plan Update

On Tuesday, February 25, the Assembly will be considering an update to the Solid Waste Services Master Plan. This update also includes Waste-to-Energy (WTE) as an option for SWS to consider. The Assembly will hear from SWS at the Enterprise and Utility Oversight Committee on February 20th to learn how the updates to the master plan coincide with the feasibility study underway to determine what, if any, next steps are recommended for WTE.

Cleaning Up Waste

On Tuesday, February 11, the Assembly will hold a public hearing on an ordinance put forward by Assembly Members Meg Zaletel, Christopher Constant, and Mayor Ethan Berkowitz regarding the closure of municipal property for the cleaning of waste and other hazards. The ordinance clarifies a process wherein the Municipality can close any parcel of municipal land in order to clean and clear the property of any litter, garbage, rubbish, junk, or other refuse.

Quick News

Public Comment Needed

The next iteration of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is up for comment. The MTP 2040 is a 20-year transportation plan that includes all forms of transportation funded by local, state, and federal dollars. Public comment on the plan is open until March 9. Go to www.mtp2040.com for more information or to submit a comment. Your comments can be as specific or general as you'd like.

Snow Plow Schedule

Many of the most common questions we get during the winter are about when the snow plow trucks are coming. The muni has an interactive map that can tell you when you can expect to receive snow removal service. Check the map using this shortcut: <https://tinyurl.com/ANCsnowplowschedule>

Title 28 Rewrite

A comprehensive re-write to Title 28, Elections, will be considered by the Assembly on Tuesday, February 11. This re-write will update Muni code to reflect vote by mail (VBM) and clarify certain sections of the code. The Ethics and Elections Committee has carefully reviewed this ordinance and two Assembly worksessions have been held

Can't get enough?

The Clerk's office is a great place to go for the most up to date info on many municipal issues. Follow the Anchorage Municipal Clerk on Facebook:

facebook.com/ANCMuniClerk/