

# 2024 ASSEMBLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS/2025 PRIORITIES

December 2, 2024

## PRIORITIES

Carry over 2024 priorities? Update? Edit:

- **Housing Action** – communicate the Assembly’s housing vision, streamline codes and processes, and spur innovative attainable housing
- **Municipal Workforce** – support recruitment and retention of a productive and qualified municipal workforce
- **Port of Alaska Modernization** – support rapid timeline that launches Phase II construction by summer 2024
- **Public Health, Safety and Quality of Life** – fund public safety & mental health services; support the Crisis Now model; invest in outdoor and public spaces
- **Fully Functional Municipal Services** – closely monitor service delivery to ensure high quality, accessible, and transparent municipal services and operations

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### Ideas for 2025 (from a previous Rules committee meeting):

- Think up and push pilot projects for our priority areas
  - Highlight the large multi-year projects (Port, AMATS/Transportation, Eklutna)
  - Continue to tie the workplan into the committee structure to create a seamless flow for work and review
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## 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Housing Action

- Passed the HOME Initiative (AO 2023-87) to allow 'Two-Family Dwellings' in every residential zone, including detached structures
- Required hosting planforms to submit more detailed data with their municipal tax returns to better track short-term rentals (AO 2024-81(S), As Amended)
- Developed a process for third party review for commercial development (AO 2023-136(S), As Amended)
- Reduce hurdles for rehabbing old buildings by removing nonconformity fees (AO 2024-15)
- Relaxed open space requirements to make it more affordable to build multi-family housing (AO 2024-16)
- Provided \$1.3M to the Anchorage Affordable Housing and Land Trust for a pilot project to rehab vacant and abandoned buildings for housing
- Removed duplication of requirements for Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) (AO 2024-83(S), As Amended)

### Quality Municipal Services

- Funded \$280K for employee retention initiatives in Q1 budget
- Completed first phase of MOA workforce study – an employee survey and initial recommendations for future action
- *Potentially (on 12/3 agenda):* Established Assembly and Legislative branch records and information management program (AO 2024-124)
- *Anything election related?*

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## Economic Development

- Funded the first year of an online bidding system for MOA contracts
- *Updated childcare licensing code? AB, KB*
- Convened a community group to plan implementation of the Anchorage Childcare and Early Education Fund, including standing up a board to oversee funding allocations

## Homelessness

- Funded Emergency Cold Weather Shelter for 2024-25 season
- Assembly-allocated ARPA funds enabled the opening of Providence's Q'et'en Qenq'a for ages 55+ experiencing homelessness with 45 permanent supportive housing units and six recuperative care units and Cook Inlet Housing Authority's Ch'bala Corners II

## Infrastructure and Transportation

- Determined design concepts for both terminals, approved tariff surcharge increase to supplement grant funding for construction, and terminal one construction will go out to bid this winter
- Held special meeting with the Administration on snow removal in August to plan for the season
- Launched Pedestrian Safety Campaign with October as Pedestrian Safety Month (AR 2024-296, As Amended)
- Supported the downtown protected bike lane pilot project

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## Assembly Business

- Held Nerd Nites on Public Finance, Transportation, Healthy Soils and Water, made over 20 presentations to community councils and organizations on HOME initiative, created Food for Thought to highlight positive community work, hosted Assembly Retreat on Energy, and held Assembly 101 trainings for youth groups, to join people together to engage in local government
- Met regularly with Alaska Congressional Delegation and Anchorage Delegation of the Legislature, hosted several Federal Secretaries for site visits to improve understanding of Anchorage issues in Washington, D.C.
- Upgraded the A/V in Assembly Chambers with new music for intermissions and graphics for meeting livestream
- Secured \$4M state legislative grant for homeless shelter and capital funding for district level projects
- Developed a strategic plan for equitable use of alcohol tax funding

## Public Health, Safety and Quality of Life

- *Potential on 12/3 agenda:* Codified Mobile Crisis Team (AO 2024-113 PH 12/3)
- Added body worn cameras to Municipal Use of Surveillance Technologies (AO 2024-69)
- Passed legislation, pursued legal strategies and conducted advocacy and education to fully restore the Eklutna River
- Voters approved Chugach State Park Access Service Areas and Park Bonds
- Assembly-allocated ARPA funds enabled completion of Coastal Trail Northern Extension in Chugiak, Mountain View Field House groundbreaking, Equity Center ribbon cutting, and Girdwood Master Plan
- *Wildfire funding in 2025 budget? Need to look up*