

Submitted by: Assembly  
Member Sulte,  
Assembly Member  
Cross, and  
Mayor Bronson  
Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's  
Office  
For reading: May 23, 2023

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
AR No. 2023-182**

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE APPROPRIATING**  
2 **NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$7,000,000) OF AREAWIDE**  
3 **GENERAL FUND (101000) FUND BALANCE TO THE AREAWIDE GENERAL**  
4 **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP) FUND (401800), MAINTENANCE &**  
5 **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT, TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A**  
6 **NAVIGATION CENTER AND EMERGENCY SHELTER AT TUDOR AND**  
7 **ELMORE (SITE 27).**  
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9  
10 **WHEREAS**, the Fairview community has been unfairly burdened with the use of  
11 the Sullivan Arena as a last second Emergency Cold Weather Shelter and unless  
12 action is taken they will again have a high probability of experiencing that same  
13 burden in the fall of 2023, and  
14

15 **WHEREAS**, it has been shown that the Sullivan Arena is not a purpose-built  
16 Emergency Cold Weather Shelter and is not ideally located for such services  
17 placing undue burden on the surrounding Fairview Community, and  
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the proposed Navigation Center, through prior efforts in 2021 and  
20 2022, has shown that the Tudor and Elmore site (Site 27) meets many of the ideal  
21 criteria such as location near medical, police, and transportation services; and not  
22 immediately embedded in a neighborhood community, and  
23

24 **WHEREAS**, the Cold Weather Emergency Shelter would have the ability to  
25 provide shelter for 150 beds with an additional surge capacity of 50 beds, and  
26

27 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage defines a "Navigation Center" as a  
28 Housing First, low-barrier, service enriched environment focused on moving  
29 individuals experiencing homelessness into permanent housing that provides  
30 temporary living facilities while case managers connect individuals experiencing  
31 homelessness to income, public benefits, alcohol and drug substance misuse  
32 treatment, health services, shelter, and housing; and  
33

34 **WHEREAS**, the proposed Navigation Center will follow a "Housing First" approach  
35 that prioritizes permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus  
36 ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue  
37 personal goals and improve their quality of life; and  
38

39 **WHEREAS** the commitment to this approach is guided by the principle that people

1 need necessities like food and a stable place to live before attending to anything  
2 less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to behavioral  
3 health issues; and  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the commitment to Housing First is based on the principle that client  
6 choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and  
7 that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining  
8 housed and improving their life; and  
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality will employ the five keys of effective emergency  
11 sheltering at the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter co-located with the proposed  
12 Navigation Center: (1) Housing First approach, (2) safe and appropriate diversion,  
13 (3) immediate and low barrier access, (4) housing-focused rapid exit, and (5) data-  
14 driven performance measurement, and the Municipality will continue to work with  
15 a variety of subject matter experts in designing, implementing and supporting the  
16 programs, operations and services at the Navigation Center; and  
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality acknowledges that Emergency Cold Weather Shelter  
19 and other types of crisis housing (crisis beds, interim housing, motel vouchers)  
20 play a critical role in the Municipality's Emergency Cold Weather response and  
21 that people in a housing crisis will always need a safe and stable place to go that  
22 is immediately available; and  
23

24 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality commits to support the community's goal of reaching  
25 functional zero, which is a milestone that indicates a community has measurably  
26 ended homelessness for a population and that success is measured by whether  
27 they are driving population-level reductions in homelessness; and  
28

29 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality commits to limiting the duration of the proposed  
30 Emergency Cold Weather Shelter to keep the focus on achieving functional zero  
31 through housing individuals experiencing homelessness and supporting existing  
32 shelters, prevention and housing programs in Anchorage; and  
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34 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality acknowledges that emergency mass care provided  
35 by the Municipality is an extraordinary intervention in response to an  
36 unprecedented  
37 pandemic and that unwinding mass care takes resources and interventions that  
38 are time limited to meet the heightened immediate need and that the community's  
39 plan to end homelessness is focused on Housing First; and  
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41 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality commits by this Resolution to prioritize spending one-  
42 time funds on the procurement, construction, and operation of the proposed  
43 Navigation Center, and to prioritize the recurring funding for housing and  
44 homelessness services currently in the Municipality's budget on supporting  
45 effective Cold Weather Emergency Shelter, prevention and housing programs in  
46 Anchorage; and  
47

48 **WHEREAS**, the annual operating cost for the Navigation Center and Shelter is  
49 estimated by the Navigation Center and Emergency Shelter Operations Plan  
50 presented on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at \$5,990,664 and such operation costs will be

separately funded and be awarded via RFP; now, therefore,

**THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:**

**Section 1.** That the sum of Not to Exceed Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) is hereby appropriated from 2022 Areawide General Fund (101000) Fund Balance to the Areawide General Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Fund (401800), Maintenance & Operations Department, to be used for the procurement and construction of a homeless and transient Navigation Center and Emergency Shelter with a capacity of 150 overnight beds with a surge capacity of 50 overnight beds, specifically to be located at Site 27 in the vicinity of Tudor Road and Elmore Street.

**Section 2.** This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk

Department of Appropriation:  
Maintenance & Operations: \$7,000,000