

MONTHLY UPDATE

Current news and updates from the Anchorage Assembly

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Midtown Congestion Relief Project: Assembly Seeking Comments

The Assembly will likely be weighing in formally on the Midtown Congestion Relief project in January, per the request of the State DOT and DOWL. We'd like to make sure we hear from all of the Community Councils we represent on this subject. Please send any commentary directly to Assembly Member Felix Rivera, as Assembly Member Meg Zaletel is conflicted out of taking formal action on this issue.

Government to Government Relations: Eklutna Tribe

Three of our colleagues, Assembly Members Kameron Perez-Verdia, Christopher Constant, and Forrest Dunbar, have put forward a resolution stating the intent of entering into formal government to government relations with the Native Tribe of Eklutna. Potential passage would trigger a lengthy dialogue between the two entities.

Safe Contracting Changes

The Assembly will take action December 3 on an ordinance three of our colleagues, Assembly Members Chris Constant, Austin Quinn-Davidson, and Forrest Dunbar, put forward amending our rules around contracts within the Purchasing Department, specifically ensuring that contractors who work with the Municipality comply with fair wage practices and do not have a history of workplace safety violations.

Infrastructure Updates

Proposed Port Tariff Increases Postponed

The Assembly held a public hearing on the proposed increase to the Port of Alaska terminal tariff. Action was postponed to the regular meeting of December 17 to allow for more time to absorb the information and hear from the affected parties. The tariff increases are meant to assist with completion of the PCT (Petroleum Cement Terminal).

Assembly Considering Shortening Studded Tire Season

The Assembly will take action December 3 on an ordinance proposed by the administration to shorten the season for studded tires by two weeks at the beginning of the winter season, so from September 15 to October 1. The enforcement mechanism for the ordinance is through parking – so if you are parked in the Municipality and have studded tires on before October 1, you would be ticketed.

Alaska Municipal League Passes Resolution on Coastal Infrastructure Bond

The Alaska Municipal League, a coalition of local governments, passed a resolution crafted by Assembly Members Felix Rivera and Suzanne LaFrance regarding the state legislature approving a coastal infrastructure bond to be on the November 2020 ballot. The hope is that a statewide coalition will convince the legislature to consider this matter.

Quick News

Assembly to Meet on New Downtown Cannabis Outlet

The Assembly will be serving in its quasi-judicial capacity during a special meeting planned for December 10 to make a decision on the AlaskaSense variance request for the proposed downtown location.

Collective Bargaining Negotiation Guidance

The Assembly will be deliberating changes to the labor bargaining guidelines proposed by Assembly Members Felix Rivera, Forrest Dunbar, and Meg Zaletel. These guidelines give guidance to the administrative when bargaining with the various bargaining units (unions) within the Municipality. Public hearing on this item will be on December 3 and deliberation is planned for December 17.

Happy Holidays

This is a time of year where the diversity of our community shines brightly as we acknowledge the many different winter holidays celebrated across the Muniverse between November and January. No matter what or how you celebrate this season, please stay safe and enjoy. Happy Holidays!

Assembly Chair Condemns DOC Changes

Assembly Member Felix Rivera crafted a resolution signally the Assembly's displeasure with the State of Alaska Department of Correction's efforts to move inmates out of state and stating the Assembly's opposition to private prison operations within the state and city.

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/