



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 16, 2022

TO: Anchorage Assembly
Suzanne LaFrance, Assembly Chair

FROM: Mayor Dave Bronson

SUBJECT: Line-Item Vetoes of AR 2022-178(S), as Amended

Pursuant to Section 2.30.100 of the Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) and Section 5.02 of the Municipal Charter, I hereby veto the following line-items of AR 2022-178(S), as amended, which passed at the Assembly's regular meeting of August 9, 2022.

1. I hereby veto Section 3, the \$400,000 appropriation to the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness. The Municipality has already committed \$1.72 million under AR 2022-22(S) as amended to ACEH. Additionally, tremendous resources have been dedicated to addressing the homelessness problem in our city. The Administration has identified critical need for the use of these dollars to repair the Sullivan Arena, offset higher than expected fuel costs for multiple departments, and complete health & safety repairs on Municipal properties.
2. I also veto Section 12, the \$11,900,000 appropriation to the Alaska Community Foundation. The purchase of the APTEL Hotel did not undergo the due diligence process established by the Facilitated Work Group between the Assembly and Administration. The proposed purchase of this property has not been vetted by an independent third-party, per Facilitated Group standards. Additionally, having a 3rd party non-profit manage these taxpayer funds is a policy the Administration does not support.
3. I also veto Section 18, the \$1,200,000 appropriation to the Alaska Black Caucus. This non-profit received \$437,500 through AR 2021-167(S), under the first round of ARPA. The Administration believes in a more equitable distribution of funds throughout the community.

4. I also veto Section 21, the \$771,091 appropriation to the State of Alaska Department of Fish & Game for South Potter Marsh. The Municipality does not own this land. This is a State of Alaska project. This is a request best made as a capital budget request before the State Legislature.
5. I also veto Section 27, the \$500,000 appropriation to the Friends of Fish Creek. Funds should be directed to the Parks and Recreation Department, in line with the Capital Improvement Plan. The Administration believes studies - no matter the subject matter - are not the best utilization of these finite funds.
6. I also veto Section 30, the \$400,000 appropriation to Henning, Inc. The Municipality has already funded this cause, through the Anchorage Health Department, to the tune of \$2.8 million through September.
7. I also veto Section 32, the \$378,000 appropriation to Alaska Literacy Program, Inc. Services like this already exist throughout the Municipality. The Administration does not believe it is a wise use of taxpayer dollars to create duplicative services.
8. I also veto Section 36, the \$300,000 appropriation to Identity, Inc. Anchorage has a robust private healthcare system that offers these types of services. As stated in the reasoning for this funding, the recipient appears to have enough market demand at their clinic to support hiring additional staff without taxpayer support.
9. I also veto Section 38, the \$250,000 appropriation to Conquer COVID Coalition. No emergencies at the state or local level are currently in place concerning COVID-19. With the wide availability of vaccines, antibodies, and anti-viral treatments, along with widespread community immunity, there is no need for further expenditure of taxpayer dollars on these efforts.
10. I also veto Section 47, the \$100,000 appropriation to the Anchorage Assembly for a feasibility study and analysis of public restrooms. Studies such as these do not meet the threshold for use of these funds. Additionally, the Administration believes the Assembly is violating the separation of powers doctrine through this appropriation, in that such a study should be conducted by various executive branch departments.

Given Anchorage's rising fuel costs, inflation, and need for essential Municipal operations, I urge the Assembly to reconsider its priorities.



DAVE BRONSON, MAYOR OF ANCHORAGE