

Council Priorities

- **Child Care** [Complete an operating, active, licensed childcare facility by Fall 2026]
 - Head Start anticipates operating soon. Has some staff working / training currently.
 - Consultant still working on environmental review for old district office (HUD funding requirement)
 - Playground equipment ordered with THREAD grant is onsite to be installed with the project.
- **Housing** [Increase housing stock by Fall 2027, utilizing the housing needs survey]
 - Monitoring bills in the state legislature related to property taxes
 - Communicating with prospective developers regularly
- **Maintenance** [Annually appropriate funds toward deferred maintenance on critical infrastructure]
 - Carryforward appropriation to planning reserve
 - Major Maintenance projects formally assigned with budget resolution for \$550k
- **Modernize Aging Infrastructure** [Annually modernize aging infrastructure, while leveraging natural and transportation assets, to expand: Outdoor Recreation, Tourism, Maritime, Community]
 - Conversation ongoing with DOT for use of ferry terminal

Legislative Interactions

- Continuing participation in AML property tax working group
- Submitted letter of support for community jails program
- Submitted projects for DEED funding

Operations & Initiatives

- Tourism Task Force meetings ongoing, preliminary recommendation submitted, request to continue task force to establish new organization.
- Closed on 802 Egan for new snow lot and potential future home of “Hanagita warehouse”
- Met with CVEA to discuss upcoming needs and opportunities.
- Staff attending SeaTrade this month, multiple conversations about increased cruise traffic to Valdez
- Small Business Conference planning wrapping up, conference dates May 12-13

Personnel

- Evaluating options for next insurance renewal
- Evaluating opportunities to reduce fees and increase returns on employee retirement plans
- Monitoring HB 78 related to defined benefits program

Projects

- Initial pre-con meetings held for Meals & Well #5
- Project communications plan in development.
- Monthly project reports begin in June to correspond with the summer season.

