

January 21, 2025

City Manager Report

- Returning from Hawaii. The Big Island is an incredible place.
 - Thank you to Assistant City Manager Hinkle for your leadership in my absence.
- I would like to congratulate Jordan Nelson for promotion to Assistant City Manager and retaining his role as Finance Director.
- I have registered for ICMA Coaching program and Conference scheduled for October 25-29, 2025.
- Updated Federal and State Legislative Priorities expected on the February 4th, 2025, Council Meeting. Please discuss proposed amendments with Clerk to expedite procedures here.
- Assistant City Manager Bart Hinkle will be leading staff to Juneau this year. His second consecutive year going to ensure Valdez's voice is heard on significant emergency response interests at the State level. Staff would like to prioritize planning for future of State Ferry Terminal uses and future leasing at Pioneer Airfield.
 - Prioritizing tie-in at Kelsey dock to allow cruise ships to dock closer to town.
- I will be leading staff in DC.
 - We will be looking at growing coast guard footprint in Valdez. Including expediting 8 housing units promised to Valdez.
 - Planning for arrival of new vessel, and port and harbor planning for future military waterborne vessels. Expedite permitting of dock at sea otter park.
 - Advocating for additional funding for our emergency radio response project which serves not only Valdez, but the wider Chugach area. Roughly \$5M in funds needed.
 - Report on all our successes related to housing and childcare and thank the federal legislators.
- Tonight's Personnel Regulation changes reflect a year's worth of conversation with our staff ERT. Many of these changes were driven by their concerns related to existing policy. We expect these changes to make us competitive in workplace in the future as well.
- Ravn Airlines is still adjusting to new schedule and encourage community feedback on current schedule.