

## POLICE DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM



TO: Elke Doom, City Manager; Sheri Pierce, City Clerk; Jake Staser, City Attorney

FROM: Bart Hinkle, Chief of Police

RE: Hours of Sale

DATE: 7/12/18

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Recently alcohol, as well as alcohol sales and consumption practices in Valdez, have come to the forefront. The questions “what can the City do” and “what is the City willing to do” have been posed via social media as well as during the pre-election meet-the-candidates night.

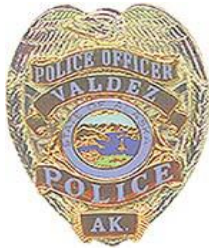
On May 29<sup>th</sup> I hosted an “Alcohol Committee” meeting at the Council Chambers for a group of citizens who had expressed an interest to Council. There were a number of ideas discussed during the meeting – one of which was to alter the hours of operation for alcohol establishments in Valdez.

Currently, the City of Valdez allows bars to operate the maximum number of hours permissible by Alaska Statute. It is codified in the Valdez Municipal Ordinance [VMC 5.08.060]:

*“No person may consume, sell, offer for sale, give, furnish or deliver any alcoholic beverage on any licensed premises within the city between the hours of five a.m. to eight a.m. each day of the week.”*

For comparison, we researched other communities throughout Alaska to see when they were closed:

- Anchorage: 2:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. weekdays, 3:30 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekends
- Fairbanks: 2 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekdays, 3:30 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekends
- Juneau: 1 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekdays, 3 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekends
- Kodiak: 5 a.m. – 8 a.m. all week
- Sitka: 2 a.m. – 8 a.m. all week
- Cordova: 2 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekdays, 4 a.m. – 8 a.m. weekends



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I previously provided you (in the 5/2/18 memo) information for DUI's from 2015-2017. The below chart now includes 2018 statistics, through June 11<sup>th</sup>. The data is reflected in total number of DUI's and the mean BrAC. [Drug DUI's and Refusals were not included]

Timeframe	# of DUI's	Mean BrAC
6 p.m. – 10 p.m.	21	.185
10 p.m. – 2 a.m.	40	.182
2 a.m. – 6 a.m.	40	.181
6 a.m. – 6 p.m.	10	.156

As you can see, the hours of sale differ around the state. The local statistics are also not a clear indicator that reduced sale hours would lead to either a reduction in DUI's or prevent those high-BrAC's from occurring.

I have contacted the licensee's (or bar managers) of establishments that may be affected by proposed changes (primarily bars, private clubs, or bar/restaurants located inside of a hotel). An initial straw poll indicated that those in the industry would not object to a revision to the municipal code that addresses hours of sale. I did not directly contact the owners of restaurants (Fu Kung, Potato Head, Mike's Palace, etc.) that have the ability to serve alcohol with food, as I have never seen their hours of operation extend to anywhere near the proposed hours.

The code revision I presented to the owner's/operator's of the establishment, and the revision that is recommended by City Administration, reads:

*"No person may consume, sell, offer for sale, give, furnish or deliver any alcoholic beverage on any licensed premises within the city between the hours of ~~five~~ 3 a.m. to eight a.m. each day of the week."*

I look forward to your opinions and forthcoming discussion on this matter.