

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

ORDINANCE #21-09

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ,
ALASKA, AMENDING TITLE 2 BY CREATING CHAPTER 2.66 OF THE
VALDEZ MUNICIPAL CODE TITLED BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Beautification Task Force was first commissioned by Mayor Dave Cobb in 2012 to address a coordinated, all-season beautification and revitalization effort throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Mayors Larry Weaver, Ruth E. Knight, Jeremy O'Neil, and Sharon Scheidt enthusiastically continued this effort; and

WHEREAS, the Beautification Task Force worked diligently since 2012 to enhance the aesthetics of the local human-built environment to reflect the beauty of the surrounding natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the Beautification Task Force developed multiple successful and highly visible aesthetic programs since 2012, to include the "Welcome to Valdez" sign near milepost 18 of the Richardson Highway, the City of Valdez Beautification Matching Grant Program, and the Egan Drive Streetscape Enhancement Project, which created intersection pocket plazas, decorative pedestrian lighting, and a now highly photographed welcome arch over the Richardson Highway; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez has found efforts to strengthen and maintain aesthetics help build community, a sense of place, and civic pride, as well as make Valdez more inviting for tourism and attractive to new investment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez has identified a need for continued coordination of city beautification efforts by a city council appointed citizen advisory group; and

WHEREAS, City of Valdez task forces are intended to be limited in time and scope; and

WHEREAS, no commission or board currently exists in Valdez Municipal Code to provide an advisory role for comprehensive beautification efforts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez has determined transitioning from a temporary Beautification Task Force into a Beautification Commission will best suit the needs of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, that:

Section 1. Chapter 2.66 of the Valdez Municipal Code is hereby created as follows:

Chapter 2.66

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Sections:

2.66.010	Establishment – Composition – Appointment of members - Chair.
2.66.020	Powers and duties.
2.66.030	Quorum and voting.
2.66.040	Limitations.

2.66.010 Establishment – Composition – Appointment of members - Chair.

A. There is established a Beautification Commission which shall consist of seven members who shall be appointed by the city council.

B. The terms of the commission members shall be for two years or until their successors have been appointed by city council. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the commissioners are appointed.

C. Appointment to the commission shall be adjusted by the city council to ensure continuity. In this regard, initial appointments may be made for terms other than two years.

D. The commission shall elect its chair and chair pro tempore from among the appointed members.

2.66.020 Powers and duties.

The commission is an advisory commission to the city council. It shall:

A. Work to advocate for, promote, and enhance the aesthetics of the local human-built environment to reflect the beauty of the surrounding natural environment.

B. Work to build community, a sense of place, and civic pride through beautification projects, educational programming, grant programs, and other activities focused on the aesthetics of Valdez, including but not limited to design, landscaping, and public art.

C. Receive, consider, and evaluate public input, opinions, and recommendations regarding aesthetics of the community and advise the city council of any findings or recommendations.

D. Advise on aesthetic components of city projects and public-private partnerships, as requested.

E. Advise on code enforcement efforts related to community aesthetics, as requested.

F. Consult with other city boards and commissions on their work as it relates to community aesthetics.

G. Participate in the city comprehensive planning process as it relates to community aesthetics.

H. Make recommendations to city council through the city budget process regarding beautification programs and beautification project priorities for funding.

I. Meet at least once per month and cause minutes of each meeting to be recorded.

J. Perform such other activities as may be requested of it by the city council.

2.66.030 Quorum and voting.

A quorum of the beautification commission for the conduct of any meeting, work session, or public hearing shall be a majority of the commission. No actions shall be taken by the commission except by concurrence of at least four members.

2.66.040 Limitations.

The commission has only those powers and duties set forth in this chapter and those necessarily implied from those enumerated. In particular, the commission may not:

- A. Expend or obligate city funds without prior approval of the city council or city manager; or
- B. Act in any manner inconsistent with the requirements of Section 2.66.020.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately following adoption by the City Council.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

Sharon Scheidt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Yeas:
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

Jake Staser, City Attorney
Brena, Bell, & Walker, P.C.