

Municipality of Anchorage Office of the Mayor

July 1, 2021

MAYORAL DIRECTIVE NO. 2021-02 ANCHORAGE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DIVERSIFICATION

1 **WHEREAS**, the Anchorage economy has languished over the past few years, exasperated by
2 a lack of diversification and most recently impacted by COVID-19 pandemic restrictions; and
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4 **WHEREAS**, The Anchorage economy has been primarily supported by the oil and gas industry
5 and government services; and
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7 **WHEREAS**, Extensive government regulations and a lack of innovative economic incentives
8 has created a business development climate that is not competitive with other west coast
9 metropolitan areas; and
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11 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage is the largest city in Alaska and the primary business hub for economic
12 activity statewide; and
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14 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage has a distinct geographical advantage to develop and expand both
15 existing and new businesses; and
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17 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage has an intermodal transportation system that includes a vibrant
18 international airport, major marine port, railroad, and road system; and
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20 **WHEREAS**, Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER) is located in Anchorage and provides a
21 tremendous economic benefit to the municipality; and
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23 **WHEREAS**, The University of Alaska, Anchorage is an integral part of the municipalities ability
24 to train a diversified workforce; and
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26 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage is the center for medical services, which includes a sophisticated
27 UMed District that integrates hospital, clinic, medical support services, and the University of
28 Alaska, Anchorage; and
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30 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage is Alaska's financial center, with numerous financial institutions that
31 support the economy of both Anchorage and the state; and
32

33 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage hosts the headquarter operations for most Alaska Native Corporations;
34 and
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36 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage has experienced an increase in tourism, with projections that tourism
37 could increase substantially with infrastructure and venue improvements; and
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1 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage has a number of organizations focused on economic development,
2 diversification, and business expansion; such as the Anchorage Economic Development
3 Corporation, the Anchorage Community Development Authority, the Anchorage Chamber of
4 Commerce, and others; and
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6 **WHEREAS**, If Anchorage is to remain competitive with other major metropolitan areas and
7 have a vibrant economy, aggressive action must be immediately initiated to identify business
8 development opportunities, municipal policies and incentive programs, funding availabilities,
9 and needs of the local business community to expand and prosper.
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11 **THEREFORE, THE MAYOR OF ANCHORAGE HEREBY RESOLVES:**
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13 The Municipality of Anchorage shall aggressively pursue economic revitalization, expansion,
14 and diversification.
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16 As such, an **Anchorage Economic Revitalization and Diversification Advisory Committee**
17 (AERDAC) is hereby established to develop a blueprint to achieve a vibrant local economy.
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19 The AERDAC shall be Chaired by the Executive Director of the Anchorage Community
20 Development Authority and report as an independent organization directly to the Mayor.
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22 The AERDAC may hire a facilitator to organize, manage, and execute the objectives of this
23 directive.
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25 The AERDAC shall use the 2021 **Economic Recovery Transition Team** report as the
26 framework for their work.
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28 The AERDAC shall provide the Mayor with status reports 100 days after activation and every
29 four months thereafter.
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31 Membership on the AERDAC shall be selected by the Mayor, within 30 days of the signing of
32 this directive.
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34 Meetings of the AERDAC shall be noticed and conducted in accordance with the Alaska Open
35 Meetings requirements.
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37 **SIGNED AND DIRECTED** by this ANCHORAGE MAYOR on this 1st day of July, 2021.
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40 _____
41 **MAYOR DAVE BRONSON**