



MAPPING THE FUTURE

2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHO WE ARE

The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in Alaska. Founded in 1915 by local business leaders, the Chamber today is a not-for-profit 501(c)(6) member-driven business organization representing **over 900 companies** and a regional workforce of approximately **50,000**. For **over 100 years**, we have served as a resource where our members can gain business knowledge, insight, and strength as business professionals.

OUR MISSION

To advance a successful business climate by attending to the civic, economic, and cultural betterment of our community.

We achieve this through three channels: advocacy, connectivity, and education.

ADVOCACY



Acts as the voice for Anchorage businesses by advocating an agenda for all Alaskans and supports funding for the Port of Alaska which is the largest means of importing goods.

CONNECTIVITY



Facilitating networking events is a priority for the Chamber to help its members create new relationships and expand their business while making valuable business connections.

EDUCATION



From industry updates, municipal and government reports, to economic forecasts and new industry outlooks, the Chamber covers it all through a variety of programs.

ANCHORAGE CHAMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Initiated 2020 Diversity Program to better serve and advocate for the business community by becoming a more open, inclusive, and diverse organization reflective of the make-up of Anchorage.

Maintains a vast reach to the community through a streamlined weekly newsletter distributed to nearly 4,000 individuals

Manages the largest Young Professional Group in the state in order to educate and grow the future leaders of Alaska

Continues communication efforts to help local businesses to navigate CARES Act and PPP Application processes

Hosts the largest Military Appreciation Events in Alaska and received citation for efforts for the 25th Anniversary

Formed the Anchorage Gig Economy Network to assist with the expansion of Anchorage's workforce prospects

Coordinates many education sessions including: Chamber Academy, Make it Monday Forum, & CEO Briefings

Cultivates connectivity and networking within the membership through various events throughout the year

Honored by the Small Business Administration as the Alaska Division Veteran Service Advocate

Awarded the Alaska Chamber's "2018 Local Chamber of Commerce of the Year" Award

Supported and joined OneAlaska which ultimately defeated Ballot Measure 1

Awarded a Five-Star Accreditation in 2019 by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE FISCAL PLAN

The governor and the legislature need to develop and implement a sustainable fiscal plan, pass a responsible budget and balance state expenses against revenue. Alaskans need a comprehensive plan that explores broad based revenue sources (such as the PFD earnings or statewide sales tax). We encourage continuing attempts to prioritize programs, search for efficiencies, streamline and simplify state processes while also ensuring necessary state services are properly funded.

PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PORT OF ALASKA

Funding is urgently needed to rebuild the port which has exceeded its design and economic life due to severe corrosion of the existing pilings. The port is critical infrastructure and handles more than 85% of the state's cargo and supports more than \$14 billion in commercial activity in Alaska. We encourage the state administration and legislative bodies to start a cooperative dialogue with the municipality and user groups to ensure that the port will be properly funded in a timely fashion.

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY COVID-19

The Chamber will continue to help businesses and employees impacted by COVID-19 survive and recover through information sharing and advocacy for effective policy initiatives and expedited financial programs. We encourage the administration and legislature to pass legislation to streamline the process for applying for and receiving assistance.

PROMOTE DIVERSIFICATION OF THE ALASKA ECONOMY

The State is overly dependent on one industry as a source of revenue to fund government expenditures. Accordingly, the Anchorage Chamber strongly supports the state taking appropriate measures to promote diversification our economy. These must include responsible oil and gas development along with minerals, forestry, coal, fish, tourism, airports, and the University system which is uniquely positioned to aid in this process. The University has a long history of innovation and beneficial research and is vital to a well-educated and trained workforce. Our University is uniquely situated to be a leader in higher education moving Alaska further into the 21st century.

CONTACT THE CHAMBER



ANCHORAGE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

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ADVISORY GROUPS WE'RE ACTIVE IN

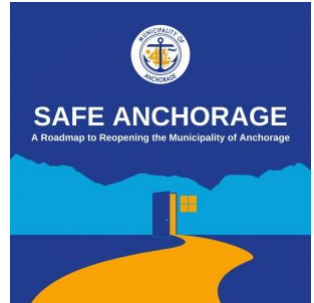


— U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE —

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEE OF 100

As part of the C100 the Anchorage Chamber gathers with other leading executives under the U.S. Chamber of Commerce umbrella to network, build partnerships, and discuss current issues.

ROADMAP TO A VITAL AND SAFE ANCHORAGE



The Roadmap for a Vital and Safe Anchorage is a planning process built by a group of concerned business owners, economic industry representatives, and both for-profit and nonprofit organizations saw the need to position Anchorage businesses to survive, adapt, and thrive in 2021 and beyond.



MAYORAL ECONOMIC RESILIENCY TASK FORCE (ERTF)

Served on the 26-member task force and was chair of the State Policy Working Group. The ERTF's mission is to identify and propose immediate actions to local, state and federal policy-makers to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic to Anchorage employers, employees and nonprofits; to identify post-COVID strategies to build economic resilience and improve future response capacity; and to be a credible, accessible source of information and resources for the Anchorage business and workforce sectors.

BUYALASKA



In late 2020, the BuyAlaska program was relaunched by a statewide collaborative initiative housed by the Alaska Small Business Development Center, including the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce. BuyAlaska's mission is to amplify Alaska businesses through connection, awareness, and improved access to resources.



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