



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Assembly Memorandum

No. AM 737-2020

Meeting Date: December 22, 2020

1 **From:** Assembly Members Christopher Constant, Forrest Dunbar,
2 and Kameron Perez-Verdia
3

4 **Subject:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY TO
5 ESTABLISH GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
6 BETWEEN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE AND THE
7 SOVEREIGN NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA BY AMENDING
8 ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE.
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10 Recognizing that the Municipality of Anchorage is built on the traditional lands of
11 the Dena'ina Athabascan people and the inherent value in recognition and in
12 formalized relationships, the municipality passed AR 2019-426 to initiate
13 conversations to formalize a government-to-government relationship with the
14 Native Village of Eklutna.
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16 Amongst the many Indigenous communities in Alaska, the Native Village of
17 Eklutna is the only federally recognized tribal entity within the municipality's
18 boundaries. Historically, informal agreements and memorandums have not done
19 enough to ensure a respectful and productive relationship between the municipality
20 and Native Village of Eklutna.
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22 This ordinance comes at the end of a yearlong conversation to establish
23 permanent and formal government-to-government relations. It takes important
24 steps, codifying respect and recognition of the Native Village of Eklutna in
25 Anchorage Municipal Code. It also codifies a formal government-to-government
26 relationship.
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28 Proposed changes to code include:
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- 30 • Codifying a commitment to government-to-government relations with the
31 Native Village of Eklutna;
- 32 • Granting designated representatives of the Native Village five minutes of
33 time during a public hearing, in line with community council's time limits;
- 34 • Requiring regular and at least biannual meetings between the assembly
35 and the Native Village (meetings with the school board are also included
36 as set out in the Anchorage Charter for congruency);
- 37 • Formalizing government-to-government relations which includes a written
38 policy that promotes communication and clear and lasting relations,
39 regular training for employees, and an annual report to the assembly; and

- 1 • Identifying points of contact for the governing bodies.
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3 **WE RESPECTFULLY RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**
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5 Christopher Constant, Assembly Member, District 1

6 Forrest Dunbar, Assembly Member, District 5

7 Kameron Perez-Verdia, Assembly Member, District 3