ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2021-76

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 4.60 TO ENACT A NEW SECTION TO ESTABLISH A HOUSELESS LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY BOARD TO PROVIDE THE ASSEMBLY AND MAYOR WITH THE PERSPECTIVE OF RESIDENTS WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE AND TO PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION OF OUR CURRENT AND FORMER HOUSELESS NEIGHBORS.

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage appreciates the cooperative participation of our houseless neighbors as we continue to confront COVID-19’s challenges to our public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality values the wisdom shared by our residents whose lives have been shaped in part by the trauma that resulted in their becoming houseless; and

WHEREAS, their voices deepen the Municipality’s understanding of the need for our community services to be flexible so that they can be tailored to help each individual overcome the challenges impeding their personal journey into permanent housing; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly desires to incorporate the perspective of individuals with lived experience into decisions that will have an impact on our houseless neighbors; now, therefore

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Anchorage Municipal Code chapter 4.60 is hereby amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

4.60.250 Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board.

A. There is established a Houseless Lived Experience Advisory Board to provide input and feedback to the assembly and mayor on housing and homelessness solutions with the goal of centering the perspective of those with lived experience. The Clerk’s Office or a designee selected by the assembly chair shall act as staff for the board.

B. The board shall consist of up to 9 members serving three-year terms who self-identify as having lived experience of homelessness. The following experiences are suggested, but not required, to ensure a
variety of perspectives on the board:

1. Families.
2. Youth.
4. Physical disability.
5. Mental health disorder.
6. Substance misuse disorder.
7. Domestic violence survivor.
8. Veteran.

C. The board shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Advise the assembly and mayor on issues, services and programs regarding homelessness, housing, and related matters from the perspective of those with lived experience in our community.

2. Assist the assembly and mayor in conducting educational and public relations programs designed to create public awareness of the needs of those with lived experience in our community.

3. Make recommendations to the assembly and mayor regarding policies, practices, and legislation from the perspective of those with lived experience.

4. Act as a liaison between those with lived experience and policy makers.

5. Conduct regular reviews of the current community plan to end homelessness from the perspective of those with lived experience.

6. To review budget allocations addressing homelessness and support services from the perspective of those with lived experience.

D. The board shall sunset on October 14, 2024, unless affirmatively continued by the assembly in accordance with section 4.05.150.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage by the Assembly.
PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day of ____________, 2021.

Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk