

Submitted by: Assembly  
Members Rivera and Martinez  
Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's  
Office  
For reading: September 12, 2023

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**  
**AO No. 2023-90**

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2 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AMENDING**  
3 **ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.20.140, OFFICE OF EQUITY AND**  
4 **JUSTICE, AND SECTION 7.10.030, POWERS AND DUTIES OF PURCHASING**  
5 **OFFICER, TO ADD REQUIREMENTS REGARDING LANGUAGE ACCESS**  
6 **PLANS, PERIODIC REVIEWS AND REPORTING, COMPLIANCE WITH**  
7 **FEDERAL LANGUAGE ACCESS AND DISADVANTAGED AND WOMEN-**  
8 **OWNED BUSINESS (D/WBE) REGULATIONS, AND RELATED MATTERS.**  
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12 **WHEREAS**, in 2014 Anchorage joined the Welcoming Cities project, a collection of  
13 cities from across the United States that recognizes the economic, cultural and  
14 social contributions that immigrants and refugees make to our communities; and  
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16 **WHEREAS**, on August 26, 2020, the Anchorage Assembly established the Office  
17 of Equity and Justice by enacting AO 2020-79(S) As Amended; and  
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19 **WHEREAS**, AO 2020-79(S) As Amended created the position of Chief Equity  
20 Officer with the responsibilities of “developing, supporting, and implementing the  
21 municipality’s equity agenda”; and  
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23 **WHEREAS**, it is inherently the role of the Assembly to set and declare policy of the  
24 Municipality of Anchorage; and  
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26 **WHEREAS**, the Assembly remains committed to the Welcoming Anchorage  
27 Roadmap and to removing the inequities which still create barriers to educational  
28 success, economic opportunity and wellness, and undermine the collective  
29 prosperity of residents in the Municipality of Anchorage; now, therefore,  
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31 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**  
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33 **Section 1.** Anchorage Municipal Code 3.20.140 Office of Equity and Justice is  
34 hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and*  
35 *therefore not set out*):  
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37 **3.20.140 Office of equity and justice.**  
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- 39 A. There is established an office of equity and justice including a chief  
40 equity officer, office of equal opportunity director, and disadvantaged  
41 business enterprise compliance officer.  
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1. Chief equity officer.

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c. The chief equity officer may be dismissed by the mayor only for cause shown, and only with the concurrence of a majority of the assembly.

d. The chief equity officer shall be responsible for analyzing and identifying systemic inequities in the municipality, specifically addressing, but not limited to, the following:

i. Educational opportunities and outcomes;

ii. Economic opportunities and outcomes;

iii. Physical and mental wellness and access to resources; and

iv. The overall access to and provision of municipal services/

Based on this analysis, the chief equity officer shall establish, collect, and evaluate equity baseline data targets, performance indicators, and progress benchmarks for addressing systemic disparities and shall submit a semiannual report to the assembly and the mayor in the form of a memorandum with accurate data and recommendations for continued improvement regarding race and equity policy issues and long-range plans.

e. The chief equity officer shall be responsible for an annual review of all office of equal opportunity business enterprise activities to ensure compliance and shall submit a report to the assembly with the results of this review in the form of a memorandum.

2. *Office of equal opportunity director.*

a. On program and policy matters relating to minority business and contract compliance and equal employment opportunity, the director of the office of equal opportunity shall have direct and independent access to the mayor.

b. The director shall be responsible for an annual review of all departmental language access plans to ensure compliance with language access laws and shall submit an annual report to the assembly and the mayor in the form of a memorandum with the results of this review and any suggested changes to department language

access plans.

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(AO No. 2020-79(S), § 3, 8-26-20; AO No. 2021-114 , § 2, 1-31-22)

**Section 2.** Anchorage Municipal Code 7.10.030 Powers and Duties of Purchasing Officer is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

**7.10.030      Powers and duties of purchasing officer.**

Except as this Code provides otherwise, the purchasing officer shall have the following authority and responsibilities:

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- F. To compile and maintain a log of all contracts awarded for supplies, services, professional services or construction, together with any amendments thereto; [AND]
- G. To monitor the performance of duties of the disadvantaged and women-owned business enterprise program office in Chapter 7.60 and maintain a log of all municipal contracts, and of subcontractors to a prime with a municipal contract, awarded to a certified D/WBE businesses.
- H. To ensure contractors with the municipality comply with all federal regulations regarding language access plans, pursuant to chapter 7.50; and
- I. Any other authorities and responsibilities which this title assigns the purchasing officer.

(AO No. 79-203, 1-1-80)

**Section 3.** This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk