

Submitted by: Assembly Member Rivera
Prepared by: Housing and Homelessness
Committee
Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel
For reading: _____, 2023

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2023-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY
ESTABLISHING SITE-SELECTION CRITERIA FOR NEW PERMANENT YEAR-
ROUND LOW-BARRIER MUNICIPALLY OWNED SHELTER**

WHEREAS, the Assembly approved AR 2023-97, As Amended, a resolution adopting the Clean Slate Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Slate Strategy's main goal is to get a permanent year-round low-barrier shelter operational by November 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, while this process envisions the Municipality owning the chosen shelter site, it does not envision the Municipality managing or operating shelter; and

WHEREAS, to date, the process to achieve this goal has focused on community engagements around shelter and what well-run shelter could look like in or community; and

WHEREAS, the current phase of work involves the creation and adoption of site-selection criteria to assist in the next phase of work focused on identifying a variety of possible locations for shelter; and

WHEREAS, AMC 21.03.140 provides a mandatory process for Public Facility site selection, unless a proposed site is subject to conditional use approval; and

WHEREAS, homeless and transient shelters are considered conditional uses in areas zoned as PLI and B-3; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Municipality has never formally adopted site-selection criteria for shelter as a matter of public policy but instead relied on various working groups and task forces to develop criteria; and

WHEREAS, there are a variety of other factors, including neighborhood mitigation, client safety, and more, that will be considered during later phases of work; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that the Municipality formally adopt site-selection criteria for the selection of a new permanent year-round low-barrier shelter that will be Municipally owned;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

Section 1. The Assembly supports the below site-selection criteria for new

1 permanent year-round low-barrier shelter chosen as part of the Clean Slate Strategy
2 and which is Municipally owned.

3
4 **Section 2.** The Assembly establishes the following screening criteria as required
5 characteristics for any sites selected, in addition to requirements of Title 21 for
6 conditional use approval, unless a waiver is presented to the Assembly for approval:

- 7 • The property or properties must 1) be zoned PLI or B3; or 2) have the
8 written support from the Anchorage Health Department Director to trigger
9 Title 16 emergency shelter provisions while the property or properties are
10 rezoned.
- 11 • For every individual, there must be 50 square feet of space for each
12 sheltered individual's personal use at a minimum, plus additional space
13 for administration and services.
- 14 • If an existing building, the property or properties must be unoccupied and
15 available and be in fair condition or better as determined in writing by
16 Building Safety.
- 17 • The property or properties must be ADA compliant or be easily brought
18 up to compliance.
- 19 • The capital costs required to acquire the site and bring it to habitable
20 condition must be within the available budget and a capital budget must
21 be presented to the Assembly for consideration. In addition, startup costs
22 and the first quarter of operating costs must be factored at \$2.5 million
23 during site selection.

24
25 **Section 3.** The Assembly establishes the following additional criteria for any sites
26 selected as preferred characteristics:

- 27 • The property or properties should not lie within 500-feet of a school,
28 licensed childcare facility, or playground.
- 29 • The property or properties should lie within a quarter mile of public
30 transportation.
- 31 • The property or properties should have the ability to create a visibility
32 buffer.
- 33 • The property or properties should be able to be occupied and operational
34 as shelter between November 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

35
36 **Section 4.** This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and
37 approval by the Assembly.

38
39 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day
40 of _____, 2023.

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43
44 _____
45 Chair of the Assembly

46 ATTEST:

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48
49 _____
50 Municipal Clerk