

**RESOLUTION NO. 5036, AS AMENDED
(PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE)**

**A RESOLUTION STATING THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS LEGISLATIVE
AND CAPITAL PRIORITIES FOR 2023**

WHEREAS, the City of Fairbanks appreciates any funding and support provided by the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the City has identified the following legislative and capital priorities, and the public had an opportunity to comment on these priorities at the November 14 and November 28, 2022 regular City Council meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the 2023 legislative and capital priorities of the City of Fairbanks are listed below:

2023 Legislative Priorities

1. Reduce the municipalities' PERS contribution rate from 22%
2. Provide relief from DEC PFOS/PFOA plume characterization requirements
3. Mitigate the City's liability regarding the PFOS/PFOA ground water contamination
4. Maintain a baseline of \$60 million annually in Community Assistance Program funding (formerly known as Revenue Sharing)
5. Allow Tier 1, 2, and 3 PERS retirees to return to work under Tier 4 to fill critical shortages and continue to collect retirement
6. Increase SART funding for Fairbanks to \$150,000 to meet current liability

2023 Capital Priorities

1. Public Works backup generator \$1 million
2. Redesign and construction of roads, sidewalks, and drainage in the Island Homes subdivision with a request of \$9.6 million
3. Construction of a Law Enforcement Training Facility in Interior Alaska with a request of \$6 million

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to the Office of the Governor and Interior Alaska Legislative Delegation.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this 14th day of November 2022.

David Pruhs, Mayor

AYES:
NAYS:
ABSENT:
APPROVED:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

Paul Ewers, City Attorney

City of Fairbanks

2023 Legislative and Capital Priorities

Attachment to Resolution No. 5036, as Amended
(Proposed Substitute)

Legislative Priorities:

1. **PERS Contribution Rate:** Less than half of the 22% the City of Fairbanks pays for its Tier IV employees benefits them, with the balance going to pay off the billions of dollars of legacy debt. Payments into the PERS system by Alaska municipalities were entrusted with the State of Alaska. Unfortunately, because of incredible lack of oversight and mismanagement, massive debts were incurred.

Compared to the City of Fairbanks' contributions to its various unions with their own pension plans, the PERS rate is extremely high and costly. The City respectfully asks that the legislature look at ways to reduce this burden upon municipalities which was incurred by the State of Alaska.

2. **PFOS/PFOA Plume Characterization:** The City of Fairbanks requests relief from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) plume characterization requirements related to the Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) / Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) contamination at the Fairbanks Regional Fire Training Center.
3. **PFOS/PFOA Liability Mitigation:** The City of Fairbanks requests State assistance in liability mitigation regarding the PFOS/PFOA contamination, with respect to the expected drop in the EPA Health Advisory Levels requiring additional wells to be decommissioned. There are many potentially liable agencies in the Fairbanks area, and the issue is much broader than the City of Fairbanks.
4. **Community Assistance Program (formerly known as Revenue Sharing):** The City of Fairbanks requests the State maintain the Community Assistance Program baseline at \$60 million or more annually.
5. **PERS Retirees:** The City of Fairbanks requests the State allow Tier 1, 2, and 3 PERS retirees to return to work under Tier 4 to fill critical shortages and be allowed to continue to collect their retirement.
6. **SART:** The City of Fairbanks requests that the SART funding dedicated to Fairbanks be increased to \$150,000 to help offset the current costs of the demands.

Capital Priorities:

1. **Generator:** The City of Fairbanks requests \$1 million to assist in the replacement of the emergency generator in the City of Fairbanks Public Works facility.

City of Fairbanks

2023 Legislative and Capital Priorities

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2. **Island Homes:** The City of Fairbanks requests \$9.6 million for the redesign and construction of roads, sidewalks, and drainage in the Island Homes subdivision.
3. **Law Enforcement Training Facility:** The City of Fairbanks requests \$6 million to be allocated for the construction of a Law Enforcement Training Facility for all Interior Alaska law enforcement agencies.