

**Condition of Communities** 

ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Senate Finance Nils Andreassen

# About AML – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

#### The purpose of the Alaska Municipal League is to:

- Safeguard the interests, rights, and privileges of Alaskan municipalities as they may be affected by Federal and State governmental actions.
- Secure cooperation among municipalities of the State in a thorough study of local problems and in the application of efficient methods of local government.
- Provide means whereby municipal officials may interchange ideas, experiences, and obtain expert advice.

#### The objectives of the Alaska Municipal League are to:

- Perpetuate and develop the League as an agency for the cooperation of municipalities for the practical study of municipal affairs.
- Promote application of the best methods in all branches of municipal service and the discussion of problems of administration.
- Gather and circulate information and experience concerning the most approved methods of municipal administration.
- Secure general and municipal legislation at the state and federal levels which will be beneficial to the municipalities and inhabitants thereof, and to oppose legislation injurious thereto.
- Engage in the study and preparation of uniform ordinances, resolutions, and practices
- Strengthen Alaskan local governments' ability to govern their own affairs and improve the well-being and quality of life of their constituents.

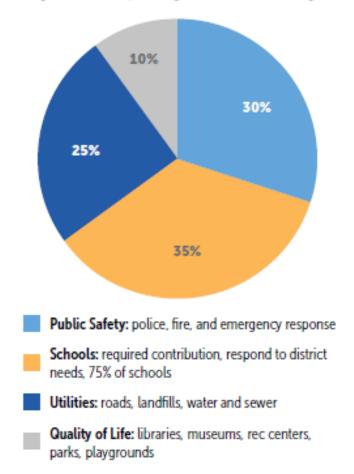


## Differences that make a Difference



- Alaska's local governments are not created equal
- Home rule vs. general law; limited vs. full service
- Choices of some are not obligations of all
- Uneven systems create questions of fairness and inequity
- Tax base, population, and statutory obligations have consequences
- As political subdivisions of the state, the power of partnership means delivery of services that would otherwise be the State's responsibility.
- Additional services are paid by taxpayers or otherwise limit current activities.

#### Local government spending falls into a few categories:



# Municipal Lane



### **Education**

- 34 municipal school districts
- 4 greater than State contribution

### **Public Safety**

- 70 with police powers
- 40 with combined budgets \$75 million more than DPS

# Transportation / Public Works

- Road Miles = DOT&PF
  - 37 Electric Utilities
- 72 Ports and Harbors
- 112 Water/Wastewater

### **Quality of Life**

- 47 Public Libraries
- Parks and Recreation
- Community Pools
- Ice Skating Rinks
- Community Halls

# Planning, Platting, and Land Use



- Planning: The process of evaluating the best ways to use land for the public's benefit.
- **Platting**: The process of subdividing land, including recording the plat with the SOA District Recorder.
- Land use regulation: The process of creating and enforcing rules for how land can be used.

#### **Costs of Compliance = \$30 million**

- Planning Commissions
  - Small \$24-60k annually
  - Medium \$60-120k annually
  - Large \$120-300k annually
- Comprehensive Plans (29.40.030 and .010)
  - Small \$50-150k
  - Medium \$150-400k (Seward, Nome, Kodiak)
  - Large \$500k-\$1M (Mat Su, Anchorage)
- Additional Land Use Plans (29.40.040), Hazard Mitigation Plans (FEMA), Capital Improvement (State funds), Transportation (MPOs), Economic Development (EDA), Water/Sewer (utilities)
- \$2000-2500 to DNR for survey or platting services

#### **Development Barriers**

- Survey
- Utilities and Access

# Planning, Platting, and Land Use



# State → (AS 29.65) Municipal Entitlement Act

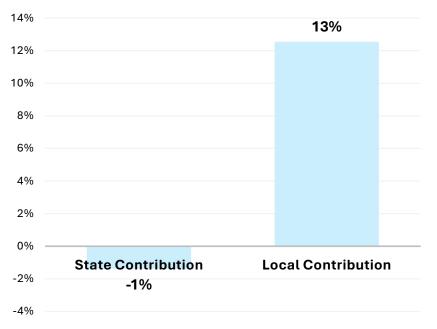
- Vacant, Unappropriated, Unreserved (VUU)
- Certified Entitlement (AS)
   29.65.010
- Patented deed has been recorded
- Approved but deed not recorded
- Conditional State retains management authority
- Selected lands have been applied for
- Estimated Remaining what's left, pending survey (29.65.070(a))

Municipality	<b>Certified</b>	Patented* -	Approved -	Conditional -	Selected -	Remaining -	% to Finalize ▼
Aleutians East Borough	7,633	576	7,208	492		0	100.88%
Municipality of Anchorage	44,893	21,130	3,586		1,196		10.65%
City of Anderson	1,182	832	349	40	135	0	44.33%
Bristol Bay Borough	2,898	2,699				199	6.87%
City of Coffman Cove	222	220		2		0	0.90%
City of Cordova	235	168	76		184	0	110.64%
Denali Borough	49,789	5,844	42,656	1,920	20	0	89.57%
City of Edna Bay	320		314			6	100.00%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	112,000	97,396	15,697		2,407	0	16.16%
Haines Borough	5,967	2,569	2,413	20	1,692	987	85.67%
City and Borough of Juneau	19,584	17,273	2,100	100		0	11.23%
Kenai Peninsula Borough	155,780	104,111	41,931	320	561	9,738	33.73%
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	11,593	11,209	812			0	7.00%
Kodiak Island Borough	56,500	21,090	10,431				18.46%
Lake and Peninsula Borough	125,000	1	99,785		42,879	25,214	134.30%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	355,210	264,388	79,722	3,495			23.43%
North Slope Borough	89,850	4,491	20,826		12,311	64,533	108.70%
Northwest Arctic Borough	285,438	107,130	176,770	1,532	19,314	1,538	69.77%
Petersburg Borough	14,666	1,048	5,895		7,184	7,723	141.84%
City of Port Alexander	53	8	45			0	84.91%
City of Seward	565	548			30	20	8.85%
Municipality of Skagway	7,977	4,672	3,003	55		118	39.81%
City and Borough of Sitka	10,500	10,671	46			0	0.44%
City of Valdez	7,593	7,212	413			0	5.44%
City of Whale Pass	296	5	289			2	98.31%
City of Whittier	600	600				0	0.00%
City and Borough of Wrangell	9,006	2,410	6,965			0	77.34%
City and Borough of Yakutat	21,500	364	22,487			0	104.59%
Totals	1,396,850	688,738	542,852		87,913	110,105	53.04%

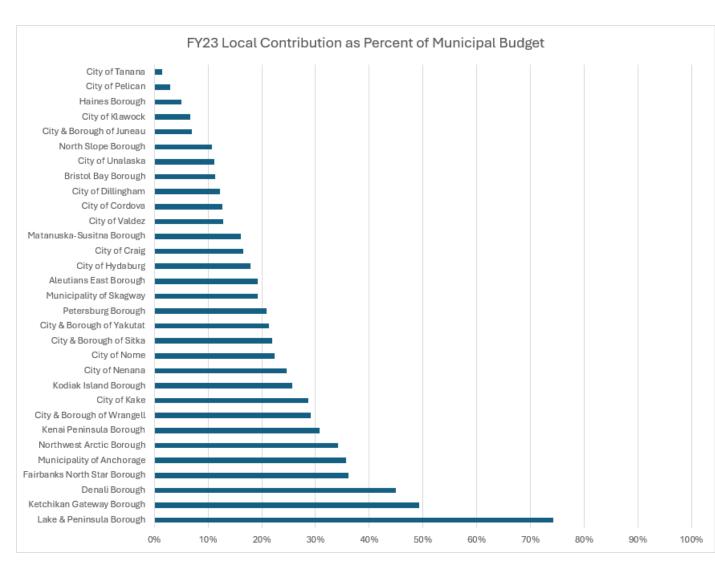
# School Funding



# Municipal School Districts % Funding Change FY17 to FY24



- \$530 million in local tax contributions
- Five contribute more than the State
- Own and maintain 76% of schools



## **Public Works**



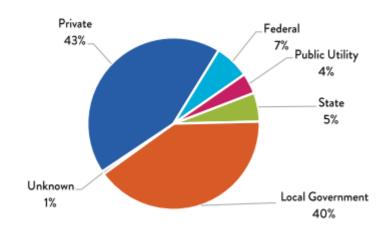
### Society of Civil Engineers – 2024 Fact Sheet and 2021 Report

- 1,632 bridges 8.2% structurally deficient
- 30 high-hazard dams, of 184
- \$1.4 billion drinking water need
- \$199 million in wastewater needs
- 37% of roads are in poor or fair condition
- Solid waste C
- 3.4 million passenger trips across municipal, tribal, and nonprofit systems

#### Ports and Harbors - D+

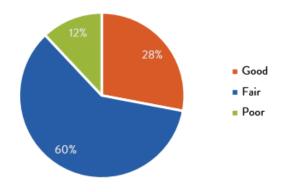
- 125 ports and harbors freight, commercial fishing, tourism, etc.
- \$500 million needed for State-transferred assets (circa 2000)

Figure: Alaska Dam Ownership



Credit: ADNR Dam Safety Program 2021

Figure: 2012 Rural Powerhouse Condition

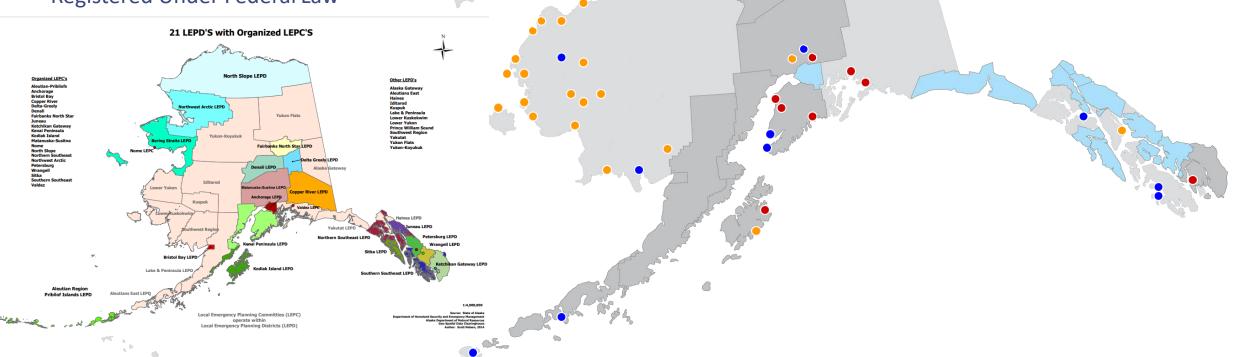


# **Public Safety**



### **Police Powers**

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



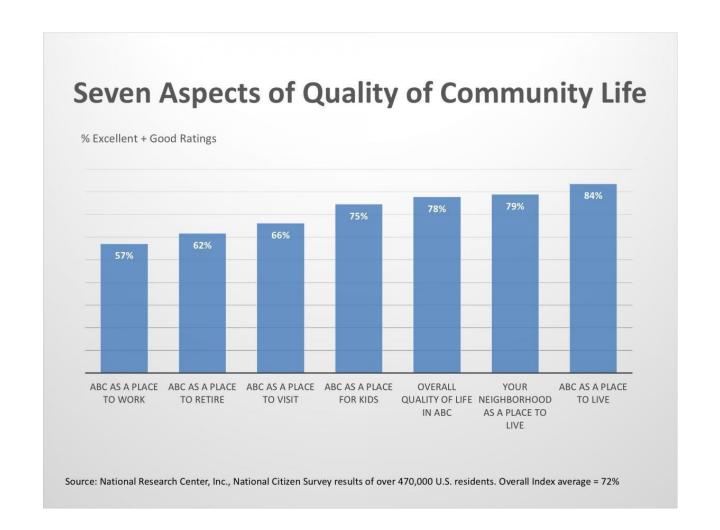
NWAB VP80 Program

# Quality of Life



#### **Full-Service Communities**

- Pools
- Parks
- Schools
- Trails
- Rec centers
- Cemeteries
- Museums
- Senior centers
- Festivals
- Activities



# Salary Survey



#### **Accounting Clerk**

Municipal Range Statewide

Low: \$15.00-36.42 Average: \$26.25

High: \$18.00-48.61 25<sup>th</sup> percentile: \$21.91 75<sup>th</sup> percentile: 29.89

**State of Alaska** 

Accounting Clerk (PCN 117072)

Full Time \$20.21-\$21.22 Hourly

### Municipal

**Firefighter** 

Low: \$19.67 - 37.17

High: \$31.25 – 62.02

**Statewide** 

Average: \$53.34

25<sup>th</sup> percentile: \$40.89

75<sup>th</sup> percentile: \$62.44

#### **State of Alaska**

Seasonal/Long Term Nonperm

\$23.50 - \$33.96

Full Time

\$33.18 - \$42.97

#### **Police Officer**

#### **Municipal Range**

Low: \$29.96-38.90

High: \$38.21-60.46

Village Police Officer: \$13.87/hr

Public Safety Officer: \$15-18/hr

#### State Trooper Recruit / Lateral 25-01

**Salary** \$40.92 - \$52.93 Hourly

Job Type Full Time

Department Public Safety - Recruitment Unit

(Trooper/Court Services Officer/Deputy

Fire Marshal)

Opening Date 01/01/2025

**Division** Alaska State Troopers / Alaska Wildlife

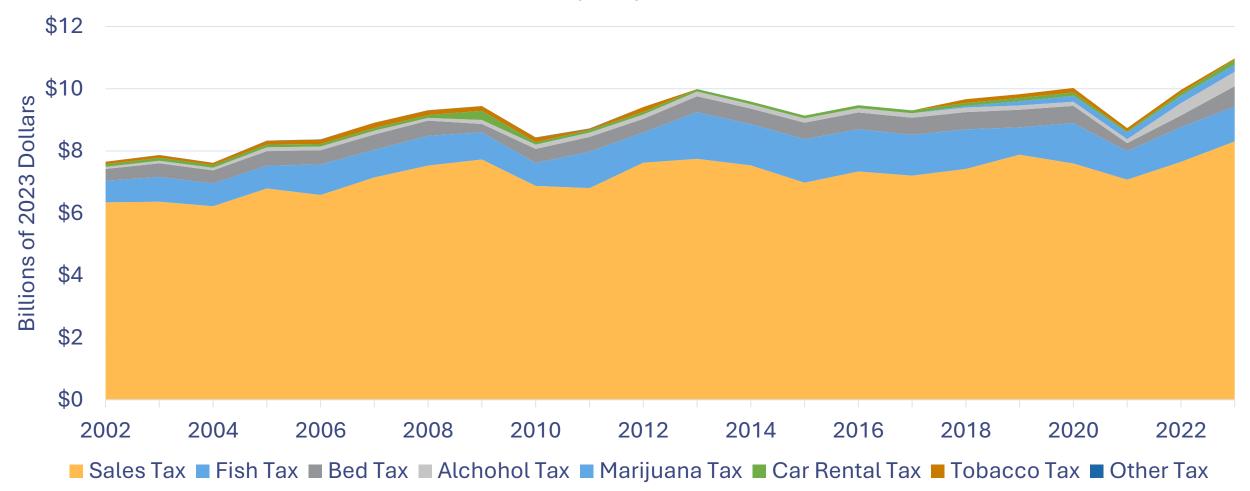
Troopers

Bargaining Unit Public Safety Officers

## Tax Base



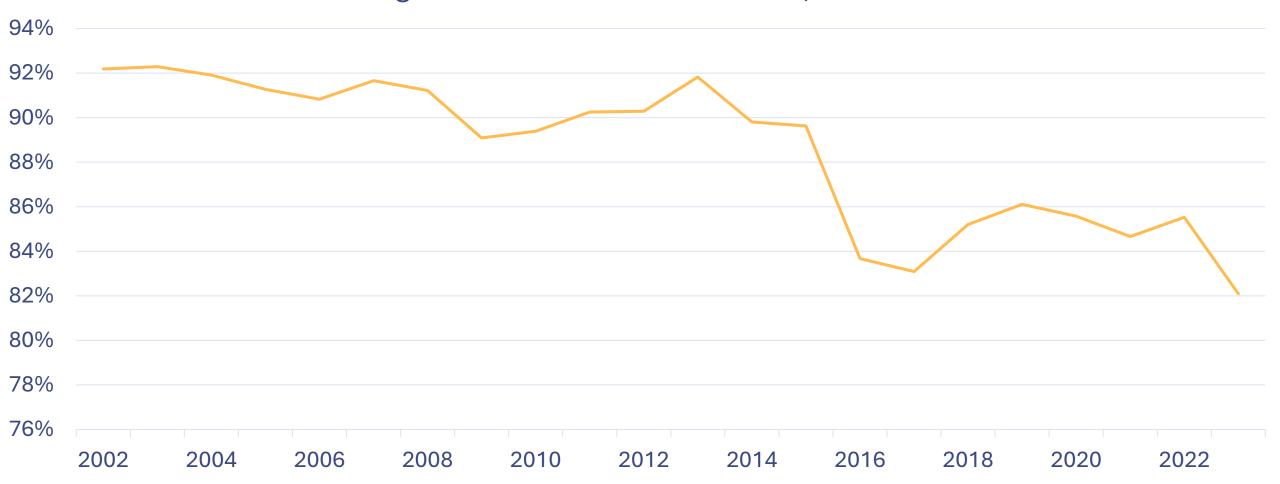
### Calculable Base for Non-Property Taxes, 2002-2023, 2023 Dollars



## Concentration of Tax Revenue







## **Mandatory Exemptions**

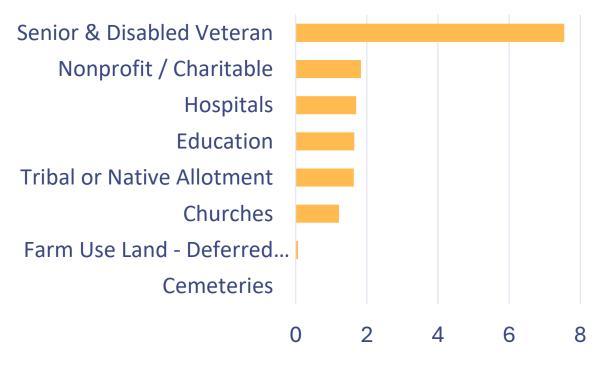


15.7\$ billion in 2023

12.4% of total taxable value

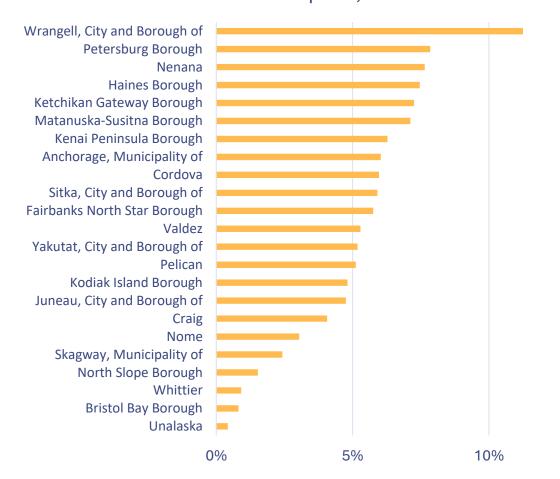
Not all jurisdictions appraise exempt categories

### Mandatory Exemptions in 2023



Value of Exemptions (Billions of 2023 Dollars)

## Percentage of Property Tax Base Subject to S/DV Exemption, 2023



15%

# **Optional Exemptions**



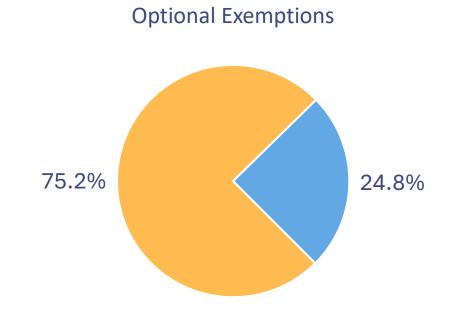
• \$27.4 billion exempted in 2024

Taxable

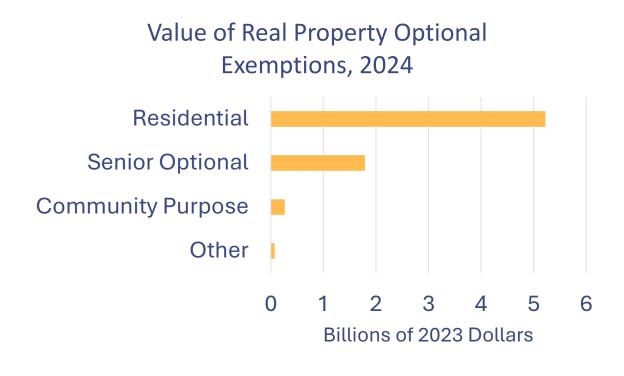
Includes real and personal property, including modeled values.

Optionally Exempt

• Including mandatory exemptions, 34.2% of all property is exempt.



Share of Real Property that is Subject to



## **Stressed Communities**



#### **Operations and Maintenance Best Practices Dashboard** (Scores are average of communities in current map extent)

Spring 2024

Click here to view timeseries graphs of each score

Select a community from the list to view scores

Adak

Akhiok

Akiachak

Akiak

Akutan

Alakanuk

Alatna

Aleknagik

Allakaket

**Ambler** 

Anaktuvuk Pass

Anderson

Angoon

Aniak

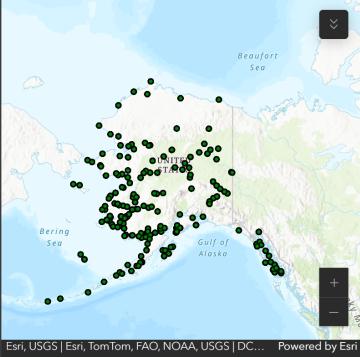
Anvik

Arctic Village

Atka

**Operations and Maintenance Best Practices Scores** 2016 - Present

Click a point to view the popup, cycle through with arrows. Click upper right icons to view legend, search by community, basemap switcher.



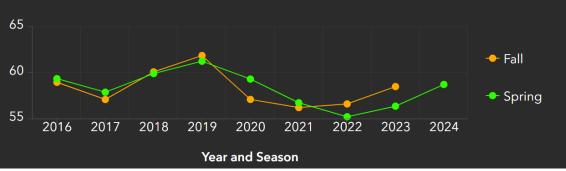
Operations and Maintenance Best Practices scores for every period from 2016 to present

"Welcome! This dashboard is a joint DCCED/DEC product intended to illustrate current capacity indicators in the 196 communities eligible for Village Safe Water funding that choose to participate in **Operations and Maintenance Best** 

The indicators below show the best practices score per category for the most recent scoring period (updated in the Spring and Fall of each year). They display the average score for all communities visible in the map extents. Selecting a community from the list will show the most recent best practices scores for that



Total Best Practices Score Timeline (average of communities visible in map extents) Selecting a community from the list will show the historic best practices scores for that community.

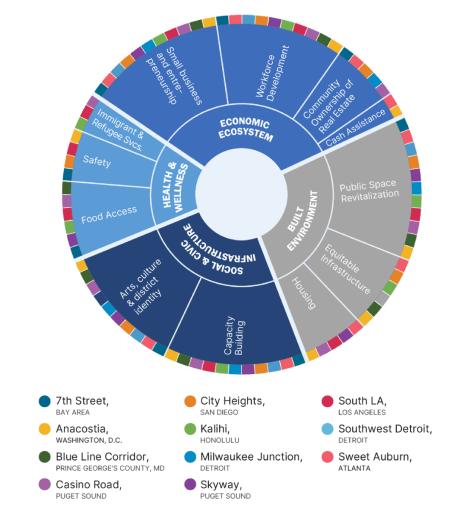


# Challenges to Overcome



- Net Outmigration
- Reduced Purchasing Power
- Old Code
- Workforce
- Housing
- Increased Costs
- Limiting Liability
- Uncertainty
- Working Together

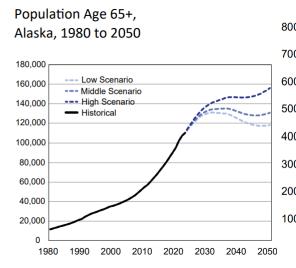
Community-centered economic inclusion agendas focused on a layered set of interdisciplinary priorities



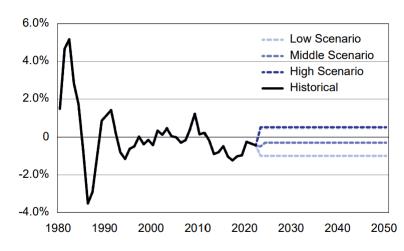
# **Net Outmigration**

- What do we do to reverse trends?
- How do communities plan based on projections?
- How do policies respond to different age groups?
- How do policies respond to regional differences?

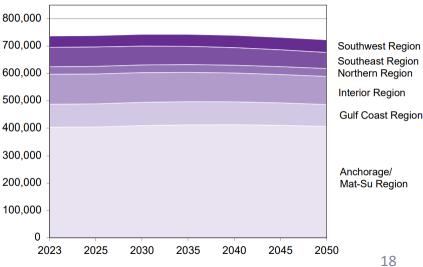
#### Population Age 0 to 19, Population Age 20 to 64, Alaska, 1980 to 2050 Alaska, 1980 to 2050 300,000 700,000 600,000 250,000 500,000 200,000 400,000 150.000 --- Low Scenario 300,000 --- Middle Scenario --- Low Scenario --- High Scenario --- Middle Scenario 200,000 Historical --- High Scenario 50,000 Historical 100,000 2000 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050 1990 2000 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050



#### Alaska Net Migration Rate, 1980 to 2050



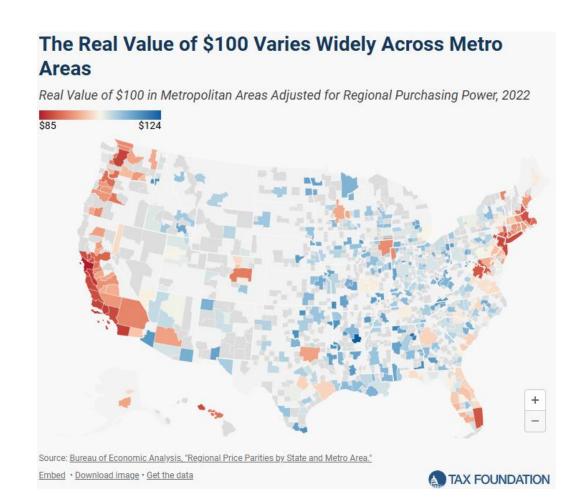
Population by Alaska Region, 2023 to 2050



# Reduced Purchasing Power



- \$30 million in 2017 would be \$39 million today =
   ~25% reduction in purchasing power
- Public safety one officer that was \$80,000 in 2017, is \$120,000 today = 125 fewer officers
- Roads resurfacing was \$200,000 in 2015, and is now \$300,000 = 50 fewer road miles
- Affects the 89 local governments receiving the least amount of Community Assistance, or the largest three.



## Old Code



### Keeping up with Code

- Late 1970s development of template code
- 1980s adopted by many
- Standard language without adaptation for local circumstance
- Few changes since then, for many.
- DCRA code library
  - All boroughs and home rule cities
  - Most first class cities
  - 47 of 116, or 40%

#### Section 5. Vagrancy.

It is unlawful for any person to be at large, in a state of vagrancy. For the purpose of this ordinance the following persons are vagrants:

- A. All common prostitutes and keepers of bawdy houses or houses for the resort of common prostitutes.
- B. All habitual drunkards, gamesters or other disorderly persons.
- C. All persons wandering about and lodging in barns, outbuildings, tents, wagons or other vehicles, and having no visible calling or business to maintain themselves.
- All persons begging in public places, or from house to house, or inducing children or others to do so.
- E. All persons representing themselves as collectors of money for charitable institutions under any false or fraudulent pretenses.
- F. All persons playing or betting in any street or public or open place at any game, or pretended game of chance, or at or with any table or other instrument of gaming. This Chapter does not apply to authorized card or pool tournaments or bingo.

## Workforce



# Alaska Municipal League says workforce retention is a challenge across communities

KMXT | By Davis Hovey
Published August 21, 2024 at 8:57 AM AKD7

#### Vacancies

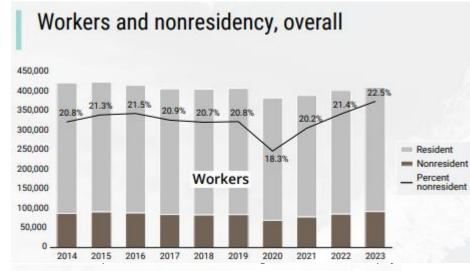
- 14% average for state jobs, according to LegFin = 2,000
- Local governments range similarly from 10-40%, depending on department
- 2017-2021, average teacher turnover rate was 23%

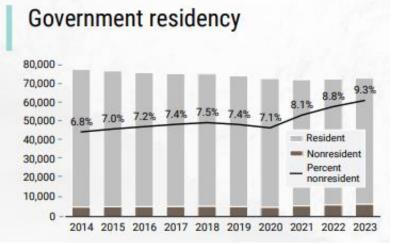
### Poaching

 Increasingly common between local governments and with the state – small pool of public sector employees

#### Nonresident Hire – State and Local Government

- Of top 20 occupations, 7 are schools, as much as 14.9%
- Police (9.3%) and Correctional Officers (6.6%)





# Housing



### Local governments part of housing solution

- Subdivision and housing development
- Utilities and access
- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Manufactured homes
- Investment and capital
- Exemptions and abatement
- Workforce housing
- Housing assessments

19,545
OR
21%
Renter households that are extremely low income

-14,722

Shortage of rental homes affordable and available for extremely low income renters \$34,690

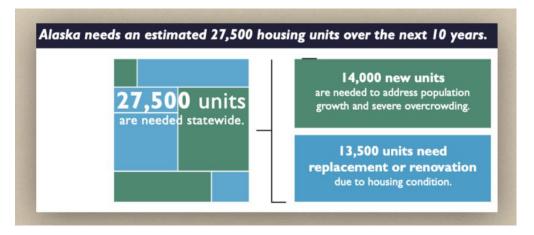
Average income limit for 4person extremely low income
household

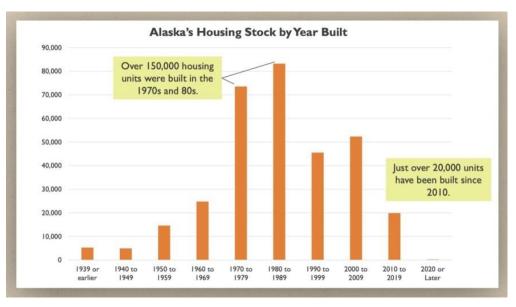
Annual household income
needed to afford a twobedroom rental home at HUD's
Fair Market Rent.

\$59,516

**64%** 

Percent of extremely low income renter households with severe cost burden





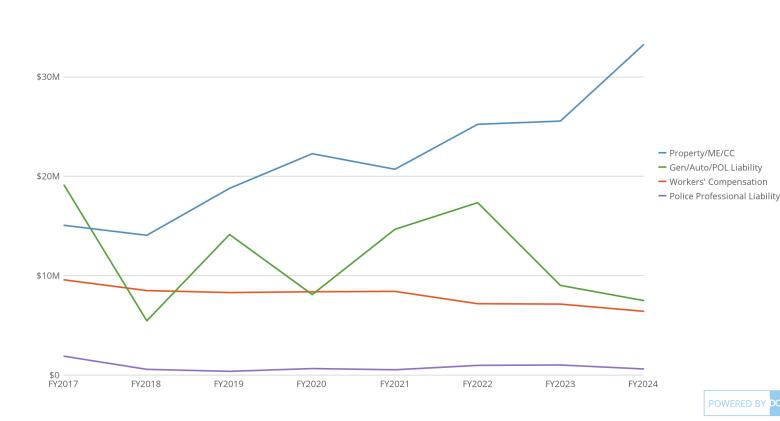
## Increased Costs



- Heating fuel in 2017 was around 4.49/gallon and in January 2024 was \$6.54.
- "Fuel is a 5<sup>th</sup> of our budget" due to high prices, "the city ordered 7,000 gallons less than normal but still paid \$30,000 more"
- Insurance costs are especially impacts to highlight.

### Reinsurance and Claims Costs

90% of public employers





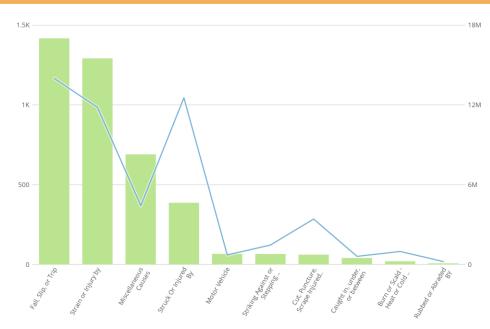
# **Limiting Liability**



- Number of Claims

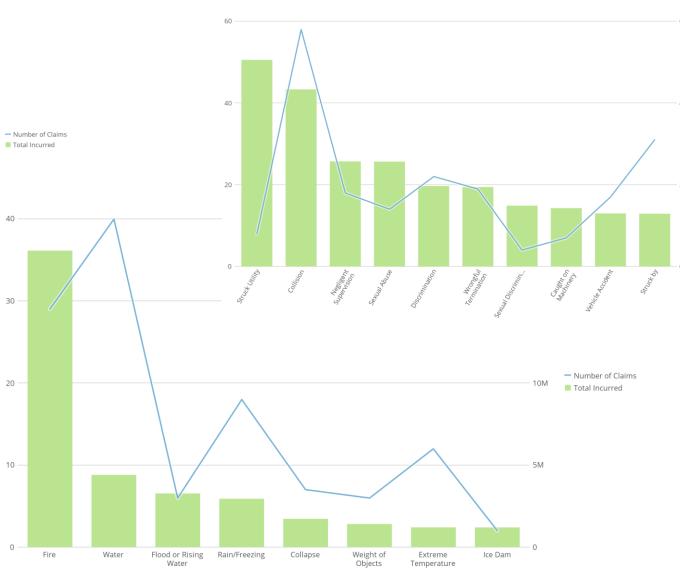
POWERED BY DOMO

■ Total Incurred



Liability Frequency and Severity by Claim Type

Last 10 Years

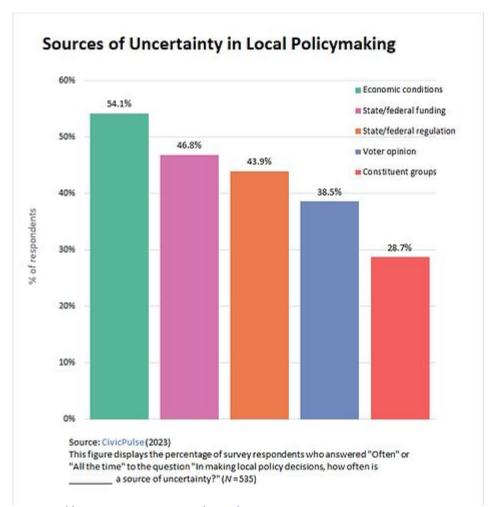


# Uncertainty



- Natural disasters
- Cyber attacks
- Federal agency priorities
- Future of federal funding
- State revenue shortfall
- Fisheries
- Tax exempt bonds
- Federal budget
- Economy inflation, development

"Local government is a balancing act between immediate needs and long-term planning in a constantly evolving landscape."



https://www.civicpulse.org/post/sources-of-uncertainty-in-local-policymaking

## **AML Shared Solutions**



Our shared services are intended to strengthen local governments' capacity.

#### **Financial Success:**

Alaska Municipal Financial Solutions

Alaska Municipal League Investment Pool (AMLIP)

Sales Tax Collection Service (STCS)

CashVest

Online Sales Tax

**Grant Writing** 

Public Surplus procurement

#### **Employee Benefits:**

**Unemployment Insurance** 

Workshield

Strategic Hiring

Alaska Municipal Health Trust (AMHT)

Nationwide Retirement Solutions

### **Effective Operations:**

Live Healthy Discount Program

**Professional Development Academy** 

**Employee Mental Wellness** 

Reporting and Compliance

Remote Notary Services

**Cybersecurity Solutions** 

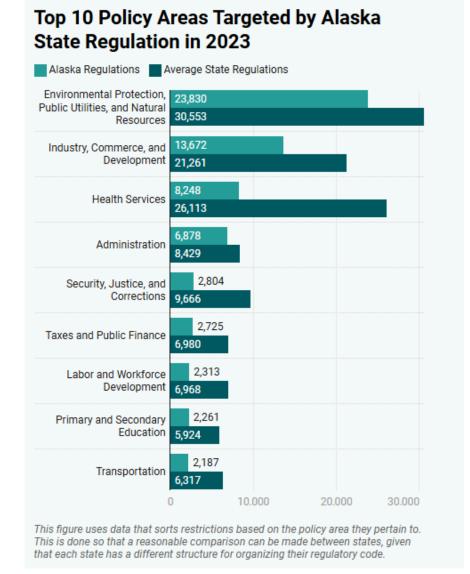
Planning



# Role of State Decision-Making

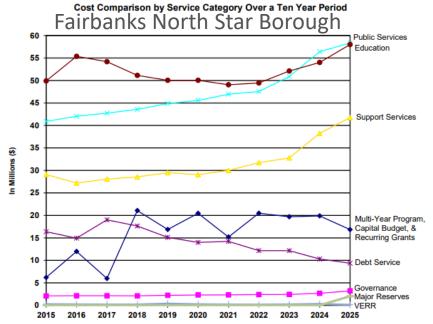


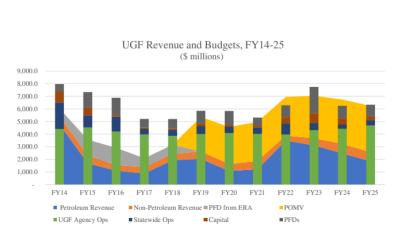
- Operating Budget
- Community Assistance
- PERS/TRS
- Schools Finance
- Schools Facilities
- Capital Budget
- Infrastructure Investment

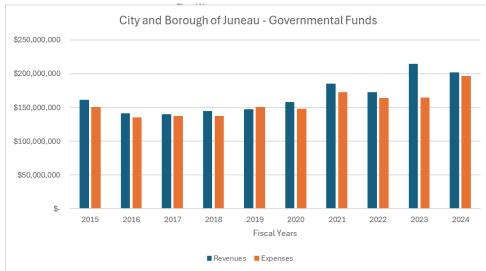


# **Operating Budget**

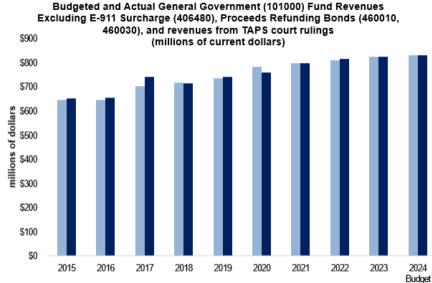




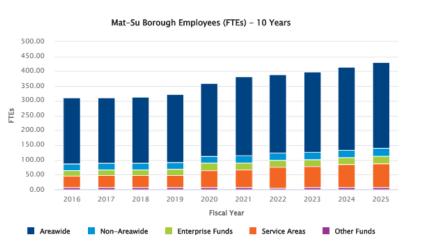




#### Municipality of Anchorage







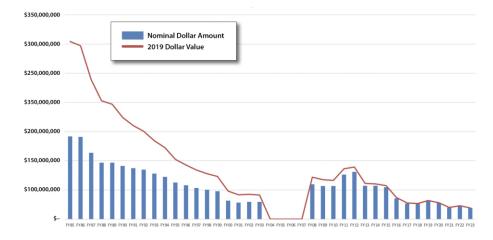
# **Community Assistance**



#### CA as a % of FY23 Budget

•	High	of 96%	1	

- Higher than 40
- Between 10-40 52
- Between 5-10 40
- Between 1-5 36
- Under 1 7



The Categorical State Revenue Sharing Program FY 70 and FY 80

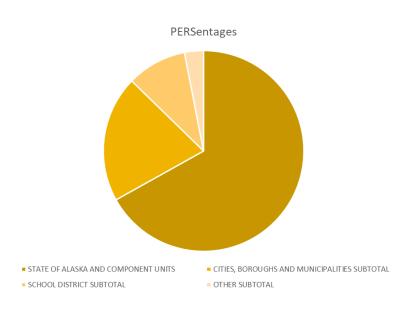
S 10 120	Public Service Category	<u>1970</u>	1980
1)	Police Protection per capita	\$5.00	\$12.00
	Military per capita*		6.00
2)	Fire Protection per capita	2.50	7.50
3)	Air or Water Pollution per capita	1.00	2.00
4)	Land Use Planning per capita	1.00	2.00
5)	Parks and Recreation per capita	NA	5.00
	Military per capita		1.25
6)	Transportation Facilities per capita	NA	5.00
101 <b>-</b> 01	Military per capita		2.50
7)	Road Maintenance per mile	1,000	1,500
	Ice Roads per mile	NA	900
	Health Services per capita	NA	2.00
10)	Hospitals per facility > 25 beds	NA	75,000
	< 10 beds	0.0000	25,000
	per bed		1,000
11)	Health Facilities per bed	NA	1,000
0.3000000	per facility		4,000
12)	Hospital Construction Aid per bed	NA	2,500**
Tota	al Revenue Sharing Appropriation	\$ 2 million	\$26.9 million

## PERS/TRS



#### Recommendations from 2019 – to be updated

- Remove interest charged to PERS arrearages
- Update salary floor, or remove
- Remove administrative costs of termination study
- Develop mechanism for smaller employers to exit
- Enable employer to pay off their portion of net pension liability
- Address amortization period, and provide assessment of additional costs
- State to fund cost of difference between State projected employment and actual vacancy rates



## **Public Education**



#### **Facilities**

- FY 6-year plan = \$1,846,645,049 (\$200M+ AVG)
- 19 districts did not submit 6-year plan / 35%
- Plans range from 2 to 6 years
- HB2003 Evaluation of combination of grant program, GO Bond, and SBDR = 1/3 of all schools benefiting from major maintenance
- FY11-24 Grants from School Construction and Major Maintenance resulted in an average for school construction of \$52,677,128 (42% MSD) and for major maintenance of \$14,017,113 (59% MSD). 60% of school districts have benefited.
- 13 of 24 municipal districts submitted 112 applications for debt reimbursement = \$803 million (0 since 2016)
- Due to the decreasing amount of eligible debt reimbursement being paid by the state, the statutory calculation for the REAA fund capitalization is also declining each year.

# Recommended & Funded Capital Renewal by Fiscal Year – DEED 2024

Fiscal Year	Insured Value Main School Facilities	Insured Value School-Related Facilities	Recommended 3% Capital Renewal	Total AS 14.11 Funding	Percent of Funded Capital Renewal
FY2011	\$6,024,558,783	\$611,992,436	\$199,096,537	\$244,938,510	123.0%
FY2012	\$6,284,565,324	\$672,832,563	\$208,721,937	\$487,746,214*	233.7%
FY2013	\$6,484,708,153	\$702,083,591	\$215,603,752	\$158,734,700*	73.6%
FY2014	\$6,674,414,111	\$731,668,516	\$222,182,479	\$222,622,004*	100.2%
FY2015	\$6,893,678,341	\$737,283,808	\$228,928,864	\$56,633,185	24.7%
FY2016	\$7,494,373,579	\$767,501,801	\$247,856,261	\$45,861,089*	18.5%
FY2017	\$7,527,851,947	\$843,273,351	\$251,133,759	\$74,562,588*	29.7%
FY2018	\$7,806,679,400	\$884,635,956	\$260,739,461	\$45,815,477*	17.6%
FY2019	\$7,948,009,247	\$928,767,221	\$266,303,294	\$69,690,759*	26.2%
FY2020	\$8,306,164,560	\$959,092,600	\$277,957,715	\$27,448,190*	9.9%
FY2021	\$8,375,372,209	\$968,531,369	\$280,317,107	\$34,277*	0.0%
FY2022	\$8,640,281,425	\$971,902,844	\$288,365,528	\$12,608,008	4.4%
FY2023	\$9,225,094,162	\$1,041,287,466	\$307,991,449	\$139,129,382*	45.2%
FY2024	\$10,461,130,625	\$1,242,840,821	\$351,119,143	\$70,416,930	20.1%
Totals			\$3,606,317,286	\$1,656,241,313	45.9%

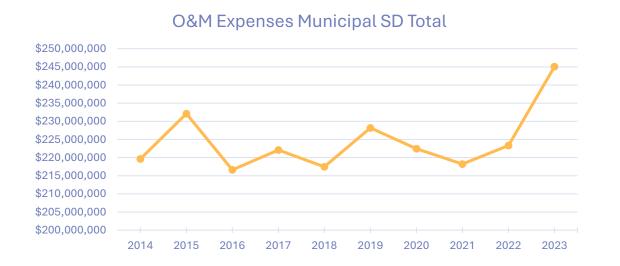
<sup>\*</sup>See endnote.

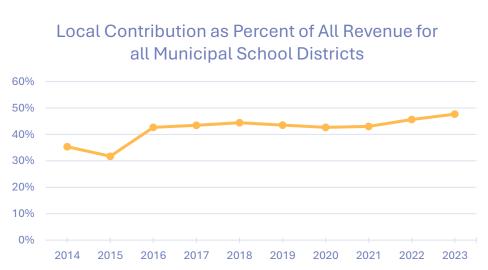
## **Public Education**



#### **Finance (FY23 Audited Financials - DEED)**

- Every local government contributed beyond the RLC in FY24 = \$240 million
- 18 of 33 provided more than 50% additional
- Four have RLC/FVD amounts greater than 45% Basic Need
- State takes 75% of Impact Aid to reduce its own obligation to meet Basic Need; 100% in REAAs
- Non-instructional functions = < 25% of costs</li>
  - 58% is operations and maintenance
- The Alaska School District Cost Study hasn't been updated since 2005





# Capital Budget

General obligation bonds payable

Beginning of Year New Debt

35,120,000

\$ 1,016,715,000

Repayments

(73.505.000)

End of Year

978.330.000

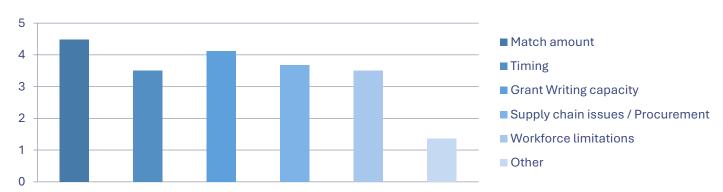
Due within One Year

65,345,000

• Local CIP from FY20-25ish = \$2,835,244,289

- GOV proposed FY26 = \$282 million
- FY23 GO and Rev Bond Debt = \$195 million
  - 14 communities
- Municipal Bond Bank = \$1 billion
  - New and refunding since 2005
  - 2020 and 2021 largest years (52!)
- Requests to AML FY26 = \$48 million for heavy equipment

What challenges to securing infrastructure funding are you most concerned about?



	(	Outstanding	Percent of
Borrower		Par	Outstanding
City and Borough of Sitka	\$	124,275,000	14.06%
Kenai Peninsula Borough		108,605,000	12.28%
City of Ketchikan		79,870,000	9.03%
Municipality of Skagway		79,195,000	8.96%
City and Borough of Juneau		76,380,000	8.64%
University of Alaska		75,475,000	8.53%
Fairbanks North Star Borough		62,920,000	7.12%
Kodiak Island Borough		51,195,000	5.79%
City of Unalaska		44,325,000	5.01%
City of Seward		30,375,000	3.43%
Ketchikan Gateway Borough		24,300,000	2.75%
Southeast Alaska Power Agency		16,605,000	1.88%
City of Cordova		13,950,000	1.58%
Lake and Peninsula Borough		11,935,000	1.35%
Aleutians East Borough		11,885,000	1.34%
Northwest Arctic Borough		10,970,000	1.24%
City of Soldotna		9,820,000	1.11%
City of Kodiak		9,700,000	1.10%
Petersburg Borough		9,480,000	1.07%
City of Dillingham		6,745,000	0.76%
City of Homer		5,250,000	0.59%
Haines Borough		3,770,000	0.43%
City and Borough of Wrangell		3,005,000	0.34%
City of Sand Point		2,755,000	0.31%
City of Anchorage		2,475,000	0.28%
City of King Cove		2,045,000	0.23%
City of Whittier		1,500,000	0.17%
City of Craig		1,210,000	0.14%
City of Klawock		1,045,000	0.12%
City of Bethel		910,000	0.10%
City of Kenai		665,000	0.08%
City of Nome		655,000	0.07%
City of Hoonah		600,000	0.07%
City of North Pole		195,000	0.02%
City of Saxman		115,000	0.01%
City of Adak		100,000	0.01%
Total Outstanding Par	\$	884,300,000	100.00%

### Infrastructure Investment

- 214 Total Applications
- \$3.6 billion
- 70 Successful
- \$1.3 billion brought to Alaska



Utgiagvik .

King Cove //

False Pass

Nuigsut •

North Slope

# Planning and Community Development



### **Strategic Infrastructure Maintenance and Operations**

**Community Planning and Prioritization** 

**Grant Development and Response** 

**Grant Award, Partnerships, and Match** 

**Procurement and Workforce** 

**Project Management** 

**Grant Reporting and Outcomes** 

**Maintenance and Operations** 

**Asset Management and Sustainability** 

# Leaning Local – Member Priorities



Rank	Issue				
1	State maintains an adequate level of services				
2	Increase State funding for municipal public safety obligations (including police training, operations of Community Jails, and prosecutors and public defenders)				
3	Cost-shifting of State expenses and programs to municipalities				
4	Prompt payments of Community Assistance and other state payments or pass-throughs to municipalities				
5	Increase investment in school construction and deferred maintenance (including by providing a Base Facilities Allocation)				
6	Increase Community Assistance distribution and tie to inflation				
7	Increase and inflation-proof the BSA				
8	Oppose the transfer of maintenance responsibilities to municipalities as the requirement for transportation projects				
9	Reinstate the Municipal Matching Grant program to help match or supplement local and federal funding for water/sewer systems				
10	Address opioid epidemic				
11	Increase compliance with fisheries bycatch regulations				
12	State-funded water and wastewater operator subsidy				
13	Sustainability of the Alaska Marine Highway System				
14	Increase investment in training and workforce development for residents				
15	Increase capital budget to address deferred maintenance (including through mechanisms such as general obligation bonds)				
16	Maintain the authority of local governments to tax the extraction or production of local resources				
17	Transfer of State land to municipalities				
18	PERS/TRS: Return to a defined benefit plan as a significant tool for recruitment and retention				
19	Oppose new or expanding mandatory property tax exemptions				
20	Clean-up and remediation of PFAS-contaminated sites				

## **THANK YOU**



**Strengthening Local Governments**