2026 Summer Legislative Conference – Wedgewood Resort, Fairbanks

Tuesday, August 25

8 am - 5 pm **Joint Conference with Alaska Defense Forum - 8 Star Event Center** (1485 30th Ave)

Wednesday, August 26

8 am - 12 pm **Joint Conference with Alaska Defense Forum – 8 Star Event Center** (1485 30th Ave)

12 - 4:30 pm **AML Board of Directors Meeting – Wedgewood Resort**

Thursday, August 27

7:30 am **Breakfast**

8:00 am **Welcome and Introductions**

- Mayor **Mindy O'Neall**, City of Fairbanks
- Mayor **Grier Hopkins,** Fairbanks North Star Borough
- **Glenda Ledford**, AML Board President

8:20 am **Setting the Stage: Federal and State Legislative Update**

- **Nils Andreassen**, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
- **Heather Brakes** and **Jordan Marshall**

9:00 am **Fuel and Affordability Session (Plenary)**

General update on the state of bulk fuel, energy conservation, and related bills

- **Nils Andreassen**, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
- **Heather Brakes,** Lobby Alaska
- **Isaac Pearson**, Transportation & Infrastructure Development Director, Bristol Bay Native Association
- Mayor **Blanche Okboak-Garnie**, City of Teller

10:00 am Concurrent Sessions:

Hit Me with Your Best Bot – a Discussion on Data Centers *Borealis Ballroom*

- **Tess Frenchik**, Alaska Municipal League
- Commissioner **John Crowther**, Department of Natural Resources
- **Travis Million**, CEO, Golden Valley Electric Association
- **Nolan Klouda**, Policy Director, Municipality of Anchorage

We Built This City (on Property Taxes) *Gazebo Room*

- **Anna Brawley**, Chair of the Assembly, Municipality of Anchorage
- **Robert Barr,** Deputy City Manager, City and Borough of Juneau
- **Ryan Danhauser,** Deputy Assessor, Fairbanks Northstar Borough

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11:00 am **Grants: Lessons Learned**

Best practices and lessons learned from AML's Grant Manager, followed by an opportunity for attendees to ask grant questions and workshop ideas!

- **Mary Hoffman**, Grants Manager, Alaska Municipal League
- **Stephanie Ford**, Community Development Director, Denali Borough
- **Robert Venables**, Executive Director, Southeast Conference
- Mayor **Joshua Verhagen**, City of Nenana

Noon **Lunch: Taxing Tourism: Revenue vs. Regulation**

What do communities want when revenue generation and local regulation seem to be at odds?

- **Alicia Hughes-Skandijs**, Director of Programs, Alaska Municipal League
- **Clinton Singletary**, Statewide Municipal Sales Tax Program Director, Alaska Municipal League
- Mayor **Austin Otos**, Ketchikan Gateway Borough
- **Alix Pierce**, Tourism Director, City and Borough of Juneau

1:15 pm Concurrent Sessions:

Follow the Funding: Understanding Education Funding *Borealis Room*

- **Nils Andreassen,** Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
- **Dayna DeFeo, Ph.D.**, Director, CAEPR at ISER
- **Tiffany Jackson**, Executive Director, Alaska Association of School Boards
- **Katie Parrott**, President, Alaska Association of School Business Officials

On the Road Again: Alaska Long Range Transportation Plan 2055 Update *Gazebo Room*

- **Sara Lucey**, Statewide Planning Chief, Alaska DOT&PF

2:15 pm Break

2:30 pm **Plenary Discussion of AML Policy Statement**

Led by members of the Alaska Municipal League's Legislative Committee

Round Table Break Out:

- What are municipal priorities
- What are changes and State or Federal policy that AML should address
- What are suggested topics AML could attempt to through Resolutions to consider at AML's Annual Meeting

- *Attendees will participate in small group discussion of current policy statements and identify potential changes or improvements for consideration by the Legislative Committee.*

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3:30 pm **Review of Resolutions**
Attendees will participate in plenary discussion of current and potential new resolutions for consideration of the Resolutions Committee, either identifying individual community interest or potential AML board resolutions. The final slate of resolutions will still go through standard AML processes.
- **Current Resolutions** – Recommended action to remove or improve
- **Future Resolutions** – Where can we grow?

3 pm – 5 pm **Senator Murkowski Staff Office Hours**
- **Grace Kubitz, Cassidy Hobbs** and **Dana Herndon**, staff to Senator Murkowski

4:45 pm Break

5:00 pm **Celebration Time (Come on!)**
Reception - Wedgewood Resort

Friday, August 28

8:00 am **Breakfast**

8:15 am Port Communities of Alaska Group Update
- **Alix Pierce,** PCOA President, City & Borough of Juneau

8:30 am Break

9:00 am **Statewide Candidates Listening Session**
Statewide legislative candidates are invited to attend this in-person event to listen to concerns from AML members.

10:15 am Break

10:30 am **Gubernatorial Candidate Forum**
Gubernatorial candidates are invited to attend this in-person event to listen to concerns and answer questions from AML members.

12:00 pm **ACoM Session & Lunch**
- Round Robin
- Recap on Deliverables from AML

1:00 pm **Adjourn**

1:00-5:00pm **Alaska Municipal Managers Meeting (AMMA)** *(separate agenda coming soon)*