

RESOLUTION NO. 5172

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A STOREFRONT
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, with Resolution No. 4841, the City of Fairbanks formally adopted long-term goals, including a goal to “strive for a safe and clean community”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairbanks participated in the development of the Fairbanks North Star Borough’s downtown plan, *Downtown 2040*; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 5119 urged the conditional adoption of *Downtown 2040*, which specifically calls for a “Façade and Exterior Improvement Program” to “offer financial incentives” for aesthetic improvements to downtown properties; and

WHEREAS, *Downtown 2040* also prioritizes the use of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to include appealing improvements to facilities; and

WHEREAS, several communities throughout the country, including Alaskan communities, have municipal sponsored grant programs to improve the aesthetics of storefronts in specific areas to aid in economic development and crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, multiple communities have shared their lessons learned and best practices from their programs with the City of Fairbanks; and

WHEREAS, these communities have recommended requiring a 50% match and grant amounts up to \$50,000 with the expectation that most projects will be well below the maximum amount; and

WHEREAS, the City of Soldotna, AK awarded \$132,036 in grants through their Storefront Improvement Program resulting in a total private investment of \$584,500 worth of improvements in Soldotna storefronts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires greater collaboration, cooperation, and partnerships with other organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough, Explore Fairbanks, the Downtown Association of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks Area Surface Transportation Planning, the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, and the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation have all expressed interest in partnering on a storefront improvement program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairbanks will use room rental tax funds to promote economic development and to increase public safety, which are known results of storefront improvement programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairbanks seeks to fund the first round of a Storefront Improvement Program that targets downtown properties between 1st to 5th Avenue and Turner Street to Noble Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Fairbanks, as follows:

Section 1. The Mayor or his designee is authorized to establish a Storefront Improvement Program.

Section 2. The effective date of this resolution is six days after approval.



David Pruhs, Mayor

AYES: Ringstad, Tidwell, Therrien, Sprinkle, Marney
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Cleworth
APPROVED: May 12, 2025

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


D. Danyielle Smider, MMC, City Clerk
Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

CITY OF FAIRBANKS
FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST:

Ordinance or Resolution No: 5172

Abbreviated Title: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Department(s): MAYOR

Does the adoption of this ordinance or resolution authorize:

1) additional costs beyond the current adopted budget? Yes _____ No x

2) additional support or maintenance costs? Yes _____ No x

If yes, what is the estimate? see below

3) additional positions beyond the current adopted budget? Yes _____ No x

If yes, how many positions? _____

If yes, type of positions? _____ (F - Full Time, P - Part Time, T - Temporary)

II. FINANCIAL DETAIL:

| PROJECTS: | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM | \$ 250,000 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| TOTAL | \$ 250,000 |

| FUNDING SOURCE: | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| GENERAL FUND [GENERAL ACCOUNT] | \$ 250,000 |
| | |
| | |
| TOTAL | \$ 250,000 |

The Fairbanks General Code (FGC) permits retaining seven percent to cover security and safety costs for special events, promote tourism and economic development, and fund public services. This program will be funded with room rental project funds in the amount of \$250,000; the current budget is \$350,000.

Prepared by Finance Department: Initial mb Date 5/5/2025