

Presented by: The Manager  
Presented: 02/09/2026  
Drafted by: Law Department

**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

**Serial No. 2026-10**

**An Ordinance Amending Title 1, General Provisions, to Add a Definition of Newspaper of General Circulation.**

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska Open Meetings Act (AS 44.62.310-.312) and City and Borough of Juneau Municipal Code Charter Section 3.12 require that all meetings of a public entity's governing body be open to the public and that the body provides reasonable notice of its meetings; and

WHEREAS, minor updates are needed to keep pace with changes in technology and increased public participation and evolving public expectations regarding access to City and Borough of Juneau meetings, making it easier for residents to find public meeting information; and

WHEREAS, community members increasingly rely on online sources rather than solely printed publications for news and announcements; and

WHEREAS, other Alaska municipalities, including the Municipality of Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula Borough, have also made recent revisions to their code to allow for broader notice using the technology available; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Statutes Title 29 addresses municipal government and mandate certain notice procedures; and

WHEREAS, AS 29.71.800 defines "published" as appearing at least once in a newspaper of general circulation or, if no newspaper exists, posting in three public places for at least five days; and

WHEREAS, changes in the media landscape in Alaska, including reduced print publication frequency and operational limitations affecting some news outlets, have highlighted the need for municipalities to ensure reliable, timely, and publicly accessible notice methods consistent with state law; and

WHEREAS, many newspapers now maintain regularly updated online publications, and municipalities increasingly provide public notices on their websites, which has become a widely used method for public access; and

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2 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for the City and Borough of Juneau to formally  
3 recognize online publications and the municipality's official website as valid means of satisfying  
4 public notice requirements.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

6 **Section 1. Classification.** This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and  
7 shall become a part of the City and Borough of Juneau Municipal Code.

8 **Section 2. Amendment of Section.** CBJC 01.15.010, Definitions, is amended to read:

9 **01.15.010 Definitions.**

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11 *Newspaper of general circulation* means a publicly accessible source of information that is  
12 distributed to the public in print or online without a required cost.

13 **State Law reference**— Similar provisions, AS 29.71.800(19).

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15 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its adoption.

16 Adopted this 9th day of March, 2026.

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Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

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Breckan L. Hendricks, Municipal Clerk