

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ORDINANCE NO. 2022- 16S

AN ORDINANCE OF CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA AMENDING TITLE 2
"ADMINISTRATION" OF THE SITKA GENERAL CODE BY ADDING CHAPTER 2.15
"SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION"

1. CLASSIFICATION. This ordinance is of a permanent nature and is intended to
become a part of the Sitka General Code (SGC).

2. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this ordinance or any application to any person
or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and application to any person
or circumstance shall not be affected.

3. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to add a new chapter to SGC Title 2,
entitled "Administration," to create a sustainability commission and establish organizational
guidelines for that commission. It is the intent of the commission to work towards catalyzing a
healthy community now and in the future by proposing solutions to environmental, social, and
economic concerns of the city and borough of Sitka, its partners, and community members.

4. ENACTMENT. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Assembly of the City
and Borough of Sitka that Sitka General Code Title 2, entitled "Administration", be amended
by adding Chapter 2.15, entitled "Sustainability Commission," to read as follows (deleted
language stricken, new language underlined):

Title 2
ADMINISTRATION

Chapters:

- 2.04 City and Borough Assembly
2.08 City and Borough Departments
2.10 Defense and Indemnification of Officers and Employees
2.13 Health Needs and Human Services Commission
2.15 Sustainability Commission
2.16 Library Commission

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Chapter 2.15
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Sections:

- 2.15.010 Sustainability commission.

- 48 2.15.020 Term.
- 49 2.15.030 Meetings.
- 50 2.15.040 Organization.
- 51 2.15.050 Resignation.
- 52 2.15.060 Powers and duties.

53

54 **2.15.010 Sustainability commission.**

55 There shall be a commission known as the sustainability commission, which shall be composed
56 of seven members appointed by the assembly and, to the extent deemed advisable by the
57 assembly and possible from the applicants, include at least one individual with background or
58 training as a sustainability professional and at least one individual of Alaska Native heritage with
59 understanding and appreciation of the historical importance of sustainability on Tlingit Aaní. All
60 voting members of the commission shall be at-large members and representative of a diverse
61 cross-section of the community. The sustainability coordinator within the planning and community
62 development department or designee shall be an ex-officio member without a vote.

63

64 **2.15.020 Term.**

65 The term of a voting member shall be three years or until a successor is appointed. The first
66 members appointed to the commission shall, upon appointment, determine the length of the terms
67 so that the terms of three members shall be for one year and the terms of two members shall be
68 for two years, and the terms of two members shall be for three years, resulting in staggered terms
69 for members subsequently appointed. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled by appointment
70 by the assembly for any remainder of an unexpired term.

71

72 **2.15.030 Meetings.**

73 A. Meet once per month at such time as the chair or, in their absence, the vice chair shall
74 determine.

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76 B. Give reasonable public notice of its meetings and comply in all respects with the Alaska Open
77 Meetings Act.

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79 **2.15.040 Organization.**

80 The commission shall organize itself by electing a chair, a vice chair and a secretary, each of
81 whom shall be elected by the voting members of the commission at its first meeting and shall
82 serve a term to expire upon election of officers at the first meeting of the following year. The
83 secretary shall provide minutes of all meetings to the municipal clerk.

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85 **2.15.050 Resignation.**

86 Should an officer resign from their position prior to expiration of their term, or otherwise is unable
87 or unwilling to perform duties as required of the office, the commission may elect an officer to
88 serve out the remainder of that term. In addition to the above officers, the commission, by a
89 majority vote of its voting members, may designate and elect or appoint such other officers,
90 assistant officers and agents as it deems necessary at such time, in such manner, and upon and
91 for such terms as it shall prescribe. All officers and agents shall serve at the pleasure of the
92 commission, whenever in its judgment the best interest of the commission will be served.

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94 **2.15.060 Powers and duties.**

95 A. The commission will act as an advisory body to the assembly with the purpose of catalyzing
96 and developing municipal and community-focused approaches that support the social,
97 environmental, and economic sustainability of the city and borough. The commission will
98 accomplish this by working towards the following actions described below.

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100 B. Annually, the commission will develop, identify, and present goals to the assembly for
101 approval. The approved goals shall be the commission's primary focus for the following year.
102 Goals will generally be based on topics that may include:

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- 104 1. Fossil energy use reduction and development of local, renewable energy
105 sources;
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 - 107 2. Responsible use of natural resources;
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 - 109 3. Diminution of Sitka's supply-chain fragility;
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 - 111 4. Food security enhancement;
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 - 113 5. Sustainable transportation options that leverage Sitka's locally-generated,
114 renewable energy sources;
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 - 116 6. Solid waste consumption, reduction, composting, recycling, and re-use;
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 - 118 7. Robust and healthy local ecosystems and natural communities; and,
 - 119
 - 120 8. Other matters as the assembly or commission may deem beneficial for the city
121 and borough.

122
123 Concurrently with presenting goals to the assembly, the commission will submit a report to the
124 assembly on progress towards the previous year's goals and other activities which were approved
125 and directed by the assembly.

126
127 C. With the approval and direction of the assembly, the commission will work with designated
128 staff to provide information and outreach to the public, in order to understand community priorities
129 and develop community consensus on matters concerning sustainability. This effort may require
130 the commission to invite participation and technical expertise from community partners and
131 professionals (e.g. engineers, public administration experts, earth system scientists, business
132 leaders, educators, community group leaders, etc). If city and borough funds are needed to
133 facilitate participation and technical expertise from community partners and professionals, the
134 commission shall obtain prior approval and the necessary appropriation from the assembly.

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136 **5. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance shall become effective on the day after the
137 date of its passage.

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139 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of
140 Sitka, Alaska this 13th day of September, 2022.

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Kevin Knox, Deputy Mayor

144 ATTEST:

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148 Sara Peterson, MMC

149 Municipal Clerk

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151 1st reading: 7/26/2022

152 1st reading – substitute ordinance: 8/23/2022

153 2nd and final reading: 9/13/2022

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155 Sponsors: Mosher / Himschoot