

Petersburg Borough

Meeting Agenda Public Safety Advisory Board

Friday, November 14, 2025 12:00 AM Assembly Chambers

- 1. Call to Order / Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Approval of Minutes, March 13, 2025
- 3. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda
- 4. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda
- 5. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda
- 6. Staff Report
- 7. Unfinished Business
- 8. New Business

A. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

The Board will nominate and vote to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for the upcoming term.

B. Discussion on Local Concerns Regarding Scooters and E-Bikes

To address growing community concerns related to the use of electric scooters and ebikes within the borough, including safety, traffic flow, pedestrian interactions, and potential regulatory needs. Manager Giesbrecht has requested that the board review the Wrangell Ordinance which is attached to this packet.

C. Safety Improvements at North 1st Street and Balder Intersection

Potential installation of at least one or two stop signs and a painted crosswalk at the intersection by the school.

D. Parking Safety on Haugen Drive Near 2nd Street

Address visibility concerns caused by vehicles parked too close to the intersection. Reports of blind spots affecting both drivers and pedestrians

E. Sidewalk Installation for School Routes on N. 2nd Street and N. 5th Street

Request to connect the Petersburg Public Library (14 S. Second Street) to the existing school sidewalk at the corner of Dolphin Street and North 2nd Street. Map is attached for reference.

Request for a sidewalk from Haugen Drive to the elementary school on North 5th Street.

F. Visibility Concern at 2nd Street and Dolphin Street Intersection

To review a community request for improved visibility at the corner of 2nd Street and Dolphin Street by painting the curb yellow at the corner where parked vehicles are creating a blind spot. Map is attached for reference.

G. Proposal to Designate No Parking on the North Side of Wesley Street

Discussion and consideration of a proposal to change the parking regulations on Wesley Street by designating the north side as a no parking zone. This change is intended to improve traffic flow, enhance visibility, and address safety concerns raised by residents and public safety personnel.

9. Communications

- A. Correspondence Received
- 10. Discussion Items
- 11. Adjourn



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, March 13, 2025

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

PRESENT
Chair John Lichtenberger
Vice Chair Mark Tuccillo
Board Member Devren Bennett
Board Member Stan Hjort
Board Member John Havrilek

2. September 20, 2024 Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Motion made by Vice Chair Tuccillo, Seconded by Board Member Bennett. Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

3. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The Agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Vice Chair Tuccillo, Seconded by Board Member Havrilek. Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

4. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda

No testimony was given.

5. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda

No testimony was given.

6. Staff Report

A. Police Department Report

Chief Kerr provided an update to the Board.

B. Fire Department Update

Director Hankins provided an update to the Board. Fire Chief Dan Bird requested that the Public Safety Advisory Board write a letter to the Assembly in support of a stipend for the volunteers for responding to calls. Member Tuccillo will draft a letter for the Board to review.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

8. New Business

A. Dolphin Street Crosswalk Lighting

Chief Kerr updated the Board on improvement plans that include adding lighting and moving the crosswalk this spring on Dolphin Street. The board would like to get pricing estimates from PMPL for adding street lights to the area. Becky will call PMPL for an estimate and will let the Board know.

B. 4-Way Stop Signs on Ira II Street

Chief Kerr will have stop signs installed at fourth street.

C. Handicap Parking During Special Events

Board Member Lichtenberger says that people who don't have handicap parking permits are often parking in handicap spaces. Chief Kerr encouraged people to call the police department to report those situations.

D. Hospital Alarm System

Chief Kerr updated the Board on the Hospital alarm system/application that messages law enforcement in the area for assistance.

9. Communications

There were no communications.

10. Discussion Items

A. Address Identification

The board discussed the current ordinance regarding house numbering. and if it is permissible to add an address to someone's house if they don't do it themselves. Director Hankins said that the fire department installs the address numbers for homeowners upon request. There is a new ordinance that needs to be approved by the Assembly.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Motion made by Vice Chair Tuccillo, Seconded by Board Member Bennett. Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

TOYAM ABBOTT CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA

ORDINANCE NO. 1081

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 11.39, MICROMOBILITY DEVICES, TO TITLE 11, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA:

[The changes to the existing code are shown using tract changes.]

- SEC. 1. <u>Action</u>. The purpose of this ordinance is to add a new Chapter 11.39, Micromobility Devices, to Title 11, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Wrangell Municipal Code.
- SEC. 2. <u>New Chapter</u>. A new Chapter 11.39, Micromobility Devices, is hereby added to Title 11, Vehicles and Traffic, in the Wrangell Municipal Code as follows:

MICROMOBILITY DEVICES

Sections:	
11.39.010	Definitions.
11.39.020	Operators are required to be licensed.
11.39.030	Prohibited areas of operation.
11.39.040	Helmet required.
11.39.050	Required equipment.
11.39.060	Speed limits.
11.39.070	Failure to stop at the direction of a peace officer.
11.39.080	Traffic laws.
11.39.090	Parking.
11.39.100	E-scooters
11.39.110	Public nuisance and impoundment.
11.39.120	Parental responsibility.
11.39.130	Owner responsibility.
11.39.140	Penalty for violation and impoundment.

11.39.010 Definitions.

"CBW" means the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska.

"City Dock," also known as the Cruise Ship Dock, is a t-shaped dock located at the north end of downtown adjacent to the Stikine Inn. The dock face is four hundred five (405) feet with a breast

without the prior written permission of the CBW:

- 1. School grounds; and
- 2. Shooting range; and
- 3. Parks and playgrounds; and
- 4. Recreation areas; and
- 5. Walking/hiking trails; and
- 6. Sidewalks; and
- 7. Harbor floats, piers, fingers, docks, and ramps; and
- 8. Cemeteries; and
- 9. Wrangell Mariner's Memorial.

11.39.040 Helmet required.

It is unlawful for any person under eighteen (18) years of age to operate or drive a micromobility device on any roadway owned or maintained by the CBW, unless that person wears a certified protective helmet that is properly fitted, that is properly fastened, and that meets safety standards set by the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 218. This requirement also applies to any minor who rides in a restraining seat, trailer, backpack, or similar child restraining device, used by someone driving or operating a micromobility device. A certified protective helmet is a helmet containing a manufacturer certification stating that it meets the standards of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 218.

11.39.050 Required equipment.

No person shall operate a micromobility device on any roadway owned or maintained by the CBW without the following equipment:

- 1. At least one light on the front, capable of emitting white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred (500) feet in front of the device under normal atmosphere conditions;
- 2. A taillight which displays a red light visible five hundred (500) feet to the rear of the device;
- 3. Brakes capable of causing the device to stop within twenty-five (25) feet at ten (10) miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement;
- 4. Reflectors on the front and rear of the device so that the device is visible during inclement weather or darkness;

- 5. A bell or other audible warning device capable of being heard at a distance of at least one hundred (100) feet away;
- 6. A kickstand; and
- 7. A label that identifies the owner of the device and his or her contact information, including but not limited to phone number.

11.39.060 Speed Limits.

A. No person shall operate a micromobility device at a speed greater than the posted speed limit for the roadway or trail being used.

11.39.070 Failure to stop at the direction of a peace officer.

No person, while operating or driving a micromobility device shall fail to stop as soon as practical and in a reasonably safe manner under the circumstances when requested or signaled to do so by a peace officer.

11.39.080 Traffic laws.

The operator of a micromobility device has the same rights and is subject to the same responsibilities applicable to motor vehicle operators under the laws of the state of Alaska and the Wrangell Municipal Code, except where provisions of those laws and ordinances by their very nature can have no application to a micromobility device.

11.39.090 Parking.

Micromobility devices shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct or impede the movement of pedestrians or motor vehicles or to cause damage to buildings, structures, trees, scrubs, or other living plants.

11.39.100 E-scooters.

No E-scooter shall be used to carry more than one (1) person at a time.

11.39.110 Public nuisance and impoundment.

A. The primary purpose of this section is to protect the public by addressing repeated and ongoing violations of this Chapter, particularly where a micromobility device and/or its operator have demonstrated a pattern of noncompliance that constitutes a public nuisance. This section is intended to deter repeated violations, mitigate the adverse impacts of nuisance behavior, and ensure responsible use of micromobility devices. The enforcement mechanisms provided herein, including impoundment, are not intended to generate revenue for the CBW.

- B. A micromobility device operated or modified in a manner that violates the Wrangell Municipal Code or Alaska state law is hereby declared a public nuisance.
- C. A micromobility device that is a public nuisance may be impounded immediately by a police officer. Impoundment may be accomplished through a seizure of the micromobility device at the time the citation is issued, or pursuant to a court order. Impoundment at the time of issuance of a citation is at the discretion of the citing police officer.
- D. A micromobility device operated by, or driven by, or in the actual physical control of, an individual cited for violation of this Chapter is presumed to have been so operated by the owner(s) thereof or having been operated by another person with the knowledge and consent of the owner(s). A micromobility device that is declared to be a public nuisance for which the owner(s) holds legal responsibility.
- E. The owner(s) of a micromobility device may obtain the release of the device upon providing proof of ownership and payment of a \$150 impound fee with an additional \$10 per day storage fee plus any additional costs incurred during the impoundment.
- F. A micromobility device that is declared to be a public nuisance shall be held in the custody of the public safety department. Any micromobility device not claimed within thirty (30) days of impoundment shall be considered abandoned and may be disposed of in accordance with WMC Section 11.72.
- G. A person contesting the impoundment of a micromobility device may be heard and decided by the Borough Manager or his or her designee. Hearings before the Borough Manager or his or her designee shall take place no less than three (3) days, and no more than thirty (30) days, after a request is made. At the hearing, a person who claims an ownership interest in a micromobility device may avoid impoundment if he or she establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that:
 - 1. The claimant had an interest in the micromobility device at the time of the alleged citation or court order;
 - 2. A person other than the claimant was in possession of the micromobility device and was responsible for or caused the act(s) which resulted in impoundment; and
 - (3) That the micromobility device was used without his or her permission.

11.39.120 Parental responsibility.

A parent or guardian of a minor violates this Chapter if he or she knowingly permits, or through failure to exercise reasonable supervision or control, allows his or her child or ward to operate a micromobility device in violation of this Chapter. A pattern of disregard, lack of supervision, or failure to correct known violations may constitute insufficient control. Indifference to the activities or whereabouts of a minor or ward shall be prima facie evidence of insufficient control. Violations of this section are subject to citation and may contribute to a determination that the device constitutes a public nuisance under Section 11.39.110.

11.39.130 Owner responsibility.

No person who owns or controls a micromobility device shall permit a person to drive or operate the device if he or she knows or should reasonably know that it is likely to be driven or operated in violation of this Chapter.

11.39.140 Penalty for violation and impoundment.

Any person violating any provision of this Chapter is guilty of an infraction and shall be punished by the fine established in the WMC 1.20.050 fine schedule if the offense is listed in that fine schedule or by a fine of up to \$500.00 if the offense is not listed in the WMC 1.20.050 fine schedule.

- SEC. 3. <u>Classification.</u> This ordinance is of a permanent nature and shall be codified in the Wrangell Municipal Code.
 - SEC. 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective upon adoption.

PASSED IN FIRST READING: May 13, 2025

POSTPONED IN SECOND READING: May 27, 2025

Item 8E.





----- Forwarded message ------

From: Lila Trask < lilatrask@gmail.com > Date: Mon, Sep 8, 2025 at 8:40 AM

Subject: Re: a thought

To: Devren Bennett < sales@homeportelectronics.com >

Hi Devren,

I know that you are on the public safety board and so I thought I would pass on a couple of thoughts I have had.

First, a spot near us at 2nd and Dolphin. I think that painting the curb yellow in front of Kawashima's house equivalent to the other side of the street would be helpful. Most of the time no one parks right there, but during the school year it sometimes gets busy and people do park there. If you are coming up Dolphin you can't see a driver on 2nd (towards hospital) and if you are at the corner of 2nd and trying to cross Dolphin you can't see down the hill to know if someone is coming up the hill. It is a busy intersection at least three times a day - there were about 200 cars going through that intersection on the first day of school. It is not a big deal but it seems like an easy fix for those of us driving the area a lot.

The other point I have been pondering is the use of the e-scooters. I hope that Petersburg is considering the same rules as Wrangell came up with and was printed in the paper recently. After observing bad behavior all summer it seems a very good thing to do. I watched two kids on the same scooter on the sidewalk in front of Lee's going very fast one day. I know if anyone had come out of a store at the same time there would have been an accident. We have seen groups of young folks chasing each other around here, and the scariest is when they go down the hills near us and don't stop at Nordic. They don't seem to think they have to follow rules, or that drivers will always stop for them. You could ask Craig Evens about an incident he had downtown in his truck. Retired teachers have coffee once a week and we all had instances to share. It seems as if it is an accident waiting to happen. None of us want to be the person driving a car that hits one of them. I am not against the scooters, just the importance of safety for all.

Thanks for volunteering your time on this committee.

Lila Trask

On Mon, Oct 20, 2025 at 3:52 PM Molly Taiber < mtaiber@petersburgak.gov> wrote:

Hi Devren -

I just submitted a work order with Public Works for a street sign request.

The problem area is corner of Balder and N 1st. After I dropped my daughter off at school today, I saw a kid pedestrian just about get plowed crossing onto school property by a car flying around the Balder corner. There is no stop sign as you travel on Balder on to southbound N 1st street.

Here is my request: A stop sign (or two stop signs) or at a minimum, a painted pedestrian cross walk connecting the school corner of N 1st across Balder.

Also, I have a map of some needed sidewalks in town from years past.

The most important sidewalk is to connect the library with the school sidewalk at the corner of Dolphin and N 2nd.

What gives with PSG Motors? Can one really park cars long term on the side of the road here? This creates such a blind spot for an area that is visited heavily by pedestrians ...and traveling cars.

This ties into that library area and when thinking what side of the road to put the sidewalk on – the PSG Motors side would be best and also it would meet up with the existing sidewalk at Dolphin and N 2^{nd} – taking into consideration the hospital and the Valker Sted complex.

Let me know if you have any questions -

Thank you for your service, Devren

Molly Taiber

From: Molly Taiber <mtaiber@petersburgak.gov> Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 10:09 AM

To: bregula@petersburgak.gov

Subject: sidewalk

Public Safety Committee,

Thank you for your time in considering pedestrian safety around our school campus. (see request for Balder and N 1st Street signage or painted crosswalk)

Sidewalks connecting to the school campus is also a high priority in safety.

The children living south of Haugen Drive, and closer to the school, cannot utilize the school bus because of living in close proximity to the school.

The main ROADS used for the children to walk to and from school is N 2nd Street and N 5th Street.

These would be two priority areas for sidewalks and keeping pedestrians safe.

Please consider recommending sidewalk installation on these two main pedestrian routes.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Molly Taiber