No. AM 414-2008

Meeting Date: June 24, 2008

From: Mayor

Subject: Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation for an ordinance amending Anchorage Municipal Code Section 21.35.020 to establish land use definitions for public health and safety laboratories, public safety facilities, and outdoor shooting ranges, amending Section 21.40.020 to permit these as uses in the PLI District, and adding a new Section 21.50.410, to provide conditional use standards for outdoor shooting ranges.

This ordinance amends Anchorage Municipal Code Section 21.35.020 to establish land use definitions for public health and safety laboratories, public safety facilities, and outdoor shooting ranges, amends Section 21.40.020 to permit these as uses in the PLI District, and adds a new Section 21.50.410, to provide conditional use standards for outdoor shooting ranges.

The PLI District is intended to include areas of significant public open space, major public and quasi-public institutional uses and activities, and land reserves for which a specific use or activity is not yet identified. The Municipality has been undergoing discussions with multiple public safety agencies over the last year in regards to potential locations of new public safety related facilities. It has been determined through these discussions that although the intent of the PLI district is to allow for a range of public facilities and their related needs, the current use listings do not clearly allow for public health and safety laboratories and public safety facilities, which may include shooting ranges.

The ordinance will correct this oversight with respect to public health labs, and provides for a conditional use process for public safety training facilities and outdoor shooting ranges. The conditional use process will allow the Planning and Zoning Commission to make decisions as to what uses may be appropriate in the PLI, as they will be required to review the impacts and appropriateness of a particular use in a particular location.

There was no public opposition to the ordinance at the public hearing. The Planning and Zoning Commission supports the ordinance.
THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF THE ORDINANCE.

Prepared by: Jerry T. Weaver Jr., Zoning Administrator, Planning Department
Concur: Tom Nelson, Director, Planning Department
Concur: Mary Jane Michaels, Director, Office of Economic and Community Development
Concur: James N. Reeves, Municipal Attorney
Concur: Michael K. Abbott, Municipal Manager

Respectfully submitted, Mark Begich, Mayor