

John Boyle
Commissioner

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Department of
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: September 26, 2024

Alaska Historical Commission Fall Meeting is Oct. 3

Agenda includes a special session on the U.S. Semiquincentennial

(Anchorage, AK)—The Alaska Historical Commission will meet via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, Oct. 3, to consider two Certified Local Government grant applications for historic preservation projects in the Municipality of Anchorage, a National Register of Historic Places nomination for what is believed to be the last standing gold rush era building at the historic townsite of Chena, near Fairbanks, Alaska, and three proposals to name geographic features in Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Commission will also host an informational session with Jennifer Runyon and Mathew O'Donnell, staff to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, on *Considering Geographic Name Change Proposals in Alaska* at 9:30 a.m.

At 1 p.m., the Commission – chaired by Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom – will host a two-hour session dedicated to America250, the national celebration marking the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. The semiquincentennial anniversary provides an opportunity for the State of Alaska to commemorate this significant milestone and to educate current and future generations about Alaska's role in the nation's history.

Headlining the special session will be Rosie Rios, Chair of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, who will update the Alaska Historical Commission on America250 tentpole activities. Julie Sullivan, wife of U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan, will introduce Rios. Other speakers include Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom, Arizona America250 Commission Executive Director Laura Terech, and State Historian Katherine Ringsmuth. U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski, who serves on the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, will give pre-recorded remarks. For more information about the America250, visit [America250 Leadership](#).

Any person or group wishing to address the Commission on grant applications, National Register nominations, or geographic name proposals is invited to participate in the public comment session starting at 10:30 a.m. Those wishing to comment by phone, listen to the meeting, or virtually attend the special sessions must make arrangements in advance by calling 907-269-8714 or emailing dnr.oha@alaska.gov.

The preliminary meeting agenda is posted at www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha. Members of the public may request a printed copy by calling 907-269-8700, emailing dnr.oha@alaska.gov, or writing to the Office of History and Archaeology, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565. The geographic name proposals are now at www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha.

The Commission is the review board for the state's historic preservation program and geographic names. More information about the Commission is available at www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha

The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.

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