



Updated 13:05 AKST 07-15-2026

Anchorage Economic Development Corporation to Host Keynote Speaker Lisa D. Cook, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board and a Community Leader Roundtable at Economic Luncheon, August 5th, 2026 in Anchorage, Alaska at the Dena'ina Center.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) is hosting the Economic Luncheon that will take place on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage, Alaska, USA.

AEDC luncheons are the largest sit-down business event in Alaska. The Economic Forecast Luncheon, a consistently sold-out event, attracts over 1,500 attendees, including industry leaders, C-suite executives, senior management, business owners, independent contractors, and young professionals. **AEDC President & CEO Jon Bittner** will present the latest economic data and survey results from the Anchorage Business Survey and other economic reports to give participants an overview of Anchorage's economy and the city's future.

KEYNOTE HIGHLIGHT

The Keynote address will be delivered by **Lisa D. Cook, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board**, who served as a senior economist on the Council of Economic Advisors and previously as the senior adviser on finance and development in the U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of International Affairs. Drawing over two decades of research in innovation and practical experience applying machine learning, she offers a deeply informed perspective on how artificial intelligence will reshape the economy.

COMMUNITY LEADER ROUNDTABLE

New this year, AEDC will also be facilitating a roundtable during the luncheon with some of Anchorage's top business and community leaders. This discussion will revolve around recent and future investments these organizations have made in and

around Anchorage as well as panelists' perspectives on why they're so bullish about the city's future. Panelists will include:

- **Deborah Berini**, *Chief Executive of Providence Alaska*

- **Marilyn Romano**, *Regional Vice President of Alaska Airlines*

- **Dr. Cheryl Siemers, Ph.D.**, *Chancellor of University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA)*

- **Curtis McQueen**, *Executive Director of the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association (ANVCA)*

- **Colonel Stephen Polacek**, *JBer Deputy Joint Base Commander*

Tickets for the 2026 Anchorage Economic Luncheon are currently on sale. Given the high demand for this event, early registration is encouraged to ensure a seat. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit [AEDCweb.com](https://aedcweb.com)

AEDC CEO & President will be available for questions and interviews. Please contact Alicia Busick, AEDC Communications and Marketing, at the information below to schedule.

About Anchorage Economic Development Corporation (AEDC)

The mission of AEDC is to grow a prosperous, sustainable, and diverse economy. AEDC has been operating since 1987 as a private nonprofit corporation (IRS code 501(c)(6)). It exists to encourage economic growth and diversity in Anchorage, to promote a favorable business climate, and to raise Anchorage residents' standard of living. Private contributions, municipal and state grants, and contracts provide funding for the corporation.

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