

Workshop Report

Fairview Main Street Workshop

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November 8, 2008

Fairview Elementary School

Purpose of the Workshop: Present an opportunity for concerned citizens to: 1) see presentations describing the neighborhood planning efforts of the Fairview Community Council, 2) to learn how the Highway to Highway project will change the type and nature of land use along the Gambell/Ingra Street Corridor and 3) discuss with their neighbors how Gambell Street could be transformed from an auto-oriented arterial to a pedestrian-oriented Main Street.

Public Notification
Community Calendar: Anchorage Press and Anchorage Daily News
Federation of Community Councils: Email Distribution to Fairview list
U.S. Mail: First class mailings of workshop information to official property owners along the corridor
Format
Twelve citizens participated
Aerial photography, parcel base maps, proposed Highway-to-Highway corridor, zoning maps, background material on Form Based Codes, draft Fairview Community Plan
Two groups of six each worked to produce independent visions of the corridor.
Presentation #1
Allen Kemplen, AICP - Neighborhood Plan
Slides were presented detailing historical Fairview, past planning efforts, key community themes and important economic opportunities.
Presentation #2
Allen Kemplen, AICP - Form Based Code
Slides were presented explaining the difference between current Title 21 and a new approach for creating a Sense of Place for Fairview with a focus on restoring the neighborhood Main Street. He also described what materials were available to the groups, their mission and what type of product each group should deliver by the end of their collective effort.

date	location	time	The Workshop will allow you to engage in a hands-on exercise with your fellow businesses, neighbors and property owners to create a new, more pedestrian-friendly street environment. Questions? Contact Fairview Revitalization Committee Chair-Allen Kemplen, AICP-947-0220- akemplen@fairakia.net
11/08/08	FAIRVIEW ELEMENTARY 12TH AND NELCHINA	10:00-4:00	

Presentation #3
Pat Krochina, AIA - Highway-to-Highway
A discussion from a member of the formal Citizens Advisory Committee and a business owner (Nvision) along Gambell Street about the need for the large project. He explained how City and State technical staff have proven the need for the Highway-to-Highway project. Pat also described why it was in the best interests of Fairview stakeholders to develop a positive vision for the corridor.

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Description of Alternatives: Both groups felt that the Sports Complex represented an important economic anchor in the neighborhood. However, Gambell Street did not have the appropriate businesses or pedestrian friendly streetscape to capture some of the disposable income of those attending events at the sports facilities. It was felt that this situation could be changed by: 1) Constructing a new, mixed-use parking structure south of 15th Avenue between Gambell and Ingra with an elevated pedestrian walkway over to the Sullivan Arena area. 2) Converting Gambell Street from a four-lane, one-way street to a two-lane, two-way street with widened sidewalks and on-street parking 3) Developing the cover above a proposed sunken freeway with mixed-use, commercial/office to provide a focus area for economic growth.

Both Groups also felt that a stronger linkage should be made with the Downtown area so that tourists would find it a pleasurable experience to walk/bike east to Gambell, south to Chester Creek Greenbelt, west to Coastal Trail and north to downtown hotels. Such an positive experience requires shifting the character of land use from an auto-orientation to a pedestrian orientation. This requires changing Title 21 land use code regulations to resemble the Central Business District.

