

# NECC

Northeast Community Council

Resolution 2 - February 15, 2007

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TO: Mayor Mark Begich  
Fire Chief Goodrich  
Municipality of Anchorage Assembly  
Senator Bill Wielechowski  
Representative Bob Roses

FROM: Peggy Robinson, President Northeast Community Council

SUBJECT: 2008 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT & STATE LEGISLATIVE  
PROGRAM LIST REQUEST NEW FIRE STATION 6 FOR THE NORTHEAST  
ANCHORAGE AREA

**HISTORY and BACKGROUND:** Five or six years ago, when Venture, Inc. was first proposing the Creekside Town Center, a series of charrettes (brainstorming meetings) were held to determine how the community would be structured 20 years in the future and what needs that would entail. At one of those meetings, the fire department stated that under the 20/20 proposal, the amount of new high-density construction projected would require a new fire station or additional capacity in addition to Station 6. Fire Station 6 is located next to the new Begich Middle School at Patterson & Debarr Roads. Station 6 shares the responsibility for coverage of the Glenn Highway to Eagle River with Eagle River's Station 11.

Station 14, located on Campbell Airstrip Road just South of Tudor Rd, was constructed several years ago to help ease the load on Station 6. According to Anchorage Fire Department statistics, Station 14 is already significantly exceeding the number of calls it was anticipated to handle when it was constructed.

Major construction projects that are currently being developed in the NE Anchorage area include Wal-Mart, Cook Inlet Housing Authority's Grass Creek Housing Development, Browman/CIRI Shopping and Entertainment Center, and Eastview Estates. The commercial land along Debarr and Muldoon Roads that are in the former Alaska Village Trailer Court will also be developed in the next few years. In addition, the 30 acres Alaska Greenhouse Property was recently purchased by the city for redevelopment, and part of the Mayflower Trailer Court is also available for commercial development. These projects will bring hundreds of new living units and thousands of new customers and employees into our area.

**NEED:** The current station 6 is old and was not built to provide for the volume of calls that it currently handles. The building itself needs major upgrades and maintenance to its basic systems. The site is small and cannot accommodate a larger station that is needed to meet the requirements of the northeast community into the future. Since most

of the recent and anticipated construction will be multi-story, multi-family, and commercial buildings, it is being recommended by the NorthEast Community Council that a new fire station be built to replace the existing building . The new station would need to have a minimum of 4 garage bays to accommodate a ladder company, an engine company, a medic unit, and it would also require space for a battalion chief that would be relocated from Station 14. A couple of the bays would be drive-through.

The current station is located adjacent to MOA owned land identified for the permanent location of the NorthEast Community Center and Muldoon Library. Being able to incorporate the current station land into the community center land will significantly increase the size of the site to allow a better community center/library. A safer access might also be possible off of Patterson Road instead of off Debarr Road.

The ideal is to have fire stations every 3 miles. The current station is slightly too far east from the Airport Heights station to meet this fire insurance rate standard. The Fire Department will soon be analyzing call patterns to identify the preferred location. The MOA is also requesting a \$350,000 grant from the Legislature to be used for planning the future of Fire Station 6 and well as doing some immediately needed repairs. The MOA has just purchased a couple of parcels in NE Anchorage that may or may not work for a new Fire Station, including the corner of Edward Street and DeBarr Road.

It is estimated, by current prices, that the building with equipment may cost in excess of \$8 million.

After conversations with Fire Department officials, it is apparent that the building of a new, larger Fire Station 6 would not only fit the needs of the Northeast community area, but would supplement the coverage for the surrounding areas as well. **We believe that the need for a new station is critically apparent.**

After discussion, the following motion was made and voted upon:

*THEREFORE:*

*The Northeast Community Council hereby requests that the funding for a new, larger replacement Fire Station 6 and its required equipment be added to the 2008 Capital Improvement Project List as a priority item. We also request that it be added to the 2008 State Legislative Program List.*

This motion passed 25 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

We ask that you act upon this motion as warranted in the interests of the NECC and the community of Anchorage as a whole. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Signed:



March 4, 2007