

## Community Councils

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**From:** "Tom McGrath" <tommcgrath@gci.net>  
**To:** "Assembly Person Fay Von Gemmingen" <fayvong@alaska.com>; "Assembly Person Doug Van Etten" <vanetten@alaska.net>; "Assembly Person Dan Sullivan" <sullivan@ci.anchorage.ak.us>; "Dick Traini" <dtraini@gci.net>; "Assembly Person Allan Tesche" <aet@rtwgcg.com>; "Assembly Person Anna Fairclough" <annafair@alaska.net>; "Assembly Person Melinda Taylor" <taylor@ci.anchorage.ak.us>; "Assembly Person Dick Tremaine" <tremained@ci.anchorage.ak.us>; "Assembly Person Dan Kendall" <kendall@alaska.net>; "Mayor George Wuerch" <wwmayor@ci.anchorage.ak.us>; "Assembly Person Janice Schamberg" <jcshamberg@yahoo.com>; "Assembly Person Brian Whittle" <whittlebk@ci.anchorage.ak.us>; "Brenda Smart" <brendasmart@gci.net>; "Harriet Drummond" <harriet@alaska.net>; "Dan Coffey" <dcoffey@coffey-law.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 22, 2003 11:00 AM  
**Attach:** boundaryspenard.doc; Spenard RESOLUTION01-02.doc; Spenardboundary.doc; tommcgrath.vcf  
**Subject:** Community Council Boundaries

Dear Assembly Members:

Attached are two letters and a resolution by the Spenard Community Council written when I was the Chair Person of the Spenard Community Council. The position of the Spenard Community Council is stated in these documents and as far as I know they have not changed.

You recieved a letter dated June 6, 2003 signed by Stuart Hall with an attached memorandum dated June 4, 2003 that contraverts earlier documents relating to the Boundary Review Committee of the Federation of Community Councils. Item 24 of the Memorandum contradicts earlier findings and recommendations of the BRC. The FCC Board of Delegates authorized a transmittal of of BRC recommendations to the Assembly but I like others thought this was the original recommendations arrived at after many meetings prior to the P&Z determinations. A very pulic process.

I have talked to no one that had any idea that the transmittal voted on during the FCC meeting of April 16, 2003 would completely change the direction of recommendations previously made. It is also curious that the documents given the Assembly on June 6, 2003 were not deseminated to the councils affected. I consider the memorandum written by Stuart Hall, Dated June 4, 2003 devoid of any credibility. The recommendations made in paragraph 24 are contrary of the Spenard Community Council, the Planning Department, the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Federation of Community Councils Boundary Review Committee. (except for this purported position furthered by Stuart Hall in the June 4, 2003 document.)

I ask you to follow either the recommendations of the Planning Department as followed by P&Z relating to the Midtown area or those of the Spenard Community Council.

Spenard Community council was very gracious in conceding those area desired by the Turnigain Community Council known as the West High Area/Huntington Park/Forrest Park Area. I ask now that they be gracious in return and allow Spenard Community Council to represent the areas east of Fish Creek with the middle of Fish Creek being the dividing line between the two Councils. Turnigain Community Council should also allow Spenard Community Council represent those areas outlined by Lake Shore Drive to Constellation Avenue to Spenard Lake including the area south

and east to International Airport Drive and Spenard Road to include that area that is private property where the Westcoast International Inn sits.

The Spenard Community Council was also very gracious in allowing that the area called Romig Area/Upper Hillcrest Drive to the back yards of the properties fronting on 25th Avenue between Minnesota Drive and Spenard Road be represented by the North Star Community Council. We agreed that the area was better served by North Star Community Council.

The aggression by the North Star Community Council to represent an area represented by the Spenard Community Council over the objections of Spenard should be seen as a hostile takeover that should not be sanctioned by the Assembly but rather I feel the North Star Community Council should be sanctioned for their efforts.

I further feel that the Chair Person of the Federation of Community Councils should be sanctioned for holding the Documents delivered to the Anchorage Assembly on June 6, 2003 until the last minute so there could not be objections because the contents were unknown. I was not told of these documents until a concerned person in a Municipal Department called me and gave me a heads up. This is an effort so vile I am not surprised it could not be exposed to the light of day.

I am sorry to deliver these documents this way and to send my testimony in this manner but due to health reasons I was not able to attend the Assembly meeting on this issue. I have also not been able to attend public meetings on this subject since January of 2003 but rest assured I am still a concerned citizen and public servant that am interested in what is best for Anchorage.

Sincerely:

Thomas J. McGrath