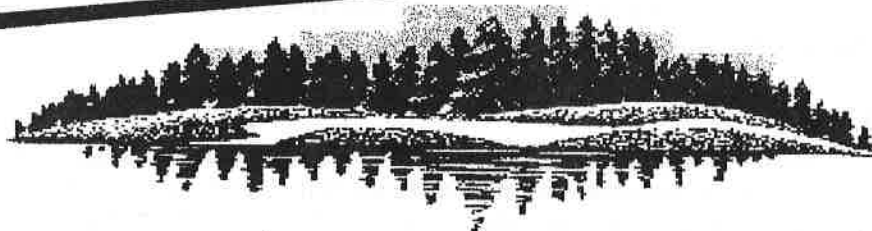


UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

THE UACC UPDATE



January 2004

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 7, 7:00P

College Gate Elementary School Library, 3101 Sunflower Street

PROPOSED AGENDA:

- *Boniface/Northern Lights Intersection Upgrade: Anne Brooks Associates*
- *Chester Creek/UAA Spur Trail Plan*
- *Elected Officials*

DECEMBER 3 MEETING NEWS:

● Bob Kniefel of DOWL Engineers provided an update on the Abbott Loop (Bragaw) Extension, a State DOT project. Scoping meetings have been held, and the technical studies will be completed by this summer. A public meeting will be at Service High School's Cafeteria January 5 with various designs posted on the walls for viewing prior to the presentation. An open comment period is planned, followed by a Q&A. Funding will be explained. The Corps of Engineers will be involved, deciding whether an Environmental Impact Statement or an Environmental Assessment will be necessary before the project can be started. The former is a more extensive study. Winter construction may interfere with dog racing, but they will accommodate user group activities as much as possible. When the design is completed DOWL will return to UACC. Construction is projected to begin in 2005. The project's web site is:

<http://www.dowl.com/projects/abbottloop/comments120.htm> Bob Kniefel can be reached at rkniefel@dowl.com or 562-2000.

● Dianna Durst, from the UAA Office of Facilities and Construction, introduced consultants who had prepared the University of Alaska Anchorage Master Plan. Paddy Tillett from ZGF, Brent Thelery, Gary Katsion and David Moore were the presenters. Tillett explained the process used to determine UAA needs, and how those needs can be met:

- Planners held meetings with all of the existing institutions/facilities in the U-Med area.
- The recently adopted U-MED Framework Master Plan was considered.
- UAA's population is expected to double in 20 years.
- Build-able land is limited so growth requires careful planning.
- Existing and future traffic problems were considered.
- 10 year and 20 year plans were developed that meet the growth needs of the University.

Chart maps demonstrated the history of growth on the UAA campus, then the projected 10 and 20 year growth as plans become actual buildings. Thelery detailed that projected growth; the Master Plan uses University lands to expand existing programs, allow for new programs, and also increase student housing. New buildings are in the aggressive 10 year plan, also upgrades of existing facilities, or in some cases, replacing existing buildings. The 20 year plan is aggressive also. Included is a sports facility proposed for the NE corner of the University's property, large enough to be a multi-use facility. This project may require some community involvement to have it succeed. ZGF will return to update the council as plans progress. The University's Master Plan can be viewed at its web site:

www.uaa.edu

- Vince Huntington, Associate Administrator at Providence Alaska Medical Center, discussed a proposed traffic study to include the entire Providence hospital area, to be a comprehensive report. It may be moved forward on the schedule, and be completed by April 2004. They hope to finalize the U-MED traffic plan to include safe pedestrian walkways. Huntington, responding to a question stated the road from 40th Avenue to Providence Dr., along the east side of the Providence buildings, is a private road.
- The Assembly approved a zoning change for the Mental Health Trust Lands at 36th/Lake Otis, with an added requirement that Laurel Street be extended from 40th Avenue to Providence Dr. within 2 years, regardless of building construction progress.

OTHER NEWS:

- The Nov. 20 issue of the Anchorage Chronicle wrote about "Anchorage Downtown Partnership's 2003 Heart of Anchorage Awards" recipients. One of the two Volunteer Beautification Awards was to "Friends of University Lake". It states "these awards celebrate those whose innovation and energy serves to inspire a collective pride in creating a clean, safe and vital community." Congratulations to Jim Sipman and the Friends.
- Rep. Sharon Cissna coordinated a well-attended forum on Access to Health Care issues following the Health Summit on December 4. An expert panel/attendee discussion culminated in a list of key recommendations including strong community advocacy for prevention programs, outpatient community-based clinics, telemedicine and other promising technology solutions. A sizable number of those in attendance spoke in favor of a single-payer insurance health plan (national or statewide solution for all). Rep. Cissna has met also with health providers concerned about workforce development. Last month she met with school professionals to support a program that would strengthen current curricula and standards, while expanding a student's interest and training for future professions and trades. The LEGISLATIVE SESSION starts JANUARY 12. Constituents are asked to remember the importance of their input on current issues. She asks we please call, toll free, on or after January 12, (1-800-922-3875) to express an opinion.
- UACC news can be read in the free postal distribution of the "Eastside Pulse". A meeting's agenda can be found in the "Anchorage Daily News" Community Datebook column the first Wednesday, the regular meeting date. Current and past newsletters can be read at:
<http://www.communitycouncils.org/university.html>



PUBLIC MEETINGS:

- January 5, 7:00P, Abbott Loop (Bragaw) Extension, Service High School Cafeteria



COUNCIL ORGANIZATION:

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