

# UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

**APRIL 2004**

## **GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, April 7, 7:00P

College Gate Elementary School Library, 3101 Sunflower Street

### **PROPOSED AGENDA:**

**Anchorage Roads Coalition for Safe and Sensible Streets:** Presenter - Jeanne McQueary. Includes a resolution asking the mayor / governor to adopt context sensitive design principles when engineers plan/design road projects for either state or muni.

**Tudor Road Corridor Study Update:** Presenters, Kelly Brown and Karen Workman, the Walkable Community workshop (March 9), UACC recommendations to DOWL

**Providence Alaska Medical Center South West Campus Expansion:** Conditional Use application (see P & Z hearing below) for Parking garage and site improvements. Full campus proposals included in architectural plans.

**Capital Improvement Projects:** Discussion - council additions to list provided by MOA Office of Management and Budget

### **MARCH 3 MEETING NEWS:**

**BOND ISSUES** on the April 6 election ballot were explained by various presenters:

- Jake Metcalfe, President of the Anchorage School Board, and Rick Barrier, Anchorage School District Facilities Department, addressed the three school district bonds. There was discussion regarding state reimbursement, and according to Metcalfe this is to be the last year for the 60-70% reimbursement program. The proposed new administrative building was discussed, and Barrier explained that there is approximately 160,000 square feet in the former Northway Kmart building, the probable site. Currently, the district has 140,000 square feet of rented space spread out in different facilities. The Kmart building would have approximately 10,000 more square feet for future expansion. Barrier discussed the advantages and disadvantages of owning versus renting. One member's concern was heavy rush-hour traffic that would be going through this Mountain View area if the district were to move into the Kmart building. It was explained that the traffic issues would go through a thorough planning process. Barrier informed UACC that the facilities, maintenance and food services departments would be staying in their current location in south Anchorage. Another council member suggested that ASD look at cleaner running buses that will be purchased with bond funds.

-Art Weeks, MOA Municipal Librarian gave an overview of the library bonds on the ballot. It is a \$7.6M package, and would go towards huge improvements in the branch libraries. Weeks informed UACC that the Muldoon branch, currently in the Boniface Mall, is the busiest of the branch libraries. Part of the bond money would go towards purchasing self serve checkout stands, and automate the book return procedure. The latter would shelve returned books earlier than is the current practice.

- Brad Doggett, on behalf of Anchorage Tomorrow Speaker's Bureau, discussed the MOA Road and Drainage Bonds. East 42nd Avenue, between Lake Otis and Bragaw Street is on the current bond proposal for traffic safety improvements. UACC has identified this as a priority project, annually, to the MOA for many years.

Regarding the Public Transportation bond on the April ballot, Assemblymember Doug Van Etten explained it contains a 4 to 1 federal match. The bond will purchase smaller, more efficient buses for the People Mover.

The **TUDOR ROAD CORRIDOR STUDY (TRCS)** was discussed by the council. Brad Doggett, P.E., DOWL Engineers, is project manager for the part of the study that includes Lake Otis Parkway to Bragaw, and Tudor to Providence Drive. He provided the large maps with proposed road changes, traffic history visuals, and responded to questions. This is a compressed time project. It relates to an April 7 replat hearing that includes a land exchange between Providence Alaska Medical Center and UAA. That replat proposes an access road extending from Piper/East 40th to Providence Drive. Piper Street is the probable road extension north from Tudor, while Dale Street via 40th to Piper is a possibility. One longtime resident gave a brief overview of the history of East 42nd Avenue in this SW corner of the council. Another member spoke to the need for restricted traffic flow in the neighborhood. The council felt that pedestrian safety continues to be the number one priority. An Ad Hoc group was created to provide UACC input into the current study, with a long term goal to create a revitalized neighborhood plan. Van Etten responded to a question about this 'no-name' neighborhood becoming a Renaissance area designee. He informed the council that Renaissance areas must meet Federal guidelines, and then they are eligible for loan programs.

March 9, three Ad Hoc group members presented a **WALKABLE COMMUNITY** planning-design workshop at Providence Horizon House, Folker Street at 42nd, for those living/working in the identified zone. 25 people defined the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the residential area, then designed ideal streets and paths throughout the neighborhood that focused on the needs of non-motorized traffic, of which there is an abundance. Their favorites were identified, ideas tallied, and were incorporated into UACC's comments to DOWL for the study. Anyone wanting to participate in the Ad Hoc group for long range neighborhood planning is asked to call 563-6372. Your ideas and energy will be welcomed.

#### **PLATTING BOARD CASES:**

Apr 7, Case # S11249-1, Representative: Dowl Engineers, Tim Potter, Petitioner: Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, University of Alaska, Providence Alaska Medical Center & Sisters of Providence; To subdivide 5 tracts of land and one unsubdivided parcel into 6 tracts of land with the vacations of a 60' Road Reserve, 50' Right of Way easement, 30' water line easement, 3- 10' T&E easements & 2-20' utility and T&E easements, Location: South of Providence Drive, east of Lake Otis Parkway, west of Bragaw Street and north of East 40th Avenue, Legal Desc. Providence Hospital Site, Tract 1, MHTL Subdivision, Tracts A,C & D, UAA Subdivision, Tract A & an unsubdivided parcel, All located within Section 28, T13N, R3W, S.M., Alaska

#### **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:**

May 3, Case #2004-081, Representative: Dowl Engineers, Tim Potter; Petitioner: Providence Alaska Medical Center, A Conditional Use to allow a parking garage and oversized surface parking in the PLI District. Providence Hospital Site, Tract 1 (Tract 1-A). Located at 3200 Providence Drive, Legal Desc.:PLI Public lands & institutions district

#### **COUNCIL ORGANIZATION:**

President: Tim Neale, 333-4952, timua@gci.net  
Vice President: Barbara Garner, 563-6328, bbgarner@alaska.com  
Co-Secretary/Treasurer: Betty Adkison, 333-1774, bettyadkison6@msn.com  
Kelly Brown, 569-5678, kellybrown\_ak@yahoo.com  
Past President: Jim Parsons, 279-3735, jimp@ak.net  
1st Member-at-large: Hugh Wade, 332-4844, hughwade@hotmail.com  
2nd Member-at-large: Sam Dickey, 258-7224, sjdickey@alaskalife.net  
FCC rep: Kelly Brown