

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT &
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY LIST
REQUEST
FOR
NEW “SUPER” FIRE STATION FOR THE NORTHEAST
COMMUNITY AREA**

MEMORANDUM OF REQUEST TO: ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY

December 18, 2006

HISTORY: 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 another fire station in addition to Station 6, which is located next to the new Begich Middle School at Patterson & Debarr. It should be noted that Station 6 currently responds to the majority of the calls on the Glenn Hwy. Therefore, it was anticipated that a full fire, paramedic and police sub-station would be necessary to handle the increased volume.

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 exceeding the number of calls it was anticipated to handle when it was constructed.

NEED: Since most of the recent and anticipated construction will be several story, multi-family buildings, it was determined that an additional All Purpose Super Fire Station that would include a ladder company, similar to the new Fire Station 1, would be the minimum required. In addition to this, there is a possibility that the ladder company from Station 3 (Airport Heights) will be moved to Station 4 (Tudor & McGinnis St) when the remodel of Station 4 is completed. That move will significantly extend the response time to respond to calls requiring a ladder company.

Station 6 is currently the last line of defense between Anchorage and Eagle River's Station 11. Station 11 shares the responsibility for coverage of the Glenn Hwy corridor. Should the Glenn Hwy be closed or compromised for any reason the burden would be placed squarely on Station 6. A new Station would play a

critical role in the future of fire/rescue protection in East Anchorage, the Glenn Hwy corridor and Eagle River.

Land is at a premium in price and availability in Muldoon and the MOA has just purchased a couple of parcels that may or may not work for a new Fire Station site, which will require accommodations for drive-through bays. Whether or not a suitable site is currently available in the Muldoon area, **the need for a new station is critically apparent.** It is estimated, by todays pricing standards; that the building without equipment or land costs would be in excess of \$8,000,000.00.

After a conversation with Fire Department officials, the addition of an all-purpose super-station would not only fit the needs of the Northeast Community area, but would supplement the coverage for the surrounding areas as well. Optimum station requirements would be 6-8 drive-through bays to accommodate heavy rescue, water rescue, dive rescue, off road and wild land rescue, and ATF response vehicle, and a full expanded truck company.

We would also ask that equipment for a ladder company, an engine company, and all other equipment required for the above rescue teams and equipment for a paramedic team be included in the request as well. We would also ask that funding be considered to man the station that will require another 30 fire fighters on the payroll.

Additionally, a secondary medic unit and expanded Anchorage Police sub-station on site would fill out the needs of this growing area as directed under the 20/20 Plan. The projections for mid-rise multi-unit dwellings to be built in this area necessitate this need for an expanded truck company.

THEREFORE:

The Northeast Community Council hereby requests that the funding for a new Fire Station Facility and Equipment be added to the Capital Improvement Project List as a priority item. We also request that it be added to the 2007 Legislative Priority List.

Respectfully submitted:



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