

## **UACC MEETING MINUTES**

**October 6, 2022**

### **1. Opening and Welcome and Introductions**

At 7:05 PM UACC President Tyler Robinson opened the meeting. UACC Zoom host Mike Grunst then detailed the protocols for tonight's meeting. He stated that the meeting is being recorded and there should be no expectation of privacy. Also, members present on tonight's Zoom meeting should identify themselves by using a UA identifier preceding their first and last name. He explained that members are residents, business owners, or institution representatives within the UACC boundaries. President Robinson emphasized that speakers should try to limit their time as time-frame are tight for the meeting tonight. Questions are to be held until the end of the meeting or detailed in the chat for answers. Contact information will also be available in the chat for more details. 30 persons were in attendance of all or part of the meeting. See Attachment 1 for attendance log.

### **2. Approval of the October 6, 2022 Meeting minutes**

Al Milspaugh moved to approve the October minutes. Steve Zemke seconded the motion. UACC members voted to approve the October minutes by unanimous consent.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda:**

President Tyler Robinson introduced tonight's agenda. Al Milspaugh moved to approve the agenda as written, with Steve Zemke seconding. The UACC voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

### **4. Informational Reports-Reports from Public Servants**

**a.A. State Senator Bill Wielechowski-** discussed his bill which establishes a State on-line checkbook dealing with a searchable database for all State income and expenses. He also discussed items such as bill recognizing political parties, an amendment to allow up to \$75 K in residential property tax owners exemption, projects such as the \$500 K Russian Jack Park revitalization, and the impact of the Federal Inflation Reduction Act which offers energy efficient construction rebates and Medicare negotiated drug prices. Tyler Robinson asked if Senator Wielechowski had any news on the status of the UMED Northern Access projects. Bill indicated that it is not on any proposed list for funding at this time.

**a.B. State House Representative Ivy Spohnholz-** First, Representative Spohnholz discussed the committee hearing on the firing of the previous PFD CEO. She indicated there was no smoking gun implicating the

Governor or staff, but appears to be a result of political infighting among the PFD Board. She also said that Devin Mitchell is the new PFD CEO. She also discussed the significant ASD budget gap that is now facing the District. It has been around for several years, with the declining number of ASD students and the stagnant State basic student allocation. Anchorage has been given a Basic funding allocation rank as a “one”, the lowest in the State, even though other areas may have as low or lower cost of living. The ASD has also made budgets whole in recent past from ARRA funds, which funds are now extinct.

**a.C. Besse Odom for State Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson** - For details on Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson’s information presentation see her written report to UACC under Attachment 2.

**a.D. Annelise Roberts for State House Representative Andy Josephson-** Annelise discussed what Andy has been working on Mental Health Authority meetings, 2023 budgets for disability services and upgrades to the State Pioneer Homes. He is also involved in bills relating to sentencing standard in crimes related to family violence, and for providing defined benefit retirement plan for front line workers.

**E. Anchorage Assembly-person Pete Peterson-** discussed the following points:

Assembly on 10/11 will discuss approved budget for budget shortfalls dealing with 4 items: 1) Municipal cost dealing with vehicle tow; 2) Sullivan Arena repairs; 3) increased municipal fuel costs; and 4) spruce bark beetle kill mitigation. Pete also reported that the use of surplus ASD relocatables was discussed and rejected by the Assembly as they provide no bathroom or other sewer/water connections but might be considered in future if these could be provided. He also noted that Michael Braniff was approved as Parks and Recreation Director. Al Milspaugh questioned how would the Sullivan Arena be managed as a congregate facility so that no new repairs would need to be done. Forrest Dunbar replied that the repairs mentioned were not associated with those related to use by people experiencing homelessness, but were the result of an earthquake and a subsequent leak in a loading ramp that created problems with floodlights in an area that would not be used as part of the shelter. Forrest also mentioned that public testimony for the use of Sullivan Arena would come in two weeks.

**F. Anchorage Assembly person-Forrest Dunbar-**noted that this year’s budget contains design funds for upgrades Folger and Wright Streets. He indicated that future funding would include smaller road collectors in the

area.

**G. Anchorage Assembly person-Meg Zaletel-**discussed her support of a 24/7 mobile crisis team. She said the mayor's budget includes some mental health clinician funding, on a 10 am to 6 pm schedule, but not the full time that is really needed. She felt that this would not fully garner the benefit from clinician support, which has been shown to reduce emergency room/Medicare reimbursement costs. Paul Stang noted that the crisis trauma is in the APD. Meg said they are trying to move them to AFD, but would try otherwise minimize law enforcement's role in the team.

Meg also discussed Golden Lion Hotel controversy. She said that though the State has listed the reconstruction of intersection of 36<sup>th</sup> Ave and New Seward as a high priority, but there is no funding for this \$100 M project. Use of the Golden Lion as a substance abuse facility would provide a real substance abuse response and development of a workforce to meet this challenge, so it is a key component needed to address homelessness..

**H. Anchorage Assembly-person Felix Rivera-** discussed the following points:

1. The Homeless Plan progress update is on the Muni homepage.

There is some new information available there:

- a. Goal of the Emergency Shelter Plan would be to provide services for 350 unsheltered individuals.
- b. Currently there is a need to stand up by 10/1 or when the temperatures dip below 45 degrees but the administration is planning to close Centennial Park by 10/19 with no plan but to dump these unsheltered individuals onto the street.
- c. Other Mayor's proposals that are not viable are the use of previously mentioned ASD relocatable buildings, mini grants to churches (only one church applied), Spenard and Fairview Recreation Centers (withdrawn), and partial opening of the Tudor/Elmore Navigation Center by October 25<sup>th</sup>.(not happening).
- d. The Assembly's Emergency Shelter Task Force recommended that Brother's Francis, Covenant House, Bean's, Golden Lion, and Dempsey Ice Area be used to provide for emergency shelter this winter. The Assembly proposed these additional numbers; Brother Francis (25), Covenant House (25), Bean's (40), Golden Lion (85), and Sullivan (85) beyond the additional 150.
- e. Alexis Johnson, Municipal Homeless Coordinator, indicated that

Golden Lion needs repair to meet municipal code s and proposed to add 150 beds to the Sullivan /arena to a total 300 capacity.

f. Blair Christenson, Assistant Municipal Attorney, said that the Golden Lion could not be used as a non-congregate facility, due to not being able to obtain sexual assault insurance.

g. These above points left Felix to propose his Rivera Interim Plan:

- i. Lease 50 rooms at the Alex Hotel
- ii. Increase Sullivan Capacity to 200 from the 150 persons.
- iii. Designate the Golden Lion Hotel as an emergency shelter to meet Title 16.

2. Felix then outlined the next steps as he understands them are: 1) Get the Golden Lion approved as emergency shelter; 2) provide “new beds” at various hotels through Rasmussen Grants; 3) Get Sullivan Arena on-line now, and do repairs later; and finally get out of the emergency mode. President Tyler Robinson questioned whether the Assembly supports approval of the remaining funding needed for construction of the Tudor Navigation facility. Felix replied that it might be contingent on getting accurate funding projections for operation, costs and mitigation to impacts to neighborhoods. A letter was sent to Mayor’s office on 9/29 to request this information. If the mayor cannot meet these commitments Felix will vote no on further funding. Forrest Dunbar indicated he would vote no as the Navigation Center is too expensive and that the Mayor has refused support of “standing up” the Golden Lion as an emergency shelter and then transitioning as a substance abuse facility. Pete Peterson commitment to funding for the Golden Lion as a long term substance abuse recovery facility might be contingent for his vote in the affirmative.

**I. ASD School Board Representative Dora Wilson** – noted as previously presented the ASD is experiencing severe budget deficit. This may require closures and repurposing some ASD facilities to help close this funding gap. In addition to the Mt. Iliamna and Mt. Spurr school closures there may be several other closures needed. She noted the award West High Arts School. Finally, she noted that the next school board meeting will be held on October 18, with how to address the looming deficit the primary topic.

**J. UAA Representative Kim Mahoney-** noted that the UA Board of Regents approved the UAA Master Plan Update, as presented to the UACC during our May meeting, and again at our September meeting.

She also celebrated the first ice hockey game in over 2 years, which resulted in a win for the team. She noted that funds have been appropriated for enhancement of audio/visual in the UAA Ice Arena.

## **5. New Business**

### **a. 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Project Update, Holly Spoth-Torrers, Huddle AK, Justin Keane, CRW Engineering-**

They noted that this project would be completed in 2 phases. The first phase would rebuild 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave from Lake Otis Parkway to Piper Street, and then the second phase would rebuild 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave from Piper Street to Florentine Street. The first portion of the project would be the replacement of the aging water main by AWWU. The road construction portion would include new road surface, pedestrian facilities, storm drainage, and street lighting. The 55% design is now completed for the project and is available for viewing at:

[www.42ndavenueupgrade.com](http://www.42ndavenueupgrade.com)

There will be an open house to present this design to be held on 10/27 from 4:30 to 6:30, at the University Baptist Church. The open house materials are available on the website. One can sign up for emails for progress information on the project. Justin Keane indicated that the design for the project is 100% funded, and the actual construction project funds should be included in the 2024 city bond package.

### **b. Destination UME: Transportation Demand Management study. Project team update**

The Transportation Demand Study (TDM) is study on how to make the travel in the UMED District easier for all modes of transportation. The study resulted from a core recommendation from the 2016 UMED Plan, and was adopted and funded through AMATS. The study area encompasses the area from Lake Otis to Baxter west to east, and Tudor to Northern Light south to north. The study will need to mesh with several plans, such as the 2016 UMED Plan. The planning effort is part of the UMED Advisory Committee effort. This last spring the TDM established the existing condition for the planning area, and then did an analysis of demand during the summer months. These analyses will be presented in an open house on Thursday November 6<sup>th</sup> at the UAA Consortium Library.

The TDM purpose is to propose methods that make travel as efficient as possible, and make all options of travel possible. It would strive to reduce vehicle trips, mitigate traffic congestion, and promote public health. There are four building blocks to the TMD. These are to propose physical features such as bike lanes and pedestrian paths that promote multiple types of travel use,

make policy change recommendations that enhance multiple different travel modes, provide marketing methods to stimulate use, and develop pricing and incentive recommendations to stimulate infra-structure development. Of note is that an on-line travel survey will be open to the public till 10/16. The on line survey, upcoming schedule for the project, and milestones for the project can be found at the following website:

<https://www.destinationumedstudy.com>

For more information one may also contact Jon Cecil, AMATS project manager at:

[jonathan.cecil@anchorageak.gov](mailto:jonathan.cecil@anchorageak.gov)

Paul Stang noted that mixed business/residential use developments have been a priority for UACC and questioned whether the live, work, play would be emphasized in the project. He also felt pedestrian and bike ways needed to be emphasized and that vehicular parking needed to be downsized in the area. The response was that this was not a housing study, but would look at the co-location as function of traffic demand, and that the study could potentially recommend changing parking requirements for the area. Forrest Dunbar questioned whether the plan would work with the planning department to reduce parking minimums. Response is that they are working with AMATS to reduce the equivalent of 85 football fields of parking in the UMED, through the four tier process. The study emphasizes different mobility choices. Tyler Robinson questioned how the plan would look at travel to and travel through the UMED. The response was that currently there is a very high “drive alone” rate of travel. The plan would look at how to get this rate down by looking at more efficient travel types and making more resources available.

### **c. UACC Resolution Regarding the Tudor Elmore Shelter**

Tyler Robinson introduced the draft UACC Resolution 2022-001 (attachment 3). Ivy Spohnholz (with Krista Scott seconding) moved to approve the resolution. Discussion of the resolution proceeded. Tyler discussed the need for the resolution as they are defined through the multiple “whereas” statements contained on the first page of the resolution. He then presented the six items the UACC was requesting the Administration comply with before proceeding with construction of a Tudor Elmore Shelter. These are:

1. That the Municipality of Anchorage collect baseline data prior to the shelter being operational from which to assess performance and impacts for the shelter’s required annual report and public hearing.
2. That the Municipality of Anchorage make public its plan and

associated budget focused on shelter operations and programming.

3. That the above plan detail the budget, strategies, and staffing it will use to mitigate offsite impacts from shelter on trails, parks, residential, institutional, and commercial areas.

4. That the Municipality of Anchorage be responsive to the UACC's past and ongoing requests for information.

5. That the Municipality of Anchorage establish with a full membership a Tudor Elmore Shelter advisory board represented by community councils, UMED institutions, local businesses, shelter operator, and MOA staff prior to the start of shelter operations.

6. That the Municipality of Anchorage identify the primary Municipal point of contact for the shelter who can respond timely to requests for information about shelter operations.

During discussion that followed Paul Stang recommended that point five be amended to include mention of a more diverse and broad membership of local residents. After discussion item 5 was rewritten as:

That the Municipality of Anchorage establish with full diverse and broad membership a Tudor Elmore Shelter advisory board represented by residents, community councils, UMED institutions, local businesses, shelter operator, and MOA staff prior to the start of shelter operations.

Paul Stang then moved to approve the resolution with the amendment of item 5 as rewritten above. Ivy Spohnholz seconded the motion. Steve Zemke called for a voice count on the resolution by UACC members.

**The voice count of UACC members was 18 votes for, 0 votes against, 2 abstentions.**

Assemblyman Forrest Dunbar indicated he would present the resolution at the Assembly's October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting which deals with funding for the Emergency Shelter. Barbara Garner had a question about whether the Municipality had addressed the potential health problem associated with the Anchorage School District Bus Barn Diesel fumes when locating the Shelter at this site. She questioned whether the Municipality knows whether fumes from the bus barn impact this site.

## **6. Old Business-None**

## **7. UACC Information Reports**

### **A. UACC Board and Committee Reports**

- Planning and Zoning- No report**

- **Parks and Recreation-** Steve Callaghan reported that signage will be developed for University Lake Park for installation this coming summer. Also, will be a YAC crew working on trail and bank restoration improvements. Steve Callaghan also noted that APU and DOT are still in discussion on the UAA Drive extension just to the north of University Lake Park and that the Alaska Sled Dog Racing Association construction work south of MLK Drive and east of the Tour of Anchorage trail is permitted activity which includes parking facilities, a timing house, and associated sled dog trails. Fencing is also being constructed to segregate sled dogs from public users along the TOA and MLK multi use trails. Barbara Garner noted that she is coordinating with Providence Horizon House to try to develop the 2 acre lot north of Folker Park for park like purposes. Finally, Mike Grunst noted that the BLM Campbell Tract Master Plan is out and that it excludes the use of ebikes from trails throughout the Tract.
- **Safety-** Al Milspaugh gave his fall safety tips. He said winter darkness is approaching so be extra careful in watching out for children while driving.

**B. FCC Representative Report-** Al Milspaugh noted at the last FCC meeting the Municipality talked about the Federal Infrastructure Program funding through the Build Back Better Act. He also mentioned members should think about outreach proposals that might be funded through the annual \$75 grant available to the UACC.

#### **8. Public Comments/Open Dialog-**

- Steve Callaghan noted that there are still many dead end sewer lines and septic tanks within the UACC, and need to be address these concerns need to be reflected on our UACC capital project lists.

**9. Adjournment:** Mike Grunst moved to adjourn the meeting. Barbara Garner seconded. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent around 9:00 pm.

**Signed**

Tyler Robinson, UACC President

Atch: 1. UACC September 2022 Attendance Log  
 2. Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes  
 3. UACC Resolution 2022-001



## Attachment 1- October 6, 2022 Attendance Log

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Al Milspaugh	Vice President
Steve Zemke	Secretary/Treasurer
Tyler Robinson	President
Steve Callaghan	P&R Chair
Krista Scott	Member at Large
Mark Fink	P&Z Chair
Paul Stang	Past President
Annie Collie	Member at Large
Mike Grunst	Member at Large
Representative Ivy Spohnholz	Member
Senator Bill Wielechowski	Visitor
Assembly-person Pete Peterson	Visitor
Assembly person Felix Rivera	Visitor
Assembly person Forrest Dunbar	Visitor
Assembly person Meg Zaletel	Visitor
Annalise Roberts-Andy Josephson Aid	Visitor
Jason Delozian	Member
Daniella Delozian	Member
Barbara Garner	Member
Kate Wedemeyer	Member
Kim Mahoney-UAA Rep	Member
Marguerite Iverson	Member
Phil Olmsted	Visitor
Ian Blake	Member
Jon Keene	Visitor
Karen Workman	Member
Leslie Touvinen	Member
Besse Odom-Sen Elvi Gray-Jackson Rep	Visitor
Andrew Gray	Visitor
Garan Tarr	Visitor
Jari Strobe	Visitor
Andrew Corey	Visitor
Dora Wilson-ASD Rep	Visitor

## **Attachment 2- Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes**

October is Filipino American History Month! October marks the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the United States. It is though that this event occurred on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 1587 when a Filipino man came to America via California. Filipino Heritage Month has been recognized since 2009. Use October and every other month to educate yourself about the various contributions of the Filipino American community.

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. There are many resources in our community to help survivors with a variety of needs, and given that our state is in the top ten states with highest rates of DV against women, we should be vocal about these resources. Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC), Alaska Native Justice Center, and Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) are great resources to know if someone needs assistance.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is also in October. Breast Cancer will develop in 1 of 8 women in the United States. Although it is rare, men can get breast cancer too. It is important for people to get an annual mammograph starting around age 40. Providence Medical Center travels around the Southcentral communities so you can make a visit to their Mammography on the go bus. It takes about 20 minutes to screen and is private for each person.

### **Rogers Park Unveiling**

On September 30, I was joined by various staff, students, and community members for an unveiling of a mural at Rogers Park Elementary School. The mural was made possible due to a grant awarded by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

### **Muni Drive**

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, I was driven around my district by Municipality Worker Gary Jones. During this drive, I saw the needs within my Senate District. This ranged from residential roads needing upgrades in drainage systems, curb jacking – where the curb is higher up than the road, and other transportation improvement projects. I look forward to adding some of these projects to the Capital Budget.

### **Kale Harvest**

Each year at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, we have a wonderful team who manages our flower beds. They plant everything from

nasturtiums to artichokes to creeping bellflowers and manage it from the summer until the fall. Years past, my office has made an effort to harvest the pesticide-free produce to offer to a local charity. This year, my office has decided to keep the tradition alive. We harvested kale and donated it to Bean's Café.

*Always representing your interests!*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elvi Gray-Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elvi" being more prominent and stylized.

**Interim: 907 269-0174      Session: 907-465-4930**

**Email: [Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov), [Besse.Odom@akleg.gov](mailto:Besse.Odom@akleg.gov),  
[Harlyn.Andrew@akleg.gov](mailto:Harlyn.Andrew@akleg.gov)**

**Attachment 3 - UACC Resolution 2022-01**

**UNIVERSITY AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (UACC)  
RESOLUTION 2022-001**

**WHEREAS** the Anchorage Municipal Charter Part, VIII, Sec 8.01 establishes Community Councils as representatives for neighborhoods in planning and development; **and**

**WHEREAS** Community Councils are intended to reflect actual neighborhoods and provide guidance advice on management of lands within their boundaries; **and**

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) has begun construction on a 150 bed homeless shelter and navigation center located south of Tudor Road between Elmore Road and Tudor Center Drive; **and**

**WHEREAS** a homeless shelter requires a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) which was approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) at its August meeting; **and**

**WHEREAS** the shelter must meet nine criteria including that the use must mitigate or offset any significant adverse impacts resulting from its operations; **and**

**WHEREAS** the CUP requires an annual report through a public hearing at PZC that details performance and impacts of the shelter and to demonstrate that the shelter and its operations are in compliance with the original conditions of approval; **and**

**WHEREAS** UACC residents and members have expressed concerns about possible negative impacts from the shelter to surrounding neighborhoods, trails, institutions, and commercial areas on both the north and south sides of Tudor Road; **and**

**WHEREAS** the MOA has not shared operating or programming plans or associated budgets to detail the facility's function as a navigation center and how it will ensure positive outcomes for clients and ensure offsite impacts are offset or mitigated; **and**

**WHEREAS** MOA staff members have publicly committed to stand up an advisory

board comprised of community councils, businesses, and UMED institutions; **and**

**WHEREAS** the UACC has stood up a Tudor Elmore Shelter Committee.

**NOW THEREFORE** the UACC hereby resolves:

7. That the Municipality of Anchorage collect baseline data prior to the shelter being operational from which to assess performance and impacts for the shelter's required annual report and public hearing.
8. That the Municipality of Anchorage make public its plan and associated budget focused on shelter operations and programming.
9. That the above plan detail the budget, strategies, and staffing it will use to mitigate offsite impacts from shelter on trails, parks, residential, institutional, and commercial areas.
10. That the Municipality of Anchorage establish with full membership a Tudor Elmore Shelter advisory board represented by community councils, UMED institutions, local businesses, shelter operator, and MOA staff prior to the start of shelter operations.
11. That the Municipality of Anchorage identify the primary point of contact for the shelter that can respond timely to requests for information about shelter operations.
12. That the UACC is committed to engaging surrounding community councils, residents, and other stakeholders to collectively ensure that appropriate and sufficient resources, communications, and transparency are delivered by the Municipality to reach positive outcomes for the shelter and navigation center.

**Resolution Vote:** For \_\_\_ Against: \_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_

This resolution was approved by the University Area Community Council this day of October **5, 2022.**

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Tyler Robinson, President, UACC