

NECC

Northeast Community Council

Resolution 2

TO: Planning & Zoning Commission
MOA Planning Department (fax: 343-7927)
Anchorage Assembly Members
Mayor Mark Begich

FROM: Peggy Robinson, President North East Community Council
333-1831 or 632-6436

SUBJECT: Delay of Action on Title 21 Amendments

DATE: October 18, 2007

The Northeast Community Council has had an active Title 21 Committee since last year, and they have been meeting, discussing, and making recommendations to the NECC membership on chapters or individual items as they have come up for review by the Planning and Zoning Commission. However, we have found the task to become increasingly more difficult as the changes become more numerous and require more information for us to make informed recommendations.

At our meeting on October 18, the committee was not ready to make recommendations on Chapters 3, 7, and 14, but P&Z is scheduled to hold their Public Hearings on these chapters the first week in November. Although there were two public workshops scheduled on these chapters, they were both on Wednesday nights, which eliminates some people from attending either of them. We'd recommend in the future that multiple public hearings be held on different nights.

After discussion, the NECC approved the following resolution on a vote of 13 for, 0 opposed, and 4 abstaining:

"Whereas, the adopted Anchorage 2020 Comprehensive Plan calls for

- Timely, meaningful public participation in government decisions,
- Northern design standards for an attractive, affordable, winter city,
- Generous open space and wildlife protection,
- Neighborhood improvements that ensure good communities for families,
- Pedestrian safety, convenient transit service, and a balanced transportation system,

Whereas, Title 21, the land use code, is a key implementation tool of Anchorage 2020,

Whereas, many neighborhoods and individuals do not understand how proposed land use changes will affect their properties, their neighborhoods or the city,

Now, therefore, let it be resolved, the Northeast Community Council asks the Anchorage Assembly to delay further action on Title 21 amendments until:

- Municipal planning staff creates a list of key changes that warrant public debate, to include but not limited to a side by side comparison of the changes between current code and the proposed changes to Title 21, and showing side by side comparisons of how those changes reflect the goals, intent, purpose, and original policies of the Anchorage 2020 Comprehensive Plan
- The community is offered individual workshops on key topics such as
 - Neighborhood protection and improvements,
 - Northern design standards including solar access,
 - Open space set asides in subdivisions,
 - Wildlife habitat protection,
 - Clean air and water, and
- Community councils agree that they understand the code well enough to comment on proposed changes.

We ask that you consider our motion as you make decisions in the best interests of the NECC and the community of Anchorage as a whole. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peggy Robinson