

Community Councils Center
Mountain View Community Council
3350 Commercial Drive, Ste. #230
Anchorage AK 99501-3077
~Citizens Building Better Neighborhoods~

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October 2008 Mountain View Community Council News

Mountain View Community Center
315 North Price Street
October 13, 2008



Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Glenn-Bragaw Interchange.

Monday, Oct. 6 at Noon, at west end of pedestrian tunnel. Parking available near intersection of 3rd and Flower Street.

7:00 Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of September Minutes
Approval of Treasurer's Report
Approval of October Agenda
Introductions

7:20 Reports and Announcements

Assembly Report - Patrick Flynn
Legislative Report - Sen. Wielechowski/Rep. Gruenberg
Announcements - ACLT - Jewel Jones
Written Reports - Community Center, Mountain View Patrol, Job Center, Crime Committee, Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Plan, Other prepared by Amy Grant, ACLT

Guest Speakers for October 13, 2008:

8:00 **Clark Middle School Update**- Cessilye Williams
8:10 **CIP Review and Update**- Niki Burrows, Jim Lamson
8:20 **Wizard Car Wash Clean-up**- Jeff Judd, CIHA
8:30 **MV Drive Project Update**- Ross Oswald
8:40 **MV Library Door to Door** - Rachel Rogers
8:50 **Brown Jug Letter**- O.C. Madden
9:00 **US Census**- Chuck McGee
9:10 **Nine Star ESL and Adult Ed Classes**- David Alexander
9:10 **Old Business/New Business**



Next Council Executive Meeting
Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 5:30 PM
Anchorage Community Land Trust Building
This is an open meeting - You are welcome

Fiscal Year 09 Continuation Budget Mark Begich, Mayor

While continuing the city's investment in new police officers, today (September 30) I submit to the Anchorage Assembly a Fiscal 2009 city budget that is nearly \$5 million less than originally proposed last year.

The "continuation" budget, which constitutes the smallest budget increase in the nearly six years since I have been mayor, maintains the city investments in relieving traffic congestion, promoting a positive business climate and protecting public safety.

"This budget proposal adds new police officers to improve public safety, road upgrades and parks and recreation services consistent with voter-approved bonds, while still spending less than we expected at this time last year. As in recent years, we're using the generosity of the State Legislature's community assistance for property tax relief."

The most significant new initiative is the addition of 13 more police officers, continuing the city's effort to add a total of 93 new police officers to the force over the past six years. Some 36 percent of the overall budget goes for public safety, and this budget proposal calls for about \$1 million to hire the additional officers. Over the past five years, the Begich administration and Assembly have added 73 new officers.

The budget also includes new investments in the Fire Department as a result of voter approved bonds. An additional \$521,000 will pay for new air resource positions, air pack replacements and a fire training facility manager.

Other budget highlights include:

- The overall budget proposal is only about \$4 million more than last year, just about a 1 percent increase. This is the smallest budget increase since Begich was elected mayor in 2003.
- Facilities: The doubling of the Eagle River Library in the new Valley River Center, which opens next April.
- \$529,000 in voter-approved funding for new park maintenance and increased hours of operations at all five MOA-run pools.
- Elimination of fees for city youth programs at Fairview, Spenard and Russian Jack Springs Park Recreation Facilities and for the community work service program for teens of economically challenged families.

Thank you to our donors! The Mountain View Community Council and all its members would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for your contribution. Citizens like yourself make a big difference in our community. We need more people like you!

Name of Donor _____

Your donation in the amount of \$ _____
is Tax Deductible. Thank you so much!

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MOUNTAIN VIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL
1989 USA NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR
President: Don Crandall 272-8088
Treasurer: Niki Burrows 274-1179
Mountain View Patrol: 223-9524



Here's my donation to the MVCC

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Work: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| \$ _____ As Needed | \$ _____ COPIER NEEDED |
| \$ _____ Patrol Account | \$ _____ Awards |
| \$ _____ Office Supplies | \$ _____ July 4th Picnic |
| \$ _____ Computer Supplies | \$ _____ Sunshine Account |
| \$ _____ Phone | \$ _____ Clean Up |

Mail your donation to: Mountain View Community Council,
PO Box 142824, Anchorage, AK 99514 • Thank you so much!

President's Message

Don Crandall, MVCC President

Credit Union One is coming to the site of the former Color Creek Art, a one time gasoline station who site required some clean-up work. According to the Mayor, Chevron, which inherited the assets and liabilities of ARCO, cooperated with the city in making plans to pay for the clean-up. This is a critical piece of assistance in the site development. On September 12, the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building, which will include a police substation, showcased a wrecking ball knocking down the not-too-durable concrete walls of the former garage. We are delighted that Credit Union One President Leslie Ellis (picture in page 4-5 spread) was successful in helping her Board of Directors see the importance of expanding their banking institution to our neighborhood. Compliments must also be paid to Cook Inlet Housing's Carol Gore and ACLT's Jewel Jones for helping this bank come to Mountain View, the first financial insitution since Alaska State Bank almost 25 years ago. If you know about business, you are aware that new businesses in our neighborhood need a financial institution. Credit Union One is the second largest credit union in the state, and I believe tyhe residents of Mountain View will find them to be a helpful ally in completing a variety of financial transactions.

Mountain View's Community Organizer was a Pioneer by Clark Yerrington

One of the items of interest in the current Presidential discussions is the relevance of a community organizer in today's society. A community organizer works for the good of the entire community by cooperating with the services extant within its borders as well as the city and state administrations which enact legislation that govern its growth and development. A man who deserves much respect for his tireless effort to improve our community is Randy Smith, former President of our council. Randy ran a business on Mountain View Drive until his passing from a heart attack. While patrolling our streets as the creator of the original community patrol in Anchorage, Randy met and befriended uncounted residents who were grateful for his watchful eye on crime and code violations. One interesting aspect of Randy's career is that he was a member of the Republican party and came within a whisker of winning a House seat on the Republican ticket. Randy started the most extensive clean-up in the city's annals, a tradition carried on by current residents. *(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from a longer community piece in the Anchorage Daily news).*

- Revenue from additional ridership on the PeopleMover bus systems is expected to generate \$328,000 more in 2009 than in 2008, which will offset most of the additional \$500,000 necessary for higher fuel costs.

The development of the Mayor's proposed 2009 budget update has been observed closely by the Assembly Budget Committee, chaired by Assemblywoman Elvi Gray-Jackson, who has met with almost every department. The updated 2009 general government operating budget totals \$435 million. The budget also includes tax relief totaling \$15.6 million for the coming year. The 2009 updated budget is a decrease of \$4.8 million over the proposed 2009 budget of \$440 million approved in November 2007.

Under the Begich administration, the city has adopted a two year budget. In October 2007, the city proposed budgets for both the Fiscal '08 and '09 years and at that time the Fiscal '09 budget was estimated at \$440 million. The city will lobby again in the coming legislative session for property tax relief from the state. With the state benefiting from record high oil prices and additional revenues from a change in the oil tax, \$15.6 million in property tax credits are proposed for 2009.

The proposed capital budget focuses largely on improving Anchorage roads to relieve congestion. The Assembly is being asked to approve a \$68 million bond proposition in 2009, with \$49 million for roads and transportation improvements. Another \$8 million of new investments is proposed for public safety, a little more than \$6 million for public facilities, and \$5 million for parks and recreation facilities.

Three public hearings on the operating budget are scheduled for Oct. 14, 28 and Nov. 18. Final action by the Assembly is expected on Nov. 25. *Please contact our Assemblyman Patrick Flynn if you have a comment on the budget.*

Classes Available for UAA Math Preparatory Subjects, and Trades Math

Registration fee \$20. Free job placement assistance.

The popular *Trades Math class* begins again October 6 at Nine Star Education and Employment Services, 125 W. Fifth Avenue. Improve your math skills to prepare for Alaska union and apprenticeship programs in the construction trades. In addition, classes for Math Prep for UAA will be offered beginning October 6. The UAA prep classes are only offered at Nine Star for fractions, decimals, and percents (6 to 7:45pm Tuesday/Thursday) and integers, exponents, introduction to equations, evaluation, and substitution Monday and Wednesday 6 to 7:45pm. **Please call Jan Nicholls at 375-3716 to register now. Classes start October 6.**

Photos from the September MVCC Meeting



Heather Stewart of Agnew-Beck on the MV Community Plan



Don Crandall, President, and Kep Pierce, FCC Representative.



Leslie Ellis, President, Credit Union One (see MVCC President's Message on page 6)



Clark Yerrington, former MVCC Vice President (article on page 6), Multi-Disciplinary Arts Center



The community council always has good attendance.



Brian Schumacher, DOT, Paul Witt of HDR engineering and Claire Noll, MV's representative on the Glenn-Bragaw Interchange Task Force.

Photos courtesy of Glenn Howson



Jewel Jones discussing ACLT's progress in neighborhood development.



Teri Peters explaining how residents can evaluate parks.