



The Fairview Press

Serving Fairview where "People Make The Difference"

ASSEMBLY & ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT LRTP AMENDMENTS!

DIVERSITY
IS OUR
STRENGTH

Volume 3 Issues 11
November 2005

*Tentative Agenda Topics
For the November Meeting*

- A presentation by Merrill Field
- A presentation by Parks & Rec
- A presentation by SACC
- Community Comments & Concerns
- Committee & Community Reports
- KABATA Resolution

"So let us not be blind to our differences, but let us also direct attention to our common interests and the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's futures. And we are all mortal."

President John F. Kennedy
American University, June 10, 1963



At the Tuesday, October 25, 2005 Anchorage Assembly Meeting, the Assembly adopted, on a 10-2 vote, Ordinance No. AO 2005-115, an ordinance adopting the Anchorage Long-Range Transportation Plan-2025, and concurrent amendments to the Official Streets & Highway Plan (OS&HP), as revised elements of Anchorage 2020-The Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan, and amending Anchorage Municipal Code Chapter 21.05.

The short of it: the LRTP passed with several amendments reflecting philosophical differences between some Assembly Members and the Administration and Planning & Zoning.

The good news for Fairview is that the 4 amendments to the LRTP's language referencing Project 603, the Highway-To-Highway Connection, requested by the Fairview Community Council, were included in the final version of the LRTP. The amendments had the support of the Administration, DOT and Planning & Zoning.

At the October 24th Special Assembly Meeting at City Hall, Assemblyman Allan Tesche put forward the 4 amendments as a package. The

motion to include the amendments in the LRTP was seconded by Assemblyman Dan Coffey, and was passed by unanimous consent! THANKS to ALL of the Members of the Anchorage Assembly for their support of Fairview!

The amendments:

#1. Chapter 8 Page 113 Add bullets after the paragraph beginning with "Anchorage 2020 and 2005": 1st Bullet: "The project design should enhance east-west neighborhood street connectivity. Fairview's most important east-west street connections are at 9th, 13th, and 15th Avenues. These streets are most central, but additional connections should be considered."

#2. Chapter 8 Page 113 Add bullets after the paragraph beginning with "Anchorage 2020 and 2005": 2nd Bullet: "Extensive decking over the freeway, particularly in areas between 9th & 15th is important from a land use perspective. The resulting open spaces would provide a neighborhood focus and integrate with abutting residential projects and the neighborhood commercial activity center."

#3. Chapter 8 Page 113 Add bullets after the paragraph beginning with "Anchorage 2020

and 2005": 3rd Bullet: "Land use benefits are achieved if the freeway alignment allows Gambell & Ingra to be two-sided north-south streets (with housing on both sides), and (b) enough space for a block width of high density residential and limited mixed-use between Gambell and Hyder Street. An alignment of the freeway centerline east off the Hyder Street centerline would maximize neighborhood space for redevelopment and infill in the area west of the freeway (and nearer to Downtown)."

#4. Chapter 8 Page 113 Add the following text to the highway to highway concept discussion on page 113: "Anchorage 2020 and 2005 draft Anchorage Bowl Land Use Plan Map depicts portions of this area as providing much of the critical mass of housing units needed near Downtown. A well-designed, expedited project is essential to medium term implementation of Anchorage 2020 policies for infill, redevelopment, and an enhanced urban environment. Timely completion of this project is essential to spur other investment to regenerate eastern Downtown & western Fairview. The following characteristics are essential to the project's (continued on page 5)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S OCTOBER MEETING

Meeting called to order by President Darrel Hess at 7:07 pm.

Secretary's Report, Sharon Chamard:

There was no quorum at the beginning of the meeting. As more members arrived and there was quorum, it was moved by Dan Loring and seconded by Daretha Tolbert to accept the minutes from the September General Membership meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report, Harry Deuber:

Balance Forward	\$4,999.10
Deposit-Crossroads Lounge	\$500.00
Balance	\$5,499.10
Expenses ACS Patrol line	\$19.28
Darrel Hess for NHP	\$386.51
Expenses	
Balance Forward	\$5,093.31

President's Report, Darrel Hess:

Dan Loring was congratulated on his recent appointment to the Minority Education Concerns Committee.

Darrel mentioned that he has recently been appointed to the Downtown Advisory Council, and has been invited to apply for an opening with the Housing and Neighborhood Development Commission.

The Neighborhood Plan ordinance was passed with a vote of 10-0 by the Assembly. The activities of the Fairview Community Council, which included showing up at the Assembly in a large group, updating the Assembly on the Fairview Neighborhood Plan, and testifying on behalf of the ordinance, had much to do with the outcome of the vote.

There is a new monthly calendar that Darrel is putting together that shows the meetings of the FVCC and its various committees, as well as meetings on the transportation and land use projects affecting Fairview.

The FVCC website should be up and running by next month.

Guests and Presentations:

Darryl Jordan, Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA)

Mr. Jordan gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed Knik Arm Bridge. He stressed that he was talking as a project sponsor, not a decision-maker for the Federal Highway Authority (FHA). Some of the main points in the presentation included the following:

There are 7,000 acres in the Anchorage Bowl, but only about 2,000 can be built on. This is the main force driving the Bridge, coupled with rapid growth in the area (1.6% per year in Anchorage, and about 6% annually in the MatSu Valley). The population in the area is expected to increase by 100,000 over the next 15 years.

The area across the Knik Arm includes about 50% of the undeveloped private land in Alaska.

The typical monthly rent for an acre of land is \$150 in the undeveloped area of Port MacKenzie and \$300 in the developed area, while at the Port of Anchorage it is \$40,000.

The rumor that the project includes the Bridge and not the approach road is incorrect.

The state does not make the decision about the Bridge route. The FHA is the decision maker. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) says to look at all reasonable alternatives in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As part of the scoping process, input was sought from agencies and residents of Government Hill, and routes along Boniface, Reeve Drive, and the bluff were considered. The FHA looked at these recommendations and weighed them.

The highest road usage is along the A/C and Gambell/Ingra couplets, while closer to the mountains, traffic volume drops off. The A/C and Gambell/Ingra couplets are also the shortest routes from the Bridge landing to main nodes in Anchorage.

Within 20 to 30 years, average daily traffic (ADT) from Anchorage to Mirror Lake along the Glenn Highway will double and

triple, and by 2050, will be four times the current volume.

There are serious military constraints on the Boniface route. It is estimated to cost \$343 million to run the road through Elmendorf, but only \$264 million to run it along the bluff. The higher cost is due to issues such as radar towers and electromagnetic radiation from vehicles.

The Department of Transportation thinks Gambell and Ingra are at capacity, but the A/C couplet can increase capacity until 2023. It is feasible in the short term to feed traffic from the Bridge onto the A/C couplet, because initially ADT will be around 10,000; when ADT increases to over 20,000 due to growth in the MatSu Valley, the Highway-to-Highway connection will have been built and can take the extra volume.

Tolls can be used to repay the bonded debts and to cover future operation and maintenance. It is not known what the actual toll will be, but assuming a bonded debt amount of \$250 million, the estimated toll will be \$2.40.

The draft EIS is will be done in late 2005; public comment will follow.

Questions and Comments from the Membership

Allen Kemplen asked if there had been modeling of what will happen to industrial land use after the Bridge is opened, and if it is fair to say that there will be a movement of industrial land use from Anchorage to MatSu Valley. Mr. Jordan said that such models had been made, and that it is unlikely that there will be much movement of industry to MatSu because industry is already invested in Anchorage. However, there is expected to be development of new industry in MatSu. Allen Kemplen commented that a major source of revenue for the Anchorage municipality is property tax, especially from industry. If cheaper land is opened up only a short drive away, it creates an economic incentive for industry to move to MatSu to reduce tax liability. The end result of this movement of a significant tax base out of Anchorage will be a greater burden put on other property

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S OCTOBER MEETING

owners. Mr. Jordan disagreed, and suggested that Allen read the economic report.

Dan Loring said he thinks Allen's conclusion is extremely logical, and that he is concerned that if the project leads to declining property tax revenue, this will lead to dollars being taken away from the Anchorage School District. Mr. Jordan replied that whether there the Bridge is built or not, there will be continued growth in Anchorage, and there will be positive pressure on real estate. Further, the Bridge will not make people from Anchorage move to the MatSu; people who want to leave Anchorage would do so anyway.

Clyde asked for clarification on a point from Mr. Jordan's presentation that Fairview will be primarily commercial by 2030. Mr. Jordan replied that when the city grows, some residential areas will lose people. Daretha Tolbert asked if it the case that no matter what we do, our tax base will be affected. Mr. Jordan replied in the affirmative. A community member asked how much time would be saved for commuters if the Bridge is built. Mr. Jordan said that depends where one lives. Settler's Bay is the break-even point, factoring in time and distance. Someone would be able to get from South Big Lake to downtown Anchorage in 20 minutes. For more information, people can look at the KABATA website at www.knikarmbridge.com.

Allen Kemplen asked if Mr. Jordan would be willing to respond to questions the FVCC prepares and revisit the Council in the future. Mr. Jordan said yes, but because the NEPA process is ongoing, it would be better to ask questions of the FHA. Darrel Hess commented, with regard to the question about Fairview becoming more commercial, that this is where the Neighborhood Plan is very important.

Allen Kemplen, Regarding a Resolution relating to the proposed Knik Arm Crossing

Resolution #2005-03, relating to the proposed Knik Arm Crossing, was read for the first time. As people had written copies of the resolution, it was decided

to dispense with reading it out loud.

Darrel Hess referred the resolution to the Neighborhood Plan committee to receive input from the membership.

Jordan Justice, Americorps

Mr. Justice is the new person at the Fairview Recreation Center computer lab, and was sent there by Nine Star. Community classes will start soon. There will be a resume writing class on October 18th and 21st. Nine Star will be sending over another person to teach classes and keep the lab open. The lab hours are 12 noon to 8 pm Tuesday through Saturday. There are twelve internet-accessible computers.

There have been some discussions about a fee for the lab, but for now people just pay a fee to get into the Rec. Ctr. Lorne Bailey thanked Mr. Justice for his diligence in serving the community, and for a job well done. Darrel Hess welcomed Mr. Justice to the community and presented him a Fairview pin.

Daretha Tolbert, Medicare Changes

Ms. Tolbert gave a short presentation on the pending changes to Medicare prescription drug coverage. This new coverage will begin January 1, 2006, but people have to choose a prescription drug plan. This enrollment period begins November 15, 2005, and ends May 15, 2006. If a person doesn't make a choice by then, a plan will be selected for them. This information is only relevant for people on Medicare or Medicaid.

Gene Storm, Anchorage Assembly:

Mr. Storm gave a report in lieu of Assemblyman Allan Tesche, who was out of town.

The Mayor's budgets are available on-line at www.muni.org. The FVCC has particular interest in capital budget items, so you should make sure what you want is in there, and if it isn't, contact Allan right away.

The recent Assembly meeting went until midnight. The budgets were introduced. The meth lab ordinance passed unanimously. The Fantasies on 5th issue was resolved; approval is contingent on closing

of the viewing windows. New conditions on under 21 strip clubs were passed. Taxi rates will be going up.

Regina Manteufel asked if Allan has written anything up on labor laws concerning independent contractors in strip clubs. Mr. Storm said not yet.

Dan Loring encouraged Mr. Storm to tell Allan regarding the Profiles in Performance recently issued by the Anchorage School District, that 50% of African-Americans and 68% of Alaska Natives in grade 9 don't graduate high school. The total graduation rate of all students is 59%. Dan said that previously Allan said he doesn't want to get involved, but our taxes go to the School District, so tell Allan he should get involved with public education beyond just raising money. Dan said that we need a new educational model, because our current model is 200 years old and doesn't work. Mr. Storm replied that people do need to invest time and effort into education beyond just paying taxes. There is a new statewide task force to address early childhood learning. It starts at home with the parents – they have an obligation to make sure kids are prepared for school. Mr. Storm said that he is the Communication Director for the "Ready to Learn, Ready to Read" initiative. Dan said he has talked to both Assemblymen Sullivan and Birch, and Sullivan said he thinks the next high school in Anchorage should be vocational-technical in nature.

Katsumi commented that she is representing all people in Fairview that have no homes. She said that sidewalks in Anchorage are icy, and asked why they have to be icy when they can be kept clean in Juneau.

BREAK

Committee and Community Reports:

Education, Dale Myhill:

There was no education committee meeting, however members of the committee attended other meetings on Title 21, the School Improvement Plan and the Parent Involvement Policy. Fairview Elementary principal Marc Robinson has promised that community volunteers will do meaningful activities. Dr. Robinson also wants to start

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S OCTOBER MEETING

a lunchtime chess club and a pen pal writing program with the cooperation of the Anchorage Senior Center. The next meeting of the Education committee is October 18th at 6 pm.

PTA, Dan Loring:

At 2 pm on Friday, October 14th, there will be a multiethnic assembly at Fairview Elementary. The mayor will be there, and there will be music and other entertainment. There was a positive meeting today about the Parent-as-Liaison program. The PTA wants to help families with issues, and not just the students. The goal is to reduce family stress. The PTA meets the second Tuesday of the month from 6-8 pm in the library at Fairview Elementary.

Recreation Center, Dave Brossard:

A Fall Festival and Penny Carnival will be held at the Fairview Rec. Ctr. from 6-8 pm on October 28th and at the Spenard Rec. Ctr. from 6-8 pm on October 29th. The staff is putting something good together, perhaps a haunted house. Donations of money or candy are appreciated. Interviews are underway for programmers. One will be at the Fairview Rec. Ctr., and other positions will be at the Spenard Rec. Ctr., as well as the Kincaid and Russian Jack facilities. The program will be starting around October 31st. Parks and Recreation is looking for a person from each community council to sit on the Northwest Parks District Board. **By general consensus, Harry Deuber was recommended, and he agreed to serve.** The Rec. Ctr. is getting upgraded. Inside work will start soon. The walls will be painted, thought they all have to be sanded first. The Anchorage Museum is going to take down the murals in the multipurpose room, restore them, and put on a protective cover.

Neighborhood Plan, Allen Kemplen:

The committee met last Saturday and talked about how to move forward with the development of the Neighborhood Plan regarding current projects. We drafted a request to the municipality to get support for using some of our funds to develop designs for neighborhood improvements. The timeline entails having a plan by early

2006 so members of the public and the community can give comments. The FVCC is ready to present our plan to the administration for action, as we meet all the criteria in the ordinance: we have documented public involvement, and a land use map. If anybody has ideas about what should be in the plan, contact the committee. Our next meeting is October 22nd at 9 am at the Café del Mundo on Benson. Darrel Hess added that the municipality has approved the idea of having a design workshop for 13th and Gambell. Dan Loring praised the committee for doing such a great job, especially since the FVCC was told initially that the Highway Safety Improvement Project at that intersection could not address pedestrian needs at all.

Public Safety, Sharon Chamard:

The Landlord Resource Workshop will be held October 15 from noon-5 pm at the Rec. Ctr. The Community Patrol has put together some guidelines for patrol persons, including requirements for backgrounds checks, clean driving records, and training. At the last Executive Board meeting, it was requested that information about the costs of background checks be provided before a decision is made. Members of the Community Patrol sent out a letter soliciting funds for a new laptop computer for the patrol, and so far the response has been good, with donations coming in from a number of businesses in Fairview. The committee has been working hard over the past year or so on the case of a landlord who allegedly had drug-involved people and prostitutes living in all three of his Fairview buildings. After documenting suspicious activity and working with the police, one of the buildings has been foreclosed on, and another is under foreclosure. The third continues to be under observation. Sharon thanked Dan Loring for all his efforts and progress on Fairbanks Park (adopting the park, organizing neighbors, and coordinating with property owners about a fence) and 13th and Gambell, where he organized the 13th and Gambell Area Improvement Committee. The next meeting of the committee is October 20th from 7-9 pm at the Fairview Rec. Ctr.

Community Comments and Concerns:

Darrel Hess said that the request for proposals (RFP) for the 16th Avenue Terrace design study has been sent out.

Regina Manteufel thanked Bean's Café for their support with food and transportation of participants in the recent Back-to-Work conference.

Katsumi said she used her PFD check to buy sleeping bags for the homeless in Fairview and encouraged others to make donations to buy more sleeping bags.

A community member who lives close to 16th Avenue Terrace asked for more information about the design study. Darrel Hess replied that the RFP has been put out. Allen Kemplen said we will ask someone from the contractor to come in November or December to address the Council.

Dan Loring reported that the Shell gas station on Ingra and 15th was robbed about a week ago. He also said he was glad to be part of a group that is going in so many directions and getting so much done.

Les Gara agreed, saying this community council is clicking on all cylinders and is very effective. The reason you could get money for 13th and Gambell is that you lobbied the municipality and got the request on the capital list. With the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), you worked with the notion that the Highway-to-Highway project should enhance Fairview, and you got language in the LRTP to that effect. The Assembly took your ideas about park space and commercial usage and put them into the draft plan that will be voted on October 25th. Les said he found the presentation on the Knik Arm Crossing hard to watch. He has worked hard to lobby the FHA to consider options that don't go through Government Hill, Downtown, Fairview or South Addition. Elmendorf said the road could run through there. If the estimates to put the road through Elmendorf seem expensive, it's only because the route through downtown was counted as free. Les said he doesn't know what will happen. The governor and Don Young want the downtown route. He and Johnny Ellis will continue to push the El-

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S OCTOBER MEETING

mendorf route. Letters to the Editor will help.

Regina Manteufel said it would be nice to see other community councils, especially Government Hill, being as active as we are. Les replied that Darrel Hess has instigated an intra-council coalition with the Downtown, Government Hill, and South Addition community councils. Darrel Hess said that he, Noel Rea, Allen Kemplen, Harry Deuber, and Sharon Chamard met recently with the presidents of the Downtown and South Addition councils, and decided to focus on the Knik Arm Bridge issue first. It was also decided to invite Government Hill to join afterwards, so it would be clear the effort was not led by Government Hill.

People were urged to become familiar with the idea of "environmental justice," because the FHA is obligated under federal law to pay attention to this.

LRTP continued from page 1

Consistency with the Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan and to emphasize the importance of the land use aspects of this project."

Allen Kemplen commented that we need to have some incentives for mixed-use development in the Anchorage urban core. AHFC could add new programs to their portfolio that provide low-interest loans for projects that meet certain criteria. Les asked for Allen to give him more information on this so he could take it to AHFC.

Cindi Stanton, APD

Sergeant Stanton spoke about the misinformation in a recent newspaper article about the vice unit replacing the rape unit. She stated this is not true, and that there are in fact eight detectives and one detective sergeant in the Special Victims Unit, and the unit is still there. The article was referring to the downtown sexual assault intervention unit, which had four officers. This unit was absorbed by the Vice Unit, which will continue to work on prostitution and drugs, and will also do downtown bar intervention.

Over the past several years, the Fairview Community Council has worked extremely hard to craft a vision for the proposed highway connection that would ensure the movement of traffic along the Glenn and

Lorne Bailey commented that the Seward Highway bike trail is very dangerous, especially around the 36th Avenue intersection. Sgt. Stanton replied that this is a recurrent problem with people from other community councils as well. She said she would talk to the Traffic Department about possibly doing some Public Service Announcements on this matter.

In response to a question about the availability of youth counseling programs, Sgt. Stanton spoke briefly about the School Resource Officer program, and how the budget for the program will be in front of the Assembly soon. Darrel Hess said that as citizens, it is important to show up whenever budget issues regarding the police are being discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Chamard, Secretary.

Seward Highways, while providing maximum benefit to our Neighborhood.

THANKS to all who helped get this language into the LRTP! IN FAIRVIEW, PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

ANHS & FVCC HOST LANDLORD RESOURCE WORKSHOP

Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services and the Fairview Community Council's Public Safety Committee worked together to organize and present a resource workshop for Fairview landlords. The workshop, which went from noon to 5 pm on October 15, 2005 featured a variety of speakers: Mike Courtney from Anchorage Neighborhood Housing spoke about tenant screening and landlord responsibilities; Jim Gurke from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation presented information about Section 8 vouchers; Daune Wyatt from the Municipality of Anchorage discussed issues relating to zoning, land use, and code enforcement; Sharon Chamard from the Justice Center at UAA talked about crime prevention and defensible space in rental housing; Captain Tom Nelson from the Anchorage Police Department described indicators of criminal behavior and urged residents and landlords to get involved in their communities; and Attorney Steve Jones concluded the

day by explaining landlord-tenant law and eviction procedures.



In addition to these presentations, participants broke out into small groups to discuss scenarios typically faced by landlords, such as non-payment of rent and reports of suspicious behavior by tenants. Fairview landlords Harry Deuber, Jerry Haggerty, Brian Lyons, Lee Ross and Dave Syren facilitated these groups.

The workshop was attended by close to twenty landlords from all parts of Fairview. It is hoped

that this workshop can be presented annually, but in the meantime the Public Safety Committee plans to continue to work with these landlords, and others who were interested but could not attend. On Thursday, November 10th at 6 pm at the Fairview Recreation Center at 1121 E. 10th Avenue, there will be a short meeting to talk about how to proceed as a group.

Thank you to all the presenters and the landlord facilitators. Special appreciation from the Fairview Community is due to Lisa Mills, the Director of Community Engagement at Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services, for all she did to bring the workshop to fruition. Many thanks also to Public Safety Committee members Claris Syren and Lee Ross, who worked with Lisa to organize the event.

Submitted by Sharon Chamard

LEE ROSS: VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH!

Congratulations to Fairview resident Lee Ross on his selection as Parks & Recreation's October Volunteer of the Month! Lee has been volunteering in the Fairview Community for over 10 years. Lee and his dog Kelvin are the cornerstones of the Fairview Community Patrol, keeping a watchful eye on the Neighborhood and assisting residents of Fairview in their efforts to maintain a safe community.



At this past July's Fairview Community Block Party, Lee was awarded the Fairview Community Council's Citizenship Award, presented by Fairview's own Senator Johnny Ellis & Mayor Mark Begich. Lee was also selected as the recipient of a Neighborhood Improvement Grant by Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services this summer for a project to build garbage can hutches for several residents in the area.

Lee is an active member of the Fairview Community Council's Public Safety Committee, and was instrumental in planning the recent Landlord Resource Workshop that the FVCC co-hosted with Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services.

Lee has worked in a partnership with Parks

& Recreation all summer helping, along with other community members, to beautify the parks in Fairview. Lee took on the task of keeping the trees in the traffic diverters in Fairview looking beautiful, and continued this effort at the Clean & Greens at Fairview Lions Park and Earl & Muriel King Park. Lee and his partner in crime, Kelvin, are always there when you need a helping hand!

Lee's Favorite Quote: "You've got the talking part done and it's time for some action."

Lee Ross: Fairview Man of Action!

Lee was nominated by Doe Anderson, Northwest Park District Manager & Nancy Beardsley, Volunteer Coordinator.

VOLUNTEERS "PAINT" FAIRVIEW

Sunday, September 11, 2005, was a great day for Community Spirit and Fellowship in Fairview!

A group of approximately 100 Seventh Day Adventists descended on Fairview, with paint brushes & scrapers in hand, and smiles on their faces!

The volunteers, aided by Fairview's own Claris Syren & Harry Deuber, spent several hours scraping and painting the fence around Fairview Lions Park-the WHOLE fence!

This great group of people also painted the



metal bollards and weeded and raked the diverters along Karluk Street and painted the fence at the Fairview Recreation Center!

The Fairview Community Council and the Parks & Recreation Department provided lunch for the group, served by Sharon Chamard, Darrel Hess & Regina Mantuefel.

Northwest Parks District Manager Doe Anderson, and Parks Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Beardsley, arranged for the group to work in Fairview, coordinated supplies, and handled the days logistics!

The days activities, coupled with the earlier Clean & Green at Fairview Lions Park, means that the park will be looking spiffy next spring! Thanks to all for a great day!

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