

**UACC Minutes**  
**University Area Community Council (UACC)**  
**January 7, 2015**

1. Opening: Jacob Gondek called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 PM. Jacob next had the people in the room introduce themselves. Twenty-two people were in attendance at the start of the meeting. Seventeen UACC members signed in. An additional five visitors signed in and attended part or all of the meeting.
2. Approval of minutes: The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014 meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion was approved 12 for and 0 against.
3. Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented unanimously.

**4. Informational Reports**

**A. Reports from Public Servants**

1. Andy Josephson reported on the following items.

Andy discussed that he was heading down to Juneau, where he will be on the Resource Committee and the Budget Sub-Committee. He has pre-filed several bills relating to Anti-discrimination, Medicaid Expansion, Regional Transit Authority, First Responder Health Care, and Reckless Driving. He also mentioned he will continue to try to "claw" back funding for the UMED Northern Access road. He mentioned the new emergency response facilities proposed for Eagle River and south Anchorage would lessen the need for such road.

2. Berta Gardner reported on several items:

She indicated she would talk with Governor Walker about the need for the UMED Northern Access Road. She indicated her priorities would be for economic health of families, affordable energy, education, and Medicaid expansion. She mentioned that she would be sending out a survey with her newsletter to poll constituents' issues and concerns. She also mentioned that an Anchorage Caucus that would be held at the Assembly Chambers on Saturday December 6 to discuss issues facing Anchorage.

3. Pete Peterson

Pete reported that an Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness is planning to meet Thursday December 4. They have met several times and have been tasked with making a recommendation to the Mayor on how to deal with homelessness in Anchorage. He also mentioned that the Assembly voted to have the City Attorney come up with a Memorandum of Understanding with the ride provider Uber, before they can start formal service in Anchorage. He felt that Uber doesn't like rule making and the taxi industry and Uber might come to litigation before this Uber ride service is approved by the Municipality. Al Milspaugh commented that there are privacy issues involved in the on line application of the business, that currently Uber is not paying the drivers so the muni has allowed them to proceed, and that cab permit fees go to the Municipality unlike Uber.

4. Dick Trani

Dick mentioned that the Assembly is trying to gather information on what to do with the Old Tudor Fire Station situated on 2.7 acre site on Tudor and Lake Otis. Possibilities include a portion of it might become a parking lot, as well as providing bike amenities,

particularly focused on a safe crossing from the Campbell Creek multiuse trail across Lake Otis Drive. Dick also mentioned that the 2/14/15 Assembly meeting will take up the marijuana issue. There will be a couple of Municipal attorneys heading down to Denver to examine how Colorado is dealing with recreational marijuana legalization so they may better work with the State to develop appropriate regulations. Finally, Dick mentioned that at the 1/12/15 meeting the Assembly will take up a Charter School Facilities Tax Exemption proposal.

5. Ted Madsen for Max Gruenberg

Ted mentioned that Max's office will be shut down for the move to Juneau. The phones have been forwarded to Juneau, and should be up by 1/13. The official start of the Legislative session is 1/20.

6. Brook Ivy for Sen. Wielechowski

She indicated there would be town hall meeting the Begich Middle School Thursday 12/4, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. She said that Senator Wielechowski also has a survey, and it can be found at [www.SenatorBill.org](http://www.SenatorBill.org). Al Milspaugh noted that all the elected representatives' phone numbers and emails will be listed on the FCC website.

B. Community Council Board Reports

1. Safety Report- Al Milspaugh noted all should consider vaccination shots for tetanus, pneumonia, influenza, and shingles, particularly when one is over 50 years of age.

2. FCC Report - Al Milspaugh said there was no FCC meeting this month.

3. Paul Stang UMED planning Team

Paul reviewed the letter that he and Jacob wrote to the UMED Planning Team on behalf of UACC. The letter was written in response to the "gutting" of key elements in the UMED Plan. The comments to the plan were due December 1, and there was a meeting today to review these comments. Paul indicated that some of the comments in the letter were addressed at this meeting. Some of the key elements referred to in the letter were that the UAA/APU ski trails in the area are in jeopardy. Unless they get support in the plan, through emphasis on trails and green areas, the trails could be traversing areas that could be slated for development. The upcoming schedule for the plan is that in one week a revision will be in hand to the planning team. There will be two weeks for comments. The plan will be finalized for public review by February. During discussion Russ Kell noted that much of the APU land was obtained through Federal land transfer, and was to be maintained as recreational land. Susan Klein noted that the lands were given as an endowment, and could be leased to provide resources for the University. Russ Kell said that he would check on finding out what were the actual covenants regarding the transfer of these Federal lands to APU. Barbara Garner noted that the letter was a good letter, well-crafted and to the point.

5. Business

A. Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU) – Brian Baus

Brian provided information on how the Anchorage water system functions. He described the water system is broken down into transmission mains, backbone lines, and then distribution lines that terminate in home lines. Brian discussed the evolution of the water line system, going from: wood stay >hardened clay>cement>reinforced concrete>cast Iron> ductile steel>PVC pipe materials. He indicated the older pipe systems are gradually being replaced. He said they have

been tracking waterline failure incidents for the last twenty years or so. For a line to “bubble” up to a high priority for replacement it has to have three breaks in the last three years. He also indicated that if a major road project were to be in place, the reconstruction of the water line might also move to a higher priority. Brian indicated Lines that have repairs are still reliable, and the repaired segment is probably more reliable than the rest of the line. Brian discussed the average cost of a water line break is about \$40,000, since the lines are ten feet down, and require excavation of a large hole to get to the pipe. He indicated that the average cost for waterline replacement is about \$1,000 per foot. Discussion centered on 42nd Avenue and the water break that occurred last fall. Brian said the line does not have a current failure history to make it rise to the top of the priority list. One thing that might help make the water line a higher priority for replacement by AWWU is for our Community Council to send a letter or other official correspondence to indicate that the UACC considers the replacement of this 1960’s waterline a high priority. Brian then answered a couple of questions. The first was whether PVC water pipes are safe. He indicated that they are approved by Federal Regulatory Authorities, and there is no current evidence of adverse health effects. The second question was about when the water line reconstruction would start on the 5000 block of Wesleyan Drive. Brian indicated he thought it would happen summer of 2015. For more information Brian can be reached at phone # 564-2765 or email at brian.baus@awwu.biz .

B. Anchorage Community Mental Health Services- Jennifer Smerud

Ms. Smerud said the ACMHS has been providing health services in Anchorage since 1994, and it currently has 22 programs. An example of such a program is adult day care. Their medical services offices are in the Folker Building, at Folker Street and East 40th. They are looking for recommendations for their 2 acre lot on the east side of Folker Street. The recommendations were to clear vegetation to provide clear line of site, for staff people to walk through the park, and to possibly build a fence around the property to discourage homeless people from camping on the property. Ms. Smerud said that there was a Real Estate meeting today to discuss the disposition of ACMHS land and then come up with a master plan. A future Board meeting would then include a decision on the actual disposition of these properties. Several questions were posed to Jennifer from the Council. The first was whether the Health Service paid property taxes, and the answer was no. The second question was whether the ACMHS has considered “small housing” as a means to address mental health issue by providing safe housing. Jennifer indicated there has been no discussion by the ACMHS on this matter. This was followed by a general discussion as to safe and affordable housing and its role in reducing homelessness in the UACC area. Barbara Garner volunteered that she may go to the Homeless Committee meeting, as previously identified by Pete Peterson, to discuss the potential for small housing in Anchorage. These website for ACMHS is: <http://www.AKmentalhealthservices.com/>

C. Mint Dental Annex- Jason DeBaugh

Jason described the 20,000 sq ft building that is planned for opening in September of 2015. He provided the following details. There is currently 5,000 sq ft of space still available for lease. All of Mint Dental in Anchorage would be consolidated in these offices. There will be about 50 employees, with 150 patients. Access to the building will be off Tudor. A DOT ROW permit is required for the driveways. There will be sidewalks on Folker. There are 77 parking spaces provided. All of the first floor will be parking. The second floor will contain office spaces, and the third floor will have a 2000 sq ft penthouse.

D. UACC Nominations - Elections

Jacob Gondek opened the floor for nominations for 2015 UACC elected offices. Russ Kell moved to elect the following three people for 2015 elected offices:

Jacob Gondek – President

Al Milspaugh – Vice President

Steve Zemke – Secretary

Eric Anderson seconded the motion. The motion to elect Jacob, Al and Steve to the elected offices as moved was passed with **12 votes for, no votes against, with one abstention.**

E. UAA President Vision Statement- Pat Gamble

A Pat Gamble audio was played describing his vision for the UA campuses. He said that the UA system needs to reduce its infrastructure, with low value buildings being eliminated. He felt the uncontrolled growth of the last decade needed to be controlled, with emphasis on affordable academic offerings focused on arctic, resource, and environmental sections. He said that various UA campus leaders needed to start to work better together.

6. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at approximately 8:50 PM. Next Meeting- The next meeting will be held on February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the University Baptist Church.

Attachment 1 *Elvi Gray Jackson University Community Council Meeting – Assembly Report*

*December 3, 2014*

- *The Mayor's 2015 General Government and Utility Operating and Capital budgets were submitted to the Assembly in October. Highlights of the Mayor's Proposed Budget follows:*
  - *The Administration faced a \$1.8M Budget Shortfall*
  - *Majority of Services reduced to cover shortfall were within other services i.e., contracts, travel, supplies and equipment*
  - *Total Budget - \$471.4*
  - *Funds acquired through attrition will allow for two police academies*
  - *Positions in both Police and Fire are static*
  - *Seven full-time vacant positions eliminated within the following departments: Chief Fiscal Officer, IT, Community Development, and Health and Human Services. One position in Mayor's Office will be eliminated July 2015.*
  - *Seven full-time positions added within the following departments: Employee Relations, Finance, and Public Transit*
  - *Senior Center Funding reduced – Anchorage (\$67,207) and Chugiak (\$41,190).*
  - *One full-time position (filled) is eliminated in Parks and Recreations*
- *The Assembly held a special meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup> and approved all budgets. Highlights of the approved GGOB budget follow:*
  - *Senior Center Funding was reinstated*
  - *Vacant Senior Planner position was reinstated*
- *Assembly proposed several amendments. The Mayor accepted 95% of the proposed amendments. It was one of the most amicable budget processes during the six years of the current Administration. Total budget: \$473.7M – almost \$200,000 under the cap.*
- *SAP – The Administration requested and the Assembly approved another \$3M (6-5) by way of a loan for the continued implementation of the Financial and Human Resource Enterprise Resource Planning System (SAP).*
- *Ms. Demboski and Gray-Jackson brought forward a resolution requesting a \$200,000 appropriation from Fund Balance to provide funding for an independent review of both the Payroll System (Kronos) and SAP implementation. The Public Hearing was held on October 21<sup>st</sup> and it was approved 7-4. In September 2013, a resolution was brought forward by Mr. Traini and Ms. Gray-Jackson for the same purpose but it failed 4-7. Current costs for SAP - \$34.6M. The RFP went to potential bidders and we received six*

*proposals. The RFP review team will meet on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> to review proposals and select a successful bidder.*

- *Chugach Access Plan (CAP) first public hearing was held on September 9<sup>th</sup> and continued to the meeting of September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Forty-eight persons testified – 38 in favor of immediately approving the plan and 10 concerned about property rights. The Assembly held two work sessions. The CAP approval was postponed until the meeting of November 5<sup>th</sup> to allow for the Chugiak/Eagle River Advisory Board the opportunity to review the Plan as required by Code. The Board requested that the Assembly postpone approving until its concerns are addressed. At the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Assembly approved postponing action on the Plan until the meeting of March 24<sup>th</sup>. At the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Assembly heard AO 2014-147, an ordinance providing for implementation of the Chugach Access Plan through Title 21 changes submitted by Mr. Starr and Mr. Traini. The ordinance was forwarded to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Public Hearing will be continued at the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Evans had an ordinance also revising Title 21 regarding the Chugach Access Plan – AO 2014-140 - and the Public Hearing was continued to the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.*
- *At the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Assembly heard an ordinance submitted by Assembly Members Demboski and Evans to elect to allow permanent registration of certain motor vehicles and trailers within the Municipality for vehicles eight years or older. The cost would have been \$6M in additional property taxes or reduction in services. The Assembly approved allowing only trailers at a cost of \$210,000.*
- *At the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Assembly approved the East Anchorage District Plan.*

*Next Assembly Meeting: December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014*

Attachment 2



## Community

### **Black Friday traffic enforcement results in 67 no-seatbelt tickets.**

Some Black Friday shoppers this past week got a bit more than they bargained for...

On Friday, November 28, 2014, Anchorage Police officers conducted a “Click-it-or-Ticket” seatbelt enforcement detail in the area of 5th Avenue and Karluk. Funded by the Alaska Highway Safety Office and as part of a national “Buckle Up America” campaign, the five hour detail resulted in 88 traffic tickets, 67 of which were for no-seatbelt violations.

Seatbelts save lives. Time and again, police officers and medics respond to traffic collisions with critical or fatal injuries that could have been prevented by the simple act of wearing a seatbelt; this year nearly 20% of the traffic deaths seen in Anchorage were the result of no seatbelt.

“One of the most difficult responsibilities for any sergeant is to conduct a death notification,” says APD Traffic Sergeant Roy LeBlanc, “and it’s made even more tragic to know a person’s death could have been prevented. It takes seconds to buckle up, but those seconds could mean a lifetime to you and your loved ones.”

So please, buckle-up Anchorage – “Every Trip. Every Time.”

## **Address/Location**

[Anchorage Police Department](#)

4501 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, AK 99507

## **Contact**

Emergency: 9-1-1  
Non-emergencies: 907-786-8900

Dani Myren  
Public Affairs Unit  
[dmyren@muni.org](mailto:dmyren@muni.org)

907-786-8699

Attachment 3



**Attachment 4**



**Attachment 5**

