

Turnagain Community Council

Meeting Notices, Announcements & Project Updates

Compiled by TCC Vice President Cathy Gleason — as of September 1, 2016

Turnagain Community Council is on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/turnagainforum/>

Check for updates on our webpage: www.communitycouncils.org

SEPTEMBER 2016 NOTICES:

- **September 3-October 1 — Spenard Farmer's Market, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Spenard Road, W. 26th & Spenard Rd.** Enjoy food, flowers, crafts, music and fun at the market!
- **September 7 — Assembly Worksession RE: Anchorage Talks Transit-People Mover Route Discussion, 1:00-1:30 p.m., City Hall, 632 W. 6th Ave., Room 155.** Survey results are complete; the next step is to translate the findings into service changes.
For comments, questions, concerns, email: transitplanning@muni.org
To join the mailing list and receive notifications and updates, go to:
<http://www.muni.org/Departments/transit/PeopleMover/Pages/TransitTalks.aspx>
- **September 7 — Platting Board Public Hearing on Lot Subdivision Proposal at 1822 Forest Park Dr., 6:30 p.m., Assembly Chambers, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St.** *(Please note: new, temporary Assembly chambers building entrance is farther west of the old first floor library entrance.)* Application proposal is to subdivide two lots into one lot, with vacation of Right-Of-Way. **The proposal was presented at TCC's June 7th meeting — no general opposition was expressed.**
Petitioner representative contact: Ken Lang, Lang & Associates, 455-4625
- **September 8 — PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TCC MEETING DATE & LOCATION — Turnagain Community Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lake Hood Elementary Library.** *The September TCC meeting is being changed to the second Tuesday, due to Labor Day weekend. Also, due to construction at Turnagain Elementary School, TCC will be meeting in Lake Hood Elementary until further notice).*
Info: TCC President Jonathan Tarrant, tccpresent@yahoo.com
- **September 9 — Comments Due — Short Plat Application at 2549 Discovery Ct.** Case No. S12301: Proposed vacation of a portion of the 10-foot utility easement on the north boundary of existing Lot 24. *There is no public hearing; administration decision date is September 19th.*
Info: MOA Planning Department, Current Planning Division, 343-7901
- **September 9 — Comments Due — Short Plat Application at 2606 W. 31st Ave.** Case No. S12302: Proposed subdivision of two lots into two different lots. *There is no public hearing; administration decision date is September 19th.*
Info: MOA Planning Department, Current Planning Division, 343-7901
- **September 10 — Kiwanis Fish Creek Park 'Fix-It', 9:00 a.m.-Noon, 3907 E. Turnagain Blvd.** Volunteers will be planting five trees (donated by Cathy and Dan Gleason) at this Fix-It event. Other improvement projects include planting spring flower bulbs and weeding. All tools will be provided and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Parks Dept. and the Anchorage Park Foundation.
Info: Parks Volunteer Coordinator, FehribachMR@muni.org, 343-4587
- **September 10 — Fish Creek Festival, 3:00 p.m.-sunset — See locations below.** Sponsored by the Anchorage Park Foundation.
 - 3:03 p.m. — Kiwanis Fish Creek Park ribbon cutting for new playground, 3907 Turnagain Blvd.
 - 3:33 p.m. — Fish Creek Trail Rehabilitation Groundbreaking (project will take place Summer 2017) at Kiwanis Fish Creek Park
 - 3:43 p.m. — Parade from Fish Creek Park to Barbara St. Park, 3109 Barbara St.
 - 4:14 p.m. — Barbara Street Park ribbon cutting for new playground
 - 4:54 p.m. — Parade from Barbara Street Park to Woodland Park, 3508 Iowa St.
 - 5:05 p.m. — Filipino Food and Fire Truck at Woodland Park
 - 5:45 p.m. — Parade from Woodland Park to Kiwanis Fish Creek Park

- 6:16 p.m. — Live Music Festival at Kiwanis Fish Creek Park — Live music featuring Hot Dish and Steven Bacon Band

Info: Beth Nordlund, Anchorage Park Foundation, Beth@AnchorageParkFoundation.org, 274-1004

Event Map: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1078500905532799/>

- **September 17 — Lyn Ary Park Beach Cleanup, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Meet at the lower level beach access area by the Memorial Garden/Coastal Trail.** Help clean up this beautiful, coastal asset in our neighborhood! Bring boots, coat — whatever you need to stay warm; it gets chilly by the water. Hertz, sponsor of the event, will provide trash bags, gloves, snacks and drinks (feel free to bring your own gloves, if you can).
Info and RSVP: Erika, ermartinez@hertz.com
- **September 19 — Spenard Road Reconstruction Open House, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Romig Middle School, Multi-Purpose Room, 2500 Minnesota Dr.** The Municipality and project consultants have completed the 65% road design stage of the project. **The design will be posted on the project website by September 2nd, for review prior to the Open House.**
Info, questions, comments: Anne Brooks, Public Involvement Coordinator, comments.brooksalaska@gmail.com, 272-1877.
- **September 20 — Anchorage Trails Initiative Meeting, 9:30 a.m., City Hall, 632 W. 6th Ave., 8th Floor Mayor's Conference Room.** Agenda includes trail safety and connectivity items, ribbon-cutting events, Wellness Committee report.
Info: Beth Nordlund, Anchorage Park Foundation, Beth@AnchorageParkFoundation.org, 274-1004

OCTOBER 2016 NOTICES:

- **October 6 — PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TCC MEETING LOCATION — Turnagain Community Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lake Hood Elementary Library.** Due to construction at Turnagain Elementary School, TCC will be meeting in the Lake Hood Elementary library until further notice.
Info: TCC President Jonathan Tarrant, tccpresent@yahoo.com
- **October 9 — Deadline for 2016 General Election Registration & Registration Updates.** This is the last day to register, in order to be able to vote in the November 8th General Election.
Info and to register: https://elections.alaska.gov/ei_ed_2015_dates.php
- **October 21 — Municipality of Anchorage 2017 Budget Assembly Worksession, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., City Hall, Assembly Conference Room 155, 632 W. 6th Ave.**
Info: Assembly Chair Elvi Gray-Jackson, Gray-JacksonE@muni.org, 343-4118
- **October 24 — 2016 General Election Early and In-Person Absentee, Special Needs and By-Electronic Transmission Voting Begins for 2016 General Election.**
Info: https://elections.alaska.gov/ei_ed_2015_dates.php
- **October 29 — 2016 General Election Absentee By-Mail Application Deadline.**
Info: https://elections.alaska.gov/ei_ed_2015_dates.php

NOVEMBER 2016 NOTICES:

- **November 1 — DEADLINE — Wildflower Garden Club Grants Program Application.** Application amount can range between \$200 to \$2,000; must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; can be used for educational, conservation/preservation, beautification projects.
Info and to receive application: Elaine, akwildflowers@gmail.com, www.wildflowergardenclub.org
- **November 8 — 2016 General Election — please vote!** Note: TCC will be discussing the organization of a West Anchorage Candidates Forum at our Sept. 8th meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES:

- **Northern Lights Blvd./Benson Blvd. Improvement Project Update**

Expect nightly LANE RESTRICTIONS and CONSTRUCTION RELATED NOISE on Northern Lights Blvd. and Benson Blvd. between Arctic Blvd. and Forest Park Dr. from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. until mid-September, due to final paving and striping operations. *Project projected to be completed by September 2016.*

Please use caution when traveling through the project area, and be alert to construction workers near the roadway, and double traffic fines throughout the project area.

Info: DOT at <http://AlaskaNavigator.org> or 770-2612.

To sign up for project updates, email: NorthernlightsBenson@spawnak.com.

- **Lyn Ary Park — Neighborhood Efforts Dealing with Troubling/Illegal Activities**

A group of neighbors near Lyn Ary Park have started meeting with each other and various Municipal Depts., to address the increase in troubling and illegal activities in the park/beach area. Efforts being made to-date include the Parks Dept. closing the park an hour earlier — additional signage will be placed in the area; neighbors patrolling the park in small groups a few nights a week; working with Traffic and APD on additional actions. *This item will be on TCC's Sept. 8th agenda.*

Info: TCC Board Member Kennis Brady, kennis.brady@gmail.com

- **West High Parking Lot Improvements**

A project completed this summer at the West High parking lot includes a dedicated school bus drive land; and medians, landscaping, and marked crosswalks, greatly enhancing and improving vehicle/pedestrian safety and bus circulation. *The TCC Safe Routes to Schools Committee provided input to the Anchorage School District and project consultants, which included pedestrian crosswalks at the Belmont and Arlington pedestrian access paths as they enter the campus.*



- **Upgrades to AWWU Pump Station 10 Landscaping**

Pump Station 10 along the Coastal Trail was constructed in 2009, and including landscaping surrounding the facility. *TCC provided fairly extensive input on the landscaping plan during the development of the project.* AWWU are upgrade and improving the deteriorating landscaping and ground cover this summer. AWWU is considering allowing Dan and Cathy Gleason to donate two spruce trees, to be planted next to existing landscaping, as additional buffering between the Coastal Trail and the facility fencing.

Info: Paul Hatcher, AWWU Engineering Technician III/Real Estate Coordinator, 564-2721

Questions on the donation offer? Cathy Gleason, cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com, 248-0442

- **Gleason Tree Donation in Turnagain Update**

Dan and Cathy Gleason's 35th Anniversary/35 Tree Donation in Turnagain project is progressing, with 13 trees planted in 2015 (Lyn Ary Park, Big Corner Shell Station, Balto Seppala Park); an additional 13 trees have been planted this summer (Lyn Ary Park, WNL median, Lake Hood Dr. entrance to Airport). *On Sept. 10th, five trees will be placed at Kiwanis Fish Creek Park — please attend the Fix-It event to help with the planting (see meeting notices for details)!* Hopefully, the remaining tree donations will be in the ground before the snow flies (Aero Ave., AWWU Pump Station 10/Coastal Trail)!

Many thanks to everyone who has been working with the Gleasons to help beautify our neighborhood!

Info: Cathy Gleason, cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com, 248-0442

- **Turnagain Heights (Marston Dr/Foraker Dr.) RID/LID/WID Assessment Appeal**

On August 10th, Superior Court Judge Eric A. Aarseth issued an “**Order AFFIRMING Anchorage Municipal Assembly’s Assessment Decision**” regarding assessment costs for the Turnagain neighborhood road, water and sewer/lateral improvement districts. (Background: In 2003, cost assessments for the improvements were estimated and the Assembly authorized three improvement districts. In 2006, 35% designs showed the project would be more expensive; landowners unhappy with the Assembly’s 2006 reassessed allocations filed an appeal. In 2013, the Court remanded the case to the Assembly, to hold a trial-type hearing for the Appellants’ challenges to the new assessment rolls; a three-member Assembly panel held a quasi-judicial hearing in 2014. The Assembly concluded that costs were properly allocated, bidding procedures properly followed, and the lot owners received substantial benefit from the road, water, and sewer improvements. The Appellants then appealed the Assembly’s remand decision to the Alaska Superior Court.)

Info: Assistant Municipal Attorney Robert Owens, WenesRP@ci.anchorage.ak.us, 343-4545

- **Sydney’s Shortcut Trail**

The Office of the Municipal Attorney released a letter July 14, 2016, on the legal status of Sydney’s Shortcut — a neighborhood path that cut across what was once a vacant lot on Marston Dr. connecting with the Coastal Trail — but closed off when development on the property started in 2015. The letter stated that, “Because the deed specifically grants a right of way to ‘the owners of property in the Turnagain Heights Subdivision,’ and not the Municipality or the public at large, the Municipality has not sought to enforce rights created by the 1955 deed.” **While this issue was discussed numerous times at TCC meetings, the council did not take a position on the matter.**

- **Anchorage Bowl Land Use Plan Map Update**

The Municipal Planning Dept. has posted more maps and information on the project website (see below), including Map Folio (Appendix A, draft) with 20 maps showing city planning factors and issues; “Traded Sectors” report (Appendix B) identifying land uses that are key export sectors of the local economy; the “Anchorage Industrial Land Assessment Update, Volumes 1 and 2, which assesses the remaining supply of industrial land in the Municipality; and Public Comments (Appendix D) received regarding the February 29 Community Discussion Draft Land Use Plan Map.

Also posted is an “Area-Specific Plans Map, which allows users to zoom in and link to the actual plans of Anchorage’s neighborhood and district plans:

<http://muniorg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapAndAppGallery/index.html?appid=9019159eada3425f83afd9c894515ec8>

In June, TCC submitted a lengthy comment letter (summarized at our June 2nd TCC meeting and approved by the Board) on the LUPM Update Community Discussion Draft; this letter will be presented at our September 8th council meeting for affirmation.

Anchorage Bowl LUPM website:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPP/Planning/Projects/AnchLandUse/Pages/default.aspx>

Info: MOA Planning Dept., Long-Range Planning Section, 343-7921

To join the TCC LUPM Committee, contact Committee Co-chairs:

Anna Brawley, annab.brawley@gmail.com, or Cathy Gleason, cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com, 248-0442

- **Spenard Corridor Plan Survey #1 Now Available**

Development of a Spenard Corridor Plan (SCP) is now underway and the first project survey is online. The SCP will become Anchorage’s first transit-supportive development corridor planning document, and will present an area profile, goals, and objectives for the corridor, and it will link recommendations for land use, multimodal transportation and connectivity, future road upgrades, and transit in a single document.

Link to Survey: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdoykwMW4vydiYu8HPlyifpH0pOHAVvTzz-G2PUd2z0exYPGg/viewform?c=0&w=1>

- **Cell Tower Revisions Approved By Assembly**

On June 21st, the Assembly approved AO 2015-142 (S-1), as amended. These revisions address, among other things, public notice requirements, landscaping requirements and height allowances and tower types in zoning districts. Regulations for small cell technology were incorporated into the Code.

To view the approved ordinance, go to:

[http://www.muni.org/PublicNotice/Documents/AO%202015-142\(S-1\),%20As%20Amended%20OCR.pdf](http://www.muni.org/PublicNotice/Documents/AO%202015-142(S-1),%20As%20Amended%20OCR.pdf)

- **Lake Hood Seaplane Base Master Plan Update**

A Draft Report and Airport Layout Plan is being drafted this summer, with a Public Review Draft released this fall; Final Plan projected to be released in Nov./Dec. timeframe.

Info, submit comments and join email list and receive meeting notices: www.lhdmasterplan.com.

Questions? Teri Lindseth, Airport Planning, 266-2544, teri.linseth@alaska.gov.

TCC submitted comments on the Draft Lake Hood Master Plan, including the motion we passed at our April 7th meeting:

“Turnagain Community Council strongly opposes development projects located in Turnagain Bog land at the Airport, specifically the three projects identified in the [LHMP] Draft Plan:

- ⇒ *Tie-down GA parking and lease lot/tie-down space east of the Lake Hood gravel strip runway [identified as CIP Projects 10A, 10B, and 10C in the draft];*
- ⇒ *Proposed trail east of the gravel strip near the Turnagain residential boundary [identified as Other Project J]; and*
- ⇒ *The tie-down GA parking lot west of the existing Echo tie-down parking lot [identified as Other Project K].”*

- **2016 Park and Trail Projects in Turnagain**

Upgraded Playground Equipment and other amenities —New playground equipment is currently being installed — ribbon-cutting ceremonies scheduled for Sept. 10th!

Barbara Street Park

Kiwanis Fish Creek Park

Volunteer Events:

September 10th — Kiwanis Fish Creek Park — Volunteer Tree Planting/Fix-It Day

Coastal Trail Bridge Replacement — scheduled for Fall:

Fish Creek Bridge

Sisson Loop Bridge

Info: Taylor Keegan, MOA Park Planner, 343-4518, keeganth@muni.org

- **Fish Creek Trail to Ocean Working Group**

A multi-council/citizens working group is continuing its efforts to explore the possibility of a trail along Fish Creek between W. Northern Lights and the Coastal Trail. The group sent a letter to Mayor Berkowitz in August, asking for a point of contact and if he would support for a stakeholder meeting this fall. **A resolution of general support will be presented at our Sept. 8th council meeting.**

If you are interested in participating in the working group, contact: Meghan Holtan, holtan.meghan@gmail.com OR **Fill out the form linked at:** <http://goo.gl/forms/l3Bp81JCK1>

- **Fish Creek Trail Improvements Project Design Study**

This mile-long project includes upgrades to a southern section of Fish Creek Trail between 45th Ave. and the Taft St./W. Tudor Rd. intersection and a northern section between Kiwanis Fish Creek Park and Barbara Street Park. Trail upgrades include resurfacing trail, replacement of four Fish Creek bridges, replacement of lighting, minor improvements to the trail grade and alignment, and removal of select nearby trees and installation of root barriers to reduce future pavement damage caused by root intrusion. Design will continue through 2016, and construction is anticipated to begin summer 2017. The 2016 Alaska Transportation Alternatives Program (ATAP) recently awarded the “Fish Creek Trail Extension” project \$860,000. **A ground-breaking ceremony will be held during the Sept. 10th Fish Creek Festival!**

Project Info. www.anchoragetrailsrehab.com

- **THANK YOU! To the Anchorage International Rotary Club...**

for adopting a section of Wisconsin St. (between 35th Ave. and W. Northern Lights Blvd.) and organizing a clean up of the area on Aug. 27th!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH:**

Do something each week to increase your emergency preparedness!

Starting to prepare for emergencies is as easy as A-B-C.

A. **A**sk how will you communicate during an emergency?

B. **B**e prepared by having extra supplies, medicine, and money for your loved ones and pets.

C. **C**omplete PRINTED contact cards. You never know when electronics will fail.

Here is a great resource from the CDC on helping your children be prepared.

http://www.cdc.gov/childrenindisasters/infographics/documents/easy_as_abc_iinfographic.pdf

▪ **NEW APD RECRUITMENT WEBSITE**

The Anchorage Police Dept. has released a new recruitment application website, which organizes applicant information and provides contact information, so that recruiters can contact them and answer additional questions. **The Anchorage Police Academy is currently accepting applications for an Officer Academy set to begin in December — deadline to apply for this academy is September 5th.**

Info: 786-8811

▪ **AIRPORT COMMUNITY FLIGHT TRACKER:**

The Airport is now providing an online application that enables the community to track aircraft flight patterns over their residences. This is one of the measures identified and approved by the FAA in the recently completed FAR Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study. It will enable residents of Anchorage to determine, in many cases, what aircraft are flying over them 24 hours a day in 'near real time,' including info. on airline, aircraft type, the flight path, the altitude and the origin and destination communities.

For application and User's Guide, go to: www.anchorageairport.com, News and Highlights section

▪ **#ANCWORKS PROVIDES NEW WAY TO REPORT NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS & ISSUES:**

On June 22, 2016, the Municipality of Anchorage launched #ANCWorks!, an online tool for residents to report neighborhood problems and issues. **Featured with an icon on muni.org**, #ANCWorks! provides an online, mobile friendly platform for residents to report an issue, from potholes to a burnt-out streetlight, and track progress to a resolution.

Users can visit **www.muni.org/ancworks** on their desktop, tablet, or mobile phone to fill out a short form and report a problem or pass on a compliment or concern to the Municipality. With a one extra click, #ANCWorks! also allows users to attach files and photos to their request and every request will receive a case number, allowing users to track the progress of their issue at any time online.

For more information, contact: Myer Hutchinson at 343-7133.

▪ **PEOPLE MOVER GOOGLE MAPS NOW AVAILABLE:**

Two new tools are available to help plan your next trip with People Mover. Google Maps now show real-time People Mover trip info. — and an innovative application that provides estimated bus arrival times based on your stop via text message.

To find the estimated arrival time of buses at a certain stop go to: bus.codeforanchorage.org (No smart phone or data plan is required to use the texting application.)

Text the bus stop id # to: (907) 312-2060.

To plan a trip, go to: www.peoplemover.org

Access Google Maps online or through the Google Maps app on a mobile device

For more information, contact: Bart Rudolph at (907) 343-8490

▪ **MAYOR BERKOWITZ INVITES INNOVATION, SOLUTIONS WITH “ANCHORAGE INNOVATES”:**

Mayor Ethan Berkowitz has announced “Anchorage Innovates” — a new place for the Mayor to receive feedback, comments, questions, and concerns.

A link to “Anchorage Innovates” can be found on www.muni.org and on the Mayor's page at: www.muni.org/departments/mayor/pages/default.aspx.

Comments, questions and concerns can also be submitted through emailing: mayor@muni.org, calling 343-7100, or if you are feeling nostalgic, mailing a letter to: P.O. Box 196650 Anchorage, Alaska 99519.

For more information, contact: Myer Hutchinson at (907) 343-7133.

▪ **SIGN UP FOR ‘BERKOWITZ BULLETIN’:**

Mayor Ethan Berkowitz has a new newsletter called *Berkowitz Bulletin*.

Sign up to receive by email at: www.muni.org, then click on ‘Mayor's Corner’ on the home page, then click on the newsletter graphic on the right-hand side.