

**Turnagain Community Council Minutes
Regular Meeting February 2, 2006**

Mark Wiggin, TCC President, called the meeting to order and made opening remarks.

I. Legislative Report.

State Senator Hollis French gave the legislative report. Senator French discussed the \$1.2 billion dollar budget surplus caused by high oil prices and his desire to save half the surplus in the Constitutional Budget Reserve to cover the next downturn in oil revenues to the State. He discussed his and Rep. Les Gara's oil tax reform proposal. He noted that the Governor was now proposing a similar oil tax restructuring but that it provided a tax break at \$25 a barrel that he thought was too high. The Governor's bill has not been filed. He noted that Bonnie Robinson, an analyst on tax issues, had lost her job because she may have been involved in the Irwin memo and he felt that she losing her job was not appropriate.

He also noted he has sponsored a resolution calling on the Alaska Attorney General to reopen the Exxon Valdez settlement to pursue the potential \$100 million available under the settlement for unanticipated damages.

Mark Wiggin asked about the Governor's idea to invest in the TAPs line and its wisdom given the age of the line. Sen. French noted that there had not been any actual proposal or movement on the idea in the Legislature.

Cathy Gleason stated that the General Aviation Echo Parking Lot expansion project slated to be built this summer is beginning done outside of the GA Master Planning Process currently underway and requested that, as a member of the Transportation Committee who approves the airport budget, he look into the propriety of this action.

Mark Wiggin noted that TCC Secretary Breck Tostevin had been working on the TCC webpage (<http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/37.html>) and noted that minutes, agendas, meeting announcements, project plans, maps documents are being posted there for the information and action by TCC members.

II. Assembly Report.

Assemblymember Pamela Jennings gave an Assembly report. She noted that the Anchorage Legislative Program was forwarded to Juneau.

She noted that a number of measures were approved for the April 4th ballot.

- A parkland trade in South Anchorage of land at the corner of Minnesota Drive near the southern extension of C Street for Klatt property near the ballfield.
- \$4.5 million for Park bonds including Jewel Lake Park improvements
- Public Safety upgrades of \$12.880 million. Replacement of two ambulances, emergency signal preempt program, EMS mobile data system, and electronic security upgrades at trailheads. \$10 million of that amount will go for areawide radio communication system to allow police/fire mobile systems cross communication
- The Fire bond for \$1.9 million is to replace ladder trucks/pumper.
- Road and drainage bond is for \$44.150 million. (Marston/Foraker RID Improvement Project not in the this bond because of seismic review delay).

Other Assembly actions she discussed was the change in vehicle code enforcement so that the Chief of Police could appoint municipal employees as peace officers to write tickets and request towing of cars in front of fire hydrants etc. This would save the Municipality by not requiring certified police officers to do this job.

Up for Assembly ballot approval: The Junior Golf Association wants to lease part of Russian Jack Springs Park to operate a program for underprivileged youth.

She discussed the sales tax proposals under ballot consideration. There are now 4 different proposals.

III. Announcements.

- TCC Recycle Pick Up of aluminum cans is this Sat., Feb. 4th.
- AWWU has posted an update of Pump Station 10 and the Road Improvement District on their Web site.

IV. General Aviation Master Plan Draft Preferred Alternative for Lake Hood.

Diana Rigg and John Parrot from the Airport gave a presentation and answered questions concerning the General Aviation Master Plan Draft Preferred Alternative for the Lake Hood facility. Mark Wiggin and Cathy Gleason expressed concerns that the Echo Parking lot expansion was moving forward ahead of and outside of the general aviation master planning process and that this tainted the planning process for consideration of general aviation developments and accessing their impacts under the master planning process. Diana Rigg explained that the Echo Parking expansion was the result of closing part of the Charlie Parking for a maintenance facility and was planned before the Master

Planning process started. Cathy Gleason responded that the Technical Advisory Group was not informed until very late in the Master Planning process that the Echo expansion was a done deal; the public was given the impression that it was only being considered as a development alternative and was not included in the No Action alternative. John Parrot responded that that was an administrative error on their part.

Mark Wiggin asked if the airport had sent out notices to the adjacent Turnagain residents next to the airport; the response was, "No."

One member asked if general aviation flying was down due to gasoline prices and there was general agreement that this was the case. Despite that, the Echo expansion would provide an additional 69 spaces and more could be developed in a Phase III.

Pamela Jennings asked about the public safety response division between the airport and the municipality. Airport police now respond to calls on Lake Hood and Spenard. Structure fires are responded to by Anchorage Fire Department. Questions were asked also about the Airport's weed control efforts.

A question was asked about the proposed expansion of a GA lease area near the Turnagain neighborhood east of the gravel airstrip and who would pay the cost of the infrastructure for such lease developments. The airport representatives noted that the Airport, with federal funding, would pay for the infrastructure costs, including a road and taxiway on the east side of the gravel strip. Lease developments could include more tie-down spaces, hangers, maintenance facilities and fueling facilities. Private development would not go through any public process for input.

The Airport asked for input on the location of a pedestrian path that would be safe and useful in the Lake Hood area.

Another question addressed increase vehicle traffic due to more GA development. The airport responded that their hope is that International Airport Road is used.

The Airport also asked for participation in a Lake Hood/Spenard Neighborhood Watch Program and will solicit future involvement of walkers in the area with respect to security concerns about aircraft. She noted that the TSA wants to fence the area around aircraft and prevent car/aircraft conflicts.

V. Anchorage School District 6-Year Capital Improvement Program

Mike Price of the Anchorage School District gave a presentation concerning the 2006-2012 Capital Improvement Program. He discussed plans to install a close circuit TV system at Turnagain Elementary School and Romig Middle School to prevent vandalism. Traffic problems, pedestrian circulation, bus parking, etc. were being looked at. There was a discussion of the three school bonds pending before the Anchorage Assembly that total close to \$100 million. For 2007, design funds for Turnagain Elementary are on the CIP for mechanical, electrical upgrades and adding classrooms and another gym.

VI. Traffic Calming

Bob Kniefel, Municipal Traffic Engineer announced that the Municipality had hired DOWL Engineers to do the Traffic Calming Study for local and collector streets in the Turnagain Community Council area. Steve Noble _ from DOWL discussed the study. He noted that there was a 10-20% reduction in speed and volume resulting from the temporary speed humps on placed on Turnagain Parkway last summer. In the next 4 months there will be six meetings concerning the study. The first will be a public scoping meeting on Thursday, February 16, at 7 to 9 pm at Lake Hood Elementary School. A mailer will go to area residents soliciting input on speed, cut-through traffic, and other traffic problems. A community advisory committee will be put together and will meet once a month in March through June. The study will identify and prioritize traffic calming projects. A \$1.5 million bond proposition will include \$1 million to implement traffic calming projects already identified in other areas of town; \$500,000 will go toward three new areas, including Turnagain.

Comments are due February 28th on the Municipality's Traffic Calming Policy Manual, which will determine a process on how needs are met when speed bumps and other traffic calming measures are requested by the public.

VII. APD Liaison

Anchorage Police Department Sgt. Cindi Stanton passed out the TCC Community Council 2004 and 2005 crime statistics for comparison.

One member noted that neighbors were routinely running the stop signs at Turnagain Parkway and Illiamna. Breck Tostevin noted the recent burglaries and car vandalism and asked what residents could do. Sgt. Stanton noted that there were many aspects to a Neighborhood Community Watch Program and that it would be good to revisit the program in areas it has been in place for a long time.

Sgt. Stanton indicated there would be increased enforcement on handicap/fire lane parking violations.

VIII. Title 21 Rewrite

Teri Albrecht announced that the next draft of Title 21 and the Anchorage Bowl Land Use Map are out for review and the Mayor is holding regional meetings to provide an overview and answer questions. See the TCC website for details. She stated that she would invite Tom Davis from the Planning Department to come to our March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Breck Tostevin, Secretary/Treasurer.