



STUCKAGAIN AND NEAR POINT, LOOKING EAST FROM FAR NORTH BICENTENNIAL PARK

# BASHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER

May 06, 2020

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** Thursday, May 14, 2020, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.

**LOCATION:** This will be a call in meeting utilizing Zoom.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR May 14:**

- Note that I will be running the ZOOM meeting and Margaret Nelson will be hosting the ZOOM meeting.  
Here's the Zoom link. People can just click on it and it will direct them straight to the meeting online.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3091658767>

Please remember to turn off your microphone, except when speaking, to avoid too much background noise and electronic feedback.

- LEGISLATIVE AND ASSEMBLY REPORTS (as available)
  - Lance Pruitt, SOA Representatives report
  - Cathy Giessel, SOA Senate report
  - Pete Peterson, MUNI Assembly report
  - Forrest Dunbar, MUNI Assembly report

- FIRE STATION NO. 14 REPORT – B Shift (as available)
- Campbell Airstrip Road Campbell Airstrip Road Speed Evaluation.

The MUNI Traffic Department compiled Traffic/Speed Data in May of 2018. Kris Langley in the MUNI Traffic Department presented me with these studies late last year during a one on one meeting that I had with her. She has been tasked with developing an evaluation to determine what the posted speed limits on Campbell Airstrip Road should be. This evaluation had been put off while our two main road upgrade projects were ongoing. Thus, the speed limit evaluation has been ongoing this spring. She is more than willing to take into consideration our Basher Community input regarding what the posted speed limits on Campbell Airstrip Road should be. I presented her with our varied input; apparently, we do not all agree on the proper speed limits. Of course, Kris has other guidelines that she must consider other than our input.

- UPDATE: Campbell Airstrip Road Upgrades Project – Completed almost two Years ago.  
 Warrantee work will still proceed when/if/as necessary; we are not sure when the warrantee period ends. Report anything that you see to the LRSA board or me who can inform PM&E.
- LRSA REPORT– Ted Trueblood and Harry Haywood will be available to call in to this Zoom meeting; they (and possible other LRSA board members) will present the LRSA report and will respond to any concerns. Most of you have likely seen the improvements up on the Campbell Creek overflow problem and the summer improvement program that were made as you have driven by. Winter was unusually cold; however, the weather has warmed up and there is not much snow left. Our road fared as well as could be expected over the winter.
- CIP list report (Construction in Progress)-We will be putting in our submittal request to the MUNI Public Works on or before the May 31, 2020 deadline, if the data base becomes available. Our LRSA Board and I believe that our priority should remain as we have indicated past several years: to upgrade the section of Basher Road from mile 1.1 to mile 3.5 (top

Big Hill) to include offsetting bike/walking trail as was also outlined in previous annual submittals.

- UPDATE: MUNI Road Maintenance/Restoration
  - As you all know, paving for CAR/Basher Rd. in the area near Basher Trailhead by the MUNI Street Maintenance Department has been completed for some time now. As mentioned at several times since then, this is at best a temporary fix; in about 10 -12 years we will surely be faced with major road Maintenance/Restoration needs again. We are not sure whether (or how much) MUNI or State funds will be available when we face that situation. It is definitely not too early to start thinking about it since the State is not presently allocating any grant money for such projects.

- John Parker, President; CEO, IRIS and John See and Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) Forester were not available to present an update on the wildfire detection system at our February BCC meeting. They have not yet indicated if they will be available for this meeting to answer any questions. AFD has entered the testing phase of this project. Way back at the March and September BCC meetings of last year, John mentioned the planned Thermal Imaging Wildfire Detection System that is being installed with towers at Stuckagain Heights (across from the Basher Trailhead) and at the MUNI Permit Center/Fire Prevention Office. It has a range of approximately 6 – 8 kilometers. It is described in this u-tube video as follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEvrwxO85uI>

The following is the latest update:

<https://www.alaskapublic.org/2019/08/30/new-technology-could-help-save-anchorage-homes-from-wildfires/>

Note: AFD will hopefully still be providing Firewise Home Inspections; however, I believe that all new inspection requests are being pushed out to at least next spring's schedule. You can schedule a home inspection by either calling John See's MUNI phone, 267-4902, or by applying online as follows:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire/Pages/FirewiseHomeAssessments.aspx>

However, John will likely not be able to respond in the immediate future due to lack of budget/manpower availability.

- David Battle, a Wildlife Biologist III with SOA-Division of Wildlife Conservation, Dept of Fish & Game will give a presentation issues relevant to our neighborhood this year. As most of you are aware, there is an increased lynx population this year. This is likely due to the increased hare population this year. David will touch on safety around lynx and other relevant wildlife issues.
- Again, there likely will not be a USPS presentation; they've been unresponsive to Margaret for some time now. Margaret or I will let you know if/when that might occur.
- David Matthys and Troy Weiss, on behalf of the BCC Crime Task Force, had sadly reported previously that they were unable to keep this Crime program operational due to a lack of volunteers. It is unlikely we will restart this Crime program, unless several people step up to the plate and volunteer to help out. Volunteers??? Stolen packages....Drones...etc.
- The alternate Federation of Community Councils (FCC) Delegate is still Hilary Morgan. Margaret Nelson is still the 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate Delegate. Susan Kent-Crafts is still the 3<sup>rd</sup> alternate Delegate. However, anyone else who wishes to attend any of the monthly FCC meetings usually held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 6-8 p.m. in the 1st Floor conference room at 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100, (subject to the Covid 19 pandemic) is certainly welcome to do so.

Thank you,  
Don Crafts, Basher Community Council President  
343-8451 (w), 952-4627 (c), 344-5666 (h)