

Moving Forward Update as of December 16, 2021

Tasks

The Moving Forward Committee was tasked with responding to comments from the Anchorage Planning Department and from the Public on the Draft Neighborhood Plan released on November 12, 2020.

To divide the work load, members of the committee selected specific chapters of the plan to address the Planning Department recommendations and the public comments associated with each chapter.

Committee Findings

1) The Draft Plan lacks cohesiveness which will not be solved if each chapter is addressed independently. The plan must have continuity and consistency to be understood by the public and encourage implementation by the Municipality.

2) Public comment and input from work session presentations, published SACC reports, surveys and SACC resolutions from 2015-2020 are not incorporated in the current plan draft.

3) Formatting, flow, delineation of vision to actions, requirements to follow Title 21 and edits and corrections all need to be addressed.

4) It is preferable that a single point of contact with experience in Public Planning be assigned to author/produce a Revised Draft Plan.

Conclusion

The Draft Plan needs to be re-organized to incorporate the extensive Public Participation over the past six years into a format that follows the specific guidelines of Title 21 as detailed in the letter from the Planning Department and - where warranted - needs to realign the planning goals in the document with public input received.

South Addition needs to engage an experienced professional to produce a concise and cohesive plan that addresses the muni requirements, garners the support of the community and encourages consideration and implementation by city agencies, officials and the public.

Other Neighborhoods in the Anchorage Bowl have successfully produced Neighborhood Plans, but only with the assistance of Professional Planners and

access to significant financial resources. South Addition does not have the resources to hire Experienced Professional Planners.

Moving Forward Committee Member, Sheila Selkregg, is a Professional Planner and was instrumental in coordinating the Public Process for developing a Neighborhood Plan for South Addition in 2016 and early 2017. She has generously offered her time and expertise to create a Revised Draft Plan with support from the other professionals on the committee.

Once completed, the Revised Draft Plan will undergo Public Review, likely in the Spring of 2022. This will be an opportunity for residents to ask questions, request clarifications and provide comments on the Revised Draft Plan. After consideration of additional edits from public review, a Draft Plan would be re-submitted to the Planning Department for their Review and Approval.