

Resolution 2022-5
Scenic Foothills Community Council
July 25, 2022

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Municipal Charter Art, VIII, Sec 8.01 establishes Community Councils as representatives for neighborhoods in planning and development; and

WHEREAS, Community Councils are intended to reflect actual neighborhoods and serve as an advisory function to the Assembly and the local government process, including management of lands within their boundaries, reviewing Title 21, alcohol and marijuana licenses, capital improvement project advisory and other city business.

WHEREAS, transparent and timely communication with the residents of the municipality should be a priority for the MOA "to afford citizens an opportunity for maximum community involvement and self determination," as is their stated purpose in the MOA charter

WHEREAS, the MOA indiscriminately bussed hundreds of homeless individuals, including small children, disabled, and highly vulnerable adults to Centennial Park, which lacks adequate services and is without proper basic resources. Services lacking include: bedding, tents, food, food storage, social workers, and trauma-informed personnel. This lack of planning created an unsafe environment for the individuals in the park, the surrounding community, and the local wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the willingness of individuals, businesses, and nonprofit and faith-based organizations to step up in the absence of a clear plan or municipal leadership is not a justification for the abdication of municipal responsibility nor ignoring the long-standing notification practices we expect.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the residents, through their council, respectfully request that the Mayor's Office honor established public notice requirements. These requirements include Municipality of Anchorage and Community Councils, including the Federation of Community Councils and evaluate the public notice requirements during emergencies of each of the MOA departments so that information is disseminated to residents in a manner consistent with the urgency of an emergency declaration and in alignment with each Council's Bylaws for notice to its community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the community councils be invited to participate in decisions regarding emergency processes that impact their community and that during emergency conditions, members from the Mayor's office and relevant municipal departments attend impacted community council meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if Centennial campground is to continue to be repurposed for homeless individuals, that the municipality must provide a coordinated response, including food, services, housing outreach, and a safe environment. We further resolve that families with small children, vulnerable, and mobility challenged individuals are to be immediately transferred to more appropriate shelter or housing. Additionally, with winter approaching, appropriate shelter for all must be secured. To facilitate this, we as a community council support resolutions AR 2022-221, AR 2022-222.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there should be no open-ended extension of stay limits at Centennial campground (as envisioned in AO 2022-74), but that any extension shall be until a time certain with adequate dialogue and proper notice with affected communities.

Votes for: 16

Votes against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Resolution passed unanimously

Signed: SFCC President, Karen Bronga



