

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE



Planning Department

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Mayor Dave Bronson

March 15, 2023

To the Federation of Community Councils Board of Delegates and Community Councils Executive Boards:

10-Year Review of Community Council Boundaries Project Update

Project Info. Every 10 years the Municipality reviews community council boundaries and seeks input as to whether any boundaries between the community council districts should be adjusted. We initiated this 10-year review in November with visits to the Federation and an online questionnaire. For more information about this project, its overall requirements, and upcoming meetings, visit our [project web page](#). It includes the project's **White Paper No. 1** which summarizes the public process and *boundary review criteria*.

Public Questionnaire Responses. Approximately 420 people responded by email or online between November 2022 and February 2023 to an online survey questionnaire regarding community council district boundaries. That feedback formed the basis for identifying "Boundary Study Areas." **White Paper No. 2** (*initial draft available online*) summarizes the public feedback and identifies approximately three dozen Boundary Study Areas.

Boundary Study Areas. A "Boundary Study Area" means that a community council boundary has been identified for further evaluation as part of this project. A Boundary Study Area may comprise all or a part of a community council district or certain boundary segments where the public comments suggest consideration for changes. **White Paper No. 2** applies the *boundary review criteria* from White Paper No. 1 to assess each Boundary Study Area, and identifies options for addressing the boundary issue. A Boundary Study Area does not necessarily mean any changes to a community council district will be recommended. After assessing a Boundary Study Area, the staff recommendation to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) and Assembly could be "no change."

Boundary Advisory Committee. Thanks to the Federation, Community Councils Center, and volunteers, a *Boundary Advisory Committee* made up of 12 community council members and officers has organized for this project. This committee will serve as a sounding board, giving feedback to Planning staff and the PZC as we evaluate the Boundary Study Areas. Committee meetings are noticed and open to the public. The first meeting was on February 27. The second meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 3.

Next Steps & Your Community Council's Role. White Paper No. 2 will not make recommendations regarding the boundary study areas. It is a foundation for discussion with the project's Boundary Advisory Committee and Community Councils. Planning staff will be reaching out to community councils where boundary study areas have been identified. After consultations with community councils and the Boundary Advisory Committee, a public hearing draft *Report and Recommendations* for will be released for public review. There will be at least a 2-month public comment period when the Municipality will seek formal comments from the community councils, in the form of written resolutions addressed to the PZC. The PZC will then hold a public hearing.

Please contact me at (907) 343-7916 or tom.davis@anchorageak.gov if you have any questions.

Thank you,

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