



# GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

c/o Community Councils Center • 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Jody Sola, President

Margy Hughes, Vice President

Peggy Wilcox, Secretary

Zoe Lowery, Treasurer

Bob French, FCC Representative

Belinda MacIntire, Ron Clark, Pete Murphy At-Large Board Members

## Monthly Meeting Apr 18, 2024 @ 6:30pm

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 Jody

Approval Agenda:

Correction – Tract J replat is moving to May meeting

Announcements: Assemblymen, Senator Tobin, and ARR are unable to join

Motion to approve: Bob French; 2<sup>nd</sup> Zoe Lowery. Passes.

Approval of March minutes: Zoey corrected the treasurers report to reflect the amount of \$2323

Motion to approve as amended: Bob French, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephanie. Passes

BUSINESS UPDATES:

Treasurer's report: Zoe Lowery

\$775.30 in checking

2324.09 in savings

Legislative Update: Rep. Cliff Groh

Cliff: Education is still an issue: 3 parts – need more money to reduce class, need better funding for educators to reduce turnover, we need to make a statutory change to support home school students. Education town Hall on JBER up 5-8pm April 27<sup>th</sup>. Personal legislation on renewable energy and veterans are moving through committee process

Offers cell phone number for call or text (907) 952-3353

### Port of Alaska: Steve Ribuffo

- 1<sup>st</sup> cement ship of the year arriving in early May. Lights will go on for offloading. Lights now point down more and not up the hill. Requests feedback. Port now has control of intensity!
- Construction for north end of port modernization will begin late April, early May. 3 big barge mounted cranes will be in place to remove steel from failed expansion effort
- Will get result of lawsuit and if lower court award holds soon. Oral arguments for appeal were mid March.
- By end of June offices should be in new building.
- No scheduled open house. Mayor wanted to do a renaming ceremony on June 9 for Don Young Day but its ship day which is dangerous for general public. Now a small in-person ceremony and a televised version to be transmitted to a gathering at the Denaina Center.
- Port has a grant to purchase a battery storage power system. Will be placed near cell tower, above tsunami zone.

GOVERNMENT HILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Established 1915 • Anchorage's First and *Oldest* Neighborhood

- Mayrad should not be allowed to manage port expansion – it is noted GHCC offered resolution in opposition

**JBER Update: Joy Boston**

- Operation Clean Sweep on base May 6-10. Might see activity along fence.
- Blind Betty the bear made it through the fence

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Vehicle Emission Noise-Hans Thompson-

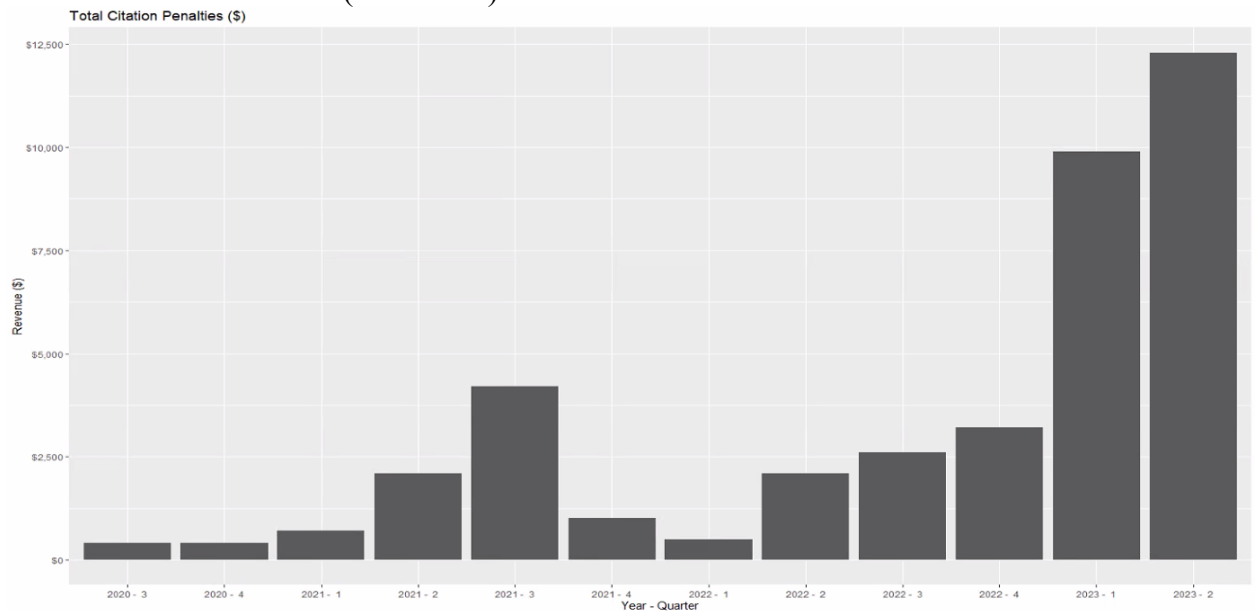
Has a presentation and a request for a GHCC resolution with sample language. Lives in S Addition.

Would like continued support in traffic noise control re: an increase in modified mufflers post repeal of emission testing. Has previously received support from GHCC in these efforts.

History of issue:

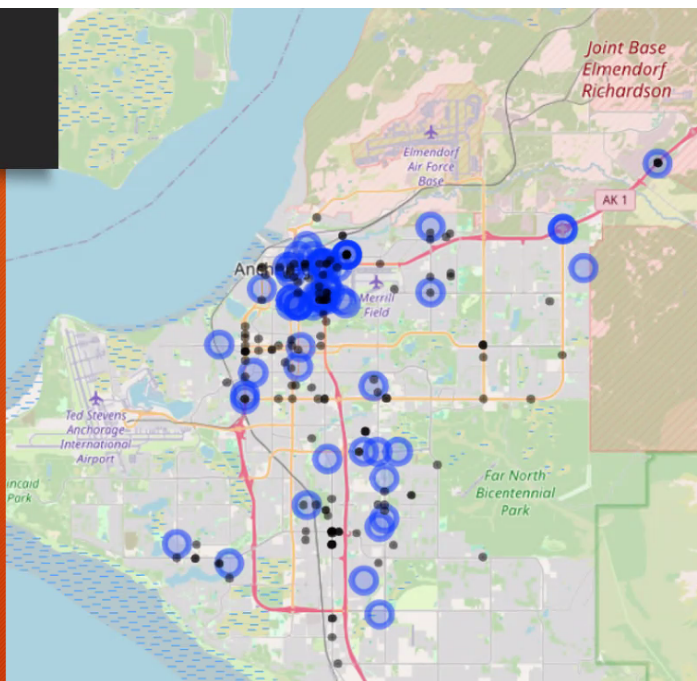
- 2020 Summer - Petition of neighbors along L street near downtown, Ombudsman’s Request
- 2020 Fall - Ombudsman’s report, APD equipment purchase and policy recommendations to assembly
- 2022 Winter - FCC and Community Council resolutions supporting increased vehicle noise enforcement
- 2022 Spring - Increased Vehicle Noise Enforcement
- 2023 Winter- Citation change from \$100 -> \$300

Citation costs to violators (from APD)



# Enforcement in 2023

- Blue circles are citations from January 2023 - July 2023
- Black points are infractions since July 2020



## Sample language for a resolution:

### **Resolution 2024-XX: Commending APD's Vehicle Noise Enforcement & Advocating for Transparent Efforts**

**WHEREAS**, the Anchorage Police Department (APD) has notably improved its capabilities by acquiring specialized vehicle noise enforcement equipment, aligning with community concerns;

**WHEREAS**, following the ombudsman's recommendations, the APD has actively pursued policy changes, advocating for higher fines to deter illegal vehicle muffler modifications, aiming for quieter neighborhoods;

**WHEREAS**, in summer 2023, the APD increased enforcement to address vehicle noise violations, enhancing community well-being;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Government Hill Community Council appreciates the APD for its swift actions in vehicle noise management, through equipment acquisition, policy development, and seasonal enforcement.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, the Government Hill Community Council urges the APD to both continue and expand its efforts, balancing neighborhood-specific and municipality-wide enforcement to maintain community tranquility.

**ADDITIONALLY**, the Government Hill Community Council requests the APD to ensure transparency by publicly detailing its summer 2024 enforcement plans, including strategies and expected outcomes, to keep the community informed.

**MOREOVER**, following summer 2024, the Government Hill Community Council seeks a comprehensive report from the APD on enforcement outcomes, integrating both data and feedback to gauge effectiveness and make necessary adjustments.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, this resolution underscores the Government Hill Community Council's appreciation for the APD's ongoing commitment and partnership in community safety and quality of life improvements.

Adopted this [Day] of [Month], 2024, by the Government Hill Community Council.

Government Hill Community Council Chair

Government Hill Community Council Secretary

## Discussion from GHCC members:

Bob Frech: We haven't had a problem with cars, we see motorcycle racing on A/C bridge.

Stephanie: The noise generated by motor cycles on the A/C bridge is loud and bad.

Denise: East GH can hear modified mufflers racing on Post. East Bluff – also speeding. Supports what ever we can do to help mitigate.

President Sola asks Hans to send resolution so GHCC can modify and submit on behalf of council

Peter: Is it a flat fine or does it increase after multiple violations? Ans: \$300 each time or a fix it ticket.

Peter – The map does not reflect enforcement on A/C bridge. Ans: Hans – It might be my fault with my geolocation efforts.

- Chugach BOD Election-AK Center-Alex Petkanas

Introduces Mark Wiggin and Sam Cason, incumbents who the Alaska Center supports based on their interests in renewables

Sam Cason, current Chair of CE Board of directors. “We are running against pro-coal challengers”.

Mark Wiggin, Chair of Operations Committee. Wants to build out Chugach Electric’s renewable portfolio.

(former Turnagain CC Chair). Notes that residents should have received an email at noon 4/17/24. Search for Chugach, “Chugach election contract” to find member ballot.

Wiggin and Cason: Clarifies that it is one vote per member – who ever has their name on the Chugach Electric bill.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Traffic calming East side

Last month GHCC heard from East side residents on speeding on E Bluff Road. Chief Schrage made some phone calls on our behalf. We now have someone assigned to us to champion the issues on traffic. Randy Ribble with the muni Department of Traffic Engineering. Muni will set up electronic signs recording and transmitting speeds along E Hollywood and E Bluff, possibly also Cedar and Birch. It takes a while to collect enough data to support remediation prioritization.

President Sola: Snow plowing is not leaving enough room for fire trucks. Planning a physical walk/wheel through with Randy soon.

### **Seward-Glenn PEL Res**

President Sola: It was a short notice to put a resolution together. GHCC submitted the version that was sent out with the agenda.

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

- President Sola: Anchorage Park Foundation grants will be decided on April 24<sup>th</sup>, GHCC submitted 3 proposals.

- AMATS/Parks update: Bob French

- We have until June 15 to weigh in on Community Council surveys for CIP.
- One more meeting with AMATS citizen advisory committee next week – info on AMATS website.
- Looking for assistance from Parks and Rec on “Clean and Green”.
- There is a new director for Federation of Community Councils, was half time now full time.

### **COMMUNITY CONCERNS:**

Nicolette Dent from Parks and Rec:

YEP will be improving East Bluff Trail between Sunset and Alderwood Park.

Steve- status on new fence for the commons? Coordination on art gate?

Nicolette – We are working on a new plan with a ROW variance

Stephanie – Tall poplars at the west end of the bluff urges cutting the ones about to fall over they are a danger

President Sola: Park gate damaged at end of Boyd as it goes to Suzan Nightingale park.

Susan saw someone from the muni going down west side trail with chain saws, but they turned around.

Peter – Saw something on FB about the moose being shot.

Susan – I watched it happen. The gentleman said the moose charged him. Sad situation. ADF&G completed their investigation. Alarming that it happened on a recreation trail.

**ADJOURN: 7:36**

Motion: Stephanie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Margy Hughes

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Peggy Wilcox, Secretary