

South Addition Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2024, 7:00-8:30 pm

Meeting held on Zoom and In person

1. Call to order - quorum established at 7:02pm
 - a. Request to amend the agenda: discuss the inlet view playground, motion by Eleanor A, Second Martin Hansen – unanimously added to new business
 - b. Approval of the agenda, moved by Harry N seconded by Will Hurr

2. Standing Reports
 - a. SACC President John Thurber
 - i. There are encampments growing in Valley of the Moon park and there are a number of North Anchorage community councils meeting with Mayor LaFrance staff on homelessness, Farina Brown
 - ii. FCC: Mike Edington was elected as the new chair of FCC
 - iii. New housing development by CIHA Ch'bala Corner – an exciting development in the non-luxury housing space, example of infill in Anchorage. This model could be a good model for South Addition to pursue, in alignment with our neighborhood plan
 - iv. Neighborhood complaint: the stairs at W 16th have been closed since mid July, John is working to get an update from Facilities and Maintenance on the stairs
 1. Member Volland is working on getting the municipal department responsible to get information and to get stair improvements/replacements – the rough estimate is \$1.1 million to replace. Parks and Recreation is getting a structural engineer out, and they are working to identify funding sources. That is a significant cost to spend on this project.
 2. An alternative would be increased wayfinding signage
 - b. Legislature: Representative Fields & Senator Tobin
 - i. No report
 - c. Assembly: Christopher Constant & Daniel Volland
 - i. Report from Member Volland: pedestrian deaths across Anchorage and working to identify solutions. There was a resolution passed at the meeting on Tuesday 9/24 – this would slow speeds down, not to exceed 35mph, to reduce fatalities. This resolution includes a call for more enforcement against red light runners, more lighting.
 - ii. Budget season at the Municipality is beginning: working with the Administration to work on their priorities in conjunction with the

Members-specific requests. Member Volland is working with Member Martinez to develop youth centric programs with alcohol tax funds

- iii. Anchorage Childcare and Early Education Fund to dispense the marijuana funding – all appointees were accepted
- iv. Constituent questions:
 - 1. Q: A/C Couplet dangerous – the improvements aren't slated until 2026 and would like to see them be moved up. A: Minnesota I/L improvements were first, not a consensus on AMATS for steps to take.
 - 2. Q: What can we do immediately about red light running, texting and driving, and quick build solutions? A: The assembly members lament the same issues, Chief Case brought up the idea of red light cameras and Member Volland is considering how to propose it. Members of the Assembly are working to identify where we can support the community advocating for unmet safety needs. We are working to fund the entire traffic calming programming in the budget. South Addition didn't qualify for any traffic calming dollars in the last budget cycle.
 - 3. Q: What's the relationship with the State like? How do we change the speed limits on State roads? A: The State is in agreement that we need to make changes, signs are just the first step and hopefully broader changes will come quickly thereafter.
- d. Anchorage Fire and Police Departments
 - i. No reports
- e. Anchorage School Board - Carl Jacobs
 - i. This month the board is focused on college readiness – the number of students on track to graduate increased 5%, 10% in k1 reading proficiency. Looking to reduce the footprint in alignment with the student population loss across the MOA. There is a [community survey \(linked here\)](#) out now with a decision made in December. The board is implementing programs on bullying and reporting harassment. They are also working on vaping and tobacco policies with the American Lung Association.
 - ii. Q: How are the school hour changes affecting families? Are you polling families on those affects? If not, the board should be polling on this issue. A: Right sizing our school district might help address some of the ripple effects on the community including childcare colocated at schools and also allowing vacated school properties to be used for child care facilities.
 - iii. Q: Recycled asphalt was used in the construction on Inlet view in the play area – would you support removing that material if it is inappropriate for

that use? A: The Administration is handling the construction and the members.

iv. Q: In the right sizing survey, how are the transportation needs being considered in the consolidation? A: The survey will be supplemented by public meetings, please email the members and give that feedback. Unfortunately, the level of funding we have cannot support all our schools operating at a reduced capacity.

f. Transportation Committee – Anna Bosin

i. DOT will be reaching out to each community council about the quick build and road diet, safety concerns from residents in October.

g. Neighborhood Plan – Tamas Deak

i. No update

3. Council Business

a. Old Business

i. [Project Anchorage Sales Tax Proposal](#) – Radhika Krishna

1. Under this proposal, 20% of the monies would come from visitors
2. Essential services and goods would be exempt (health care, rent, food, etc.)
3. This would possibly go on the ballot in April.
4. Over 200 ideas for the dollars were submitted and they're currently being considered
5. Q: Concerns over sale taxes being regressive? A: We are working with ISER to study and research what carve outs we could have to reduce the impacts

b. New Business

i. Anchorage Disc Golf Association – Dan Allen

1. We would like to make improvements to the one rubber mat to make it a concrete platform like the other holes. They would also like to add two more sleeves to allow for more nets
2. We are requesting a letter of support from South Addition. Harry N moves to draft a letter, seconded by Patrice P. Passed unanimously to write the letter.

ii. Inlet View Playground – Mitchell Collum

1. The constuction company in communication with ASD, installed recycled asphalt gravel in the play area. Looking at the details on this material, it is not safe for children to play on. Mitchell emailed ASD, the contractor on site indicated that it was done at the

direction of ASD and he isn't aware of this material being used at other schools.

2. Member Jacobs indicated that he could request someone from the ASD administration who is a professional on the Inlet view project team at the next scheduled meeting in October.
 3. SACC will have this on the agenda in October, Harry N moves that President Thurber and Mitchell draft a letter to the Office of the Superintendent, ASD about the situation – seconded by Eleanor A; unanimously passed
 4. Mitchell lays a resolution on the table, Harry seconds to bring it up on the next regular agenda; unanimously passed
4. Community Comments (3 minutes each)
- a. It's nice to be in person
 - b. The Food Bank needs donations of money and food
 - c. The Pioneer Home is revamping their foundation board and are inviting everyone to join – Tammy is the point of contact (907-343-7201)
 - d. Harry outlines the adjustments needed to make our hybrid model successful moving forward
5. Adjournment – extension moved by Harry Need, seconded by Eleanor A to extend to 8:40pm