

Spenard Community Council Resolution

2024-04

A resolution in response to the Public Hearing Draft of the 10-Year Review of Community Council Boundaries in Spenard

WHEREAS Anchorage Municipal Code 2.40.040 states that “Review of community council district boundaries and the number of districts shall occur upon assembly or planning and zoning commission initiative or at the request of the mayor or one or more community councils; however, a comprehensive review of district boundaries and the number of districts shall occur at least once every ten years, following the release of decennial U.S. Census results and after assembly redistricting is acted upon and any court appeals are disposed of;” and

WHEREAS the Municipal Planning Department began the 10-year review of community council boundaries in 2022 with a questionnaire survey and outreach to community councils to identify potential Boundary Study Areas; and,

WHEREAS a Boundary Advisory Committee made up of a geographically representative group of 12 volunteers from among the Community Councils was organized in early 2023 to provide feedback to the Planning Department and the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the boundary study areas that were identified by the questionnaire responses and other public comments; and

WHEREAS after five publicly noticed meetings, the Boundary Advisory Committee created an Action Summary with their recommendations regarding each Boundary Study Area; and

WHEREAS on March 8, 2023, North Star Community Council passed a resolution in support of retaining their current boundaries; and

WHEREAS on December 29, 2022, the Spenard Community Council Executive Board sent a letter requesting a return of Spenard’s historic boundaries in order to represent area residents; and

WHEREAS in late October 2024 the Planning Department released a public hearing draft report and recommendations with maps for Community Councils to review and respond to; and

WHEREAS Spenard Community Council has reviewed the Planning Department draft report and recommendations for the following Boundary Survey Areas:

Boundary Study Area #26, regarding North Star Community Council district,
Boundary Study Area #27, regarding the Romig Park subdivision near Hillcrest Drive,
Boundary Study Area #28, regarding Midtown Community Council district,
Boundary Study Area #29, regarding Spenard Community Council district,
Boundary Study Area #30, regarding Turnagain Community Council district,

Boundary Study Area #31, regarding the neighborhood area west of Fish Creek to Wisconsin Street, and
Boundary Study Area #32, regarding Spenard Beach Park.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Spenard Community Council supports the following options presented in the Municipality of Anchorage Planning Department's 10-Year Review of Community Council Boundaries – Report and Recommendations:

1. Boundary Study Area #26, regarding North Star Community Council district:
Option A: No change. Retain North Star Community Council.
2. Boundary Study Area #27, regarding the Romig Park subdivision near Hillcrest Drive,
Option A: No change. Retain existing North Star and Spenard Community Council boundaries.
3. Boundary Study Area #28, regarding Midtown Community Council district,
Option B: No change. Retain Midtown Community Council with its existing boundaries. In addition, investigate if there is merit in considering adjustments to municipal code or funding levels to encourage and/or resource open, accessible meetings for all community councils (including Midtown but not just Midtown) to maximize participation and representation for all members of each community council district. This could include offering training and tech assistance.
4. Boundary Study Area #29, regarding Spenard Community Council district,
Option A: No change. Retain existing boundaries.
5. Boundary Study Area #30, regarding Turnagain Community Council district,
Option A: No change. Retain Turnagain Community Council with its existing boundaries.
6. Boundary Study Area #31, regarding the neighborhood area west of Fish Creek to Wisconsin Street,
Option A: No change. Retain existing boundaries
7. Boundary Study Area #32, regarding Spenard Beach Park
Option C: Share Spenard Beach Park between Turnagain Community Council and Spenard Community Council, by including it in both community council districts, overlapping their district areas.

Resolved, this ____ day of _____ 2024

Spenard Community Council President

Vote: _____ in favor, and _____ opposed.