

South Addition Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2024, 7:00-8:30 pm

Meeting held on Zoom and In-person (Anchorage Lutheran Church, 1420 N Street)

1. Call to order - quorum established at 7 p.m.
 - a. Approval of the agenda: Will H moves, Jim A seconds
 - b. Approval of November 21, 2024 meeting minutes: Will H moves, Jim A seconds

2. Proposed Community Council Boundary Changes – Tom Davis
 - a. Planning department is requesting comments from community councils by Feb 3rd and Tom Davis is available if folks have any questions. They are asking councils for a resolution on the support or opposition of the recommended changes. There are five [study areas from public comments](#) (page 13 contains SACC boundaries) and three that the planning department have moved forward for SACC consideration. The only change the planning department is recommending is for Area #24 to be transferred to South Addition CC.
 - i. Central Lutheran Church has asked to stay within the Fairview Community Council boundaries, and they are within Tract #24.
 - ii. Comment: Study area #24 contains a large parcel of developable land that is a significant amount of the developable land near our neighborhood. That is not a factor the planning department takes into consideration when evaluating their proposed changes.
 - iii. Question: Do these proposed changes affect any of the schools? A: Yes, Study Area #23 would affect Denali Montessori School, but the planning department is not recommending that boundary change.
 - iv. Question: For the study areas extending into the inlet, they are proposing to change the boundary to the high tide line versus the low tide line – if there are utility corridors in that area would we lose notice from the State of Alaska if that change is adopted? A: Tom will have to defer to the State on that question regarding notice. Currently the boundary is set to the average low tide line.
 - v. The resolution related to the changes will be introduced at the December meeting. [Draft resolution language here.](#)

3. Standing Report
 - a. SACC President John Thurber
 - b. Legislature: Representative Fields - No report, Senator Tobin
 - i. Senator Tobin: Apologies for not being present in person, Senator Tobin is attending an energy conference out of state. Now that elections are

finalized, the Senate has announced that the Senate Bipartisan Majority will continue, as will Senator Tobin's chairmanship of the Senate Education Committee. Senator Tobin will be introducing education focused legislation regarding funding, student health, and federal issues. Seward/Gambell Ingra Corridor proposals have been announced, and there will be an open house at the senior center in December with comments due in January. The Parole Board will sunset this year, which means its a great time to evaluate the parole board and it's process. ACPE has adopted changes to the UA scholarship program, so if you know a UA student on a performance scholarship please encourage them to reach out. Regarding the replacement of the stairs, the best option to seek funding would be a State funding ask and my office will be available to support that application. The Food Bank is requesting spices and volunteers.

- c. Office of the Mayor - No report
- d. Assembly: Christopher Constant & Daniel Volland - No report
- e. Anchorage Fire and Police Departments - No report
- f. Anchorage School Board: Dora Wilson - No report
- g. Transportation Committee – Anna Bosin - No report
- h. Neighborhood Plan – Tamas Deak
 - i. The neighborhood plan is currently in process with the planning department and they have a handful of chapters remaining to finalize, so it looks like it will go before the Assembly for approval in 2025.

4. Council Business

a. Old Business

i. I Street Stairs - Mike Braniff

- 1. The stairs are no longer up to code and they must be closed, and the recommendation from the engineers is that the stairs be demolished and removed. In other circumstances, the MOA would bond to demolish and rebuild, however due to the stairs being in State Department of Transportation ROW, and code prevents municipal dollars being used to build on State land. Braniff is currently looking to find State, Federal, or private dollars to replace this community asset. He recommends being in communication with the legislative offices to submit a state capital project.

- a. Q: What is the timeline for the demolition? Currently they are posing a public health hazard and there is a significant amount of camping near them. A: We will work to keep the

stairs secure but we are working to find a way to take action quickly.

- b. Q: How do we not know the history of the stair construction for how the ROW construction was managed previously? A: Braniff, since the stairs are 40+ years old many of those records are paper only and hard to access.
- c. Q: Is the land suitable for rebuild? If a capital project is applied for, would it be better to do reconstruction or request planning dollars and then move into rebuilding after that process? A: It is hard to know how a project like this would work and it's difficult to say what would be the best plan. We're looking at 1.2 million for planning and reconstruction, and an additional \$250k for demolition.
- d. Harry Need lays a resolution on the table in support of a capital dollars to be used for the replacement of the stairs, seconded by Will Hurr.

5. Community Comments (3 minutes each)

6. Adjournment – 8:30 p.m.