

South Addition Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 19, 2024, 7:00-8:30 pm

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

1. Call to order - called to order at 7 p.m.
 - a. Approval of the agenda: Will H moves, Tamas D seconds
 - b. Approval of November 21, 2024 meeting minutes: Harry moves, Deborah H seconds

2. Standing Reports
 - a. SACC President John Thurber - No Report
 - b. Legislature: Representative Fields - No Report
 - i. Senator Tobin, staff: Session begins Jan 21 and staff will be available remotely through the end of the year. Please be in touch for any capital budget applications or any other questions
 - c. Office of the Mayor - No Report
 - d. Assembly: Christopher Constant & Daniel Volland
 - i. Chair Constant: We are on the cusp of municipal election season. The Assembly members will be voting on bonds, and are still considering versions of a possible sales tax. The Assembly is taking a holiday break until Jan 6th.
 1. Question: The January agenda seems very full with important public hearings, are you concerned about that schedule? A: The Assembly can handle that many public hearings, and if there is too much public feedback then they will move to extend the comment period on the unfinished items.
 - ii. Member Volland: The [sales tax variations have been posted on the Assembly's website](#). Member Volland worked on a version with Member Zalatel try and make the sales tax less regressive and capture more of the benefit into our local economy.
 1. Question: Where can additional details about the different variations be found? A: There is an assembly website with information about all the new proposals and the worksessions that have already been had.
 - 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 - No Report

3. Council Business

a. New Business

1. [AO 104: Residential Design Standards for Multi-Family Projects](#) - Meg Zalatel: The conversation that led to this ordinance has been ongoing with developers and these standards are currently negatively affecting multi family developments. This ordinance does not repeal standards, but instead puts a pause on them to allow for study and to see what rewrites might be necessary. If there are too many negative effects for this pause, the Assembly will restart the code if needed. The Planning department would like this to last until 2028 to allow for the piloting of ideas and for careful rewrite consideration. There is a public hearing on Jan 7th, and you can get additional information at this link.
 - a. Any questions can be emailed to due to the time constraints that didn't allow for questions.
 - b. Discussion on the possible impact of the proposed ordinance on our neighborhood. Eleanor A suggests an additional worksession to outline questions to pass along to the Assembly members, but the next meeting is Jan 7th and organizing a meeting might be difficult.

b. Design Standards - Allen Kemplen

- i. Allen has studied design standards for housing and transportation in his roles with the Fairview Community Council and has developed a shadow study for Northern communities. Fairview CC also received a USDOT grant for reconnecting communities that would affect our adjacent community. There is also a [current open comment period for the Seward to Glenn PEL Study](#) and Allen encourages attendees to submit comments.
 1. Question: Can you clarify your work with USDOT? A: Fairview CC has received a [Reconnecting Communities grant from USDOT](#). There is also a State DOT effort working on the Seward to Glenn PEL Study.

c. Old Business

- i. Community Council Boundaries - Tamas Deak
 1. The [planning department](#) collects comments on what boundaries resident think should change community council, once they've evaluated those comments, they publish a map for each community council to consider. We have [a resolution in front of us to give our council's feedback](#) on those recommendations and we will vote on

it during the January meeting. Comments can be sent to southadditioncommunitycouncil@gmail.com. There are 4 study areas to consider. The board wanted to emphasize that Study Area #24's inclusion would have some benefits to including within our boundary.

- a. Q: Regarding study area #40, will accepting the change to the low tide line affect our standing or ability to give input into things happening further out into the inlet? A: We will reach out of the planning department to get a clear answer on what affect that will have (if any). Mr. Thurber heard the planning department answer the same concern for the Turnagain CC and will make sure the answer is communicated to us as well.

ii. I Street Stairs

1. The stairs are included on the Legislative packet being taken to Juneau with the Municipality's advocacy team.

4. Community Comments (3 minutes each)

- a. [Food Bank of Alaska](#) - Dan Bentle: The food bank works to reduce food insecurity, which is increasing across Alaska (up to 12.8% in 2022 from 10.8% in 2020). 1 in 8 people in AK are facing food insecurity. Donations are down, so support and volunteering is super helpful.
- b. [DOT/Minnesota Corridor Study](#) - Cheryl R: The study is moving forward, but there isn't currently any mention of pedestrians or cyclists and we need to push them.
- c. Jaywalking re-criminalization - Deborah H: We didn't hear from the Assembly members on the proposal to re-criminalize jaywalking and I don't have a crosswalk on 15th right by my house so I'll be jaywalking every time.
 - i. Chair Constant responds: he will be fighting the proposal.

5. Adjournment – 8:30 p.m. Eleanor A moves, Deborah H seconded