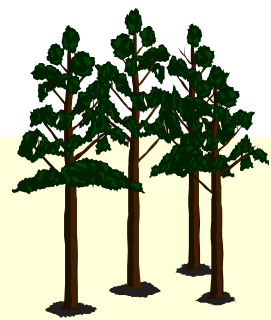


Rabbit Creek Community Council

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2007

<http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/27.html>
Rabbit Creek Community Council * P.O. Box 112354 * Anchorage, AK 99511-2354



Letter from the Vice Chair

Our Community Council issues do not slow down in the summer as decisions are still being made regarding site plans, zoning changes and variances that can effect our Rabbit Creek area. Our focus remains the Hillside District Plan public survey, public safety, water quality, and development with well-designed drainage plans. We have grown into an urban area without the supporting infrastructure.

The Hillside District Plan, pedestrian plans, road designs, access to state parks all must be vigilantly followed in order that development occur with standards fitting our needs and challenges. A case in point is the recent response from the city to our Council’s comments on the Pedestrian Plan; the city ranked our area’s walking/biking projects lower than others across the city because their priority is to provide access for people to walk to work. While this is a worthy priority, pedestrian amenities also curb crime and increase healthy outcomes. Rabbit Creek needs safe walking access to schools, parks and neighborhoods.

The Hillside District Plan household survey was mailed out by Ivan Moore Research. It is your opportunity to give input on how you would like to see Southeast Anchorage develop. So please complete the survey and be alert for public hearings on the draft plan in the fall.

Have a safe June and celebrate the long days!
Rabbit Creek Community Council, Joan Diamond

Survey for Hillside District Plan should have arrived in your mailbox. Please take time to respond. Every Hillside property owner should receive a copy. If not, call Ivan Moore at 278-4600, ivan@ivanmooreresearch.com

If you’d like to provide more information than allowed by the survey, go to www.hillsidedistrictplan.org.

Be sure to mail in the survey even if you respond online.

Please visit our website for maps and hot topics information at <http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/27.html>

For comments and suggestions contact Charlie Barnwell, webmaster

Planning & Zoning Commission

Aug 6, Legacy Pte, Sr. Housing Project, S. Goldenview Dr., #2006-142
Nov 5, RC Church site plan appeal, #2006-124

Draft Agenda for June 14, 2007 Community Council Meeting

**NOTE change of May, June, July Summer location: Rabbit Creek Community Church
3401 Rabbit Creek Road**

7:00 pm Call to order, Introductions ~ sign up to receive e-mails from the Fed. of Comm. Councils

Approval of minutes from May meeting

Treasurer’s Report

Announcements

Persons to be heard not on the agenda

Legislative Reports

State Legislators

Assembly

Anchorage Police Dept.

Parks and Recreation

Guest Speakers

Mike Hawker, State Representative

Old Business

Review of Assembly changes to Chapter 8, Title 21, Subdivisions

Review of Capital Improvements Project list

New Business

TBA

Ongoing Business

AWWU Water tower(s) update

Legacy Pointe update

Potter Highlands Sub-160 acres above Potter Valley

Rabbit Creek Church update

Views at Prominence Sub.

Committee Reports

Federation of Community Council report

Neighborhood Association Reports

LRSA reports (repairs along Goldenview)

9:00 pm Adjourn

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. If enough registered members at-

For information on these and other municipal planning issues, go to munimaps.muni.org/planning/home3.htm and use drop-down menus for RCCC items, or call 343-7943 (Zoning), or 343-7942 (Platting).

2007 Membership Form

Return to: Rabbit Creek Community Council, PO Box 112354, Anchorage, AK 99511

Dues (circle one): \$3 /person or \$5 /couple

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Location of property or rental within RC area _____

E-mail _____

To receive the newsletter, circle the preferred format: **e-mail, U.S. Postage, none**

Note: E-mail reduces paper use and saves your community council money

☐ E-Mail Only: Check if you wish to receive other notices from Municipality of Anchorage

Anchorage Community Councils may have their own radio show!

Rabbit Creek Community Council

2007 BOARD

Chair: Richard Tremaine
Vice Chair: Joan Diamond 345-6192
Secretary: Mark Slaughter
Treasurer: Donna Van Flein
Other Board Members
Charlie Barnwell
Gretchen Specht
Jon Bauer
Peter Johnson
Dianne Holmes 345-1514
John Isby
Patty Rothwell

Paul Benson, a member of the Fairview Council, has a tentative agreement with KUDO 1080 AM Radio for a new radio show with its focus on the Anchorage Community Council system. He is asking for a volunteer from each community council to help collaborate in the next two weeks on this project. It will be a show by and for the Anchorage Community Councils; responsible for developing the format, content and raising the money to pay for it. The cost for 2 hours of airtime is \$500 per show. The run is for a 6- show pilot series running over a six to twelve week period. The main goal of this show is to make more people in Anchorage aware of the council system and how it can influence public policy. Having public discussions with elected officials and other guests on this show helps build accountability by our representatives and follow through.

The Council system provides an opportunity for individuals to get involved in the political process at the local level. They are the best place for local people to make a difference on how decisions are made regarding issues affecting their daily lives and those of their neighbors.

Please contact Paul Benson @ 274-7666, cell 441-5774, fax 274-8777, E-mail: fungietc@alaska.net if you would like to volunteer.

Graffiti Busters On-Call Service

An often forgotten Municipal program called *Graffiti Busters* is still strong in Anchorage. If you see graffiti call 343-GONE (4663). A recording will ask for the location. I called about graffiti on the Rabbit Creek overpass and on a cable box in my neighborhood. Both were painted over in less than a week.

Beautiful Flowers for Rabbit Creek

Help maintain the Rabbit Creek flowerbed by signing up for weeding and watering. Call Susanne Comellas at 345-8171 to sign up.

Mike Hawker Comes Through For SE Hillside Roads!

Our Representative Mike Hawker was able to secure funding for SE hillside roads and drainage projects in the Final Capital Budget. Barring a veto from the governor, this money will be directed to the most serious road and drainage issues facing the southeast hillside. Funding includes; Bluebell Drive Intersection reconstruction - \$600,000; South Goldenview Road and Drainage improvements - \$250,000; Mountain Air / Hillside Drive extensions - \$4,500,000; Goldenview Drive extension - \$900,000; Hillside district plan - \$150,000; Federation of CC Community Action Committee HDP - \$50,000.

The funding for the Mountain Air / Hillside Drive extension will open a northeastern corridor to help relieve increased traffic onto Goldenview from the expanding upslope developments of Shangri La and Views at Prominence.

The \$900,000 for design of the collector road between Goldenview Dr and Potter Valley Rd is a significant step to get this very important connection built properly through such

tough terrain. This collector road will serve as an alternative to Goldenview and help direct traffic south away from the dangerously loaded Goldenview / Rabbit Creek Rd intersection. In addition, it will create an alternative route for evacuation from wildfires.

With the amount of piecemeal development progressing on the southeast hillside without the Hillside District Plan, this money will help ensure that circulation, drainage, and fire and safety issues will get done in advance of more development.

A special thanks to our own "lobbyists" Lori Davey and Susanne Comellas for traveling to Juneau twice to meet with legislators and really express the importance of these issues. And to the many area residents whose emails requesting funding helped Mike get support for these projects.

This is what community is all about. Way to go!

Links and Contacts

Contact Rabbit Creek Community Council

e-mail: RabbitCreekCC@gmail.com
mail: P.O. Box 112354, Anchorage, 99511-2354

Assembly members for Rabbit Creek

Jennifer Johnston, 346-1087, jjohnston@gci.net
Chris Birch, 346-3265, chrisbirch@gci.net

State Legislature

Con Bunde, 800-892-4843;
Senator.Con.Bunde@legis.state.ak.us
Rep. Michael C. Hawker, 800-478-4950,
Rep.Mike.Hawker@legis.state.ak.us

For information on municipal planning issues, go to munimaps.muni.org/planning/home3.htm, or call 343-7943 (Zoning), or 343-7942 (Platting).

Title 21 Update

The City of Anchorage will be performing an economic impact analysis on the chapters below. After the analysis is finished, a public hearing draft of these chapters will be released.

- Chapter 21.03, /Review and Approval Procedures/
- Chapter 21.04, /Zoning Districts/
- Chapter 21.05, /Use Regulations/
- Chapter 21.06, /Dimensional Standards and Measurements/
- Chapter 21.07, /Development and Design Standards/
- Chapter 21.12, /Nonconformities/

Help RCCC Choose Projects for 2007

Each year we are asked to help with prioritizing capital improvement projects (CIP) that are needed for our area. The city requests that each community council submit projects for potential funding through the bond process that residents vote on each April. The list usually includes parks, drainage, and road/traffic-related items. The city starts the process off by sending the councils CIP lists that include projects important to the city administration (but not necessarily by the council) as well as projects listed by the council in prior years that did not get funded. Throughout the summer, various city agencies and commissions cull the councils' lists that eventually make the final cut for possible funding.

Each project title is accompanied by a brief description of the work, but this may be incomplete or inaccurate. In addition,

it is hard to get projects on the CIP that the residents feel are important, or off the list once an item has been included by the city administration. One example is the city's request for acquisition of land for a DeArmoun area fire station. Last year, the CIP list contained this same item and the council members voted to have the project deleted and replaced with a location closer to Potter Valley where emergency response time is sometimes 17 minutes.

Please review the draft CIP list for our council area on the following page of this newsletter, or at: muni.org/iceimages/OMB/ACF182A.pdf, then attend the June 14th meeting to give your input or write to us at: *RabbitCreekCC@gmail.com*.

Capitol Improvement Projects for the Rabbit Creek Area

Each year councils are asked to prioritize a list of potential capitol improvement projects. Please help us by prioritizing the list according to your concerns and knowledge of our area. You may delete (D) and add (A) projects. The projects ranked on last year's exercise have been listed first. Please return your preferences to the RCCC by June 25th (PO Box 112354, 99511 or RabbitCreekCC@gmail.com)

Roads, Drainage, Fire Dept.

- _____ Old Seward Hwy upgrade, Rabbit Cr Rd to Potter
- _____ Hillside traffic calming, in Limited Rd Service Areas
- _____ Goldenview Dr extension to Potter Valley Rd
- _____ Seward Hwy lane expansion, Rabbit Cr Rd to Potter
- _____ Hillside transportation plan
- _____ Seward Hwy passing lanes, Indian to Potter Marsh
- _____ 142nd at Goldenview Dr, safety improvements
- _____ DeArmoun/Hillside Dr intersection, safety issues
- _____ Potter Valley Rd rehab, Seward Hwy to Greece Dr
- _____ Elmore Rd at Rabbit Cr Rd intersection, safety improvements
- _____ Mountain Air Dr extension
- _____ Goldenview Dr at Bluebell, safety improvements
- _____ Rabbit Cr Rd/Southbound off-ramp signal
- _____ DeArmoun Rd upgrade 140th to Hillside Dr.
- _____ Rabbit Cr Rd upgrade, Seward Hwy to Goldenview, calming, ped facilities
- _____ Old Seward Hwy rut repair, Rabbit Cr Rd to Potter
- _____ Seward Hwy, rehab, Potter weigh station to RC Rd
- _____ DeArmoun Rd Fire Station land acquisition (RCCC requested Potter site instead, in '06)
- _____ Elmore Rd ext: DeArmoun to RC Rd (RCCC requested deletion in '06—unsafe area)
- _____ Goldenview Dr upgrade/drainage, from RC Rd south
- _____ Hillside drainage study
- _____ Limited Road Study Area, road & drainage rehab.
- _____ Lower Hillside storm drainage

Parks & Recreation

- _____ Rabbit Cr Greenbelt (#275 & #279), connections & land acquisition
- _____ Storck Park (#287), upgrades & connections to surrounding areas
- _____ Moen Park (#292)
- _____ Old Rabbit Cr Park (#275), connections/access
- _____ Griffin Park (#279), access/signs from 140th/Buffalo
- _____ Elmore Park (#337), signs, Buffalo/140th
- _____ Section 36 (#410), master plan & development, NE of Storck Park

Rabbit Creek Community Council (RCCC) Board Meeting Minutes [DRAFT]
Rabbit Creek Community Church
May 10, 2007 ~ 7:07-9:30 p.m.

Dick Tremaine Called Meeting into order at 7:07 Adjourned at 9:30pm

Board Members in Attendance Mark Slaughter, Dick Tremaine, Dianne Holmes, Patty Rothwell, Donna Van Flein, John Isby, Jon Bauer, Charles Barnwell, Peter Johnston

Approximately 30 people were in attendance

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve March Minutes by Dianne Holmes, 2nd by Patty Rothwell – Approved

Treasurer's Report

- 222 members not including new members at today's meeting
- \$720.51 in the RCCC checking account

Announcements from the Floor

Road Glaciations Issue Hillside Way & East 140th

Legislative Reports

Senator Bunde

- Ethics Bill moving forward
- DNA Crime bill rolled into Omnibus Crime Bill
- Capital Bill not expected to get significant for Anchorage per ca
- School Funding ongoing – expect changes to funding formula
- AGIA ongoing, Governor threatened veto if substantial changes occur
- Anticipate Special Session for PPT due to Veco Scandal
- Hillside District Plan is currently in the Capital Budget

Representative Hawker – unable to attend

Jennifer Johnston

- Attended meeting, - Ryan Stencil will be Jennifer's Aide and working on 20/20 and Hillside District Plan

Chris Birch

- MLP new office building will continue to be evaluated by the Assembly
- Mr. Birch is the Current Chair of Assembly Legislative Committee
 - Discussed Pers/Ters & Revenue Sharing last week in Juneau
 - All Revenue Sharing funds intended for property tax reductions
- Heritage Land Bank Meeting today for road easement.
- Water Tank Update- AWWU still working on new plan for tanks
- Hillside District Plan
 - Community members expressed concern over large development going forward without HDP being completed. Mr Birch re-iterated his position that property owners should have the right to develop their lands without waiting for the completion of the HDP.

Guest Speakers

Legacy Pointe -

Dave Grenier & Tony Hoffman of Lantech representing the developers. Legacy Pointe is 650 condos for Senior Citizens located at the South end of Goldenview Drive.

- Have developed road alignment with three property owners, Heritage Land Bank, Connie Yoshameria and Legacy Pointe
- Heritage Land Bank tabled easement resolution today, May 10th for road alignment. Lantech will be staking the alignment the week of May 14th and have site visits by month end.
- Attendees voiced concerns over the radius of the roads' turns being too small, current alignment tries to minimize the number of turns and maintain an 8% grade
- Concerns were raised that the developer was not waiting for the completion of the Hillside District Plan before constructing road from Goldenview to their development
 - Representative stated they could construct 2 units prior to connector road to Potter Valley Road is built
- A market analysis was performed but has not been made public
- Site Plan Review has been resubmitted
 - Have moved re-designed Moan Trail outside of wetlands zone
- July 9th meeting scheduled PP&Z
- USKH will be revising the Traffic Impact Analysis

Old Business

- AWWU 930 Water Tower - No Update
- Potter Highlands - No update
- Rabbit Creek Church - No Update
- Viewpoint Subdivision
 - March 7th Platting Board Meeting was pulled prior to the meeting, postponed to later date for 3
 - Views of Prominence
 - Asked for 18month extension requested on March 8, 2007

New Business

- Resolution Concerning Coordinated Developer Improvements to Drainage within the RCCC area
 - Dianne Holmes Motion to accept 2nd by Patty Rothwell Passed unopposed
- Resolution Concerning the Pedestrian Plan Scoring - Requesting a re-evaluation of the scoring mechanism to reflect low density pedestrian activity & existing infrastructure
 - Dianne Holmes Motion to accept 2nd by Charlie Barnwell Passed unopposed
- HLB met today for road easement – Tabled until future date.
- June RCCC meeting will be at the Rabbit Creek Church

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.