

**Fairview Community Council**  
**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_-2010**

**A Resolution opposing establishment of a multi-unit complex for chronic inebriates in the northern section of Fairview and recommending a more holistic approach to implementing the Housing First Initiative.**

Whereas, there is an identified population of approximately 229 individuals who constitute the hard-core chronic public inebriate in Anchorage, and

Whereas, the Sleep-off Center for individuals picked up for public drunkenness is located in the City Jail located at the corner of 3rd Avenue and Post Road and just below 5th Avenue, and

Whereas, the Community Service Patrol collects inebriated individuals from all over the city, brings them to the Sleep-off Center where they regain a sense of sobriety, and

Whereas, once determined to be sober these individuals are released out the front door and into the community of Fairview, and

Whereas, the Mental Health Trust Authority and the Department of Neighborhoods are preparing to provide funding to the organization titled RuralCap for purposes of implementing the concept of Housing First in Anchorage modeled after a relatively successful experiment in Seattle located in a prosperous neighborhood, and

Whereas, the proposed location in Anchorage for implementing the Housing First concept is the 55 unit Red Roof Inn located on Karluk Street between 5th and 6th Avenues and approximately two blocks from the City Jail and the Sleep-off Center, and

Whereas, Housing First is also known as a “wet house” whereby chronic inebriates are allowed to have visitors and drink to excess within the confines of the building, and

Whereas, the approximately 55 chronic inebriates to be housed in the facility will know and associate with the remainder of the 229 known chronic inebriates who will be frequently let loose from the Sleep off center, and

Whereas, according to a 2005 report, 5th and 6th Avenues rank within the top five most dangerous road corridors for pedestrians within the City, and the Municipality Pedestrian Plan recommends significant infrastructure improvements along this section of Karluk to address the unsafe pedestrian conditions, and

Whereas, The Municipality and State Department of Transportation and Public Facilities are engaged in an effort to develop an eight-lane, high-speed, controlled-access Highway to Highway connection between the Glenn and New Seward Highways for

purposes of resolving anticipated traffic congestion problems along 5th and 6th Avenues and the Gambell/Ingra Couplet, and

Whereas, the preliminary alignment for this connection as identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Municipal Bicycle Plan as coming from north of Third Avenue to Post Road and angling in a southwesterly direction to the general alignment of Hyder Street, and

Whereas, this preliminary alignment will also have a major off ramp connections to both the Downtown along Third Avenue and to the Port of Anchorage angling northwest, and

Whereas, this major infrastructure project will very likely result in significant changes to existing land uses including social support facilities located along Third Avenue, and

Whereas, proponents of the Housing First for “Wet House” assert it is more economical to locate such a facility near existing support services such as the Brother Francis Shelter and Bean’s Cafe, and

Whereas, these social service support facilities are very likely to be relocated by the proposed Highway to Highway connection, and

Whereas, it would be an inefficient allocation of resources to purchase and renovate a facility that will very likely be isolated from other social support services in the future and located just a couple blocks from the City Sleep-off Center in an area of town that struggles to maintain a prosperous economic base, and

Whereas, the proponents the Housing First concept would be well served to look at alternative locations for such a facility in conjunction with future establishment of a support campus for homeless chronic inebriates,

Whereas, the short term economic savings should not override what is in the long term best interests of the clients, the neighborhood and the community.

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Fairview Community Council formally opposes the use of public funds to acquire and renovate the Red Roof Inn for purposes of establishing the Housing First concept in Anchorage, and

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Fairview Community Council requests their elected representatives to oppose this use of public funds and to support a more holistic approach that recognizes the recommendations of other official Municipal planning documents,

Passed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010 by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ Yeas and \_\_\_\_\_ Nays.

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Sharon Chamard, President