

# Turnagain Community Council Meeting Notices, Announcements & Project Updates

Compiled by TCC Member Cathy Gleason — as of December 19, 2015

**Turnagain Community Council is on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/328948347297691/>  
**Check for updates on our webpage:** [www.communitycouncils.org](http://www.communitycouncils.org)

## *HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

### JANUARY 2016 NOTICES:

- **January 4 — APPLICATION DEADLINE — 2016 APD Citizens Academy.** The Anchorage Police Department and the Anchorage Police Citizens Academy Alumni Association are hosting their annual Citizens Police Academy January 13 through April 13, 2016. The program is designed to promote and enhance citizen understanding and awareness of the role of APD within our community. Topics include drug investigations, firearms safety, cyber crimes, financial crimes and much more.

The academy is held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the APD Training Center, 3760 W. Dimond Blvd. (corner of Jewel Lake and Dimond).

*Applications:*  
<http://www.muni.org/Departments/police/Documents/Spring%202016%20Citizens%20Academy%20App.pdf>  
*Info:* Jennifer Castro, APD Public Affairs Unit, 786-8571, [jcastrol@muni.org](mailto:jcastrol@muni.org)
- **January 4 — Planning & Zoning Commission Deliberation on Draft Municipal Code for Marijuana Establishments, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Chambers, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St.**  
Case No. 2015-0119 — This is an ordinance that would add new sections to Title 21 Municipal Code to enable marijuana establishments in certain zoning districts, and amend current Code to enable retail marijuana stores in the downtown (Central Business District). *Public hearing was held on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> and is now closed.* The commission has asked staff to draft a number of amendments for consideration at their Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. The ordinance is tentatively scheduled for introduction to the Assembly on Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> — with the Assembly public hearing to be held on Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>. *TCC created a Marijuana Committee at our Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to follow local marijuana-related items, but had not yet met before the P&ZC hearing. Committee recommendations may be presented at the TCC Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.*  
*To view the DRAFT ORDINANCE, go to:*  
<http://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Documents/MJ%20Ord%20PZC%20Draft%20with%20Exhibits.pdf>.
- **January 6 — Alaska Railroad Right-of-Way Public Use Debate, Spenard Community Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Spenard Recreation Center Multi-Purpose Room, 2020 W. 48<sup>th</sup> Ave.**  
Representatives from the Alaska Railroad and Oceanview Community Council will debate the issue of Alaska Railroad ROW public use. FYI: neighbors are advocating for a “Fish Creek Trail to the Ocean” within the AKRR ROW between the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail and W. Northern Lights Blvd.  
*Info:* SCC President Phil Isley, [spenardcc@gmail.com](mailto:spenardcc@gmail.com) or [philisley@ymail.com](mailto:philisley@ymail.com), 248-0018
- **January 7 — Turnagain Community Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Turnagain Elementary School Library, 3500 W. Northern Lights Blvd.**  
*Info:* TCC President Jonathan Tarrant, [tccpresent@yahoo.com](mailto:tccpresent@yahoo.com)
- **January 8 — COMMENT DEADLINE — Fish Creek Trail Improvements Project Design Study Report & 35% Design Review.** This mile-long project includes upgrades to a southern section of Fish Creek Trail between 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. and the Taft St./W. Tudor Rd. intersection and a northern section between Kiwanis Fish Creek Park and Barbara Street Park. Trail upgrades include resurfacing trail, replacement of four Fish Creek bridges, replacement of lighting, minor improvements to the trail grade and alignment, and removal of select nearby trees and installation of root barriers to reduce future pavement damage caused by root intrusion. Design will continue through 2016, and construction is anticipated to begin summer 2017. *An overview of the project was presented at the Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> TCC meeting. A TCC Committee is being formed to review and provide comments/recommendations.*  
*Info:* [www.anchoragetrailsrehab.com](http://www.anchoragetrailsrehab.com)

- **January 9 — Town Hall Meeting, 10:00-11:30 a.m., West-Romig Library, 2500 Minnesota Dr.** Special Guest Cliff Groh, former Special Assistant to the Commission of Revenue, and legislative staff will be joining event hosts Sen. Berta Gardner, Rep. Andy Josephson and Rep. Harriet Drummond to discuss the Permanent Fund Dividend and insight on the state's fiscal options.  
*Info:* 269-0174
- **January 9 — Anchorage Legislative Caucus Meeting, Noon-3:00 p.m., Assembly Chambers, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St.** Testimony will be limited to two minutes per person.
- **January 9 — Town Hall Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Turnagain Elementary School, 3500 W. Northern Lights Blvd.** Rep. Matt Claman is hosting this gathering; guest speaker is Alaska State Office of Management and Budget Director Pat Pitney.  
*To view the FY 2017 Governor's 2017 Proposed Budget, go to:* [www.omb.alaska.gov](http://www.omb.alaska.gov)
- **January 13 — OPEN HOUSE — Turnagain St. & Turnagain Blvd. Upgrades, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Turnagain Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room, 3500 W. Northern Lights Blvd.** Preliminary designs were done for these two roads in 2011; a Draft Design Study Report has now been done as well. Additional funding has been acquired for the final design study, detailed design, pre-construction tasks and right-of-way acquisition. NO CONSTRUCTION FUNDING HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED FOR EITHER PHASE. Construction for Turnagain Blvd. (Phase I) could start in 2017, while Turnagain St. (Phase II) may be several years out. *These two road projects are the highest ranked CIP road projects for TCC. A project presentation was made to TCC at our Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting; a TCC Committee was formed at the meeting to review documents and provide recommendations to the council for comment.*  
*Info:* MOA PM&E Project Administrator, 343-8221, [ManeyDC@ci.anchorage.ak.us](mailto:ManeyDC@ci.anchorage.ak.us) or CRW Civil Engineer Justin Keene, 646-5632, [jkeene@crweng.com](mailto:jkeene@crweng.com)  
*Project website:* [www.turnagainstreet.com](http://www.turnagainstreet.com)  
*Submit comments at:* [comments@crweng.com](mailto:comments@crweng.com)
- **January 16 — TCC Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Rustic Goat, 2800 Turnagain St.**  
*Info. and to confirm:* TCC President Jonathan Tarrant, [email address](mailto:email address), 365-9761

## FEBRUARY 2016 NOTICES:

- **February 1 — (tentative) Planning & Zoning Commission Public Hearing on Cell Tower Revisions to Municipal Code, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Chambers, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St.**  
An ordinance of proposed Cell Tower Title 21 Code Revisions is tentatively scheduled for introduction to the Assembly December 22<sup>nd</sup>, but the hearing will be delayed until February 23<sup>rd</sup>. *In the meantime, the Planning and Zoning Commission public hearing is tentatively set for February 1<sup>st</sup>.* These revisions address, among other things, public notice requirements and height allowances and types in zoning districts. *A group of residents from various community councils has reviewed the ordinance, drafted amendments, and has proposed a resolution for councils to consider — TCC Committee has been collaborating with this group. The resolution will be considered at TCC's Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.*  
*To view the draft ordinance, go to:*  
<http://www.muni.org/Departments/Assembly/Documents/Draft%20AO%20Telecommunications%20code%20revisions.pdf>  
*If you are interested in serving on the TCC Committee, contact:* Cathy Gleason, 248-0442, [cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com](mailto:cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com).  
**Planning & Zoning Commission Public Hearing Notices:**  
<http://www.muni.org/Departments/Mayor/Boards/events/Pages/default.aspx>.
- **February 4 — Turnagain Community Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Turnagain Elementary School Library, 3500 W. Northern Lights Blvd.**  
*Info:* TCC President Jonathan Tarrant, [tccpresent@yahoo.com](mailto:tccpresent@yahoo.com), 365-9761

## PROJECT UPDATES:

- **APPROVED — West High School & Romig Middle School Campus Site Renewal Project**

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, the Urban Design Commission approved a plan to amend the existing West-Romig campus site plan. Improvements include: new, consolidated bus drop-off area on west side of West/Romig building; new bus-only access road on west side of campus with ingress/egress at Hillcrest Dr. & WNL Blvd; modifications of northwest parking lot; restriping of West bus drop-off area; dumpster screening; and new site lighting. Also approved were three "Project Additive Alternatives" that will be part of the improvements, if funding allows: construction of new Romig parking lot; reconstruction of hockey rink boards/fencing; and two new outdoor tennis courts. **The TCC SRTS Committee submitted comments to the Muni Planning Dept., which were affirmed at the Dec. 3rd TCC meeting. Committee members also provided testimony at the hearing. Based on SRTS/TCC input, Municipal staff and the UDC incorporated some of our recommendations to improve pedestrian safety at the campus.**

- **Kiwanis Fish Creek Park & Barbara St. Improvements**

The Muni Parks Dept. is proposing upgrades to Kiwanis Fish Creek Park and Barbara St. Park for summer 2016. A community advisory group has met twice (Nov. 24 & Dec. 16), to discuss park strengths/weaknesses and make recommendations for potential themes, playground equipment and other potential amenities. **Project proposals are scheduled to be presented at the February 4<sup>th</sup> TCC meeting.**

**Info:** Taylor Keegan, MOA Park Planner, 343-4518, keeganth@muni.org.

- **Airport Part 150 Noise Study**

FAA approved the Noise Exposure Maps and Noise Compatibility Program on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The measures *not approved* by the FAA for federal noise funding are: the noise barrier on the northeastern boundary of the airport along the Turnagain neighborhood boundary, the ground run-up enclosure, and gate electrification and preconditioned air at all jet bridges. FAA's action completes the Part 150 Noise Study — a final Study Input Committee meeting will be scheduled in early 2016.

**Details of the approved/disapproved measures can be found in the FAA's Record of Approval at:** [anc150study.com](http://anc150study.com)

- **Anchorage Land Use Plan Map Update**

The Planning Dept. anticipates release the Public Review Draft sometime late December — with a January-February comment period. **TCC LUPM Update committee will schedule meeting dates(s) after the document release.**

**For info, or to join the committee, contact Committee Co-chairs:**

Anna Brawley, [annab.brawley@gmail.com](mailto:annab.brawley@gmail.com), or Cathy Gleason, [cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com](mailto:cathy.gleasantcc@yahoo.com), 248-0442

**For Project Info:**

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/Projects/AnchLandUse/Pages/default.aspx>

- **AWWU Fish Creek Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 3**

Construction continues on repair of the 36-inch sewer in the Alaska Railroad Right of Way. **Clearing and large construction equipment and dump trucks traffic through this area will occur, to access the construction site.**

Construction will be trenchless technology, but excavation pits will be necessary to access the pipes on either side of the railroad tracks. (Work anticipated for Phase 3 to occur November 2015-March 2016.) **CHAIN LINK FENCING WILL BE PLACED ON BOTH SIDES of the railroad ROW between Westchester Lagoon and W. Northern Lights as part of the project. This will be on the Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> TCC agenda.**

**For more info,** contact AWWU Project Manager Mark Corsentino, [mark.corsentino@awwu.biz](mailto:mark.corsentino@awwu.biz), 564-2784.

- **Northern Lights Blvd/Benson Blvd. Improvement Project Update**

**This project is now in winter shutdown** — work will resume in spring 2016. Upon completion, both Northern Lights Blvd./Benson Blvd. will be repaved and have new signage and striping, curb ramps will be upgraded to current ADA standards, and automated traffic recorders and signal system will be improved. Completion is schedule for June 2016.

**Info:** DOT at <http://AlaskaNavigator.org> or 770-2612.

**To sign up for project updates,** email: [NorthernlightsBenson@spawnak.com](mailto:NorthernlightsBenson@spawnak.com).

- **Spenard Road Reconstruction Project — Hillcrest Dr. to 30<sup>th</sup> Ave.**

This Municipal road project is starting up again, after a conceptual 3-lane design (one lane in each direction with a two-way center left turn lane) was presented in 2011 as the best way to improve vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle safety. Improvements are expected to include a new road base, curb and gutter, storm drain, transit improvements, lighting upgrades, pedestrian crossing improvements and landscaping. Public meetings will be held, dates and times TBA.

**Sign up to receive project notices and project information updates at:** <http://www.midtownroads.com>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### **CONGRATULATIONS to the TED STEVENS ANCHORAGE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT!**

According to the AK DOT&PF's *Plane Talk* Winter 2015-2016 newsletter, "Just .07% of flights through ANC over the past year were cancelled." Also, "Anchorage International has the lowest average departure delay of any airport in the country, at just seven minutes." *Thank you for providing travelers such great service!*

### **ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BUDGET PUBLIC INPUT:**

Provide your input online, via email & at Board public hearings on the ASD budget.

**Online:** [www.asdk12.org/budget](http://www.asdk12.org/budget)

**Email:** [schoolboard@asdk12.org](mailto:schoolboard@asdk12.org)

**Anchorage School Board Public Hearings:** Feb. 1 & Feb. 16, 2016; meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

### **SIGN UP FOR ASSEMBLY COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICES:**

This Assembly Committee (formally titled Title 21 Committee) is holding weekly committee meetings to discuss potential changes to Title 21.

**To receive committee meeting notices, contact Municipal Clerk's Office Agenda and Records Assistant Amy Solberg at [SolbergAR@ci.anchorage.ak.us](mailto:SolbergAR@ci.anchorage.ak.us) or 343-4243.**

### **MAYOR BERKOWITZ INVITES INNOVATION, SOLUTIONS WITH "ANCHORGE INNOVATES":**

Mayor Ethan Berkowitz has announced "Anchorage Innovates" — a new place for the Mayor to receive feedback, comments, questions, and concerns. **A link to "Anchorage Innovates" can be found on [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org) and on the Mayor's page at [www.muni.org/departments/mayor/pages/default.aspx](http://www.muni.org/departments/mayor/pages/default.aspx).**

Comments, questions and concerns can also be submitted through emailing [mayor@muni.org](mailto:mayor@muni.org), calling 343-7100, or if you are feeling nostalgic, mailing a letter to: P.O. Box 196650 Anchorage, Alaska 99519.

For more information contact Myer Hutchinson at (907) 343-7133.