

**OCEANVIEW/OLD SEWARD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**C/o 240 PACIFIC VIEW DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99515**

**NEWSLETTER January 2005**

We hope you had a merry Christmas and wish you a prosperous new year.

After taking December off, we are ready to start the New Year by addressing issues that affect our community. Our next regular meeting of the Oceanview/Old Seward Community Council will take place on Wednesday January 12 in the Library of the Oceanview Elementary School on Johns Road starting at 7:00 PM.

**Road Projects**

The decision about how to proceed with the DeArmoun Road project at the S-curve is scheduled to come before AMATS in January. At issue is whether the road improvements should require slower traffic speeds resulting in low costs and low impacts to the neighborhood, or to proceed with the road design proposed by the State DOT that involves higher traffic speeds, more right-of-way and higher costs.

We are following this project as interested neighbors but also to become forewarned about what could happen in our community.

One road project that could entice much controversy is the improvements to Old Seward Highway between Lowe's and Huffman. We know very little about the road design being conducted by the State DOT but we do know that traffic backs up on Old Seward while being squeezed from two lanes to one lane at the traffic light located at the entrance to Lowe's. Information obtained from the businesses that front Old Seward Highway at the Klatt Road intersection indicate that these businesses will be severely impacted by elimination of their customer parking. So we have a potential conflict between alleviating traffic congestion while causing minimum impact to the community.

Learning from DeArmoun experience, the community must have ongoing involvement throughout the design process. Accordingly, we will invite the State DOT to present their plans at the February 9 meeting of the council and also encourage the participation of all of the property owners in the project vicinity.

**Health Department**

You may have read reports about traces of arsenic occurring in tests of some private water wells. The Health Department will be sending a representative to explain the situation at the January meeting.

**New Subdivision**

Skyline Investments is proposing a new subdivision called Furrow Creek North by subdividing two lots in the Stover Subdivision (west of Gregory Road on Huffman Road) into 19 lots and one tract. Hearings before the Planning Department are scheduled for February 2, 2005

**Chugach Electric Power Line**

Chugach Electric has formed a work group comprising community council representatives from Rogers Park, Oceanview, Huffman/O'Malley, and Mid Hillside. These neighborhoods may be affected depending upon what route is selected. The purpose of the project is to provide backup to primary distribution of power in South Anchorage. Chugach has studied about nine routes and are settling on three that will be routed along Lore Road, and Huffman.

Tim Bridgman will provide a status report. Oceanview does not appear to be directly affected by any of the proposed routes.

Hats off to Chugach Electric for making a concerted and well managed effort to involve local communities in the route selection.

### **APD Community Council Liaison**

Sergeant Cindi Stanton is assigned to the new position of Community Council Liaison for the purpose of providing communications between community councils and the Anchorage Police Department. The position becomes effective in January 2005.

If you need to contact Sergeant Cindi, call her at 786-2668 or email at [cstanton@ci.anchorage.ak.us](mailto:cstanton@ci.anchorage.ak.us).

### **Upcoming Bonds**

Two large ticket bonds will be up for voter approval at the next municipal election on April 5, 2005. One proposal is financing the proposed Convention Center by increasing the bed tax, and the other one is the proposed expansion of the Anchorage Museum of History and Art where it is proposed to finance the increased operating costs of the Museum from general funds.

We will have presentations on both projects before the election in April 5.

### **Assembly Action**

The Assembly is proposing an ordinance that will allow community councils to raise their dues to \$25 per year in order to encourage greater self sufficiency. Along with financial independence, all councils will be required to present the Assembly with their by-laws. We will discuss what action our council wants to take at the January meeting.

Assembly representatives Janice Shamberg and Dick Tremaine will give us their report on actions before the Assembly at the January meeting of the council.

### **Legislative Reports**

With the legislative session starting in the first week of January, we will teleconference with our legislative representatives Senator Stevens and Representative McGuire.

Be prepared to ask questions you want answers to, propose legislation on issues of concern to you, or give your input on legislative priorities.

### **Election of Officers**

Nominations for officers of the council will remain open until our January 12 meeting when we will hold election for officers. Anyone wishing to be nominated should contact one of the officers listed at the end of the newsletter.

### **CONTACT US**

Legislative and Assembly representatives contact numbers:

Senator Ben Stevens ([Senator.Ben.Stevens@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator.Ben.Stevens@legis.state.ak.us))  
Representative Lesil McGuire ([Representative\\_Lesil\\_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us))  
Janice Shamberg ([jcshamberg@gci.net](mailto:jcshamberg@gci.net))  
Dick Tremaine ([tremained@muni.org](mailto:tremained@muni.org))

For those who want more information on what's happening in the City, consult the Municipality website [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org)

Contact your Community Council officers listed below:

President	Tim Bridgman	345-3614
Vice President	Hank Hosford	522-8638
Secretary	Margaret Klatt	345-5848
Treasurer	Mary Whitmore	344-2831
FCC Rep	Katie Weidemaier	344-2935

Community councils are the link in the local government chain between the resident and the municipal government and are only as effective as you, the membership want to make them by participating in the monthly meetings.

Oceanview/Old Seward Community Council meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Oceanview Elementary School on Johns Road. Meetings start at 7:00 PM. We are collecting membership dues for 2005--five dollars for an individual, and ten dollars for a family.

Distributed to you by the Federation of Community Councils  
401 E. Northern Lights Blvd. #204  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 277-1977

Fax: 277 3952

Email [councils@alaska.net](mailto:councils@alaska.net)

Website [www.comunitycouncils.org](http://www.comunitycouncils.org)

Community councils, at the root of better government