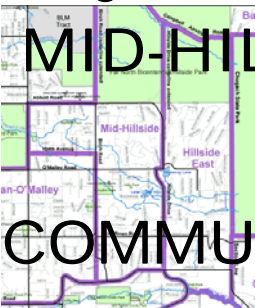


May 2006

MID-HILLSIDE & HILLSIDE EAST

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS



**Next Meeting is May 18,
2006**

**7pm at O'Malley
Elementary School in the
Library**

**We meet on the third
Thursday of each month**

**Every Spring we get to
write an Xmas wish list for
the city!**

The list is sent to the MOA workshop and around the holidays, if we're lucky, some of them get added to the budget! Technically, this is called the Capital Improvement Project list. If there's some thing that needs to be built or repaired, we add it to this list. You can see here the list we sent in 2005. Send your rankings, additions and deletions to John Weddleton by fax to 349-8376 or email john@weddleton.com.

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Our Web Address

www.communitycouncils.org/MidHillside/hillmid.html



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Agenda

O'Malley Elementary School Thursday, May 18, 2006

- 7:00 Open and introductions
- 7:05 Legislative Teleconference (tentative)
- 7:20 Comprehensive Plan Presentation by Anchorage Citizens Coalition
- 7:35 Approve minutes for April meeting
- 7:45 New business
- 8:00 Hillside District Plan Update
- 8:15 Capital Improvement Project list
- 9:00 Adjourn

The Hillside District Plan (HDP) has begun! This plan will become part of Anchorage's Comprehensive Plan to guide development on the Hillside. The study area is roughly south of Abbott, east of the Seward Highway and west and north of Chugach State Park. Independence Park will not be included.

The neighborhoods just east of the Seward Highway might not be what we think of as the Hillside but they will be included. The Basher area (Stuckagain Heights) is definitely on a hillside, but that won't be included. That's puzzling to some of us.

The HDP will look at quite a few issues, including: land use and residential density, management of wastewater disposal and water supply, areawide drainage, roads and drainage maintenance, transportation, wildfire hazard and other natural hazard mitigation, public safety access, unique environmental issues and opens space, access to Chugach State Park, plan for adequate public facilities and services, delineate the Urban/Rural Services boundary. You are correct to think that is a big list!

A few things to note: "land use" includes possible commercial development, "roads and drainages maintenance" means a close look at our Limited and Independent Road Service Areas and "wastewater" and "water" mean looking at potential city utilities. The "Urban/Rural Services boundary" is a vague line in the Comprehensive Plan that needs a clear definition. The size of the lots and what you can do with them could be very different on either side.

The HDP will involve quite a few city and state departments and a handful of consultants helping them. There is also a lot of importance put on public input. (That means *you*.) The current expectation is to have a draft of the plan completed at the end of 2007.

With the rewrite of our zoning laws, called Title 21, at a critical point, the Anchorage Citizens Coalition is reminding people of the vision of Anchorage's Comprehensive Plan. The zoning laws are supposed to implement the Comprehensive Plan. Wading through over 500 pages of new zoning laws, it's easy to lose sight of the big picture.

A major premise of the Comprehensive Plan is that we will have a population increase of up to 80,000 people by 2020. Our current zoning laws can't handle that increase in population. While there has been a lot of anxiety over the new zoning laws, the real fear should be of a future with 80,000 people living with our existing laws!

Cheryl Richardson, Executive Director of the Anchorage Citizens Coalition, will make a short presentation on the Comprehensive Plan. John Weddleton, President of ACC will also attend.