

# Huffman/O'Malley Community Council

P.O. Box 113006, Anchorage, AK 99511

www.HuffmanOmalleyCC.org

## November 2003 Newsletter

Next meeting **November 20th** 7-9 pm,  
Christian Church of Anchorage, corner of Lake Otis and O'Malley Roads

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### NEW HOCC MEETING LOCATION

Our next meeting is on November 20th from 7-9 pm. Our new home at The Christian Church of Anchorage is wonderful, lots of room and gracious hosts. They are located on the southwest corner of Lake Otis Pkwy. and O'Malley Road. Please use either parking lot, but only the north entrance will be open, signs will direct you from there. If you arrive late, please ring the bell and someone will let you in.

### NOV. 20TH AGENDA AND DEARMOUN RD

Our November 20th meeting is a joint meeting with the surrounding councils regarding the DeArmoun Road Phase 2 project (from 140th to Hillside Drive). Residents of the area are very concerned and the HOCC will be drafting a resolution addressing what we can, including restating our historical opposition to the use of eminent domain and the taking of property except when absolutely necessary.

Please, area residents who use DeArmoun Road, please plan on attending this meeting. We need your input specifically concerning 1) the curve; and 2) adjacent paths.

For all who are planning on attending the November 20th meeting, please consider walking or carpooling. We have limited parking available.

There is also another opportunity, a meeting hosted by HALO, Inc. (Home and Land Owners) on November 6th, 7 pm, at the Holy Spirit Retreat Center, corner of O'Malley Rd. and Hillside Dr. The project engineer for DOT, Therese Stokes, will only be able to attend this meeting and NOT the meeting on the 20th.

Written comments on this project are due December 20th and are critical to ensure DOT hears community concerns and values. Comments should be mailed to:  
Therese Stokes, Project Manager, DOT Highway Design, P.O. Box 196900, Anchorage, AK 99519

### OCTOBER MEETING

The HOCC meeting for October was a joint-council meeting with Bayshore-Klatt and Oceanview Community Councils regarding the road upgrades, though most of the night was spent discussing the entire transportation project process. A lot of information was exchanged between the councils, the residents, the Department of Transportation, and the Municipality and many others involved in the process. We hope the communication continues and some of the frustration with the road upgrades can be alleviated.

### COUNCIL OPERATIONAL CHANGES

Sorry it took so long to pass on the news, too busy and not enough council volunteers to cover everything going on.....at our September meeting, the HOCC passed a motion to not have the state-level politicians speak at meetings unless there is a pressing issue. No one wants to be there all night and this shortens our meeting so we can live within our other change....at our August meeting a motion was passed to end meetings by 9pm unless extended by vote. Having the state politicians speak, while it's a great asset and we're thankful for all the time they spend with us.

### BUDGET CUTS TO FIRE DEPARTMENT

At the October meeting, we also talked with firefighters regarding budget cuts to their department. South Anchorage will be hardest hit with these cuts and we are very concerned about the effects on the fire department and their ability to affectively serve the public. Of further concern is the extreme wildfire danger on upper hillside, and the fact that our fire department are also our paramedics.

### FCC FUNDING CUT & AFFECTS ON HOCC

Community Councils were formed MANY years ago by the citizens of Anchorage to insure direct input into their city's future and the politicians that make the decisions. The Federation of Community Councils was later formed by the Municipality to assisted community councils in their day to day functions such as mailing. Mayor Begich has announced that the budget for the Federation of Community Councils will be drastically cut. All duties will be moved to the Municipal Clerk's Office.

This will mean, among other things, that we can no longer do an area-wide survey without private donations. We want to be able to mail a survey this year, but may have to only use the mailing list we have. Our current list is compiled over the years and we're not getting to well over half of the council area residents. We need to purchase a new mailing list to be able to reach the newer residents of the area. A community council is only as good as the people involved, and can only address concerns if we have good communication with everyone in the area.

Ideally, our newsletter is done through a monthly e-mailed newsletter, but for some email is an impossibility or they choose to not sign up. If anyone is receiving both the e-mailed and mailed versions of our newsletters, could you please e-mail me back so I can remove you from the list that costs us money? I've gone through and reconciled the lists, but no one is perfect and I'm expecting I missed a few people.

RECEIVED  
Date: 11-26-03

**ASSISTED LIVING ORDINANCE**

The public hearing on the proposed Assisted Living Ordinance has been rescheduled to December 8th in front of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

**REZONING BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY**

Case No. 2003-069, the rezoning to R-1 located across Lake Otis from the gravel pit we told you about months ago is going to be heard before the Assembly on Tuesday, December 2nd at 5pm. For more information call the Planning Department at 343-7943 or the HOCC.

**DIVERSITY TOWN-HALL GATHERINGS**

The Municipality of Anchorage (MOA), Mayor's Office - Office of Equal Opportunity, and the MOA Anchorage Equal Rights Commission will host a series of gatherings through November to focus on ways to strengthen the bonds between the city and the community, and look for ways to ensure the dignity of diverse residents in the delivery of equitable services.

These Diversity Town-Hall Gatherings will aid in establishing connections while building positive relationships within the community. During the gathering, a broad information and outreach strategy targeted at Anchorage's diverse groups will be conducted. The goal of the Diversity Town-Hall Gathering is to develop strategies for the MOA to use in promoting inclusion within its own work force. The Municipality of Anchorage is committed to creating an environment that welcomes and includes everyone while diminishing and excluding no one. For additional information, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at 343-4890.

**UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Monday, November 10th: Tanglewood Golf Course extension for their conditional use to construct the indoor driving range.

Wednesday, November 12th: Before the Urban Design Commission, final landscape review for a public school, Bartlett High

Thursday, November 13th: Before the Zoning Board of Examiners and Appeals, a variance from required yard setbacks to allow an existing structure to encroach into the secondary front yard setback, Great Dane Circle.

Monday, December 1st: A request to rezone approximately 7 acres from R10-SL to Antenna Farm. Generally located east of the terminus of Nearpoint Drive and generally east of the Stuckagain Heights neighborhood.

Wednesday, December 3rd: Before the Platting Board, a request to subdivide two lots into one lot, with the vacation of a 33-foot BLM Reservation easement.

Monday, December 8th: A request to rezone approximately 2.06 acres from R-1A to R-6, Fischer Subdivision. Nice to see them going the other way sometimes, isn't it?

Tuesday, December 16th: An Ordinance amending Title 21 to provide that public hearing notices be mailed to all property owners within 1000-feet of the proposed project. Currently, the limit is 500-feet. We could use your public testimony and letters in support to get this one passed. Increased notice area is important.

I/we want to become a contributing member of HOCC.  
Enclosed is my \$5 - \$250 yearly contribution.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: Huffman/O'Malley Community Council, PO Box 113006, Anchorage, AK 99511