

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



Rules Committee
•
Senate Finance Committee
•
Health & Social Services Committee
•
Community & Regional Affairs
Committee
•
World Trade Special Committee
•
Committee on Committees

While in Session
State Capitol, Rm. 119
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-3704
Fax: (907) 465-2529

•
While in Anchorage
716 W. 4th Ave, Rm. 500
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-0169
Fax: (907) 269-0172

SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS

RULES COMMITTEE CHAIR

October 31, 2012

Paul Alcantar, Director
Municipality of Anchorage
Solid Waste Services
111 E 56th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99518

Dear Mr. Alcantar,

I write today out of concern for the Municipality's decision to require all residents to switch from the long-standing alley pickup of refuse to curbside pickup. As you know, many residents in my district have expressed their opposition to this change at Community Council meetings and other public forums. I respectfully request that you consider reasonable objections and make exceptions as necessary.

This change in policy would create unnecessary hardships for many of my constituents and neighbors. My district is home to many seniors who have enjoyed alley refuse collection since they purchased their homes decades ago. Numerous homes in my district have garbage sheds in the alley which are near to and level with the homes, and allow those with limited physical abilities to get their refuse to its appropriate place for pickup. Forcing seniors and others with mobility issues to carry their refuse containers to the street – often long distances requiring the navigation of stairs – creates an undue hardship on these citizens.

I understand that you are reaching out to community council members and residents to clear up some of the issues making alley recycling difficult. I appreciate your efforts to work with residents on a solution, and request that Solid Waste Services reexamine their policy of making all residents move to curbside pickup, and make reasonable accommodations for those that cannot comply with this new mandate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Ellis".

Senator Johnny Ellis

CC: Assemblyman Patrick Flynn

Bonnie Harris, President, South Addition Community Council
Bob French, President, Government Hill Community Council
Janet Bidwell, President, Rogers Park Community Council
Geran Tarr, President, Airport Heights Community Council