

**UACC Minutes**  
**University Area Community Council (UACC)**  
**November 5, 2014**

1. Opening: Jacob Gondek called the meeting to order at approximately 7:07 PM. Jacob next had people in the room introduce themselves. Twenty-one people were in attendance at the start of the meeting. Fifteen UACC members signed in. An additional six visitors signed in and attended part or all of the meeting.

2. Approval of minutes: The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2014 meeting. As several corrections for the minutes were outstanding, a motion was made and seconded to defer the approval of these minutes to the December meeting. The motion was approved 12 for and 0 against. Jacob asked if there were any changes or additions to the November 2014 minutes. Barbara Garner suggested that B. 1. Line 4 should read (with changes in bold print) "She also discussed the effort to make the **park trail** ADA accessible... ". This suggestion was accepted and a motion was made to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was approved unanimously 12/0.

3. Agenda: Jacob proposed several changes to the November agenda. He proposed dropping item 5.B, and adding it to the December agenda as the presenter was not able to make the meeting. He also suggested adding a Update on the UMED District Plan to the Section 4 Information Reports. He also proposed adding a report from East High Principal Dewayne Adams on the East High Sports Stadium construction to the Business Section. The agenda, with these changes was approved unanimously (11/0).

4. Informational Reports

A. Reports from Public Servants

a. Andy Josephson reported on the following items.

He discussed his visits to the Susitna Watana dam and Donlan mine sites. He also discussed the important work the legislative Budget Audits Committee performs in evaluating how State agencies are performing. He mentioned an important Department of Corrections audit that will be completed in December. He also discussed HB 78 pertaining to the School Foundation Formula. He reported on his concern over the 32 State management area plans that are under concurrent revision, which is contrary how the plans would be normally revised one at a time. He felt that the public is being locked out of the process with them all being done at one time. Finally there was a discussion on how the Democratic Caucus is formed and how members of the Caucus are assigned to committee.

b. Bill Wielechowski reported on several items

He remarked that the election was a study of contrasts. The public voted on referendums that were pro conservation, unions, and marijuana but voted in conservative legislators. He mentioned the looming 3 billion dollar State budget deficit will be a major issue. During his infrastructure drive around the town he noted that the Reflection Lake drainage problem, with an estimated cost of 14 million, is a major problem area in his District. He also mentioned the Muni estimates that fixing all the drainage municipal drainage issues would cost a billion dollars.

He stated that the Gasline will be a major discussion in the legislature, with debate over how far along it is, but with hope that there might be a contract next year. He reported that Conoco Phillips FEC filing indicated that their Alaska oil earnings per barrel (\$34) were far and away the most profitable, compared to International (\$19) and North Dakota (\$0.64) per barrel. Finally, he mentioned that a strong Governor might be able to enforce current oil lease development provisions, which might provide for future funds for State operations.

c. Max Gruenberg

Max discussed the work of the audit committee. He gave an example of the scathing results from the real estate audit and how it can result in changes in how the agencies, boards, and committees work. He mentioned that working to change the changing the elections to an open primary should be a priority.

B. Community Council Board Reports

1. Safety Report- Al Mispagh – Al discussed the NIXLE system. He said it was on Twitter and Facebook. He described a situation where a little boy with autism who was lost was located near Little Campbell Lake. A local resident recognized the boy, after viewing his photo on NIXLE, he notified the authorities, and the boy was found and returned to his parents. Al mentioned that if you would like to sign up for NIXLE, the address is [WWW.nixle.com](http://WWW.nixle.com).

You can also find APD on Twitter and Facebook at <https://twitter.com/APDinfo> and <https://facebook.com/APDinfo>.

Al next reported on the APD Crime mapping System, RAIDS Online. Raids automatically syncs with APD records and keeps crime information and available online and in a mobile application. Barbara Garner mentioned she has had problems with the Raids system. Al suggested she contact APD to inform them of the issue and help in resolution.

2. FCC Report- Al Mispagh- Al said there will be a State of the City forum to be held Monday November 11. It will be at Wendler Middle School. Al reported on the new FCC Facebook site. It will up in a couple of weeks. The site cannot be currently updated until that date.

C. UMED District Plan update- Kristine Bannell

Kristine updated the community council on the UMED District Plan process and schedule. She mentioned that for the last couple of weeks she has been updating the internal Review Draft based on the comments from the Steering Committee. She indicated that another draft would come out tomorrow, with comments back from the Steering committee in a week. With the planning efforts are ancillary planning efforts. The Parks Department will use a \$30 K for a master plan for the University Lake Park in the spring of 2015. There is Transportation in Demand planning effort focusing park and ride options using grant money. A trails plan is starting next spring, and there have extra money for UMED transportation plan. She reported on the successful UAA bike share program. She said the bike share program is considering the use of studded tires for winter use as a result of comments offered by Steering Committee and UACC

member Paul Stang. For an update of the UMED District Planning efforts Kristine suggested going to [UMEDPlan@wordpress.com](mailto:UMEDPlan@wordpress.com).

Barbara Garner asked about whether a Muni transportation survey monkey that she received was part of these efforts. Kristine said not know, but Jacob Gondak indicated that it is probably part of the AMATS transportation model update. For more information on how to get involved go to:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/OCPD/Planning/AMATS/Pages/GetInvolved.aspx>.

The survey monkey is located at:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=S1B\\_2fuxhvc\\_2bgCnoXFCrsuJw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=S1B_2fuxhvc_2bgCnoXFCrsuJw_3d_3d).

Finally Jacob mentioned that Kristine has done a good job on getting UACC UMED Steering Committee members input onto equal footing to the other stakeholder members on the Committee.

## 5. Business

### A. Local Neighborhood Traffic – MOA Tim Myland

Tim described his role as traffic calming coordinator for the city. He does not deal with State Highways, such as Tudor Road. Tim mentioned that if people notice people driving erratically call Tim at 343-8470. When Tim first came on board there was a backlog of traffic calming studies, but they now have the studies updated. Most if not all these areas of study they looked at for traffic calming do not met the level necessary to initiate traffic calming construction. Tim indicated that the criteria used are high. An example is 85% of the traffic must be exceeding the speed limit. Tim discussed how road design is a better alternative than traffic calming structures such as speed bumps. He indicated that narrow road widths and non-linear construction is critical in lowering road speeds. Wide straight roads make people speed.

Many people in the Council still preferred the concept of speed bumps for reduction of traffic speeds in residential area. Tim said the speed bumps are greatly discouraged in the city because they extend emergency response time, create problems with snow removal, create problems with drainage unless special curbs are built, and create travel restrictions to city buses. Tim expressed the need for citizens to communicate with the mayor or other officials that have management control over traffic and road design for traffic calming efforts to be taken seriously. There was discussion of the ongoing traffic situation created by the Winterberry School. Tim said the traffic study did not point to a problem as the 85 percentile speed was only 19 mph, far below the speed threshold needed to initiate traffic calming efforts. Tim indicated the school K-12 traffic control program might be a more nimble program to address the issue.

### B. East High Sports Field Grandstand- Dewayne Adams, East High Principal-

Mr. Adams discussed the grandstand, lighting, and concessionaire designs being developed for the East High sports fields. The field is used for football practice, track, and soccer. He noted East and South are the only ASD High Schools without the “home” field football games. The proposal calls for 1500 feet of grandstand, all along the south side and east side of the field. Dewayne discussed the Illumination of the field, with the capability to direct the light toward the playing field and stands and away from the local neighborhood, as well as being able to turn off some of the lights. He also talked about the PA system, with it also being able to be aimed at the crowd and away from the neighborhood north of the fields. He also said that there was a community meeting, with considerable outreach, and no one came. Total cost for the work is 2 million, with 1 million available from state grants. Mr. Adams was questioned about the compelling need for such an expense. He replied by saying that the benefits were to

help engage marginal students and give them something to help keep them in school. He also noted that it would help build a sense of school community.

6. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at approximately 8:54 PM. Next Meeting- The next meeting will be held on December 3<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Baptist Church.

