### Huffman/O'Malley Community Council It's your HOCC! November 2011 Newsletter

### **October Recap:**

It was a full agenda! We had a presentation from Chugach Electric regarding the proposed Abbott Substation currently planned for Hane/O'Malley. While no other more suitable locations have been identified, load use has decreased, which gives Chugach an additional year to deal with this planned facility.

We also heard from Brenda Hewitt and Scott Thomas of the Department of Transportation regarding Huffman Road. The rumor about three more roundabouts between Lake Otis and Elmore appears to be true.

Thank you to the Seawind homeowners who appeared to discuss the improvements they have made to the greenbelt.

NOTE: The Huffman/O'Malley Community Council will have a new meeting location beginning in November! We will be hosted by the Shepherd of the Hills Church located at the corner of Elmore Road and Klatt.

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# Hot Button Issue - Title 21

After all the hand wringing about the suggested changes to Title 21, Mayor Sullivan's alterations are available. Out of the almost 40 changes suggested by Dan Coffey, five have been accepted by the Planning Department.

One area of concern remains that Coffey's suggestion to require involvement of community councils in rezonings was turned down. Planning staff wants councils to be an option only. This is an item that HOCC has fought for since the inception of this process, as the community councils are established 'grassroots' government under our Municipal Charter.

The Oct 19 Memorandum that contains staff replies to suggested changes is available under "Current News" at <u>http://www.muni.org/departments/ocpd/planning/pages/default.aspx</u>

Public Hearings on Case 2011-104, the Title 21 revision, will be held by the Planning and Zoning Commission beginning on Monday, Dec 12. This may involve several meetings, depending on public input. These meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the Loussac Library Assembly Chambers. From there, the approved document will go to Public Hearing by the Assembly.

Comments can be submitted in writing or in person at any Public Hearing. We urge you to become involved in this process that will shape our future and affect our pocketbooks.

# **Municipal Budget Input Wanted**

Have you visited the new Muni Budget Website yet? There is even a place where we can take a survey about your thoughts for the future and where we should be spending our tax dollars. You can also sign up for the new budget newsletter.

Public Hearings on the 2012-2013 budget process will begin on Nov 8. The online survey will obviously become part of this discussion. Visit <u>www.munibudget.org</u> and offer your opinion on this vital subject.

### **Upcoming Meeting - Thursday Nov**

The next Huffman/O'Malley meeting will be held Thursday, November 17th, at 7 pm. Items on the agenda will include the Muni's Transportation Plan, a Title 21 update, the proposed Hillside Service Area board, and the proposed Chugach Park Plan.

If you have an issue you would like to have the Council address, please contact <u>hoccpresident@gmail.com</u> or attend the meeting.

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# New Meeting Location This Month! Shepherd of the Hills

Beginning with the next meeting, the Huffman/O'Malley Community Council will meet at the Shepherd of the Hills Church on Elmore Road between O'Malley and Lake Otis. This is the lovely cedar-framed church located at the corner of Klatt and Elmore, next to the vacant lot that backs up to Huffman Park.

We will meet downstairs at our normal 7 pm time. There a large parking lot in the front of the church. Enter through the front doors. Turn left into the sanctuary and you will find the stairway. The meeting room is at the bottom of the stairs. Pastor Fred Voss will be available the first few meetings to make sure things go right.

We thank the Christian Church of Anchorage for allowing us to meet there for so many years!

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### Streets and Highways Plan Public Hearing

The Public Hearing Draft of the official Streets and Highways Plan will begin on Monday, Nov 7th at the Planning and Zoning Commission. This document will guide development and upgrade of all roads and highways in the Municipality.

The PZC meets at the Loussac Library Assembly Chambers beginning at 6:30 pm. You can read the document at: <u>http://munimaps.muni.org/planning/pzdocs/staffcomments/2011-115.pdf</u>

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### **HOCC - Area Crime Statistics**

We provide these monthly crime statistics so that we all understand what is happening in our area and take appropriate precautions. Theft is a continuing problem that we should all be aware of. We know you appreciate the updates, and thank you for your feedback.

These are the compiled crime statistics for the HOCC-area (Sept- 26 to Oct. 30). The cumulative amount of reported offenses (beginning December 17, 2010 to date) are in parentheses.

Theft Reports: 2 (51)	Drugs: 1 (6)
Assaults: 0 (15)	Vehicle Theft: 1 (7)
Burglaries: 0 (16)	Liquor violations: 0 (2)
Disturbances: 2 (18)	Weapon Offense: 2 (3)
Fraud/Forgery: 0 (10)	DUI: 0 (1)
Vandalism: 2 (12)	Disorderly conduct: 0 (1)
Other Undefined Offenses: 10 (8)	Prostitution: 0 (3)

It's important to note that the first homicide in proximity to the HOCC boundary occurred this past month...no area of town in immune from such a crime! Reports of thefts continue to out pace the other crimes. If you are a crime victim, please be sure to report it to the Anchorage Police Department so that the information is logged into the MOA's crime statistics database.

HOCC also wants to remind everyone that the APD does not log reports unless you ask for a case number. Please remember, if you are making any police report regarding anything from noise to vandalism or suspicious behavior, always ask for a case number.

Compiled by Wayne Crayton, HOCC Steering Committee Member. Information is from Anchorage Police Department records at <u>http://crimemap.muni.org/</u>

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## Vocabulary of the Month: "DUA"

"DUA" is "planner-speak" for "dwelling units per acre". In areas zoned R-1, for example, single-family housing lots may be as small as 6,000 square feet. In R-6 zoning, the smallest single-family dwelling housing lot is 54,450 square feet. Therefore, R-1 would be 7+ DUA, while R-6 would be -1 DUA.

Is there a word or acronym you would like defined? Let us know by contacting <u>HOCCnewslettereditor@qmail.com</u>

# From the President's Desk

Once again I am extremely gratified by the unity and cohesion of the Huffman/ O'Malley Community Council! Our members who step up and offer their unique and individual knowledge and expertise is one of our most valuable resources.

In the past several months, we have been given the opportunity to respond to such variety of issues including the long-term AMATS planning, the proposed Title 21 update, the proposed Hillside Service Area and the proposed Chugach Park Plan, among others. We have also looked at solutions to ongoing issues regarding traffic safety, parks and budget items.

In each case, our incredible members volunteer to study documents and form appropriate responses, including direct suggestions that will serve to uplift our entire community. Others volunteer to assist. In effect, we have numerous small working groups willing to spend their valuable time working together in the interests of our neighborhoods. It is said that good leaders delegate. Delegating ensures success, especially when those offering to step up and study these complex issues are such capable and knowledgeable individuals. Without them, the HOCC simply would not be such a cohesive and successful Council. The simple fact is that good leadership is easy when one has a spectacular volunteer force!

*I am grateful for each and every member of our Steering Committee and our Council. We truly have an exceptional group of leaders here in Huffman/O'Malley.* 

Now a question for you: Are you a person with unique knowledge or experience you would be willing to share? Do you have a background that could be a valuable asset to our community?

There is more work that needs to be delegated. You could make a difference to your entire community. Please consider sharing your talents and abilities with all of us.

Pete Nolan, President Huffman/O'Malley Community Council <u>hoccpresident@gmail.com</u>

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## Just a Random Thought... Okay, bring on Winter. Let's get through the Holidays so we can get on to Spring.

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### Welcome New Members!

Thanks you for your support! Dues paying members are vital to our mission of two-way conversation and grassroots community input.

If you are not yet a dues-paying member, simply use the form at the bottom of this newsletter. Membership fee is only \$10 per person each year, and yes, we do accept larger contributions (please see instructions below). For our "snail mail" residents, you can become an "email person" by just letting us know, and save us some postage in the process!

And remember to contact us with your comments and concerns, because YOU CAN make a difference! Feel free to pass this e-Newsletter on to your neighbors, then remind them to join.

### Yes, I want to become a contributing member of HOCC Enclosed is my contribution of \$10 per person for this year.

Name:	
Physical Address:	
Mailing Address:	
Phone (home & other)	
E-Mail	

### **Comments & Concerns:**

# Mail to: Huffman/O'Malley Community Council, 1120 Huffman Road, Suite 24, PMB 420, Anchorage, AK 99515

**Please note:** Donations in a higher amount are greatly appreciated and accepted. For donations to be tax deductible, please make your check out to: FCC (Federation of Community Councils) on behalf of "Huffman O'Malley Community Council". Please send this donation to the above mailing address and a tax deductible receipt will be provided. Thank You!