

# Scenic Foothills Community Council

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 1, 2012

**Call to Order:** Vice President Catherine Carte, 7 p.m., February minutes approved.

**School Bond** Daniel Gallego, Bartlett High School principal, explained [Proposition 1](#), the Anchorage Schools bond, \$59 million. Career and technical education improvements, \$23.8 million; Service High School, \$9.1 million, Building life extension projects, \$23.8 million and Girdwood K-8 School design, \$2.4 million. State of Alaska to pay 60-70% of total costs.

**Roads, Parks and Public Transportation Bonds** Dean Karcz from [Anchorage Tomorrow](#) briefed attendees on [Proposition 2](#), Roads and Drainage – \$27,472,000 and [Proposition 3](#), Parks & Recreation – \$2,750,000 and [Proposition 4](#), Areawide Emergency Medical and Public Transportation – \$1,588,000. Karcz also gave an update on the [32nd Avenue and Cherry Street upgrade](#), which is now fully funded and planned for construction this summer.

**House Representative Lance Pruitt** shared legislative updates via a conference call. Pruitt said there would be a hearing about moving the People Mover hub to Tikahtnu Commons and another constituent meeting March 24 at Baxter Elementary School.

**East Anchorage District Plan:** Roger Shaw reported that [Anchorage 2020](#) envisioned district plans. The Eagle River, Girdwood, Hillside and West Side District Plans have now been done but funding for an East Anchorage plan kept getting vetoed by various mayors over and over. However, a contractor has now been hired and will start explaining the process next week. They will take a couple of days to begin the process. SFCC will have one delegate and there will be a lot of public meetings to guide the planning.

**Muldoon Town Square and Park Strip.** Roger Shaw reported that the assembly passed [Resolution No. AR 2011-340\(S amended\)](#) 6-5 on February 28 to delay rerealignment of Chester Creek so land use can be considered for a park. Shaw said the Municipality had planned that the back portion of the old Alaska Greenhouse property would be used as a park, the middle section zoned for housing and the frontage zoned and sold for commercial purposes. Chester Creek realignment plan was to make the front piece more valuable for commercial development. The proposed park is an important part of the East Anchorage District Plan and so citizens testified in favor of extending the time. Existing terms of a grant to fund part of the work require that the work be completed before such plans could be made. The grant money is available until 2016 and he recommended that our community council request that the administration ask for an extension of time to the maximum under the terms of the grant. Bill Miernyk said park construction would need a bond issue and Anchorage hasn't passed park bonds for years. Shaw said we should get it designated as park land even if it could not be developed immediately. Shaw said we must ask for the extension soon or the creek realignment would proceed. Shaw introduced a [resolution](#), Alex Monterrosa seconded it. The resolution passed 13-1.

**Alaska Senate Updates** Richard Benavides provided updates on legislation from Senator Bettye Davis's office. He said street and parks projects had made it through the initial cuts but Governor Parnell has said he will use his veto pen at the session's end.

**School Board Candidates' Forum:** Seat E – [Starr Marsett](#) is running against incumbent [Kathleen Plunkett](#). Seat F – [Tam Agosti-Gisler](#) and [Richard Wanda](#) (not present) are contending. Seat G – [David Nees](#) is opposing [Natasha Von Imhoff](#). School Board members are elected at large but to designated seats, meaning each represents all areas of the Municipality. All School Board candidates win with a simple majority. Candidates' names appear in a random alphabetical order on the ballot.

**Proposition 5** is an initiative that asks "shall current Municipal Code sections providing legal protections against discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, age, physical disability, and mental ability be amended to include protections on the basis of sexual orientation or transgender identity." A representative of One Anchorage requested and received a Scenic Foothills Community Council resolution of support for the proposition, which passed 7-5 with other attendees abstaining, at the February 2 meeting. A number of attendees not present at the February meeting were dissatisfied with the earlier outcome and presented a resolution of non-support at the March meeting, which was passed, 14-7.

**Meeting adjourned** 9:45pm.