



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Vision Fairbanks</i>	1
<i>BP MSF</i>	2
<i>Air Quality Report</i>	3
<i>Hot Topics</i>	4

Board Members:

- Therese Sharp
- Monty Rostad
- Peter Beaver
- Mike Cook
- Ken Henry
- Georjean Seeliger
- Nelson Traverso
- Cindy Schumaker
- Susan Rainey
- Buzzy Chiu
- Bart LeBon
- Charles Bettisworth
- Suzi Waugaman

Our Mission:

To encourage and foster economic growth that will result in a downtown that is a vital, energetic and attractive center of the community.

Downtown Association of Fairbanks

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VISION FAIRBANKS GAINS MOMENTUM

Vision Fairbanks has garnered strong support as it heads to the Borough Assembly for consideration. The Fairbanks City Council passed a resolution in April urging the Borough Assembly to roll Vision Fairbanks into the FNSB Comprehensive Plan. This adds to the list of endorsements from organizations such as FEDC, the Chena Riverfront Commission and the FNSB Planning Commission.

The turnout for the City Council's decision was amazing. City Hall was full of blue shirts, and close to twenty people spoke in favor of keeping the momentum of this critical revitalization document moving forward. Local business owners, the retirement community, pedestrians, and residents spoke in favor of having a plan that will make downtown a better place to work, play, and live.

The date for the Borough Assembly to consider adopting Vision Fairbanks into the FNSB Comprehensive Plan has not yet been set. When the time does come, people will be asked to once again come out in their blue shirts to support this vital plan for the revitalization of the downtown area.



April 7, 2008 City Council Meeting on Vision Fairbanks

FAIRBANKS, NOT THE ONLY PLACE WITH A VISION

Towns of all shapes and sizes are implementing community driven plans. Recently, the most populous city in Australia revealed its vision. Sydney is a metropolitan area with a population of approximately 4.28 million. An article posted online at Sydney Media's webpage outlines the year long process of developing their plan .

Even though Sydney is vastly different from Fairbanks in both location and population, it is interesting to find that there are some similarities. It is also interesting to compare the process behind Vision Fairbanks and Sustainable Sydney 2030.

In an article, *Sydney 2030: Call for best minds to develop sustainable metropolis vision*, it states that officials met with more than four thousand people at more than thirty community forms and received twenty-two hundred comments by phone and though their website.

Here in Fairbanks, there were four community workshops with close to four hundred attendees at each, thus Vision

Fairbanks solicited over two thousand comments from these meetings and our website. In a city of just over 30 thousand people, Fairbanks' level of participation is huge by comparison.

The Sydney plan focuses on revitalization, transportation, using "green" technology, and preserving its culture. The mayor is quoted as saying, "The people of Sydney have spoken. They want a City that is green, global and connected. They want a City for people that celebrates Sydney's climate, natural beauty and open spaces, and is easy to move around, whether by public transport, bicycle or walking."

Vision Fairbanks addresses these same issues. The plan looks at Fairbanks's natural beauty, open spaces, and the need for better transportation whether pedestrian, car, bus, or even light rail.

The Sydney plan can be found online at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/2030/. It is another good example of what a community can do when they work together to plan for their future.



Projects In Motion

90 MINUTES DOWNTOWN

Where will this fantastic guide to downtown Fairbanks take you?

Keep on eye out for this new guide for downtown visitors. Starting in June, this free map features over 80 stores, restaurants, museums and service providers. We hope that even more people will sign up for next year's guide.

Perfect Parking Program

This incentive program kicked off in April as a way to free up on-street parking downtown. Eligible business owners and employees get an "Employee Parking Card" for their car. They are entered into a drawing for each day their number is spotted at Sadler's.

Together we are getting the word out about free parking opportunities and the importance of having on-street parking available for customers. There is still time to sign up. The contest ends May 28.

Please contact us if you are interested in learning more about this exciting program.

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BP MIDNIGHT SUN FESTIVAL



The BP Midnight Sun Festival is the biggest one-day event downtown, and it wouldn't be possible without these generous supporters. Whether its money, services or time, all donations are extremely appreciated. While some of the money does go towards throwing an internationally renowned celebration, the overages go towards supporting the Community Service Patrol and other community development programs. These services help keep the downtown core safe year-round and work towards building long-term solutions to the challenges this community faces, while lessening government burden.

Our gratitude and thanks go out to the following businesses for their incredible support of the BP Midnight Sun Festival and the year long programs that it sustains. There is still time to add your name to this list. Money or in-kind donations are still needed to make this year's celebration the spectacular event the community has come to take pride in and call its own.

2 Street Station	Key Bank
9th Army Band	Kohler, Schmitt and Hutchison
Alaska Rare Coins	Local 375 Plumbers and Pipefitters
Alaska Waste	Mecca Bar
Aurora Energy	Mt. McKinley Bank
Arctic Traveler's Gift Shop	Northrim Bank
Big Ray's	PDC, Inc.
BP	Princess Tours
Bridgewater Hotel	Regency Fairbanks Hotel
Bucher Glass, Inc.	River City Investments
City of Fairbanks	Sadler's Home Furnishings
ConocoPhillips	Sani-Can, Inc.
Dance Theatre Fairbanks	SpringHill Suites by Marriott
Denali Industrial Supply, Inc.	Stephenson, CPA
Denali State Bank	Towne House Motel & Apartments
Doyon Limited	Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc.
Eielson Air Force Base	Utility Services of Alaska
Fairbanks Fire Department	Wal-Mart Store #2722
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	Walsh, Kelliher, and Sharp
Fairbanks Parking Authority	Yukon Quest International
FCVB	Yukon Title Company
Festival Fairbanks	
First National Bank Alaska	
Fred Meyer	
Fort Wainwright Army Base	
Golden Valley Electric Association	
Heindl's Car & Truck Sales, Inc	
If Only... a fine store	
JL Properties Inc.	



BP Midnight Sun Festival
Saturday, June 21, 2008
Noon-Midnight

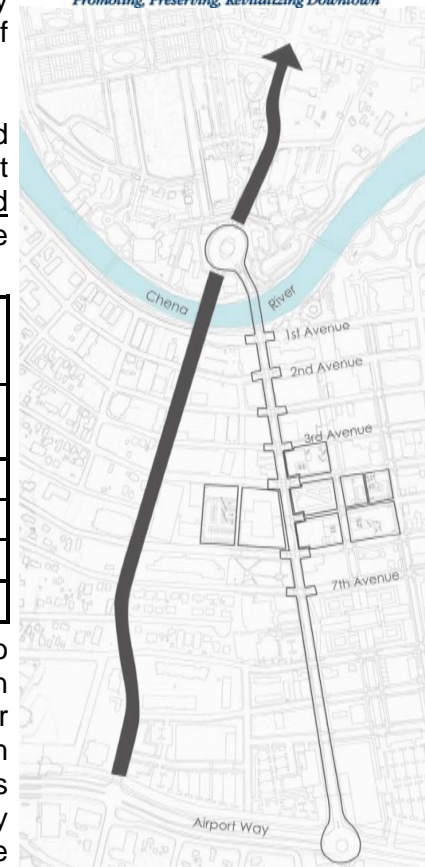
TWO-WAY TRAFFIC & AIR QUALITY



Sierra Research Inc., based in Sacramento, California, has completed analysis of the potential air quality impacts associated with the development and roadway system reconfiguration planned under Vision Fairbanks. Two major changes in traffic downtown will be Cushman and Barnette Streets converting from one-way to two-way traffic. Their findings show the traffic growth and roadway capacity changes associated with the project are not expected to cause any violations of ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide.

Three separate scenarios were evaluated, including 2007 Existing conditions based on winter 2007 traffic and roadway system, 2011 Interim conditions with the first implementation phase of Cushman as a two-way corridor, and 2025 Full Build conditions with both Cushman and Barnette converted to two-way corridors. The projected emission results are as follows:

Analysis Scenario	8-Hour CO (ppm)	Location
2007 Existing	7.6	SE corner of Cushman St & 1st Ave
2011 Interim	8.6	NE corner of Barnette St & 2nd Ave
2025 Full Build	7.1	NE corner of Barnette St & 1st Ave
Ambient Standard	9	

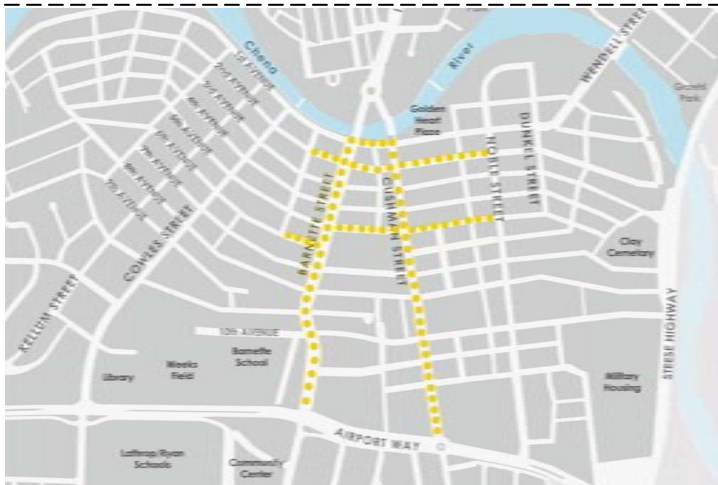


Illinois and Barnette Street

Planned Department of Transportation improvements will accommodate future two-way traffic. The additional traffic capacity served by these improvements will reduce the traffic demand on Cushman Street, thereby allowing the street to better serve retail and downtown services.

The highest ambient CO concentrations resulting from the project are expected to occur in the 2011 Interim scenario. Under this scenario, Cushman Street has been reconfigured to two-way with on-street parking, but Barnette and its extension over the Chena River have not yet been completed. Although this is close to the 9 ppm standard, the level of conservatism contained in the analysis ensures no violations will occur throughout the study area where the public has regular access, especially the use of the highest eight-hour ambient concentration monitored over the last five years as the background value applied throughout the study area.

Once full project build-out occurs, the increased mobility and capacity resulting from re-configuring Barnette Street to a two-way corridor will reduce traffic congestion. Despite higher traffic volumes from long-term growth, CO impacts during full build-out in 2025 will be lower because emissions per vehicle are expected to continue to decline due to continued improvements in vehicle emission control technology.



Dots indicate streets that are proposed to go two-way.

WHY GO TWO-WAY?

For years, traffic was evaluated by how quickly morning and afternoon rush-hour drivers moved through downtown. Streets were converted to one way to increase traffic speeds. Now that Fairbanks has the Steese Highway to serve those drivers, downtown can focus on being a retail destination and not a thoroughfare.

Converting Cushman to a two-way street is essential to creating a successful “retail hot spot.” This will allow for on-street parking, improved sidewalks, and a pedestrian friendly atmosphere. Not to mention a reduction in the amount of vehicle miles traveled by 25-50% equating to less money on gas and more for shopping!



HOT TOPICS

Climate is a hot topic in Alaska, and scientists have made the observation that over the last century things are starting to warm up and change.

The Interior Issues Council Climate Change Task Force is a group of citizens and public employees working towards a sustainable, climate resilient community through education, public outreach, and borough-wide actions.

Groups are looking at areas such as infrastructure, public health, land use, tourism, energy, and the economic impacts and opportunities brought on by change.

A public hearing on this topic will be held on Monday, May 12, at 6pm in the Noel Wien Library Auditorium. It is a good time to ask questions or get involved in what this community is doing to make climate change a positive change for the Interior. For more information on the task force, go to FEDC's website at www.investfairbanks.com.

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REMEMBER OUR TROOPS

Memorial Day falls on May 26 this year. This holiday commemorates U.S. men and women who have died in military service for their country. It was started to honor Union soldiers who died during the American Civil War, then after WWI, it was expanded to include those who died in any war or military action.

Here in Alaska, especially in the Interior, the military is an integral part of our community. Men and women stationed at Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base have sacrificed greatly to protect the liberties that Americans hold so dear. Interior families have also made the ultimate sacrifice and lost their loved ones in conflicts overseas.

This Memorial Day, take a moment and remember the fallen soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and its citizens. Also, go out of your way to thank the servicemen, women, and their families for their incredible strength and courage, especially as most are gearing up for another deployment.

BRIDGE OF FLAGS

This photo taken in 1916 or 1917 shows American Flags being placed on Cushman Bridge.

This year all 50 states will be represented, along with the Alaska's 50th Anniversary Commemorative flag. The new flags will be up by the end of May in time to kick off the celebration of Alaska's 50th birthday.

We take great pride in decorating the bridge each year. Maintaining this time honored tradition will hopefully continue for many years to come.



Archives, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

TIME TO SPRING CLEAN

Saturday, May 10, is Clean Up Day in Fairbanks. This year you can pick up the traditional yellow garbage bags at Tanana Valley United Way, Moose Creek General Store, Fox General Store, or any fire department.

Its also a good time to do a little spring cleaning around your business. Set aside some time in early May for you and your employees to wash away all the winter grime.

While you tackling the regular tasks of washing windows, dusting ledges, and maybe even applying some fresh paint, don't forget these other spring cleaning ideas:

- Archive old paper files you have not used in a long time.
- Back up old computer files and free up space by transferring information to a disk.

- Review practices and procedures. Maybe your staff have ideas on how to streamline daily tasks.
- Change things up by rearranging furniture or even swapping last year's vases or paintings with something more up to date, fresh and different.
- Go through all stationery cupboards and office desks and throw out everything that doesn't work.
- Think about changing your business card, brochures, or other signage. Look around and see if there are any old paper signs that could use a reprint or even a frame to look more professional.
- Clean out your email inbox.
- Get a fresh set of eyes on your business by having someone walk through who doesn't work or visit everyday.