



ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY

PRESS RELEASE

11/05/2013

Dick Traini, Assembly Member, Chair of Assembly Community Councils Committee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anchorage Assembly Member Dick Traini announces that the Assembly has created a new webpage about Community Councils at <http://www.muni.org/assembly/communitycouncils>. The new page is accessible from the Municipality's homepage under the "Your Government" tab as well as from the Anchorage Assembly's webpage. The new webpage was unveiled at the Assembly Community Councils Committee meeting on November 5, 2013.

As Chair of the Assembly Community Councils Committee, Traini indicates that it has become clear that there were some gaps in the relationship between the Municipality and the Community Councils. Although the Municipal Charter recognizes Community Councils, "the interactions between the council members and the Municipality as a whole have not always been timely or conducive to all of us understanding each others' issues," Traini says. As a result, the Assembly Community Council Committee, made up of Assemblymembers Traini, Tim Steele, and Amy Demboski, has been working over the last four months on a rewrite of Title 2.40 regarding Community Councils.

According to Ombudsman Darrel Hess, Ex-Officio member of the committee, the rewrite of the municipal code regarding Community Councils recognizes the unique and critical role that Anchorage's Community Councils play in the local government process Hess stated that previously the Municipality's website didn't adequately highlight the strong relationship between the Municipality and the Community Councils, but now it does. The new website refers to the Charter section recognizing Community Councils, the proposed rewrite of Title 2.40, as well as various historical ordinances and studies

regarding Community Councils. The new website also references the Assembly Department's grant with the Federation of Community Councils to provide support to the Community Councils.

For additional information, please see the Community Councils webpage at <http://www.muni.org/assembly/communitycouncils>.

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