

From: [Rivera, Felix](#)
To: [Turner, Travis A.](#)
Subject: Fw: Committee on Housing and Homelessness on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 11:00AM
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 11:09:55 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Can this email string please be posted online as a document for this committee meeting?

Thank you,
Felix Rivera
Midtown Assembly Member
felix.rivera@anchorageak.gov
(907)-764-0841
He/Him/His

Dena'inaq elnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina)

I live and work on Dena'ina land. (English)

From: Demboski, Amy <Amy.Demboski@anchorageak.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 10:42 AM
To: IMAS Assembly Members <IMASAssemblyMembers@anchorageak.gov>
Cc: Johnson, Alexis D. <Alexis.Johnson@anchorageak.gov>; Young, Corey A. <Corey.Young@anchorageak.gov>; Rodvik, Hans P <Hans.Rodvik@anchorageak.gov>; Wilbanks, Brice J. <Brice.Wilbanks@anchorageak.gov>; Hickel, Kolby A. <Kolby.Hickel@anchorageak.gov>
Subject: RE: Committee on Housing and Homelessness on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 11:00AM

Felix,

Below, please find the administration's responses to your questions noted in red.

Emergency Shelter Plan for 2022-23 Winter:

- What is the plan? A short walkthrough of the plan would be appreciated. **The plan is in final stages of development. We should be able to transmit it to the assembly by end of the month.**
- Does the plan address the need as identified by ACEH? That need is between the range of 150 to 250 individuals. – **Yes.**
- If not in the plan presented, what specific locations are being considered? **These will be identified in the plan.**
- Are any MOA-owned facilities being considered? **Both private and public facilities are being considered.**

Aviator Hotel Decompression as a COVID-19 Response:

- How many individuals are currently staying at the Aviator? **214 people in 192 rooms (contractual cap is 225)**
- What is the administration's plan to decompress the Aviator? Besides the general plan, some specific questions include: **The current contract ends on 9/30/22. We have indications the Aviator ownership are open to extension through winter, but they will ask to drop occupancy by 20-40 after November while they remodel specific parts of the hotel at a time.**
- Will there be a hard deadline to admit new clients into the Aviator? **There is no hard deadline for admitting people into the Aviator, intakes are being received through Salvation Army's referrals.**
- When will individuals be asked to start leaving the Aviator? **Individuals who are offered housing options, are encouraged to take those options, if they refuse, the Aviator is no longer an option (unless there is a special circumstance).**
- What kind of community and service-provider coordination is the administration undertaking to assist in decompression of the Aviator? **Catholic Social Services intensive case management is providing some support, currently they have high caseloads. Other organizations include ACEH, Rural Cap, Choices, VA, AK Behavioral, SCF. Additionally, in recent weeks, Henning Inc. has assisted and offered supportive housing services including partnering with the landlord housing partnership to help distribute rental assistance. Henning Inc. is also finalizing a master lease contract with a company in the private sector to provide 16 leasable units and a site for potential emergency shelter options as well.**

Update on Navigation Center: Does the administration have a general update? Our design team has completed and submitted the permit package to MOA develop services. We have already submitted the project documents to MOA for the fill and grade permit and have been reviewing comments as they come in. We expect to have our fill and grade permit this week. MCG is also nearing completion for the FF&E package. MCG and team have also been working with DOWL to complete the CUP, wetlands permit and have been working with DOT to coordinate on any site issues as the project develops. In addition, the building submittal package has been reviewed by our design team and the building has been ordered by RHC. MCG has also been working with RHC and Saxton to identify/order long lead items such as lighting, plumbing and HVAC equipment to make sure the procurement process is moving forward to align with the project schedule. RHC is schedule to begin work on-site to demo existing structure and lighting Wednesday, August 17th.

Besides the general update, some specific questions include:

- What is the current design level? Have we reached 95% design? *We reached 95% design August 11th.*
- What is the latest cost estimate? *\$13.3 Million*
- What is the latest schedule – both for completion as well as partial occupancy? *Scheduled completion based on the 95% is February 17th, 2023. Partial Occupancy is scheduled for November 21st, 2022.*
- Are we meeting the schedule? *Yes, APD has been very accommodating to allow construction activities to begin sooner than expected. COE Wetland, CUP and Fill & Grade Permits with MOA are processing as scheduled to allow work to commence.*
- At the last regular Assembly meeting on Tuesday, August 9, the Mayor stated that his administration could produce plans for the navigation center. Can those plans be shared with the public and Assembly? If not, why not? Do the plans mentioned by the Mayor include an operations plan? *DHS has an Ops plan and I have a meeting August 17th to review that document. If yes, can that plan be shared with the public and Assembly? The project plans, 95% design was submitted to MOA building services for the building permit August 11th, 2022. It's a large file but glad to distribute. The new Graphics look great. Please see below.*
- Can the administration provide an update on any MOA and wetlands permitting processes? *They asked us for additional information regarding the site selection, we responded. We are expecting the permit within the next couple of weeks.*



Update on Assembly-Approved Housing / Shelter / Other Appropriations:

- Does the administration have an update on the \$3.4M in ARPA 2 funding approved by the body to complete capital funding for the Guest House? *OMB has been in contact with First Presbyterian Anchorage, LLC and are working with them to have the grant agreement signed in order to distribute the funds.*
- Does the administration have an update on the \$900k in ERA funds approved by the body to, at the time, provide housing for individuals to assist the transition out of the Sullivan? *Henning Inc. is the group working with these funds. We have paid \$252,832.38 through July.*
- Does the administration have an update on the \$1.9M in ERA funds approved by the body to temporarily use the Guest House as transitional housing? *99+1 is working with the Municipality to receive the funding. Prior to August 16th 99+1 had not yet completed the specific steps to receive the funding; the processing of the payment has begun, so it appears the required items from the vendor have been received.*

Update on Centennial Park Campground:

- Does the administration have a general update? *Centennial Campground remains a campground with roughly 180 campers.*
- Has the administration developed a transition plan for individuals experiencing homelessness staying at the campground? *Yes.*
- We have long since passed the 14-day mark in Municipal Code for the maximum length of stay at the campground. Will the administration continue to not enforce this provision in code? If yes, why? *Based on 9th Circuit case law, legal previously advised against abatement of camping as a violation of 8th Amendment (Martin v. City of Boise). This is being reviewed.*
- Has the administration had discussions about eventually enforcing this provision as winter approaches? If yes, are campers at the campground aware of this change? *Yes. We are reviewing cold weather practices and will communicate to all affected persons.*



Amy Demboski

Municipal Manager

Municipality of Anchorage

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From: Rivera, Felix <felix.rivera@anchorageak.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 15, 2022 10:51 AM

To: Demboski, Amy <Amy.Demboski@anchorageak.gov>; Johnson, Alexis D. <Alexis.Johnson@anchorageak.gov>

Cc: Constant, Christopher <christopher.constant@anchorageak.gov>

Subject: Re: Committee on Housing and Homelessness on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 11:00AM

Amy and Alexis,

Of course, as soon as I send this email, I remember a question I forgot to ask regarding the Navigation Center:

- Can the administration provide an update on any MOA and wetlands permitting processes?

Thank you,

Felix Rivera

Midtown Assembly Member

felix.rivera@anchorageak.gov

(907)-764-0841

He/Him/His

Dena'inaq elnen'aaq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina)

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From: Rivera, Felix <felix.rivera@anchorageak.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 15, 2022 10:49 AM

To: Demboski, Amy <Amy.Demboski@anchorageak.gov>; Johnson, Alexis D. <Alexis.Johnson@anchorageak.gov>

Cc: Constant, Christopher <christopher.constant@anchorageak.gov>

Subject: Fw: Committee on Housing and Homelessness on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 11:00AM

Amy and Alexis,

On August 4, the administration received official invites to the Assembly's Housing and Homelessness Committee meeting on August 17.

This follow-up email lists many of the specific questions which I hope the administration will address during the committee meeting on Wednesday.

In my opinion, most of these questions are fairly standard and I hope to have a robust discussion with the administration.

Thank you and see you all on Wednesday.

Emergency Shelter Plan for 2022-23 Winter:

- What is the plan? A short walkthrough of the plan would be appreciated.
- Does the plan address the need as identified by ACEH? That need is between the range of 150 to 250 individuals.
- If not in the plan presented, what specific locations are being considered?
- Are any MOA-owned facilities being considered?

Aviator Hotel Decompression as a COVID-19 Response:

- How many individuals are currently staying at the Aviator?
- What is the administration's plan to decompress the Aviator? Besides the general plan, some specific questions include:
- Will there be a hard deadline to admit new clients into the Aviator?
- When will individuals be asked to start leaving the Aviator?
- What kind of community and service-provider coordination is the administration undertaking to assist in decompression of the Aviator?

Update on Navigation Center:

- Does the administration have a general update? Besides the general update, some specific questions include:
- What is the current design level? Have we reached 95% design?
- What is the latest cost estimate?
- What is the latest schedule – both for completion as well as partial occupancy?
- Are we meeting the schedule?
- At the last regular Assembly meeting on Tuesday, August 9, the Mayor stated that his administration could produce plans for the navigation center. Can those plans be shared with the public and Assembly? If not, why not? Do the plans mentioned by the Mayor include an operations plan? If yes, can that plan be shared with the public and Assembly?

Update on Assembly-Approved Housing / Shelter / Other Appropriations:

- Does the administration have an update on the \$3.4M in ARPA 2 funding approved by the body to complete capital funding for the Guest House?
- Does the administration have an update on the \$900k in ERA funds approved by the body to, at the time, provide housing for individuals to assist the transition out of the Sullivan?
- Does the administration have an update on the \$1.9M in ERA funds approved by the body to temporarily use the Guest House as transitional housing?

Update on Centennial Park Campground:

- Does the administration have a general update?
- Has the administration developed a transition plan for individuals experiencing homelessness staying at the campground?
- We have long since passed the 14-day mark in Municipal Code for the maximum length of stay at the campground. Will the administration continue to not enforce this provision in code? If yes, why?
- Has the administration had discussions about eventually enforcing this provision as winter approaches? If yes, are campers at the campground aware of this change?

Thank you,

Felix Rivera

Midtown Assembly Member

felix.rivera@anchorageak.gov

(907)-764-0841

He/Him/His

Dena'inaq elnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina)

I live and work on Dena'ina land. (English)

From: Turner, Travis A. <travis.turner@anchorageak.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 4, 2022 2:13 PM

Subject: Committee on Housing and Homelessness on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 11:00AM

This is a reminder that there is a meeting of the Committee on Housing and Homelessness on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 11:00AM held in the Assembly Chambers at the Loussac Library. Attached is the agenda for the meeting.

Agendas and handouts can be found at the [Committee on Housing and Homelessness webpage](#).

If you will be presenting materials, please send a copy to the Clerk's Office by COB the day prior to the meeting. This will allow time to post online for public access.

Sincerely,

Travis A. Turner

Assembly Minutes Clerk

(907)343-4328 (office)

travis.turner@anchorageak.gov (email)

