

To: Anchorage Assembly Public Health & Safety Committee  
From: Sydney Scout, Anchorage Assembly Member, District 1 Seat B  
Date: May 5, 2026  
Re: Community Response to proposed True North Recovery Launchpad grant (AM 295-2026)

## Memorandum

### Introduction

Since April 27, 2026, Fairview leaders and the Anchorage Municipality have been in conversation about a proposed \$750,000 grant to True North Recovery that would support the purchase and operation of a building (currently owned/operated by Access Alaska) located directly across the street from Fairview Rec Center. When the Mayor's office received opposition from Fairview residents, she pulled AM 295-2026 from the April 28th Assembly meeting agenda and began a process of community engagement involving Fairview leaders, the Anchorage Police Department, True North Recovery, Access Alaska, Roger Briley (involved real estate agent), and other interested parties.

This memo attempts to support the Anchorage Assembly's Public Health & Safety Committee discussion of AM 295-2026 with additional context and background, elevate questions from the community for the Committee to consider, and outlines recommended next steps from this conversation.

### Community Context

Please see Vice Chair Volland's memo related to AM 295-2026 for a longer history of the Fairview neighborhood. More recently, Fairview residents are still adjusting (with help provided by Municipal shuttle services) after the loss of the Carrs on Gambell, which abruptly closed last year. Soon after Carrs' closing, the community came together to mourn their grocery store at neighborhood bar and gathering place Crossroads Lounge, which is now set to close on May 13th after 62 years in business. Despite meaningful attention to and investments made in Fairview by the Municipality and others, the systemic barriers to preserving and improving community assets in this neighborhood remain significant.

### Key Events related to AM 295-2026

*\* See the Addendum, below, for the full timeline of this proposed project's development.*

- January 28, 2025 - Request for Proposals issued for CDBG capital projects
- March 27, 2025 - Proposals received
- May 28, 2025 - Award memo issued (to True North Recovery?)
- May 20, 2025 - Housing and Community Development Draft Action Plan published
- July 15, 2025 - [Housing and Community Development Action Plan](#) Approved (AR2025-198)
  - Please note the lack of public comments regarding the plan in AP-05
- September 10, 2025: HUD approval received, MOA notifies TNR to proceed with project development
- April 9: Access Alaska location identified by TNR
  - April 13: Site confirmed
- April 27: Fairview elected officials and leaders are notified of the site confirmation

- April 28: AM 295-2026 is removed from the Assembly Agenda
- May 4: Mayor's office holds a meeting with Fairview residents and stakeholders (APD, Access Alaska, TNR, Briley, etc.). See the questions that arose at this meeting, below.
- May 6: Further discussion of AM 295-2026 scheduled to take place at Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting and HAND Commission
- May 14: Stakeholders from above conversations plan to attend regularly scheduled Fairview Community Council meeting

### Questions from Fairview Residents

- Is this grant proposal currently being moved by the Mayor's Administration?
- What public process took place to approve Linda's Place, and has this process followed the same steps?
- Why was a location in Fairview chosen, particularly over Mountain View or Midtown, where a discreet need was identified by an Agnew:Beck report? With this, Mountain View leaders have also expressed support for having TNR's new location in their neighborhood.
- Why is this resource needed given similar resources offered at 3rd Ave Navigation Center?
- What will the offsite impacts of this site be, and how will they be mitigated?
- If this sale moves forward (without public support), can this site align its hours with the Fairview Rec Center's hours?

### Recommended Next Steps

- Review public processes and comments related to and in support of the meaningful implementation of the [Housing and Community Development Action Plan](#).
- Review public processes and comments related to AR 2018-167.
- Review the zoning and permitting options for usage of the building for sale at 1217 E 10th Ave, and consider expanding it if the current zoning and permitting requirements are prohibitive to the sale of the building. Other ideas for this space that have been shared are a childcare center, fab lab, or esthetician training school – there are many creative uses of this space that don't increase the concentration of services in this neighborhood.
- Finally and importantly, I'd like to express gratitude to the Mayor and her staff for halting the movement of AM 295-2026, and am eager to support the identification of additional options for these particular grant funds.

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### ADDENDUM

*RFGP2025GP001 – FY2025 ACTION PLAN*

My notes/additions in red.

Project Identification & Procurement

Date	Milestone
January 28, 2025	RFGP2025GP001 issued (CDBG capital projects)
March 27, 2025	Proposals received
April–May 2025	Evaluation and scoring completed
May 5, 2025	Request to negotiate submitted
May 28, 2025	Award memo issued

#### Action Plan Public Process (HUD Required)

Date	Milestone
May 9, 2025	Public hearing on FY2025 Action Plan
May 20, 2025	Draft Action Plan published
June 18, 2025	Assembly Housing and Homelessness Committee Presentation
June 24, 2025	Introduced to Anchorage Assembly
July 15, 2025	Assembly approval (AR2025-198)

#### Federal Review & Delay

Date	Milestone
August 7, 2025	FY2025 Action Plan submitted to HUD
August–September 2025	Federal government shutdown delays processing
September 10, 2025	HUD approval received

#### Project Development (No Site Identified Yet)

Date	Milestone
September 10, 2025	MOA notifies TNR to proceed with project development
December 9, 2025	Grant framework established; project refinement occurs

#### Site Identification (Key Turning Point)

Date	Milestone
April 9, 2026	TNR identifies potential building
April 13, 2026	Site confirmed: 1217 E. 10th Avenue (Fairview)

#### Current Phase: Community & Federal Review

Date	Milestone
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April 27	AM 295-2026 added to Assembly agenda (?)
Spring 2026	Environmental review initiated (HUD requirement)
	Historic preservation review required
	Community outreach initiated:
	• Fairview Community Council (after April 27)
	• Neighbor engagement (after April 27)
	• Good Neighbor Policy development

Next Steps (Required Before Project Can Proceed)

Requirement
Completion of environmental review (24 CFR Part 58)
Historic preservation compliance
Finalization of Good Neighbor Policy
Assembly approval of grant agreement