

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 4-28-98

Submitted by: Assembly Chair BEGICH

Prepared by: Assembly Office

For reading: April 28, 1998

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 98-148

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE ALASKA
NATIVE JUSTICE CENTER'S APPLICATION TO DESIGNATE ANCHORAGE AS A WEED AND
SEED LOCATION

WHEREAS, Operation Weed and Seed is a federally sponsored effort towards making neighborhoods safe; and

WHEREAS, Operation Weed and Seed is not a grant program but a strategy to reduce and prevent crime with the goal of "weeding out crime" and "seeding" communities with positive resources; and

WHEREAS, once recognized as a Weed and Seed location, prospects for other federal funding opportunities are greatly enhanced; and

WHEREAS, program elements will include law enforcement, community policing, prevention/intervention treatment and neighborhood revitalization, and the program will be housed and managed within the targeted neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) is considering coordinating an Anchorage application for the Operation Weed and Seed program; and

WHEREAS, the basic process will begin with convening a local steering committee to complete the required application, to include representatives from the Mayor's Office, Assembly, churches, social service agencies, businesses, schools, and others.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly resolves:

Section 1: That the Assembly supports the Alaska Native Justice Center's application to designate Anchorage as a Weed and Seed location.

Section 2: That the Municipal Administration is strongly encouraged to participate in and support the Alaska Native Justice Center in their application coordination.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 28th day of April 1998.

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk


Chair

U. S. Department Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Executive Office for Weed & Seed



Operation Weed and Seed

Operation Weed and Seed, a U.S. Department of Justice community-based initiative, is an innovative and comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.

The Weed and Seed Strategy

Operation Weed and Seed is foremost a strategy--rather than a grant program--which aims to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in targeted high-crime neighborhoods across the country. Weed and Seed sites range in size from several neighborhood blocks to 15 square miles.

The strategy involves a two-pronged approach: law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" criminals who participate in violent crime and drug abuse, attempting to prevent their return to the targeted area; and "seeding" brings human services to the area, encompassing prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood revitalization. A community-orientated policing

component bridges weeding and seeding strategies. Officers obtain helpful information from area residents for weeding efforts while they aid residents in obtaining information about community revitalization and seeding resources.

The Role of the United States Attorney

At each site, the United States Attorney plays a central role in organizing the Steering Committee and bringing together the communities with other Weed and Seed participants. The United States Attorney also facilitates coordination of federal, state, and local law enforcement efforts. Through cooperation, sites can effectively use federal law in weeding strategies and mobilize resources for seeding programs from a variety of federal agencies.

Official Recognition

Official Recognition recognizes sites implementing a Weed and Seed strategy. Sites apply for Official Recognition by submitting their strategy--through your United States

Attorney's Office-- to the Executive Office for Weed and Seed (EOWS) for review and approval. The strategy is locally driven and developed in accordance with EOWS guidelines. Benefits of Official Recognition include preference in receiving discretionary resources from participating federal agencies; priority for participating in federally sponsored training and technical assistance; use of the official Weed and Seed logo; and eligibility to apply for Department of Justice Weed and Seed funds.

Funding for Sites

In addition to 36 demonstration sites which received funding through Fiscal Year 1996, EOWS granted Official Recognition and provided grant funding to many other communities. Since Weed and Seed is foremost a strategy rather than a grant program, all Weed and Seed sites must show their capacity to obtain financial and in-kind resources from a variety of public and private sources.

Communities interested in eligibility to receive Fiscal Year

1999 Weed and Seed funds must have applied for or received Official Recognition by November 30, 1998. BOWS issues application kits *only* to eligible sites.

During Fiscal Year 1998, 176 communities were offered core funding from the Executive Office of Weed and Seed. Approximately 25 other cities are developing a Weed and Seed site using this strategy. In addition to guidance from the Executive Office for Weed and Seed, these sites have received support for many federal, state, and local agencies, such as the Departments of Education, Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, Labor, and the Small Business Administration.

Evaluation

Evaluation ensures that the Weed and Seed strategy is working in the sites. Therefore, the Department of Justice emphasizes evaluation of the program both locally and nationally. Original sites were required to carry out a local evaluation. National evaluations of Weed and Seed include the national process evaluation by the Institute for Social Analysis (1995) and the national impact evaluation of the program by Abt Associates (1998).

Oversight

The Executive Office for Weed and Seed, Office of Justice Programs, at the U.S. Department of Justice oversees the Weed and Seed program.

The Department of Justice is implementing a broad spectrum of programs to help prevent crime and assist law enforcement efforts around the nation. As one of these programs, Weed and Seed is the key component of Attorney General Janet Reno's anti-violence and drug enforcement program and of President Clinton's larger comprehensive community revitalization strategy. Through these efforts, residents throughout America have hope that they can enjoy a safer and better quality of life.

For more information on developing and implementing a Weed and Seed Strategy, contact:

**Executive Office
For
Weed And Seed**

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or

**Your local
United States Attorney**

February 4, 1998