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REPORT ON THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Anchorage has made major progress towards the preparation of a comprehensive plan aimed at guiding public and private development. This report outlines the current status of the plan and the steps necessary for its completion.

Status of Comprehensive Plan

A program for the development of a comprehensive plan was adopted by the Anchorage City Planning Commission in June, 1953. The program was predicated on maximum community participation. Citizens' planning committees were organized and to date more than 150 local residents have played an active role in the planning of Anchorage.

These reports have been issued by the City Planning Commission:

Anchorage Parking Survey	January, 1954
General Highway Plan	August, 1954
Recreation for Anchorage	December, 1954
Anchorage Street Plan	February, 1955
Street Trees for Anchorage	May, 1955
Water for Anchorage	July, 1955
Sanitary Sewers for Anchorage	July, 1955
Storm Drainage for Anchorage	July, 1955
Fire Protection for Anchorage	August, 1955

An economic analysis of the community is now under way. This study will help in forecasting population potentials and the city's capacity to support public improvements.

Planning Studies

The following components of the comprehensive plan remain to be completed:

1. PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Scope: analysis of existing municipal, territorial and federal facilities; determination of need; study of locations; relation to business district and to semi-public buildings; plan.

Procedure: city has contracted for planning services to prepare this plan.

2. SCHOOLS

Scope: existing school plant; program for future schools; relationship to other public programs and to area growth.

Procedure: most information available from Anchorage Independent School District; report should be prepared by planner working with school officials.

3. ELECTRICAL UTILITY

Scope: existing and future generation and distribution; area service; street lighting; underground installations.

Procedure: the major portion of this report can be prepared by the Municipal Power and Light Department under planning supervision; coordination with Chugach Electric Association is required.

4. TELEPHONE UTILITY

Scope: existing and future service; rural service; long distance connections; relation to military installations; future plant expansion; underground installations.

Procedure: data for report can be compiled by Telephone Department under planning supervision.

5. TRANSPORTATION

Scope: (a) Aviation--existing airports; need for additional facilities; continuation of Merrill Field; approach zones. (b) Railroad--existing facilities and planned expansion; availability for industrial development. (c) Trucking--present status; special terminal requirements. (d) Port--need to accommodate direct shipping; program for port development.

Procedure: (a) Aviation--can be prepared by Airport Manager under planning supervision. (b) Railroad--will require planner's report based on Alaska Railroad information. (c) Trucking--preparation by planner. (d) Port--most information available in report form.

6. TRANSIT Scope: covers busses and taxicabs; their role in the community's economic life; relation to traffic routes.
Procedure: report by traffic engineer and planner.
7. POLICE Scope: capital improvement requirements for police protection; juvenile detention; prison farm.
Procedure: preparation by Police Department under planning supervision.
8. HEALTH & WELFARE Scope: existing services and facilities; need for additional facilities; hospital, health center, welfare institutions; responsibility for services and facilities.
Procedure: assistance Anchorage Health District, Department of Health, Department of Welfare; report by planner.
9. URBAN RENEWAL AND HOUSING Scope: determination of areas requiring slum clearance or rehabilitation or both--based on studies of housing quality, assessed valuations, social characteristics, etc.; need for additional housing.
Procedure: most data can be supplied by Building Official and Assessor; assistance from Federal Housing Administration and Alaska Housing Authority; report prepared by planner.
10. POPULATION Scope: study of past trends; population characteristics; outlook for future growth; population projections.
Procedure: strictly planning work.
11. LAND USE PLAN Scope: analysis of land use allocations made in individual plans; residential, commercial, industrial and other land needs; relationship among uses; neighborhood development.
Procedure: strictly planning work.

The procedure outlined for each report refers to staff work. Citizen committees may be established as deemed appropriate by the Planning Commission.

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Comprehensive Plan

The comprehensive plan consists of the individual plans that have been completed or will be prepared. Much of the coordination among these plans will be accomplished in the preparation of the land use plan.

The comprehensive plan report can be, but need not be, a compilation of all individual reports. Probably the best approach would be to include the general recommendations, giving only the highlights of background material. The bulk of the presentation can be in the form of maps.

The preparation of the comprehensive plan report will have to be undertaken by planning personnel. Maximum participation by the Planning Commission will be required.

Capital Improvement Program

A capital improvement program serves as a means of scheduling improvements recommended in the comprehensive plan. A program generally covers a period of six years and is revised each year to take account of improvements that have been carried out.

Basic to the improvement program is a thorough analysis of the city's ability to finance capital improvements. This ability depends on the amount of outstanding bonds, the availability of tax or other funds for capital improvements, and similar factors. Most of this information is available in the Accounting Department. A projection of available funds over a six-year period can be made with assistance from the City Manager and Comptroller.

It is the Planning Commission's function to evaluate with professional planning assistance, the comprehensive plan, the requests of individual departments and the city's fiscal position and to recommend a capital improvement program for consideration by the City Council.