

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AM 782-2000

MEMORANDUM

August 15, 2000

TO: THE HONORABLE GEORGE WUERCH
ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT 

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE REVISED DESIGN FOR THE NEW SOUTH
ANCHORAGE AREA HIGH SCHOOL

In accordance with AO NO. 2000-106(S), this memorandum provides information required for submission and approval of the revised design for the new South Anchorage Area High School. The revised design consists of final schematic designs as defined by new Municipal Code 25.25.610. This design was approved by the School Board on August 14, 2000.

The School Board approved the selection of ECI/Hyer, Inc. to be the Architects of Record on June 14, 1999 and the Assembly approved selection on July 25, 2000 (AM 750-2000).

AO NO. 2000-106(S) requires a description of the proposed school site, school building and building program; the projected student population; the total construction budget and the funding source; the projected project schedule; and any known neighborhood impacts, comments, reactions, which reflect potential impacts of the school building on the neighboring community. These responses follow:

The new South Anchorage Area High School site consists of approximately 50 acres in South Anchorage west of Elmore Road between Huffman and DeArmoun Roads south of Leyden Road. Access is provided off Elmore Road. The site was selected through a public process by a joint Municipal and School District committee in 1986. Application for rezoning from R1-SL to PLI is in process of review.

The proposed building design consists of 240,000 net square feet in a two-story configuration and serves grades 9 through 12. The revised design is based on the Districtwide Educational Specifications for a 1,600-student body adopted by the School Board on June 8, 1998, and the project-specific Supplement to those specifications approved by the School Board on April 10, 2000.

On April 6, 1999 Anchorage voters approved \$68 million in General Obligation Municipal Bonds to fund for the design and construction of a new high school on the south Anchorage site.

Construction is anticipated to begin early in 2002 with completion for occupancy by the fall of 2004.

1 | There has been extensive involvement in the design by the neighborhood through their
2 | representation on the Building Design Committee. In addition, there have been a number
3 | of public presentations. Concerns have been expressed about location of the high school
4 | site, security and access. Anchorage Citizens for Responsible Government has brought
5 | suit regarding the project site location. Aside from the location-related suit, security and
6 | access issues are being addressed by the School District and the designers in ongoing
7 | design meetings. The Municipality is beginning the design process for upgrades to
8 | Elmore Road. That process will also invite public participation.
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10 | Attached is a set of reduced civil, landscape, and architectural drawings.
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