

**NORTH LAKES COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE & ACTIVITY SINCE LAST MEETING ...**

**September 26, 2024**

**CORRESPONDENCE & ACTIVITIES**

- 08/28/24 Incoming: NLCC received notice from the Alaska DOT that they will not enter into agreement with the NLCC for installation of welcome signs in the right-of-way along Seward Meridian, Bogard, or Wasilla Fishhook. They require any agreement to be with a Governmental entity and so we now need to pull the MSB into the discussion to see if we can come up with a way for the MSB to take responsibility for sign maintenance on these signs along state roads. The contractor (Northwest Barriers) is now on hold pending resolution.
- 08/29/24 Incoming: MSB Engineer approved installation of a radar speed sign on the West end of Serendipity Loop. She also indicated that the new MSB 20 mph speed signs are still scheduled for installation midway around Serendipity Loop. Once those are installed, we can locate radar speed sign(s) on the same posts.
- 08/30/24 Incoming: MSB Long Range Planner, Julie Spackman, sent out an email to several Community Councils offering to attend meetings and share a proposed corridor access management plan for the Bogard-Seldon road corridor (from the Glenn Highway to Church Road). Access management plans are designed to increase safety and improve traffic flow. Prior discussions indicate that the plan includes closure of several intersections along Bogard and development of a few into more major intersections. She also confirmed that she will be presenting to the North Lakes Community Council at our September 26, 2024 Membership Meeting. There will then be a public Open House scheduled for October 2, 2024.
- 08/31/24 Outgoing: NLCC sent emails welcoming three new General Members; Nichole Smith from Shaws Tri Lakes Subdivision and Joe & Nila Morgan from Hart Lake Estates signed up to become voting members at the August NLCC meeting. Happy to have you join us!
- 09/01/24 Incoming: The NLCC Board received an email from Mr. Gregory Sindt. He and his family live in Iowa but own a very large tract of undeveloped land between Engstrom and Trunk Road north of Bogard. The preliminary routing identified by the Mat-Su Borough for the Engstrom / Trunk connector road cuts through this family property. They are actively working with the Borough to explore alternative routings that would have less of an impact on their property. His email summarized the recent in-person discussions they have had with the Borough Mayor and Public Works Department. Family members were in Alaska in late August and met with the NLCC President. We

advised them that we support their efforts to find an acceptable alternative routing, but that we are strongly supportive of the MSB efforts to make this connection between Engstrom and Trunk road a priority project.

- 09/03/24 Meeting: The NLCC attended the MSB Assembly Meeting and testified in support of an ordinance extending the deadline for the Waterbody Setback Advisory Board. The ordinance was approved.
- 09/04/24 Meeting: The NLCC attended a working session of the Waterbody Setback Advisory Board (WBAB). The new deadline is March of 2025. The NLCC testified regarding the process for review of their recommendations with Community Councils. The WBAB made some progress at the 09/04 meeting and were focused on defining potential variance processes. It appears they will be wrapping up their recommendations soon and the NLCC President has asked the MSB Planning Director to present those recommendations at the October, 2024 NLCC Membership Meeting.
- 09/05/24 Meeting: The NLCC participated in a meeting of the Platting Board as they considered a continuance of the public hearing for the large Springs West Subdivision proposed in our neighborhood. We presented a few questions regarding transparency of the public comments received so far; a question about the viability of connecting to Sandburg Drive in the Hart Lake Estates area; and a question about the intentions for any work on Beverly Drive. The Borough provided written responses the next day and we will be sharing additional information with our residents via Mailchimp and Facebook. The public hearing is now scheduled for October 3, 2024. The extension is to allow the developer to complete additional test holes better defining wetlands and better defining buildable areas on the proposed lots. The subdivision is now planned for development in phases.
- 09/05/24 Incoming: Rodney Fodge, a long range planner with the MSB sent an email to Community Councils announcing the results of the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Nominations. Unfortunately, the NLCC did not have the time or resources to gather ideas and provide nominations this year. We will share the results of the 2026 CIP Nominations and hope to recruit some volunteers in 2025 to provide input in the next cycle of CIP nominations. There are likely several opportunities within the NLCC community boundaries for projects to be nominated in the future.
- 09/09/24 Incoming: Senator Wilson's office has requested more detail on the sub-standard guardrail concerns raised at our September meeting. The Road & Traffic Safety Committee (David Willequer) has summarized and provided that feedback to Senator Wilson's office.
- 09/09/24 Incoming: Senator Wilson's office also requested more detail on the excessive speeding data that has been gathered through deployment of the NLCC radar speed signs. The Road & Traffic Safety Committee is working to finalize a report and share it

with the Senator. That same report will be shared with area residents through Mailchimp and Facebook once it has been finalized.

- 09/13/2024 Incoming: MSB Planner Platform newsletter was distributed to all of the Community Councils. The newsletter will be shared with NLCC residents via MailChimp and Facebook and highlights the following topics:
  - Community Cleanup Program
  - Capital Improvement Program
  - SpUD and Comprehensive Plan Process
  - Historic Preservation Plan Update
  - Permafrost Thaw Induced Landslides
  - Fuller Lake - Lake Management Plan
  - Driveway Permit Fee Waiver, and
  - Upcoming Meetings of interest to Community Councils
  
- 09/15/2024 Incoming: John Miller, RSA 25 Board member (and NLCC member) provided a copy of the latest Road Improvement Project List for our area. He will review the report at the 09/26 NLCC Membership meeting.
  
- 09/16/24 Outgoing: NLCC sent out updates on the Springs West Subdivision via Mailchimp and Facebook to area residents and subscribers. Public hearing at the Platting Board is now scheduled for October 3, 2024.
  
- 09/16/24 Outgoing: The NLCC Road & Traffic Safety Committee provided radar speed sign data to Senator Wilson's office. The reports show excessive speeding on Charley Drive, Green Forest Drive, Engstrom, Lakeview, and Serendipity Loop. We are hoping to see increased law enforcement and a greater attention by the Mat Su Borough on traffic calming road improvements. The report is now posted on the nlakes.cc website.
  
- 09/20/24 Incoming: The NLCC was made aware of a Public Notice regarding a conditional use permit application by Central Gravel Productions to open up a new gravel pit operation on Havermeister property located within the NLCC boundaries. The NLCC will engage with area residents and members to prepare written feedback to the Planning Commission by October 28th, in advance of the public hearing scheduled for November 18th, 2024. This subject will be on the agenda for the September and October NLCC membership meetings.

## ONGOING COORDINATION

- Various Dates: Coordination amongst the Nominations Committee in preparation for the upcoming Board seats election in October. The NLCC will be accepting nominations for two Board seats this year. Pat Purcell is currently the Board Secretary and will not be running for an additional term. Rachel Greenberg is currently the Board Vice Chair and will be accepting a nomination for a two year term. The NLCC encourages interested members and residents to consider serving. We are a dynamic and active community and Board service is an exciting way to influence the future of the North Lakes area.
- Various Dates: Coordination with the Finance Committee to assure financial transparency of previously approved expenditures and expected expenditures between now and year end. Information will be presented to Membership at the September 26th meeting.
- Various Dates: Coordination with Northwest Barriers (Contractor), the State of Alaska, and the MatSu Borough on our project to install Welcome to North Lakes signs around the community. It is apparent that most of this work will need to be accomplished in 2025. The most recent update is that the DOT won't enter into agreement with the NLCC for installation of signs in DOT road ROW. They require an agreement with the Mat Su Borough. NLCC is continuing to coordinate with both the Borough and the State to advance this project. Permitting hurdles are putting 2024 installation at risk.
- Various Dates: Coordination with the Nominations Committee on outreach to potential NLCC Board candidates.
- Various Dates: Continued regular reporting from John Klapperich on the results of the digital ad marketing outreach to raise awareness in our community of the existence of the NLCC and the issues we are working on behalf of the broader community. John requested to provide a one-minute update at the September NLCC meeting.

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