



Municipality of Anchorage



General Manager's Office

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Mayor Mark Begich

Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility

January 12, 2007

Matthew J Scully
6121 Austria Drive
Anchorage 99516

RE: Water Tank Concern - Paradise Valley

Dear Mr. Scully,

I am responding to your concerns you have raised in your various e-mails recently transmitted regarding the proposal by the Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility (AWWU) to place a water reservoir in your neighborhood.

Over the past several years, AWWU's master planning identified the need for siting of a reservoir in this locale. Through the municipal capital budgeting processes, we have had funds appropriated to secure a site and begin design efforts. AWWU thus recently began to identify parcels for potential reservoir sites in the South Anchorage area to meet both near-term and future, long-range public water requirements.

AWWU is now moving forward in the preliminary stages of site acquisition, which is an open public process requiring multiple steps along the review and approval path. The first step in identifying what site(s) meet baseline criteria such as proper elevation, proximity to utility corridor(s), access and land availability has been done. The site in question meets these baseline criteria. However, many other technical and non-technical issues remain to be resolved through a structured evaluation and public review process.

AWWU needs to be assured that the utility can meet land use regulations, as well as affirming the facts that a reservoir can practically and prudently be constructed and maintained on the properties under consideration. This is the step we have just begun to engage in. It may well be that land use regulations or identification of unknown technical issues be cause for AWWU to seriously reconsider its option for this site under selection, just as it may be that the site being evaluated is the best site. We anticipate this process will take several months to complete.

Through this public process, AWWU is required to make various application submissions to the MOA Planning & Zoning board and the Urban Design Commission. These processes include receiving public comments during the consideration of the applications and prior to approvals; however, AWWU has yet to make a submission to either of these bodies. Throughout this process, public

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comment and pertinent information, such as the valuable input you have provided, is welcomed and helps in determining what is the best solution for this important community investment. Your comments and concerns have been passed along to the project team to be included in their considerations as the team proceeds with the work.

AWWU is committed to prudently reviewing and answering the various public concerns raised and to select a site in a responsible manner. The site selection will be technically sound and provide the area with an important community asset. As we undertake this process, I want to encourage you to provide our team with information that will help meet this objective.

I will ask the project team to carefully consider your comments on the characteristics of the property in question, and provide you with feedback about how the team will incorporate it into their work.

Members of our project team will consider your thoughts and comments, and then contact you to indicate how the information is to be used. If you have additional comments or questions, I also encourage you to contact our project manager Bruce Robson, P.E. at 266-1114.

Respectfully,


Mark Premo
General Manager

Cc: Mayor Begich, Mayor; Roberta Piper, Capital Program Mgr;
Bruce Robson, MWH

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