



**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE  
SOLID WASTE SERVICES – CENTRAL TRANSFER STATION**

**Community Meeting 1 Summary  
August 21, 2019**

**Meeting Purpose**

The Solid Waste Services (SWS) new Central Transfer Station (CTS) project team hosted a community meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the SWS Administration Building. The intent of the meeting was to discuss the pending request to the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Urban Design Commission (UDC) for a variance, as well as to provide stakeholders with an overview of to the project. Five members of the public signed in (see attached sign-in sheet).

**Outreach**

<b>When</b>	<b>What</b>
July 31, 2019	Per MOA code, all owners/dwellers of property within 500 feet of the new central transfer station property line were sent a postcard with information about the variance request and community meeting 21 days prior to the meeting. 534 postcards to residential and commercial property owners/dwellers were mailed.
August 12, 2019	Community meeting information posted to MOA events webpage
August 14, 2019	SWS Facebook post #1
August 19, 2019	SWS Facebook post #2
August 19, 2019	Media Advisory about community meeting emailed
August 21, 2019	SWS Facebook post #3

**Event Staff**

Alana Naatz, SWS	Mark Madden, SWS
Andrew Schellberg, Tetra Tech	Mark Spafford, SWS
Bryan Protzman, SWS	Mike Rhodes, SWS
Chris Coleman, Tetra Tech	Quintin Biagi, Tetra Tech
Christina Young, SWS	Shaina Kilcoyne, SWS
Katie Conway, DOWL	Suzanna Caldwell, SWS
LaQuita Chmielowski, DOWL	Trina Stewart, DOWL

**Graphics and Information**

The following graphics were posted on display boards and/or roll plots for viewing in the room:

- Project purpose summary
- Project schedule
- Site map
- Proximity map (distance between current/new facilities and adjacent residentially zoned districts)
- Conceptual design drawings of new CTS building

Additionally, the project team solicited feedback from participants in the form of comment forms that were handed out at the door and posted near the site plan roll plots. Public feedback was also solicited during the presentation.

**Public Presentation**

As a part of the open house, DOWL and Tetra Tech gave a presentation at 6:45 pm that included information about the variance (LaQuita Chmielowski, DOWL Senior Land Use Planning Manager), site plan (Andrew Schellberg, Tetra Tech Operations Director), and



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conceptual building drawings (Chris Coleman, Tetra Tech Project Manager). All three presenters emphasized the need for public input, and the critical need for this project to extend the life of the Anchorage Regional Landfill. Highlights from the presentation included the following:

- 80% of Anchorage trash goes to CTS before it's taken to the landfill.
- The current Central Transfer Station was originally built as a shredding plant. There is no room currently for additional diversion activities (reuse and recycling).
- There is no space in Anchorage for a new landfill. Sending trash from Anchorage to the Mat-Su would cost Anchorage users five to seven times what they pay currently. We need to do something to extend the life of the Anchorage landfill.
- The new Central Transfer Station will be an improvement to the neighborhood. It will be cleaner, safer, and more efficient.
- MOA code mandates that a transfer station cannot be built within 500 feet of a residentially zoned district, which means we need a variance to proceed with this project.
- The new CTS building will actually be further away from the residential zone than the current CTS building. The Seward Highway will be at a higher elevation than the new facility, which and the highway will act as a buffer.
- The project team intends to submit a variance application on September 4, 2019. After that, public comments about the project can be made directly to the MOA through their City View Portal using the case number or by Community Council. The CTS project website will have a link to this once the application has been submitted. Attendees were directed to the project website: [www.NewCTSCentralTransferStation.com](http://www.NewCTSCentralTransferStation.com).
- The new site will be larger and have a more efficient tipping and queuing space on the residential side, as well as separate options for reuse and recycle so that waste can be separated.
- The highway-facing side of the new facility will be visually appealing and inviting to the community.
- SWS and the project team sincerely want public input. After the variance there are two other planning actions (conditional use permit and platting) that require the opportunity for public feedback. The project team is available for questions or comments at any time.

### Public Comments

During the presentation there was one question from the public: "How long will the new facility extend the landfill life?" LaQuita Chmielowski said in response that one way the new facility will extend landfill life is by creating opportunities for recycling. SWS Engineering and Planning Manager, Mark Madden, then added that the SWS website has a great interactive tool for showing the impact of certain consumer behaviors on the landfill life such as recycling aluminum cans or diverting organic waste into compost.

Only one comment card was submitted during the meeting; the commenter said they were very satisfied with the meeting experience, that the project team gave a good, brief overview, and



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that they heard about the event via Facebook. The commenter made no comments about the project.

**Attachments**

1. Event post card
2. SWS Facebook posts
3. Muni event webpage posting
4. Media advisory
5. Sign-in sheets (2)
6. Comment sheet (1)
7. Presentation PowerPoint
8. Boards