

LuAnn Piccard

I am a member of the Basher Community Council, living in Stuckagain Heights. Our BCC voted overwhelmingly (65 to 5) to keep Stuckagain Heights with District 5 and NOT to join us with District 2-Eagle River (Map 7-Hockema). Specifically, I favor Map 11 v2 (Weddleton). I feel Map 11 represents balanced and proximate representation across Anchorage. I know this reapportionment process is challenging and I appreciate the hard work of the Reapportionment Committee and everyone that has participated in this process.

I want to be represented by people that live in Anchorage proper, not people living 45 minutes away in Eagle River. I want representatives who will show up, engage actively, and empathize with, understand and appreciate concerns within and across our adjacent East Side and South Hillside neighborhoods regarding traffic & roads, fire and safety, crime prevention, parks and recreation, and land-use.

For example, I do not support a Mass Homeless Shelter at Elmore/Tudor, and I want local representatives who understand the negative impact this \$35M white elephant project will have on the East side of Anchorage and the community as whole. While supporters claim this project will benefit our homeless people, most informed experts agree that no-threshold mass shelters don't work. Smaller, tailored facilities that meet people where they are at, where some level of accountability can be maintained, and that are spread across a community do work. Our experience with Sullivan and Brother Francis/Beans facilities, the people served, and the resulting impacts on the surrounding neighborhoods and community resources provide factual evidence. Why would we support repeating the same doomed approach? Bronson's \$35M megashelter vanity project will increase traffic incidents/deaths along one of our busiest and most dangerous traffic corridors. It will increase crime and safety issues for 10,000's of residents living in adjacent neighborhoods, at UAA APU, and healthcare facilities, and will compromise recreational facilities and trails nearby. It will increase the already dangerous wild-fire risk on the Hillside. It will simply transfer to East Anchorage the very same issues that we've seen at Sullivan and Brother Francis/Beans locations. So far the concerns voiced by experts and the people most impacted have been met with indifference and fallen on the deaf ears of the current D2 representatives.

The current representatives from D2 Eagle River have demonstrated that they don't care about East Anchorage. They do not listen to or appreciate our concerns, despite significant public testimony at Assembly meetings and other forums when these issues have been discussed in depth. In fact I have never heard either of the current D2 representatives probe more deeply or try to understand those concerns. Instead, they feign a lack of awareness and fall into lock step with Mayor Bronson's agenda. They support shunting problems to East Anchorage (e.g. mass homeless shelter, Bragaw Extension, destruction of wild spaces), vote against community improvement projects that benefit East Side residents (park improvements, community development projects, affordable housing) and only seem to care about how quickly they can commute through our neighborhoods to get somewhere else. The D2 representatives have demonstrated through their actions and decisions how little they care about the East Side. Based on that, under no circumstances can I support our Stuckagain Heights neighborhood or any of our Eastside or Hillside neighbors being represented by D2-Eagle River representatives (Map 7)