



# ***NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION REPORT***

Submitted by:

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**

October 2008



# Municipality of Anchorage

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Mayor Mark Begich

## Department of Neighborhoods

October 13, 2008

Ms. Colleen Bickford  
Field Office Director  
United States Department of Housing  
and Urban Development  
3000 C. Street, Suite 401  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: Regulatory Reform Progress Report to HUD for 2007-2008

Dear Ms. Bickford:

In 2007 the Municipality of Anchorage became a participant in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's *National Call to Action for Affordable Housing through Regulatory Reform*. The Department of Neighborhoods would like to inform HUD of the steps we have taken to accomplish regulatory reforms in the past year.

The Department of Neighborhoods has conducted the following activities in partnership with this initiative:

- The Municipality of Anchorage zoning code is in the process of being rewritten. The Department of Neighborhoods conducted a parking survey in 2008 to determine the average number of spaces being utilized in affordable housing complexes. The results of this survey were provided to the Municipal Planning Department through the public comment process.
- The Municipality of Anchorage's Ten Year Plan on Homelessness is overseen by the Anchorage Coalition on Homelessness. The Department of Neighborhoods assisted in efforts to educate community members on zoning barriers to siting social service facilities and permanent supportive housing. The Department invited the Planning Department to speak at a local Coalition meeting in February of 2008. The Department of Neighborhoods also submitted public comments regarding potential barriers to the creation of additional permanent supportive housing within the Municipality. The Coalition has indentified zoning barriers as one of their primary action steps to be addressed in 2008-2009.
- The Department of Neighborhoods in conjunction with the Affordable Housing Partnership, a community group that convenes regarding affordable housing issues, held a meeting with local housing developers in February of 2008. The meeting focused on barriers and incentives to increase the affordable housing stock within

*Community, Security, Prosperity*

the community. The Department hopes to take some of these recommendations forward in 2009.

The Department of Neighborhoods believes that it is imperative that Anchorage address the issues of regulatory reform at the local level and develop homegrown solutions to ensure even more affordable housing opportunities for working families. The Department intends to continue its efforts to reduce regulatory barriers in 2009 in partnership with the community and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corrine O'Neill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Corrine O'Neill  
Director

Enclosure (2)

Cc: Mary Jane Michaels, Office of Economic and Community Development