

Thanks for vision

Letter to the Editor

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To the editor:

There is now a vision for revitalizing downtown Fairbanks. There are visionaries and there are communities with vision. Self-aware and purposeful, communities with a vision chart their course and choose outcomes. The outcome of Vision Fairbanks will be a revitalized downtown that is prosperous and sustainable. On behalf of the Downtown Association of Fairbanks, I want to thank all those who brought us to this new beginning.

I want to thank the Fairbanks community for developing its vision and for consistently urging its adoption as the official game plan for the downtown. Thanks to Sen. Wilken for appropriating state funds to enact the private-public partnership called Vision Fairbanks. Thanks to the Portland-based urban design firm Crandall Arambula for their sensitivity to the ways in which Fairbanks wants to stay the same and to change. Thanks to the city of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Commission, the Chena Riverfront Commission and the Economic Development Commission for contributing to the crescendo of support for the vision. Thanks to Mayor Whitaker for introducing Ordinance 2008-30 and for providing the good offices of his planning department throughout assembly deliberations.

And finally, thanks to all assembly members for thinking their way through the specifics of the vision to endorse its overall direction. With the unanimous vote to adopt Vision Fairbanks into the Regional Comprehensive Plan, the Borough Assembly has broken conceptual ground to attract investment downtown to ensure a prosperous and sustainable future for our community.

Again, thank you to so many for so long. Now Fairbanks can commence with implementing the vision.



Vision Fairbanks Master Plan - Cushman Square