



# Municipality of Anchorage

Office of the Municipal Manager

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

May 25, 2016

Randy McCain, Chair  
Chugiak Birchwood Eagle River Rural Road Service Area  
22149 Aurora Borealis Road  
Chugiak, AK 99567

Dear Chairman McCain:

As you probably know, the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) has been acting as the agent for the Anchorage School District (ASD) for the construction of improvements to Yosemite Drive necessary to satisfy platting requirements associated with the development of Eagle River High School. Thanks to funding from the Legislature and ASD, the project is fully funded and we had hoped to start and complete construction of the road improvements in 2016. Unfortunately, we have not been able to secure the necessary ROW agreements so the road project will be delayed at least one year.

A portion of the Yosemite Drive alignment is owned by the Mental Health Trust. Our discussions with the Mental Health Trust Lands Office (TLO) have been more complicated than anticipated. The TLO has expressed a desire to resolve many of the on and off-site issues associated with future development of TLO lands on both sides of Yosemite Drive prior to allowing the MOA to construct the planned road and drainage improvements. Commitments and funding of the sort proposed by the TLO would require the active involvement and consent of several municipal departments, the Chugiak Birchwood Eagle River Rural Service Area Road Board, public utilities and potentially the State. This is a level of complexity we were not prepared for and these issues cannot be resolved in time to start and finish construction in 2016.

We remain committed to this project and are committed to constructing it as soon as possible. I apologize for any inconvenience this delay will cause. Please call Jerry Hansen, Director of our Project management and Engineering Department at (907)343-8143 if you have any questions about this project.

Sincerely,



Michael K. Abbott  
Municipal Manager

cc: Tom Roth, ASD  
John Morrison, Trust land Office  
Senantor Anna McKinnon  
Representative Dan Saddler  
Representative Lora Reinbold  
Assemblymember Bill Starr  
Assemblymember Amy Demboski  
Joe Wright, South Fork Community Council  
Steve Watson Eagle Point Homeowners Association