

# **Spenard Community Council Resolution**

**2024-01**

## **A Resolution to Request Relocation of the Taxidermied Moose Located Underneath the Commissioned Art Piece Titled “Canopy” at the Ted Stevens International Airport**

WHEREAS, the Spenard Community Council (“SCC”) is an organization representing the interests of the residents of the Spenard area of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of community councils is to provide a direct and continuing means of participation in local government and local affairs;

Whereas, the Anchorage Airport is a prominent landmark, shared by tourists and Alaskans alike; and

Whereas, an art piece titled "Canopy", commissioned in 2008 through Alaska's 1% for Art program, is a significant installation at the airport, designed to invoke in viewers a revelation through the accident of looking up and being drawn into an immersive experience of the boreal forest of the circumpolar north; and

Whereas, "Canopy" was collaboratively created by well-known Alaskan artists Sheila Wyne and Kessler Woodward, with materials sourced from the esteemed Franz Mayer of Munich, known for their contributions to European cathedral stained glass; and

Whereas, the architectural design of "Canopy" incorporates the unique 'knuckle clerestory' feature of the airport, enhancing natural light and creating an intended artistic experience when viewed from below; and

Whereas, the subsequent placement of a taxidermied moose within the vicinity of "Canopy" inadvertently alters and diminishes the original artistic concept and viewer experience as intended by its creators and the architectural design of the space; and

Whereas, the integrity and original intent of "Canopy" are paramount to its role in the airport's aesthetic and cultural presentation, deserving full appreciation without obstructions;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Spenard Community Council formally requests the management of the Anchorage Airport to relocate the taxidermied moose to its former location, or to another suitable area, thereby restoring the artistic integrity and intended viewer experience of "Canopy"; and

Be it further resolved, that this relocation be undertaken in a manner respectful to both art pieces, ensuring that each can be appreciated in its own right and contribute positively to the airport's atmosphere and the cultural experience of its visitors.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Spenard Community Council requests the relocation process to begin as soon as possible and requests that the airport management keep the Spenard Community Council executive board informed of progress on this matter.

Resolved, this 7th day of February 2024.

*meg mielke*  
Spenard Community Council President

2/8/2024  
Date

Vote: 13 in favor, and 1 opposed.