



BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2008-01

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE DRAFT HILLSIDE DISTRICT PLAN, CHAPTER 4 TRANSPORTATION, SUBSECTION FOR TRAILS, TO MEET THE NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF THE BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, the Bear Valley Community Council recognizes a need for increased access to Chugach State Park, and a need to retain exiting access points for both residents and visitors, and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage 2020 comprehensive plan states under Policy 46 – “the unique appeal of individual residential neighborhoods shall be protected and enhanced in accordance with applicable goals, policies, and strategies”, and

WHEREAS, the Chugach State Park Trail Plan states “ future trailheads which are accessed through neighborhoods shall be of small and medium size to disperse use and limit traffic impacts on any one neighborhood”, and

WHEREAS, the Chugach State Park Trail Plan (as footnoted in the Hillside District Plan) states “large trailheads serve very popular trails and access points.....planned prior to residential development so that all parties are aware of the proposed trailheads”, and

WHEREAS, the Hillside District Plan contains language in Chapter 4 Transportation, Trail Network, that states trail and trailhead development “.... seeks to balance the public desire for connectivity with private property concerns”, and “..... avoid undesirable impacts to traffic and neighborhoods” . And under the heading Chugach Access states “Unwanted side effects of this increasing demand are also growing, including trash problems, disruption of neighborhood character, and wear and tear on roads”, and “Alpine Access Priority Trailhead Improvements: Provide one or more larger capacity trailheads at points that can handle crowds and more traffic without adverse effects on adjoining neighborhoods,..”, and

WHEREAS, the Hillside District Plan contains provisions for 3 priority, or regional, trailheads to accommodate up to 450 vehicles within the Bear Valley Community, and provisions for several neighborhood access points as required as lands are developed under Title 21, and there is an existing public access point with parking in the Grandview/Stolle neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, a priority trailhead in the Grandview/Stolle neighborhood within the sight and sound of the existing trailhead, does not meet the stated goal of dispersing traffic to limit impacts on any one neighborhood, does not balance the public desire for connectivity with private property concerns, does not serve an existing popular trail or access point, and was not planned prior to residential development, and



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WHEREAS, the proposed priority trailhead at Section 36 can be sized to accommodate parking for access to the alpine area that would be served by the priority trailhead at Grandview/Stolle via an existing trail (as noted on the Hillside Issues, Goals, and Choices Report, page 35) that will also provide the desired connectivity with the Chugach Rim Trail system, will not bring additional vehicles into the Bear Valley community and road system, is on a state maintained road, is easily accessible for all types of vehicles 4 seasons of the year, would be more secure from vandalism and unwanted activity, and would provide many options for trail users from one parking location, and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Bear Valley Community Council urges that the Hillside District Plan delete the priority trailhead at the Grandview/Stolle location, and revise the trail plan to include a trail from the Section 36 priority trailhead to public lands on the north side of Grandview/Stolle, and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Bear Valley Community Council urges the Hillside District Plan to revise the trail plan to include a secondary trail on the section line of Paine Road to public lands to preserve neighborhood access and connect with planned trails within the community.

Adopted and approved by a vote of Bear Valley Community Council members on this day, November 12, 2008.

Signed: Cheri Lipps

Cheri Lipps
Chair, Bear Valley Community Council

Date: November 12, 2008