

Municipal Clerk's Office  
**Approved**  
Date: **March 15, 2022**

Submitted by: Assembly Chair LaFrance,  
Assembly Vice Chair Constant,  
Assembly Members Dunbar,  
Petersen, Quinn-Davidson,  
Rivera, Weddleton, and Zaletel  
Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel  
For reading: March 15, 2022

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**  
**AR No. 2022-90**

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE**  
2 **ALASKA LONG TRAIL.**  
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4 **WHEREAS**, the vision for the Alaska Long Trail is a world-class trail system  
5 connecting 500+ miles of Alaska's iconic terrain and diverse communities from the  
6 Pacific to the Interior, embracing the many ways Alaskans recreate outdoors and  
7 bolstering the Alaska economy by attracting visitors from all over the world; and  
8

9 **WHEREAS**, with some of the world's most stunning wild places, Alaska is overdue  
10 in creating a connected trail system with goals to improve access, build a stronger,  
11 more durable economy, improve quality of life, encourage healthy lifestyles,  
12 celebrate heritage and sustain what makes Alaska unique; and  
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the Alaska Long Trail route from Seward to Fairbanks, where a  
15 substantial portion of public land trails already exist, has strong bipartisan support  
16 from local, state and national elected officials, businesses and organizations; and  
17

18 **WHEREAS**, as Alaska's largest city and airport hub, Anchorage would connect to  
19 the Alaska Long Trail through a braided trail system from the Moose Loop trails in  
20 Anchorage north to Palmer and the Mat-Su, along the spectacular Tikahtnu-Cook  
21 Inlet and Knik River valleys and south along the breathtaking, awe-inspiring  
22 Turnagain Arm to Girdwood; and  
23

24 **WHEREAS**, the Alaska Long Trail braid from Anchorage to the south needs  
25 improved, safe, bicycle and pedestrian access along the Seward Highway from  
26 Potter Marsh to Indian, connecting to the Bird to Gird trail and into Girdwood, then  
27 connecting south into Chugach National Forest and looping back north over Crow  
28 Pass to Eagle River; and  
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30 **WHEREAS**, the Alaska Long Trail braid from Anchorage to the north needs  
31 improved, safe and attractive multi-use access along the Glenn Highway Trail from  
32 Anchorage to the communities of Chugiak, Eagle River, Eklutna and beyond to the  
33 Mat-Su, where the trail would continue north to Fairbanks; and  
34

35 **WHEREAS**, the Appalachian, Pacific Crest and other Long Trails are hugely popular  
36 attractions and economic drivers; for example, the Appalachian Trail attracts 3  
37 million visitors each year to shop, dine, stay and hike a portion of the 2000+ mile  
38 trail; and  
39

1 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage residents support trails through annual voter-approved  
2 bonds, and the Alaska Long Trail stands to leverage the value of Anchorage's  
3 existing trail system, bringing major recreation and economic benefits to Anchorage  
4 and Alaska by attracting a range of travelers from around the world to shop, dine,  
5 stay and recreate; and  
6

7 **WHEREAS**, now is the time to invest in the future of Anchorage and Alaska's  
8 outdoor recreation, tourism and small business economies by supporting the  
9 development of an iconic trail that will stand alongside the other grand trails of the  
10 nation.

11  
12 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY**  
13 **SUPPORTS THE ALASKA LONG TRAIL AND ENCOURAGES INVESTMENT AT**  
14 **THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL.**

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17 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 15th day of March,  
18 2022.

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23 \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

24 ATTEST:

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29 Municipal Clerk