Submitted by:Assembly Vice-Chair LaFranceReviewed by:Assembly CounselFor reading:December 17, 2019

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR No. 2019-440, As Amended

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF ADDRESSING DANGEROUS STREET CROSSINGS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS AND DECLARING ITS INTENT TO WORK WITH THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD, ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A PLAN OF ACTION AND IMPROVE STUDENT WALKABILITY TO SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, citizens have testified at both Anchorage School Board and Anchorage Assembly meetings in support of expanded and improved walkability to schools; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of students while walking to and from school is a community concern as well as a mutual concern to members of the Anchorage School Board and the Anchorage Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage School District Transportation Department and the Municipality of Anchorage Traffic Department work together to maintain and update the Safe Routes to Schools Manual, which includes maps indicating safe pedestrian routes that students are encouraged to use; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage School District Transportation Department has
 reinstated the Safe Student Transportation Committee, which consists of
 individuals from the Anchorage School District, [CENTRAL COUNCIL]<u>Alaska</u> PTA,
 MOA Traffic, MOA Public Works, the Anchorage Police Department and the
 Alaska Department of Transportation, and makes recommendations to the
 Superintendent of Schools based on technical evaluations of student pedestrian
 hazards; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Student Transportation Committee is limited to recommending bussing or the addition of adult crossing guards to walking routes; and

WHEREAS, improving student walkability often requires larger-scale solutions,
 such as signalization or the installation of sidewalks, and is best addressed during
 the planning stages of infrastructure projects and guided by policy documents; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage 2020 Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan is the
 guiding document for land use development in the Municipality of Anchorage and
 recognizes the community's desire to "become a more pedestrian-friendly city;"
 and

WHEREAS, Section 6.04 of the Anchorage Municipal Charter identifies the
comprehensive plan as an item that shall be discussed at the quarterly joint
meetings between the Anchorage School Board and the Anchorage Assembly;
and

29

30 31

32

36

1 2

3

4

5

WHEREAS, members of the Anchorage Assembly seek to collaborate with members of the Anchorage School Board to develop policy-driven solutions for pedestrian routes to school where the community desires a solution beyond what the existing options provide; now, therefore, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES: Section 1. To work with the Anchorage School Board, Anchorage School District and Traffic Department to assess and catalogue current dangerous crossings and develop a plan of action. Section 2. To use the plan of action to embed the Anchorage School Board and the Anchorage School District in the conversation about ongoing multi-modal transportation planning and design efforts. Section 3. To coordinate with the State of Alaska Department of Transportation on projects that impact school walking routes. Section 4. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly. PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 17th day of December, 2019. Selix R: Chair ATTEST: **Municipal Clerk**