ON 1-22-08: REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECRATION COMMISSION

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Submitted by: Assemblymembers Selkregg and Tesche

For Reading: January 22, 2008

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR No. 2008-15 A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY REQUIRING A REVISED 1 2 RUSSIAN JACK SPRINGS PARK PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS BASED ON PUBLIC INPUT, 3 THE CURRENT MULTI-USE QUALITY OF THE PARK AND LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF 4 ITS NATURAL SETTING. 5 6 WHEREAS, Russian Jack Springs Park is the Municipality of Anchorage's largest park in East Anchorage; 7 and, 8 9 WHEREAS, East Anchorage has the highest residential density per acre in the Municipality of Anchorage; 10 and, 12 13

WHEREAS, Russian Jack Springs Park is actively used year round by Anchorage families, visitors and residents of all ages; and,

WHEREAS, Russian Jack Springs Park currently supports a broad variety of mixed use outdoor and sporting activities including but not limited to biking, skiing, sledding, hiking, dog walking, jogging, triathlon training, Frisbee-golf, Frisbee, bird watching, berry picking, photography, nature and science education classes, golfing, summer camp programs, as well as large group and family picnicking gatherings; and,

WHEREAS, Russian Jack Springs Park is an important natural public asset that is greatly valued by the Anchorage residents and visitors for its year round natural beauty; which is reflected in its fresh water springs, natural rolling landscape, abundant wild life, lush forest, berries, and wild flowers; and,

WHEREAS, the 2006 Russian Jack Springs Park ballot measure to enhance the golf course did not imply a total redesign of the Park that would in any way put at risk its year round multi-use activities or its natural setting; and,

WHEREAS, the recently presented Russian Jack Springs Park redesign plan offers only one scenario for the Park's redevelopment: and.

WHEREAS, the draft plan as presented is dominated by the need of First Tee and proposes to clear 23 plus acres of forested park lands for golf greens and parking lots resulting in a significant impact on the Park's natural setting and multi-use capacity; and,

WHEREAS, the recently presented Russian Jack Springs Park redesign was developed without sufficient consultation or input from the Parks multi-use user groups, the Eastside community or the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that redesign of the Russian Jack Springs Park be completed through an open public process that is based on maximum public input including the diverse current Park user groups, First Tee youth golfing, and Eastside neighborhoods.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Park Plan redesign shall be created in a balanced manner that supports the multi-use quality of the Park as well as its sustainable natural setting.

1 2 3	PASSED AND APPROVED by t	the Anchorage Municipal Assembly this day of	, 2008
4 5 6 7 8	ATTEST:	Chair	
10 11 12			
13	Municipal Clerk		