## CLERK'S OFFICE

AMENDED AND APPROVED

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBER STARR

Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel For reading: October 28, 2008

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN BY MS. DRUMMOND 4-15-09; NOT RECONSIDERED

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2008–253

 $A^{-21-09}$  A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTING SPECIFIC WILDLIFE PUBLIC SAFETY POLICIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY THE ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF MUNICIPAL RESOURCES TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ANCHORAGE CITIZENS.

WHEREAS, there has been a marked increase in the frequency and threat level for serious injury from bear interactions within the Municipality of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, as evidenced by recent incidents, some resulting in personal injury, citizens of Anchorage are increasingly unable to enjoy community open spaces without serious risk to personal safety from bear interactions, even in the more urban areas of the city; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage lacks formalized municipal response procedures to protect the life safety of residents who discover themselves in the presence of threatening and aggressive bears; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality's exclusive reliance on State of Alaska wildlife management policies and personnel to address all bear interactions is inadequate to fully address the Municipality's responsibility to provide an immediate and appropriate response to aggressive bear activity that threatens life safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves to strengthen public safety and protection from bear interactions by authorizing the following for immediate development:

- 1. Expansion of formal municipal policies to include bear response plans and expansion of municipal land management policies to address <u>management strategies of aggressive</u> bear behaviors.
- 2. Establishment of a seasonal Wildlife Safety Specialist on a contract basis, within the Office of the Municipal Manager. Reporting to the City Manager, this individual will <u>address</u> be qualified to manage nuisance and dangerous bears. Contributions from Anchorage Parks and Recreation, Chugiak-Eagle River Parks and Recreation, and the Anchorage Police Department budgets may be used to fund this specialist position.
- 3. City-State cooperation agreements and formalized Board of Game and Department of Fish & Game authorizations, as appropriate, to ensure that the municipal Wildlife Safety Specialist is authorized to determine threat levels of reported bears within the Municipality and take appropriate action including relocating or destroying.

 

- 4. Program guidelines, for adoption by ordinance, to ensure that the Wildlife Safety Specialist is authorized to enforce trash management policies and take proactive and corrective action in response to repeat offenders, including increased education, convening public awareness forums and the issuance of citations, as appropriate.
- 5. Establishment of specialized response training to provide additional qualified and trained personnel to assist in bear management decisions as needed to support the Wildlife Safety Specialist. This specialty requires training in effective procedures to engage/divert dangerous bears and mitigate associated life safety hazards to residents.
- 6. Formal request to the Board of Game to authorize increased permit hunting options for moose in the upper Hillside and Eagle River Valley areas to assist in mitigation.
- 7. Formal request to the Board of Game to authorize permit hunting options for brown bear in the upper Hillside, Eagle River, and Southfork areas, and on certain Heritage Land Bank lands, as designated by the Municipality.
- <u>6.</u> [8.] Expansion and promotion of bear sighting and interaction reporting through use of the municipal website: <u>muni.org</u>; inclusion of a tracking mechanism administered by the Wildlife Safety Specialist; coordination with in-place code compliance reporting programs, such as the Hansen System, to incorporate code violation data from the Wildlife Safety Specialist.
- 7. [9.] Provision of educational resources for residents including guidance on living with wildlife, and dissemination of the appropriate and recommended responses to being confronted by aggressive bears within an urban setting.
- <u>8.</u> [10.] Standardized reporting format to enable publication of semi-annual reports of bear sightings, aggressive bear interactions and mitigation tactics employed to address this urban threat.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 21st day of April , 200 7.

ATTEST:

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Municipal Clerk

DRUMMOND DESIGN/ECONSULT

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April 15, 2009

Via fax to 343-4313

To the Anchorage Municipal Clerk:

I am hereby requesting reconsideration of AR 2008-253, Wildlife Public Safety Policies, passed by the Anchorage Municipal assembly on April 14, 2009.

I was on the prevailing side.

Harriet Drummond

I second this reconsideration request.

runnond

4-15-09 3:35pm

M.O.A.