

CLERK'S OFFICE

**APPROVED**

Date: 7-21-09

Submitted by: Mayor Sullivan and Assemblymembers  
Birch, Claman, Coffey, Drummond, Flynn,  
Gray-Jackson, Gutierrez, Johnston,  
Ossiander, Selkregg, and Starr

Prepared by: Assembly  
For reading: July 21, 2009

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
AR NO. 2009-180**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING AND HONORING  
THOMAS P. NELSON FOR HIS 35 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF  
ANCHORAGE.**

WHEREAS, Tom Nelson has excelled in his public service career which began when he was first hired by the Greater Anchorage Area Borough in 1974 as an Assistant Planner in the Planning Department then progressed within the Municipality of Anchorage to Associate Planner in 1977, Senior Planner in 1980, Land Use Section Supervisor in 1984, and the Physical Planning Division Supervisor in 2000, before being appointed as the Planning Director in 2004; and

WHEREAS, during Tom's tenure he served under nine administrations, which included Mayors Roderick, G. Sullivan, Knowles, Fink, Mystrom, Wuerch, Begich, Claman; and D. Sullivan; and he served under eight Planning Directors; and

WHEREAS, Tom's experience in community involvement is vast and includes developing the first comprehensive plan for Chugiak-Eagle River area in 1979, initiating Anchorage's Coastal Management Program in 1979, assisting with the 1982 *Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Development Plan* and the *Hillside Wastewater Management Plan*, managing the Anchorage Avalanche Hazard Mapping Study; leading the areawide zoning of the Chugiak-Eagle River area; developing the 1995 *Girdwood Area Plan* and the *Girdwood Commercial Areas and Transportation Master Plan*; assisting with the development and approval of the *Anchorage 2020 — Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan* and being a leading advocate for its implementation through the rewrite of the Title 21 Land Use Code; and

WHEREAS, Tom received the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Lands' "Good Neighbor Award" for his role in the 1995 *Girdwood Area Plan*; and Tom represented the Municipality at the 2001 American Planning Association's National Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, to receive the "APA National Planning Award for Public Education" for *Anchorage 2020*; and

WHEREAS, Tom Nelson has an extensive historical knowledge of Anchorage that will be very much missed, has cared passionately about making Anchorage a great place to live, work and play, and after 35 years, Tom will retire from the Municipality on July 31, 2009.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES THAT:


***Thomas P. Nelson***

is recognized, honored, and thanked for his 35 years of effective, professional, and distinctive public service with the Planning Department and the citizens of Anchorage and its communities.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly this 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2009.

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Municipal Clerk