MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

WATERSHED & NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2009-01

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE FAR NORTH BICENTENNIAL PARK DRAFT TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

(WNRC Case No. 09-01)

WHEREAS, the Municipal Parks and Recreation Department is charged with providing year-round recreation opportunities and balancing community recreational use with the conservation of natural resources in Far North Bicentennial Park (FNBP); and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department hired a contractor to identify needed trails projects that meet the management objectives of the FNBP Master Plan, which included data collection and classifications of the Park's trails and a comprehensive list of new trails and trail improvements for the next 10-15 years; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department solicited comments and recommendations for the *Far North Bicentennial Park Draft Trail Improvements Plan* from the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission at its April 22, 2009 regular meeting; and

WHEREAS, since broad natural area corridors along the North and South Forks of Campbell Creek and between the creeks along the east edge of the park allow for wildlife movement, the introduction of summer use trails here is likely to increase the incidence of encounters between humans and bears; and

WHEREAS, since the northeast section of FNBP contains extensive wetlands, stream channels, and known wildlife concentration areas, locating future permanent trails here would likely cause significant impacts to these resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission recommends:

- A. Adoption of the *Far North Bicentennial Park Draft Trail Improvements Plan* with its basic elements, including new uses, trail locations, trail upgrades, and trail standards with the following recommended changes:
 - 1. All creek channels in the planning area shall include a uniform setback of 200 feet on each side of a channel's ordinary high water, and this zone shall be classified as a no-new-trail-development area (trail creek crossings are permitted). These setbacks and the no-new-trail-development area classification shall be represented in appropriate text sections of the Plan and on Figures 11, 24, and 26.
 - 2. The proposed new bike trails described and shown as proposed project #24 shall be removed from that area of the Park and relocated if an appropriate alternative location can be identified in the Park.

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3. The no-new-trail-development area shown (in yellow) on Figure 26 at the Park's east boundary shall be extended north to include the entire northeast section of the Park.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Municipal Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission on this 22^{nd} day of April 2009.

Tom Nelson

Secretary

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Staff, Acting as Temporary Chair

(Case No. 09-01)