MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE WATERSHED & NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2011-03

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT OF THE 2035 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

(WNRC Case No. 11-04)

WHEREAS, in response to long-term planning needs for transportation expansions and upgrades in the Municipality, the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions (AMATS) program released the Public Review Draft of the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, this draft plan combines the 2007 revised Anchorage Bowl 2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Chugiak-Eagle River 2027 Long-Range Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the municipal Planning Division's Transportation Planning Section seeks Watershed & Natural Resources Commission review and input on potential policy-level environmental mitigation activities for the Plan's proposed transportation improvement actions and projects; and

WHEREAS, staff from the Transportation Planning Section presented an overview of the Draft 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, its projects, and relevant policies from the Plan's Chapter 8 Implementation Section at the Watershed & Natural Resources Commission regular meeting of November 23, 2011.

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

- A. The Commission supports the watershed-, wetlands-, and wildlife-related policies presented in the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan as presented on page 8-21.
- B. The Commission finds that an additional policy or policies should be included to address the issues raised in the bullets on page 8-23 as recommended by the EPA for additions to the Plan's Environmental Concerns, Air Quality, and Public Health policy section. The Commission recommends the following policy language:

Promote project planning and design that maximizes avoidance of aquatic areas, valuable wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive areas. Where these areas cannot be avoided, negative impacts should be minimized and/or mitigated. C. The Commission also recommends the following additional policy be included in the Environmental Concerns, Air Quality, and Public Health section on page 8-21:

Municipal transportation plans and future recommended projects should work in concert with the Alaska National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit.

D. The Commission recommends the following be included in the Action Item Recommendations – Environmental Concerns, Air Quality, and Public Health chart on page 8-21:

EC-E. For future road projects, address wildlife-vehicle incidents based on existing maps and traffic accident data and through consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission on the 23rd day of November 2011.

Jerry T Weaver, Jr. Secretary

Tamás Deák Chair

(Case No. 11-04)