

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
WATERSHED & NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-02

**A RESOLUTION TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT 2040 LAND USE
PLAN.**

(WNRC Case No. 2016-03)

WHEREAS, a typical Comprehensive Plan incorporates a Land Use Plan Map; and

WHEREAS, *Anchorage 2020* called on Neighborhood and District Plans to address and implement the land use elements for the Anchorage Bowl collectively; and

WHEREAS, over the ensuing years it became necessary for the Municipality to produce a comprehensive Land Use Plan Map that integrates neighborhood and district plans on a Bowl-wide basis that also incorporates and reflects current development trends, updated demographics and projections, and results of focused planning efforts related to, for instance, housing and industrial land needs; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Planning Department produced a Community Hearing Draft *Anchorage Bowl Land Use Map* for public comment in February 2016, which included several elements of interest to and relevant for the Watershed and Natural Resources Commission, including recommendations for Natural Open Spaces, Parks, and a new concept labeled Greenway Supported Development, which ties creek and drainage area restoration with linear redevelopment projects and trail systems; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Watershed and Natural Resources Commission to advise the Municipal Assembly, Planning and Zoning Commission and other Municipal entities; and

WHEREAS, the natural open spaces and watershed features in the areas designated on the *2040 Land Use Plan* with the "Greenway-Supported Development" overlay feature are extremely important to the health and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed and Natural Resources Commission provided some preliminary, informal comments to staff at one of its spring 2016 regular meetings, which were considered by staff in the *2040 Land Use Plan* Public Hearing Draft, which has been reviewed by the Commission; and

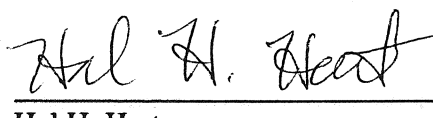
WHEREAS, the Land Use Plan Map, the new designations, and the associated Action Items collectively fairly represent the unique and important natural features and functions in the Anchorage Bowl that will be protected or enhanced by actions in this Plan.

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

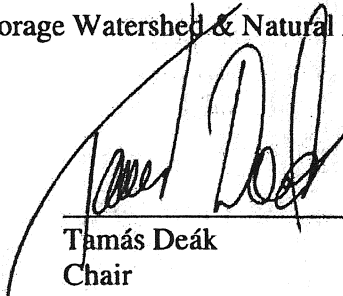
- A. The Planning and Zoning Commission approve the *2040 Land Use Plan Public Hearing Draft*, dated September 2016, including its depiction of Greenway-Supported Development areas and corridors, with the following consideration for text additions in the Section 3-Actions Table:

The Section 3 – Actions Table needs implementation language under the *Centers and Corridors* Action Item that directs the Municipality to undertake background research, pursue fund sources, and initiate projects for the priority Greenway-Supported Development designations. This should be initiated with an Action Item directive to undertake historical identification of the channel function and locations and a feasibility evaluation to see whether and how a restoration action could happen here and what fund sources might cover it.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission on this 12th day of October, 2016.

 10/13/16

Hal H. Hart
Secretary

 10/12/16

Tamás Deák
Chair

WNRC Case No. 2016-03