



**Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska**  
**Parks & Recreation Commission**

632 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 630  
P.O. Box 196650  
Anchorage, AK 99519



**PRC Resolution No. 2019-02**  
**Proposed Development of “Singletrack” Trails in a Portion of the Chester Creek Greenbelt**

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission serves in an advisory capacity to both the Mayor and the Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission has the responsibility and duty to provide for the long term vision of our park system by ensuring that a balance of parks, natural resources, and recreation facilities provides for the health, welfare, and safety of all residents of the Anchorage Bowl; and

WHEREAS, community members initiated an urban singletrack mountain bike trail project along Chester Creek greenbelt trail corridor in 2016 and gained support from North Star and Fairview Community Councils; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed PRC 17-11 Chester Creek Single Track Trails at the February 9, 2017 meeting; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage voters approved a \$150,000 Municipal Park Bond for the planning, design and implementation of this project in April 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage has seen rapid growth in the mountain and fat bike communities since the first singletrack trail project nearly a decade ago; the increased popularity has resulted in heavy trail congestion, safety concerns with user conflicts on existing trails, and demand for new beginner trails in easily accessible locations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed urban singletrack in Chester Creek greenbelt from Valley of the Moon Park to Goose Lake Park will provide children and adults in neighboring communities who do not have access or the ability to drive a bike to singletrack at Far North Bicentennial Park, Hillside or Kincaid the opportunity to experience beginner singletrack from their door; creating a more inclusive and inviting recreation opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department proposes to provide new accessible recreation opportunities through the addition of singletrack trail options connecting with and adjacent to the popular paved Chester Creek Trail and by improving portions of the existing social trail network to improve safety of various multiuse groups; and

WHEREAS, the proposed urban singletrack segments are accessed from and in close proximity to the existing paved, lighted and highly used Chester Creek Trail, providing increased safety through visibility and expanding the active use area; bicycle commuters, recreation riders, runners and hikers alike will have a secondary option for traveling the corridor when the paved pathway is crowded, groomed for skiing, blocked by a moose, or when users want a more challenging experience; and

WHEREAS, the proposed plan includes the design and construction of trail segments to create a network of singletrack within the Chester Creek greenbelt: soft-surface, relatively narrow trails sustainably built

for two-way travel and multiple uses, including mountain biking and foot traffic, will be constructed primarily from the alignment and surface of existing social trails; and

WHEREAS, the proposed design features include improvements to the existing unmarked and unregulated intersections of social trails and the Chester Creek trail, including the use of signage, wayfinding, and sightline clearing; and

WHEREAS, the *Areawide Trails Plan* identifies mountain biking as a popular form of trail use that provides good commuting and recreation possibilities and a singletrack network in Chester Creek greenbelt is consistent with the goals and objectives identified in the Park Plan, Anchorage Pedestrian Plan, and the Anchorage Bicycle Plan; and

WHEREAS, the North Star and Fairview Community Councils and the participating public provided written support for this project and the Parks & Recreation Department supports the public process undertaken to develop the proposal;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Commission supports the Park & Recreation Department's plan to design, construct, and maintain the Chester Creek Urban Singletrack Trails project that includes 2.5 miles of singletrack and trail improvements in the Chester Creek greenbelt from Valley of the Moon Park to Goose Lake Park.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission this 14th day of February 2019.

  
Chair  
Parks and Recreation Commission

ATTEST:

  
John Rodda, Director  
Parks & Recreation Department