

TURNAGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2016-05

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW CLOSURE HOURS FOR LYN ARY PARK: 10 P.M. TO 7 A.M.

WHEREAS, the Turnagain Community Council (TCC) is an all-volunteer, self-governing neighborhood organization recognized in the Municipality of Anchorage Charter; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of community councils is to provide a direct and continuing means of citizen participation in government and local affairs; and

WHEREAS, local community members have contacted TCC regarding significant disruptions and safety issues regarding the late night usage of Lyn Ary Park, the surrounding areas of the Coastal Trail and surrounding streets; and

WHEREAS, uncontrolled late night parking in the Lyn Ary Park parking lot and adjacent streets has led to nightly disruptions that include illegal drug use and dealing, firearms discharge, prostitution activities, loud parties, and nightly trash between the hours of 11pm and 4am with almost daily calls to Anchorage Police and Anchorage Fire; and

WHEREAS, this illegal and disruptive behavior, which is enabled by free access to these areas, has resulted in: (i) unsafe interactions between local residents and the users of this area; and (ii) unsafe, nightly trash, including, without limitation, broken glass, used condoms, spilled anti-freeze, used syringes, cigarette butts, liquor bottles, beer cans, fast-food trash and other items, that must be picked up by neighborhood volunteers to ensure public safety; and

WHEREAS, nightly usage of the Coastal Trail beaches has caused those areas to become littered with trash and glass, and these areas are high traffic areas for local children and tourists; and

WHEREAS, the present usage of the areas referenced above is inconsistent with the municipal purposes for maintaining Lyn Ary Park and the Coastal Trail and has become a nuisance for the local Turnagain community; and

WHEREAS, a Turnagain neighborhood watch and patrol coalition has formed to patrol the park and voluntarily close the parking lot each night and later park hours increases the chance for unsafe interactions between neighborhood volunteers and late night park users; and

WHEREAS, the community members of TCC have determined that municipal action should be taken to solve these issues and recommends that one solution includes adjusting the nightly park closure hours from 11pm-6am to 10pm-6am so that they are consistent with other Municipal parks that have controlled access gates that close at 10pm; and

WHEREAS, the community members of TCC have been informed by both Anchorage Parks and Recreation and Anchorage Police Department that a resolution in support of a 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Lyn Ary Park closure would be supported and requires a resolution of support by Turnagain Community Council;

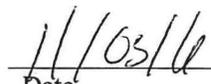
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that TCC supports the efforts of local residents of the above referenced areas to increase the safety and improve the usage of their neighborhood as it is a benefit to the entire municipality.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that TCC hereby recommends to the Municipality of Anchorage that action be taken to solve the issues referenced above, including without limitation, by introducing new nightly closure hours for Lyn Ary Park from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED by the Turnagain Community Council on this 8th day of September, 2016.

Vote: **36** yes, **0** no, **none** abstain.


Jonathan Tarrant, President
Turnagain Community Council


Date