

WHEREAS Anchorage Municipal Charter requires that neighborhoods and residents are represented by individual Community Councils that are to give direct input to the government, and

WHEREAS the Huffman/O'Malley Community Council represents the neighborhoods and residents within its boundaries and protects their interests in the future of our neighborhoods, and

WHEREAS the area of Rabbit Creek Park and Greenbelt, located near DeArmoun Road and the New Seward Highway are within our boundaries, and

WHEREAS in the summer of 2008, HOCC area residents wrote Jeff Dillon, Director, Parks & Recreation, regarding a major encroachment into the Rabbit Creek greenbelt, including the planting of grass, trees and shrubs and installation of paved paths, gardens, fountain and firepit extending some 40' into the municipal-owned greenbelt, usage of fertilizers and insecticides, and asking that the situation be addressed and remediation begun, and

WHEREAS these citizens received no reply to or acknowledgement of their requests; and

WHEREAS the commandeering of this public parklands gives the appearance to park users that they have suddenly illegally trespassed onto private property; and

WHEREAS these citizens approached the Huffman/O'Malley Community Council in August 2009, requesting assistance; and

WHEREAS the HOCC investigated the situation, and, on August 31, 2009, wrote Jeff Dillon to request immediate remediation of this situation, and included full photo evidence of this virtual doubling of back yards of at least three individual property owners; and

WHEREAS the HOCC sent follow-up letters requesting assistance to Mayor Dan Sullivan on December 8, 1009; and

WHEREAS the HOCC asked Code Enforcement Officer Mike Billmaier about this situation on May 20, 2010, who investigated the situation and informed the Council that this situation must be resolved by Parks & Rec; and

WHEREAS the HOCC has sent formal requests to Tom Korosei, Parks & Rec, on June 11, 2010; John Rodda on September 2, 2010, and March 18, 2011; and requested assistance from Assembly Representatives Chris Birch in 2009 and 2010 and Jennifer Johnston in 2011; and

WHEREAS to date the aforementioned property owners are still mowing grass, planting annuals and perennials, fertilizing and using insecticides; and

WHEREAS this situation continues unabated each summer, and that remediation efforts will be virtually impossible once again due to freeze up;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Huffman/O'Malley Community Council is requesting that the Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department immediately rototill the municipal-owned properties adjoining to private property of the Rabbit Creek Greenbelt, the only solution that will begin remediation efforts for Spring 2012, and that this rototilling completed no later that Friday, September 30, 2011. This solution will make it

impossible for any person to mow the lawn next year, will return the non-native ornamental species to serve as nutrient value, and will let nature re-seed and re-colonize this location.

Pete Nolan, President
Huffman/O'Malley Community Council

Date