

November 13, 2020

Michelle J. McNulty, Director
michelle.mcnulty@anchorageak.gov
Municipality of Anchorage, Planning Dept.
4700 Elmore Road
Anchorage, AK 99507

Re: Canyon Road Trail along Public Use Easements

Dear Ms. McNulty:

At our November 12, 2020 community council meeting, we discussed the roadside trail which parallels Canyon Road through the proposed Canyon View Estates Subdivision. This pedestrian trail follows along the route of the natural gas line and winds through the triangular portion of the Public Use Easement in the vicinity of the eastern boundary of the property. It has gained popularity throughout the last several months and is frequently used by Anchorage residents and neighbors.

As you know, three Public Use Easements which vary in width from 100 feet to significantly wider were acquired by the Municipality in 2015 as part of a state-funded project to improve access to Chugach State Park. The stated purposes of these easements are to accommodate various public uses including streets, walkways, trails, drainage, and drainage facilities.

You will recall that the proposed plat submitted by the developer of Canyon View Estates called for the vacation of much of these easements down to the minimum allowable right-of-way width of 60 feet for a Collector Street.

As you also are aware, AMC Title 21.03.230(A) stipulates that in order to vacate a Public Use Easement the platting authority must deem the area to be of value to the Municipality unless proven otherwise.

Given the importance of this trail to our community members, following discussion, the Glen Alps Community Council voted to provide you with notice that this trail exists, is frequently used, and is valued by Anchorage residents – including our community. We hereby request that you take whatever action is necessary to retain the existing public use easements in their entirety for this trail and other public uses.

Thank you.

Greg Kuijper, President
Glen Alps Community Council

cc: Dave Whitfield, Planning Manager David.whitfield@anchorageak.gov
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