

Rogers Park Community Council

(including Anchor Park, College Village, Woodside East and Rogers Park)
rogersparkcc@gmail.com

David Morgan, President
Michael Black, Secretary
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To: Municipal Clerk Barbara Gruenstein wwmasmc@muni.org
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Patrick Flynn, Bill Starr, Debbie Ossiander, Ernie Hall, Harriet Drummond, Dick Traini,
Elvi Gray-Jackson, Paul Honeman, Adam Trombley, Chris Birch, Jennifer Johnston
Dan Sullivan, Mayor mayor@muni.org
Senator Johnny Ellis
Senator Bettye Davis
Representative Berta Gardner
Representative Les Gara
Representative Sharon Cissna
Governor Sean Parnell


PASSED AND APPROVED by Rogers Park Community Council this 14th day of November, 2011.

A Resolution regarding North Access to the University-Medical (U-Med) District

The attached document (Exhibit A), entitled A Resolution regarding North Access to the University-Medical (U-Med) District, was passed by The Rogers Park Community Council at their regular meeting on November 14, 2011.

This resolution passed by a vote of 27 in favor, 5 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

Respectfully,

 December 5, 2011
David Morgan, President
Rogers Park Community Council

Rogers Park Community Council
November 14, 2011

**A Resolution regarding North Access to the University-Medical
(U-Med) District**

Whereas, a "North Access to U-Med District" road is scheduled to be built in the next eleven years¹; and

Whereas, north and northeast UAA land includes wetlands and wildlife habitat that should be protected; and

Whereas, the 2011 Rogers Park Community Council annual survey respondents overwhelmingly supported the preservation of the trails and open space on UAA and APU lands²; and

Whereas, the 2009 UAA Master Plan recommends that development of the north and northeast extremities of the campus should be postponed "...until re-development of previously disturbed land has been exhausted...By this means, the largest natural areas of the campus will be reserved for recreation and as viable wildlife habitats³; and

Whereas, a north access road to the U-Med district would disrupt campus natural areas and trails;

¹ This is Project No. 125 of the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Public Review Draft (PRD). It is in the "short-term" group of proposed projects; i.e., proposed to be completed between 2012 and 2023.

² There were 118 respondents to the 2011 RPCC annual survey. Pertinent results:

- o 76% of respondents feel that is very important that open space and trails on UAA and APU campus land be preserved as much as possible. 19% feel this is somewhat important. 5% stated that it was unimportant.
 - o 52% % of respondents use the campus trails and open space more than once per week, 16% use the trails once per week, 15% use the trails once per month, and 17% hardly ever use the trails.
- ³ UAA "Campus Facilities Master Plan Update", 2009, page 94

Whereas, a north access road to the U-Med district would disrupt east/west traffic on Northern Lights; and

Whereas, a north access road to the U-Med district would cause unacceptable traffic congestion and safety hazards for East High School students, staff, and parents; and

Whereas, the northeast area of Anchorage has access to quality emergency medical services at Alaska Regional Hospital; and

Whereas, a north access road to the U-Med district would result in small improvements in travel times to and from the northeast⁴; and

Whereas, the recent DOWL/HKM engineering study of north access alternatives did not evaluate perimeter road and intersection upgrades that would improve U-Med district access without compromising natural areas; and

Whereas, public transportation enhancements to this region could alleviate some traffic issues;

Therefore be it resolved that Rogers Park Community Council:

1. Does not support a north access road to the U-Med district from Northern Lights east of UAA Drive, and
2. Recommends that Project No. 125 of the PRD of the 2035 MTP should be deleted from the MTP or moved to the "long-term" (2024-2035) or "illustrative" (beyond 2035) categories.

⁴ According to the September 2011 "Reconnaissance Study Report" on north access to the U-MED district, the "Bragaw Extension" would reduce travel time for a vehicle trying to get to the District from Northern Lights and Boniface at the "peak hour" in the morning by 20 seconds, and by 1 minute and 40 seconds for a vehicle trying to get to Northern Lights and Boniface from the District at the worst time of day in the afternoon or evening.