

AIRPORT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Resolution 2015-02

A RESOLUTION OF AIRPORT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (AHCC)
CONCERNING A PROPOSED TENNIS FACILITY

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Municipal Charter Article VIII, Sec 8.01 established Community Councils as neighborhood representatives for planning and development;

WHEREAS, Les Sheppard, a retired Alaska real estate developer, proposes that a multiple acre parcel of Anchorage Municipal land, designated as PLI, located immediately north of Northern Lights Blvd. between Career Center Drive and the footbridge over Northern Lights Blvd. at Goose Lake be designated for the exclusive use as a tennis club facility with indoor and outdoor courts; this parcel consists of 38.95 acres that is within the 105.06 acres designated as Tikishla Park.

WHEREAS, residents of AHCC purchased their properties to be next to park land, not to have a large tennis building and parking lot in their back yard;

WHEREAS, the tennis club could only be entered and exited via the westbound lane of Northern Lights Blvd;

WHEREAS, many years ago the entrance to Goose Lake Park from Northern Lights Blvd. was closed off and moved to UAA Drive at great expense to the Municipality of Anchorage due to traffic incursions;

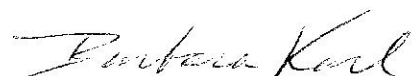
WHEREAS, the parcel is wooded and serves as a drainage area to the Middle Fork and South Fork of Chester Creek, a habitat for a variety of wildlife, and trail areas, both paved and natural surface, for skiing, hiking, biking, wildlife observation, and other outdoor use;

WHEREAS, there currently exist 15 outdoor tennis locations around Anchorage with a total of 44 outdoor courts; therefore more courts are not needed;

WHEREAS, Les Sheppard has indicated that he would like the AHCC to submit a statement to the Municipality of Anchorage in support of such designation while any discussion about terms of use, including whether the outdoor courts could be made available to the public without charge, should await completion of such designation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AHCC **opposes** the designation of the above-referenced parcel for the exclusive use as a tennis facility because such designation would in effect eliminate the free use of the parcel by the public in favor of a tennis complex with paid memberships and irreparably alter the natural open space and character of the park land.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED by the Airport Heights Community Council on April 16, 2015 by a vote of: FOR 50, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 0.


President