

**Resolution
of the
Basher Community Council**

**Regarding
Environmental Assessment, Installation Fencing, Fort Richardson**

Background: The Army developed an Environmental Assessment for fencing Fort Richardson in May 2004. The proposed post and rail fence and associated clearing parallels the north section line of sections 6 which includes the Stuckagain Heights neighborhood. The proposed fence borders many developed and undeveloped lots along the section line and could have impacts on resident's access to the lands to the north of the neighborhood. While one of the alternatives considered in the EA was for high security fencing along the boundary of the neighborhood, the preferred alternative propose pipe rail fencing with gaps for pedestrian access and locked gates for access for fire protection and access by Chugach Electric vehicles.

Resolution:

Whereas, the community recognizes the Army's need to clearly delineate the borders of Fort Richardson;

Whereas, we also recognize the need for the military to deter vehicle trespass by off road vehicles and dumping onto military lands;

Whereas, there are significant safety concerns when the military is training in the area and an efficient and affective means of notifying the public is needed when the military is training near the neighborhood;

Whereas, the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) demonstrates that the military has responded to public and community concerns that were expressed during the fence scoping process by proposing only a post and rail fence adjacent to the neighborhood which allows pedestrian access and includes mitigating measures to protect fish and wildlife habitat;

Therefore be it Resolved,

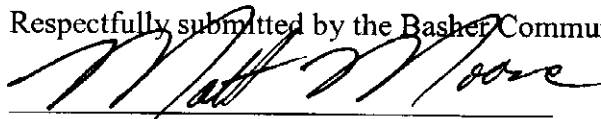
That the Basher Community Council compliments Army Alaska Garrison Commander Colonel Donna Boltz for addressing public concerns in the preferred alternative in the Environmental Assessment;

That when the alignment of the fence is identified, its design incorporates the following features, some of which are already mentioned in the preferred alternative:

- Gaps in the fence that provide for non-motorized recreational access at the north end of the cul-de-sacs at Atelier, Maximilian, and Basher Drives

- These three locations also have locked gates adjacent to these gaps that provide the Anchorage Fire Department and Chugach Electric access to the north side of the neighborhood for fire protection and power line repair;
- A pedestrian gap be provided at the top of the "section line trail" that connects Basher Road to the bottom of the North Fork of Campbell Creek. This trail provides access to the Dome, the upper North Fork Valley and peaks in the Chugach Mountains;
- In the process of providing access for fence installation equipment, an improved trail to the North Fork of Campbell Creek be constructed that runs northeasterly from the parking lot at the end of Basher Road which would replace the current section line trail which is too steep to maintain over the long term.
- The community requests the technical assistance from the NPS Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program to design this trail and the community offers volunteers to help construct this trail if needed.
- If this trail is constructed, the gap in the fence be relocated to the trailhead closer to the parking lot;
- Clearing along the fence be minimal since there is already a Chugach Electric right-of-way clearing along most of the north side of the neighborhood.
- The fence need only extend 50 yard beyond the bottom of the North Fork of Campbell Creek. The ½ mile of fence east of this point as shown in the preferred alternative would run up the bottom of Campbell Creek and then up the shoulder of the ridge. Because of terrain and brush, this area is inaccessible and has no trails. Construction of the fence in this area would result in needless damage to riparian habitat and leave an unsightly clearing up the side of the Knoya Peak ridge.
- Furthermore, the community invites Army personnel to meet with community representatives to walk the proposed fence line prior to the specific alignment and gaps being identified.
- Finally, representatives of the Army be available in a convenient location for an evening or two when residents of Stuckagain, Muldoon and East Anchorage can register for the USARTAK System to save them a trip to the MWR Office on Fort Richardson to register.

Respectfully submitted by the Basher Community Council


 Matt Moore, President
 Basher Community Council


 Date