

RESOLUTION OF SOUTH ADDITION COMMUNITY COUNCIL 20 - XX

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO ELDERBERRY PARK

WHEREAS, Elderberry Park is a destination park for Anchorage residents and visitors alike, a neighborhood park for many residents, used often by families with children and grandchildren, and one of only two access points North of Westchester Lagoon for the Tony Knowles Coastal trail;

WHEREAS, an improvement plan (the Plan) approved in March of this year by the South Addition Community Council had eliminated the cross-park sidewalk access to the Coastal Trail from the corner of 5th and N Street;

WHEREAS, the Plan eliminates conventional swing-sets at the Park;

WHEREAS, that sidewalk is a very common access point for residents of the neighborhood, those bringing bicycles, skis, skateboards or ambulatory aids such as walkers and wheelchairs by car or foot to the Park, and those coming from other neighborhoods via N Street;

WHEREAS, there is not sufficient parking at the park for the number of residents and visitors using the Park for either recreation at the Park or for access to the Coastal Trail, and there is sufficient reason to have several access points to the Park and Coastal Trail from N Street, M Street and Fifth Avenue;

WHEREAS, the Plan approved would have required almost two blocks of walking from handicapped parking and rest room facilities at 5th and N Street to the access to the Coastal Trail, with some of that walking uphill on slopes that are unlikely to meet ADA standards, and the park Plan approved was highly inconvenient for families needing to park, use rest room facilities, unload bicycles, strollers and wheelchairs; and

WHEREAS, no other parks in the neighborhood have swing sets as swings were removed from Nulbay Park during the 1990's.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that with appreciation for the re-work of the Plan now offered by the Anchorage Parks Department, the South Addition Community Council puts forward its revised guidance on improvements to Elderberry Park, and asks city officials and the Urban Design Commission to:

- a) Ensure that access across the Park to the Coastal trail from N Street and Fifth Avenue is added to the Plan, improved as needed to be consistent with the Plan, and maintained.
- b) Move the playground equipment to better ensure that bicyclists entering the trail are not a hazard to children using the playground equipment.
- c) Move if necessary but maintain a regular swing set in the Park.

ADOPTED THIS 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020 BY A VOTE OF _____ to _____