

**Resolution 2022-04**  
Northeast Community Council (NECC)

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*March 17, 2022*

Opposing Current Trail Maintenance Plans

**Whereas**, the Parks and Recreation Department of the Municipality of Anchorage has announced they will be doing “maintenance on the certain sidewalks, portions of the Multiple Use Trails and bridge in an contiguous to Russian Jack Springs, as evidenced in the documented appended below, and

**Whereas**, the Parks and Recreation Department through its staff have responded to the query, “Why didn’t P&R pass those plans to the appropriate community councils re elevation and alignment of the bridge?”, stated that, “We are not proposing any re-alignment of the bridge or trails, as this is considered a maintenance project. The elevation of the bridge is determined by FEMA flood elevation requirements.”, and

**Whereas**, FEMA DOES NOT determine absolute bridge elevations, the trail and bridges in question are not susceptible of maintenance, and the Department clearly plans to reconstruct the trail and bridge, not do “maintenance”, and

**Whereas**, the Northeast Community Council has already conveyed to the Department its concerns regarding realignment of the Multiuse Trail that encompasses the crossing of the creek flowing out of Russian Jack Springs Park’s springs (most often identified as Bridges #1, #2, and #3 in the order they appear from the headwaters at the spring), and

**Whereas**, the bridge the subject of this “maintenance” (Bridge #3) is at the base of a steep hill the approach to which is at a T intersection with inadequate radius, and

**Whereas**, the top of the hill leading down to Bridge #3 is an impediment to the approaches both from the north and the south and could easily, within the scope of a reconstruction project be removed, and

**Whereas**, the last time the Department bonded the rebuilding of a Russian Jack Springs Park while the bond was some three quarters of a million dollars to cover three bridges, the Department replaced Bridge #2 with an inexpensive wooden bridge because then Superintendent Spoth-Torres state that was all the money Parks and Recreation had on hand which generates concerns as to whether the Department will continue to place low cost low elevation wooden bridges, and

**Whereas**, Anchorage has a history of failing bridges because it invested in low cost low elevation wooden bridges, and

