

Spenard Community Council Resolution #2023-06

A Resolution Supporting the Continued Maintenance of People Mover Route 85

WHEREAS, the Spenard Community Council (“SCC”) is an organization representing the interests of the residents of the Spenard Neighborhood of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the SCC supports public transit as a vital public service important to the economic development of community, and one that makes Anchorage an affordable place to live and work; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage 2040 Land Use Plan designates the Spenard Road corridor for transit supportive development, where high frequency transit routes provide an incentive to housing and commercial development over the long term; and

WHEREAS, the Spenard Corridor Plan, Anchorage’s first transit-supportive development corridor planning document adopted in October 2020, includes “Goal 1: Support Transit and Increase Ridership;” and

WHEREAS, People Mover Route 85 was implemented on September 2021, using a federal grant for service expansion, restoring service to West Anchorage with access to the Loussac Library and points in between after four years without connectivity; and

WHEREAS, a federal grant that has funded Route 85 for the last three years will expire this fiscal year, eliminating the only route through West Anchorage direct to Midtown and South Anchorage without municipal funding; and

WHEREAS, Route 85 was created based on public feedback gathered by PTD in 2018 and 2019, when a route returning service along the Old Seward Highway and direct service to Loussac Library was the most requested during this information gathering period; and

WHEREAS, Route 85 carried 113,850 Anchorage riders to their destination in 2022; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Spenard Community Council strongly supports the continuation of People Mover Route 85 via municipal funding for 2024 and recommends the Assembly and the Mayor not reduce the amount allocated for Route 85 during the annual budget or quarterly budget revision processes in order to maintain existing service levels that Spenard residents rely upon to maintain their quality of life.

Resolved, this 1st day of November 2023

Meg Mielke

Meg Mielke, Spenard Community Council President
Chair

Vote: 17 in favor, and 0 opposed

November 2, 2023

Date