Eagle River Valley Community Council

Federation of Community Councils 1057 W Fireweed Ln, Anchorage, AK 99503

December 14, 2024

Karen Richards
Principal Admin. Officer
Chugiak-Eagle River Parks and Recreation
karen.richards@anchorageak.gov

Re: Letter of Support for Loretta French Ball Field Improvements

Dear Ms. Richards:

On December 11, 2024, at the regularly scheduled public meeting of the Eagle River Valley Community Council (ERVCC), community members voted unanimously in support of a project seeking to install artificial turf at the Loretta French Ball Fields in Chugiak.

Over the past few years, use of the park by local, state, and even national organizations has increased dramatically. This approximately \$2 million project, to be managed by Chugiak-Eagle River Parks and Recreation (CERPR), would build on previous improvements to the facility by installing artificial turf at four ball fields. The new surface would increase the facility's functionality, expand seasonal operations, and provide for easier facility maintenance.

While this project is a significant expenditure, installing turf at all four fields over the course of one summer would simplify project delivery and save money long term. And, while the municipality has a number of dedicated turf ball fields for high school boys baseball, the new turf fields at Loretta French Park would be the first dedicated turf fields for girls softball. The improvements will draw teams from all over the state and increase the facility's reputation as the state's premier ball fields.

The project will be on CERPR's Board of Supervisors agenda in January, 2025, and the ERVCC encourages the board to vote in favor of this important community project.

Sincerely,

Julie Jessen

President,

Eagle River Valley Community Council

Q.l. k. Q.__

Sarah Davenport

Sarah Davenport

Secretary,

Eagle River Valley Community Council

cc: Ruth Armstrong, ERVCC CERPR Board of Supervisors Representative

Mark Littlefield, Anchorage Assembly Scott Myers, Anchorage Assembly