

January 29, 2009

Turnagain Community Council
Board of Directors
c/o Breck Tostevin, President
3340 Knik Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517

Julianne H. Hanson, P.E.
Senior Transportation Planner
HDR One Company
2525 C Street, Suite 305
Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: Request for Input Concerning Relocation Options for the
Sisson Loop Trail on Anchorage Heritage Land Bank
Property: Environmental Assessment for Ted Stevens
Anchorage International Airport Runway 7R Extension

Dear Ms. Hanson:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Turnagain Community Council, whose boundaries include the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, I am providing comments on the two proposed alternatives for re-routing Sisson Loop Trail.

Residents of the Turnagain Community Council utilize the Anchorage Coastal Trail, the Heritage Land Bank Lands, including the Sisson Loop Trail, and the trails in Kincaid park for winter and summer recreation.

The ANC Runway 7R Extension Project Website describes two alternatives: 1) a Sisson Loop Existing Alignment Concept that includes one small area of trail relocation northwest of the proposed relocated runway safety area, and 2) a Sisson Loop Trail Re-Route Concept that would involve 7,000 feet of re-routed trail in order to avoid conflicts between FAA maintenance of the proposed Approach Lighting System towers and trail users.

Acknowledging that this is only one part of a larger Environmental Assessment that will be available for public review in the future, if the ANC Runway 7R extension project goes forward, we would support the Sisson Loop Trail Re-Route Concept in order to avoid trail user and maintenance conflicts --- provided tree clearing is minimized as part of the design of the placement of the trail and the width of the trail. We are encouraged by the statement in the Fact Sheet that the

Re-Route Concept “will avoid the mixed paper birch and white spruce forest that is the dominant plant community in the undisturbed locations in the project area.”

We encourage the Airport and its consultants to work with the Nordic Ski Club and other trail users in any future implementation of the Sisson Loop Trail Re-Route Concept. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments and your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Breck C. Tostevin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "T".

Breck C. Tostevin
TCC President

cc: Christine Klein, Deputy Commissioner,
Aviation and Airports, Acting Airport Director TSAIA
John Parrott, Airport Deputy Director, TSAIA
Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department
Municipality of Anchorage Heritage Land Bank