

Sponsored by: Assemblymembers Yundt and Gamble
Postponed to 10/01/24: 09/10/24
Amended: 10/01/24
Adopted: 10/01/24

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 24-099**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY OPPOSING
THE RELEASE OF LAND AUTHORITY ALONG THE PROPOSED ALASKA LONG TRAIL
AS IT PERTAINS TO THE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY.

WHEREAS, the proposed Alaska Long Trail would run from
Seward to Fairbanks; and

WHEREAS, approximately 100 of the 500 miles of the Alaska
Long Trail would run through the Borough; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of proposed routes for the trail
through the Borough and some are existing trails, and some are
proposed new trails; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Alaska Long Trail alignments within the
Borough utilize some existing trails that are on Borough land and
non-Borough lands where the Borough has partnerships and
agreements; and

WHEREAS, Congress has approved the Alaska Long National
Scenic Trail Feasibility Study to evaluate the trails eligibility
and inclusion as a National Scenic Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management is the federal agency
authorized to conduct the Alaska Long Trail Feasibility Study has

begun to solicit input from the public on the feasibility, suitability, and desirability of the Alaska Long National Scenic Trail and will forward the information to Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has not entered discussion with the Borough on right-of-way easements and necessary cooperative agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is committed to retaining land authority and management of Borough lands; and retain the right to exercise existing and future Borough management plans and economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough asserts jurisdiction of management of all Borough trails and uses including visitor access, visitor use, visitor modalities, land management and development along the corridor and existing and future corridor crossing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly is opposed to relinquishing authority over Borough-owned and/or operated trails and lands and opposed to over-reaching restrictions on the Alaska Long Trail within the boundaries of the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly specifically opposes the designation of the Alaska Long Trail as a National Scenic Trail on Borough-Owned land because of the use restrictions and loss of local control over the trail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly reaffirms its commitment to the Alaska Long Trail for the reasons expressed in Resolution Serial No. 21-045.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 1 day of October, 2024.


EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)



PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Hale, Nowers, McKee, Gamble, Fonov, and Bernier