

TRAAK Citizens Advisory Board

Resolution 00 -11

In Support of funding a SEATrails Planning and Community Assessments

At a meeting of the Governor's Trails and Recreational Access for Alaska (TRAAK) Citizen's Advisory Board held on the 16th of December, 2000 the following resolution was duly adopted:

Whereas: the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF), the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development, Alaska State Parks, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service (NPS) Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program are working on a Memorandum of Understanding to support planning for a regional Southeast Alaska Trail System (SEATrails);

Whereas: the SEATrails effort has been awarded a staff assistance grant from the RTCA program to help provide for teleconferencing and staff consultation over the upcoming year;

Whereas: a successful SEATrails planning effort can result in an economic boost to the Southeast region;

Whereas: it is in the interest of the ADOT&PF to deliver the best possible transportation system and related recreational support facilities for Alaska;

Whereas: SEATrails will contribute, both actually and symbolically, to encouraging independent travel to Alaska, promoting ecotourism and adventure travel in Alaska, improving Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) service to communities and villages, improving AMHS ridership, providing clean economic development opportunities locally and regionally, and improving physical and mental health;

Whereas: the broad and comprehensive assessment of potential SEATrails systems will provide good baseline data for regional trail promotion and management efforts such as a statewide Alaska Trail System;

Whereas: SEATrails will be Alaska's first long-distance, community to village to community, multi-modal corridor for cyclists, hikers, skiers, campers, kayakers, scuba-divers, wheelchair bound travelers, and people wishing to explore the cultures and communities of the region;

Whereas: an understanding of existing and needed facilities contributes to the ability of communities to dedicate scarce monetary resources towards the type of community and economic growth and infrastructure that leads to quality and sustainable community growth in transportation, land-use, trade and tourism, and

Whereas: planning and assessment of current and future needs will help identify further opportunities in TRAAK project development for communities served by SEATrails and the Alaska Marine Highway System.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the TRAAK Board requests the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Division of Statewide Planning, to commit funds for the purpose of conducting planning for community trails assessments in support of the SEATrails effort.

Adopted this 15th Day of December, 2000

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen D. Nienheuser". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Helen Nienheuser, Chairperson