

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Aderhold/Parsons

RESOLUTION 25-041

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA REQUESTING, IN THE INTEREST OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, THAT THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES MODIFY ITS CURRENT DESIGN FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THAT PORTION OF THE STERLING HIGHWAY CROSSING THE DIAMOND CREEK DRAINAGE TO INCLUDE A PEDESTRIAN UNDERPASS AND MULTI-USE PATHWAY.

WHEREAS, The City of Homer accepted ownership of the Diamond Creek Recreation Area (DCRA) in 2007 and the Homer Soil & Water Conservation District prepared a Multi-Resource Management Plan for the DCRA which was subsequently adopted by the City of Homer in May of 2013; and

WHEREAS, The DCRA management plan sets forth recreational objectives, including the development of additional recreational trails and access trail heads, including a parking area at the western most edge of the DCRA located at approximately Milepost 168.0 of the Sterling Highway; and

WHEREAS, There are existing trails and trail head parking areas on the north side of Diamond Creek located west of the Sterling Highway within the Alaska State Parks Diamond Creek State Recreation Site (DCSRS) that are heavily used by hikers and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, There exists an extensive recreational trail system within the DCRA and adjacent Department of Natural Resources (DNR) owned Homer Demonstration Forest (HDF) that is heavily used for skiing in the winter and hiking during the summer; and

WHEREAS, The DCRA provides a critical link between these parcels, complementing in essential ways the watershed functions they provide, and the public uses they support; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT/PF), over the course of the next several years, will be reconstructing the Sterling Highway from Milepost 157 to 169, Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer has worked with Homer Trails Alliance, Happy Trails, LLC, and Kinney Engineering, to develop a plan to connect these parcels through a proposed pedestrian underpass; and

WHEREAS, These studies have concluded that the safest and most practical route to connect these parcels lies within the Sterling Highway Right of Way; and

WHEREAS, Reconstruction of the Sterling Highway across the Diamond Creek drainage, approximately milepost 167.5 to 168.0, provides an opportunity to develop a pedestrian underpass, providing an interconnecting trail link that is safe, reliable, and is an opportunity that will not present itself again for many decades.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska hereby requests, in the interest of pedestrian safety, that the Department of Transportation modify its current design for reconstruction of that portion of the Sterling Highway crossing the Diamond Creek Drainage to include a pedestrian underpass and multi-use pathway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, requests the AKDOT/PF modify its current design to include the construction of an interconnecting pathway from the existing trail system within the DCSRS north of Diamond Creek on the west side of the Sterling Highway to the proposed "Green Timbers" trailhead parking area located at Milepost 168.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of Homer, Alaska requests the City Manager to work diligently with the AKDOT/PF to accomplish the construction of the pedestrian underpass and interconnecting pathway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of Homer, Alaska provides the City Manager the authority to enter into an agreement with AKDOT/PF, if necessary, for the maintenance of the associated pathway excluding the pedestrian underpass.

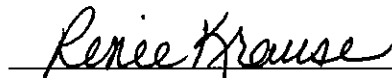
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 28th day of April, 2025.

CITY OF HOMER



RACHEL LORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:



RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal information: NA

