



**Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska
Parks & Recreation Commission**

632 W. 6th Avenue, Suite 630
P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, AK 99519



**PRC RES NO. 2023-02
RUSSIAN JACK SPRINGS PARK SINGLETRACK TRAILS**

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission serves in an advisory capacity to both the Mayor and the Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission has the responsibility and duty to provide for the long-term vision of our park system by ensuring that a balance of parks, natural resources, and recreation facilities provides for the health, welfare, and safety of all residents of the Anchorage Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Russian Jack Springs Park is a 324-acre Special Use park that serves the year-round recreation needs of nearby residents and the Anchorage community at large; and

WHEREAS, the *Russian Jack Springs Park Master Plan* was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission in 2022 and recommends the development of new singletrack trails in north Russian Jack Springs Park in the area formerly used as a Girls Scouts day camp; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Trails, in partnership with Anchorage Parks and Recreation proposes to plan, fund, design, construct and maintain 3.1 miles of singletrack mountain bike trails in north Russian Jack Springs Park; and

WHEREAS, the proposed singletrack trail system will provide beginner and intermediate trails as well as skill-building features for mountain bikers, will include wayfinding and signage, is designed to minimize impacts to the natural environment and wildlife, and will be compatible with the existing Nordic ski trails in north Russian Jack Springs Park; and

WHEREAS, the location of singletrack trails in north Russian Jack Springs Park balances the community's desire for new trails with the preservation of sensitive natural areas in south Russian Jack Springs Park, and will use existing social trails where possible; and

WHEREAS, singletrack trails will bring a popular type of recreation to East Anchorage, making mountain biking more accessible to youth and thousands of nearby residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements were presented to the Northeast, Russian Jack, University Area and Airport Heights Community Councils and have received numerous community council resolutions and letters of support from user groups and state legislators; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission approves the proposal for Singletrack Trails at Russian Jack Springs Park as submitted by the Parks and Recreation Department.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission this 9th day of February, 2023.



Chair
Parks and Recreation Commission

ATTEST:



Mike Braniff, Director
Parks & Recreation Department