

**Denali Borough, Alaska
Planning Commission**

Resolution No. PC 15-01

A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE MULTI-USE PATHS ALONG THE PARKS HIGHWAY IN DENALI BOROUGH ESPECIALLY IN CONGESTED AREAS AND THOSE AREAS HEAVILY USED BY TOURISTS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, The Denali Borough Planning Commission and the Denali Borough Assembly have passed resolutions in support of multi-use paths along the Parks Highway Corridor and the National Park Service has included multi-use paths in their planning efforts, the community of Healy through several local groups and organizations have requested multi-use paths in the Healy Area, and the community of Cantwell and the Village of Cantwell have requested multi-use paths through their communities; and

WHEREAS, These communities are continuing to grow and expand, the need for these paths is even more acute than it has been in the past to ensure public safety; and

WHEREAS, The Denali Borough Planning Commission would like to reiterate three areas that are a priority within the Denali Borough:

1. The area between Junco Creek and MP 230 along the Parks Highway is of prime concern. A multi-use path already exists from Junco Creek to Riley Creek. The new bridge at Riley Creek will have wide shoulders, which could accommodate a path on either side. The area between this bridge and the railroad crossing approximately 2 mile to the south has an old roadbed, from the 1960's, east of the Parks Highway. This old road bed could be used as a multi-use path and keep hikers and bicyclists further separated from the highway thereby improving the quality of the trail and keeping this traffic from crossing the railroad. There is then a 2-3 mile section where the path could be placed on the highway ROW. At MP232 there is an old highway roadbed from the 1970's that could connect with the new proposed pedestrian bridge at McKinley Village and then continue south on the old Parks Highway alignment to MP230. This would provide approximately 8 miles of multi-use path in an area with a high degree of use by local residents and tourists. This would provide a mostly off highway path for non-motorized traffic and connect to existing trails inside Denali National Park. This would also greatly increase public safety.

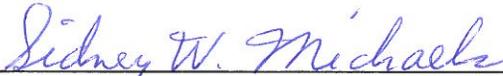
2. Healy needs a multi-use path from the Stampede Road turn off to the Otto Lake Road turn off as it passes through the community of Healy. With the

recent increase of seasonal employee housing in the area of the Healy Spur Road turn off, this path is in dire need, as most of the employees are without transportation and cross the highway on foot, walk along and on the Parks Highway everyday at all times of the day and night. The Denali Borough Assembly has formed an ad-hoc committee to address the safety issues in this area. This report should be forth coming.

3. Cantwell needs at least a multi-use path along the parks Highway as it passes through the community and the Village of Cantwell. There is a lot of foot traffic along and on the highway shoulders and students walk to school during poor light conditions during the winter months. The highway ROW could be used for this multi-use path.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Denali Borough Planning Commission strongly encourages and supports any efforts DOT can make to help implement these multi-use paths in Denali Borough.

PASSED and PPROVED by the Denali Borough Planning Commission this 17th day of February, 2015.



Sidney MICHAELS, Presiding-Officer

ATTEST: 

Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk

VOTE: YEA: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
ABSENT: TENCH

