CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
RESOLUTION CY15-24

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUATION OF ORV ACCESS TO THE "PROUTY DITCH" TRAIL, WEST OF THE GOOD RIVER ROAD TERMINUS

WHEREAS, the "Prouty ditch" trail, west of the Good River road terminus, has been used for years for vehicular access to approach more closely moose hunting areas in the vicinity, and

WHEREAS, the immediate proximity of private lands flanking the trail, and a ditch transecting the trail, restrict legal and feasible access for motorized vehicles to a narrow strip containing the trail, extending for approximately 1000 feet westward from the road terminus, and

WHEREAS, it is difficult or impossible for a truck or other road vehicles to turn around legally in this constrained corridor, while smaller off-road vehicles (ORVs) can legally perform this maneuver, and

WHEREAS, recent residential development adjacent to the trail accentuates the need to recognize private land constraints, and

WHEREAS, fish passage improvements for the "Prouty ditch" stream, a project of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, are planned to include replacement of the culvert and its associated (presently eroding) stream crossing, which has allowed vehicular access to the trail, and

WHEREAS, fish passage improvement plans entail constructing a small bridge crossing the "Prouty ditch" stream just wide enough to accommodate ORVs but not larger vehicles, and

WHEREAS, the USFWS plan envisions allowing small ORV access to the "Prouty ditch" trail only for handicapped permittees, and

WHEREAS, the small amount of recent and likely future ORV use of the "Prouty ditch" trail by all types of users, handicapped and otherwise, is unlikely to have appreciable adverse social or environmental impacts on this already-hardened trail,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that plans for fish passage improvements be revised to accommodate small ORV access to the "Prouty ditch" trail for all users operating lawfully.

PASSED and **APPROVED** the 11th day of August, 2015, and effective upon its adoption.

Mike Taylor, Mayor

Attest: Lori Ewing, City Clerk