

Presented by: The Manager
Presented: 09/06/2023
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 3034

A Resolution Asking the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to Make Immediate and Substantial Improvements to the Intersection of Egan Drive and Yandukin Drive in Juneau, Alaska (aka the Fred Meyer Intersection) to Prevent Further Serious Traffic Accidents.

WHEREAS, the intersection of Egan Drive and Yandukin Drive in Juneau, Alaska (known locally as the Fred Meyer intersection) is the scene of many traffic collisions; and

WHEREAS, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) statistics show that from 2013-2022, there were thirteen collisions with suspected minor injuries and four with suspected serious injuries at that intersection; and

WHEREAS, a recent accident at the intersection resulted in one fatality and multiple other vehicle passengers being medevacked to Seattle with serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, the northbound section of Egan Drive leading up to the Fred Meyer intersection is a mile of straight highway and the highway design encourages motorists to exceed the speed limit; and

WHEREAS, the northbound lanes of Egan Drive lack horizontal or vertical curvature which may make it very difficult for southbound turning vehicles to judge depth perception and this may lead to an unnecessary number of accidents; and

WHEREAS, a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study examining potential safety improvements to this intersection was concluded in August of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the PEL study identified a partial access signalized intersection with a protected pedestrian crossing and Glacier Lemon Spur extension as the recommended alternative to improve transportation safety for all users; and

WHEREAS, because implementing any recommended alternative from the PEL could take several years, the project team identified an immediate need to improve safety as quickly as possible and developed a set of low-cost, effective treatments to improve safety that could be implemented through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP); and

43 WHEREAS, DOT&PF awarded an HSIP project to SECON in April 2023, with a
44 completion date set for October 31, 2023; and

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46 WHEREAS, that project would decrease the Egan Drive speed limit to 45 miles per hour
47 during the darkest months of the year and improve delineation at the intersection; and

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49 WHEREAS, the recent accident occurred in broad daylight in the summer, which makes
50 it clear that the HSIP project can only serve as a temporary fix; and

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52 WHEREAS, implementation of these near-term improvements does not negate the need
53 for substantial improvements to the intersection.

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55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF
56 JUNEAU, ALASKA:

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58 **Section 1. Implementation of Immediate and Substantial Improvements to the**
59 **Intersection of Egan Drive and Yandukin Drive Intersection.** The City and Borough
60 of Juneau Assembly strongly encourages the Alaska Department of Transportation and
61 Public Facilities to identify project funding in the 2024-2027 Statewide Transportation
62 Improvement Plan to design and construct safety improvements identified in the Planning
63 and Environmental Linkages Study including a signalized intersection with a protected
64 pedestrian crossing and Glacier Lemon Spur extension.

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66 **Section 2.** This resolution shall be distributed to the Commissioner of the Alaska
67 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the Juneau State Legislative
68 Delegation for the State of Alaska, and submitted as public comment on the 2024-2027
69 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

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71 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This resolution shall be effective immediately after its
72 adoption.

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74 Adopted this _____ day of _____ 2023.

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Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

78 Attest:
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81 _____
82 Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk