

**RESOLUTION NO. 4968**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO TITLE 13  
OF THE ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO ALLOW USE OF ATVs  
AND SNOWMOBILES ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety has proposed regulation changes to allow the use of ATVs and snowmobiles on roadways; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed regulation changes have raised some significant public safety and administrative concerns with the City of Fairbanks; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Administration sent a letter on April 5, 2021, to the Director of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers expressing concern with the proposed changes; and

**WHEREAS**, ATVs and similar vehicles are not equipped with sufficient safety equipment, including personal restraints and adequate directional lighting to be used on City streets; and

**WHEREAS**, snow removal operations use large equipment such as graders, blowers, and dump trucks, which can be hazardous to motorists who follow too closely or who try to overtake equipment, and there is a public safety concern for those travelling on smaller vehicles such as ATVs and snowmobiles on City streets; and

**WHEREAS**, drivers of ATVs and snowmobiles may not be accustomed to following normal traffic laws, which may increase traffic violations and accidents on City streets, and more traffic and parking enforcement will be needed; and

**WHEREAS**, if ATVs and snowmobiles are allowed to operate on City streets, the vehicles should be registered and insured like other vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, Fairbanks is a northern city that has in recent years strongly promoted winter tourism; and

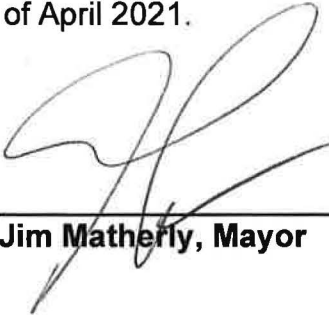
**WHEREAS**, snow machines are an integral part of winter in Fairbanks; and

**WHEREAS**, while the City has concerns regarding the State's proposed changes to Title 13 as currently written, the City supports the concept of increased use of snow machines in the winter, especially on designated routes that would encourage access to local businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the same holds true for the use of off-highway vehicles during the summer on designated routes that would encourage access to local businesses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fairbanks City Council opposes the changes currently proposed to Title 13 of the Alaska Administrative Code to allow use of ATVs and snowmobiles on public roadways and encourages the State of Alaska to allow maximum local control over any proposed rules involving the use of ATVs and snowmobiles on public roadways.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 26th day of April 2021.



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**Jim Matherly, Mayor**

AYES: Gibson, Marney, Rogers, Kun, Therrien, Clark  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
APPROVED: April 26, 2021

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk



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Paul Ewers, City Attorney