



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, American Hiking Society's National Trails Day is a celebration of America's magnificent trail system, occurring annually on the first Saturday in June and is a day of public events aimed at advocacy and trail service when thousands of hikers, bikers, rowers, horseback riders, trail clubs, federal and local agencies, land trusts, and businesses come together in partnership to advocate for, maintain, and clean up public lands and trails; and

WHEREAS, National Trails Day unites the trails community by connecting more people to trails and public lands with the goals of improving the trails and places we love, sustaining America's remarkable trails system, and preserving beloved trails for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Valdez Adventure Alliance supports recreational and stewardship events, and annually hosts a National Trails Day volunteer event, and that this event for 2020 has been modified to meet COVID-19 restrictions and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, we recognize trails in Valdez as an important community resource for the enjoyment and physical and mental well-being of Valdez citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation's Recreational Trails Program provides reimbursable, matching funds to develop and repair recreational trails and trail-related facilities; and the Outdoor Recreational Trails Advisory Board is responsible for reviewing and recommending funding for the Recreational Trails Program; and Valdez Adventure Alliance did submit an application for said funding with a Letter of Support from the Valdez City Council; and Valdez Adventure Alliance has been awarded a \$48,000 Recreational Trails Program grant to be used for trail surface improvements for 1,500 feet of Shoup Bay Trail during summer of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Valdez Adventure Alliance is commended for their efforts in support of our community trails and we offer our congratulations on the award of the Recreational Trails Program grant for 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeremy O'Neil, Mayor of the City of Valdez, do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 6, 2020, as

Trails Day

in Valdez, and encourage all citizens, even while social distancing, to support the nationwide movement and commit to taking at least one action in 2020 to preserve trails and fight for equitable access to quality green space.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

ATTEST:

Jeremy O'Neil, Mayor

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk