



Legislation Text

File #: 18-0064, **Version:** 1

ITEM TITLE:

Approve Recommendation and Review/Approve Letter that will be Submitted to City Council for Purchase of 120 Acres of UAA Land Located along Mineral Creek Road, Identified as Portions of USS 698 and USS 687.

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Nylund, Senior Planner/GIS Technician & Marcie Robertson, PRCS Acting Director

FISCAL NOTES:

Expenditure Required: \$186,000

Unencumbered Balance: \$186,000

Funding Source: Land Development Reserve Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a Recommendation and Letter to City Council for Purchase of 120 Acres of UAA Land Located along Mineral Creek Road, Identified as Portions of USS 698 and USS 687.

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The City of Valdez has recently been made aware of the University of Alaska's desire to sell some of their property within the boundaries of Valdez. The 120 acres that the City is looking to purchase consists of two adjacent parcels located alongside Mineral Creek, north of the main Valdez town site (see attached map).

A significant portion of the City of Valdez's Mineral Creek ski trails are located on these parcels. The City has maintained a Land Use Permit with UAA for the use and maintenance of these trails since 1993. This is a 5 year permit, with a cost of \$500 per renewal, and offers no guarantee that the permit will not be revoked or the land sold to a private entity (see attached UAA-posting).

The purchase of this property, and the continued maintenance and use of these trails is consistent with the City of Valdez Comprehensive Plan's overall goal - to create an atmosphere that will encourage stable economic development in Valdez while enhancing the quality of life. Improvements should be made to all elements that give the community its' character. This would include enhancing the economic productivity and diversification of the region to assure continued economic prosperity; providing for public safety and the economic welfare of the community when siting future industrial,

commercial, residential, and public land uses; enhancing the scenic beauty, uniqueness and historic significance of the Valdez area.

The purchase of this land is also consistent with the Comprehensive Plan's goal - Community Facilities and Services: Provide for the maximum range of community services and facilities in appropriate locations consistent with the community's desire and ability to fund these.