



MID-HILLSIDE and HILLSIDE EAST COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Mid-Hillside Board

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Hillside East Board

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

Regarding Context Sensitive Design for Road Projects

April 15, 2004

Resolved that: Whereas the citizens of the Municipality/State have found their ability to participate in and influence the planning functions of the Municipality and the State to be inadequate, we request that the Mayor/Governor adopt the following policy and require that MOA/State planning organizations adhere to it:

New Executive Order for Context Sensitive Solutions

- This new Executive Order directs MOA /SOA employees to implement Context Sensitive Solutions tools on all department projects.

Context Sensitive Solutions

Context Sensitive Solutions is a model for transportation project development that has recently received much discussion and broad acceptance. Its essence is that a proposed transportation project must be planned not only for its physical aspects as a facility serving specific transportation objectives, but also for its effects on the aesthetic, social, economic and environmental values, needs, constraints and opportunities in a larger community setting. MOA/SOA endorses the Context Sensitive Solutions approach for all projects, large and small, from early planning through construction and eventual operation.

This means that MOA/SOA employees working on projects and facilities should:

- Engage from the project's inception with representatives of affected communities, including elected and appointed officials and a widely representative array of interested citizens.
- Assure that transportation objectives of projects are clearly described and discussed with local communities in a process that encourages reciprocal communication about local views and needs in the overall project setting.
- Pay attention to and address community and citizen concerns.
- Ensure the project is a safe facility for both the user and the community.
- Context Sensitive Solutions is a process that places a high value on seeking and, if possible, achieving consensus. MOA's belief is that consensus is highly advantageous to all parties and may help avoid delay and other costly obstacles to project implementation.

This resolution was approved at the combined general meeting of the Mid-Hillside and Hillside East Community Councils on April 15, 2004. The meeting was advertised through the newsletter, the Councils' website and in the Anchorage Daily News. MHCC passed the motion, as presented, with 3 in favor and 1 opposed, while Hillside East passed it with 2 in favor and 1 opposed.
