Spring 4-25-2018

SB42-17/18 Resolution Regarding Parking Accessibility Mount Sentinel Trailhead

Kaden Harrison
The Associated Students of the University of Montana

Resolution Regarding Parking Accessibility Mount Sentinel Trailhead

April 25, 2018

SB-42

Authored by: Kaden Harrison, SAL;
Sponsored by: Colin Milton, ASUM Senator; Mariah Welch, ASUM Senator; Bailey Carpenter, ASUM Senator; Alex Butler, ASUM Senator; Mollie Lemm, ASUM Senator;
Abigail Belcher, ASUM Senator; Henry Curtis, ASUM Senator;

Whereas, Mount Sentinel and its hiking trails are an iconic public resource enjoyed by the entire Missoula community;
Whereas, Access to the trailhead should be available to the entire Missoula community;
Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) owns the parking lot at the base of the M-Trail, one of the most popular access points of the Mount Sentinel trail system;
Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) owns and is responsible for maintaining Mount Sentinel’s trail system as well as its surrounding lands;
Whereas, Each of these five parking spaces limits the maximum hiking time of any community member to 60 minutes;
Whereas, According to the University’s website, on average over 1,000 people hike the M Trail each day;
Whereas, Allocating only five community parking spaces is not sufficient to accommodate Missoula’s over 72,000 residents, as well as those perspective students and their families who wish to hike the trails;
Whereas, The M-Trailhead parking lot is mostly vacant during the summer and winter months, according to the University’s Parking and Transportation Demand Management Plan;
Whereas, 60 minutes is not a sufficient amount of time for most who wish to enjoy a multitude of Mount Sentinel’s hiking trails or for some of the elderly, physically disabled, and those accompanied by small children;
Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) urges the University of Montana Police Department (UMPD) to increase the number of community parking spots to allow greater community access to one of Missoula’s and UM’s most iconic public resources;
Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, ASUM urges UMPD to increase the maximum time limit for each community space to allow sufficient time for everyone to enjoy the variety of trails that Mount Sentinel has to offer;
Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, ASUM urges UMPD to install a suggested donation parking meter, with all generated revenue being allocated to maintaining the Mount Sentinel’s trails and surrounding wild lands;

Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, ASUM urges ASUM to open up the M-Trailhead parking lot as a whole the public over summer;

Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, This resolution be sent to: Marty Ludemann, Chief of University of Montana Police Department; Michelle Harshbarger, UMPD Parking Division; Rosi Keller, VP Admin & Finances; Marilyn Marler, Facility Services.

Passed by Committee: __________________________, 2018

Passed by ASUM Senate: __________________________, 2018

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Connor Fitzpatrick,
Chair of Relations and Affairs

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Brenna Love,
Chair of the Senate