

By: Peggy Horton  
Introduced: August 5, 2024  
Public Hearing: August 19, 2024  
Action: Adopted

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 24-18**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE WITHIN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AS MOUNT CAROLA, LOCATED WITHIN TOWNSHIP 31 NORTH, RANGE 17 WEST, SECTION 30, SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA.

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WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Department received a request for comments from the Alaska Historical Commission regarding a proposal to make official the name Mount Carola for an unnamed geographic feature in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission is designated by statute as the Geographic Names Board for the State of Alaska. The commission coordinates the program to name physical features in the State with the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission is tasked with acting for the assembly in matters of naming geographic features; and

WHEREAS, the feature is an unnamed mountain located within Denali National Park & Preserve, lying between Ruth Glacier and Tokasitna Glacier, approximately 11 miles north of Petersville, and 14 miles west of milepost 140 North Parks Highway; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes the location of the mountain, the proposed name, biographical information, pictures, and letters of endorsement from the Talkeetna Historical Society and Museum, the Alaska Miners Association, and Bob Loeffler, former director of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Mount Carola is a commemorative name for a miner and pioneer woman of Alaska, Carola "Carol" J. Young, who lived from 1936 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young came to Alaska in 1956 and moved to Talkeetna in 1967; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young helped establish the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3836 in Talkeetna, Alaska, after her husband passed away in March 1970 while on active duty with the Tactical Air Command; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young and her mother purchased and renovated the Fairview Inn in Talkeetna, operating it from 1971 to 1978; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young served 23 years as president of the Yentna Mining District in Petersville after moving there in 1978; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young was a member of the Alaska Miners Association for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young was appointed to serve on the South Denali Development Steering Committee representing the Yentna miners; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, Carola Young was instrumental in establishing SnowTRAC, an advisory council responsible for reviewing and recommending funding for the State of Alaska Snowmobile Trails Program; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal, the mountain that would bear her name overlooks the Cache Creek area, where she lived and mined for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal and the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), the mountain peak is unnamed; and

WHEREAS, in support of the United States BGN, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) maintains the Federal authoritative source of official geographic feature names, known as the GNIS; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal and the GNIS, the mountain peak is currently unnamed; and

WHEREAS, according to the proposal and the GNIS, no conflict is reported with the recommended name; and

WHEREAS, a search of the GNIS revealed no duplicates for any other geographic feature in the borough, considering both spelling and pronunciation; and

WHEREAS, testimony or comments are provided to the Planning Commission for consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on August 19, 2024, on this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Historical Preservation Commission (HPC) is tasked to advise the assembly in identifying, protecting, preserving, and interpreting cultural resources within the borough that are of archaeological, historical, cultural, scientific, or geographic importance; and

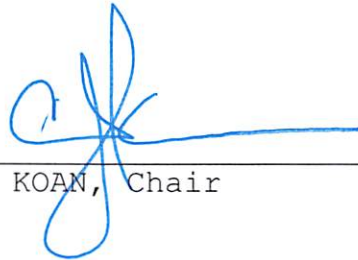
WHEREAS, the HPC held a public meeting on August 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the HPC adopted Resolution 24-01, recommending the subject mountain be named Mount Carola, in commemoration of Carola "Carol" J. Young; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed this application with respect to the standards and procedures for the Borough to comment on such proposals set forth in MSB 15.04.025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission, acting for the Assembly, recommends the approval of the proposed name Mount Carola for an unnamed mountain peak in the Denali National Park and Preserve, located between Ruth Glacier and Tokasitna Glacier, north of Petersville.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission on this 19TH day of August 2024.



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CJ KOAN, Chair

ATTEST



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LACIE OLIVIERI, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)



yes: UNANIMOUS

no: