

Correspondence



RABBIT CREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL (RCCC) A Forum for Respectful Communication & Community Relations



1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100 / Anchorage, AK 99503

Heritage Land Bank Commission
Municipality of Anchorage
P.O. Box 195560
Anchorage, AK 99519

September 29, 2022

Dear Heritage Land Bank Commission –

Rachel Bernhardt of Alaska Natural Burial presented their proposal for a natural burial cemetery project to the Rabbit Creek Community Council (RCCC) at our June 9th and September 8th monthly meetings. The site for this proposal is an approximately 10-acre tract of Heritage Land Bank (HLB) property, 2-156, immediately west of Goldenview Drive and Moen Park, wholly within the RCCC area.

RCCC members had the opportunity to ask questions of Ms. Bernhardt, the petitioner, and discuss the project at the June and September meetings. Issues of concern included the depth of burials, embalming (there will not be any), parking (can be shared with nearby Moen Park), signage, and occasional shallow bedrock in HLB parcel 2-156. Ms. Bernhardt answered all of our questions.

We appreciate that the project proposal has incorporated suggestions from our June meeting (e.g., incorporating a GeoGrid-type material under a gravel driveway). Moreover, the proposal provides a positive approach to overcome Anchorage's limited existing cemetery space, while ensuring continued public use of trails, open space, and the natural setting. This use also ensures future watershed and habitat protection for nearby Potter Marsh, one of the most-visited wildlife areas in the Anchorage Bowl.

RCCC members voted to support the Alaska Natural Burial Cemetery project as it is being proposed for HLB parcel 2-156 by a vote of 16 yeas and 2 nays, with no one abstaining.

Sincerely,

Ann Rappoport, Co-chair

Michelle Turner, Co-chair

cc: Rachel Bernhardt, AK Natural Burial
Emma Giboney, Heritage Land Bank