The Associated Students of the University of Montana

Resolution Regarding Parking Accessibility Mount Sentinel Trailhead

April 25, 2018

SB42-17/18

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 part of the Missoula community;

Whereas, Mount Sentinel and its hiking trails are a public resource enjoyed by the entire Missoula community;

Whereas, Access to the trailhead should be available to the Missoula community;

Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) owns and maintains the parking lot at the base of the M-Trail, one of the most popular access points of the Mount Sentinel trail system;

Whereas, There are currently only four parking spaces dedicated for community members and those without UM parking passes who seek to hike the M;

Whereas, Each of these four parking spaces limits the maximum hiking time of any community member to 60 minutes;

Whereas, According the the University’s own website, on average over 1,000 people hike the M Trail each day;

Whereas, Allocating only four 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, 60 minutes is not a sufficient amount of time for most who wish to enjoy a multitude of Mount Sentinel’s hiking trails;

Whereas, 60 minutes is not a sufficient amount of time for many people to hike the M, including the elderly, those with physical disabilities, and those accompanied by small children;

Therefore, 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, 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 Be Resolved, This resolution be sent to: Marty Ludemann, Chief of University of Montana Police Department; Michelle Harshbarger, UMPD Parking Division;

Passed by Committee: __________________________, 2018

Passed by ASUM Senate: __________________________, 2018

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Connor Fitzpatrick, Chair of Relations and Affairs

Brenna Love, Chair of the Senate