



Balto Seppala Park

3360 Wisconsin St

Park History

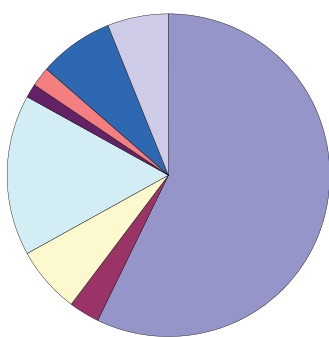
This parkland was purchased in 1978, and the Turnagain Community council held a contest to name the park. It was named Balto, or "overcoat", after Leonard Seppala's dog Balto, who was a sled dog in the teams who ran diphtheria serum to Nome in the run that inspired the Iditarod Race. In 1982, the Parks & Recreation Department worked with the community to develop a master plan for this site. In 1986, the bog area of the park was filled in by a contractor. In 1995, the Kiwanis Club of Anchorage raised money to build a playground.

Neighborhood Statistics*

Population: 5,053

Percent of Population under age 18: 23.6%

Ethnic Composition:



*2010 Census Data

Park Facilities & Equipment

- Picnic tables
- Play equipment for 2-5 year olds
- Sledding hill
- Two soccer fields
- Portable restrooms available from May through August
- The Forestry Council placed a tree demonstration project in the park to test what trees would be appropriate to plant near right-of-ways
- Wisconsin parking lot, Milky Way Drive parking lot



COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Mayor Dan Sullivan
mayor@muni.org

Turnagain Community Council
Cathy Gleason, President
tccpresident@yahoo.com

Assembly District 3
Ernie Hall - halle@muni.org
Harriet Drummond - harrietdrummond@alaska.com

Alaska State Legislative District 26M
Representative Lindsey Holmes
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REPORT CARD ON PARKS: Balto Seppala Park 2011

Report Card Background

The Anchorage Parks Report Card utilized community volunteers to create a comprehensive picture of the condition of our parks, reflecting the Anchorage community's opinions, preferences and ideas. Anchorage citizens along with Anchorage Parks and Recreation staff evaluated 38 parks based on 6 different settings. Parks were surveyed based on cleanliness, safety, structure, appearance, and function. Anchorage Parks and Recreation staff will use this information to strategically employ its funding and volunteer resources to better meet the needs of the Anchorage community.

OVERALL GRADE

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Active Recreation Areas

55

Green Spaces

55

Park Entry

60

Passive Recreation Areas

42

Pathways

75

Playgrounds

43

Scores were calculated on a 100 point scale

Balto Seppala Park Findings

Wooden picnic tables and benches are chipped and badly in need of a fresh coat of paint. The playground is covered in graffiti. The fields need to be re-seeded in many areas.

Fix It List

- Install a park shelter
- Install another dog station at south parking lot
- Create a formal pathway between Milky Way and W. 33rd Ave. for kids going to and from Turnagain Elementary School
- Re-paint bollards in east parking lot
- Wooden trash can enclosure is rotting - replace
- Re-paint wooden picnic tables



Play equipment needs to be re-painted to cover graffiti



Picnic tables and benches need to be re-painted

For a complete directory of Report Card results for neighborhood parks, go to www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org/projects/reportcard.htm

The Anchorage Park Foundation developed the Anchorage Parks Report Card in partnership with the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at Indiana University, and community volunteers, thanks to a generous grant from the Rasmuson Foundation. The APF has raised over \$18 million dollars since 2004 to improve public parks, trail and recreation areas. To make a contribution or volunteer, please visit us at: