

# Anchorage Park Foundation 2008

AnchorageParkFoundation.org



## HARVARD PARK

711 E. Loop Road

### Park History

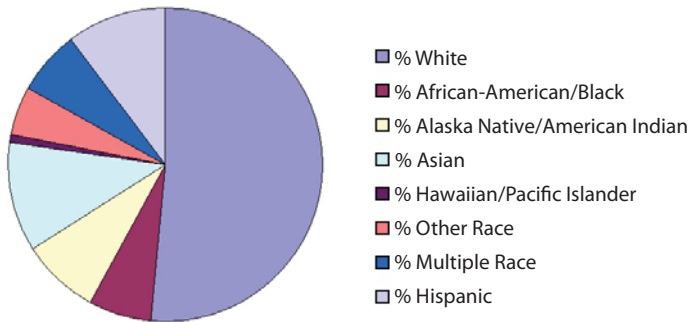
This park was leased from the Alaska Railroad (Department of Interior) in 1961 with a 40-year lease. The park includes two buildings: the first is the old Alaska Railroad Club building located on Mystic Way, which is currently operated by the Anchorage Curling Club. The second building is operated by the Square Dance Club.



### Neighborhood Statistics\*

Population: 1,947  
 Percent of Population under age 19: 25.6%  
 Rate of referrals to Dept. of Juvenile Justice: Low

Ethnic Composition:



\*2000 Census Data

### Park Facilities & Equipment

- 4.65 acres
- Two tennis courts
- Basketball courts
- Curling clubhouse
- Square dance center
- Community Adopt-a-Garden
- Parking lot with 100 spaces



### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Mayor Mark Begich  
 BegichMP@muni.org

Northwest Park District Manager  
 Jeff Matthis  
 MatthisJD@muni.org

Government Hill Community Council  
 Julie Jessal, Chair - juliejessal@gci.net

Assembly District 1  
 Patrick Flynn - flynnpp@muni.org

Alaska State Legislative District 23L  
 Representative Les Gara  
 Rep\_Les\_Gara@legis.state.ak.us  
 Senator Johnny Ellis  
 Senator\_Johnny\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us

# Park Profile



# REPORT CARD ON PARKS: HARVARD PARK 2008

## Report Card Background

The Anchorage Parks Report Card utilized community volunteers to create a comprehensive picture of the condition of our neighborhood parks, reflecting the Anchorage community's opinions, preferences and ideas. Almost 1,000 citizens along with APRD staff evaluated 53 neighborhood parks based on 6 different settings. Parks were surveyed based on cleanliness, safety, structure, appearance, and function. APRD will use this information to strategically employ its funding and volunteer resources to better meet the needs of the Anchorage community.

### OVERALL GRADE

C-

Active Recreation Areas

65

Green Spaces

69

Park Entry

74

Passive Recreation Areas

68

Pathways

79

Playgrounds

N/A

Scores were calculated on a 100 point scale

## Harvard Park Findings

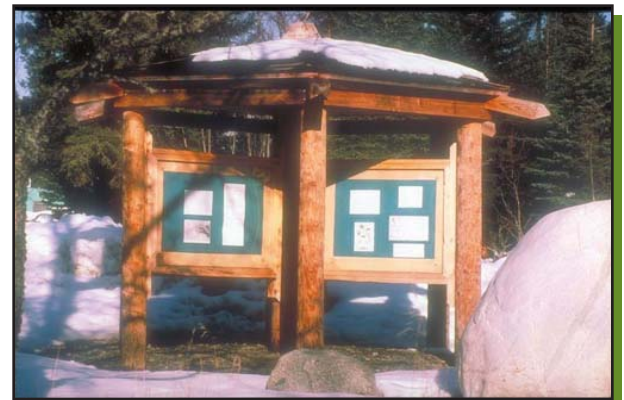
Report Card participants in Harvard Park were concerned about poor conditions in the active recreation areas, including cracked asphalt and missing nets. Community members also reported unsafe activities in the park, which are contributed to by poor visibility into the park. Other concerns included inadequate dog stations, trash cans or informational signs.



Neighbors expressed concerns about limited visibility

## Fix It List

- Add improvements to landscaped areas; reseed and fertilize bare patches in turf
- Trim trees and brush to improve safety sight lines
- Repair surface of basketball and tennis courts; replace hoops and nets
- Evaluate quantity of trash cans and determine if more are needed; if so, install additional trash cans
- Add interpretive signs regarding historic features in park
- Establish appropriate location and install dog station
- Work with community to address unsafe activities in park



Users requested additional signage about historic features within Harvard Park

For a complete directory of Report Card results for neighborhood parks, go to [www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org/projects/reportcard.htm](http://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 \$15 million dollars since 2004 to improve public parks, trail and recreation areas. To make a contribution or volunteer, please visit us at: