

Anchorage Park Foundation 2008

AnchorageParkFoundation.org



SUZAN NIGHTINGALE MCKAY PARK

201 West Cook Avenue

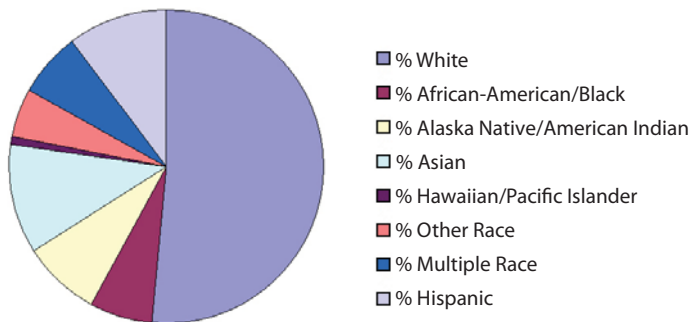
Park History

This parkland was acquired by Federal Patent in 1954, and originally called McKinley View Park. In 1993, the playground was developed through donations and volunteer efforts, and in 1994, the park was expanded with additional land and play equipment. In 1997, the community requested permission to rename the park after Suzan Nightingale McKay, a writer, journalist and teacher who passed away in 1996. New equipment was added to the park in 2003.

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

- 1.36 acres
- Play equipment for 2-5 year olds
- Play equipment for 5- 12 year olds
- Picnic tables and benches
- Sydney Laurence Monument
- On-street parking



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: SUZAN NIGHTINGALE MCKAY 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

B+

Active Recreation Areas

87

Green Spaces

93

Park Entry

91

Passive Recreation Areas

92

Pathways

79

Playgrounds

80

Scores were calculated on a 100 point scale

Suzan Nightingale McKay Park Findings

Report Card participants in Suzan Nightingale McKay Park identified overgrown trees and brush blocking scenic views as well as trails through the park. Additionally, repairs are needed in the play area, where there is broken equipment, loose safety matting and insufficient sand. Finally, participants noted that the dog station is not accessible to all park users.



The neighborhood is concerned about visibility within the park

Fix It List

- Repair or replace safety surface material in play area and replenish sand
- Remove and replace broken equipment in play area
- Trim trees and brush to restore scenic views and safety sight lines
- Improve paved trails by repairing asphalt and trimming overgrown shrubs
- Evaluate quantity of trash cans and determine if more are needed; if so, install additional trash cans
- Install additional dog station on east end of park



Additional dog stations are needed for park users

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 \$15 million dollars since 2004 to improve public parks, trail and recreation areas. To make a contribution or volunteer, please visit us at: