

# Anchorage Park Foundation 2008

AnchorageParkFoundation.org



## WILLAWAW PARK

1300 Bliss Street

### Park History

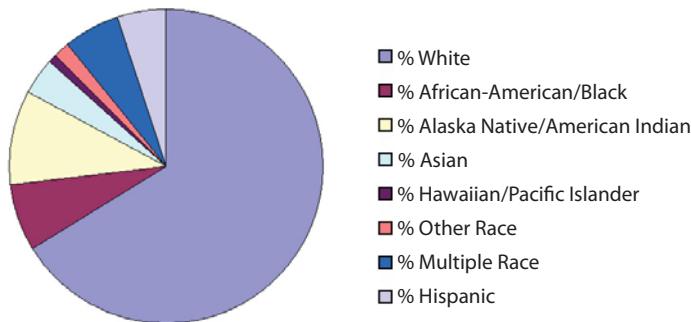
A "williwaw" is a violent gust of cold wind blowing seaward from a mountainous coast or a squall.

This property was transferred from the Heritage Land Bank to the Parks & Recreation Department as parkland in 1998. The property was intended for use as a Little League ball field. The ball field and a small playground were developed in 2003. Neighbors installed new play equipment with an Anchorage Park Foundation Challenge Grant in 2006.

### Neighborhood Statistics\*

Population: 24,262  
 Percent of Population under age 19: 32.9%  
 Rate of referrals to Dept. of Juvenile Justice: High

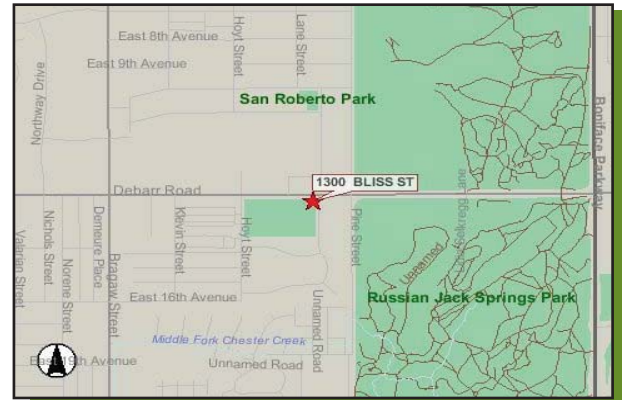
Ethnic Composition:



\*2000 Census Data

### Park Facilities & Equipment

- 8.5 acres
- Accessible play equipment for 5-12 year olds
- Accessible play equipment for 2-5 year olds
- Little League ball field
- Parking lot with 21 spaces



### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Mayor Mark Begich  
 BegichMP@muni.org

Northeast Park District Manager  
 Teri Peters  
 PetersTW@muni.org

Russian Jack Community Council  
 Ed Leach, Chair - eleach@gci.net

Assembly District 5  
 Sheila Selkregg - sheilaselkregg@gmail.com  
 Mike Gutierrez - GutierrezM@muni.org

Alaska State Legislative District 22K  
 Representative Sharon Cissna  
 Rep\_Sharon\_Cissna@legis.state.ak.us  
 Senator Bettye Davis  
 Senator\_Bettye\_Davis@legis.state.ak.us



# REPORT CARD ON PARKS: WILLAWAW 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

74

Green Spaces

68

Park Entry

75

Passive Recreation Areas

68

Pathways

67

Playgrounds

84

Scores were calculated on a 100 point scale

## Willawaw Park Findings

Report Card participants at Willawaw Park were most concerned about repairs needed to the climbing wall in the play area and three cars abandoned next to the trail. Participants also requested more trash cans, graffiti removal and attention to the green spaces, including removing downed trees and repairing holes in the turf.

## Fix It List

- Repair loose grips on climbing wall
- Trim trees and remove downed logs
- Remove graffiti on playground equipment
- Reseed and fertilize bare spots in lawn areas
- Remove abandoned cars
- Add picnic tables and trash cans
- Determine location for dog station and install



Neighbors are concerned about the play equipment safety



Repairs are needed to the climbing wall

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: