Spring 2009 Newsletter

# **Note from the Development Director**

With the help of many committed volunteers and donors, the Anchorage Park Foundation is putting private and public funds to work in parks. To date we have raised more than \$16.5 million dollars, and this spring marks the debut of our **Get Out**Into Spring and Give Back to Parks annual campaign, raising funds for the Anchorage Park Foundation general fund.



I'd also like to welcome four new Anchorage Park Foundation board members: Matt Carle, Ernie Hall, Janie Leask and Stewart Osgood. All four are valuable advocates for parks and trails, and we're excited to have their involvement!

# **Anchorage Parks Report Card: We Heard You!**

This fall, more than 1,000 community volunteers graded 53
Anchorage neighborhood parks for the **Anchorage Parks Report Card**. We listened to what volunteers like you had to say, and this summer, the Anchorage Park Foundation and the Parks & Recreation Department will partner to accomplish the **Fix Its YOU** identified in 14 Anchorage neighborhood Parks:

- **Duldida Park** (NE)
- Standish Park (NE)
- Kanchee Park (NE)
- Chugach Foothills Park (NE)
- Castle Heights Park (NE)
- Al Miller Park (NW)
- Alderwood Park (NW)
- **Red Bridge Park** (NW)
- Woodland Park (NW)
- Wilson Street Park (NW)
- Bob & Arlene Cross Park (SE)
- Johns Park (SW)
- <u>Pamela Joy Lowry Memorial</u> <u>Park</u> (SW)
- Meadow Park (CE)



The balance of the parks graded during the Anchorage Parks Report Card project will be improved with private and public funds over the next three years. There will be **opportunities for volunteers** to participate in park improvements all summer long.

On April 7, voters will decide on the 2009 Parks Bond, which will provide funding for Neighborhood Parks improvements. See below for more information on bond projects.

#### events

#### **Tuesday April 7**

# Parks Bond on the Ballot Your polling place Proposition 4 will provide funding to support six parks projects.

#### Saturday April 11

# Wet & Wild Egg Hunt Dimond Pool, 2 - 3:30 pm and 4:30 - 6 pm Splash & dive your way through these egg hunts.

#### Saturday April 25

# <u>Fitness Fair</u> <u>Spenard Recreation Center</u>,

11 am - 3 pm Class demonstrations, instructor consultations and fun throughout the day.

#### May 1 -3 and 8-10

# <u>Girdwood Bike Path Work</u> Weekends

Volunteers will repair a wooden bridge to improve path safety. For more information, contact Jonnie Lazarus at 783-8146.

## Saturday June 6

#### **National Trails Day**

Projects on trails throughout the city. Check our <u>events</u> page for more details.

#### May-September

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

This summer is the Summer of the Volunteer in Anchorage Parks, Get involved!

#### 2009 Parks Bond

The Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department is offering an \$1.85 million bond for approval by Anchorage voters on April 7, 2009. The Park Bond comprises six projects designed to improve parks, revitalize communities and create iobs.

All six projects have received support and funding from a variety of sources in addition to the Municipality, including the State of Alaska, the Anchorage Park Foundation, non-profit organizations and community volunteers.

#### Projects include:

- Anchorage Multi-Use Athletic Fields
- Anchorage Neighborhood Parks
- Far North Bicentennial Park
- Margaret Eagan Sullivan Park
- Ruth Arcand Park & Equestrian Center
- Chester Creek Trail to Campbell Creek Trail Match



The **Anchorage Park Foundation** strives to build *Healthy Parks - Healthy People*by mobilizing public support
and financial resources for

Anchorage parks, trails, and
recreation opportunities.

#### **Board Members**

Eleanor Andrews Matt Carle Jeff Clarke Ernie Hall Janie Leask Vic Mollozzi Stewart Osgood Kristin Sholton David Wight



For more information on this and other bonds, please visit **Anchorage Tomorrow** and **School Bonds Yes**.

#### Speak Up for your Neighborhood Parks

For information on becoming a Parks Advocate, visit our **Supporters Toolkit**.

You can communicate with decision makers on a number of topics, including:

- <u>Stimulus package</u> <u>funding opportunities</u>
- State legislative capital budgets
- Parks & Recreation operating budget
- Recreation programs you care about

# **Adopt a Park or Trail**

Parks & Recreation volunteer coordinators are recruiting volunteers to **adopt Anchorage parks and trails** this summer. If you are interested in adopting one of Anchorage's 223 parks or more than 250 miles of trails, contact Nancy Beardsley at **BeardsleyNJ@muni.org** today.

# **Get Involved**

Looking for more ways to stay involved in Anchorage parks? Become a fan of the  $\underline{\textbf{Anchorage Park Foundation}}$  on Facebook or follow us on  $\underline{\textbf{Twitter}}$ .

# **Volunteer of the month**

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