



## Anchorage Park Foundation 2017 Challenge Grant Description & Criteria

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The Anchorage Park Foundation builds *Healthy Parks & Healthy People* by mobilizing public support and financial resources for Anchorage parks, trails and recreation opportunities.

Do you have an improvement you've wanted to see on your favorite park or trail? APF is challenging community groups to earn a matching grant for a park or trail improvement. Thanks to support from the Rasmuson Foundation, the Anchorage Park Foundation will match \$1 for every \$1 raised by community group grantees to make improvements to Anchorage parks and trails. Grantees may raise their match in the form of cash, volunteer time, donations, grants, or in-kind services.

*Apply today to improve your favorite park or trail!*

### Challenge Grant Community Goals

- 1) Improve parks and trails according to community priorities
- 2) Engage groups to participate in improving parks and trails, increasing community stewardship
- 3) Develop effective partnerships and create opportunities for public education through these interactions

### Amount Available

\$200,000 are available for 2017 Challenge Grants. Applicants may apply for a matching grant valued between \$500 and \$40,000 for their project. The maximum matching award amount for a challenge grant project is \$40,000.

### Who Can Apply

Individuals, families, neighborhood groups, community councils, private businesses, organized recreation groups, philanthropic organizations, adopt-a-park and adopt-a-trail groups are all welcome to apply to make improvements to Anchorage parks and trails.

### Requirements

- A one-to-one match is required. For example, a \$500 project grant requires a \$500 match from the grantee in the form of cash, employee and volunteer time, donations, grants, or in-kind services. The match may not include federal funds, or funds raised from sources outside of Alaska. The maximum amount APF will match is the awarded grant amount. If the grantee group raises more than the grant amount, APF will not match that extra amount.

*\*value volunteer time is valued at \$21.69 an hour, and skilled labor contributions at \$70 an hour*

- Grants are intended for projects that would not otherwise be funded by APF or the Municipality of Anchorage. They may not be used for normal operating expenses, or to replace existing budgets.
- Match must be raised after award of the challenge grant; funds and in-kind donations raised before the grant award date will not count towards the match
- Projects must:
  - take place in an Anchorage municipal park or on an Anchorage municipal trail
  - be completed by October 1, 2018
  - benefit the public

## **Grant Selection Criteria may include but is not limited to the following:**

- project meets an identified public need
- project engages user groups and involves neighborhoods to accomplish goals
- project renovates current park or trail assets
- project is supported by a wide variety of people and organizations
- project is endorsed by community council
- project fits within an approved park master plan
- project proposals and budgets are clear and feasible
- project is ready for work and performable before October 1, 2018
- groups contribute both volunteer hours and financial resources for the project
- physical improvements include appropriate location, installation, and maintenance plan
- applicants have plans to evaluate the success of the project and ensure continued maintenance

## **Sample Project Timeline**

Winter/Spring 2017: Applicants develop proposal, attend ASLA workshop to refine project scope; grant awardees and awards are announced

Summer/Fall 2017: Grantees raise funds, build volunteer & community support, develop project plan and secure permits as necessary in partnership with Parks & Recreation Department

Winter/Spring 2018: Applicants plan project implementation, order supplies and plan volunteer events

Summer 2018: Applicants complete project and submit project documentation

## **Application Process**

Applicant groups will complete the attached application. The Anchorage Park Foundation Board and the Park Superintendent will review applications. Awards will be based on project merit, regional diversity, community involvement and availability of funds. Upon approval of the proposal, a formal grant agreement between the APF and grantee will be signed.

Note: All physical improvement projects are subject to city regulations and applicable permits. In some cases approved projects will require more public involvement, including but not limited to: community council support, Parks and Recreation Commission approval, Urban Design Commission approval, and Planning and Zoning Commission approval.

The deadline for the application to be received by the Anchorage Park Foundation is **Friday, March 10, 2017 at 5:00 PM**. The proposal will be reviewed in a competitive process based on available funding. 2017 Challenge Grantees will be notified in April; 2017 Challenge Grant projects will be announced to the public in May.

## **Application Workshop**

The Anchorage Park Foundation will host two workshops to assist groups with their Challenge Grant Applications. We strongly encourage challenge grant applicants to attend and receive advice and scoping assistance from professionals from the Alaska Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects at one of the following workshops.

- 1. Spenard Recreation Center, Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 – 8:00 PM**
- 2. Lidia Selkregg Chalet, Russian Jack Springs Park, Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

**For more information or assistance:**

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Information is also available at [www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org](http://www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org)

**Mail or deliver signed proposal to:**

Anchorage Park Foundation  
3201 C St. Suite 110  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

**Email signed proposal to:**

[Andrew@AnchorageParkFoundation.org](mailto:Andrew@AnchorageParkFoundation.org)