LETTER FROM BETH & HOLLY

12/13/12

Dear Park Supporters,

The Anchorage Park Foundation works with private and public funders and neighborhood and community volunteers to improve neighborhood parks all over Anchorage.

In 2012 we worked in 8 neighborhood parks: Kiwanis Fish Creek Park, Minnesota Park, Nunaka Valley North Park, Sand Lake Park, Shady Birch Park, Sitka Park, Wolverine Park, and Windsong Park. Our volunteer-identified improvements ranged from tree trimming and mulch laying to the installation of boardwalks and baseball diamonds.

The Neighborhood Park Fix-It program relies on both paid and volunteer labor to complete its projects. In the summer of 2012, those volunteers included park neighbors, legislators, community councils, native corporations, girl scouts, and even the Rage City Roller Girls.

The Rasmuson Foundation seeded each of the projects with grant funding we call “Clean & Green,” intended to inspire neighborhood support and community giving. The Alaska State Legislature contributed additional funding for each of the 2012 projects, and in many cases Legislators served on neighborhood committees, asked constituents to participate, and volunteered on Fix-It Saturdays.

Summaries on each of the Neighborhood Park Fix-Its are included in this report.

Neighborhood Park Fix-Its are a true collaboration with the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department and APF. Typically, municipal staff work with a neighborhood committee to scope a project, as well as recruit volunteers and implement fix-its with volunteer power. We call ourselves TEAM PARKS: your go-to efficient and effective public-private partnership for Anchorage Park improvements!

Sincerely,

Beth Nordlund
Executive Director

Holly Spoth-Torres
MOA Parks Superintendent
KIWANIS FISH CREEK PARK

INVESTMENT: $141,411 in 2012-2013

Neighbors came together to beautify this park, pulling weeds, painting picnic tables, refilling the play area with sand, and installing two new "mutt-mitt" dispensers. We will continue our improvements to Kiwanis Fish Creek Park in Summer 2013.

Legislative Funding: $120,500; Rasmuson Funding: $20,000; Number of Volunteers: 14; Volunteer Hours: 42; Volunteer Value: $911

Total Investment: $141,411

MINNESOTA PARK

INVESTMENT: $210,343 in 2010-2012

Rage City Roller Girls joined neighborhood volunteers to beautify this park. Everyone worked together to lay mulch, trim trees and bushes, and pull weeds. The volunteers painted an all-new kid’s activity area and a new fence. The Boutet Company completed a number of larger-scale improvements including constructing a sledding hill, resurfacing the tennis courts, and replacing the surrounding fencing.

The Minnesota Park project also is a 2010 Challenge Grant recipient.

Legislative Funding: $179,000; Rasmuson Funding: $28,000; Charitable Contributions: $1,000; Number of Volunteers: 36; Volunteer Hours: 108; Volunteer Value: $2,343

Total Investment: $210,343
Volunteers from the Alaska Native Justice Center, ASRC, Girl Scout Troop 175 and neighbors all came together to improve the appearance of the park’s outer edge by increasing visibility in the surrounding wooded areas and removing hazardous and dead trees. The volunteers also worked hard to lay top seed, paint bollards, and fix up the kid’s dirt bike course. The Boutet Company also added a number of larger amenities to the park; the contractors constructed a baseball diamond, created a gravel path through the park, and installed benches and signs.

Number of Volunteers: 54
Volunteer Hours: 162
Volunteer Value: $3,514
Total Investment: $70,591

Alaska Rowing Association, Muldoon Target, and Toastmasters joined neighbors of this park to install two new picnic tables and remove hazardous trees and other unwanted vegetation. Crews from the Youth Employment in Parks program built a light penetrating boardwalk and fishing platform extending out to the edge of the lake.

Legislative Funding: $115,000; Rasmuson Funding: $16,200; Number of Volunteers: 30; Volunteer Hours: 90; Volunteer Value: $1,952
Total Investment: $133,152

Volunteers from the Alaska Native Justice Center, ASRC, Girl Scout Troop 175 and neighbors worked together. By removing the hazardous and dead trees at the park’s perimeter, they increased visibility and safety. The volunteers also laid top seed, painted bollards, and fixed up the kid’s dirt bike course. The Boutet Co. added a number of larger amenities to the park, constructing a baseball diamond, creating a gravel path through the park, and installing benches and signs.

Legislative Funding: $37,500; Rasmuson Funding: $29,577; Number of Volunteers: 54; Volunteer Hours: 162; Volunteer Value: $3,514
Total Investment: $70,591

Neighbors, state legislators, and members of the Northeast Community Council worked together to revitalize this park. Contractors converted one of the tennis courts into a basketball court, installed new play equipment, and made improvements to the volleyball area.

Legislative Funding: $42,000;
Rasmuson Funding: $33,000
Number of Volunteers: 18
Volunteer Hours: 54
Volunteer Value: $911
Total Investment: $75,911

NUNAKA VALLEY NORTH PARK
INVESTMENT: $75,911 in 2012

SAND LAKE PARK
INVESTMENT: $133,152 in 2012

SHADY BIRCH PARK
INVESTMENT: $70,591 in 2012
**SITKA PARK**

**INVESTMENT: $84,082 in 2012-2013**

Neighbors pulled weeds and laid down new sand in the volleyball courts. They also removed weeds from the garden beds, filling the beds with new wood mulch. More work will be done in this park in summer of 2013, when construction will begin on a skate park for children.

Legislative Funding: $42,000; Rasmuson Funding: $40,000;
Number of Volunteers: 32; Volunteer Hours: 96;
Volunteer Value: $2,082

Total Investment: $84,082

---

**WOLVERINE PARK**

**INVESTMENT: $84,147 in 2012**

Neighbors, participants from the Alaska Native Justice Center and Representative Chris Tuck and his staff volunteered at this park fix-it to make the park a more welcome environment. Volunteers worked hard to plant new flowers and remove graffiti. Contractors removed the existing play area surfacing and replaced it with a new, safer surface material. Volunteers installed a new piece of play equipment was also installed, and the picnic shelter received a new concrete surface.

Legislative Funding: $67,000; Rasmuson Funding: $15,000;
Number of Volunteers: 33; Volunteer Hours: 99; Value: $2,147

Total Investment: $84,147

---

**WINDSONG PARK**

**INVESTMENT: $90,147 in 2012**

Volunteers from the surrounding neighborhood and beyond removed graffiti, planted flowers, and made the park safer and more beautiful. Contractors replaced the playground fall surface, installing a new piece of play equipment, installing wooden bollards, and creating a play field.

Legislative Funding: $62,000; Rasmuson Funding: $26,000
Number of Volunteers: 33; Volunteer Hours: 99
Volunteer Value: $2,147

Total Investment: $90,147
WE COULDN’T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org