2014 marks the tenth summer construction and volunteer work season for the Anchorage Park Foundation (APF), and it will be the busiest and most efficient yet. APF utilizes all varieties of private and public funding sources and volunteer hours to accomplish park improvements and fund recreation opportunities – this year APF will fund 33 park improvement projects. APF meets donor and volunteer needs by leveraging funds through this unique public-private partnership. We know you agree that APF’s ability to engage the community in meaningful ways, inspire nontraditional partnerships, stretch a dollar, attract grants and introduce new donors to projects, produces park and trail results.

APF partners with municipal staff to implement projects. The board appreciates the support of the Anchorage Assembly and the Municipality of Anchorage staff as we seek supplemental resources and community support for parks, trails, and recreation programs. Our joint successes have led to an increase in community ownership of our system of parks and trails.

APF will sponsor 33 construction projects for summer 2014 between our neighborhood parks, challenge grants, Youth Employment in Parks projects, and other special community park projects. Included in this suite of projects are: seven playground installations or renovations, an ADA-compliant dock installation at Jewel Lake Park, stabilization of Ruth Arcand Park Equestrian Trails, and a kinetic art installation along the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail.
APF’s work has resulted in private, federal, and state investments, plus a tremendous amount of volunteer support. Since its inception, APF has raised more than $26.5 million for Anchorage Parks. APF has

- raised $8,708,938 in private dollars;
- leveraged $6,976,676.03 in volunteer time and materials;
- secured a total of $2,451,224 in Rasmuson Foundation grants (pledged funding if we meet their specified challenges);
- secured $7,535,789 in state capital funds for reimbursement;
- and secured $835,924 in Federal funding for reimbursement.

Furthermore, APF is the named manager of more than $920,000 in the 2014 state capital budget currently awaiting the Governor’s signature.

APF bridges a gap in government capacity by providing private funders options for giving, with particular focus on enhancing and taking better care of our neighborhood parks. Volunteers in 2008 and 2011 completed park assessments that gave APF information for fix-it lists and park report cards. Using the volunteer identified park improvements, APF worked with the Parks and Recreation Department and volunteers to substantially renovate 14 parks in 2009, 8 parks in 2010, 7 parks in 2011, 8 in 2012, and 5 in 2013. We have 9 Fix-It events scheduled this summer. You are invited to join us and volunteer with your constituents for these projects, each scheduled on Saturdays from 9am-noon:

- Davis Park, May 10 (completed)
- Roosevelt Park, June 14
- Little Campbell Lake Park, June 28
- Arctic Benson Park, July 12
- Pop Carr Park, July 19
- Moen Park, July 26
- Oceanview Park, August 2
- Balto Seppala Park, August 16
- Stephenson Park, August 23

In 2013, APF awarded 20 Challenge Grants to groups committed to improving a park in 2013 and 2014. Volunteer grantees will match their grants with cash, volunteer hours, materials, or a combination. For more information on any of these exciting projects see [http://anchorageparkfoundation.org/projects/2013challengegrantcampaign.htm](http://anchorageparkfoundation.org/projects/2013challengegrantcampaign.htm). Projects include a dog park, a boardwalk, community gardens, and neighborhood parks. Most of these improvements will be completed
this summer.

**Youth Employment in Parks** starts its eighth season in June. Park improvement projects include:

- Campbell Creek Bank Restoration at New Seward Highway underpass
- Little Campbell Lake Park Lake Bank Restoration
- Far North Bicentennial Park Trail Improvements
- Ruth Arcand Equestrian Trail Improvements
- Moen Park Trail Construction
- Chester Creek Trail Vegetation Maintenance

APF is proud to be a champion for the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation’s initiative to make Anchorage the #1 city in America to “Live.Work.Play.” by 2025. Play is important to thriving cities, and Anchorage parks, trails, and recreation centers are a big part of what this city offers residents.

The **Anchorage Trails Initiative** of Live.Work.Play. will create meaningful opportunities for businesses and trail users to invest in our trail system, drawing support for the central concept that trails make Anchorage a great place to live. Our trail system attracts talent to Anchorage, which feeds innovation and the economy.

The **Creative Placemaking Initiative** of Live.Work.Play. will use art to animate and rejuvenate parks, structures, and streetscapes. Projects will bring diverse people together to educate, celebrate, inspire, and be inspired. Over the next 18 months, the Anchorage Park Foundation will host six art installations or events in parks and trails, drawing attention to our public lands and public arts. APF is proud to seed this initiative with a prestigious ArtPlace grant.

The APF board hereby submits this bi-annual report on the cumulative financial investments in Anchorage Parks and Recreation Programs to highlight the added value the Municipality receives from this nonprofit venture. The board believes strongly that these investments are significant in monetary and social value, and improve Municipal assets. The board acknowledges the Anchorage Assembly as the elected body charged with maintaining our public lands, and looks forward to using this bi-annual report as a means to communicate its contributions the Municipality of Anchorage.
Please stay tuned for APF events with constituents, featuring donors and amazing park volunteers and advocates. APF will host ribbon cuttings, volunteer days, groundbreaking ceremonies, demolition events, opening ceremonies, fundraisers, and park planning meetings. You will be welcome to participate, and celebrate park and trail stewardship.

For more information on the Anchorage Park Foundation initiatives see www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org or call Beth Nordlund at 274-1004.

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Attached: APF 2014 Park Rehabilitation and Construction Projects Map

Each project represents a different way APF is connecting our community. We are bringing our diverse population together for projects they care about. From Hillside Trails to Mountainview Gardens to neighborhood swing sets, APF has a project close to your heart. APF serves as an organizing nonprofit that fosters innovation, reaches out to inspire and fund nontraditional partnerships, and produces park and trail results.