



ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION



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Dena'ina Indigenous Place Names

New signage recognizing the Dena'ina place names for locations around Anchorage are going up across the city as part of a project to recognize the area's first people. The Indigenous Place Names Project is a movement to bring Dena'ina culture to our built environment and a step toward honoring the Dena'ina landscape of Anchorage along our trails.

Beautiful place name signs have been installed at Chanshtnu Muldoon Park and Westchester Lagoon. The signs feature artwork by Athabascan & Paiute artist Melissa Shaginoff. Her metal sculpture encircling the post is inspired by the dentalium bead pattern and the Dena'ina fire bag. Fire bags represent living with the land and were used by the Dena'ina people to store and transport fire-making materials like tinder and embers.

Inspired by the success of the naming of the Dena'ina Convention Center, Aaron Leggett, CEO of the Native Village of Eklutna and Curator of Alaska History and Culture at the Anchorage Museum is leading an indigenous place making movement. Partners include Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage Parks & Recreation, Alaska Native Heritage Center, Rasmuson Foundation, Southcentral Foundation, CIRI, Cook Inlet Housing, and more. The project extends beyond signage to land acknowledgment and embracing past, present and future care for the land.





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The Anchorage Park Foundation builds healthy parks and healthy people by mobilizing public support and financial resources for Anchorage parks, trails, and recreation opportunities. Your support and involvement in Anchorage Park Foundation helps make new trails, inclusive playgrounds, and revitalized parks possible.

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Anchorage Park Foundation

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Letter from the Director



Anchorage is getting outside and using parks and trails more than ever. After so much use, work crews gave our public lands some much needed love this summer. Youth Employment in Parks (YEP) teens spent 10 weeks planting trees, clearing trails, and repairing stream banks. Volunteers finished their challenge grant projects -- from Little Free Libraries to the Chanshtnu Muldoon Park Food Forest -- after a year of extension due to Covid. City crews and community volunteers removed spruce bark beetle kill fire hazards. The first of many Indigenous Place Name signs were installed and celebrated. And of course, four new inclusive playgrounds were completed!

Hopefully you've seen improvements in your own neighborhood. Maybe you've found your own path to get on the Moose Loop, or you are dreaming of a new Challenge Grant project for 2022 when you can finally blaze a new path from your cul-de-sac to your school? Maybe you found a spot for great outdoor learning, or you just want to plant some trees?

With a new Mayor and a newish Presidential Administration, we in Alaska's largest city have opportunities to connect neighborhoods, be a part of the Alaska Long Trail, promote YEP as a Climate Corps, amplify Indigenous voices, include more people in play, make outdoor learning easier for teachers, and partner with any group that shares a part of our vision. Even during these challenging times, we are leaning towards the future and planning amazing things with YOU.

As we put projects to bed before snowfall, please consider investing in the Anchorage Park Foundation, your favorite nonprofit that promotes park bonds, keeps Anchorage trails and parks before our lawmakers and funders, and finds ways to celebrate parks and trails all year long. YOU are on the team for keeping your favorite places and spaces well cared for. These are YOUR public lands.

Sincerely,

Beth Nordlund
Executive Director

Welcome New APF Board Member

Jim Torgerson Board Member

Jim Torgerson is a partner in Stael Rives' Litigation group. Over the last 30 years, Jim has served as the lead lawyer to conclude more than 40

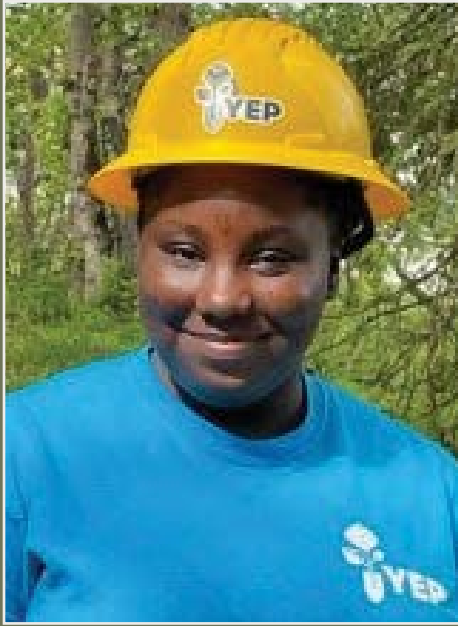


cases, mostly to federal or state juries. He has handled more than 30 appeals, arguing cases in the Alaska Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Jim has represented major oil and gas companies, Alaska Native corporations, electric utilities, telecommunications companies, professional services firms, nonprofit organizations and individuals.

Improving Parks & Transforming Lives

This summer 25 Anchorage teenagers spent 10 weeks improving our parks and trails through the Youth Employment in Parks (YEP) program. YEP accomplished a lot this summer, building trails, clearing invasive species, and planting trees in parks and trails across the city. The crews worked hard, got dirty, and had fun. Crew members also learned about civic engagement with a trip to the Anchorage Assembly, explored nearby public lands, and were mentored by local professionals in their field of interest.

Thank you to all the families of crew members, local businesses, career mentors, volunteers, and supporters!



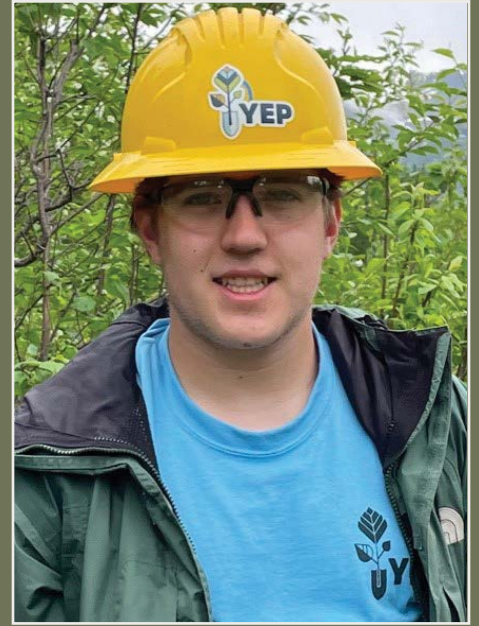
Fatoumata

"I learned that communication is the key to working well with others."



Lilly

"The most important lesson I learned this summer was how to act at a real job and to be on time."



Joseph (JW)

"I showed off the Chanshtnu Muldoon project to my parents. I am proud of the work we all did."





16 Years of Making a Difference

Anchorage Park Foundation has been at the center of building community through parks, trails, and accessibility.



Youth Employment in Parks

Introducing young adults to the natural resource field through meaningful training, and experiences.



425

Offered summer employment and job training in natural resource management to more than 425 Anchorage youth representing the cultural diversity of our neighborhoods.



Schools on Trails

Offering children positive outdoor experiences to inspire healthy active lifestyles.



8,700

Connected 8,700 students in under-served neighborhoods to nature in nearby parks and encouraged an understanding and appreciation of the outdoors.



Community Challenge Grants

Financially supporting community-driven park improvement projects.



100 +

Granted financial support to more than 100 community-initiated park improvement projects. Volunteers matched our investment with their labor and helped stretch the Parks Department budget.





Inclusive Playgrounds

Making playgrounds accessible to children and adults of all abilities.



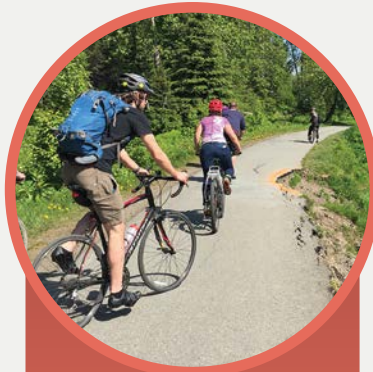
18

Rebuilt 18 of 86 playgrounds to be inclusive, so children and adults of all abilities can play together. Anchorage leads the nation in inclusive playgrounds with four more planned in 2022.



Trails Initiative

Advocating for active transportation through a safe and connected trail system.



\$52.5 M

Advocated for municipal park bonds, resulting in \$52.5 million in park and trail investments over the last 11 years.

\$43.4M

Funding raised over 16 years for our parks and trails.



\$7.5M
private dollars

\$13.3M
volunteer time and materials

\$10.2M
Rasmuson Foundation

\$10M
legislative funding

\$2.4M
federal dollars





New Playgrounds Bring Access to All

Anchorage Parks and Recreation continues to rebuild playgrounds to welcome more people into play. Inclusive playgrounds are designed with EVERYONE in mind. Look for features like swinging, spinning, sliding, rocking, nooks, climbing, and auditory musical play in the new playgrounds this season. The Anchorage Park Foundation's newly updated playground map can tell you if a playground has accommodations for wheelchairs, a fence around the play area, great spots for nature play, or water features.

1 Frontierland Park 538 West 10th Ave

From the sledding hill with a new roller slide you can see the old park strip train. Hop from beluga to beluga and climb on the big new climber at this new inclusive playground with an old timey name (neighbors want a new name, so stay tuned!).

2 Fairview Recreation Center 1121 East 10th Ave

We expect Anchorage's indoor inclusive playground to open this winter, and it has everything but snow! Roller sliding, a huge climber, little house nooks and gears to move...this facility already has a basketball court and a dance room, so now it is the play center of the universe.

3 Fairview Park 1217 LaTouche Street

Check out the gorgeous new outdoor multi-purpose court surface with a Raven design!

4 Tikishla Park 3018 East 20th Ave

Airport Heights' neighborhood hockey rink now has an inclusive playground worthy of a visit via the Chester Creek Trail. We have a new bear-shaped climbing rock, swinging, spinning, and nooks.

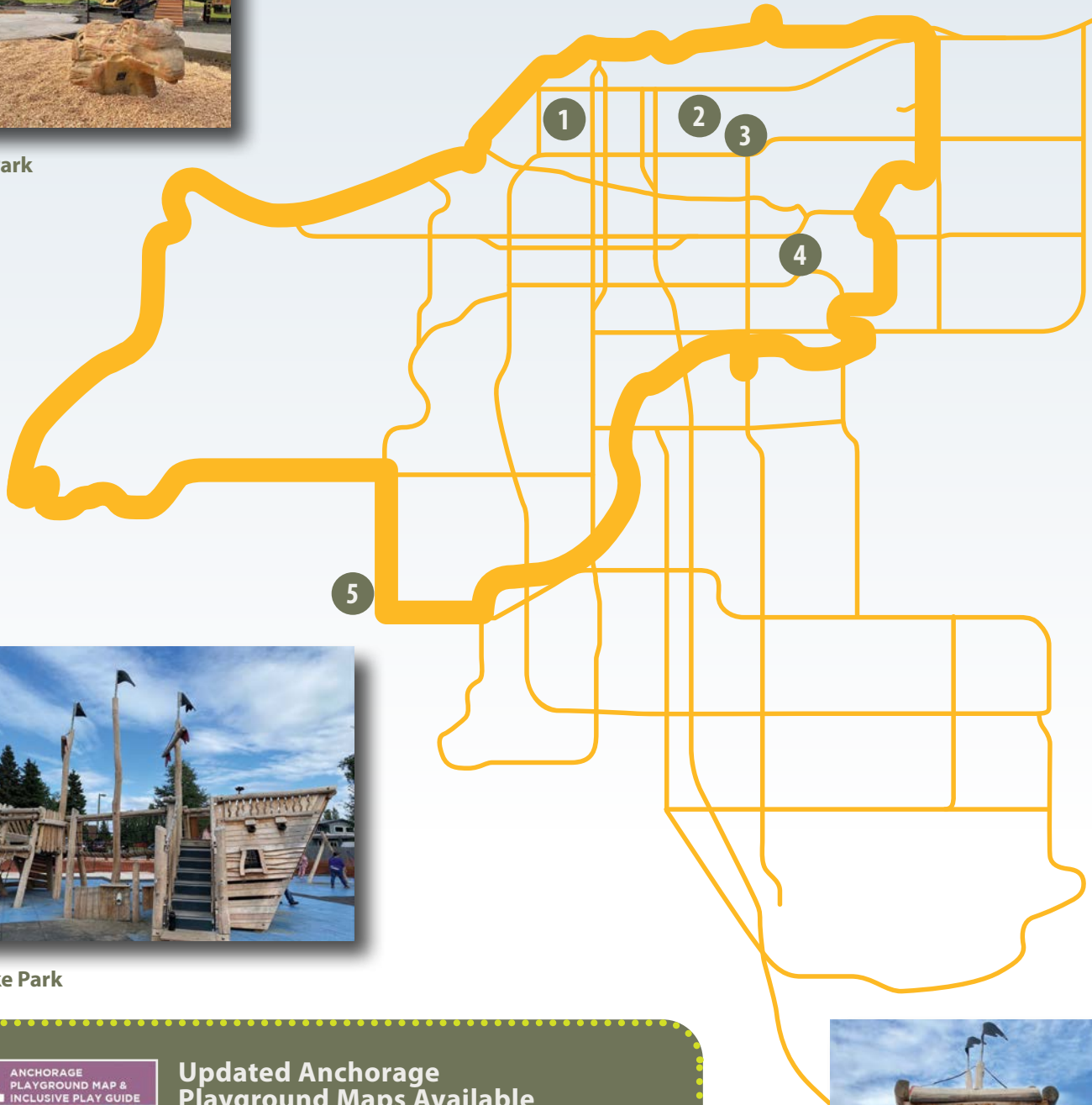
5 Jewel Lake Park 4342 West 88th Ave

A Neverland Pirate ship has landed at Jewel Lake Park! This park is on the Moose Loop, it has a zip line, it has a popular and large picnic shelter and a life guard station in the summer. You'll have trouble getting the kids to leave this beloved Jewel Lake neighborhood playground.





Tikishla Park



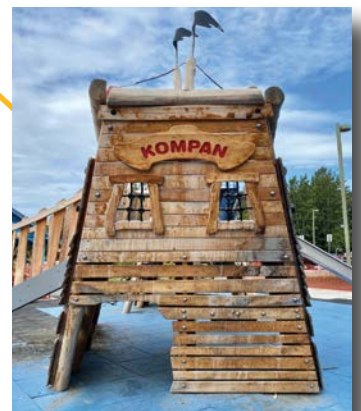
Jewel Lake Park



Updated Anchorage Playground Maps Available

Slide through a polar bear's mouth, climb to the top of a 30 ft. net climber, or ride on the back of a lifelike moose – just a few of the opportunities on Anchorage's playgrounds. Find a new play space for your family with a detailed map of all 86 playgrounds in Anchorage! This updated map highlights playground features, park amenities, driving directions, and location on the Moose Loop trails. Family bike rides are a fun way to explore playgrounds on the Moose Loop.

Make a suggested \$10 donation from the AnchorageParkFoundation.org home page and receive a map in the mail.

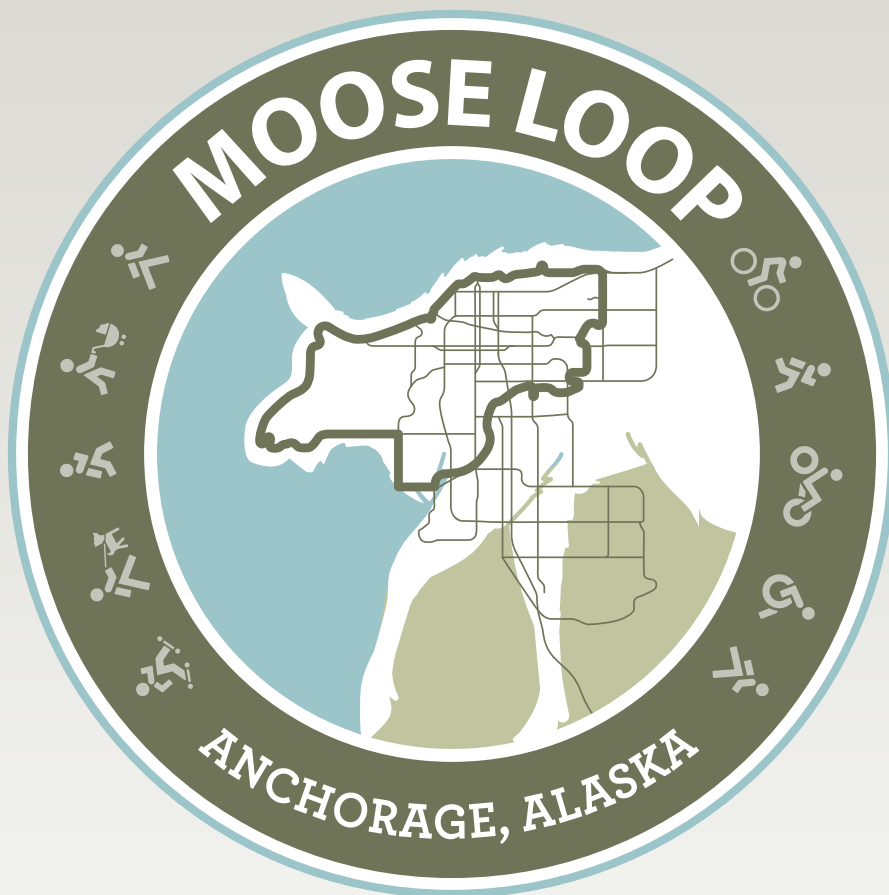


Jewel Lake Park



ANCHORAGE
PARK FOUNDATION

3201 C Street, Suite 110
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VIRTUAL RACE

OCTOBER 20-24, 2021

The Moose Loop Virtual Race celebrates the urban trails that loop around the city of Anchorage, in the shape of a moose! Participate in this family-friendly event by running, walking, biking, or rolling on Anchorage trails (or anywhere). Every dollar raised supports Anchorage parks and trails through the Anchorage Park Foundation.

Register at
AnchorageParkFoundation.org