

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage Park Foundation****Federal Tax ID: 92-0155067****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Anchorage Park Foundation - Woodland Park Improvements

**State Funding Requested: \$40,200****House District: 26 / M**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

The Anchorage Park Foundation and the Parks & Recreation Department are working together to make community-identified fixes in Woodland Park in Spenard.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$82,200**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Local Funds	\$9,000	2007				
Other Funds	\$33,000	2007				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,000</b>					

*Explanation of Other Funds:*

The Anchorage Park Foundation is the proud recipient of a 5 year grant from the Rasmuson Foundation to rehabilitate Anchorage neighborhood parks. The APF plans to invest \$33,000 in improvements to Woodland Park in summer 2010, to be matched by volunteer contributions.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Anchorage Park Foundation and the Parks & Recreation Department are working together to address the fix-its in neighborhood parks throughout the city, using the Anchorage Parks Report Card to identify priority repairs. More than 1,000 community volunteers evaluated 53 neighborhood parks based on cleanliness, safety, structure, appearance, and function.

We're working hard with a community park committee comprising Community Council members, user groups and park neighbors to prioritize the Fix-It lists, build volunteer support and plan this summer's work. In particular, we are working with members of Anchorage's Filipino community to construct a picnic pavilion dedicated to the memory of former Anchorage legislator Thelma Buchholdt.

Community members reported inappropriate activities occurring in Woodland Park during night hours, as well as extensive litter left each night. Community members noted that it is hard to see into the park due to trees and overgrown shrubbery. Furthermore, benches are needed near the play area, the pathways are extremely cracked and a dog station is needed to promote park cleanliness.

This summer, we plan to scrape together public and private funding with volunteer efforts to make a difference in the

Spenard community. Please join us.

**Project Timeline:**

The Woodland Park Fix-It project and related expenditures will take place between June - September 2010. A minimum level of improvements can be made with existing Anchorage Park Foundation and Parks & Recreation Department funding. Additional legislative funding will enable more thorough rehabilitation of Woodland Park.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Beth Nordlund  
Address: 715 L Street, Suite 200  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone Number: (907)274-1004  
Email: beth@anchorageparkfoundation.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No

February 12, 2010

Beth Nordlund  
Executive Director  
Anchorage Park Foundation  
715 L Street, Suite 200  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. Nordlund:

I am writing to express my support for the Anchorage Park Foundation legislative request for funding to support the memorial to Thelma Buchholdt.

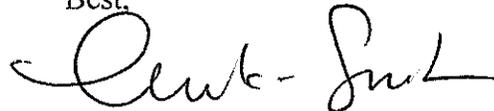
Thelma was a distinguished legislator from Spenard, a well-known civil rights advocate, an author, an avid gardener, and a dynamic human being. My husband and I moved in down the street from her in June 2007, just a few months before she died. I lament that I didn't get to know her better before she died.

However, one of the things I quickly learned was that she was responsible for what I consider to be my neighborhood's biggest asset: the greenbelt and Woodland Park, both of which are a stone's throw from our house. I understand that she helped create both as a legislator. We regularly ply the trails with our daughter and my stepsons. And the park is regularly used by all kinds of folks, whether they're dogwalkers, joggers, cross country skiers, families going sledding, or others. It's a wonderful asset in a funky part of town, and one that makes sure we all spend quality time outside, no matter what the season.

As a memorial to Thelma Buchholdt, the Filipino community is working with the Municipality to get a park shelter installed in Woodland Park. I think this is a fabulous project, for several reasons. First, I strongly support honoring Thelma's legacy. She was an important public figure and her contributions to Anchorage should be honored. Second, installing a park shelter in Woodland Park will only enhance its status as neighborhood jewel and gathering place. It will become the central point in the park, and I can guarantee that it will get good use. Third, given Thelma's founding role in the creation of the Park and the greenbelt, there is no place more fitting for a tribute to her legacy.

I hope the legislature supports this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,



Moira K. Smith  
(907) 529-5573  
moiraksmith@yahoo.com

# ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION

Since 2004, the Anchorage Park Foundation has invested more than \$13 million in Anchorage parks, trails and recreation programs. Join us this summer to revitalize neighborhood parks in your district.

## VOLUNTEER



## IMPROVE PARKS



## BUILD A STRONGER ANCHORAGE



Spring 2010



# Anchorage Park Foundation

## Woodland Park

### Park Report Card Grade: D

### Anchorage Park Foundation

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. Do you have a vision for parks, trails, open spaces and recreation in Anchorage? Consider the Anchorage Park Foundation your opportunity to fund community projects through public-private partnerships.

Visit us at:  
[www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org](http://www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org)

The Anchorage Park Foundation and the Municipality of Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department are working together to address the fix-its in neighborhood parks throughout the city, using the **Anchorage Parks Report Card** to identify priority repairs. More than 1,000 community volunteers evaluated 53 neighborhood parks based on cleanliness, safety, structure, appearance, and function.

We're working hard with a community park committee comprising Community Council members, user groups and park neighbors to prioritize the Fix-It lists, build volunteer support and plan this summer's work. In particular, we are working with members of Anchorage's Filipino community to construct a picnic pavilion dedicated to the memory of former Anchorage legislator Thelma Buchholdt.

### Parks & Recreation

Anchorage has 10,946 acres of municipal parkland, 223 parks, and over 250 miles of trails and greenbelts that link neighborhoods with surrounding natural open space and wildlife habitat. These are considerable assets for the citizens of Anchorage to enjoy and maintain.

Parks & Recreation launched the Clean & Green, Safe & Secure Campaign with the Anchorage Park Foundation to upgrade the safety, function, and appearance of Anchorage parks. To get involved, call 274-1004.

Community members reported inappropriate activities occurring in Woodland Park during night hours, as well as extensive litter left each night. Community members noted that it is hard to see into the park due to trees and overgrown shrubbery. Furthermore, benches are needed near the play area, the pathways are extremely cracked and a dog station is needed to promote park cleanliness.

This summer, we plan to combine public and private funding with volunteer efforts to make a difference in the Spenard community. Please join us.



## Anchorage Park Foundation

Yes! I would like to support the Anchorage Park Foundation. Enclosed is my contribution of:

- \$10,000 and up Park Philanthropists
- \$5,000 - \$9,999 Great Parks Investors
- \$1,000 - \$4,999 Stewards
- I/We would like to make a contribution for a specific project \_\_\_\_\_

Please list my/our name(s) in the annual report as follows:  Check here for anonymous listing

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home PH: \_\_\_\_\_ Work PH: \_\_\_\_\_

### Method of Payment:

- My check is enclosed \*Please make payable to:
- Please charge my credit card:  Visa  MC

Alaska Community Foundation  
Anchorage Park Foundation  
400 L Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to the Anchorage Park Foundation are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. The Anchorage Park Foundation is part of the Alaska Community Foundation, Federal Tax ID #92-0155067

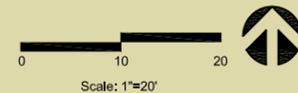
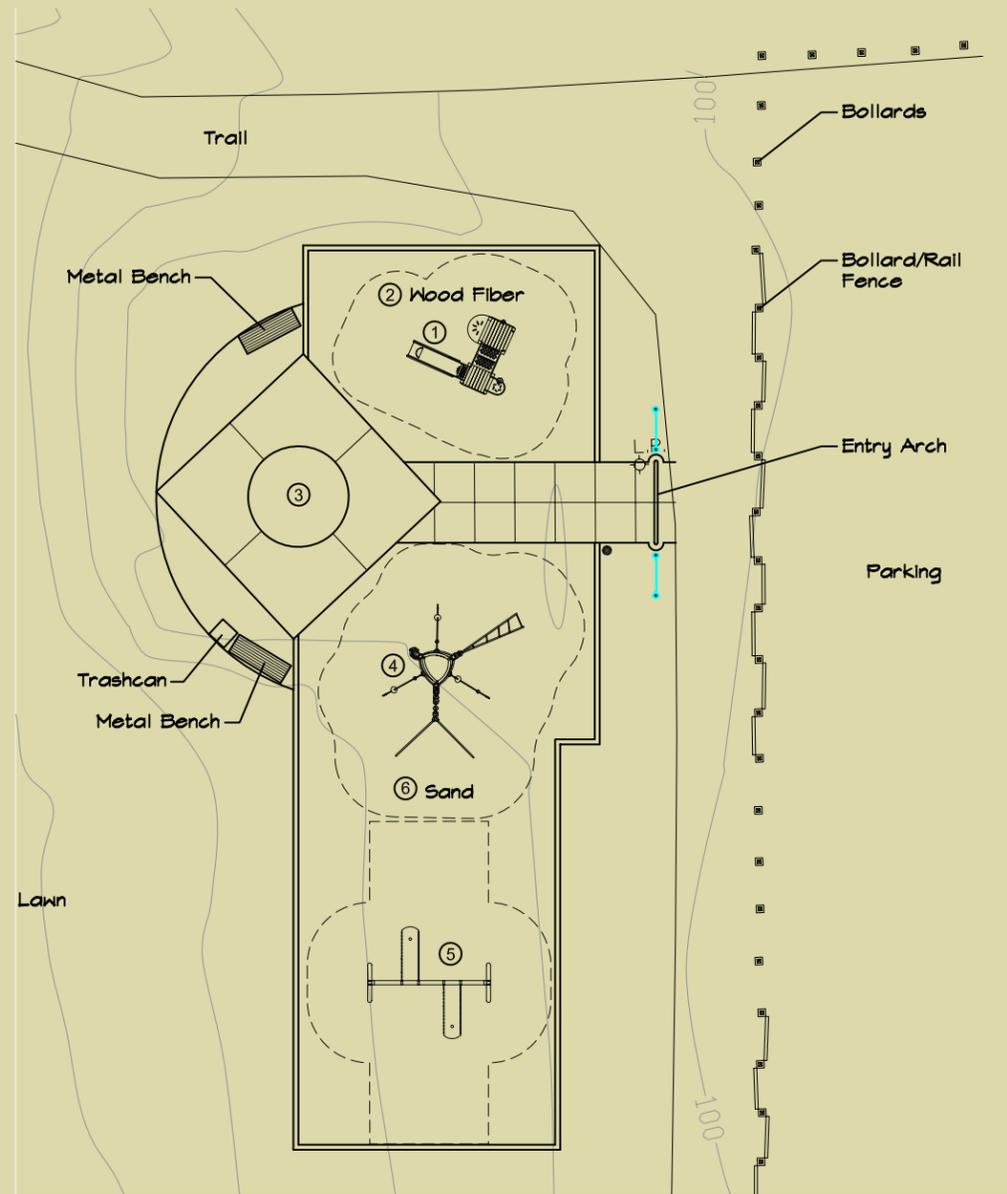
907.274.1004

[www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org](http://www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org)

# Project Cost Estimate

## Woodland Park Fix It List

1. Add new signs, including the friendly park rules sign
2. Add new dog station
3. Repair cracked pathways & repair bridge
4. Clean & repair play equipment
5. Repair or replace safety surfacing
6. Construct new picnic pavilion with picnic tables
7. Remove dead trees and improve line of sight
8. Repair and clean benches in play area



Project Budget	Cost
1. New park signs	\$5,000
3. Dog stations	\$300
4. Trash containers	\$2,800
5. Benches	\$2,600
6. Picnic tables	\$4,000
7. Play area upgrades	\$10,000
8. Picnic pavilion construction	\$50,000
9. Trail upgrades & bridge repair	\$7,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$82,200</b>
<b>2010 Request</b>	
Anchorage Park Foundation	\$33,000
Municipal Bond Funding	\$9,000
State Request	\$40,200
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$82,200</b>

## Legend



# Woodland Park

# **Spenard Community Council Minutes**

January 7, 2009 7:10 PM. Spenard Recreation Center

## **1. Approval of Minutes & Agenda**

**Discussion of Agenda:** The agenda was approved after the addition of: 5b. Jon Isaacs (URS) and Tyler Robinson (Muni Planning) presentation ~ West Anchorage District Plan; 5c. US Census Joel Graebe. Also, change to 6e: Mark Butler substitute for Jed Whitaker and "TBA".

**Discussion of Minutes:** The minutes were approved.

## **2. Announcements**

-Matt Burkholder summarized the SARA project meeting held on December 20th. Attendance was encouraging despite the timing and short notice. There will be more meetings and workshops to follow; please participate.

## **3. Legislative Report**

-Senator Hollis French attended the meeting. The legislative session starts in about two weeks. Big issues will be the budget, in light of the falling price of oil and the legislature's relationship with the governor, in light of the recent campaigns and elections. The capital budget is expected to be more modest. Questions & discussion: Concerns raised included helping senior citizens with property taxes and health costs (The state has increased revenue sharing to decrease property taxes for everyone. Hollis has been working to provide better health care insurance for everyone. There is also an idea of building new clinics to provide access for seniors.); trying again to get a statewide data base to enable better auto insurance compliance and revisiting illegally dark auto window tinting issue. (Hollis will try for both, but Rep. John Coghill of the House Rules Committee is philosophically opposed to the window tinting bill and blocked passage last year.) Different ideas for deterring violent crime were also discussed. Also, Hollis will again be chairman of the Judiciary committee and a member of the legislative budget and audit committee and resource committee.

## **5. Local Projects and Discussion**

**a. Jake Metcalfe and Aurora Howland introduced a **resolution to memorialize Thelma G. Bucholdt by naming the greenbelt around Woodland and Fish Creek Parks after her**, citing her many civic and social accomplishments and contributions. The resolution also supports the construction of a picnic shelter in the neighborhood. The resolution **passed unanimously**.**

**c. Joel Graebe, recruiter for the US Census Bureau, announced that they were establishing an office at 2000 W International Airport Blvd, Suite C-6. They will be hiring for up to 100 temporary positions, paying from \$13.25 to about \$25 per hour. Multilingual applicants are particularly sought.**

**b. Jon Isaacs (URS and west district resident) and Tyler Robinson (supervisor of the Physical Planning Division) presentation ~ West Anchorage District Plan: TR: Part of the Anchorage 2020 Plan requires planning on more localized plans, in this case the yet to be defined area around the airport. Some of Spenard may not be included. Besides the**

airport, input will be solicited from Turnagain, Sand Lake and Spenard Community Councils. Point of contact for the plan will be the Planning Department's website. JJ: Resident input is very important. A Westside Anchorage Advisory Group (WAAG) will be established to this end. There will be regular reports to the Council in addition to special meetings with interested parties, focus groups and citizens at large about core values, special interests and needs of the area in advance of general public at large meetings. Discussion: There were repeated comments from several council members resistant to the idea of not including the entire Spenard Council Area. Different reasons were given but the sentiment was unanimous: don't exclude any of Spenard; include all of West Anchorage. The North Spenard area around REI is a de facto town center in and for Spenard. There were also complaints that citizens' input for plans and projects in the past has been ignored in the past. TR hopes that this will not occur in this instance because their goal is to produce a plan within a year so that momentum and focus will not be lost. JJ: all comments will be recorded, understood and acted on within constraints – and to the extent possible perceived constraints will be evaluated.

## **6. Old and New Business**

**a. Russ Oswald**, MOA Project Manager, gave an update on the 48<sup>th</sup> & Van Buren project: Negotiations are underway with Sourdough and American Fast Freight to acquire land, provide different access to AFF and the School District warehouse to allow construction of some variation of the original plan that will keep truck traffic away from the neighborhood, the recreation center and pedestrians. Russ will try to get a revised set of plans for review. The majority of the funding is in place, although final cost is unknown depending on land and construction costs. A second phase that will involve further land swaps to move and reorient the soccer field will be addressed with a separate ballot issue in 2010. Concerns raised included possible loss of park area, loss of wetlands, convenient parking and access to the soccer fields for maintenance. Russ will draft a resolution for the Council to consider as the plans near completion. Existing soccer field will remain open for the 2009 season, new field under construction (if the second, reorientation phase is approved, in 2010 and will reopen in 2011.

**6b. Faith Community Christian Rezone** AO 2008-107 (tabled from 12/3/08)

No representatives from petitioner present. Matt B summarized the situation – developer now wanting to delete phasing requirement of the special limitations, will that evolve into no residential? Have traffic issues been resolved? Tyler Robinson suggested the council pass a resolution that the limitation requiring the residential component be maintained.

**Motion passed to defer to executive committee to draft a resolution that the Council can support.**

**6c. Players House of Rock**: Ron Berger reported that things have been quieter recently due to the cold weather and holidays, but is concerned that disturbances will resume with warmer weather. Antonio Anderson assured that security measures will remain in effect as long as Players has their license. Lt. Gilliam reported that there were forty calls in November; there were seven in December. Eileen Zaiser said the subwoofer noise has been absent. Antonio and Players manager credited their actions for the improvement. Eileen echoed Ron's concern that the noise returns later. Antonio asked for a copy of the by-laws and audio recordings of the meetings since May. (Minutes and by-laws available on web site) Jeff Matosky asked for a copy of the recordings, citing an e-mail request to

Matt B. Matt suggested that, to keep the rest of the agenda moving, they take the matter up after the meeting.

#### **4. Assembly Report**

Harriet Drummond: December 16 & 17 assembly meetings approved police and fire dept. contracts. Resolution of public safety retirees' medical issues delayed pending lawsuit in court. HD was elected vice-chair after Sheila Selkregg's resignation. The assembly approved purchase of land in the Sand Lake gravel pit area for future schools and parks, with intention of protecting aquifer that supplies water to residents. January 6 meeting saw HD assume position of acting Assembly Chair and Dan Coffey was elected vice chair. MOA between Anchorage and Mat-Su signed for transportation planning. A resolution was introduced for the legislature to adopt the south central region energy policy as proposed by tri-borough commission last February. The municipality's legislative program has just been released. The Spenard Road project is number 2 on the list. There are a number of other specific projects in the area, too. More information should be online. As Assembly chair, HD is now assigned many more committees than before including a Public Safety meeting with the Players issue on the agenda will be held January 14<sup>th</sup> at City Hall Room 155 from noon to 2:00 PM. More resolutions: monthly evaluation and financial reporting and postponement of some new hires. January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting also saw Assembly minutes from Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> when HD brought forth Assembly Memorandum regarding Players House of Rock. HD shared copies with the council. Discussion: How does the system work with our two assembly members now mayor and chair? Can our area be represented as well? Can vacancy be filled? HD: charter is silent on the issue. Perhaps HD can get Matt Claman's funding for an additional aide.

#### **6. cont.**

**d. Spenard SARA project** Lt. Gary Gilliam gave a review of the community policing problem oriented method which includes SARA – scanning, analysis, response, assessment. The strategy was first implemented in Fairview, now in the assessment phase. We are currently in the scanning phase in Spenard. Two officers come on board in February, will be introduced in March/April and plan will proceed. Lt Gilliam, Sgt Allen and Officer Jones will be heading up the effort. Calls are being entered into data base; calls to APD are critical! Executive board will meet with APD again before wider implementation. Discussion: Some problems are seasonal; don't ignore us if there are no calls now. Please give some specific guidance on what to say, how to deal with dispatch and the website. (Call 786-8900; there is no non-emergency three digit number for land lines.)

**e. Spenard Rd Reconstruction and traffic calming** - Mark Butler, advocate for the project, distributed copies of the 65% complete plans for the project north of 31<sup>st</sup> Ave. to Chester Creek. Mark also passed around a two part resolution for the Council to consider. 1) Safety improvements (as discussed by Jed Whitaker and Doran Powell last meeting): speed humps and speed limit enforcement. (2) Support for the "non-controversial" portion of the Spenard Rd plan, i.e. the 1/3 of the project between Hillcrest Drive and Chester Creek. Discussion: HD suggested speed humps also be installed between Spenard and Minnesota, as well as between Spenard and Arctic. **The council passed, with one**

**dissenting vote, the resolution as amended by Ms Drummond to expand the speed hump area to include side streets between Minnesota and Arctic.**

## **7. Committee Reports**

Committee reports were postponed until next meeting.

**a. Planning & Zoning Committee** – none.

**b. Public Safety** – none.

**c. Membership** – none.

**d. FCC Delegate** – none.

**e. Capital Improvements** - none.

**f. Alcohol** – none.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM



Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

February 26, 2010

Members of the Alaska State Legislature:

On behalf of the Anchorage Park Foundation, I would like to voice my strong support for the request for legislative funding for the rehabilitation and renovation of Woodland Park.

Neighborhood parks provide close-to-home recreation opportunities for Anchorage residents, including areas for children to play, families to picnic and for neighbors to meet. Anchorage neighborhood parks are a gateway to our Big Wild Life, giving our neighborhoods a sense of identity and introducing our children to healthy outdoor recreation. The Anchorage Park Foundation is investing in neighborhood parks to ensure that they provide safe, healthy and secure places for families and children.

The Anchorage Park Foundation is the proud recipient of a five-year grant from the Rasmuson Foundation to rehabilitate Anchorage parks. We are using that grant to leverage public and private contributions and volunteer support to attack the Fix-Its in Anchorage neighborhood parks.

In the fall of 2008, the Anchorage Park Foundation and the Parks & Recreation Department implemented the Anchorage Parks Report Card project, in which community volunteers evaluated 53 neighborhood parks and created comprehensive "Fix It Lists" for repairs and improvements. In summer 2009, the Anchorage Park Foundation partnered with the Parks & Recreation Department to engage volunteers and a variety of funding sources to rehabilitate 14 neighborhood parks. We are eagerly seeking funds for 2010 and 2011 improvements to parks in your districts, including this request for \$40,200 for Woodland Park in Spenard.

In particular, we are working with members of Anchorage's Filipino community to construct a picnic pavilion dedicated to the memory of former Anchorage legislator Thelma Buchholdt. Other planned improvements include adding new signs and dog stations; repairing cracked pathways & repairing the bridge; cleaning & repairing play equipment; removing dead trees and improving the line of sight; and repairing the benches in play area.

In summer 2009, the APF and Parks & Recreation Department engaged hundreds of volunteers in contributing more than 5,000 hours of their time and energy to revitalizing neighborhood parks. We plan to achieve equal or greater volunteer involvement in our projects over the next two years, and we look forward to inviting you to join us to revitalize your neighborhood park.

We are honored to be a part of this partnership, and we look forward to working with the Anchorage Park Foundation and the Parks & Recreation Department to seek private funds to match legislative contributions.

Sincerely,

Beth Nordlund

**Victor Mollozzi • Jeff Clarke • David Wight • Eleanor Andrews  
Janie Leask • Stewart Osgood • Ernie Hall • Matt Carle**