

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage Park Foundation****Federal Tax ID: 412005907****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Anchorage Park Foundation - Suzan Nightingale Park Safety Upgrades

State Funding Requested: \$100,000**House District: Anchorage Areawide (11-27)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Neighborhood Park Fix-It plan with community volunteers. Playground equipment needs replacement and accessible surface.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$140,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$40,000)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$100,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

If funding from the AK Legislature is secured for this project, the Anchorage Park Foundation plans to commit at least \$40,000 of Rasmuson Foundation funding to this neighborhood park.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The play equipment in this Government Hill neighborhood has reached the end of its useful lifespan.

Funds will be used to replace the equipment, update the playground surface and replace the park amenities for easier maintenance and accessibility to all children.

The Government Hill Community Council and neighbors are active park advocates and users, and will make great use of these improvements with public and private funds, and volunteer energy.

Project Timeline:

Summer 2015

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

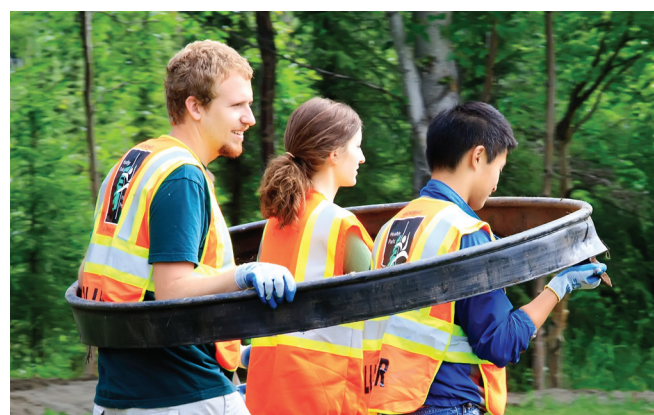
Municipality of Anchorage

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Beth Nordlund
Title:	Executive Director
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Phone Number:	(907)274-1004
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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

DID YOU KNOW? Since 2004, the Anchorage Park Foundation has invested more than \$18 million in Anchorage parks, trails and recreation programs. Join us this summer to revitalize parks in your district.



**NEIGHBOR
POWER!**

www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org

2014

CAP SIS Project Number:
62100

Legislative District: I - 18

ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION

Anchorage has 10,946 acres of municipal parkland, 223 parks, and over 250 miles of trails and greenbelts linking neighborhoods with natural spaces.

The Anchorage Park Foundation partners with the Parks & Recreation Department to promote Healthy Parks and Healthy People in the Anchorage community. Together, we revitalize the safety, function, and appearance of Anchorage parks and the neighborhoods that surround them.

The Anchorage Park Foundation mobilizes 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.



Tax ID Number: 41-2205907

907.274.1004



ANCHORAGE
PARK FOUNDATION

Working Together to Improve the Parks & Trails you Love!

SUZAN NIGHTINGALE MCKAY PARK

Park Report Card Grade: F

The Anchorage Parks Report Card offers a comprehensive review of the condition of Anchorage neighborhood parks by reflecting community opinions and ideas. In the Fall of 2011, Anchorage community volunteers evaluated 51 neighborhood parks based on five criteria: cleanliness; safety; structure; appearance; and function. We will use this information to strategically employ resources, both financial and volunteer, to better meet the needs of our community.

In 2011, Suzan Nightingale McKay Park received an F on its Report Card. Neighbors identified a number of areas in which Suzan Nightingale McKay Park needed improvement. The play equipment in this Government Hill neighborhood has reached the end of its useful lifespan, and the surfacing does not meet safety requirements.

Funds will be used to replace the equipment, update the playground surface and replace the park amenities for easier maintenance.

The Government Hill Community Council and neighbors are active park advocates and users, and will make great use of these improvements with public and private funds, and volunteer energy.

In the summer of 2015, the Anchorage Park Foundation and Parks & Recreation Department plan to complete improvements in Suzan Nightingale McKay Park with the help of community volunteers and the input of a neighborhood park committee. We invite the Alaska State Legislature to join us in investing in the future of Suzan Nightingale McKay Park and the Government Hill community. The Anchorage Park Foundation will match legislative investment in neighborhood park fix-its with volunteer involvement and generous support from the Rasmuson Foundation's Anchorage Parks Initiative.



www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org



Bluff

Cook

Andromeda

NEIGHBORHOOD FIX IT

PRIORITY LIST: NIGHTINGALE PARK

- Replace play equipment
- Resurface playground
- Install trash cans, signs and benches



Project Cost Estimate

PROJECT BUDGET	COST
Replace Play Equipment	\$70,000
Playground Surface	\$50,000
Purchase Basic Amenities	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$140,000

2013 REQUEST	
State Funding Request	\$100,000
Project Deficit*	\$40,000
Total Project Budget:	\$140,000

**If funding from the AK Legislature is secured for this project, the Anchorage Park Foundation plans to commit \$40,000 of Rasmuson Foundation funding to this project.*

Suzan Nightingale McKay Park



February 4, 2014

Dear Anchorage Legislator,

Every child deserves a place to play. My daughter, Anna, has spina bifida, which paralyzed her lower legs before she was born. Today, at age 7, she can get around with the help of a walker and a wheelchair. Although Anna participates in numerous adaptive sports, she has been unable to enjoy the most basic childhood activity--playing on a playground. Just last summer, Anna was told at summer camp that she had to sit on the sidelines and watch while her friends played because there was no equipment for her to play on. She just watched.

I decided that day that Anna and kids like her would have places to play right here in Anchorage.

I started the Parks for All grassroots initiative with two other mothers who have children experiencing disabilities: Christy Everett Jordan and Rachel Leask. Knowing that most Alaskans live here for the lifestyle and recreational opportunities, we share the mission to bring accessible play to all Alaskans of all ages and all abilities. For four years, we developed a true community partnership, securing individual donations on our own and working with the Anchorage Park Foundation and Anchorage Parks & Recreation to secure legislative grants and large private donations, all put toward the new inclusive, certified Boundless Playground at Cuddy Family Midtown Park. The playground was installed during the summer of 2013, and has been a hit with children of all abilities, their families and Anchorage's wounded warriors.

I thank the State of Alaska for contributing to this first project along with our other donors.

In 2013, in a great show of support for the Parks for All initiative, the Rasmuson Foundation set aside money for the Anchorage Park Foundation to fund Parks for All projects, including accessible and inclusive playground and park development. Working with multiple local and state organizations and experts in inclusive play, APF is putting some of that funding toward a strategic plan to help guide the Municipality of Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department's playground building efforts over the next 10 years.

Because of overwhelming community support, Alaska is seeing a statewide trend toward inclusive playgrounds. I join the Rasmuson Foundation and Municipality of Anchorage in supporting accessible recreation projects. Anchorage Park Foundation intends to include at least one accessible and inclusive playground or trail component in each of the projects listed below, and I am writing this letter in support of APF's legislative requests for those accessibility and safety improvements on behalf of Parks for All.

Park Projects

Moen Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades

Dave Rose Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades

Independence Park: Neighborhood Park Development
Suzan Nightingale Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Heatherstone Park: Neighborhood Park Tot Lot
David Green Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Pamela Joy Lowry Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Pioneer Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Lloyd Steele Park to Balto Seppala Park Trail Safety & Park Improvements
Williwaw East Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Arnold Muldoon Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Jewel Lake Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Westchester Lagoon Nature Trail Safety Improvements
Elderberry Park Rehabilitation and Safety Upgrades
Tikishla Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Forsythe Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades
Springer Park: Neighborhood Park Safety Upgrades

Thank you for your time and attention. Please do not hesitate to contact with me with questions or ideas for other accessible and inclusive park improvements. Together, we can make Anchorage a place where no child has to sit on the sidelines.

Sincerely,



Leah Boltz
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