
Parks and Recreation

Anchorage: Performance. Value. Results.

Mission

Provide for “Healthy Parks, Healthy People, Healthy Future” through ensuring Anchorage parks, facilities, and programs are well maintained, safe, accessible, and enjoyable.

Core Services

- Park Operations – maintain and improve the health of the Municipality of Anchorage park system for the benefit of present and future generations through managed development; and routine care and maintenance of parks, trails, green spaces, trees, and facilities.
- Community Development – promote community giving to foster economic growth and community volunteerism in the care and improvement of park assets and in the delivery of parks and recreation services.
- Recreation Services - promote healthy lifestyles by delivering year-round recreation and volunteer programs in the Municipality of Anchorage’s parks, pools, and recreation facilities.

Accomplishment Goals

- Provide opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy Anchorage’s parks and facilities.
- Deliver recreation opportunities in a cost-efficient manner.
- Provide recreation opportunities that are safe, secure, and enjoyable.
- Engage residents to actively participate and volunteer in the community.
- Foster private-public partnerships and innovated funding sources to establish a balance in the financing of parks and recreation services and in the development of capital improvement projects through state and federal grants, user fees, volunteer support, and private contributions.

Performance Measures

Progress in achieving goals shall be measured by:

Measure #1: Percentage of Parks and Trails that are designed and maintained to ensure the safety and security of park goers.

Evaluation Criteria	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Percentage of Parks Routinely Maintained per Week	95%	95%	95%	95	95			
Percentage of parks and trails that are inspected weekly	93%	92%	92%	86	80			
Percentage of playgrounds that are inclusive	27%	27%	27%	32	37			
Percentage of parks that are patrolled with park staff.	15%	15%	15%	93	95			
Number of parks that are locked on a nightly basis.				19	19			

Measure #2: Number of volunteer hours and the economic value to the community in the maintenance of park assets and in the delivery of parks and recreation services.

Description of Community Contribution	2019 Q4	2020	2021	2022	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Volunteer Hours	200	891.5	1865.5	2955	220.5			
Economic Value of Labor Hours	\$5,400	\$24,140	\$49,450	\$88,193	\$6,604			

Parks Operations Division

Parks and Recreation Department

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Mission

A stewardship requirement of the Department is to provide safe, aesthetically pleasing, and usable parks and recreation facilities for public use. To accomplish this requirement daily recurrent, frequently scheduled service and monitoring of the facilities is essential to meet the needs of ever-increasing user groups, to support new and existing recreation programs and to reduce liability risks throughout the system. The Parks Operations Division will fulfill its stewardship requirement by organizing and implementing a maintenance zone management system.

Core Services

- Park Development - is responsible for open space planning, site planning, landscape reclamation, project management and technical services associated with the delivery of new or updated park and recreation infrastructures and for generating community involvement and private funds for park improvement projects.
- Park Maintenance – maintains the Anchorage Bowl Park Inventory of 10,861 acres of park land that includes 113 developed parks and 107 undeveloped parks. Property includes 220 miles of trails and greenbelts that link neighborhoods with surrounding natural open spaces and wildlife habitat.
- Horticulture and Forestry – the Horticulture Section is responsible for the operation of the Municipal Greenhouse, the annual growth of 83,000 flowers, and the landscaping and maintenance of 350 beautification sites. The Forestry Section is responsible for the strategic planning and maintenance of Anchorage's tree canopy and natural parks.
- Community Work Service – the staff and participants assist the other Sections of the Parks Operations Division in cleaning, beautifying, and repairing park property and facilities.

Accomplishment Goals

- Through the practice of routine maintenance, maintain Municipal park assets to ensure optimum risk management by keeping parks, trails, and facilities in a state of good repair, and that are safe and welcoming.
- Through planned and managed development improve the safety, appearance, and usability of Anchorage Neighborhood Parks in an effective and cost-efficient manner.

Performance Measures

Progress in achieving goals will be measured by:

Measure #3: Illegal Camp Clean-up

Evaluation Criteria	2019 Q4	2020	2021	2022	2023 Q1	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2023 Q1
Number of reports to ANC works		1,300	1,423					
Number of campsites cleaned up	124	413	368					
Number of staff hours used to clean the sites	721	7,670	16,577	21,626	3918			
Amount of trash removed from the sites (tons)	51	337	475	524.2	83.7			

Measure #4: Annual capital investment in Park and Recreation Assets

Capital Source	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Municipal	\$3,290,086	\$2,705,841	\$1,555,000	\$2,454,923	(In progress)
State and Federal	1,338,544	2,627,632	0	2,185,000	
Anchorage Parks Foundation	325,000	172,000	244,151	230,214	

Recreation Services Division

Parks and Recreation Department

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Mission

The mission of the Recreation Services Division is to assist residents of all ages in achieving a state of physical and social wellbeing through health-promoting activities, and to provide children and youth with positive experiences which enable them to be healthy, responsible, creative, productive, environmentally aware, and active in community life

Core Services

- Recreation Facilities - operates 2 indoor recreation centers, 2 outdoor centers, and 1 camper-park, and delivers city-wide programs and activities.
- Recreation Programs – delivers city-wide recreation and leisure programs and activities
- Aquatics Section - operates 5 indoor pools and two summer waterfronts.
- Volunteers Section – promotes community involvement through volunteer activities

Accomplishment Goals

- Provide satisfying positive experiences through quality recreation, leisure and civic programs in Anchorage's parks and facilities.
- Maximize budgeted resources through effective scheduling of facility operational and program hours by matching demand to capacity.
- Deliver recreation services in a cost-effective and efficient manner
- Offer aquatic programs year-round for public safety and recreation.

Performance Measures

Progress in achieving goals shall be measured by:

Measure #5: Permitted use of municipal parkland and facilities

Park Facility	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Centers				1897 days 11,053 hours	405 days, 2358 hours			
Parks and trails	36	12	18	1816 days 17,206 hours	559 days, 3307 hours			
Pavilions	912	512	1,134	734 days 7043 hours	20 days, 124 hours			
Aquatics	506	242	410	665 days 3651 hours	90 days 280 hours			
Athletic Fields, Courts, and Rinks	99	81	142	118	27			
Community Gardens (season)	211	199	355	233	236			
Cooperative Use Agreements (annual)	20	16	18	17	17			
Camping Permits	2,165	661	1,379	488	0			

PVR Measure WC: Managing Workers' Compensation Claims

Reducing job-related injuries is a priority for the Administration by ensuring safe work conditions and safe practices. By instilling safe work practices, we ensure not only the safety of our employees but reduce the potential for injuries and property damage to the public. The Municipality is self-insured and every injury poses a financial burden on the public and the injured worker's family. It just makes good sense to WORK SAFE.

Results are tracked by monitoring monthly reports issued by the Risk Management Division.

