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# Parks and Recreation

*Performance. Value. Results.*

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## **Mission**

Provide for “Healthy Parks, Healthy People, Healthy Future” through ensuring Municipality of 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 Municipality of Anchorage 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.

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## **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 Maintenance
  - Anchorage 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.
  - Eagle River/Chugiak operations support and maintain a park inventory of over 2,500 acres with 16 developed and 13 undeveloped park properties. Properties include 32 km of groomed ski trails, 10 playground areas, 11 picnic shelters, and 2 million sq. ft. of turf.
  - Girdwood Parks and Recreation manages 120 acres including 13 miles of trails, oversees ten parks, a town square, a modern children's playground with a separate "tot lot", a newly redesigned skate park with rails and ramps, a disc golf course, and two sheltered park pavilions with picnic tables.
- Horticulture and Forestry
  - Anchorage Horticulture 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.
  - Eagle River/Chugiak plant and maintain over 3,000 flowers and 50 hanging baskets each summer while coordinating approximately 100 community volunteers at 15 flower bed locations.
- Healthy Spaces
  - The Alcoholic Beverages Retail Sales Tax Program funds the Healthy Spaces Division within the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department. The Healthy Spaces Division provides resources to prevent and address Anchorage's

homelessness crisis through the year-round clean-up of camps within parks, trails, and greenspaces.

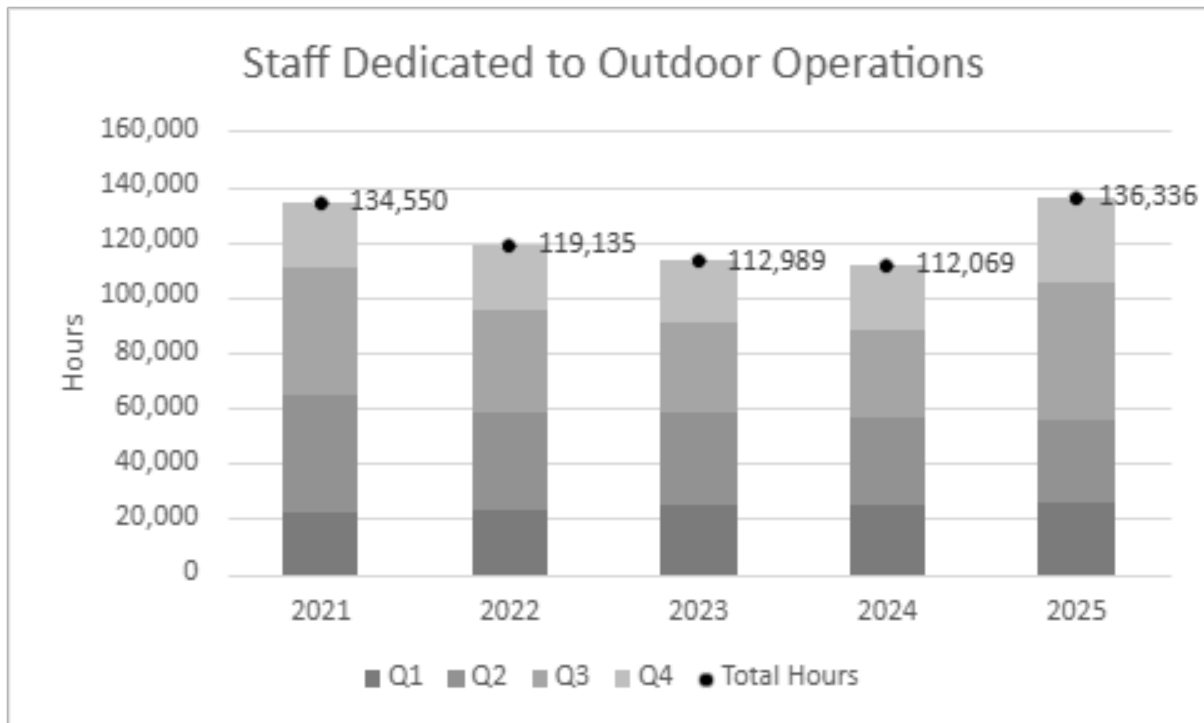
### Accomplishment Goals

- 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 Municipal Neighborhood Parks in an effective and cost-efficient manner.

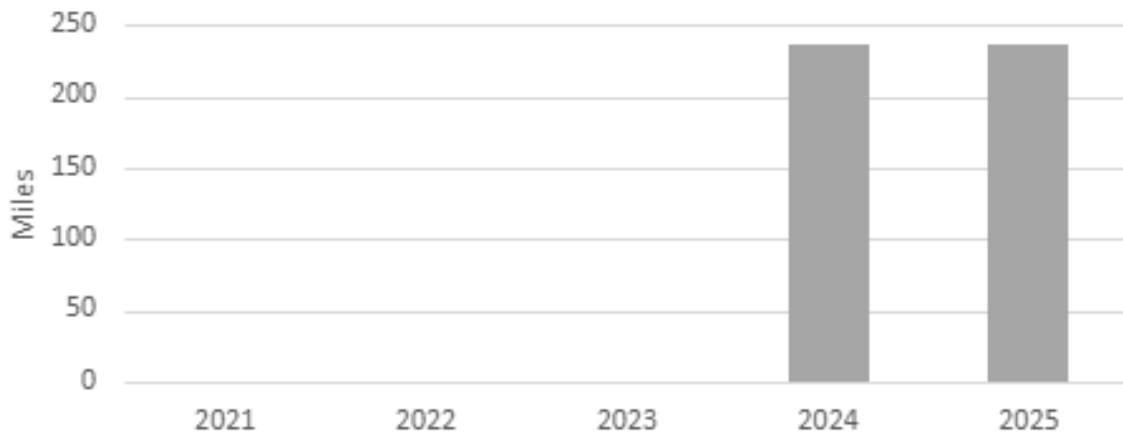
### Performance Measures

Progress in achieving goals will be measured by:

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

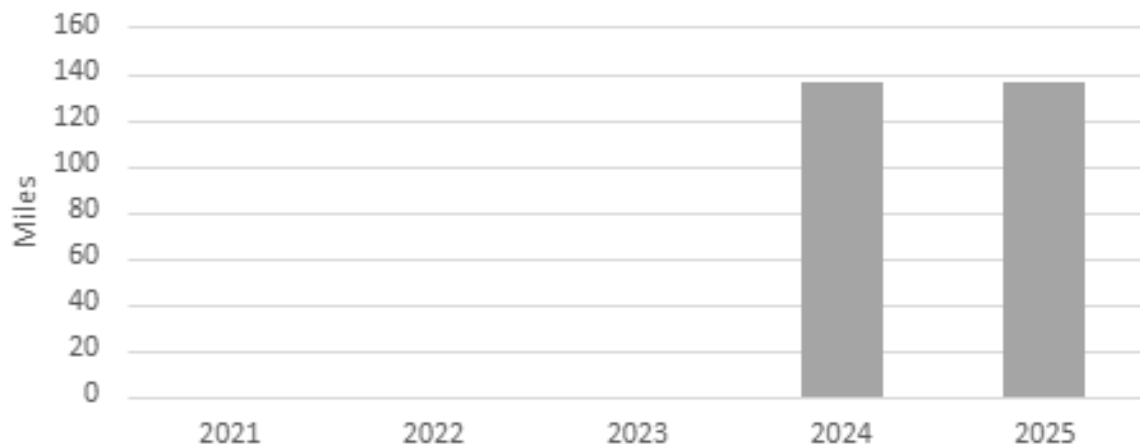


### Miles of Maintained Trails<sup>1</sup>

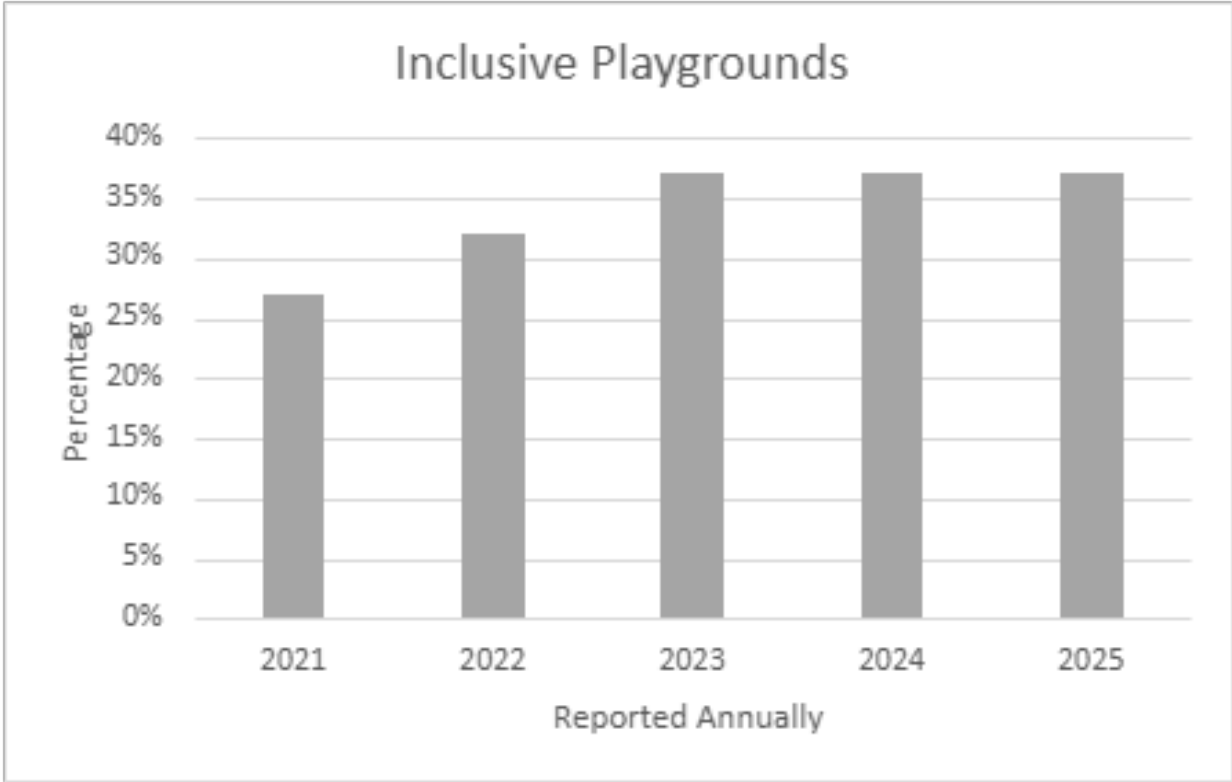


<sup>1</sup> Inventory of paved and unpaved trails maintained by MOA Parks Staff. This includes assets not on parkland but maintained by Parks and Recreation Staff.

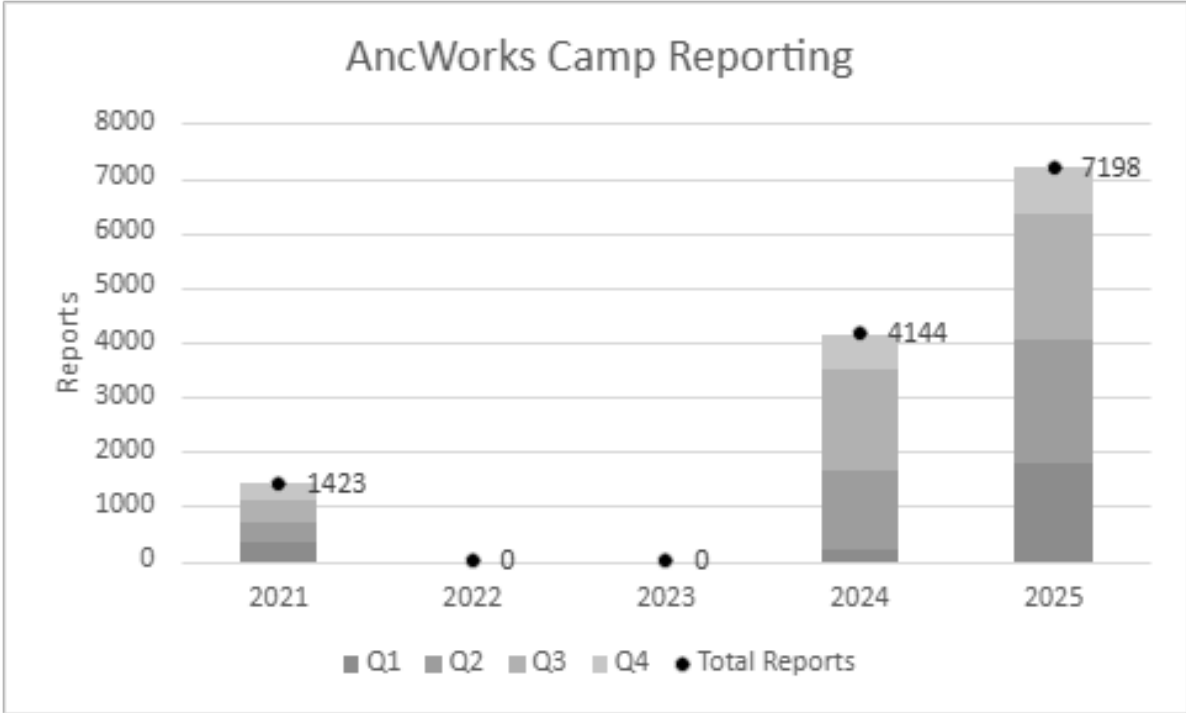
### Miles of Maintained Winter Trails<sup>2</sup>

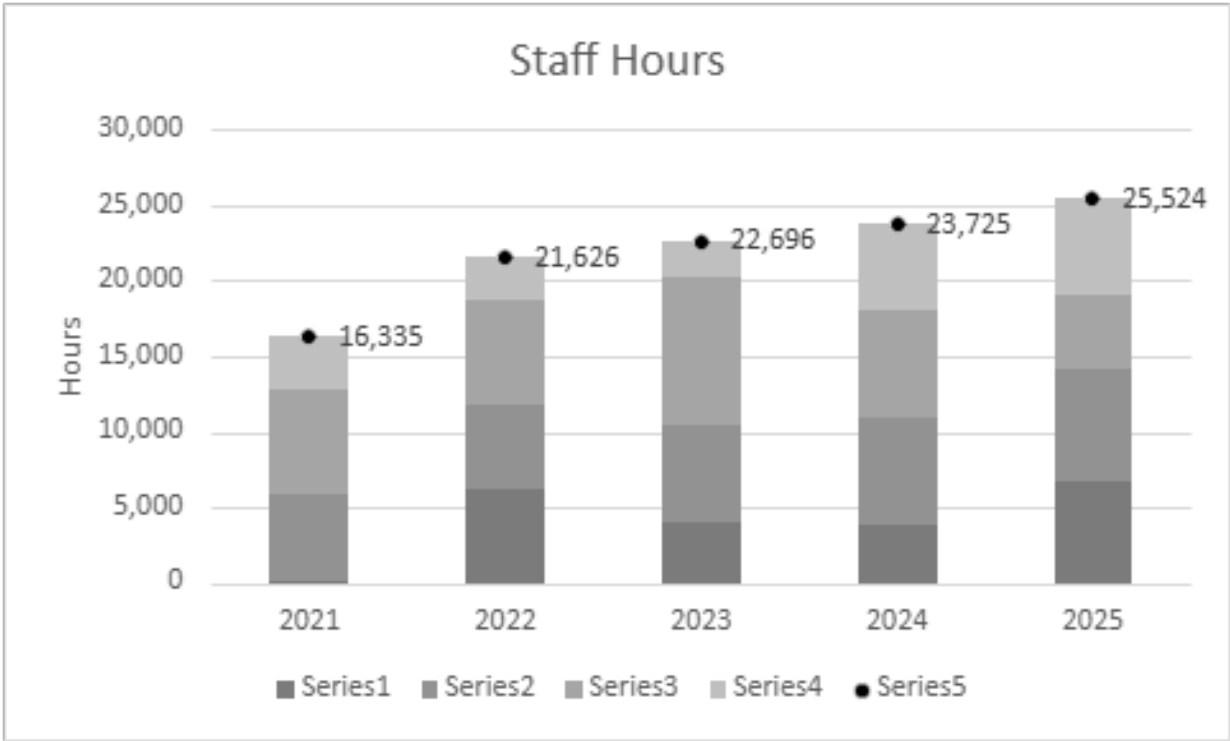
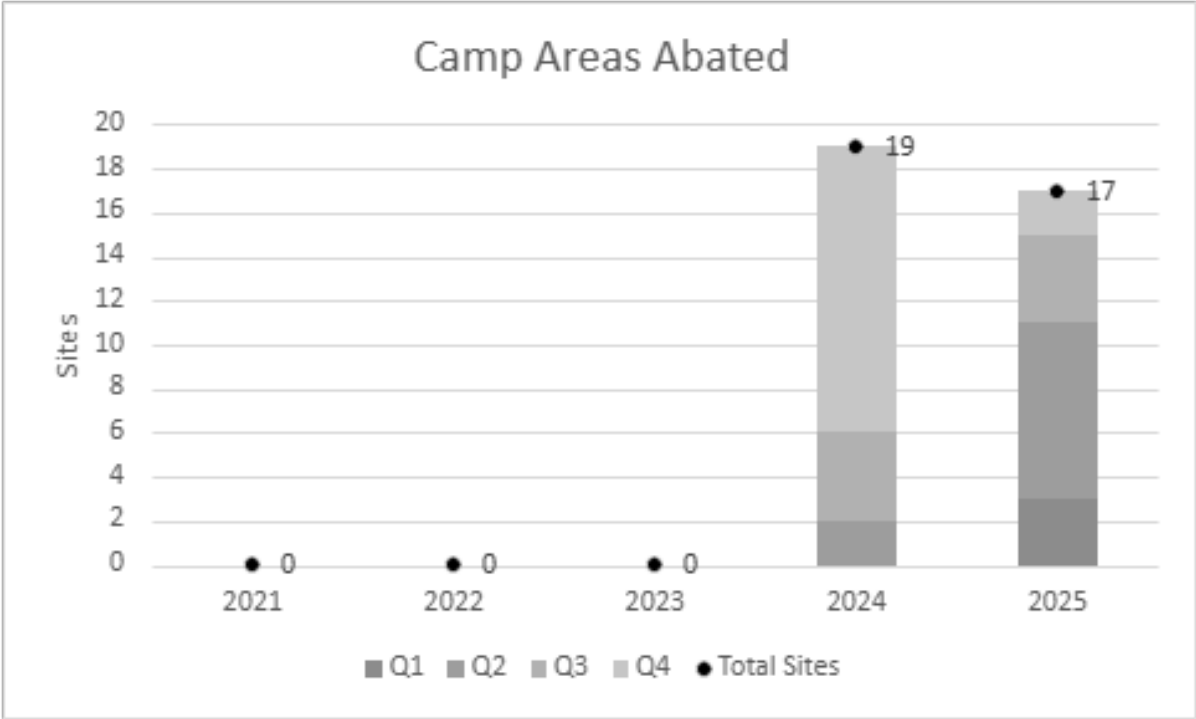


<sup>2</sup> Includes groomed trail and snow removal by trackless equipment completed by MOA Park Staff



**Measure # 2: Illegal Camp Clean-up**







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# Community Development Parks and Recreation Department

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## **Mission**

### **Core Services**

- Volunteer
  - The Parks and Recreation department has a robust volunteer program that includes a variety of activities and ways to support public spaces. A volunteer coordinator position exists at the Anchorage Parks and Recreation office and works with neighbors, community members, non-profit groups and corporate organizations.
- 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.

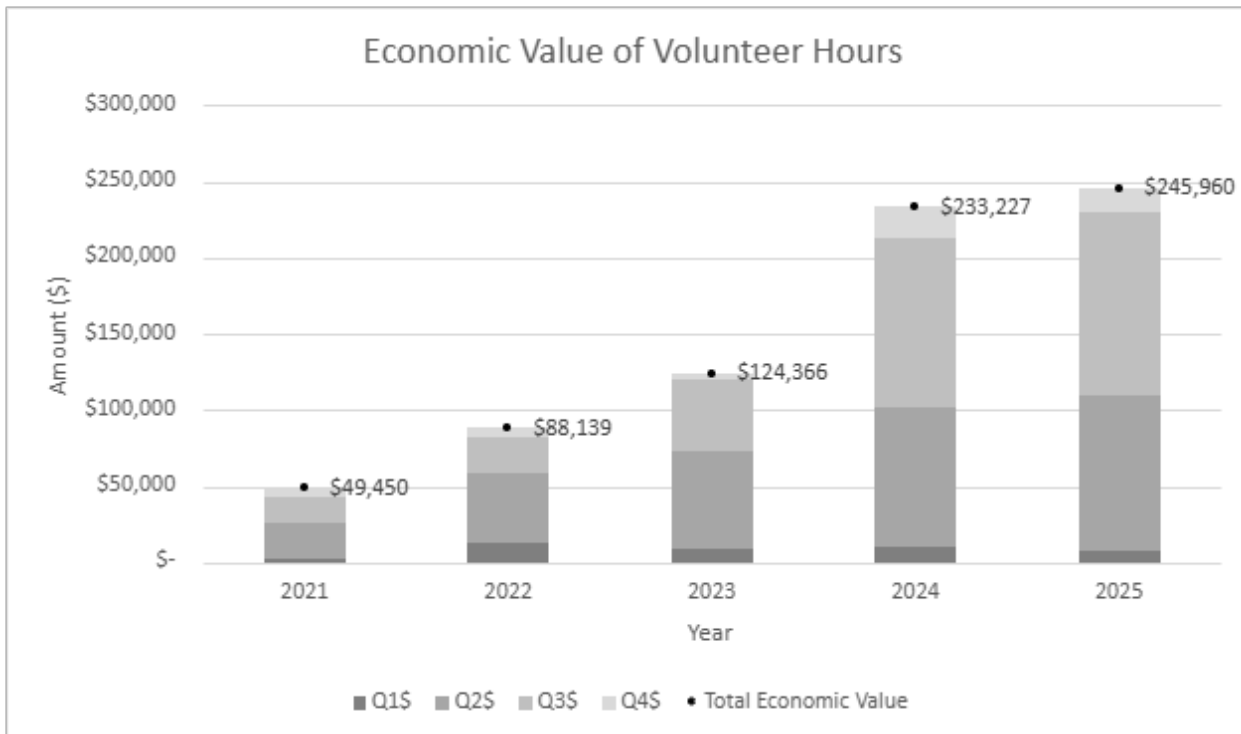
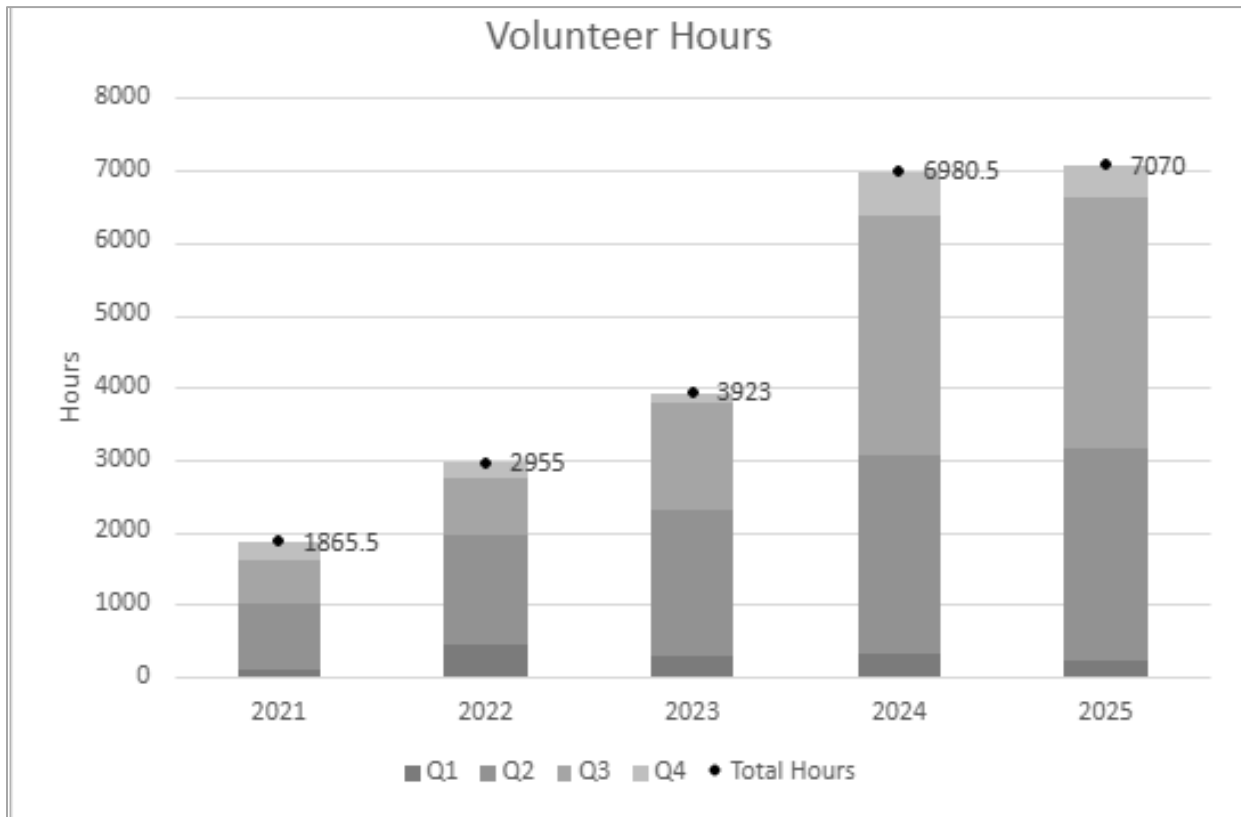
### **Accomplishment Goals**

- 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.

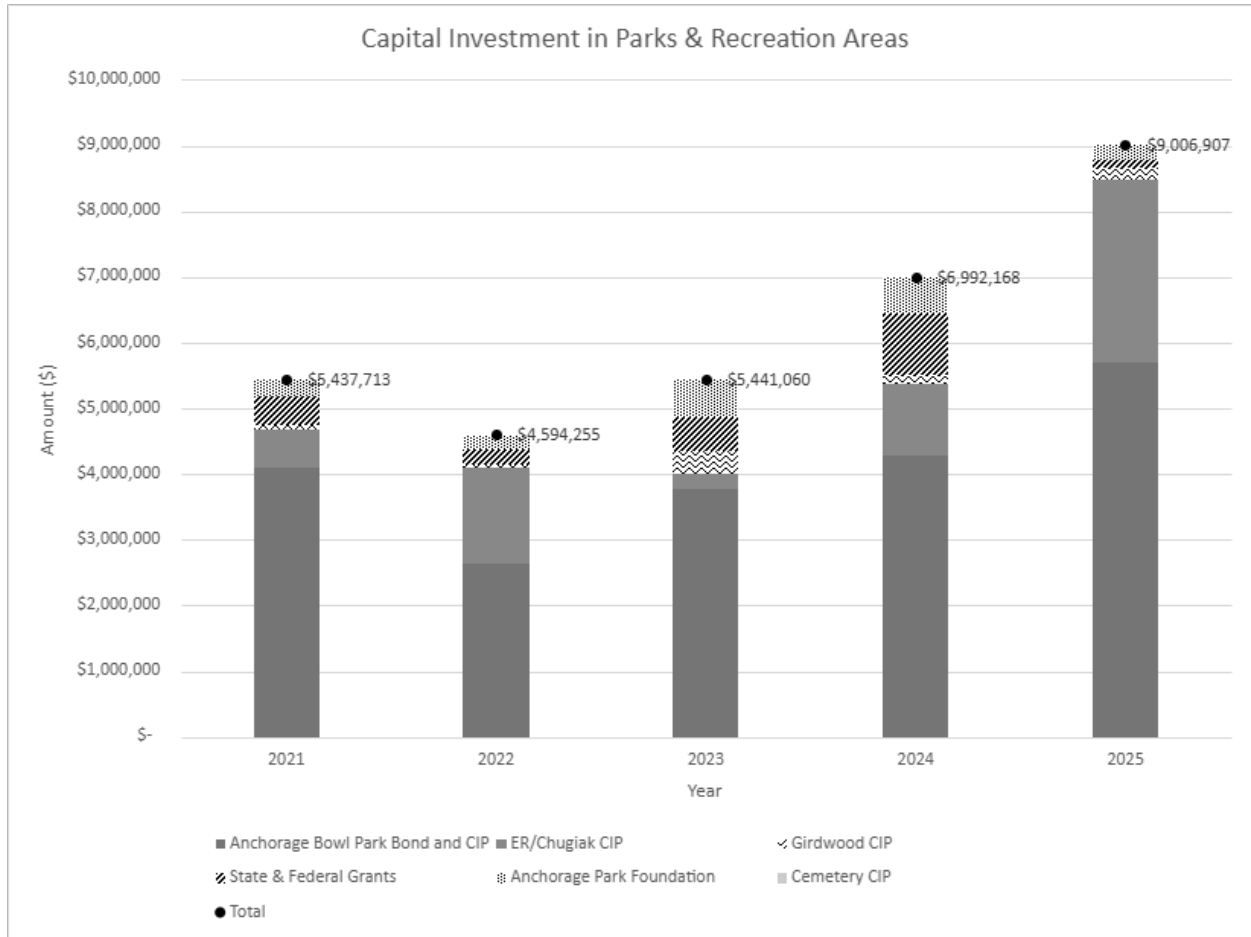
### **Performance Measures**

Progress in achieving goals will be measured by:

**Measure #3: Number of volunteer hours and the economic value of the community in the maintenance of park assets and in the delivery of parks and recreation services.**



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



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## **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 six recreation centers indoor, two campgrounds, and one lodge/cabin facility.
- Recreation Programs
  - Delivering city-wide recreation and leisure programs and activities.
- Aquatics Facilities
  - Manages six indoor pools.
- Athletic Fields and Courts
  - 42 soccer fields, 73 athletic courts and 69 ball fields.

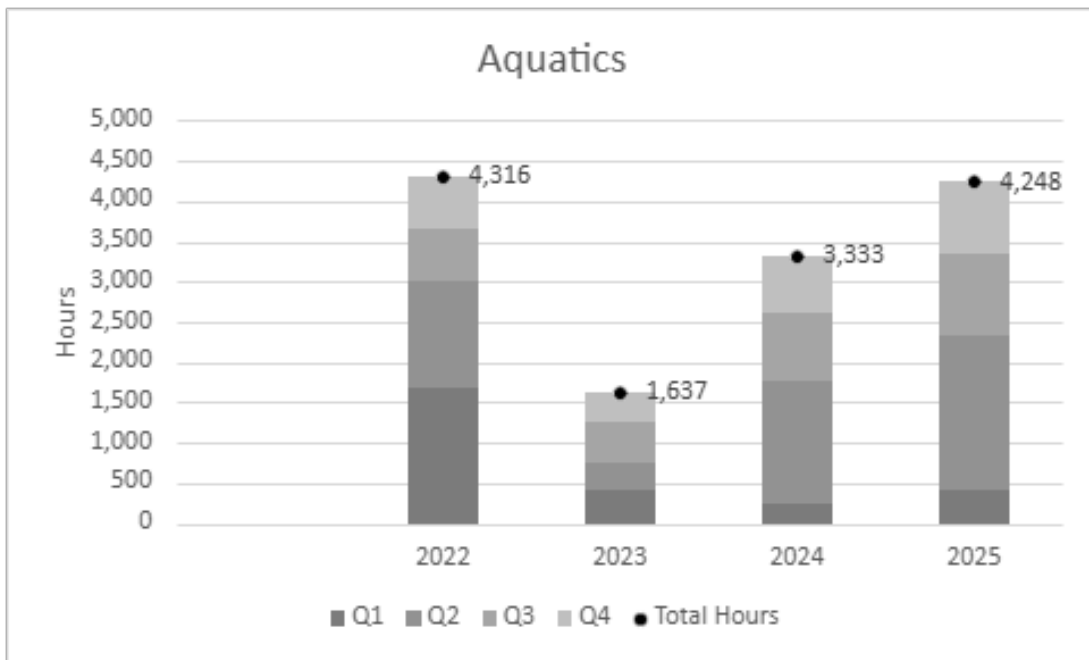
#### **Accomplishment Goals**

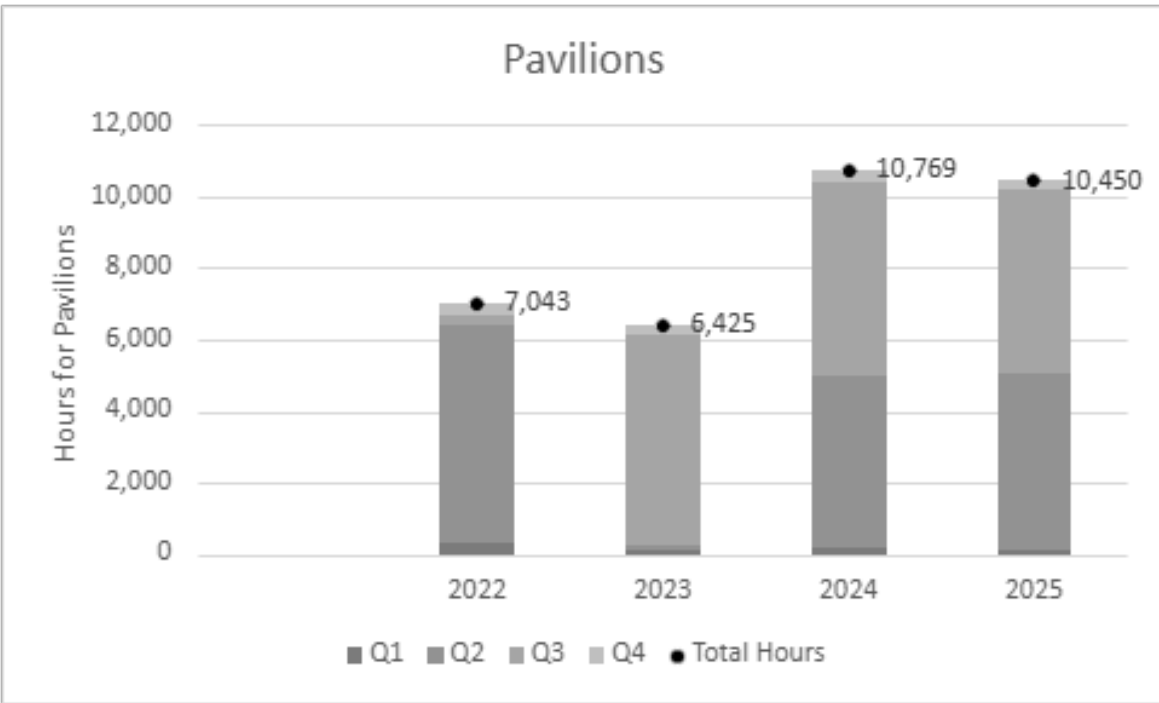
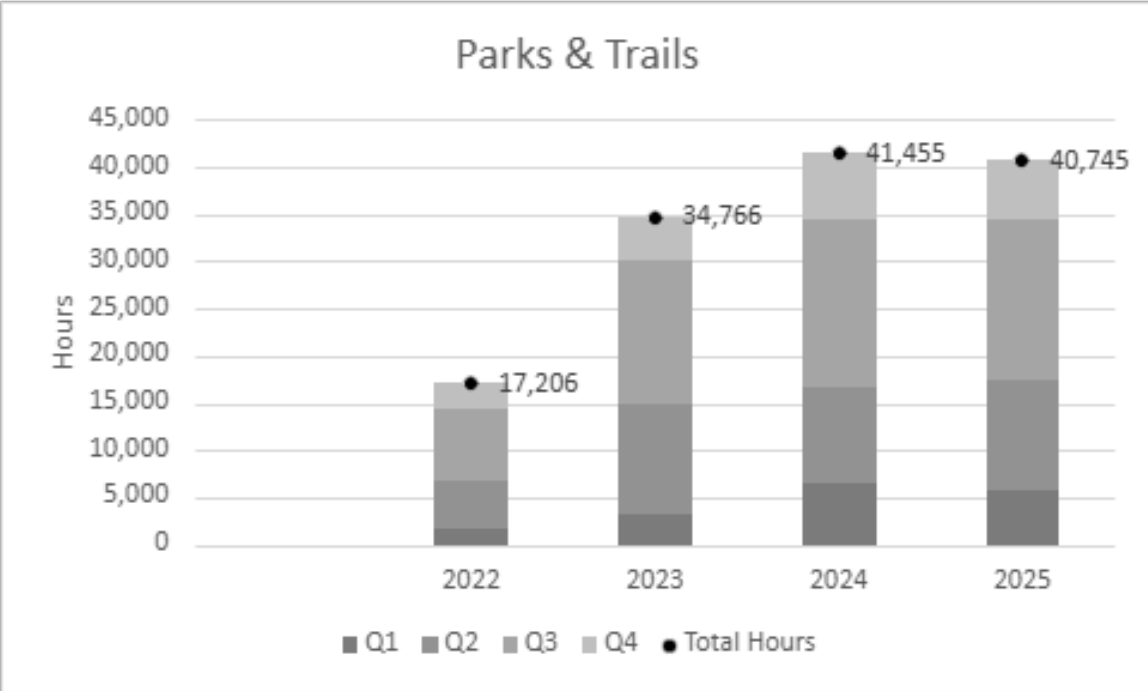
- Provide satisfying positive experiences through quality recreation, leisure and civic programs in Municipality of Anchorage parks and facilities.
- Maximize budgeted resources through effective scheduling of facility operational and program hours by matching demand to capacity.
- Deliver recreation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

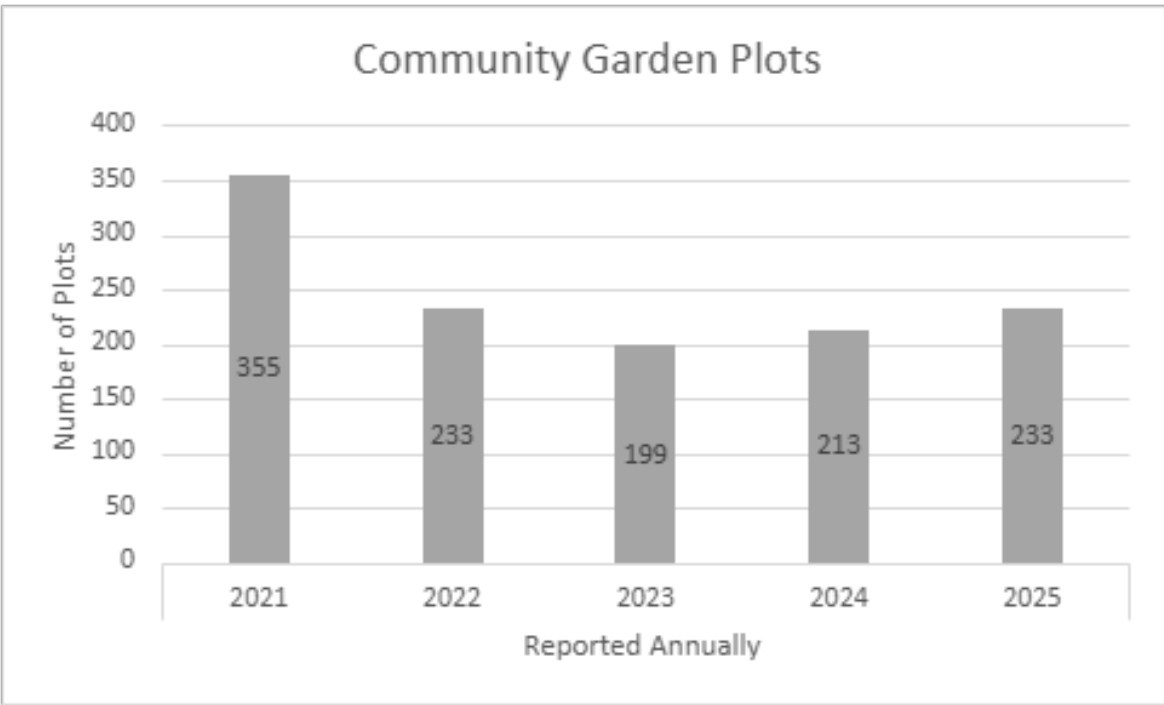
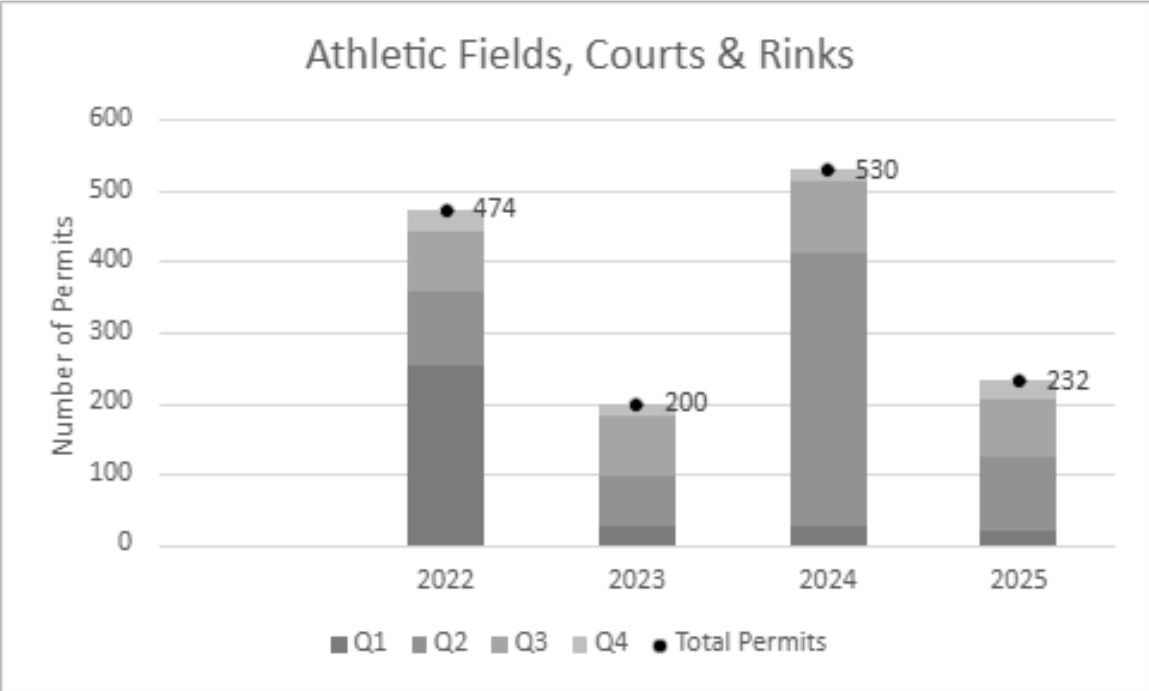
#### **Performance Measures**

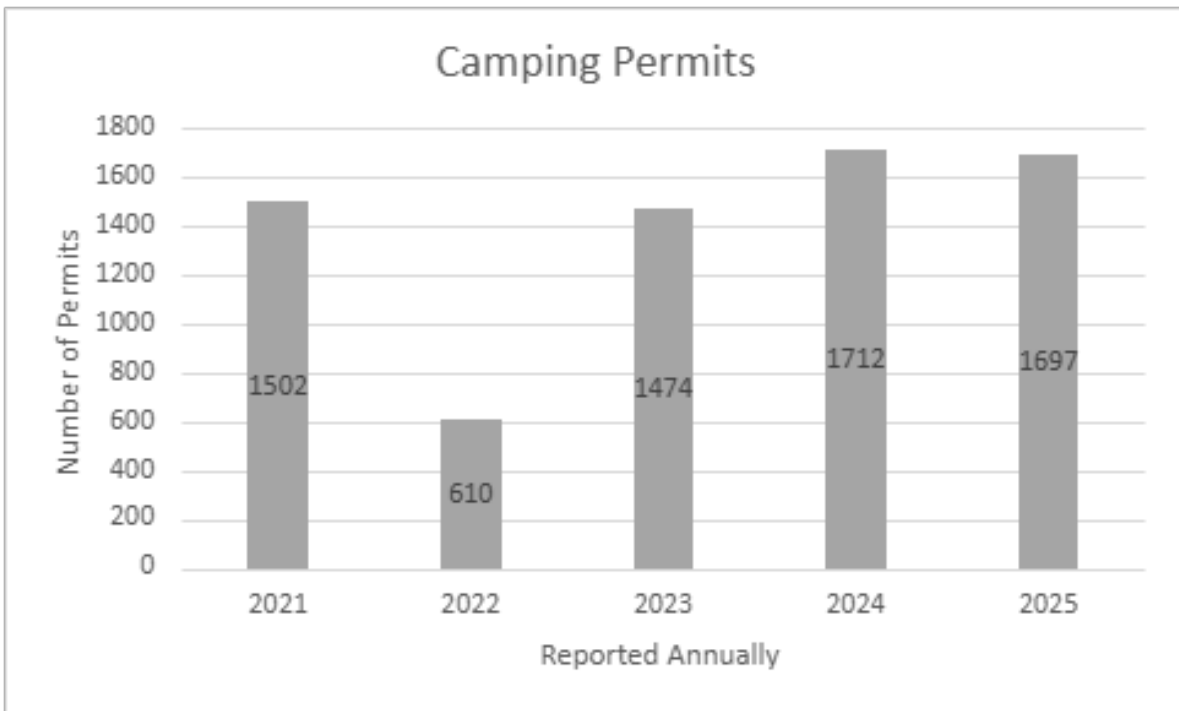
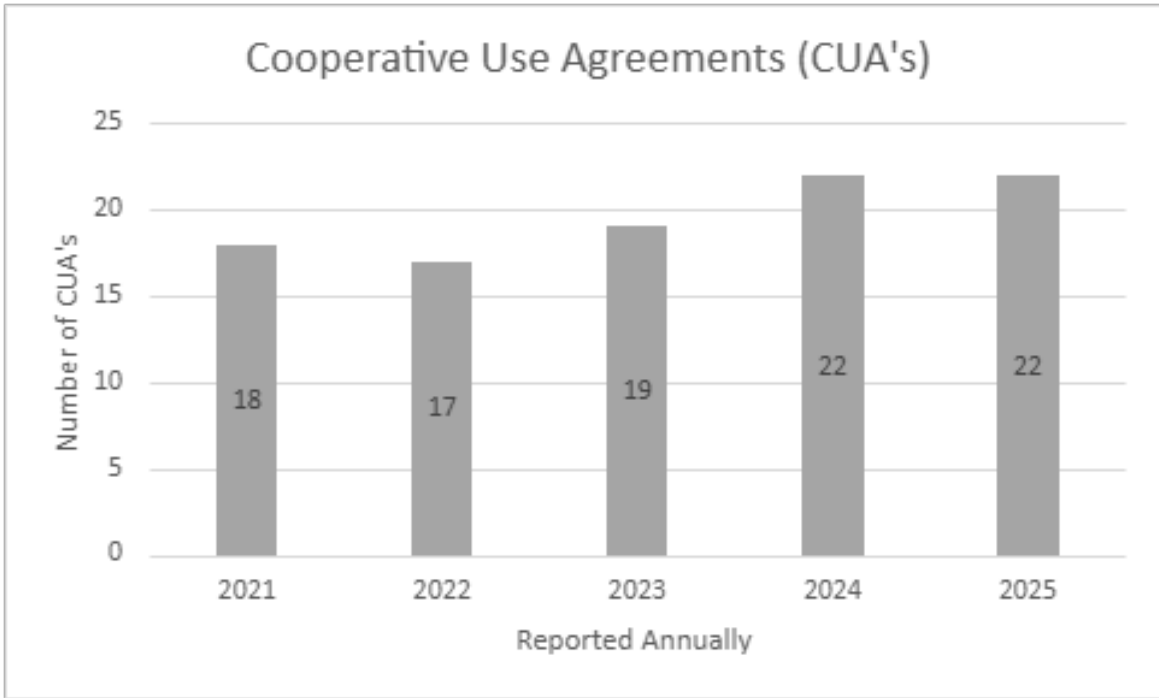
Progress in achieving goals shall be measured by:

**Measure #5: Permitted use of Municipal parkland and facilities.**









**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.

