

### Anchorage Parks and Recreation Presents...







# PARK IMPROVEMENTS 2013

ARCTIC BENSON PARK • 750 W. 31ST A V E N U E

## PARK Profile and Report Card - 2011

ARCTIC/BENSON PARK • 750 W. 31ST AVENUE • OCTOBER 24, 2012

THESE PLANS PRESENT A GRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO HELP GUIDE THE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD PARK.



### Arctic/Benson Park 750 W. 31st Avenue

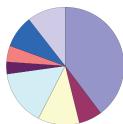
### **Park History**

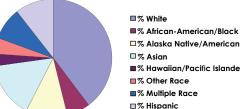
This property was offered for sale in 1977 for a park site, and in April 1981 the Municipality of Anchorage purchased the land. The owners sold the property at below the appraisal value, which gave the Parks & Recreation Department funding to develop it. This park was the location for the kick-off party held for the City of Lights program in 1996. They continue to light this park every fall.

### Neighborhood Statistics\*

Population: 4,194 Percent of Population under age 18: 20.3%

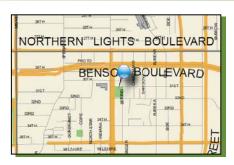
Ethnic Composition:





### Park Facilities & Equipment

- •Play equipment for 2 to 5 year olds
- Picnic tables
- Large open play field
- Volunteer-maintained flower bed
- On street parking





#### **COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:**

Mayor Dan Sullivan mayor@muni.org

Midtown Community Council Don Pohland, President donp@jlproperties.com

Assembly District 4 Dick Traini - trainid@muni.org Elvi Gray-Jackson - gray-jacksone@muni.org

Alaska State Legislative District 25M Representative Mike Doogan Representative\_Mike\_Doogan@legis.state.

Senator Hollis French Senator Hollis French@legis.state.ak.us

www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org . 715 L Street Suite 200, 99501. (907) 274-1003

## www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org REPORT CARD ON PARKS: Arctic Benson

### Report Card Background

The Anchorage Parks Report Card utilized community volunteers to create a comprehensive picture of the condition of our parks, reflecting the Anchorage community's opinions, preferences and ideas. Anchorage citizens along with Anchorage Parks and Recreation staff evaluated 38 parks based on 6 different settings. Parks were surveyed based on cleanliness, safety, structure, appearance, and function. Anchorage Parks and Recreation staff will use this information to strategically employ its funding and volunteer resources to better meet the needs of the Anchorage community.

### **Arctic Benson Findings**

Community members reported that Arctic Benson Park has a lot of potential and that they would bring their families there if the homeless issue could be solved. Currently they feel it is terribly unsafe and being overtaken by drugs, alcohol, prostitution, and people living there. They are very concerned about the inappropriate activities occurring in the park both during the day and at night, contributing to litter, unpleasant odors from human waste, and generally making the park an unwelcoming and scary place. The playground is old and abandoned due to intimidating adult activity in the area.

#### Fix It List

- Re-paint equipment, install engineered wood fiber, and new equipment
- Create a destination enclosed dog-park to bring more people to the park
- Bring back lighting. Install light posts and security cameras
- · Install a lighted basketball court
- · Plant flowers in beds
- Prune trees for better visibility
- Remove "hiding places" in trees and shrubs, or remove bushes altogether
- · Install a fence as safety barrier to dangerously fast Arctic Blvd traffic and for dog park

### **OVERALL GRADE**

**Active Recreation Areas Green Spaces** Park Entry **Passive Recreation Areas** 

Pathways **Playgrounds** 

39

35

36

Scores were calculated on a 100 point



The playground needs repair and replacements



The tire of the tire swing needs replacement

For a complete directory of Report Card results for neighborhood parks, go to www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org/projects/reportcard.htm

The Anchorage Park Foundation developed the Anchorage Parks Report Card in partnership with the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at Indiana University, and community volunteers, thanks to a generous grant from the Rasmuson Foundation. The APF has raised over \$18 million dollars since 2004 to improve public parks, trail and recreation areas. To make a contribution or volunteer, please visit us at:

www. AnchorageParkFoundation .org



## Existing Conditions

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Anchorage Parks & Recreation

# Arctic/Benson Park

750 W. 31st Avenue Anchorage Alaska 99503

0' 20' 10' 40'	60' 100' NORTH
Scale: 1" = 20' - 0" @ 22" x 34"	Date: 12-11-2012
Drawn By: TJ Checked By: SC	Conceptual Plan 1 of 1