



2022 Anchorage Park Foundation Community Challenge Grant Application

Applicant Type: Select one.

Individual

Nonprofit

School

Community Council

Sports Organization

Service Organization

Business

Other

Project Lead Contact Information

First Name: **Stanton**

Last Name: **Moll**

Email: **shm99516@yahoo.com**

Mobile Phone: **907.229.7041**

Address: **220 Pacific View Dr.**

City: **Anchorage**

State: **AK**

Zip: **99515**

Project Name (short sentence)

Johns Park Mitigation and Protection project is intended to develop a plan to protect the park from damage caused by overuse and the conflicting efforts of residents to impose their own visions.

Project Location and Address: **Johns Park, Anchorage**

Name of park, trail or facility: **Johns Park**

Address

City

Zip

Project Description (1000-character limit)

This proposal is to develop and implement a plan to protect Johns Park from being loved to death. The original transferal to City ownership stipulated that the property remain free of motorized vehicles, buildings, and diversion of Furrow Creek, and as well as an express desire to preserve the park as green space for wildlife. Located where Furrow Creek regains its natural

character as it emerges from traversing an urban corridor, the park and the canyon is the only access point to the Anchorage Coastal Refuge between Oceanview Bluff Park and Carr-Gottstein Park, and therefore receives a lot of traffic up and down the bluff.

The park serves a huge number of users, mostly benign, but others are not so neighborly – many have reported the impacts of those trying to mold the park to their own benign or malign visions, or simple neglect and disregard. In particular, social trails throughout the park have proliferated, but there is a plethora of conflicting uses that should be addressed.

Public Benefit (500-character limit)

The beneficiaries are residents of and visitors to the community seeking a “wilder” experience, but especially future park users. It is our ethical and legal duty to ensure the next generation benefits from the park as we do, and it is incumbent upon us to preserve it to the best of our abilities.

Secondarily but still important is preservation of the ecological services the park provides through its natural conditions: strong forests, fresh waters, vibrant soils, healthy wildlife.

Partnerships and Community Support (1000-character limit)

This project is organized, supported by, and managed by the Old Seward Oceanview Community Council (OSOVCC), a recognized Community Council within whose bounds the Johns Park project area is located. OSOVCC has successfully promoted and navigated previous Parks projects. The community is engaged and involved, so with a concerted outreach effort for this project, we anticipate easy passage of a Community Council resolution in support. We have two more CC meetings before our summer hiatus, time to pass a resolution and develop interest for 2022. Discussions have elicited widespread verbal support, along with ideas such as community fundraiser picnics and work parties. Our success with past Anchorage Parks projects demonstrates that the many users of Johns Park, and concerned and involved citizens, will participate amply and gladly.

We also anticipate the involvement of other NGOs with specific interests such as the Anchorage Waterways Council, Alaska Trails, and local churches.

Project Budget Narrative (1000-character limit)

As currently envisioned and estimated, the cost for developing the plan include meeting with City Planning to ensure compliance with the existing Parks Master Plan. We did not include a cost to the City for these meetings other than those for the landscape architect.

We expect the first order of business to develop the plan. Estimated material costs are based upon an initial project priority (armoring social trails), but further planning may cause priorities to change. We expect most materials to be donated by local merchants or purchased with donated funds.

Fundraising will take place at at least one event/community party to be held sometime in the summer of 2022. Additional fundraising campaigns will take place at CC meetings and via mailings and social media.

Total Project Budget: \$28,785

Amount Requested from APF: \$14,250

Matching Funds: \$14,535

Project Team (1000-character limit)

The project will be undertaken as an effort directed by the Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council, in whose boundaries the park is located. Project lead will be Mr Stanton Moll, Treasurer of the CC. The project will be endorsed by CC Resolution – a vote is anticipated in May. The full board has expressed enthusiasm for the project, as have many residents. We will reach out to the Bayshore Klatt CC, which abuts the park, for their cooperation. We will also contact other potential cooperative organizations such as the Anchorage Waterways Council, Alaska Trails, and others, to seek their input and cooperation. The benefits of this project reach beyond the local residents, so we expect positive feedback.

Planning and Implementation (1000-character limit)

Our first step will be to hold discussions at the CC to determine fine-tune the desired outcome for this and follow-on projects. Nearly simultaneously we shall begin discussions with landscape architects to engage their services. We have contacts from previous parks efforts whom we will approach.

At or about the time of our May CC meeting we will hold discussions regarding an early- to mid-summer fundraiser. Our landscape architect should have a plan for us about that time also, and once we have an idea of the items we need we can then begin to approach potential sponsors (AS&G, Faltz Nursery, etc.) for in-kind contributions.

After that we can begin to schedule construction and on-site work, including that of YEP participants.

Much of this scheduling will likely run afoul of participants' summer travel and work schedules, and so it is very likely that actual building cannot take place until summer of 2023. There is every expectation that this project and final report will be complete by the end of October 2023.

Project Certification

To the best of my knowledge all the information in this application and each attachment is true and correct.

Digital Signature: 

First Name: **Stanton**

Last Name: **Moll**

Date: **17 March 2022**

Submitting Application

For questions and to submit all grant application materials, please contact Diana Rhoades, Anchorage Park Foundation Community Engagement Director 907.249.6652, Diana@AnchorageParkFoundation.org