

History of Cuddy Family Midtown Park and the Need For a Chalet ▶



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Our mission

Cooperate, collaborate and advocate with Midtown neighbors, businesses and residents to create a safe, well maintained, sustainable, friendly and fun park for all.

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1 Executive Summary

History of the Cuddy Family Midtown Park and the Need For a Chalet

Roots of the park date to 1982 while Helen Nienhueser was on the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission. She proposed to the Commission that there be a park in midtown. The idea was approved, resulting in the first land acquisition in late December 1987, in which the 4.8 acres adjacent to the library were purchased for \$1.7 Million. In 2000, there was purchase of additional land for \$1.6 Million, which expanded the park to 15.5 acres. Funds were a combination of Municipal bonds, State legislative funds, and a donation from the Cuddy family of \$300,000. The final land purchase package was negotiated by mayor Rick Mystrom . Additional improvements to the park came from the BP corporation, which contributed about \$1 Million in donations and labor to improve the park appearance and amenities. The Anchorage Skates group formed to advocate for development of a community skating and fitness in oval in the year 2000. The group identified the park as a possible location for an oval and was able to procure a HUD grant for construction of a speedskating oval through Senator Ted Stevens. This catalyzed refinement of the park design through work with the New-York-based Project for Public Spaces, development of the park master plan in 2005, construction of park trails in 2006 and the skating oval in 2008. Moreover, in 2006, a \$2 Million MOA Storm and Drainage bond daylighted Fish Creek in the park and utilized the pond in the park for flood control. On August 23, 2008, the Anchorage Parks Foundation hosted the grand opening of the Cuddy Family Midtown Park.

We seek partial funding for construction of a facility, a “chalet”, for Cuddy Family Midtown Park in Anchorage. This chalet would be the hub for organized activities in the park throughout the year and would be a place for families to warm up and use restrooms, particularly in the winter. The park needs a ‘chalet’ for year-round use. The park is the only major park in Anchorage without such a facility. There is no place to get warm while visiting the park in the winter or to gather in the summer. A chalet in the park has been in park plans since its inception. The Project for Public Spaces, a New York City-based public planning group, helped the municipality craft a design for the park that included a chalet, and they stated, “In the long term, in order for the park to become more of a destination, there needs to be a facility in the park, such as [a] chalet...” This design led to the approved park Master Plan in 2005. The Anchorage Skates group went through a planning exercise in 2015 in considering where to site the chalet in the park, and then RIM Architects produced a pro bono (approximately \$14,000) preliminary design for the facility in 2016 based on that location. This design received enthusiastic approval from the Muni’s Parks and Recreation department, and the project also received formal endorsement from the Midtown Community Council in 2020. In 2018, Kiewit Construction provided a detailed pro bono estimate of \$1.2 Million to build the facility (Note: this is \$1.35 Million in today’s dollars, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI calculator. However, contractors state that given inflation of construction materials, the real price increase is likely 30%, so we estimate a 2022 total cost of \$1.56 Million). In 2019, a Municipality Parks and Recreation bond included \$250,000 for construction of the chalet. In 2021 the donor advised Midtown Park Chalet fund was established at the Alaska Community Foundation to accept gifts for construction of the chalet. As of January 2022 the fund has grown to over \$20,000 from private donations through the efforts of the Anchorage Skates group. All parties are on-board with the proposed need, location, and design. This is a widely supported shovel-ready project, with partial funding already obtained, approvals in place, and it would make an impactful addition to the park and the life of Alaskans, the majority of whom traverse midtown Anchorage.



2 Cuddy Family Midtown Park

1982 to 2008

*Developing Land Use Policy
for Midtown Anchorage:
Creating a 15 Acre Park*

By Helen Nienhueser

Developing Land Use Policy for Midtown Anchorage: Creating a 15 Acre Park

By Helen Nienhueser

I was appointed to the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission in 1982 by Mayor Tony Knowles, a fan of “55 Ways”. I had recently been transferred from my downtown DNR office, to the regional office in midtown Anchorage. I was not happy about the location; my office had a spectacular view of a “midtown desert” with no sidewalks, no green, no place interesting to walk to, and lots of vacant lots. I proposed to the Commission that we work to establish a park in midtown. They agreed and we added it to the Capital Improvement Projects list with no specific location identified other than Midtown. When I returned to Anchorage in 1985, after attending the Kennedy School, I was reappointed to the Commission. I had no idea that I was embarking on a project that would last over two decades and would reshape midtown Anchorage.

As long as Tony Knowles was mayor the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department took the lead. In July 1985 the Community Planning Department prepared the Anchorage Park, Greenbelt and Recreation Facility Plan which recommended acquisition of land for a park in midtown. This process of creating the plan generated a lot of citizen interest in a park in midtown for passive recreation such as walking, jogging, and cross-country skiing, trails that were linked to the rest of midtown and to Anchorage’s new flagship public library that was to open in 1986. In September the Park and Recreation Commission established a Midtown Park Subcommittee to focus on a park in midtown; I was the chair. The plan was adopted by the Anchorage Assembly in December. In 1986 the staff worked on plan options and the Commission met with the mayor to brief him; he was very supportive. He asked for a master plan and directed us to work with owners of neighboring parcels so that there were no surprises.

In January 1987 the Parks and Recreation Commission passed a motion identifying acquisition of land for Midtown Park as its top priority for the next three years. On April 5th the *Anchorage Daily News* published an article headlined “City plans park to balance out asphalt”. The city identified property next to the library and completed a site plan. But as the year progressed I became worried. Tony Knowles’ second term as mayor ended in December of that year. If we didn’t purchase a piece of property before he left office, would the next mayor support the whole park idea?

I decided we could not take a chance. So I called Mayor Knowles at the end of a workday and told him that if he wanted a park in Midtown he needed to assign the purchase to Peter Scholes on his staff, who I knew would make it happen. (The Mayor subsequently joked that he takes

orders well!) By now there was a lot of support for this park, and he thought it was important to follow through. He made it a priority for his administration and assigned the acquisition to Peter. In September 1987 the Park and Recreation Commission approved the site plan the staff had developed. On October 13, 1987 the Municipal Assembly unanimously approved the Midtown Park Plan. On Dec 29, 1987, two days before the end of the Knowles administration, the Assembly voted to authorize the purchase of a first parcel, 4.8 acres, next to the library.

The next mayor did not support the park. For the next six years the city used the new 4.8 acre parcel as a snow dump. Neither Art Geuss, chairman of the Park and Recreation commission and a supporter of Midtown Park, nor I were reappointed to the Commission.

Rick Mystrom was elected mayor in 1994 and assumed office on July 1. I hoped that he might be more interested in creating a park in Midtown. On December 9 Mayor Mystrom presided over a ceremony dedicating the Lanie Fleischer Chester Creek Trail. Art Geuss and I both attended, and I suggested that we create a Midtown Park Committee. He was enthusiastic and after the ceremony we talked to the mayor about resurrecting the Midtown Park idea. His response was positive and we were back in business as an ad hoc citizen group of Midtown Park supporters. Art and I were cochairs of what we called the Midtown Park Steering Committee. In January 1995 the Park and Recreation Commission reinstated us as a subcommittee of the Commission.

In spring 1995 voters passed a park bond issue that contained \$50,000 for Midtown Park. Part was to be used by staff for revising the park plan but part was available to help make the existing park site attractive to use in the near future. That summer over 100 volunteers participated in three work parties to begin creating the park.

A major priority was acquiring more land. In May 1996 the Legislature appropriated \$254,000 for Midtown Park, thanks to Senator Dave Donley. The Alaska Division of Forestry and the King Career Center (a high school vocational program) held the first of many work days to plant trees and create trails. In a July meeting with the mayor, key department heads and our Midtown Park Steering Committee, the mayor assigned Sheila Selkregg, his new planning director, to lead a process to address land acquisition and 40th Avenue. 40th Avenue was a line on a map that, if constructed, would block or bisect the southern expansion of the park. In a July meeting the Anchorage Assembly deleted 40th Avenue from the Official Streets and Highways Plan and replaced it with a study area to determine the need for it. The road was controversial within the Administration, with the Department of Public Works pushing for it and the Planning Department opposing it.

Our Midtown Park Steering Committee worked closely with Sheila. The city purchased an additional 1¼ acres in April, 1997, using the 1996 legislative grant. In the same month voters passed a \$5 million bond issue of which \$150,000 was for the development of Midtown Park. In

May the Legislature approved a grant of \$344,000 for Midtown Park. (This was during a period of high oil revenues to the State.) In June our Midtown Park Steering Committee met with Mayor Mystrom to propose acquisition of land south of the 40th Avenue right of way. Subsequently the mayor sent us a letter telling us to work with Sheila on a community planning process to determine what is best for Midtown. In the fall the mayor decided to move ahead with a study of 40th Avenue under the leadership of the Department of Public Works—which had made clear its preference in favor of the road. This battle went on for years.

Then in January 1998 the property owners of the land south of the proposed 40th Avenue asked the Assembly to rezone that property from Residential to B3, which allows big box stores.. I wrote an op-ed piece for the local newspaper about why it should not be rezoned: we regarded residential use as a good neighbor for the park but more big-box stores was definitely not what we wanted to see there. We mobilized, developing and distributing 2000 copies of a brochure on the future of midtown. Opponents of the rezone flooded the Assembly chambers and testimony lasted three hours. It became known as the “biggest land use battle of the year.” The Assembly postponed a decision until July 1998. In June Sheila Selkregg organized a meeting between 40th Street Investors and Midtown Park Steering Committee representatives; the outcome was that 40th Street Investors would discuss withdrawing their rezone request to give park supporters a chance to explore a Park Improvement District. In July we organized a meeting of the mayor with community leaders who supported Midtown Park, including a former mayor and a former senator, regarding acquisition of land south of the 40th right-of-way.

Design and development of the park was a major challenge. We needed more allies. To get them we needed more visibility. We used the long year-2000 millennium celebration to achieve both. In February 1999 a Midtown Coordinating Committee was established with representatives of the Midtown Park and Trail Steering committee, Anchorage 2000, American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Anchorage Municipal Libraries, Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department, and the Trails and Greenways Coalition. In March the Anchorage Chapter of the ASLA took on Midtown Park design as one of its projects to celebrate the 100th birthday of its parent organization. At our instigation Anchorage 2000 took on the development of Midtown Park as a Millennium Project and planned the year 2000 field work. In October Anchorage 2000 sponsored “Salute to Anchorage Parks and Libraries in the next Millennium”, a reception and workshop focused on building a partnership between Loussac Library and Midtown Park, with Diantha Schull of Libraries for the Future in NYC. The top recommendation from that workshop was to acquire the 9.4 acre parcel south of the 40th Avenue alignment.

In November representatives of the Midtown Coordinating Committee met with Mayor Mystrom to urge acquisition of that 9.4 acre parcel and he agreed to try to do so! In June 2000 the Municipality acquired 9.4 acres just before Mayor Mystrom’s last term ended. The money

came from multiple sources including a price reduction by the owners, legislative grants, municipal bond money, the Heritage Land Bank, and a \$300,000 donation by the Cuddy family. In appreciation of their gift, which made the acquisition possible, the park was named Cuddy Family Midtown Park. The park was now about 15 ½ acres!

The offices of British Petroleum, the major producer of oil on Alaska's North Slope, were just a few blocks northeast of Cuddy Family Midtown Park. Members of Alaska Trails and Greenways Coalition, who were involved in the park, convinced BP to be partners. As an outgrowth of the Millennium celebration BP adopted the park for its 2001 annual BP Classic. A group of friends—an architect, a planner, and two landscape architects—did an initial park design. Over 600 BP volunteers from all over the country built an outdoor stage and elevated trails on landforms designed around a glacial theme. The company donated more than \$1 million in cash and materials. BP employees and other volunteers contributed 1000-plus hours working on improvements. The most visible changes were ridges (eskers as part of the glacial theme) that provided a trail with magnificent views of the Chugach Mountains while skiing, running, or walking. Also volunteers poured the foundation for an outdoor stage and planted many new trees. All of this took extensive preplanning, coordination, and assignment of tasks by the Midtown Park Steering Committee (now the Cuddy Family Midtown Park Steering Committee). And it took the help of many volunteers.

In April 2003 Anchorage elected Mark Begich as mayor, reinvigorating the park project with support from the mayor's office. In 2004 the Alaska Trails and Greenways Coalition received a contribution of over \$350,000 from JL Properties for improvements in Cuddy Family Midtown Park. Money raised by Betsy Lawer, a member of the Cuddy family, plus a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funded construction of a bridge over the west entrance, paving of trails, and lighting

In October 1998 I attended a conference in Seattle called Great Cities, Great Parks, put on by the Urban Park Institute and Project for Public Spaces. I learned a lot. I took my enthusiasm back to my fellow steering committee members and in the fall of 2004 we were finally able to bring Fred Kent and Kathy Madden, the principals of Project for Public Spaces in New York City, to Anchorage to conduct a workshop to create our final master plan. One of the most important results of this two day workshop was finding a solution to the several-year disagreement between the Park Steering Committee and local speed skaters. The speed skaters wanted a speed skating oval and their proposal was to place it in the south half of the park where the current design had eskers and a walking/skiing/jogging trail with a fabulous view of the Chugach Mountains. The Steering Committee was opposed to the speed skaters' proposed location and did not see how to fit a skating oval in elsewhere. But with an outsider's eye Fred Kent looked at our argument about the oval, measured the oval and measured the space and pointed out that it could fit on the west

side of the new 9.4 acre parcel. It is there today. Now in winter the skating oval is one of the most popular uses of the park. Lighting makes skating possible despite short winter days in the north.

Other issues Fred and Kathy identified, to be addressed in the revised master plan, included improved connection to the larger community. Today there is access and some parking on the east and west sides of the park in the 40th Avenue alignment. But there is still no clear access from the south and no partnerships with businesses that back up to the park on the south. The potential to daylight Fish Creek, which had been placed in a culvert years before, was addressed. Many of the recommendations from the workshop have been implemented, though not all.

Working closely with Project for Public Spaces, local planning firm Land Design North created the final master plan which now included the skating oval on the west side of the park. Daylighting of Fish Creek was now part of the project, both an amenity for the park and a strategy for dealing with flood water. Today the creek flows through the northern part of the park and feeds a family skating pond. The recommended master plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission at their June 2005 meeting. Now with the Municipality in the lead, the planning process became more formal; each member group of the Midtown Park Coordinating Committee was asked to sign a memorandum of understanding to abide by whatever findings resulted from the master planning process.

On May 2, 2006, during the Begich administration, the Assembly finally vacated the 40th Avenue right-of-way through the park, thus ending years of battle!

In 2006 the Cuddy Family Midtown Park Steering Committee approved the changes to the master plan, as did the Park and Recreation Commission and the Urban Design Commission. U.S. Senator Ted Stevens secured \$900,000 for the skating oval. A \$2 million dollar flood control bond to daylight Fish Creek and build a pond passed. And the Cuddy family donated funds to create Betti's Garden.

On July 11, 2007 we held a groundbreaking ceremony and major construction began on the skating oval, pond, and Betti's Garden. The berms were moved to make room for the skating oval but retained their form; trail rerouting began and the playground was removed for installation at a new site within the park.

On Saturday, August 23, 2008 Anchorage Parks Foundation hosted the Grand Opening of Cuddy Family Midtown Park. The event lasted from 11 am to 7 pm. We had theater performances, music, roller ski races, radio controlled sailboat races, a stroller derby, a tricycle relay race, kiting, a climbing wall, and food vendors. I gave a short speech, telling the story of how the park came to be---being transferred to midtown which was a sea of asphalt with no green and

no place to walk, of being on the Anchorage Park and Recreation Commission which enthusiastically supported my suggestion of a park in midtown, of all the people who came together over the previous 20 years to create the park. The *Anchorage Daily News* came to the party and next day said “Cuddy Midtown Park ...could have been a scene out of a Norman Rockwell Painting Saturday....All of the action unfolded amid acres of grass so green it overwhelms your senses, with trees, daisies, and poppies planted here and there..the Park’s new design, meant to draw people in, succeeded wildly on opening day. About a thousand people showed up.....”

And with that the Midtown Park Steering Committee turned the park over to the city to manage, take care of, and, we hoped, keep improving.



3

Cuddy Family Midtown Park

2008 to present

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*A View of Midtown Park
from 2008 to the Present*

By Tim Potter

A view of Midtown Park from 2008 to the Present

by Tim Potter

I worked adjacent to the Cuddy Family Midtown Park during my 40-year career with DOWL, and I have been amazed at all the ways the park has grown and been used in the last decade. Successful parks typically have an appeal to user groups that results in four-season, year-round use. Year-round use also leads to a safer and more cared-for facility. When the idea of having a speed skating oval in Midtown Park was first put forward, the Anchorage Skates group, the Alaska Speed Skating Club, and the People for Public Spaces report (2004) believed the Olympic-sized ice oval would anchor an active use in the park from November-March. Additionally, we hoped that people working and living in the area would use it by skating at lunch or after work. As workers and residents discovered the great, well-maintained ice, and excellent lighting, use has definitely increased. I have seen skating at lunch, families coming to skate together, young hockey players working on speed and endurance exercises, Anchorage Skate Club classes, as well as the Winter Jamboree giving Title 1 school kids an opportunity to experience skating. A personal favorite memory was the huge smile of a boy from Sudan, who was experiencing snow and ice for the first time in his life while skating on the oval.

The oval was named the “speedskating and fitness oval.” We anticipated summer uses including: A) roller and inline skating, B) roller skiing, as cross training for cross-country skiing, C) walking, D) kids learning to ride bicycles. This has proven to be a particularly popular use. No traffic, 10-m-wide flat paved surface, 400 meters in length with great visibility. Kids can learn to ride on their own, but not get too far from adults overseeing them.

We also knew there would be unexpected uses of the oval during the spring, summer and fall, but a few have particularly surprised us, in a positive way. Working in the office building adjacent to the park and the oval has given me the rare opportunity to see these first hand and talk to many users on my walks in the park.

- 1) One of the most unique and rewarding was a young teen boy, a quadriplegic in a powered wheelchair who towed a buddy around on a skateboard with a bungee cord. He pulled his friend around the oval and up and down the paved trails in the park as they talked, laughed, and hung out together.
- 2) A mother and father with their teenage son, who had a physical disability. Their son had a physical challenge related to weak muscle tone. He rides a large bicycle-like-trike. His parents said the speed, crowds, and the up-and-down sections of the Coastal Trail made it unsafe for their son and his trike. They happened upon the oval, and the wide, flat oval surface gave them and their son the confidence to be free to be able to ride, be safe, and get outdoors for needed fresh air and exercise.
- 3) An important use is “physical therapy” walking with a therapist, and either a heart attack or stroke patient. The oval allowed them to be outside and have controlled non-hazardous conditions for longer therapy walks.

- 4) Mom and Dad group stroller walk, jogs, or skates. Groups of Moms or Dads, usually two to six in size, would show up and walk, jog, or skate around the oval for an hour, getting their kids and themselves outside, exercising and socializing.
- 5) The oval has been a popular radio-controlled airplane runway. Occasional radio-controlled airplane operators show up and put on a show, often leading others to stop and watch.
- 6) Summer-time yoga classes at the oval after work.
- 7) Covid-19 changed things, such as cancelling a Winter Solstice Celebration and an ASD Winter Jamboree, however, with kids out of school and parents working from home, I observed a significant uptick in family activities happening in the park. Year-round the oval and the park have seen a significant increase in people using the park.

Highlights of Cuddy Family Midtown Park History, 2008 to the present

- 2008 - Winter, US Speedskating Champion, Gold and Silver medalist Derek Parra visits Anchorage and US Speedskating shows continued support for another oval. Ice was not yet on the oval, but he met and encouraged members of the club
- 2008-2009 - first winter with ice on paved oval. Since the fall of 2008, we have had ice on the oval from roughly Thanksgiving through the first week of March every year, and a similar season for skating on the pond.
- 2009, winter - First Alaska Speedskating Club training and races on oval. Races have included short events from 100 m (about 10 seconds) to 50 km marathons (2-3 hours), with pack-style and Olympic style formats, and participants from age 5 to 70s.
- 2010, January 1 - Full moon and Tiki Torch skate on the oval.
- 2010, December 21 - Full moon and Tiki Torch Solstice skate. This event became the annual Solstice Celebration, which is now the premier solstice event in Anchorage. The event has included carriage rides, donated by the Cuddy Family, fire twirlers, snow yoga, sledding, pond hockey, and skating.
- 2009, spring - First of \$10,000 annual donations by Anchorage Skates to the Municipality of Anchorage for oval maintenance
- 2011 MOA Parks and Recreation bond that includes lights for the oval passes
- 2012, November - lights installed on oval
- 2012, December 21st - Ribbon Cutting ceremony - for the lights at the oval at the now annual Solstice Celebration. Ted Stevens' grandchildren, Parks and Recreation Director John Rodda, Elvi Assembyperson Gray-Jackson, and others participated in the ribbon cutting on a cold and clear night, and the lights came on!
- 2010, January 3 - Skating clinic with 1980 Olympic speedskating medalist, 1980 world cycling champion and 1983 NCAA skiing champion Beth Heiden - approximately 35 people joined Beth for an afternoon of skating.
- 2007-2016 - Speedskate – skate ski duathlon - held from 2007 to 2016, and first held at the oval in 2009. The event was more popular in the early years. It consisted of about 3km of skating then skiing. Midtown Park is a wonderful venue for the event. It was discontinued due to declining popularity and increasing issues of cross scheduling with the dominant nordic ski season racing schedule.
- 2014, June - Summer Christian music festival brought thousands of people to the park over three days. Main stage was at the south end of the oval.
- 2015, November - electrical upgrades completed at oval. Included installation of sound system donated by Tom McGrath and Frigid North and extension of power to east side of oval in anticipation of a future chalet.
- 2015 - warming facility siting options evaluated by Anchorage Skates and site chosen for 'chalet'

- 2015 to present - Anchorage Skate Club uses the oval for their learn to skate programs. Their focus of teaching kids to skate, and skate better, outside is a perfect fit for skating at the oval.
- 2016 - Anchorage Skate Club experiment with a 'seasonal warming shelter' for teaching skating at oval. It didn't work well - steps made it hard for people with skates. Not a social environment
- 2016 - concept plan for 'chalet' warming facility developed *pro bono* by RIM Architects
- 2018 - Kiewit Construction produced a Cost Estimate for chalet of \$1.2M. They offer help to bring costs down through contributions of available materials should they be used for the project. (Note: this is \$1.35 Million in today's dollars, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI calculator. However, contractors state that given inflation of construction materials, the real price increase is likely 30%, so we estimate a 2022 total cost of \$1.56 Million)
- 2017 - 2020 (on hold with covid in 2021) - ASD Winter Jamboree exposes 200-350 kids per year in Anchorage School District Title I school kids to winter sports of cross country skiing, curling, speedskating, fat biking and broomball. Groups including the Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage, SkiKu, Alaska Speedskating Club, Anchorage Skate Club, Anchorage Curling Club, and Campfire all participate to make the event a huge success.
- 2019, April - Anchorage voters pass a Parks Bond that approves spending of \$250,000 toward a chalet in Midtown Park.
- 2020 – Midtown Community Council approves the proposed chalet design and location.
- 2020-2021 - Due to COVID, reboot on Alaska Speedskating Club's long track speedskating training program, which was a huge success. More than 30 people participated throughout the winter. In the past, lack of a warming facility made it difficult to motivate people to skate outdoors.
- 2020-2021 – Record high use year summer and winter as people look for outdoor venues to take their families due to COVID. Nearby workers notice significant increase of parents with their kids using all aspects of the park
- 2021, winter - two womens-only learn-to-speedskate clinics at oval led by Calisa Kastning and Amy Fitzpatrick with 20 people per session.
- 2021 - Midtown Park Chalet Fund established in the Alaska Community Foundation. Anchorage Skates seeds the fund with an initial \$15,000.



4 Purpose and Need For a Chalet in Midtown Park

Since the Cuddy Family Midtown Parks inception, a chalet facility has been envisaged. The *Preliminary Report for a Master Plan, Cuddy Family Midtown Park, December 9, 2004* identified the need. Under the Long-Term Recommendations on page 17 it states *“Many people also suggested an all-seasons chalet that could potentially house a park office, restrooms, a place for people to get information about park and area events, to borrow games, possibly a small food service and an outdoor terrace where people could sit and enjoy a snack or beverage, and the view of the mountains.”*

On page 22 it says, *“in order for the park to become more of a destination there needs to be a facility, such as the chalet that was mentioned by other groups.”*

We envision a facility that could be used in the summer and winter for activities from sporting events to weddings to corporate, club, and family events. It is difficult to hold events in a park without someplace that allows the possibility of getting out of inclement weather. In the summer picnic shelters often accomplish this purpose, but our other major parks with indoor facilities, such as Kincaid, Russian Jack and Hilltop allow for a broader range of activities. There is no such facility in our park in Midtown.

For wintertime activities a chalet is especially important. Anchorage is a Winter City where the outdoor sports of cross-country skiing, alpine skiing, ice skating and now fat biking are

enormously popular and continuing to grow.

The growth in cross-country skiing is especially notable. Jim Renkert grew up skiing in junior high, high school and Nordic Ski Club races at Russian Jack Springs, Kincaid and the Service Hillside trails. During those days the only trails with lights and a warming facility was Russian Jack. There were no lights, no indoor facilities, and not nearly the number of trails at Kincaid or Service. Skiing was popular but nowhere near the *"force majeure"* it is in the community today.

Upon the completion of the Kincaid Outdoor Center (KOC) in the late 80s nordic skiing grew dramatically. Renkert attributes much of this growth to the founding of the Anchorage Junior Nordic League, the expansion of lighted trails and the opening of the KOC.

The significance of opening the KOC should not be underestimated. Having a nice warm place for parents to bring their kids (and themselves) to start their ski, and a cozy place to warm up afterwards, were critical to breaking down barriers to make the activity inviting to more kids and families. Or as one person told us *"for outdoor winter sports you really need someplace to get hot chocolate and a warm place to go to the bathroom."*

We believe a facility at the skating oval would have the same effect. Hot chocolate and a comfortable place to put on your skates and warm up after a fun, frosty skate are part of the whole experience. A facility would enhance not only the physical recreational component of skating but also the social component. Moreover, a lodge or chalet to start and finish an outing is often the difference between getting outside or staying in.

We want to make skating (and skiing) more available to all families in Anchorage. Our increasingly diverse community has a large population of immigrant families that originate from countries that not only do not have winter sports traditions - they also often come from countries where they do not have winter. A warming facility will help make outdoor winter sports less intimidating. A diverse and welcoming facility is a bonus for everyone year round, as midtown park has major usage now from winter through summer. Our Midtown park is located in the very heart of our city, and has been recognized as the potential "The Central Park of Anchorage" with its ever increasing use during the entire year. A year round chalet or park center is essential!



5 Financial Contributions

1987-2021

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*Toward the Development
of the Cuddy Family
Midtown Park*

Year	Nature of Contributions	Donor/Purchaser	Amount	Estimated Value	Comment
1987 & 1988	Purchase	MOA	\$ 1,675,000		On Dec 29, 1987, two days before the end of the Knowles administration, the Assembly voted to authorize the purchase of the first 4.8 acres of the park, next to the library.
1995	Volunteers, Materials	Volunteers, DNR	\$ 50,000		The MOA Park bond includes \$50,000 for Midtown Park. 100 volunteers participate in 3 work parties at park. DNR Division of Forestry plants trees.
1996	Appropriation	State Legislature	\$ 254,000		Legislature appropriation for the park sponsored by Senator Dave Donley.
1996	Park Bond	MOA Park Bond	\$ 150,000		MOA park bond for the development of the park.
1996	Volunteers, Materials		\$ 10,000	*	Students from King Career Center and Division of Forestry hold work days to plant trees and create trails
1997	Purchase	MOA	\$ 235,000		MOA purchase 1 1/4 acres between B Street and park
1999					Senator Stevens includes \$900,000 in federal budget for National Archives site study
2000	Purchase	MOA bond, Cuddy Family, HLB, Legislative funds, price reduction by owners.	\$ 1,600,000		Cuddy Family contributes \$300,000 for purchase of land
2001	In-kind material, cash, volunteers	BP Classic Volunteer Day	\$ 1,000,000	*	BP stated value of donations exceeded this amount
2003					Amphitheater, bridge, pilings, gabions, built. Electricity to site installed
2004		JL Properties	\$ 357,650		Gift from JL Properties after MP&TSC supported rezone of proposed National Archives site.
2005	Master Plan		\$ 125,000	*	Land Design North hired to complete a master plan
2006	Grant for Skating Oval	HUD (Senator Stevens)	\$ 975,000		
2006	Betti's Garden	Gift from Cuddy Family	\$ 50,000	*	
2006	Ponds, trails	MOA Road & Drainage Bond	\$ 2,000,000		MOA Storm & Drainage Bond to daylight Fish Creek and for flood control
2011	Lights for Skating Oval	MOA Park Bond	\$ 175,000	*	MOA Park bond
2014	Inclusive Playground		\$ 300,000	*	Combination of public and private donors. Estimated value
2015	Sound System for Oval	Tom McGrath, Frigid North	\$ 22,587		
2015	Challenge Grant (for electrical upgrades)	Kauffman Engineers	\$ 5,600		\$25,000 Installation of sound system and electrical upgrades. Donated engineering time.
2009 - 2021	Funds for Nice Ice @ the oval	Anchorage Skates	\$ 110,387		Anchorage Skates annually gives \$10,000 for ice maintenance.
2009-2019	Sleigh Rides	Cuddy Family	\$ 15,000		Cuddy family donates sleigh rides at annual Solstice Party for 10 years
2016	Chalet Design	RIM Architects	\$ 14,000		Donated design time
2018	Chalet	MOA Park Bond	\$ 250,000		MOA Parks Director John Rodda includes \$250K in park bond for a chalet
2021	Chalet	Anchorage Skates	\$ 15,000		Gift from Anchorage Skates to seed Chalet fund in the Alaska Community Foundation.
TOTAL:			\$ 7,714,224		

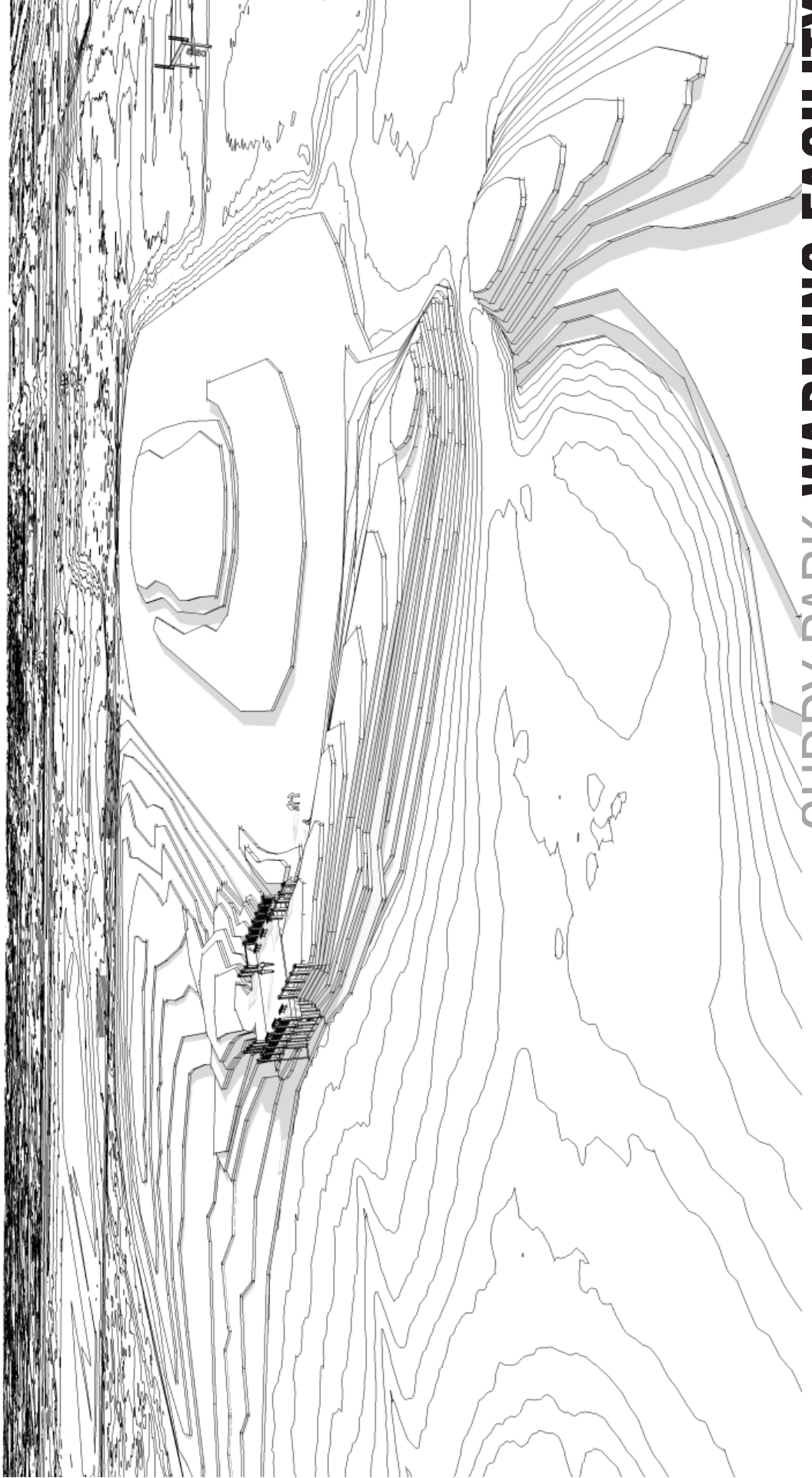


6 Chalet Concept Drawings

RIM Architects

“In the long term, in order for the park to become more of a destination there needs to be a facility in the park, such as [a] chalet...”

Cuddy Family Midtown Park Master Plan

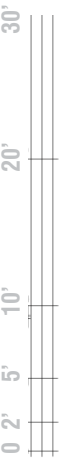
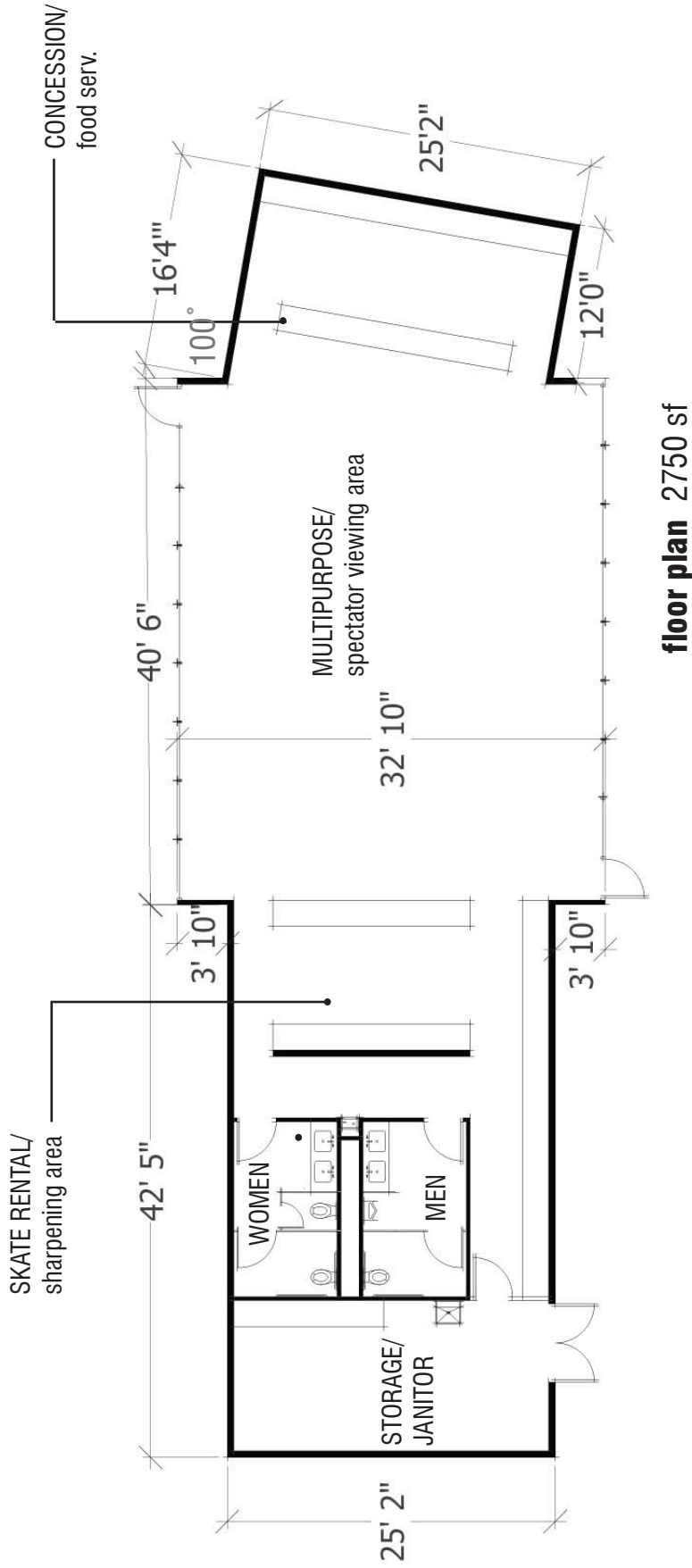


CUDDY PARK WARMING FACILITY



WARMING FACILITY

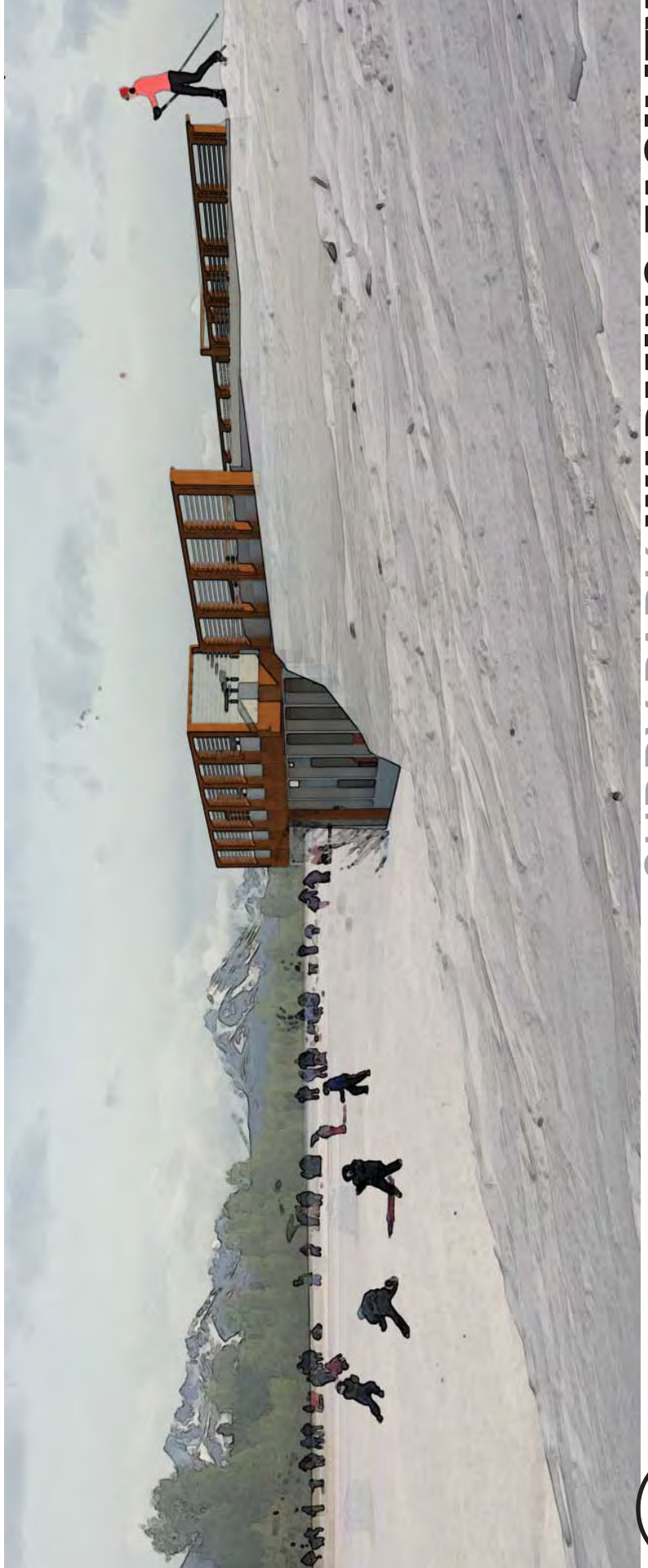
① CUDDY PARK WARMING FACILITY



CUDDY PARK WARMING FACILITY











7 Chalet Construction Cost Estimate



*Developed by
Kiewit Construction*

2018

**CUDDY FAMILY MIDTOWN PARK CHALET ESTIMATE
(ROM - Rough Order of Magnitude)**

This ROM is based on Conceptual Drawings dated 5/8/2016

Owner Cost

design / construction support (6%)	\$	60,000
building permit / 3rd party inspections (2.5%)	\$	25,000
preconstruction services (0.5%)	\$	4,500
utility company (allowance)	\$	35,000
owner FFE (allowance - skate rental, misc. tools, appliances, etc.)	\$	15,000
subtotal	\$	139,500

Construction

division 1 - general conditions	\$	104,500
division 2 - concrete	\$	83,134
division 4 - masonry	\$	57,715
division 5 - metals	\$	43,518
division 7 - thermal and moisture protection	\$	72,565
division 8 - openings	\$	46,600
division 9 - finishes and casework	\$	31,090
division 10 - specialties	\$	5,000
division 21 - fire supression	\$	37,125
division 22 - plumbing	\$	45,375
division 23 - HVAC	\$	7,500
division 26 - electrical	\$	58,750
division 31 - earthwork and landscaping	\$	124,066
division 33 - utilities	\$	165,000
subtotal	\$	881,938

Project Contingency

permits / preconstruction / phasing	\$	10,500
site utilities	\$	35,000
geotech investigation / civil work	\$	25,000
rollup door security	\$	15,000
building security (4 months - \$650/week)	\$	11,500
finishes	\$	10,000
escalation (material, labor, freight, etc.) - 5%	\$	40,000

subtotal	\$ 147,000
<i>Other Cost</i>	
construction fee, insurance, bond, builders risk (5.75%)	\$ 59,164.00
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,227,602

ROM assumptions and clarifications

Owner to provide 3rd party testing and inspection per MOA. Design cost was calculated on 6% of total project cost. Utility companies perform their own work and invoice Owner, an amount was included as an allowance. Assumed shelter can be heated with electric or unit heaters (since no mechanical room in the drawings). Assume electrical tie in can be made since shelter is adjacent to existing lighting at Oval. Quantities for civil is difficult to calculate as the limits of excavation are not clear. Utilities ties in were from B Street and 40th. The amount of sidewalk to remove and replace is unknown but included. This ROM does not include any subsurface investigation nor does it include the cost to purchase the land. Reference contingency breakdown for other risk.



Appendicies

I. Playground Donors

II. Anchorage Skates Donors

a. from 2004 to 2010

b. from 2011-2019

III. Cuddy Park Master Plan 2004

IV. RIM Architects Branding Proposal, September 2021

V. ACF Midtown Park Chalet Fund Agreement, 2021

VI. Anchorage Skates Mission & Goals

VII. Anchorage Skate Newsletters

VIII. Legislative Recognition 1996

Appendix I: Cuddy Park Inclusive Playground Donors

Parks For All

Rotary Club of Anchorage

Municipality of Anchorage

Anchorage Park Foundation

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

The Duct Tape Ball

The Rasmuson Foundation

State of Alaska

Carlile Transportation

CRW Engineering Group

The Cuddy Family

Totem Ocean

Hope Community Resources Programs for Infants & Children

Annie Mayo & Joan White

Betsy Lawer

The Boltz Family

BP

Michael Investments

R&M Consultants

The Slivka Family

Ted Stevens Foundation

Two Friends Gallery

Alaska Mom2Mom

Bettisworth North

Cheryl Myers

Corso Graphics
ECI Hyer Architecture
Elvi-Gray Jackson
Ernest Hamm
Ethan Zawodny
Jacqueline Ertischek
Oliver Everett
Ability Group
Alcan Trailers
Jim Mendenhall & Carol Howarth
Joseph Davis & Sarah Barton
Laura Edmondson
Trent & Lori Davey
Peter Briggs



Appendix 2A: Anchorage Skates Donors from 2004-2010

Major Supporters

MOA Parks & Recreation
 Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking Foss Family Foundation
 Alaska Speedskating Club
 Anchorage Skates!
 Calais Company
 DOWL HKM
 Frigid North - Tom McGrath

Business & Non-Profit Supporters

Credit Union 1
 HDR
 Cook Inlet Tribal Council
 Roger Hicel Contracting
 Jadon, Inc.
 Arctic Imports
 Snow City Café
 Continental Auto Group
 Christianson Estate

Individual Supporters

Jo Antonson
 LaMont Albertson
 Chris Allard and Nancy Felton
 John Arnett
 Wendy Arnett
 Sherri Ballon
 Kristin Bartenstein
 Carla Beam
 Dawn Bishop-Klewen
 Suzanne Black
 Patricia Bland
 Doris Bordine
 Janet Boyer
 Lauren Bradley
 Wendy Briggs
 Dana Bruden
 Britta Brunz
 Tom Burke
 Kit Callahan
 Keith Conger
 John & Sandra Christopherson
 Sage Cohen
 Dan Coffey
 David Cole
 Susan Condon
 Bill Cook
 Shelley Coolidge
 Samayah Council
 Elizabeth Cronin
 J.R. Curtiss
 Cherlynn Dahl
 Marcia Davis
 Dean Davidson
 Carolynn DeByle
 C.D. Donelson

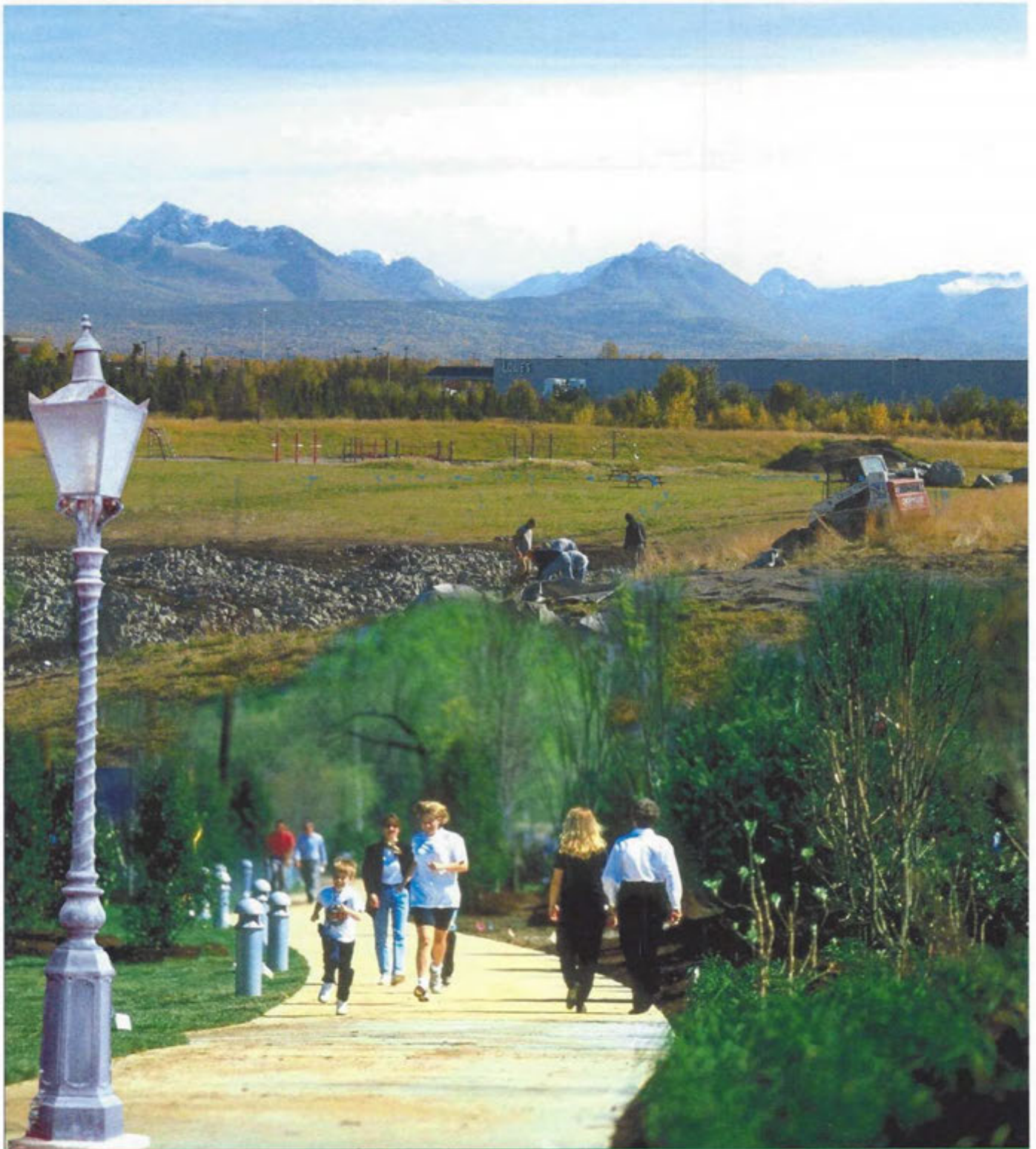
Carla Doroff
 Kevin Dougherty
 Jeff Doyle
 Nick Enos
 Joseph & Maria Chen Fang
 Lisa Farber
 Kathy Faryniarz
 Amy & Mike Fitzpatrick
 Steven Frenzel
 John Gartiez
 Art Geuss
 Jean Gnath
 Timothy Gould
 Ann Grathwohl
 Michael Greener
 John Haeussler
 Peter Haeussler
 Thomas Hamilton
 George Haugen
 Rebecca Hauser
 Sarah Haywood
 Gayle Heywood
 Nancy Hiney
 Julia Homza
 Larry Houle
 Jennifer Howard
 Allison Hull
 Richard Hull
 Linda Hulteen
 Jim Jager
 Amy Johns
 Michelle Juliussen
 Mark Johnson
 Susan Karl
 Lesa Klancher
 Gunnar & Alice Knapp
 Ericka Kramer
 Linda Kumin
 Meg Kurtak
 John Lafournaise
 Erin Lafreniere
 Alene Lamkin
 Ann Marie Lamm
 Ed Lamm
 Mary Leykom
 Stephen Livingston
 Robert Lohr
 Jacquelyn Luke
 Ove Madsen & Georgia
 Gustafson Guadalupe Marroquin
 Marten Martensen
 Anthony Martin
 Game McGimsey
 Michael McKamey
 Michael McKinnon
 Martha Miller
 Kathleen Miner
 Mitzi Mishler
 Pete Mjos & Karin Ruud
 Nancy Morris

Roger Morris
 Paul Morrison
 Diane Moxness
 Mark Musial
 Rick & Mary Mystrom
 Steve Nelson
 Sandy Nichols
 Diane Olsen
 Nancy Olzack
 Steve Ortlund
 J.S. Otterson
 Jayne Owens
 Claire Pease
 David Pease
 John Pearce
 Donna Phillips
 Joe Pollock
 M.J. Pollock
 Tim and Lori Jo Potter
 Ellen Pryor
 Douglas Rainwater
 Carolyn Rakos
 Millie & Robert Renkert
 Charles Renkert
 Jim Renkert
 Marion & Don Richter
 Sarah Robicheaux
 Mary Rosenfield
 Jerry Ruehle
 Virginia Rusch
 Ron Sheardown
 Meg Simonian
 Dirk Sisson
 Paula Smith
 Bonny Sosa
 Jean Stage
 Gail Stolz
 Nan Thompson
 Joan Travostino
 Dr. Steve Tower
 Frances Weier
 Marilyn Whitten
 Steven Wood
 Scott Young
 Kelly Zeiner
 Marta Ziembinska

Appendix II: (B) Anchorage Skates Donors 2011 – 2019

Mr. Tim Potter
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Houle
 Mr. Tom McGrath
 Therese Veker
 Mr. Kevin Riggan
 Robert McGimsey
 Peter and Katie Haeussler
 IBEW - Local 1547
 Mr. David Mills
 Credit Union 1
 Alaska Speedskating Club
 Dwayne Adams
 Mr. Ronald Sheardown
 HDR Alaska, Inc.
 Ms. Gina Wilson Ramirez
 Mr. and Mrs. Kurt and Linda Hulteen
 Dowl LLC
 SJ/JL Calais Office I, LLC
 Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking
 Mr. and Mrs. Eric and Beate Zinck
 Jim Renkert
 Mr. Paul Morrison and Ms. Karen Heath
 Mr. and Ms. Joe and Jahna Pollock
 Gunnar Knapp
 Mr. Arthur Geuss
 Ms. Sandy Nichols
 TRF Managment
 Mrs. Alice Hildreth
 Mildred W. Renkert
 Linda Kumin
 Continental Motor Company Inc.
 Greater Houston Community Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Miner
 Mr. and Ms. Shahrokh and Nicole Roohi
 Stephen Livingston and Margaret Cobey
 Mr. Kevin Dougherty
 Mr. Stephen Tower and Janice Tanaka
 Ms. Gretchen H. Cuddy
 Mr. Ove Madsen and Ms. Georgia L. Gustafson
 Ted Stevens Foundation
 Mr. Chris Wooley
 Kevin and Doreen Dougherty
 Mr. Evan Thoms and Ms. Michelle Coombs

Calais Company
 Champion's Choice
 Derek Christianson
 GCI
 Angela Pearson
 Mr. and Mrs. John and Constance Quinley
 Mr. Edwin Blair
 Odom Corporation, The
 James Au
 Calais Company
 James C. Anderson
 Erin Hamilton and Mark R. Iverson
 Bill and Becky Pearson
 Anonymous Gift
 Roger Hickel Contracting, Inc.
 Steven Stanchina and Erin Collins
 David Falsey
 Municipality of Anchorage
 Anonymous Gift
 Richard Atkinson
 Mr. Robert McVitty
 James C. Anderson
 John Haeussler
 Anonymous Gift
 Anonymous Gift
 Paul Denkewalter
 Richard Atkinson
 Nancy Hiney
 Jody Jenkins
 Shaun Debenham
 Barbara Weil
 Anonymous Gift
 Michael and Dolly Jens
**Note: numerous additional \$20 donations were given through the Alaska Speedskating Club, which has given \$1000 to \$1200 per year, depending on the number of gifts. Names of those gifts aggregated through the speedskating club were not collected.*



Preliminary Report for Master Plan Cuddy Family Midtown Park

December 9, 2004

INTRODUCTION

Background

The Cuddy Family Midtown Park provides a unique opportunity to create a physical and symbolic heart in a part of the Anchorage community, where one does not currently exist. Surrounding the park are busy streets, primarily devoted to driving and a series of destinations, which together have created the Midtown neighborhood, but cumulatively do not add up to a "sense of place." In the long term, serious consideration should be given to what needs to be addressed now so that, in 50 years, this neighborhood evolves in a way that maximizes not only its economic vitality but also its potential as an important neighborhood place in Anchorage.

The Placemaking Evaluation Workshop facilitated by Project for Public Spaces on November 17, 2004 yielded important ideas for the evolution of the park from the dedicated citizens and public sector leaders who participated in the exercise. We came away from this workshop and our short visit to Anchorage very impressed with the efforts that have already been made to make the Cuddy Family Midtown Park into an important quality of life place in Anchorage.

The "Outer Park"

During this process, we also realized that, as important as developing a master plan for the park, is using the park's improvement as a catalyst for redefining a vision for the broader Midtown area. If the area around the park evolved into a neighborhood with more "critical mass", became more walkable, and included a broader mix of uses, it could become the center of a desirable place to live and work. For example, having residential use directly on the park as well as in the adjacent area will be key in making the park function year-round in the future. At the same time, the park will be key in making the area attractive to developers who want to build residential buildings in this area.

One important opportunity within the broader context is the Loussac Library, which is already one of the major anchors of the neighborhood. Imagine if the library provided a much stronger

connection between the park and the surrounding area. The corner of Denali and 36th Avenue, shared by the library and the cinema, is not far from a small strip of commercial activity along 36th Avenue but rarely do people walk back and forth in this area. With some changes, this portion of 36th Avenue could become the beginning of a "Main Street" for Midtown.

To provide a connection and a visible place where activity could occur, the grass area at the corner of the library could be re-defined as a more actively used public space. This would link the library to the neighborhood in a more meaningful way and it would help to strengthen the presence for the library at the corner. A clearer entrance to the library and the park from 36th Avenue would also help to draw people in. Both 36th Avenue and Denali Street could be made more pedestrian-friendly with better crosswalks, sidewalks, pedestrian scale lights, trees, etc. Transforming this corner would be a first step in creating a place in Midtown.

Another opportunity is to connect the park to the UAA University Center campus along 40th Avenue. Physical improvements could be made to this street to make it a better pedestrian and bike route to the park from the University facilities. And in the future, residential uses along this street would provide a good link between the campus and the park.

The physical and programmatic relationship of the proposed Federal Archive Center to the Library and the park is key. Functionally and thematically, there is a natural connection between the two buildings and there is great potential to establish links between them through programs, exhibits, etc. For example, the Archives building plans for space for exhibits and community meetings, which are also activities that the library has embraced. However, as proposed, the two buildings are four blocks apart which may be too far for these two uses to benefit from one another. It may be more prudent in the long term to locate the Archives in closer proximity to the Library so that their activities can be more integrated and shared.

The way that the park connects to the adjacent streets and the broader neighborhood is also important. Think about the park as an octopus that needs to reach out in every direction into the community around it. In the workshop, participants suggested creating gateways or entrance at each of these key points so that visitors feel they are entering into the "park environment" at each perimeter street.

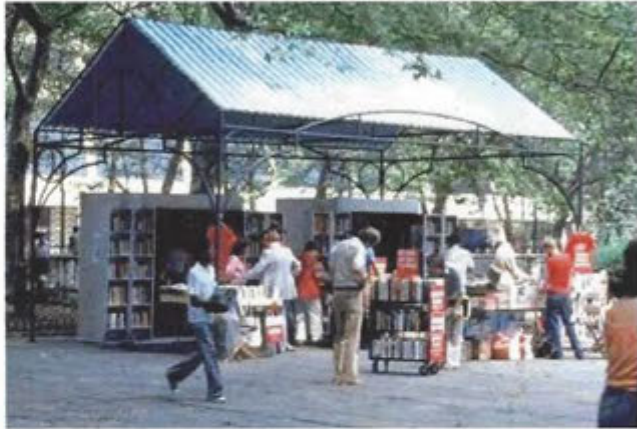
The "Inner Park"

The existing park has many very special qualities, including the view of the mountains and the feeling of being in nature away from the surrounding traffic. The feeling is surprisingly similar to being in Prospect Park and Central Park in New York City. However, it does not have enough to attract people to use it for any length of time as currently built and needs to go beyond what is outlined in the existing proposed Master Plan. Currently the park is used to some extent for events, for strolling, walking dogs, hiking, by children playing and for casual use and sports primarily during summer months. In the winter the attractions are fewer with little other than cross country skiing to attract people to the park.

There are currently great opportunities for public and private institutions to partner/collaborate in this effort and, the moment should not be lost.

Goals

- Make the park into a central gathering place for the Midtown area (families, area employees, shoppers, students, etc.) for all ages at all times of year.
- Develop a management program for the park that is financially sustainable.
- Enhance the park's role as the "headwaters" of Fish Creek and establish the legacy of this long-forgotten water feature.
- Continue to involve the community in the evolution of the park design and management plan.
- Develop a strategy for making the broader area around the park into a pedestrian-oriented, residential and shopping district in Midtown, with the park at its heart.



OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

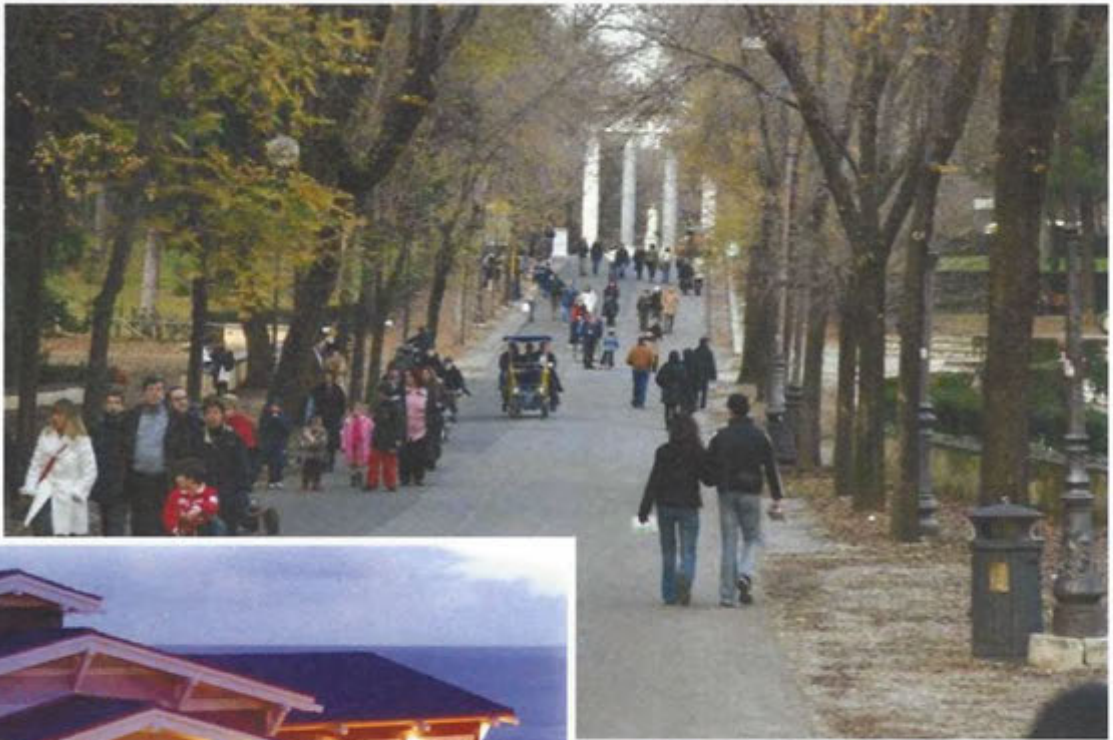
To be successful, a neighborhood needs “places to go” and Midtown is no exception. Does Midtown have 10 places or could they be developed or enhanced? Some of these potential places were identified in the workshop and in meetings with public and private stakeholders. For example, the library, cinema, and the university were three that were mentioned. If improvements were made to the spaces around these places and to the streets and sidewalks that link them together the spaces in the neighborhood would begin to link together and to the park.

In order to attract people to use the park at different times of year the park also needs at least 10 “places.” These are outlined in this report in terms of the activities that could potentially occur there. If the community agrees, design and management concepts can be developed to accommodate and encourage these activities. The following is intended to form a basis or framework for this discussion.

1. **Access to the park needs to be improved so that the park is easy to get to from every direction by both pedestrians and vehicles.** Currently, the park is virtually impossible to get to on foot from the surrounding area and even by car it is difficult due to unmarked entrances, difficult turns off busy streets and a lack of convenient parking.

Clearly identifiable entrances should be developed to the park with: safe pedestrian crossings from adjacent streets and sidewalks; convenient parking that does not obstruct either view or access into the park; clear signs and/or gateposts to mark the entrance and a map to show people what is available in and around the park; conveniently located bus stops in conjunction with the primary destinations such as the Library; attractive pedestrian-scale lighting; and amenities appropriate to the projected use of each entrance (in some cases this would include seating, picnic tables, a kiosk, etc.)

2. **Every institution that is adjacent to the park needs to have a strong physical and visual connection to the park.** Not only are the buildings that surround the park its major anchors and a major source of park users, but they



can also benefit from the park once it is complete. However, for this to occur, the ground floors of the adjacent buildings and their sites need to be designed so that they have some connection to the park.

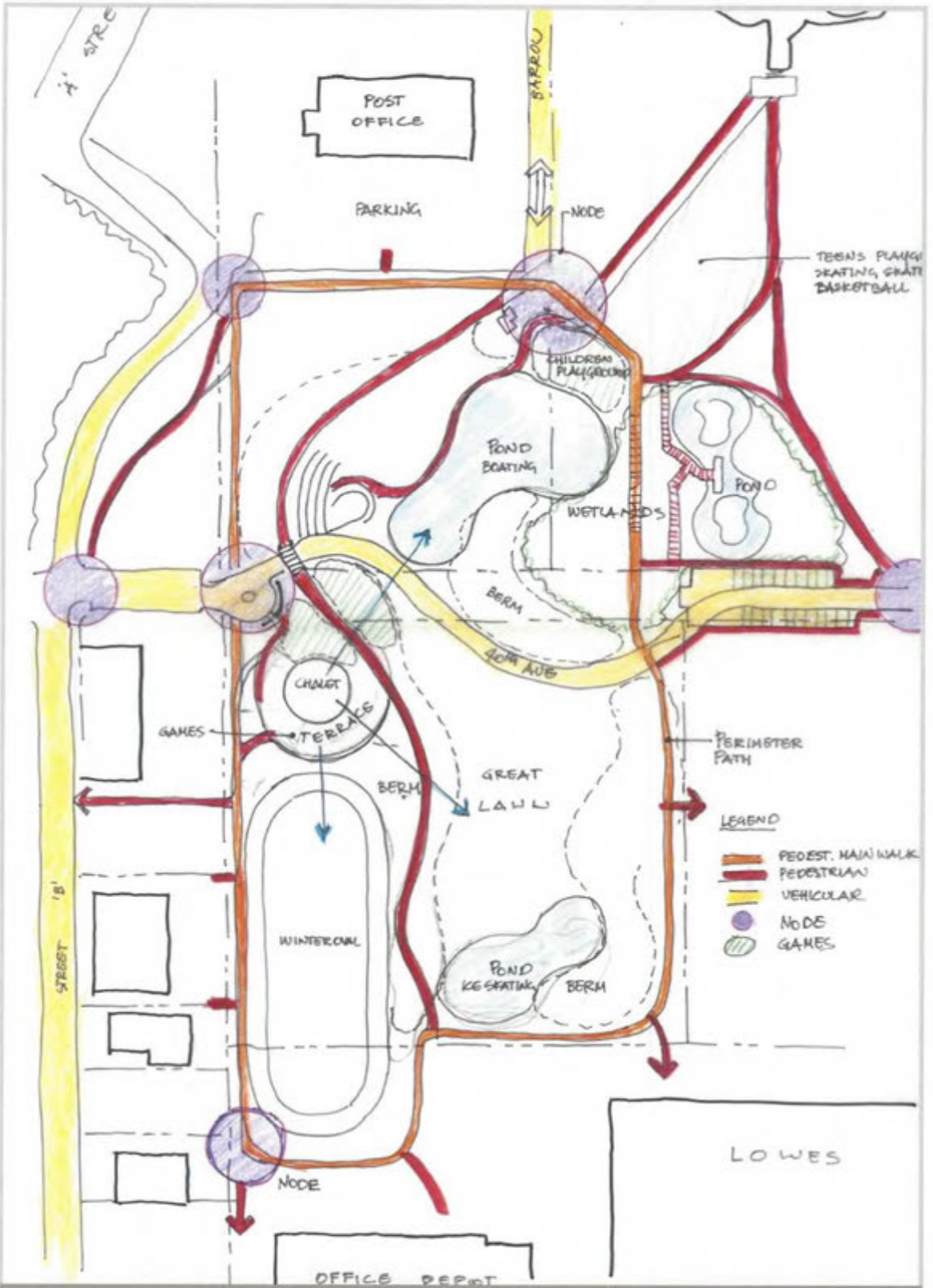
3. **Paths should be developed both around the edges and through the park to connect existing uses as well as other nearby destinations.** The park is currently poorly connected. For example, parked post office vehicles and a chain link fence separate the Post Office from the park and the lack of a sidewalk makes it impossible for people at the Library to comfortably walk to the Post Office, even though it is only about 500 feet away. Furthermore, large parking lots and a series of access roads separate the Library from the park. There is also a poor connection across the park to the Burrito King restaurant.
4. **A series of "places" or "nodes" should be developed within the park where different activities occur in different seasons.** A variety of activities can occur in several areas within the park during both warm and cold weather. The park's design should support and enhance these activities. Many ideas for activities came out of the community workshop that was held as part of this master planning process and include: a meeting place that could include a public restroom, a park headquarters, information about events and activities in the park, small area for games, Frisbee golf, tennis courts, possibly a warming area for ice skating, rentals of different items such as ice and roller skates, different types of bicycles, etc., a children's play area or areas both near the library and also near the proposed meeting place.
5. **The environmental asset that is provided by Fish Creek should be built upon to create an attraction in the park.** This could occur in the form of a stream, pond, wetlands and could be used for education, etc.
6. **A broader concept of a pedestrian-friendly midtown District should be developed.** Currently the area around the park is pedestrian-unfriendly and the type of development that has occurred here in the past does little to suggest a "sense of place." This broader district could extend from Northern Lights Boulevard to the north, Old Seward Highway to the east, the residential area south of Tudor Road to the south, and Arctic Boulevard to the west.



This would include the institutions around the park (the library, post office, and proposed archives building), offices and commercial areas particularly Lowe's and Office Depot, the Spring Hill Suites Hotel, the University, and connections to the residential area across Tudor Road.

7. **Create a system of pedestrian-scale lighting** throughout the park so that people can use the park at all times of day.
8. **Develop a planting plan for the park** to display not only interesting and appropriate trees for urban settings but also well-thought out horticultural displays to attract people during different seasons.
9. **Develop a management plan for the park and a funding strategy.** In the future, it is likely that the parks department will not be able to assume full responsibility for managing all of the activities and events that are expected to occur there. As part of the master planning process, a workable management strategy will need to be developed.





**Preliminary Concept Plan
Circulation and Activity Nodes**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KEY AREAS IN AND AROUND THE PARK

A more detailed program and strategy for making improvements to the following key areas in and around the park needs to be developed; however, the following recommendations (along with the concept drawing of activities for the park) are intended to form the basis of discussion for each area.

Barrow Street Entrance

BETWEEN THE LIBRARY AND THE POST OFFICE

Workshop participants like both the view of nature, the trees and the natural pathways along with the adjacent buildings, and the twinkling lights of the development in the surrounding area that can be seen from the park.

SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

Suggestions for the short-term were to trim the trees and brush along the library and move the sidewalk into the library land where it will provide a safer and more attractive place for people to walk. A sign should be provided at the entrance on 36th Avenue for both the library and the park as well as outside the entrance to the library to show where the park is located. The unattractive chain link fence around the Post Office should be removed or replaced with one that is more attractive. The chain link fence that surrounds the vacant lot should also be replaced or removed and a more welcoming entrance, sign and potentially an information kiosk located there instead.

LONG TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

In the long term, the Post Office should be encouraged to use the vacant land on 36th Avenue either as park or in such a way that it complements the park. A major entrance to the park should be created extending from 36th Avenue to the park with a transit stop, signage, art, lighting and sidewalks leading to the park and to the library.

Over time, consideration should be given to whether the Post Office and its parked trucks facing the park is the highest and best use for the park perimeter.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Post Office vacant lot on the corner of "C" Street & 36th Avenue

This is a critical corner to define this district. What type of a public use for this corner can be developed that helps to identify the important city resources behind this cornerstone site.

Post Office building and parking lot

An unusual site for a Post Office, the building is virtually invisible from either "C" Street or 36th Avenue and is barely evident from the Library. Is this the best site for this facility in the long-term? Would this be better as residential along "C" Street with an enlarged Park reaching out toward Loussac Drive and 36th Avenue?

Loussac Drive access road to Post Office and Library

Could this be a major gateway to Cuddy Family Midtown Park/Library?

Loussac Library

The Loussac Library is currently the most important potential generator of activity for the park and it currently functions as the park's major anchor. While the area around it was rated positively by workshop participants in terms of the overall comfort, image and "sociability," its access and available activities were not viewed as positive. Several teens were using the hill behind the library for sledding, which people liked, but other than that, there was no use of this area. Workshop participants liked the overall first impression of the area, the fountain, trees, the openness, and potential for growth. They also liked the picnic tables near the park. The southern part of the site, which is used for snow storage, was not viewed as a complimentary use for the site. People also felt that the area between the park and the library was especially pedestrian unfriendly and lacked information about either the park or the library.

SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

Many short term ideas were developed for the area around the library, including maintenance suggestions such as clearing out the brush in the southern part to make the site more accessible, adding amenities such as a covered picnic area, barbeque pits, gravel walking trail(s) in the forest area, and a walking trail along the ACS side of the site.

LONG-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

For the long term, suggestions included a sidewalk that would extend from the library to the park (southeast to northeast), along with signage and a map at the library to direct people to the park and the area. Eliminating the snow storage/wetland area was suggested, as was creating a wetland destination using fish creek. A skating and a skateboard area, a playground for teens, a playground with swings and a slide, an area for snowboards, and a basketball court were other activities that were suggested that could be an attraction to the park. These could be located near the library or elsewhere in the park.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Library building and parking lots, grass areas, and sculpture area

There are important issues on every side of the Loussac Library that should be thought of separately, although all have a bearing on the park. For example, to the north across Thirty-Sixth Avenue, there is a movie theatre complex. How can the space around this side of the library be designed to relate better to the movie theater in terms of attracting users to both facilities and the park?

South half of the Park (below 40th Avenue)

Like the northern half of the park, the open lawn, which forms the southern area of the park, gives visitors the very special feeling of being in nature within the city. Workshop participants rated the area low in terms of its access and activities (it has only the children's play area) but felt it had a lot of potential to support additional activities.

Workshop participants liked the view of the mountains from this area, as well as the perimeter lighting and the feeling of being in a quiet natural area in the midst of development around it. They also liked the natural feel of its edges, the location, and the trails that cross the park. They liked the fact that 40th was no longer a street.

SHORT TERM

In the short term, participants felt that the chain link fences around adjacent properties (especially on 36th) should be removed to create a more positive relationship between the park and the adjacent land. Improvements should be made to the backs of adjacent buildings (e.g. murals or plantings or lighting) so that the negative impact of any blank walls on the park is minimized.

Trees could be planted in some locations and signage both for the park and the area destinations could be added at the entrances to the park and on adjacent streets. To increase winter use of the path, trails should be groomed and consideration given to creating a simple skating rink—this winter if possible. One suggestion was to create a warm place for people to sit in the winter, possibly in conjunction with the winter skating rink. Pedestrian-scale lighting should be added throughout the park and the process to vacate 40th Avenue and Barrow Streets completed.

LONG TERM

In the long term, a skating area should be developed for winter use. To solve the debate about exactly what type of facility this should be, the questions outlined at the end of this section should be addressed. Many people also suggested an all-seasons chalet that

could potentially house a park office, restrooms, a place for people to get information about park and area events, to borrow games, possibly a small food service and an outdoor terrace where people could sit and enjoy a snack or beverage, the view of the mountains.

In addition to the skating activity, the vision for the southern part of the park area is that it remain mostly open and natural but more accessible and visible from the adjacent area. The park should have elements that make it more of a destination – currently there are only a few things one can do in this area – walk or run on the trails, attend an event at the amphitheatres or sit on its benches for lunch, use the play ground and in the summer play games and sit out on the grass to enjoy the late evening sun. Ideas for how to increase activity include a pond or other water feature, and a fitness track.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Skating Oval

- **Use:** How would the skating oval be used by people not wearing speed skates?
- **Location:** Can the oval fit onto the site along the back of the offices? What is reality of acquiring the lot adjacent to the Office Depot
- **Design:** Could the skating oval be designed in such a way that it does not look like a skating “facility” but fits into the land and the landscape in a more natural way? If so, what are some examples of where this has been done? How would the oval fit into the landscape during the summer month(s)?

Storm Water Retention in the park

- **Configuration:** What are the various ways that the storm water retention function can be used in the park and what makes the most sense? Pond, streams, both? How large would these be?
- **Use:** What can the storm-water retention areas be used for? For example, can a pond be used for small boats or for wading in the summer? Are there uses in the winter that could be combined with skating that could make it more of a destination?
- **Location:** What is the best location for the retention function to be located?

- **Design:** How can the pond/stream be designed so that it fits into the landscape? Can it have soft edges so that people can get near it and touch the water?

Relationship of adjacent buildings to the park

- **Lowe's.** Currently, Lowe's has a very long blank wall that faces the park. Is there anything that could be done to minimize the negative impact of this wall (e.g. a mural of a mountain scene that would blend with the view above) to create a more active façade in the future?
- **Office Depot.** Is it possible to use the rear parking lot of Office Depot for parking for activities that might occur in the park in the future?
- **ACS.** Is there a relationship that can be developed between the park and ACS?
- **Office buildings and parking lots adjacent to southwest corner of the park.** How should these buildings relate to the park in the future? Currently there are parking lots to the rear of these buildings that do not create a good edge for the park. How can these uses be addressed in the future so that more activities can occur along the park's edges?
- **Federal Archives building relationship to the Library.** What are the ways that the Federal Archives and the library can work together? This could mean joint exhibits, some shared use of community meeting rooms, etc.? What is the benefit of locating the Archives closer to the Library so that the archive research and parking uses could be shared more conveniently?
- **Federal Archives building.** How can the facade and grounds of the Archives building relate to the park? How can the ground floor uses be designed to interact with the park?

40th Avenue

East Entrance

Both of the entrances to the park along 40th Avenue are important access points to the park. Participants in the workshop liked the existing trails, the view, and the central location of the east entrance in relation to the adjacent businesses, hotels and library. They also liked the simplicity and openness of the park as experienced from this point.

SHORT TERM

Several improvements can be made to this entrance in the short term, including first creating a more defined, identifiable and visible gateway into the park. This entry could include an entrance feature such as a gatepost or arch, information/map, a transit stop (if appropriate), lighting and seating. The street should be designed as a “park road” with on-street parking, landscaping, lighting and sidewalks. From this entrance there should be better visual and physical access to the Library, playground and Post Office and better lighting along the routes.

Short-term suggestions for uses included “something to catch your attention” (i.e. sculpture, flags, water light show, ice sculptures in the winter and temporary sculpture exhibits in the summer) murals on the back of adjacent buildings, better seating/benches, extension of the bike trail/pedestrian trail lines – east to west to Tudor; a groomed ski trail; and reconsideration of the berms which are both good and bad for views. A summer reading program in the park was also suggested.

LONG TERM

There were many ideas expressed for both physical improvements that could be made as well as activities that could occur in the long term. In general the entrance should have better visibility into the park and an improved entrance overall.

Ideas for the park include food, warmth, and shelter; a wireless link; skating; a climbing rock; a better playground with climbing elements, a picnic shelter; events and programming, a community garden; a picnic shelter and BBQ for groups; a building that serves food and drink, with possibly a summer reading room; a conservatory with plants inside that provides a warm place in winter; and a wetland interpretation are with bird walks. They also suggested an ice-skating rink in winter with a water park in summer.

In the very long term, residential development adjacent to the park should be encouraged and an important comment was made on the evaluations “Don’t make it too busy – in 50 years we might treasure a place that is quiet and natural.” Some people like the simplicity, and “don’t want the planners to go overboard with structures, buildings, man-made objects” or to not “get carried away with making it busy.”

West Entrance

People at the workshop valued the openness and the view of the mountains from this entrance, as they do from the rest of the park. They also felt, however, that this area had great potential to be a more multi-use space. The vision for the entrance was that it should help to create a sense of place in the park, establish a theme and personality for the park that is unique, with activities that are not offered elsewhere. This concept could be carried out with elements such as an archway with artwork at the entrance. It was suggested that the “pipeline image” be removed and a different image be established as “Cuddy Family Park.”

SHORT TERM

Several short term changes suggested need to be further discussed and evaluated. One was to open up the entrance at the park so that people who enter get an immediate feeling of what the park is like. This would mean removing part of the existing berm so that a plaza can be created at the entrance from which one could overlook both the park and the view of the mountains. It also suggests creating a “busy” plaza at this point where people can get oriented to the park and its activities. Sculpture or art (like Seattle’s Fremont Street people) could be part of this plaza. Some suggested that as people pass under the tunnel the park should “explode visually” with a flower bed that changes seasonally and a water feature.

Ideas for physical improvements included better lighting, sidewalks, a new curved path with benches on the top, rest spots and

destinations. A plaza with information, benches as a gathering place, possibly a small water fountain and games such as 4-square/hopscotch, basketball (½ court), and attractive seasonal landscaping displays were also suggested.

A second recommendation relates to internal and external circulation. One very good suggestion is to develop a trail or path around the perimeter of the park as a way of connecting facilities into the park. Transit and bike/pedestrian access also need to be improved, including locating bike racks in some locations. (One suggestion was to reschedule the bus on the “B” street stop.)

Another important idea for the short term is for a continuous schedule of events (concerts, performances, Renaissance Fair, Dog Frisbee, kites, ice sculptures, fur rendezvous all winter, geo caching); along with a marketing, promotion, and advertising plan.

LONG TERM

In the long term, in order for the park to become more of a destination there needs to be a facility in the park, such as the chalet that was recommended by other groups. This area may be the best location for such a chalet.

There are several other types of uses that could be located adjacent to the “chalet” including a children’s play area (possibly move the existing play area).

Burrito King Entrance (38th and B)

The park's proximity to Burrito King was viewed as a benefit because of the potential connection between the restaurant and the park. Burrito King could be another anchor for the park especially since the view from this entrance is very good! Participants felt that this entrance had great potential and that it could become "directive, well-lighted, inviting, safe, and stylish."

However, they also felt that the area had several problems. It was uninviting, needed opportunities for people to congregate, needed borders, lighting, a more interesting path than the one that is there, fence removal and more definition of the open area. They felt that the area outside the park was busy and inside the park was dead so involving the stakeholders was seen as key.

SHORT TERM

Similar to the other park entrances the visibility of the park from the surrounding streets and neighborhood needs to be improved, and amenities added such as a map of the area and seating (the current sign is a visual barrier). To improve access, crosswalks and landscaping need to be added to draw visitors to the corner and into the park.

Participants also had the idea that this entrance could be improved to accommodate users at lunch time, particularly if a connection were established to Burrito King.

LONG TERM

In the long term, the path into the park needs to be designed to draw people into the park (e.g. with landscaping, sidewalks, lighting, signage, seating "pullouts" etc). (needs additional input)

Potential Local Partnerships and Stakeholders for Cuddy Family Park

Institutions (employees and users)

Public Library
National Archives Library
Post Office

Local Businesses

Business Park Employees
Restaurants
Hotels
Local food concessions
Lowe's
Paul Engineering
ACS
Office Depot
Speed skate shop
Landscaping company

Neighbors

Neighbors
Ted Stevens
Dog walkers
Kids who ski/snowboard
Musicians
Artists
Bands
Theater groups

Local Interest Groups

Renaissance Fair, park event as fundraiser for park
DARE!
ACASA
Rotary Club
AK Waterways Council
Anchorage Gardening Club
Dow!
Boys and Girls Club

Local Sports-Interest Groups

Alaska speed skating club
Anchorage Skates
Local running/sports club
Public skaters
Speed skaters

Ideas for Programming

Festival organizers
Regular activities – change each week
Programming –Arbor Day celebration, food, events, Day of Caring;
Archives- history walk
Lowe's build birdhouses
Every adjoining business to be a partner (e.g. Office Depot back lot)
Picnic area (business picnics and others)
Community programs and events
Fur Rondy ice sculptures

ALASKA

1 October , 2021

CALIFORNIA

RE: Anchorage Skates.

GUAM

SCOPE IDENTIFICATION AND FEE PROPOSAL

HAWAII

Dear Anchorage Skates,

We are sending this letter to you because our firm, RIM Architects, intends to partner with the Anchorage Skates on a project involving the upcoming warming facility at Cuddy Park. Specifically, our firm will work to increase public awareness of and enthusiasm about the sport of speed skating and of the park. This letter provides a brief overview of the front-end analysis and discovery we are proposing in preparation for an awareness-influence campaign and the subsequent fundraising efforts.

Based on our currently limited understanding, the end goal is to fundraise from the general public toward the Cuddy Park improvements at some point in the future. To succeed in this effort, individuals and organizations with the means to donate would need to be sufficiently aware and enthusiastic. A targeted campaign would yield the best results—a lower investment into the overall campaign and likely a better fundraising outcome.

Rather than planning for a generic marketing campaign, we propose to first characterize the potential target audience. This characterization will enable the development of more effective strategies to be employed during the awareness-influence campaign. Ideally, these strategies would be guided by several personas, which are fictional characters created based on research to represent the different audience types that might view the subject matter in a similar way. Personas help us to develop an effective campaign by better understanding the audience needs, experiences, behaviors, and goals. These are all important elements when attempting to raise awareness, enthusiasm, or funds from the general public.

A good set of personas usually requires substantial primary research—both quantitative and qualitative. However, it is also possible to produce a less rigorous, but still very useful, set of personas by establishing some assumptions. This is done by starting with secondary research (publicly available information, datasets, and research conducted by a third party) to identify attributes that can be inferred without independent research.

645 G Street, Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

907.258.7777 main
907.279.8195 fax

The remaining attributes would be identified via interviews, surveys, or focus groups. Once the relevant attributes are identified and analyzed, personas are developed.

We are proposing to begin the secondary research component of this approach in the near future. After the initial kick-off meeting and the approval of the research scope, our team will begin gathering all the relevant data needed to characterize the potential target audience. Depending on which attributes are selected to be of relevance, this secondary research may be sufficient to develop the corresponding personas. Regardless, this component will produce enough information to substantially help the subsequent campaign.

To perform this work, our team proposes a not-to-exceed budget of \$10k with the deliverables produced within two months. Our team will provide the following deliverables:

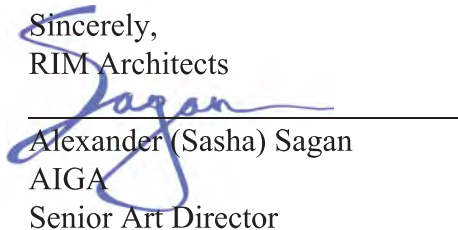
- Proto-personas developed based on information gathered from secondary research.
- The underlying data used to develop the proto-personas.
- Recommendation on whether additional primary research will be needed to enhance and finalize the personas.
- Recommend a roadmap and strategies to be employed during the awareness-influence campaign based on the proto-personas.

Our proposal to perform discovery and front-end analysis prior to developing the campaign roadmap and strategy will lead to more efficiency and better end-goal outcomes. With the backing of audience research, campaigns and fundraising can be easily targeted to the right people, at the right time, and in the right place. With a project like this in particular, our approach will help use funding responsibly, and aim efforts where they will have the most impact.

We are excited to be part of this project and look forward to getting started. We'd be happy to discuss the nuts and bolts with you.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
RIM Architects



Alexander (Sasha) Sagan
AIGA
Senior Art Director



Donor Advised Non-Endowment Fund Agreement

This agreement is made by and between Anchorage Skates ("Donor") and The Alaska Community Foundation, an Alaska nonprofit corporation ("ACF").

WHEREAS: ACF strives to respond to the changing needs of the Alaska community by building permanent philanthropic capital through individual, corporate and agency donations.

WHEREAS: the Donor desires to make a lasting contribution to the Alaska community by making a donation to ACF through use of a donor advised fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and of the mutual covenants contained in this Agreement, the parties agree as follows:

1. Creation of Fund.

The Donor wishes to establish a non-endowment fund and hereby donates the assets described in "Schedule 1" to this Agreement to ACF, a charitable organization described in sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Donor(s) understand that this is an irrevocable gift, which will be used to establish and maintain a charitable fund of the Foundation, subject to the Foundation's governing documents and bylaws. The Foundation may also receive additional contributions to add to this Fund from the Donor(s) or other individuals or businesses, as well as distributions of cash and/or marketable securities from trusts, wills, private foundations or other donor advised funds to either initially fund or add to this Donor Advised Fund. The name of the Fund shall be the Midtown Park Chalet Fund ("Fund") of The Alaska Community Foundation ("ACF").

The Fund is subject to ACF's Gift and Fund Acceptance Policies, as amended from time to time, which are available to the public.

2. Management of Fund.

a. ACF shall hold, manage, invest and reinvest the Fund, collect the income, and pay and disburse grants from the Fund exclusively for general charitable uses and purposes, in accordance with the provisions specified in ACF's Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, which provisions are hereby incorporated by reference and conclusively assented to and adopted. Assets of the Fund may be commingled for purposes of investment with other assets of ACF. For purposes of this instrument, the term "charitable uses and purposes" is defined as all of those activities, uses, and purposes described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,

as from time to time amended ("Code").

b. ACF invests funds according to ACF's approved Investment Policy, as amended from time to time. ACF does not predict any particular result and does not guarantee any particular result related to investments.

c. The following guidelines exist regarding Excess Business Holdings. Under the Pension Protection Act of 2007, the private ACF excess business holdings rule applies to donor advised funds as if they were private foundations. That is, holdings of a donor advised fund in a business enterprise, together with the holdings of disqualified persons with respect to that fund, may not exceed the following:

- Twenty percent of the voting stock of an incorporated business;
- Twenty percent of the profits, interest of a partnership or joint venture or the beneficial interest of a trust or similar entity.

Ownership of unincorporated businesses that are not substantially related to the Fund's purposes is also prohibited.

3. Use of the Fund.

a. Donors provide recommendations about distributions from the Donor Advised Fund. All recommendations are advisory in nature, and final approval of all distributions from the Fund are made by the ACF Board. ACF cannot make distributions to fulfill any pledge, obligation, or membership, or to support any activity from which a Donor or any individual will receive a benefit, including grants, loans or similar payments.

b. A fund is considered active when there is regular communication between a donor (or named successors) and the Foundation regarding the existence and purpose of the fund, consistent with ACF's Fund Activity Policy.

c. After the death, resignation, or disqualification of the last advisor to the Fund (including the qualified initial and successor advisors if so named in Exhibit "A"), or a period of inactivity as defined by ACF's Fund Activity Policy, steps will be taken by the ACF staff or board to activate the Fund per ACF's Fund Activity Policy.

d. If recommendations reduce the fund balance below \$5,000 for 12 consecutive months, ACF staff shall contact the Fund Advisor(s) to determine the goal for the fund. If no contact can be made, ACF staff shall follow ACF's Fund Activity Policy.

e. All suggestions and recommendations made by advisors shall be consistent with ACF's purposes and policies as stated in its organizational and other documents. Notwithstanding any such suggestions or recommendations, final decisions as to all distributions from the Fund will be made by the ACF Board.

f. The Donor acknowledges that ACF encourages a large portion of grants or awards from donor advised funds be made to Alaskan charities for use within the State of Alaska.

4. Administrative Expenses.

ACF will assess administrative and investment management fees against this Fund in accordance with the Foundation's published fee schedule, as amended from time to time. The Foundation may also assess the fund to cover any unusual expenses incurred in connection with the contributed assets, including the cost of disposing of them.

5. Fund as Component of The Alaska Community Foundation.

The parties intend that the Fund shall be a component part of ACF, as defined in section 1.170A-9(f)(11) of the Income Tax Regulations, and that nothing in this agreement shall affect the status of ACF as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code and which is not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code: This agreement shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the foregoing intention and to conform with the requirements of the applicable provisions of the federal tax laws and any regulations issued under them

The Fund is subject to the policies and procedures of ACF, which are available to the public.

6. The Alaska Community Foundation in Good Standing.

All transfers of property under this instrument are subject to the condition that ACF, as of the date of transfer, is classified in good standing by the Internal Revenue Service as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code and which is not a private foundation as defined in section 509(a) of the Code.

7. Governing Law.

The Fund shall be administered in and under the laws of the State of Alaska, and this instrument and its validity shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Alaska.

8. Variance Power.

The ACF Board shall have the power, as required by United States Treasury Regulations, to modify any restrictions or conditions on the distribution of funds for any specified charitable purpose or to specified organizations if, in the sole judgment of the ACF Board, (without the approval of any advisor, trustee, custodian or agent) such restrictions or conditions become, in effect, unnecessary, incapable of fulfillment or inconsistent with the charitable needs of the community or the area served. The ACF Board shall exercise this power consistent with the principal of maintaining, as close as possible, the original intent of the donor(s).

Initial  Date 4/14/2021

9. Confidentiality.

All information about donors and prospective donors shall only be disclosed within the guidelines of ACF's Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Policy, which is available to the public.

10. Anonymity/Publicity.

To recognize and honor our donors, the Foundation's policy is to include our donors' names in annual reports and other materials unless they wish to remain anonymous. Please check the boxes below that best describes your wish regarding publicity:

I have no objection to the inclusion of my name in Foundation publicity, and

My preferred recognition name is: Anchorage Skates

I do not wish to have my name included in Foundation publicity and I wish to be listed as an anonymous donor

Other _____

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Donor and The Alaska Community Foundation have executed this Agreement on the date appearing below their signatures.

DONOR



Signature

Peter Haeussler

Name

4/14/2021

Date

Anchorage Skates

Title/Organization (if applicable)

19550 Chugach Park Dr

Street Address

Chugiak, AK 99567

City/State/Zip

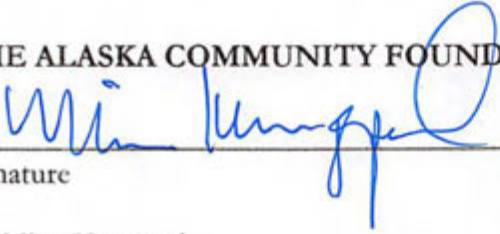
907-962-6586

Phone

ispeedskate@gmail.com

Email

THE ALASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Signature

Nina Kempel

Name

President and CEO

Title

4/14/2021

Date

SCHEDULE 1

CONTRIBUTED PROPERTY

The Donor(s) hereby irrevocably donates, and ACF agrees to accept, the following for the Midtown Park Chalet Fund Donor Advised Non-Endowment Fund, a component fund of ACF:

Amount of donation: \$ 15,000

Additional information: (E.g., note the number of shares and name of stock donated, amounts to be allocated for the principal and spendable, or other comments):

Initial RA Date 4/14/2021

EXHIBIT A

DONOR ADVISED NON-ENDOWMENT FUND

Please describe any specific areas of interest in grantmaking that you would like ACF staff to be aware of:

Fund will be used to raise capital for a new chalet. After construction, the fund may be endowed to provide for the chalet's ongoing maintenance.

The Midtown Park Chalet will be located in the Cuddy Family Midtown Park at the northeast corner of the skating oval. The facility will serve as a year-round center for events at the park, which could include weddings in the summer and as a warming house in the winter for skaters. A cost estimate for the proposed facility is \$1.2 million with an additional goal to raise funds for an endowment for operations and maintenance. The aspirational total goal is to raise \$2 million in the next 3 years.

A copy of ACF's Fund Activity Policy has been provided with this fund agreement.

Initial  Date 4/14/2021

Please name a Fund Representative, to whom all official communications and correspondence should be directed to, including quarterly financial statements.

Name: Peter Haeussler
Organization:
Address: 19550 Chugach Park Dr. Chugiak, AK 99567
Phone: 907-862-6586
Email: ispeedskate@gmail.com

Prefer to receive Web-based or Paper statements?
If Web-based statements, provide email address for every fund advisor.

Please provide contact information for Fund Advisors. Any one of the individuals listed below are authorized to recommend grants from the fund, unless otherwise indicated below.

Name: Peter Haeussler
Address: 19550 Chugach Park Dr. Chugiak, AK 99567
Phone: 907-862-6586
Email: ispeedskate@gmail.com

Name: Jim Renkert
Address: 4621 Piper Street #18, Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 907-250-4896
Email: xcski@gci.net

Name: Tim Potter
Address: 1800 Stanford Dr., Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 907-317-3464
Email: tpotter@dowl.com

Name: Art Geuss
Address: 6040 DeArmoun Dr., Anchorage, AK 99516
Phone: 907-227-0048
Email: artgeussjr@hotmail.com

Name: Carl Oswald
Address: 6430 Ridge Tree Circle, Anchorage, AK 99507
Phone: 781-608-8200
Email: sailoswald@gmail.com

Any remaining amounts in the Donor Advised Non-Endowment Fund following the death of the last advisor shall go to The Alaska Fund or as otherwise noted here:



Vision: A year-round facility where all visitors have a safe and well maintained place to learn to skate, learn to bike ride, socialize, exercise, enjoy competition and engage in healthy lifetime activities. A facility that is used for ice skating in the winter and in-line skating, bike riding and special needs recreation in the summer

Mission: The mission of Anchorage Skates is to complete and develop a sustainable Cuddy Family Midtown Park Skating Oval.

Completion includes the oval's physical characteristics:

- A. Lights *Completed 12/21/12*
- B. Kiosk with informational signs, skating and sponsor information
- C. Benches *Complete*
- D. Outdoor pavilion with a firepit
- E. Warming hut with skate rentals
- F. PA System for music and announcements *Completed 2015*
- G. Better use for oval interior
- H. Curbs

Sustainable means:

1. Excellent annual maintenance
2. Broad based community support as evidenced by regular individual and business donors
3. Making the oval and the park more of a social place for people to meet and recreate. Evidenced by 1) Numerous year-round events, 2) individuals using the oval 3) Diverse groups using the oval
4. An overall Sponsor
5. A robust and sustainable local speedskating club
6. A maintenance endowment

Core Values:

Lifetime Skills – Every child that grows up in Anchorage should have the opportunity to learn to ice skate.

Healthy Park – A friendly, safe and well maintained facility.

Healthy People – A place where people of all ages and abilities gather to recreate and socialize.



P1 / NEW LIGHTS AND NEW SKATERS

Your donations support Nice Ice at Cuddy Family Midtown Park Skating and Fitness Oval



P2 / A LOOK BACK AT 2013-2014

Who is Anchorage Skates?



P3 / GOALS: NICE ICE AND A WARMING FACILITY

Selected oval events and an update on skating programs at the oval



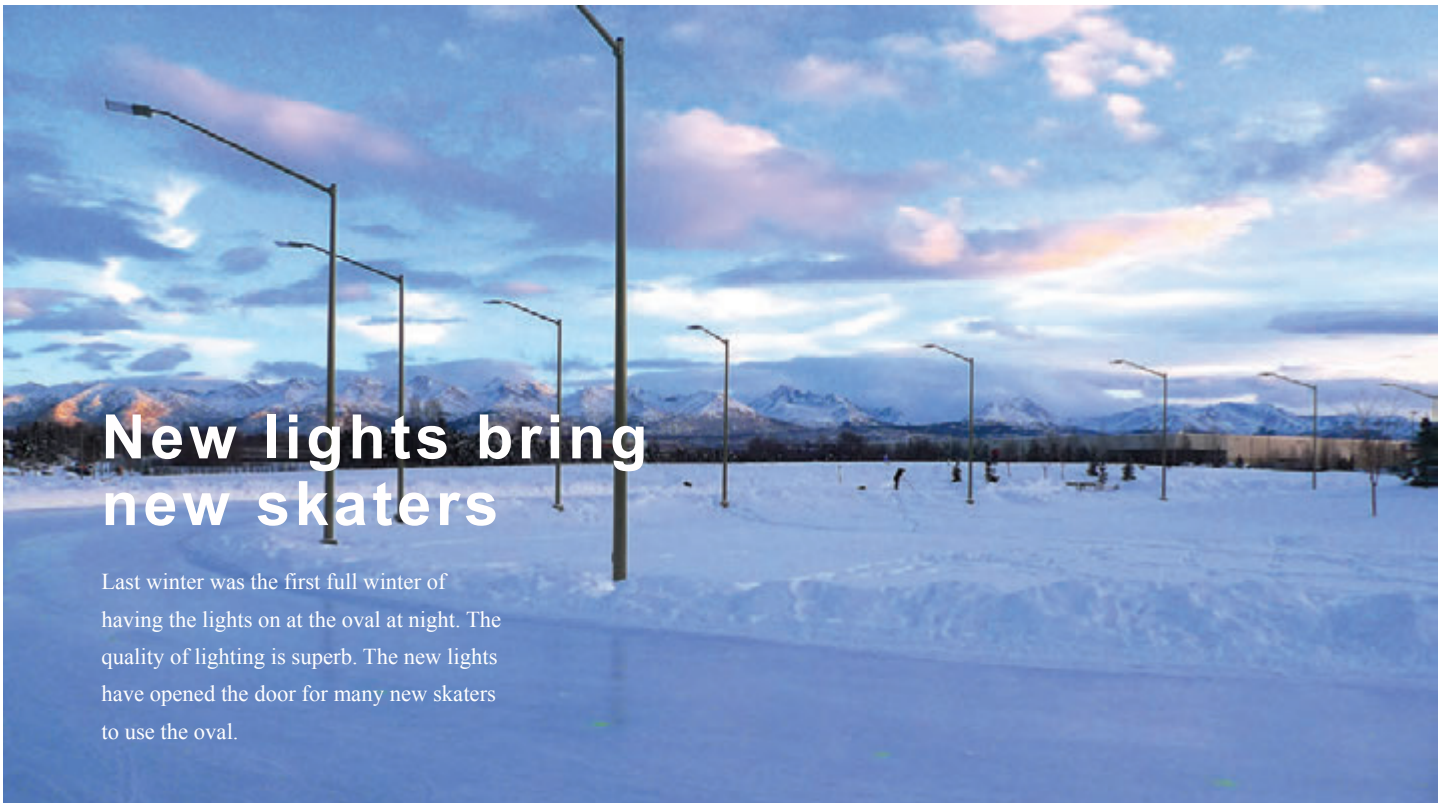
P4 / VISION, MISSION, VALUES

Join us in become part of Anchorage Skates

Anchorage Skates *Connection*

IS001

FALL 2014



New lights bring new skaters

Last winter was the first full winter of having the lights on at the oval at night. The quality of lighting is superb. The new lights have opened the door for many new skaters to use the oval.

Your contributions to Anchorage Skates make possible skating for everyone at the Cuddy Family Midtown Park skating oval. For the past five years Anchorage Skates has successfully raised \$10,000 annually through your generous donations to support ice maintenance . The oval is the best sheet of outdoor ice in Anchorage.

More and more skaters are discovering the oval. Last winter we saw more skaters out during lunch, on the weekends and taking advantage of the new LED lights to skate

after work. .The Alaska Speedskating Club held recreational Tuesday Night races, and there was a record number of people at those races as well.

>> CONT. PAGE TWO

“The oval is the best sheet of outdoor ice in Anchorage.”



WHO IS ANCHORAGE SKATES?

>> CONT. FROM PAGE ONE

We're the folks that have championed the development of the outdoor skating and fitness oval at Cuddy Park. Anchorage Skates is focused on the completion, maintenance and sustainability of the oval. Other groups involved with the Cuddy Park oval are the Alaska Speedskating Club, which holds practices and runs races, and the Anchorage Skate Club, which is aiming to provide learn-to-skate programs at the oval this winter.



WWW.ANCHORAGESKATES.ORG



“We had a picture perfect Holiday scene with mild temperatures, light falling snow, food trucks, sleigh rides, burn barrels, lights, hot chocolate and Christmas music”

A look back at the 2013-2014 season

We celebrated the Holiday season with the annual Winter Solstice Torchlight Skating Party. We had picture perfect Holiday scene with mild temperatures, light falling snow, food trucks, sleigh rides, burn barrels, lights, hot chocolate and Christmas music. It was a scene right out of Currier and Ives or a Charlie Brown Christmas.

Last winter was the first full winter of having the lights on at the oval at night. The quality of lighting is superb – great illumination, but not harsh or too bright. And you can still see the lights of the buildings nearby, which makes for a great nighttime cityscape. The lights, and the great ice, have led to greater use of the oval at night.

In January we held the 8th annual speedskate-ski duathlon. This event is becoming well recognized in the nordic skiing community, and some people say it is their favorite race of the year. The ice, ski trails, and warmer temperatures made for ideal conditions, but the great attitude of the people is what really made the event special. This is the single largest event that helps to raise money for the oval ice maintenance. The trails in Cuddy Park have been groomed by the Muni for this race, and we often see people skiing in the park after the race is over.

Throughout the winter, the Alaska Speedskating Club held practices and races at the oval. As mentioned, there was a full season of the Tuesday Night races, which had the highest turnout ever. These Tuesday races are open to everyone – you don't have to be on speedskates..

In the spring, we presented the Mayor and the Anchorage Assembly another check for \$10,000 in support of the ice maintenance at the oval. We deeply appreciate all the individuals and business partners who have helped to keep us on nice ice.

The summer had a bunch of activity at the oval. There is a growing cadre of walkers, runners, and inline skaters that use the oval throughout the week. Perhaps the two biggest events, were a 24 hour cancer walk and the “LoveAlaska” Christian music event. Summer also generated some of the best unexpected uses of the oval: as a landing strip for radio-controlled model airplanes, as a place where special needs kids can bicycle without being quite so tethered to their parents, and there was a young chap in a powered wheelchair that pulled around a young man on a skateboard for lap after lap of talking and joking. Your support for the oval as a year-around facility is what makes this possible.



Goals: Nice Ice and a Warming Facility

We have two primary goals in fundraising in the coming months. One is for the ice maintenance at the oval for this coming winter. The second is for construction of a permanent warming facility at the oval. No doubt, a warming facility in the park would make it easier to hold events year around, develop programs, and provide more enjoyable skating opportunities in the wintertime. We are in the process of developing concept designs for such

a building. The use of the facility, and the park, will grow year around if there is a building adjacent to the oval where people can warm up, enjoy some hot chocolate and change. Such a facility would also support the growth of youth and adult skating programs, and be used for other purposes in the summer.

Tax deductible donations can be made to Anchorage Skates through the Alaska Community Foundation: <http://alaskacf.org/>

PROGRAMS UPDATE

COOK INLET SPEED SKATING SCHOOL TO TEACH KIDS TO SKATE

The first program to use the Cuddy Park oval focussed on teaching youth skating will begin early in 2015. Former Netherlands Olympic team coach, John Monroe, has been working with the Anchorage Skate Club to establish a youth speedskating program. The kickoff for the program begins at Mulcahy in December, but there will be two four-week sessions for youth at the Cuddy park oval in January and February.

Anchorage Skate Club President, Edwin Blair, has been working to encourage kids to skate outdoors across the Anchorage bowl. "It shouldn't cost a thousand dollars for a kid just to try out some kind of skating," says Edwin. "We want to give kids opportunities to learn to skate at low cost." After John Monroe moved to town, and heard about Junior Nordic, he decided to develop a similar program for speedskating. Monroe, who has coached speedskating around the world says, "this is a great facility, with great lighting, and the outside temperatures in Anchorage are far more reasonable than in parts of Canada, where I have coached in the past." Monroe worked for U.S. Speedskating for 5 years and served as its development director. He has a passion for getting youth to skate, and we are excited to see this program develop.



Selected Oval Events

SOLSTICE SKATE

This event has been held on the Friday evening closest to the winter solstice for the last 5 years. Torchlights, burn barrels, hot chocolate, sleigh rides and the shortest day of the year are all reasons to come out and skate.

DUATHLON

Skating and skate skiing have a lot in common - why not combine the two? For this fundraiser to support the ice maintenance at the oval, participants skate 8-10 laps around the oval, switch to skis and then ski 3 times around the park trail. There are kids distances and relays as well.

FUR RONDY

There are all-comers skating races, speedskating races, in the past - pajama races, and this coming year, a Swimsuit Skate. Enjoy the craziness of the end of winter and embrace your inner Alaskan.



Join us: Get a pin, show your pride



Please help us pay for the ice you enjoy. Let's work together to maintain it. Thank you!

www.alaskacf.org - donate to "Anchorage Skates" fund.

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- Lights
- Kiosk with informational signs, an iron ranger, skating information, sponsor information
- Benches
- Outdoor pavilion with a firepit
- Warming hut
- PA System for music and announcements
- Appropriate use for oval inner

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- Broad based community support as evidenced by regular individual and business donors
- Making the oval and the park more of a social place for people to meet and recreate.

Evidenced by:

- Numerous year-round events,
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- An overall Sponsor
- A robust and sustainable local speedskating club
- A maintenance endowment

CORE VALUES:

Lifetime Skills – Every child that grows up in Anchorage should have the opportunity to learn to ice skate.

Healthy Park – A safe, warm and well maintained facility.

Healthy People – A place where people of all ages and abilities gather to exercise and socialize.

formas.

NEXT ISSUE:

PROGRESS TOWARDS A WARMING FACILITY

We will provide an update on progress toward a permanent warming facility

YOUTH SKATING AT THE OVAL

We will have a focus on youth skating at the oval: recreational, speedskating, hockey, and learning to skate.

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Olympic Medalist Hockey

WE APPRECIATE OUR MAJOR DONORS





P1 / POWER AND SOUND FOR THE OVAL
Installation of electrical upgrades and a sound system



P2 / IS THIS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE TO SKATE IN NORTH AMERICA?
Who is Anchorage Skates?



P3 / GOALS: NICE ICE AND A WARMING FACILITY
Selected oval events and an update on skating programs at the oval



P4 / VISION, MISSION, VALUES
Join us in become part of Anchorage Skates

Anchorage Skates Connection

IS002

FALL 2015



Power and sound for the oval

Upgrades to the power system around the oval will accommodate both a seasonal warming facility as well as a future permanent warming facility.

This fall has seen significant improvements to the power system at the Cuddy Park Oval, and installation of a state-of-the-art sound system. New electrical upgrades will allow a seasonal warming facility to have heat and power, and that will make it a lot more comfortable for skaters at the oval. The upgraded power system is sized appropriately for an envisioned permanent warming facility.

“The sound system will add to the holiday cheer”

The new sound system was donated by Tom McGrath of Frigid North. Sixteen speakers are installed high on the light poles around the oval. The sound system will allow music during skating events, as well as the

public address system to be used for skating events. Jim Renkert, founder of the annual Solstice Skate event says, “the sound system will add to the holiday cheer” that the event brings.

Funding for the electrical upgrades and the PA system installation was provided by the Alaska Parks Foundation and the Municipality of Anchorage, with *pro bono* engineering work from Coffman Engineers.



WHO IS ANCHORAGE SKATES?

We're the folks that have championed the development of the outdoor skating and fitness oval at Cuddy Park. Anchorage Skates is focused on the completion, maintenance and sustainability of the oval. Other groups involved with the Cuddy Park oval are the Alaska Speedskating Club, which holds practices and runs races, and the Anchorage Skate Club, which is aiming to provide learn-to-skate programs at the oval this winter.



WWW.ANCHORAGESKATES.ORG



Is this the most beautiful place to skate in North America?

As my friends here in Alaska know, I've been to almost every long track skating venue in North America, and many in Europe. What many Alaskans may not realize is how unique the skating Oval in Cuddy Family Midtown Park is. I'm going to tell you a little about why I think we are so lucky to have this in the middle of our city.

First, skating ovals are a rare bird in the US. There are currently only 6 in the country, and two are former Olympic venues (Salt Lake and Lake Placid). Salt Lake, well – beautiful views outside the Oval, but its architecture is not what many would call beautiful – Eastern European apartment block is what I think of. Lake Placid has lovely views for a track squeezed between a high school and an indoor ice rink. If you prefer non-Olympic venues, then you are headed to the suburbs of Milwaukee or Minneapolis. The Pettit Center in Milwaukee is again an indoor facility, and sports perhaps four windows in the entire building. Roseville near Minneapolis is an outdoor venue, but the last time I was there, the installation of mountains was not yet complete. Canada has a better selection of skating ovals (not a surprise, since they have more winter than the lower 48). With the exception of Calgary and Fort St. John, all of them are outdoors. At some of these ovals, the wind from the North Pole only passed over

polar bears and tundra on its way south. In other words, the wind blows a lot, and it can be amazingly cold. On the plus side, you can play bandy on the infield.

The keys to a facility that serves a community come down to a few things. First, the facility is easily accessible. You can't beat Cuddy Park for that. It is just off two major arteries in the city, and it is readily accessible by public transportation. Second, it is better lit (by a state-of-the-art LED light system) than any other outdoor skating facility in North America. Third, it is readily accessible to the public – again, what other facility is open 6 a.m.-11 p.m., and is essentially free? (Don't forget to buy your Oval Pins!). And finally, did I mention the views? If you skate here, your default view is of snowcapped mountain peaks – all day, every day. Sunsets are painfully pretty here.

Skating began as an outdoor sport, and Alaska is an outdoor state. The work done by Anchorage Skates and many other partners to build and improve this facility deserves to be recognized – and the best recognition anyone can give the visionaries who gave us this facility is to use it every day. And bring your children and grandchildren here to skate, and appreciate how lucky they are, and how much better their future will be because they played outside in Alaska in the winter.

John Monroe – Olympic Coach



Goals: Nice Ice and a Warming Facility

This winter will feature a seasonal warming facility - a heated construction trailer - at the oval for the first time. Cornerstone Construction generously donated the use of a trailer.

Anchorage Skates envisions a permanent warming facility at the oval, and we undertook a site evaluation process this last year. We considered various sites around, or inside, the oval and favor a location at the northeastern corner of the oval. This would allow the

building to be used year round, and would it could be used for events both at the oval and in the central part of the park. We are working on concept drawings for the facility now.

Another goal in fundraising is for the ice maintenance at the oval. We have raised \$10,000 each year, for the last 6 years, and we need your help to maintain the nice ice. Tax deductible donations can be made to Anchorage Skates through the Alaska Community Foundation: <http://alaskacf.org/>

PROGRAMS UPDATE

ANCHORAGE SKATE CLUB TO TEACH KIDS TO SKATE

John Monroe, former Dutch Olympic speedskating coach, will teach three learn to speedskate programs for kids at the Cuddy Park oval this winter. Each session is 1 month long and will meet two nights per week, like the junior nordic model. There will be skates for kids available in all sizes. See: www.anchorageskateclub.com for more information.

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The Alaska Speedskating Club will offer practices at the oval two days per week, and races several times per month throughout the winter. The club practices are open to people of all ages and abilities, and the oval is not exclusive use during these times. Check the club website for up-to-date schedule and information. The club does not have long track speedskates available for use, but they can be rented from Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking. see: www.alaskaspeedskating.com for more information



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P1 / MAKE AMERICA SKATE AGAIN!

Power and sound upgrades at the oval lay the groundwork for a new warming facility.



P2 / THE SOLSTICE SKATE AND FESTIVAL

A premier Anchorage winter event



P3 / GOALS: NICE ICE AND A WARMING FACILITY

Selected oval events and an update on skating programs at the oval



P4 / VISION, MISSION, VALUES

Join us and become part of Anchorage Skates

Anchorage Skates Connection

IS003

FALL 2016



Make America Skate Again!

Upgrades to the power system around the oval provided festive music for the annual Solstice Festival.

This last winter was a great one for skating. Although it was a terrible year for cross country skiing, ice was generally in super shape. Temperatures were warm, but slightly less than freezing. It was a record year for the number of skaters on the oval. Other than one melt out in January, it was a Goldilocks year for skating.

This year has seen significant progress toward our vision of completion of facilities

“Last winter was a Goldilocks year for skating”

around the oval. The installation of the sound system around the oval was a fantastic addition, which includes 16 speakers mounted on light poles. Users were surprised at how even the sound is while skating around the oval.

In addition, there were electrical upgrades that will provide some of the critical baseline infrastructure for a future warming facility. Some people may have also noticed the presence of a trailer along the east edge of the oval last winter. This “seasonal warming facility” was brought to the oval by the Anchorage Skate Club for some of its youth skating programs.



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We're the folks that have championed the development of the outdoor skating and fitness oval at Cuddy Park. Anchorage Skates is focused on the completion, maintenance and sustainability of the oval. Other groups involved with the Cuddy Park oval are the Alaska Speedskating Club, which holds practices and runs races, and the Anchorage Skate Club, which is providing learn-to-skate programs at the oval this winter.



The Solstice Skate and Festival

Anchorage Skates has hosted the annual “Solstice Skate” at the skating oval for the last 7 years in the Cuddy Family Midtown Park. What better way to celebrate the shortest day of the year than to skate in the evening, stand around a bonfire, go for a horse-drawn sleigh ride, and sip a cup of hot chocolate? The “Solstice Skate”, which is renamed the “Solstice Festival” this year, is one of the most anticipated events at the park each year. This last year, the event was the first to use the newly installed sound system at the oval, and baton twirlers made their first appearance, with dramatic displays of glowing and flaming batons. There were also more lit up skaters and sleds than ever before. This year, in addition to skating and horse-drawn sleigh rides, other events and activities are being added, including fat tire biking (by Chain Reaction Cycles) and snow yoga. There will be food wagons. In changing from Solstice Skate to Solstice Festival this event is enlarging its scope to become a premier winter festival with many different activities using all of Cuddy Park.

The Solstice Skate was started by former Anchorage Skates chair, Jim Renkert, who imagined that we all need a good way to mark the shortest day of the year. Initially, before the lights were installed at the oval, tiki torches were placed around the perimeter of the oval, and skaters were encouraged to glide with ‘torchlights’, which made for a decidedly traditional and romantic feel for the event. Lights were installed at the Oval in 2014 and are now on for the Festival. The 2013 Solstice Skate was memorable for the prodigious snowfall during the evening. People kept shoveling a path around the oval, but it was snowing so hard that it was hard to skate more than two abreast.

We encourage you to come out to the Solstice Festival and enjoy the shortest evening of the year in this amazing park. The Festival will start at 5 PM and end at 8 PM. Come join us!



Goals: Nice Ice and a Warming Facility

Anchorage Skates has been evaluating the potential for a warming facility that would support expanded community use of the skating and fitness oval on a year-around basis. Rim Architects has been graciously assisting Anchorage Skates with facility programming, potential siting opportunities, and conceptual design so that this facility would be organically incorporated into the park. This work is necessary to then move this discussion forward to the Parks and Recreation

Commission, Municipal Administration and the general public, which is a process we hope to initiate this winter/spring.

Another goal in fundraising is for the ice maintenance at the oval. We have raised \$10,000 each year, for the last 6 years, and we need your help to maintain the nice ice. Tax deductible donations can be made to Anchorage Skates through the Alaska Community Foundation: <http://alaskacf.org/>

PROGRAMS UPDATE

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Start of the 2015 mens duathlon



Selected Oval Events

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NEW LOGO:

We have a new logo for Anchorage Skates, developed with artist and World Cup speedskater, Jeffrey Swider-Pelz. Jeff comes from a family with deep Olympic speedskating roots, with his mother, Nancy Swider-Pelz being a four-time Olympian and former world-record holder in the 3000m. Both Jeff, and his sister Nancy Jr., are hoping to make the next Olympic team.

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Anchorage Skates



TED STEVENS FOUNDATION





P1 / CONCEPT DESIGN FOR A NEW WARMING FACILITY
A concept design integrates with the park landscape



P2 / THE WINTER JAMBOREE
An opportunity for kids to try speedskating and other winter sports and activities



P3 / GOALS: NICE ICE AND A WARMING FACILITY
Selected oval events and an update on skating programs at the oval



P4 / VISION, MISSION, VALUES
Join us and become part of Anchorage Skates

Anchorage Skates Connection

IS004

FALL 2017



RIM Architects worked with Anchorage Skates to develop a concept plan for a future warming facility

The Cuddy Park skating and fitness oval is seeing unprecedented year-round use. However, for the oval—and the park—to achieve its potential, there needs to be a warming facility. Anchorage Skates has worked with RIM Architects to develop a concept plan for a warming facility. The basic idea is to provide an easily accessible, safe, and warm place for skaters to change and warm up. Visions for future use of a facility might include a concessionaire that

“We need a warming facility for the oval and the park to achieve its full potential”

would have hot drinks and rent skates. Moreover, the proposed facility is for year-round use, to help with various events

using the park in the summertime, and perhaps weddings.

The concept plan integrates the warming facility into the landscape, at the northeastern corner of the oval. The loop trail around the park would go over the top of the building, and provide a vantage point for the entire park, the city, and the mountains beyond. With your help in the coming years, we hope to make this concept design become reality.



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The Winter Jamboree

Almost three hundred 4th and 5th grade students from ASD Title 1 schools got to try speedskating for the first time at the second annual Anchorage School District Winter Jamboree. The Jamboree was held on February 10th. Participating were Chinook, Willowcrest, Tyson, Baxter, Chester Valley and Fairview Elementary schools. Kids came to Cuddy Park to try out speedskating, cross country skiing, broomball, fat tire biking, making snow sculptures, and other fun winter activities. Students moved in groups to several stations around the park where they had a chance to try each of the activities provided. The event, a winter version of the ASD's popular Jamboree event concept, was organized by the Anchorage School District with the support of several partner organizations, including the Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage Skate Club, Alaska Speedskating Club, Campfire Alaska, Chain Reaction Cycles, Healthy Futures, Skiku and the Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage. The Muni's Parks and Recreation Department helped with prepping the park for the event. The original idea came from Edwin Blair, president of the Anchorage Skate Club, who saw a gap in the

opportunity for kids to be involved in outdoor winter activities similar to spring and fall Jamborees. John Monroe, Program Director for the Anchorage Skate Club, wants to see every kid in Anchorage learn to skate, and to love playing outdoors in the winter. Monroe said, "It was awesome to see all these kids with huge smiles on their faces trying all these Alaska winter sports!" At the speed skating and skiing venues, enthusiastic volunteers from the Alaska Speedskating Club and the Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage were the key to getting kids in-and-out of skates or ski boots as quickly as possible. Most kids managed to get in a lap or two around the speed skating oval or the ski loop before time ran out. Some kids were more wobbly than others, but they all had lots of laughs and learned how much fun can be had in the winter in Alaska. One parent and chaperone remarked to a volunteer, "Thank you so much! These kids never would have the opportunity to try out these sports if it weren't for you people here today." The Anchorage School District and its partner organizations have committed to holding an even better Winter Jamboree this coming February, tentatively planned for February 16th, 2018.



Goals: Nice Ice and a Warming Facility

The primary focus of Anchorage Skates this year is to move forward on building a permanent warming facility. A cost estimate is being worked on now, which should allow us to move toward fundraising. Moreover, we will need approval and input from community councils, the Municipality, and various commissions. We will need your help and your voice to make this project a reality.

Another goal in fundraising is for ice maintenance at the oval. We have raised \$10,000 each year, for the last 8 years, and we need your help to maintain the nice ice. Tax deductible donations of \$25 or more can be made to Anchorage Skates through the Alaska Community Foundation: <http://alaskacf.org/>, or donations of any size can be made at the various skating events at the oval.



PROGRAMS UPDATE

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WINTER JAMBOREE

This event for Title 1 schools is to introduce kids to speedskating and other winter sports, such as cross country skiing or snow biking. Last winter, about 300kids in 4th and 5th grades at Title I schools got to try out speedskating for the first time. This year, the event will be on February 16th, 2018. Volunteers are needed to help put it on - come on out!

MARATHON MADNESS

The speedskating club holds races throughout the season, and on Sunday, February 4th is the day for long races. Anyone on any skates can come join in for skating from 5 to 50 km! (13 to 129 laps) Embrace the craziness of long ice races!



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- E. Appropriate use for oval inner

Sustainable means:

- 1. Excellent annual maintenance

- 2. Broad-based community support as evidenced by regular individual and business donors
- 3. Making the oval and the park more of a social place for people to meet and recreate.

Evidenced by:

- 1) Numerous year-round events,
- 2) Individuals using the oval
- 3) Diverse groups using the oval
- 4) An overall Sponsor
- 5) A robust skating community
- 6) A maintenance endowment

CORE VALUES:

Lifetime Skills – Every child that grows up in Anchorage should have the opportunity to learn to ice skate.

Healthy Park – A safe, friendly and well maintained facility.

Healthy People – A place where people of all ages and abilities gather to exercise and socialize.

NEW LOGO:

We have a new logo for Anchorage Skates, developed with artist and World Cup speedskater, Jeffrey Swider-Pelz. Jeff comes from a family with deep Olympic speedskating roots, with his mother, Nancy Swider-Pelz being a four-time Olympian and former world-record holder in the 3000m. As we go to press, Jeff is on the verge of making the next Olympic team!

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WE APPRECIATE OUR MAJOR DONORS



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THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



* HONORING *

* THE MIDTOWN PARK AND TRAIL STEERING COMMITTEE *

The members of the Nineteenth Alaska State Legislature are proud to honor the members of the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee for their tireless efforts to organize and promote the design and development of the Anchorage Midtown Park.

The Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee is comprised of volunteers from local businesses, the public, government agencies, and the Z.J. Loussac Library. These volunteers first met with Anchorage officials in 1985 on a preliminary draft of the Midtown Park layout. The plan was tabled until December 1994, when members of the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee began to identify possible local, state, and federal funding sources for development of the park. In an effort to better utilize individual talents, the Steering Committee organized sub-committees to focus on wetlands restoration, publicity/community outreach, fundraising, design and planning, and land acquisition.

By forming a partnership with residents, businesses, and government leaders, the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee has effectively involved the entire community to develop the park. Few public projects can acclaim the level of broad community cooperation and support enjoyed by the Midtown Park, which will provide a much needed relaxing park atmosphere in the otherwise "parkless" midtown area. Over 300 volunteers and businesses have worked and donated materials to build the first phase of the park, which currently encompasses 4.8 acres south of the Z.J. Loussac Library.

Members of the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee have volunteered time and labor to organize a public project and have worked successfully together to develop the park through the first phase. It is our hope that other members of the community recognize the tremendous contribution by the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee Members and follow this fine example. We wish them every success and encourage others to explore similar innovative ideas to make Anchorage and all of Alaska an even better place to live.

Members of the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee are:

Chris Beck
Cheryl Bowers
Ron Crenshaw
Janel Feicrabend

Art Geuss
Patricia Joyner
Tom Kempton

Martha Levensaler
Helen Nienhueser
Bob Robertson

The members of the Nineteenth Alaska State Legislature commend the Midtown Park and Trail Steering Committee Members, as well as other volunteers and advisors who have worked to make the Midtown Park a reality.




SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE


PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE


PRIME SPONSOR

Date: February 12, 1996

Co-Sponsors: Senators Ellis, Leman, Duncan, Lincoln, Taylor, Pearce, Hoffman, Kelly; Representatives Brown, Porter, B. Davis, Elton, Finkelstein, Ivan, James, Kott, Kubina, Navarre, Nicholia, Robinson, Sanders, Toohy, Williams, Willis