



**Anchorage Park Foundation Media Release
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VOLUNTEERS TO CLEAN UP MINNESOTA PARK

Volunteers to Repair Asphalt, Remove Graffiti and Trim Trees in Visible Park in Spenard Neighborhood Park

The Anchorage Park Foundation (APF) and the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department (APRD) will continue their summer Neighborhood Park Fix-Its with a volunteer park clean-up at Minnesota Park on Saturday, June 25. Volunteers in Spenard will remove graffiti, re-paint the fence along Minnesota Avenue, spread mulch and pick up trash in Minnesota Park (Minnesota Drive between 32nd and 36th Avenues) from 9 am – 12 pm, followed by a community celebration from 12 – 2 pm.

Since this winter, park neighbors and community council volunteers have partnered with staff from the Parks & Recreation Department to identify priority repairs and recruit community involvement to accomplish park improvements. This volunteer event is part of the Anchorage Park Foundation and Parks & Recreation Department’s summer efforts to rehabilitate, restore and revitalize Anchorage neighborhood parks with community and volunteer support.

With funding from the Parks & Recreation Department and the Anchorage Park Foundation, volunteers at Minnesota Park will repaint park equipment, remove graffiti and paint and repair the fence along Minnesota Drive. In anticipation of the volunteer workday, professional contractors have removed the shrubbery along Minnesota Drive, improving visibility into the park. In addition, the Minnesota Park Committee has successfully obtained an Anchorage Park Foundation Challenge Grant to make further repairs at Minnesota Park.

Minnesota Park is one of 8 neighborhood parks targeted for renovation and revitalization as part of this summer’s Neighborhood Park Fix-Its campaign. “Volunteer support enables private and public dollars to stretch further and make real improvements to parks,” said Parks Superintendent Holly Spoth-Torres. “We are building a stronger community by inspiring volunteers to get active in their parks.”

The APF and APRD partner to accomplish neighborhood park fix-its using volunteer and professional labor to accomplish park projects that are immediate, doable, supported, needed, and produced visible results. “The Anchorage Park Foundation is proud to partner with the Parks & Recreation Department to invest in park improvements with volunteer support,” said Anchorage Park Foundation board member Eleanor Andrews. “Minnesota Park is a highly visible park with room to become a tremendous neighborhood asset.”

For more information on summer park improvements, please visit www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org. For more information about Minnesota Park, please visit the Anchorage Park Foundation park directory: <http://www.anchorageparkfoundation.org/directory/minnesota.htm>

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