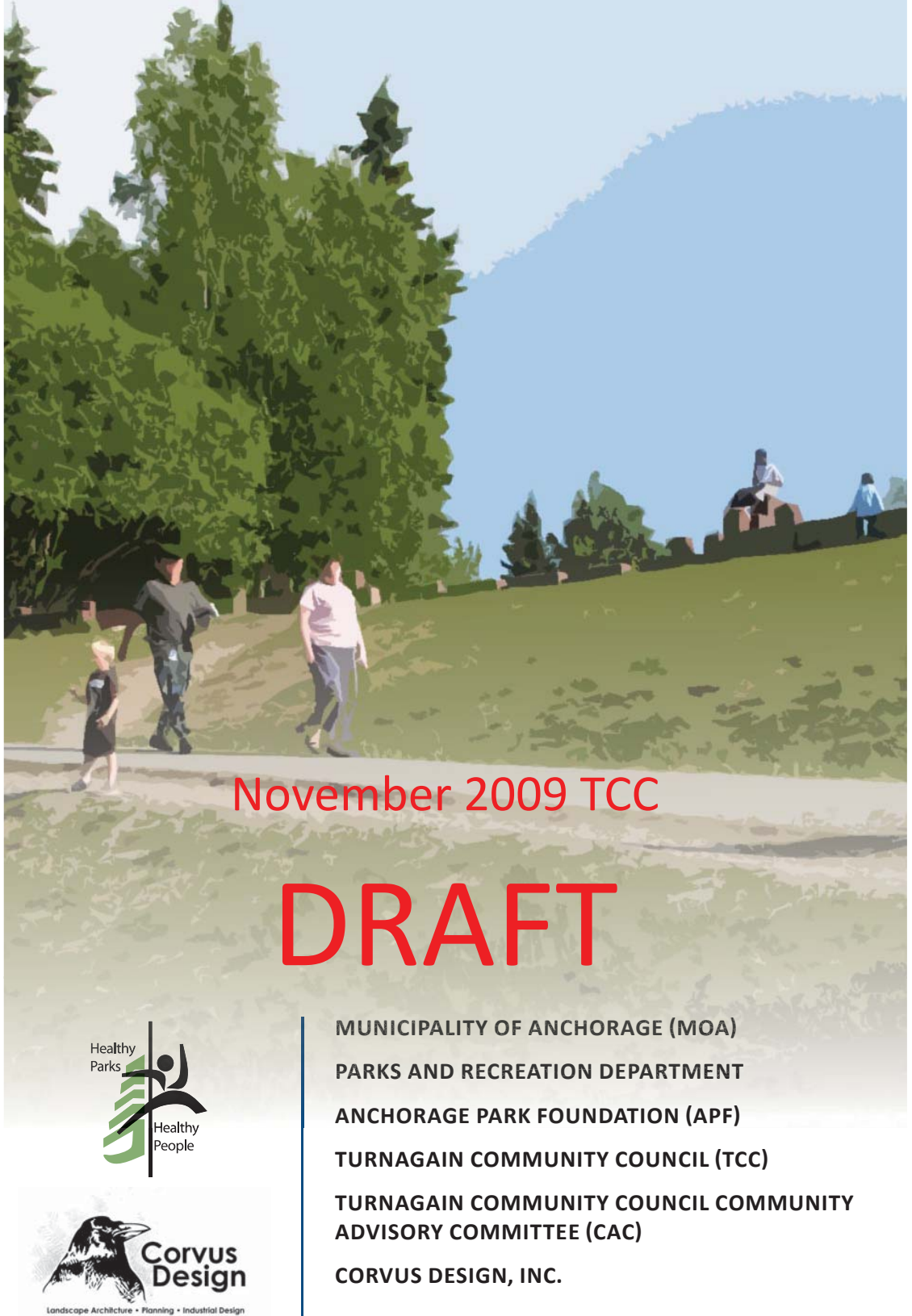


# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan



November 2009 TCC

# DRAFT



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TURNAGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)  
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CORVUS DESIGN, INC.

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

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# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

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## Executive Summary

The master planning process for Lyn Ary Park has been undertaken with the guidance of the Turnagain Community Council (TCC) and the Lyn Ary Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Over the years, Lyn Ary Park has experienced development and growth that has been guided by the TCC and the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA). The community has expressed a strong desire to formalize recent discussions delineated in neighborhood resolutions in the form of a Master Plan that would provide for the future development and management of the park. The TCC recently created a resolution that called for “a Master Plan for Lyn Ary Park that includes landscaped entrances, recognition of the park’s historical significance, and upgrade of playground equipment.” Through a term contract with the Anchorage Park Foundation, the services of Corvus Design landscape architecture were secured to provide professional expertise in development of this plan. Within a framework of community consensus, this document presents an overall vision that will provide for the logical growth and aesthetic integrity of Lyn Ary Park.

The 2009 Lyn Ary Park Master Plan is a continuation of years of community involvement. While the park is designated a Community Use Area in the Anchorage Park Plan, residents within the Turnagain neighborhood feel very strongly about the park and its context within their neighborhood. The community’s concerns can perhaps be summarized as a desire to maintain the neighborhood feeling of the Park, within a community level recognition that it draws from a larger group of Anchorage users.

Much of the community’s discussion involved protecting natural features, providing usable open space, conserving views and buffers, and maintaining existing park activities yet not increasing them. Little interest was voiced for development that meant larger changes to the

Park, or to the user base to which it appeals.

The overall recommendations of this Master Plan are that certain items be acted upon to maintain Lyn Ary Park’s current character and composition, and that a plan be adopted that guides desired park improvements. The action items relate to such issues as access to the Coastal Trail, use of the baseball fields, maintenance of existing conditions, and an overall concern that park use does not degrade the park. Generally, while maintenance of the current state of the park is desired, there are also improvements that have been identified and presented within this document.

This Master Plan is intended to help shape a future for Lyn Ary Park where the park continues its important role as a loved resource to the surrounding neighborhood and community.

## HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document describes existing conditions of the park as it existed in 2009, and provides a vision of how the park should look in 2029. Desired physical improvements to the park are described to various levels of detail. The expected level of maintenance that the park requires is also described, with guidelines to show when this maintenance is required.

This document is a Turnagain Community Council approved vision and guiding document for Lyn Ary Park. This means that actions approved by this master plan may go forward with minimal additional TCC process, such as updates as work progresses, or perhaps input on items where design options may exist.

Any items not covered by this document shall be addressed by the TCC before action is taken.

**Figure 1: Lyn Ary Park Context in NW Anchorage**



## Introduction

Lyn Ary Park is located in northwest Anchorage (Figure 1), approximately 3.6 miles from the central business district. It is a 13.21 acre park. The park can be divided into two main areas, an area of sports fields of 3.30 acres, and the 9.91 acre remainder of the park with more passive activities and non-programmed space. The park is located in the Turnagain neighborhood, northwest of the intersection of Iliamna Avenue and Turnagain Parkway (Figure 2, page 4). The Turnagain area is one of the older established neighborhoods in Anchorage, and is composed mainly of single-family housing.

The 1985 Anchorage Parks, Greenbelt and Recreation Facility Plan document as well

as the 2006 Anchorage Bowl Park, Natural Resource and Recreation Facility Plan, both of which are based on National Recreation and Park Association guidelines and standards, refer to Lyn Ary Park as a Community Use Area.

In order to facilitate inventory and analysis for the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA), the 2006 Anchorage Bowl Park, Natural Resource and Recreation Facility Plan has designated parks as either Neighborhood Parks, Community Use Areas, Service Areas, Natural Resources, or Trails and Connectors.

This 2006 Plan states that, “community parks are larger in size and serve a broader

purpose than neighborhood parks. The focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or a large section of the community as well as preserving unique landscapes or natural use areas.” Community parks are also designated as serving a larger cross-section of the Anchorage population than smaller neighborhood parks. According to the 2006 Plan, residents of Anchorage should have a Community Use Area within one to two miles of their residence (Figure 1, page 2). Five main community councils exist within this outer two-mile radius of Lyn Ary Park: Turnagain, Spenard, Northstar, South Addition and Midtown as well as six other Community parks.

Many neighbors feel a strong connection to Lyn Ary Park and recognize its neighborhood importance. Lyn Ary Park is their neighborhood park as well as their community park. This designation as a Community Use Area (or Community Park) in the 2006 Plan is a result of the existing facilities in the park that have a unique or higher value than those of a neighborhood park. These facilities include the ball fields, the use of the trails by Nordic skiers, and the tennis courts. This designation has an effect upon what is deemed appropriate for the development of a park, however, it does not suggest that additional facilities, changes, or upgrades will be planned for Lyn Ary because of this designation.

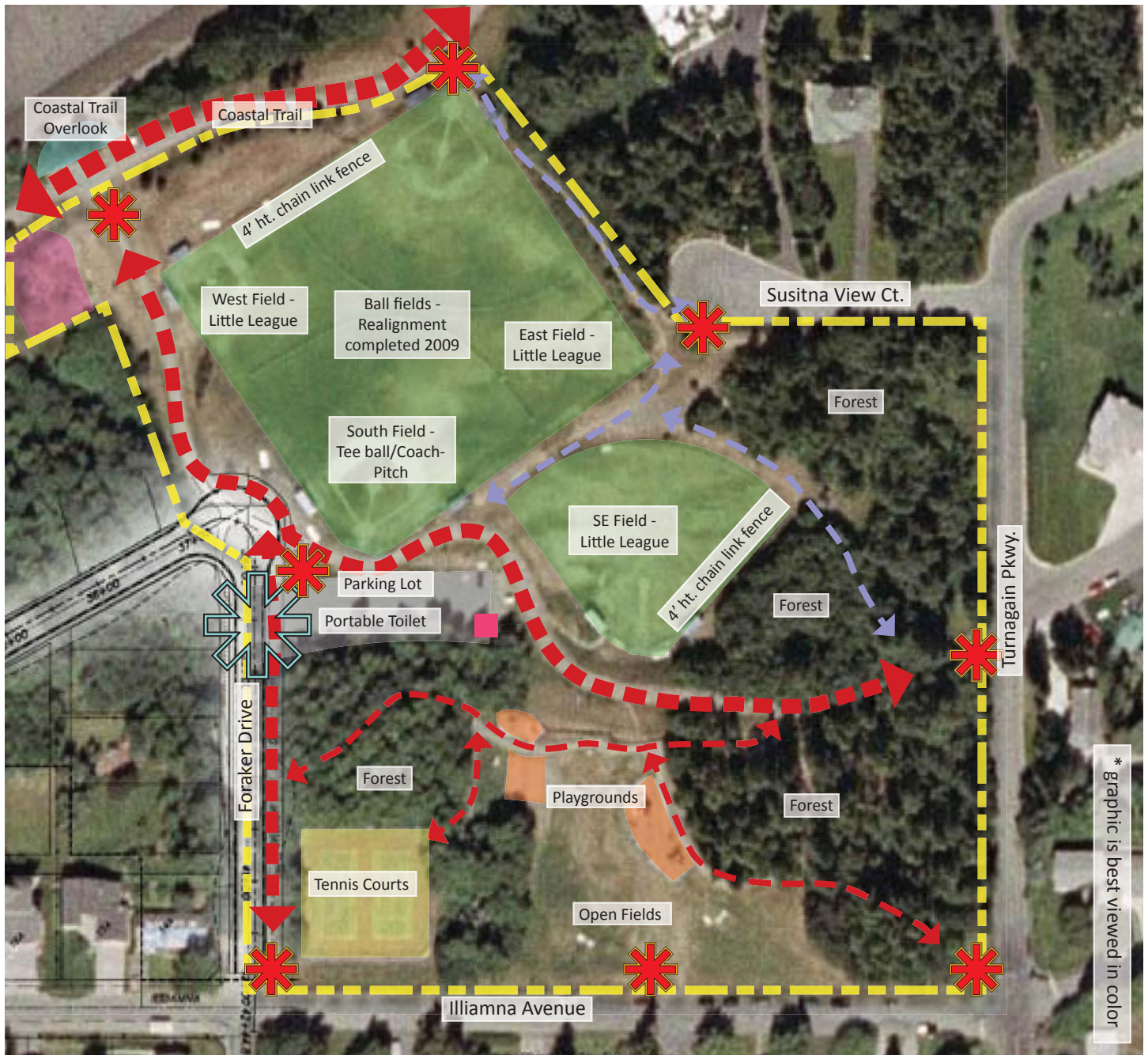
The park is a highly-valued local amenity that is used by the wider community. User numbers seem to be increasing and putting pressure on the existing facilities. What is clear is the neighbors of Turnagain would like Lyn Ary Park to maintain its strong neighborhood character and remain a focal point of their neighborhood.

A summary of conditions on the site is presented in Figure 3 (page 23). Existing facilities consist of a parking lot, four ball fields (three little league size and one coach-pitch/tee ball fields), a network of paved and unpaved trails, a memorial garden, various children’s playground areas and equipment, benches, picnic tables, litter bins, signage, tennis courts, open space, and natural areas.







Lyn Ary Park is well connected to adjacent neighborhoods, and the larger matrix of Anchorage parks and trails. Local park connections include formal paths and entrances, and its important connection to the Coastal Trail. The main vehicular access to Lyn Ary Park is from Turnagain Parkway, which is a neighborhood collector street as designated by the Anchorage Streets and Highways Plan. The other adjacent vehicular access routes are from Iliamna Avenue and Foraker Drive. Parking is provided in the parking lot and along the sides of certain streets in the neighborhood (Figure 2, page 4).

The 2009 Lyn Ary Park Master Plan serves as a summary of previous and current public process and Parks and Recreation Department policy. This Master Plan seeks to guide future development and management and takes the form of a summary of the community’s needs and desires regarding how the Park should be maintained and how it should develop. Weighing the community needs and desires, a set of actions were developed. Some of these actions are required for maintenance of the basic functional health of the park as it currently exists, others provide options for how the Park can or will develop, and others try to provide a framework for making future decisions when unanticipated needs or desires arise.

**Figure 2: Existing Conditions**



\* graphic is best viewed in color

-  Approximate Park Boundary
  -  Asphalt Trails
  -  Footpaths
  -  Pedestrian entrances into the park
  -  Vehicle entrance into the park
  -  Michelle Byrum Memorial Garden
- \* This graphic shows the Foraker Drive Improvements linework above aerial photograph, as construction of these improvements were ongoing during creation of this document

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## History of Lyn Ary Park

During World War I Lyrin Ary (also known as Lyn Ary) had been a supply sergeant in the Russian Army. At the end of the War he was issued 10,000 pairs of shoes. The shoes had no soles. In the Russian Army a supply sergeant was responsible for all the supplies issued to him. Knowing that he was responsible for the shoes, Lyn Ary thought that his best bet was to get out of Russia. He made his way to Germany, then to the mid-west of the United States, and finally to the Territory of Alaska. He homesteaded much of the land west of Turnagain Parkway and Wisconsin Avenue, a portion of which is now Lyn Ary Park.

In 1941, when Brooke Marston was 11 years old he wandered from Anchorage across the Alaska Railroad tracks and Fish Creek into the wilderness of what is now Turnagain. There he met the homesteader and only resident of the area, Lyn Ary.

The boy persuaded his father, Major Marvin R. Marston, later known as Muktuk Marston, to meet his new friend, Lyn Ary. When Brooke Marston introduced them, Lyn Ary tried to sell Muktuk some of his homestead. Lyn Ary explained that he had previously attempted to sell his homestead but without success. It was too far from Anchorage. The population of Anchorage was then only about 3,500.

Marston bought a few acres bordering Knik Arm. He tramped around the area and became interested, envisioning a large residential area. He went back and asked if Ary wanted to sell more of the land. Ary was agreeable and asked if Marston also wanted to buy the adjoining homestead owned by pioneer dentist, Dr. McCollie. Bit by bit, Marston soon acquired most of both homesteads. McCollie Drive, which “T”s into the east side of Lyn Ary Park, is named after Dr. McCollie.

During World War II, due to fears of

Japanese attack, his family and other military dependents were temporarily evacuated to California. Muktuk organized a territorial guard during the war, and it was not until 1946 that Marston returned to the Lyn Ary homestead. For the first year that Marston was back on the homestead he lived in a tent. He caught and smoked fish that year, selling the fish in downtown Anchorage.

On July 18, 1947, J.C. Morris, M.R. Marston & L. Ary filed Plat P-67 entitled “Topography of Turnagain Heights.” Additional early plats contemplated the current Lyn Ary Park as the “future site for the State capitol of Alaska.” Other plats depicted a private park entitled “Lyn Ary Community Park.”

By 1952, Marston started to develop Turnagain-By-the-Sea, one of Anchorage’s first subdivisions. Followed by a bull dozer, Marston used toilet paper to mark out the



Muktuk Marston outside of his log home (on what is now Lyn Ary Park).

roads.

In 1956, when Marston's son, Brooke and his wife Wilda fell in love with Lyn Ary's original old log house, Marston sold it to them. Lyn Ary's original log house was in the middle of what was by then a private community park. The log house sat atop a bluff, much like the one at Point Woronzoff and at the same height as the upper portion of today's Lyn Ary Park.

On Friday, March 27, 1964, the Good Friday Earthquake fundamentally changed South-Central Alaska. The earthquake began at 5:36 P.M. AST. Across South-Central Alaska it shook for nearly five minutes. Ground fissures, collapsing buildings, and tsunamis resulted in 131 deaths. The Good Friday Earthquake was the most powerful recorded earthquake in U.S. and North American history, and the second most powerful ever measured by seismograph. It had a magnitude of 9.2.

The Good Friday Earthquake induced liquefaction causing mud below the ground to liquefy and become unstable. The land slid and in Anchorage heavy damage occurred in downtown, Government Hill, and Turnagain where the largest and most devastating landslides occurred. An area of about 130 acres, of which Lyn Ary Park was in the middle, broke apart and slid. The resulting displacement broke the ground into many deranged blocks that collapsed, tilted, and slid toward Knik Arm.

The Turnagain slide destroyed about 75 private houses. Water mains and gas, sewer, telephone, and electrical systems were disrupted. Ground fissures and failures caused major structural damage.

Sitting in the middle of the Turnagain slide, Lyn Ary's homestead log house was one of the only houses not to break apart. When the earth stopped trembling, the log house tilted at a 30 degree angle, askew, on top of a displaced block of land at the new edge of Knik Arm. The Russian dovetail joints of the

old log house held. Unlike frame construction, the log joints twisted rather than broke.

Although Brooke and Wilda Marston had hopes of retrieving the log house and restoring it to its original foundation, doing so proved impossible. It was moved to 32nd Avenue. The "Culligan" man who provided water softening for Turnagain, also in love with Lyn Ary's old Russian homestead house, bought it to see if he could restore it. After a decade of sitting on adjustable floor jacks and having cables twisted and turned around its frame, Lyn Ary's homestead house once again became habitable. It now sits at 3007 West 32nd Avenue, a block off of Wisconsin Avenue.

For over 25 years, Anchorage struggled over what to do with the area destroyed by the Good Friday Earthquake. Unlike Earthquake Park where, despite erosion, the slide area still remains, the Turnagain slide area was leveled. Muktuk Marston leased his portions of Lyn Ary Park for \$1.00 per year to the City of Anchorage to be used as a park.

Over time, Muktuk donated money and worked with the Boys and Girls Club of Anchorage to establish within Lyn Ary Park, the baseball fields now known as the Marston Fields. The first development in the park was the construction of a Babe Ruth baseball field. In the late 1960s, Turnagain neighbors raised funds and worked to construct the tennis courts. On February 2, 1971, the City of Anchorage dedicated portions Lyn Ary Park for "Parks and Recreation Purposes".

Although Lyn Ary had sold most parts of his homestead to Muktuk Marston, Lyn Ary retained a few acres despite moving to Fairbanks where he eventually died in 1982. Part of his estate included the several acres of land remaining in his original homestead. Although Lyn Ary left his estate to the City of Fairbanks, eventually, in 1984, the Municipality of Anchorage was deeded Lyn Ary's acreage to ensure continuity of the current Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. In 1985,



the Tony Knowles Trail was dedicated across the northern border of the Park.

By 1994, private land owners on the East side of the Lyn Ary Park, rebuilt the earthquake destroyed north end of Turnagain Parkway, Marston Drive, and Susitna Court. Two years later, going door to door, the Turnagain community raised funds to purchase and install play equipment. Additional park improvements were made in 1998.

The baseball fields, however, had lost their players, and Bob Durst worked with Municipality of Anchorage, private soccer leagues, little league and neighbors to return baseball practices and games to Lyn Ary Park.

In October of 1998, the local chapter of the National Association of Catering Executives

applied to the Municipality to create a memorial garden on the northwest edge of the Lyn Ary Park to be dedicated to Michelle Byrum, a young woman killed in an automobile accident. The memorial garden was created to remember Michelle's spirit and zest for life. The garden was created as a spot to rest, contemplate, meet friends, chat with a neighbor, read a book or perhaps have a small picnic.

Finally, in 2009, along the western border of the Park, the Municipality of Anchorage rebuilt the earthquake-destroyed North end of Foraker Drive and West Marston Drive. Doing so put the last piece of the landscape back together to create the Lyn Ary Park that exists today.

## Title and Dedication

Lyn Ary Park is composed of a number of parcels that are in various states of title and dedication as parkland.

As of 2009, the following is a description of known title and dedication:

- The Municipality of Anchorage purchased parcel \_\_\_\_ in 1996 (north of Block K of Turnagain Heights inclusive of the memorial garden), and received title at that time. A court case brought forward in 2008 by neighbors disputes the municipality's ownership'.
- Parcels in the Northern part of Lyn Ary Park are owned by the Marston Foundation whose beneficiaries are Alaska Natives residing west of the 156th meridian.
- Lot 1A of Turnagain Heights (to the west of the large baseball field) is owned by the MOA and is dedicated as Municipal parkland (AO 90-71(s))
- The parcel on the east side of the

Park (North of Powers Subdivision and the land purchased by the MOA from Fairbanks as a part of Lyn Ary's estate) is owned by the MOA but has not been dedicated as municipal parkland or as a part of Lyn Ary.

- The remainder of the Park is owned by the MOA and dedicated as parkland. (SL: verify?)

Lyn Ary Park title should be clarified and dedicated as parkland (boundaries of Lyn Ary Park as depicted in Figure 2, Existing Conditions, page 4), to ensure a known and solid land base for the Park. To do so, the following actions should be undertaken:

- To the extent that unclear or disputed title is resolved in favor of the MOA, that land should be dedicated as park to be included in Lyn Ary Park.
- Those parcels that the MOA already has clear title to and have not already been dedicated should be dedicated as Municipal Parkland as part of Lyn Ary Park.

## Summary of Public Process

The Lyn Ary Community Park Master Plan is based upon years of community discussion and participation. These activities were summarized by a December 6, 2007 Turnagain Community Council Resolution (Appendix B, page 31).

In addition to using this as a guiding document, for this master plan the following public consultations occurred:

The Turnagain Community Council Community Advisory Committee (CAC) - **Met XXX times** to help identify issues, evaluate opportunities, plan additional outreach, and develop the Master Plan.

- Online Surveys – Two sets of adult online surveys and one young adult/kids survey were completed by the community to gather information for the Master Plan and encourage community participation in the process.
- Project Blog - Information and announcements were made at: [www.LynAryMP.blogspot.com](http://www.LynAryMP.blogspot.com)
- Public Open House and Turnagain Neighborhood 2009 Block Party - information and ideas for development were gathered
- TCC presentation and discussion - November, 2009
- Presentation and discussion with MOA Parks and Recreation - December, 2009

For approval, the draft plan went through the adoption process:

- Presentation, recommendations, and adoption by the TCC
- Presentation and recommendations by the MOA Parks and Recreation Commission open to the public.
- Approval by Planning and Zoning Commission through public hearing.
- Future Urban Design Commission review of significant park changes, otherwise staff review as items are implemented.

Where guidance is not provided by this master plan, where deviations from this master plan are desired, actions affecting Lyn Ary Park shall be first considered by the TCC.



The master plan team received information and feedback from neighbors at the 2009 Turnagain Block Party. Suzanne Little and Willis Lyford discuss the plans.

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## Community Guidance for Master Plan

During the development of the Master Plan, the community was surveyed for their input. One component of the survey was to seek the community's guidance in describing their vision for the Park now and into the future. When asked to complete the sentence "The 2009 Master Plan will guide Lyn Ary Park's future so that it...", people responded with the following summarized statements:

- Provides and preserves natural areas of greenspace
- Provides active recreation facilities (such as baseball, playgrounds and tennis)
- Is maintained as a clean and aesthetic park with adequate seasonal bathroom facilities
- Is accessible to visitors without negatively impacting the neighborhood
- Provides opportunities for all season recreation
- Provides passive recreation opportunities (such as reading, socializing, contemplations, and relaxation)
- Provides facilities to accommodate open play and community gathering
- Discourages inappropriate uses (i.e. off-leash dogs, after hours parties) through design, parks enforcement and collaboration with Municipality of Anchorage Police
- Provides a safe and comfortable atmosphere to encourage use (i.e. clear sight lines...)

Full survey results are in Appendix D and E, pages 36 and 41. The full survey information illustrates what aspects of the Park are important to people, and provided guidance for the development of this Master Plan.



Lyn Ary Park is a valuable resource for the neighborhood, and the master plan will help guide its development for future users. (Future users shown above at Turnagain Block Party)

From information gained through the surveys and at various meetings, the core issues that arose for Lyn Ary Park could be divided into two main subject areas:

- pressures on the park from the use of its community level service (trail access, group events, and sports fields), and
- the maintenance/enhancement of the features that make it a valuable and loved neighborhood amenity.

Many of the park's resources are valued and shared at both the neighborhood and community level. The local neighborhood recognizes the larger community's use of their park, but wishes to ensure that the management of these uses does not negatively impact their neighborhood, the quality of the Park, and their ability to use it as the neighborhood asset that it is.

## Existing Park Elements



The rocker



The swings



The tire-swing



The climbing wall



Individual seats to match wooden edge

The public process identified the need for a Master Plan that guides and controls potential future improvements and on-going maintenance items.

This section addresses each item to: identify concerns as of 2009, propose actions (graphically summarized Figures 3 and 4, pages 23, 24), and establish a time line for action to occur (summarized in table on Tables 1 and 2).

### PLAYGROUND

The playground is generally in good shape. Because some items are potentially in need of repair or upgrade to meet playground and safety standards, the site would benefit from a playground audit for assessment.

The community has expressed a need for a sandbox and swings for older children. Digging is present in several areas on site and a sandbox could alleviate uncontrolled digging and associated erosion/safety issues. Swings are a very popular playground element, and age-appropriate swings would broaden the uses within the Park for older children.

#### ACTIONS:

- Perform playground audit to determine necessary repairs/upgrades
- Perform cost analysis to determine if replacing equipment is more effective than upgrades
- Perform ongoing maintenance as required
- Install sandbox per Figure 3 (page 23), revegetate previous areas of digging
- Install swings for older children per Figure 3 (page 23)

### TENNIS COURTS

The tennis courts are good local resource but currently need resurfacing. In addition to summer tennis use, in the past they have been



The large, composite piece of playground equipment



The ship pieces of playground equipment



Overall playground area

used for ice skating in the winter (the existing curbing facilitates this use).

An alternative option to resurfacing the courts is to renovate the courts as clay courts. Clay courts may increase the attractiveness of the facility to local players, but further research is needed to determine whether this is feasible/ advisable for the Anchorage climate and community. A noted concern is whether clay courts will still be compatible with use as an ice rink.

The tennis courts should be maintained to a level where they provide for adequate or better play. When conditions degrade below such a level, they should be renovated/ restored.

### ACTIONS:

- Resurface courts to previous condition, or renovate to clay courts (providing that they are deemed to be sustainable in the Alaskan climate)
- Perform ongoing maintenance as required, to ensure courts can support adequate or



Digging is a favorite activity of many young children. Installing a sandbox would give them a better place to do it.



better play

### SITE FURNITURE

Benches, litter bins, dog refuse stations, bleachers, and picnic tables are provided in various states of repair and design consistencies. Benches and tables are generally adequate, but litter bins are overused or under serviced. No bike racks are located within the Park, although one exists adjacent to the Park at the Coastal Trail Overlook to the north of the Park. Various bleachers exist around the ball fields for seating.

New bleachers may be added and shall match the existing style (maximum 3 levels of seating and 15' length), with no more than two



Some existing site furniture pre-dates MOA Parks and Rec standards.



Above: As bikes are currently parked against fencing, bike racks should be installed close to the ball fields.

Left: The tennis courts are a valuable resource and regular surface maintenance is necessary.

bleachers per field (a maximum of 8 with Lyn Ary Park).

Additional bicycle racks should be added to the site, with particular need around the ball fields. Each dugout should have one bike rack located behind it.

Provision of a social/sitting area is desired in the area of the ball fields, and close to the Susitna View pedestrian entrance (behind the east ball field). This area will help to orient people to the site as well as encourage people to locate themselves farther from trails and potential collisions.

The Turnagain neighborhood is proud of its artists and would like to incorporate an artistic touch where possible. In addition to other required selection processes, artistic components for Lyn Ary Park shall be approved by the Turnagain Community Council. Artistic approaches may not be possible for items where the Parks and Recreation Department has standardized designs (i.e. signage and furniture).

All proposed developments including additional litter bins, bleachers, benches, bike racks, and dog refuse stations should be located as designated on Figure 3 (page 23) and Figure 4 (page 24).

As site furniture pieces age or are added, they should be replaced with furniture that meets Parks and Recreation Design Standards.

### **ACTIONS:**

- Assess condition of site furniture and replace/repair as needed
- Install new site furniture as recommended on Figure 3 (page 23)
- Install new dog refuse stations as recommended on Figure 3 (page 23)
- Install bicycle racks as recommended on Figure 3 (page 23)
- Maintain site furniture as needed.



Existing portable toilets in southeast parking stall of Lyn Ary Park. The proposed location is just to the left, outside of the parking lot area and set into the existing vegetation (See Figure 3 (page 23)).

### **PORTABLE TOILETS**

Two portable toilets were located in the southeast corner of the Parking lot during the 2009 Little League season. These toilets are overused and not properly maintained.

Two seasonal portable toilets are appropriate, but additional portable toilets may be required to meet event demands. Portable toilets should be located so that they no longer take up a parking stall and are visible to park users but partially screened by the existing vegetation (see Figures 3 and 4).

### **ACTIONS:**

- Locate portable toilets per Figure 3 (page 23)
- Provide and service two portable seasonal toilets
- Seasonal toilets shall be maintained regularly to maintain aesthetics and hygiene.

### **SIGNAGE**

Signage is an important component of the master plan and will help to create park gateways, it will better mark the parking area, and provide interpretation opportunities. To maintain the neighborhood character of the Park, minimal signage is desired. Existing signage that does not meet standards shall

not be grand fathered, but reevaluated for conformity with this master plan. When allowed within guidelines, signage also offers the opportunities for inclusion of artistic elements in the Park (to be approved by TCC).

### **FACILITY SIGNAGE:**

A park identification sign exists at the pedestrian entry on Illiamna Ave and Turnagain Parkway. This sign welcomes a large group of park users, however, the name of the Park is misspelled as “Lynn Ary Park.” Identification signage should be located at each Primary Gateway to the Park (see Park Gateways, page 30). Facility, or entry signage should include simple and clear identification of the Park and its name (spelled correctly).

### **REGULATORY SIGNAGE:**

Various forms of parking and general park rules signage is posted along Illiamna Ave, Foraker Drive, and Susitna View Court. Posting of any required rules and regulations for park use should be on one sign and near the Primary Gateways to the Park. Three ‘Friendly Rules Signs’ should be placed in the Park, one near the Coastal Trail, one near the ball fields, and one near the Primary Gateway at Illiamna Ave. See Appendix H for the ‘Friendly Rules Sign’ (page 48) and Figure 3 (page 23) for placement locations. Upgrade and consolidate regulatory signage as needed.

### **WAYFINDING SIGNAGE:**

Wayfinding signage exists along the spur trail from Turnagain Parkway toward the ball fields and also at the intersection with the Coastal Trail. Additional signage may be beneficial for wayfinding, particularly for identifying the location of the parking area. This is desired to direct drivers from Illiamna Avenue, Turnagain Parkway, and Foraker Drives to the parking lot. The desired wayfinding signage for the Park will help people make better use of the parking area and find/choose entries for the Park while minimizing the number of signs.



Existing trail signage



Site furnishings (litter bin and dog refuse stations above) and wayfinding signage should be maintained and upgraded per MOA standards.

A park map is desired at the Park entrance that shows trails, usage areas, and ball fields.

### **INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE:**

Interpretive signage would best be located in two spots in the Park, in the upper area near the playgrounds and near the memorial gardens and the Coastal Trail. These areas are more conducive to passive activities and informative signage with more in-depth reading would fit in well. The area near the Coastal Trail would attract the attention of trail users and Park visitors. Desired subject material for interpretive signage included the history of the Park, the Turnagain neighborhood, and of Lyrin

Ary. (See Future Desired Uses, Interpretive Signage, page 20)

### ACTIONS:

- Install entry signage at main vehicular and pedestrian entrances with correct spelling of Lyn Ary, located per Figure 3 (page 23)
- Install signage to better direct users to the Parking lot
- Design and install interpretive signage
- Remove non-conforming signs and replace with conforming signs as necessary
- Provide wayfinding signage (map) at park entrances
- Additional signage shall be evaluated by MOA Parks and Recreation in consultation with the TCC.

### PLANTING AREAS

This section relates to planting areas where the intent is to maintain a more manicured aesthetic. These areas include the beds surrounding the Park Identification Sign in the southeast of the Park, the memorial garden in the northwest corner of the Park, and various smaller locations throughout the Park.

The southeast corner bed accents the park Identification sign and welcomes many park users from the Turnagain Parkway. Members of the community donate materials and services to install and maintain this entry planting bed.

The memorial garden in the northwest corner was dedicated to Michelle Byrum and is now maintained by neighborhood volunteers. These efforts are recognized and appreciated locally.

In addition to the planting required for erosion control and habitat preservation, ornamental plantings and general revegetation plantings are desired by the community.

Plantings require some seasonal installation, pruning, weeding, mowing, fertilizing and



A good example of when plantings need to be maintained, and especially pruned, is when they obscure signage.



The Michelle Byrum garden is one of the larger areas of maintained plantings within the Park and is also popular with Coastal Trail users.

other maintenance tasks. Lawn in upper area should be watered in summer to prevent dust bowl conditions.

### ACTIONS:

- Continue supporting neighbors willing to arrange, install, and maintain various seasonal planting beds



- Selective pruning and upkeep of non-native trees/shrubs, and removal (and replacement if necessary) of dead material
- Request MOA maintenance and watering of upper lawn area

### NATURAL AREAS

The community celebrates the existing naturalized areas and vegetation existing in the Park. It forms the boundaries of the Park and provides sight and noise buffers between the Park and adjacent properties. The existing trees and vegetation at the boundary are part of the character of the Park, and also provide a natural amenity for people of all ages to enjoy.

It is the overall desire of the community to maintain the existing park natural vegetation, and to protect and improve it where necessary. No development of additional natural habitat is planned.

Natural areas should be maintained to retain habitat quality while balancing the concern for the safety of users.

#### ACTIONS:

- Examine and address pathway areas in natural areas where erosion has occurred and where paths are not desired, per Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC).
- Retain current conditions of natural areas for noise and green buffers as designated on Figure 3 (page 23)
- Vegetation that poses a risk to safety should be pruned appropriately, but left on site unless diseased.
- For diseased natural vegetation, prior to pruning, cutting, or removal, a pruning plan shall be submitted to the Turnagain Community Council (TCC) for approval.

### TRAILS

The current trail system provides connection and circulation within the Park as well as



Many neighborhood kids use the natural vegetation areas for fort-building.



In many ways, the Park serves as an access to the Coastal Trail which runs along Anchorage's northwest Shoreline with the Cook Inlet.

access to the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. Trail user groups include pedestrians, dog-walkers, bicyclists, skiers, roller bladers, and more.

On days where the trail has high usage, the neighborhood experiences increased vehicle traffic and on-street parking. While the Park has a parking lot, the lot may either become full, or trail users may not be aware of its availability.

Most of the community's concerns regarding trails include general wayfinding signage improvements (see Signage section), general trail surface conditions, and level of trail use.

Better signage should direct people to

appropriate parking and reduce high vehicle traffic impacts on the neighborhood

The trail system should be upgraded to reduce seasonal problems by ensuring that drainage and grading provide a stable surface not susceptible to wet conditions. Existing paved trail conditions vary from smooth and free of obstacles to buckled from tree roots and crumbling. Given their respective level of use, existing unpaved trail conditions seem adequate for the formalized and informally used trails within the Park.

Any trail upgrades or future work should provide for the requirements of ADA accessibility where at all possible. The pedestrian access at the corner of Iliamna Ave and Turnagain Parkway is a priority for ADA accessibility upgrades, including curb cut and ramp installation.

All trails should be monitored for needed maintenance and upkeep to deal with trail widening and the development of social trails that could create undesirable impacts. Trail conditions and monitoring are further addressed in Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) Section.

While the existing trail system provides the desired amount of access and routes, some changes and upgrades may be beneficial. Paved pathways are in decent shape with some degradation and damage. Dirt pathways should be assessed to see if they require upgrade to avoid resource degradation.

Construction of new trails is not currently anticipated, but should usage of the Park result in the expansion of the trail network or deterioration of trails, trail closure or improvements should be considered.

### ACTIONS:

- Maintain trails to ensure that they are maintained appropriately, or upgraded to meet new conditions
- Upgrade the pathway from the Parking

lot to the east baseball field to a secondary trail to accommodate the 2009 relocation of the Anchorage West Little League (AWLL) home plate from the south field to the east field and the resulting increase in number of spectators (see Figures 3 and 4). The trail shall be compacted gravel for its entire length, with a final surface that is consolidated and provides secure and accessible footing (i.e. 3/8" minus material with fines). A slightly larger gathering area at the connection with the trail will help establish this connection with the east field as an important one, for directing those visitors in the Parking lot who are not familiar with the site.



Trails within the Park are often crowded with various user groups ranging from walkers and runners to bikers and skiers.

- The pathway along the eastern border that extends from the Susitna View Court entry north to the Coastal Trail should be upgraded from an eroded desire line to footpath conditions, with shredded bark mulch along its entire length.
- Install signage to direct people to the Coastal Trail and appropriate parking

### PARK PERMITTING

Lyn Ary Park is a desirable place to have group events. This is due to the presence of flexible open space, playground facilities, and the view of Cook Inlet. While a park permit is needed for events and the permit requirements include clean-up, non-permitted groups sometimes use the Park and groups leave behind litter. There is concern that permitting does not provide enough times where the neighborhood has unrestricted access to the Park.

High non-neighborhood use of the facilities (with or without permit) sometimes prevents neighborhood children or families from using the Park during peak hours. Whether through blocking out times for neighborhood use, or procedures that might allow preferential permitting, the Turnagain neighborhood requests the development of a process through which they can have an ease of access to their park.

The permit system appears to be effective, with the exception that perhaps times should be made unavailable for booking to allow the neighborhood to use the space without restrictions.

### ACTIONS:

- No additional development of facilities or services that would attract additional group use
- Remove certain days/times from being available for booking of permits
- Maintenance after events shall ensure

the Park is returned to normal expected condition

- Groups who use the Park need to obtain and use permits

### BALL FIELDS

The Park has four baseball fields and one practice field and is officially used for approximately 12 weeks of the summer by the non-profit Anchorage West Little League (AWLL), beginning typically in mid April extending through mid July. The Little League group has an established relationship with the Park and the neighborhood per ~~XXXXXX~~



During ball season, there are high numbers of game spectators and trail users



Anchorage West Little League has scheduled use of the ball fields typically from mid April to mid July each summer.

(Appendix I, page 49), and maintains their facilities during this summer season. During the baseball season, Monday through Friday evenings are game nights and the Parking area is generally 100% used with overflow onto adjacent streets. Another concern is the large amount of garbage generated on game nights.

The current level of use of the Park for baseball is appropriate as the season is short and the program users, AWLL, come from the West Anchorage neighborhoods.

Additional programmed recreational facilities



During events and ball games, the parking lot is typically full, with many users parked along adjacent streets.



On-street parking provides overflow parking when the parking lot is full. Certain areas are signed for no parking on adjacent streets.

within the Park (i.e. soccer fields) are not desired. Suitable space and parking within the Park for such resources is limited, and other locations in the city that provide additional recreational facilities would be more suitable.

No additional recreational facilities shall be considered or planned for Lyn Ary Park. The number of baseball games held is currently appropriate for the Park.

**ACTIONS:**

- The existing programmed recreational facilities (baseball fields) shall be maintained so as to be functional, aesthetic and safe
- Baseball use shall not increase outside of current AWLL programmed use. The existing level of use is already determined by the number of games the existing fields can accommodate

**PARKING AND TRAFFIC**

Lyn Ary Park is situated in the middle of an existing neighborhood and is thus limited regarding the amount of traffic it can receive without negatively impacting the surrounding neighborhood for both quality of life and safety. There are currently concerns with parking within the neighborhood. The Park has paved road access on three sides, with a dedicated parking lot located within the Park boundaries. The Park is a known access point for the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail, and is well served with internal pathways.

Signage does not adequately designate vehicle and pedestrian entrances to the Park (see Signage section).

The parking lot is appropriately sized for the current use of the Park. Parking on adjacent streets should be limited in nature and limited to when the parking area is full. Current use levels of the parking lot are acceptable. Parking lot shall not increase in size as using more parkland for parking spaces is undesirable.

The current on-street parking allowances are: Susitna Court is signed as “no parking”, Illiamna Avenue allows parking, Turnagain Parkway allows parking except in front of the eastern secondary trail entry, and Foraker Drive does not allow parking on street.

People arriving by vehicle should be encouraged to use the Parking lot, and this should be facilitated through good signage. The parking lot should be maintained and accessible year round for use during those hours that the Park is open.

With the new Foraker Drive access to the parking area, the gate at the parking lot entrance will be left open until such problems arise in the lot after hours that it needs to be closed and/or locked while the Park is closed.

### ACTIONS:

- Better signage to direct vehicles to parking
- Consider additional signage limiting amount of available on-street parking for users of the Park
- Develop procedure for use of parking lot gate, including access for users as well as access for maintenance (clearing of snow)
- No additional parking space shall be incorporated into the Park

### MAINTENANCE

Lyn Ary Park is a very popular park. The Park draws a significant amount of traffic and use due to its access to the Coastal Trail, ball field facilities and ability to host events in its open space. Partnerships with AWLL and individuals in the neighborhood greatly enhance the MOA’s maintenance of Lyn Ary Park. Its ability to provide these resources to the larger Anchorage Community, and act as a park for its surrounding neighborhood, make appropriate maintenance essential. In addition to more specific maintenance requirements of facilities and equipment on site, the following are essential maintenance components.

Tables 1 and 2 prioritize items for attention. These priorities are a result of the community surveys, and illustrate what facilities should be improved/developed/replaced as funding is achieved. See Figure 3, page 23, for locations and numbers of existing and proposed facilities.

Table 1: Existing Facilities and Priority for Attention.

EXISTING FACILITY	PRIORITY FOR ATTENTION
Playgrounds (general)	Medium
• Play structure - Ship	Medium
• Play structure - other	Medium
• Climbing wall	Medium
• Tire Swing	Medium
• Swings	Medium
• Spring Toy	Medium
Site Furniture (general)	High
• Benches	High
• Litter Bins	High
• Picnic Tables	High
Portable Toilets (seasonal)	High
Picnic tables	High
Portable Toilet (seasonal)	High
Signage	Medium
Planting areas (flower gardens)	Medium
Trails	High
Sidewalks	Medium
Parking Lot	High
Fencing	Medium

Table 2: Proposed Facilities and Priority for Implementation

PROPOSED FACILITY	TIME FRAME
Dog refuse stations	Short-term
Site Furniture additions/replacements	Short-term
Signage (General)	Medium-term
Park Gateway Development	Short-term
Trail Hierarchy Development	Short-term

- Garbage removal
- Mowing
- Seasonal portable toilet placement and servicing

As is often the case, it is desired to have more maintenance of the above items. Garbage removal and lawn watering are very important items for this Park, especially in the summer season. It has been mentioned that watering of the upper area lawn should be on the maintenance schedule, as it becomes a dust bowl. There is also the concern that maintenance personnel often excessively prune plant material, reducing the visual quality of the natural areas as well as possibly damaging the health of the plant.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Maintain regularly scheduled maintenance items
- Request the addition of 'regular watering of upper lawn' to maintenance items
- Extra garbage removal servicing during summer season

#### **SUMMARY**

Residents and users appear to be happy with the Park the way that it is. Park constituents wish to ensure that Lyn Ary Park is well-maintained. There is a desire for improvements that will further increase its aesthetic appeal and benefit its place in the local neighborhood.

Security of the Park remains a community concern. It is recommended that residents continue to take an active role in reporting unacceptable use/behavior, and request that MOA have police patrols both within and around the Park, particularly in spring and fall when the level of illegal activity increases.

The neighborhood and community understand the Park's role as a larger Anchorage amenity, but wish that role to be a controlled one that

does not adversely impact the neighborhood and traditional use of the Park as a neighborhood park.

#### **Future Desired Uses**

In addition to maintaining and improving existing facilities, additional improvements were discussed.

#### **INTERPRETATION SIGNAGE**

Some desire for interpretive facilities was expressed. The forms that this might take would need to be examined within the context of future opportunities. Initial opportunities for interpretation could include local park history, artistic opportunities, and information about wildlife and habitat protection.

Interpretive signage should be developed for the Park that addresses information specific to the area which may include historical, cultural or natural themes.

The development and implementation of new signage includes review and approval by the TCC.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Develop and install interpretive signage



Existing trail entries to the park generally lack significance or indication that they lead users into the park.

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

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## PARK GATEWAYS

Aesthetic entries to the Park should be developed that create a neighborhood amenity, and provide clear and desirable points of entry to the Park. One desired focus is directing vehicles to the Parking lot.

Entries should maintain aesthetically pleasing environments.

### **ACTIONS:**

- As appropriate, develop entry areas at the Parks main entrances and where deemed appropriate. (See Figure 3 (page 23) and Design Guidelines)
- Install and maintain seasonal entry gardens. This will likely involve community members through the 'Adopt-a-Garden' and memorial garden programs
- Maintain entry areas as required

## Undesirable Future Uses

### SHELTER

There is currently no desire for the provision of a permanent or temporary picnic shelter within the Park as such a facility is seen as drawing more use to the Park that is already heavily used.

#### ACTIONS:

- There shall be no additional shelters/ structures developed other than those described within this Master Plan

### STORAGE BUILDINGS

Lyn Ary Park is a small park. TCC does not support temporary storage facilities at Lyn Ary. While AWLL is maintaining the fields per the existing agreement with the Municipality, the TCC recognizes that the storage of maintenance and seasonal fencing is onsite. (See Appendix B, page 31 for further description)

#### ACTIONS:

- There shall be no additional storage buildings developed other than those described within this Master Plan and Appendix B (page 31)

### LIGHTING

The majority of park use is during the summer months, where ambient light is abundant. Due to no identified needs for lighting, and the proximity of surrounding private homes to the Park, no increase in lighting is needed or desired.

#### ACTIONS:

- No additional lighting shall be provided for the Park

### FENCING

Lyn Ary Park is open, with good unobstructed views. Traffic and pedestrian activity is such that fencing has not been required to protect the Park or guide use. Although some permanent fencing currently exists in Lyn Ary Park to support baseball, no additional permanent fencing is desired. If seasonal or temporary uses benefit from additional fencing, the fencing should be safe, temporary, and moveable on a seasonal basis.

#### ACTIONS:

- Existing fencing (perimeter bollards, sports field fencing, and playground wood wall) shall be maintained
- No additional fencing shall be allowed
- Temporary fencing for permitted events shall be allowed providing it not be in place for more than 48 hours. If it shall be in place for more than 48 hours, information on the fencing (including aesthetics and method of installation) shall be submitted for approval prior to granting of permit. This does not apply to AWLL seasonal outfield fencing.

### CONCESSIONS

Concessions at Lyn Ary Park should not be permitted. Concessions increase the potential for garbage, and encouraging increased traffic to the Park would negatively impact the surrounding neighborhood.

#### ACTIONS:

- No concessions shall be allowed at the Park to benefit organizations other than small-scale, neighborhood-sponsored events such as bake sales, block parties, and lemonade stands.







# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan













## Figure 3: Master Plan Graphic - Proposed Future Conditions



Gateways and Access Points (size denotes importance)

-  Primary Gateway
-  Secondary Gateway
-  Access Point
-  Proposed Pathway Upgrade

Existing/Proposed

- |   |   |                              |
|---|---|------------------------------|
|  |  | Table Locations              |
|  |  | Bike Rack Locations          |
|  |  | Litter Bin Locations         |
|  |  | Dog Refuse Station Locations |
|  |  | Bleacher Locations           |
|  |  | Bench Locations              |



## Figure 4: Master Plan Graphic - Enlargement of Eastern Connection



Above: Figure demonstrates how to create a strong connection between the parking lot and the east field. Doing so will accommodate the increasing numbers of spectators at the east field due to the 2009 ball field relocation. The existing path in this area is currently compacted earth, resulting from high foot-traffic use. With higher levels of use, creating a secondary gravel trail (see Design Guidelines) will keep users off adjacent turf. Further, this connection will help direct users to the east field from the parking lot. With a well-defined and visible connection like this, users will be encouraged to use the Lyn Ary Park parking area and not park on the street.

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## Limits of Acceptable Change

The following items have been identified as benefitting from the provision of Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC). These provide quantifiable indicators of when action needs to be taken to remediate or re-examine issues. Refer to Appendix C (page 35) for an overview of the LAC Process.

As of 2009, Lyn Ary Park users are generally happy with the condition of the Park. In addition to some existing concerns, these limits have been established to deal with typical park maintenance, and the potential for increased park usership, and corresponding pressures on the park.



The existing main asphalt path curving around the southern ball field has a very high level of use and its width now exceeds the 2' shoulders.

Table 3 - Limit of Acceptable Change Summary

Item	Measurement	Action Options
Trails	Widening of Informal Trail (normal <2' width)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Path width fulfills a need and should be maintained: formalize the trail through upgrading to mulch surface, or higher trail class.</li> <li>2) Path is not desired: block and revegetated.</li> </ol>
	Widening of Secondary Trail - Mulch (normal 2-4' width)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Path width fulfills a need and should be maintained: formalize the trail through upgrading to a gravel path.</li> <li>2) Increased width is not desired: restrict path width to 2' or less and revegetate shoulders.</li> <li>3) Path is not desired: block and revegetated.</li> </ol>
	Widening of Secondary Trail - Gravel (normal 4-6' width)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Path width fulfills a need and should be maintained: formalize the trail thorough upgrading to an asphalt trail.</li> <li>2) Increased width is not desired: restrict path width to 2-4' or less, and revegetate shoulders.</li> <li>3) Path is not desired: block and revegetated.</li> </ol>
	Widening of Primary Trail - Asphalt (normal >6' width)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Path width fulfills a need and should be maintained: widen asphalt area to accommodate excessive shoulder use.</li> <li>2) Increased width is not desired: restrict path width to 6' or less, and revegetate shoulders.</li> </ol>

Table 4 - Limit of Acceptable Change Summary

Item	Measurement	Action Options
General Erosion	Vegetation has died back in an area greater than 2 square feet.	1) Area will be open to reasonable subsequent user impact: re-grade and revegetate. 2) Area will be open to moderate or higher subsequent user impact: further develop surfaces to provide a non-erosive surface. 3) Source of erosion can be removed: revegetate.
Litter	Overflowing litter bins within a week of being serviced	1) Maintenance can be increased: increase servicing. Maintenance can not be increased: provide additional litter receptacles.
Noise	Excessive noise	1) Noise is event based and during park hours: MOA provides subjective guidance on noise within a neighborhood as part of permit regulations. 2) After hours noise: city noise ordinances are enforced through MOA Police.
Playgrounds	Number of children using equipment piece exceeds design usage by 10%	1) Equipment is being used properly: provide additional equipment to expand safe usage of equipment. 2) Equipment is being used improperly: ensure rules and regulations for use of equipment is posted clearly.



The damage done to this bench in the upper playground area exceeds the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) and should be replaced or repaired.



A desire line that exists the park's eastern boundary and the ball fields currently exceeds the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) and indicate the need for a trail upgrade or removal of trail.

Table 5 - Limit of Acceptable Change Summary

Item	Measurement	Action Options
Tennis Courts	Cracking of surface, fading of lines	1) Report to MOA for repair.
Portable Toilets	Facilities are over-capacity	1) Regular maintenance is being provided: additional servicing may be needed.. 2) Expanded servicing isn't available: investigate provision of additional portable toile.
Planted Areas	Invasive species and weeds	1) Invasive species are present in the park: remove as soon as possible and treat so as to discourage reappearance.
	Maintenance	1) Low aesthetics: additional maintenance request to MOA for pruning, watering, removal/replacement, etc.
	Irrigation	1) Drought-stressed plant material: additional irrigation service should be provided by park volunteer
Parking	Parking lot not full	No needed action
	Parking lot not full, parking on neighborhood streets	1) Parking on Iliamna Avenue: no needed action 2) Parking in surrounding neighborhood: update signage to better direct vehicles to parking lot 3) Parking on Iliamna Avenue and in surrounding neighborhood: signage to encourage vehicles to park in lot or along Iliamna Ave.
	Parking lot full, parking on Iliamna full, and parking on adjacent streets excessive	1) Park is overused and activity level is no longer appropriate. Investigate options for how to restrict park usage or better accommodate users without having negative impact on neighborhood.



A large desire line that exists between the parking lot and cul-de-sac at Susitna View Court.



Existing site erosion on the hillside.

## Appendix A - Design Guidelines

### PLAYGROUNDS

Playgrounds shall meet industry standard design and safety criteria. Selection of replacement playground equipment in the future shall be to maintain equivalent play opportunities and play types and provide activities for a similar number of children. If new or different play equipment is desired, a community process shall be established via the TCC to assess needs and desires, and develop appropriate designs for the identified needs. No additional area other than that described within this master plan report and its recommendations shall be used for playground activities and equipment.

### TENNIS COURTS

Tennis courts shall be renovated and maintained, possibly in coordination with a non-profit group to appropriate nationally accepted standards for tennis courts. This applies both to renovation to previous condition, or a change to clay courts.

### SITE AMENITIES

The Parks and Recreation Department has standard site amenities for Anchorage parks. Existing items should be replaced as required over time, and any new items replaced shall match these standards. If an item is desired that is not covered by these standards, they should be chosen based on how well they provide for their intended use and how they fit into the overall functional and aesthetic ideals of the guidelines. As of 2009, these guidelines are under development and should be referred to before replacement or addition of site amenities. General design guideline discussion is given below, and refer to the Master Plan graphics (Figure 3, page 23, Figure 4, page 24) for specific recommended locations.

#### 1. BENCHES

Benches should be provided at development/amenity areas as well as adjacent to trail areas. Key points should include points of notable views, and where rest areas are needed between seating areas. Backless and benches with backs should be used to allow flexibility of placement of benches, and integration into their locations. Backless benches provide a more transparent profile, and would be ideal for locations where seating should be secondary to the view and not compete with it. Half of the benches should meet ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADABAG) accessible bench requirements. These requirements address bench design and the provision of backs and arms.

#### 2. PICNIC TABLES

Picnic tables should be provided at development/amenity areas where there is a desire for table surfaces in addition to seating. A proportion of the picnic tables should be accessible.

#### 3. LITTER RECEPTACLES

Litter receptacles should be provided in close proximity to where benches, picnic tables or other facilities are provided. Maintenance schedule should be increased. If it is determined that this does not provide enough litter receptacles at any given location, then additional receptacles should be provided. Location of litter receptacles should also take ease of maintenance into consideration.

#### 4. BICYCLE RACKS

Bicycle racks should be provided in convenient proximity to destinations where people would be expected to park their bikes (i.e. entrances, ball fields, play areas, etc...)

#### 5. DOG REFUSE STATIONS

Dog refuse stations should be provided in key locations where dog walkers would be expected to encounter them prior to requiring a bag.



Much of the existing site furniture within the park meets current MOA standards.

## PORTABLE TOILETS

The portable toilet enclosures shall not be allowed or designed. Permanent and temporary structures create spaces for vandalism and loitering. Portable toilets shall be screened with natural plantings.

## SIGNAGE

Signage should be per MOA Parks and Recreation sign guidelines (currently under development in 2009). Any signage developed for the site should be of a design and location that it complements existing site elements, should be appropriate to the natural character

of the site, and should provide information in a concise and useful manner.

## PLANTED AREAS

It is recommended that only native species be utilized within the majority of the park. Non-native species may be desired for aesthetic reasons at park entrance areas. This is a logical area for them, and has the added benefit of easy accessibility for the increased maintenance that non-native species may sometimes need (i.e. beds of annual and/or perennial species, and the required pruning and maintenance of flowering species).

No non-native species should be utilized that have the potential to escape from their original planting area (i.e. invasive).

Should any non-native aquatic species be found within the natural areas of the site, immediate action should be taken to remove them in a manner that prohibits their future presence.

## NATURAL AREAS

Natural areas shall be maintained for habitat quality, play opportunities, and safety.

Evidence of erosion is a good indicator of habitat quality. All areas that currently show erosion should be examined and if necessary, treated to remove the signs of erosion, and prevent further erosion. This can be done through limiting access and allowing natural regeneration and/or immediate replanting, changing the grade of such areas to reduce the tendency to erode, or formalizing and designing for the use that is causing erosion. Each area should be examined to determine the cause of erosion, and the solution weighed on the merits of how well it deals with the problem and how it is affected by usage needs.

## TRAILS

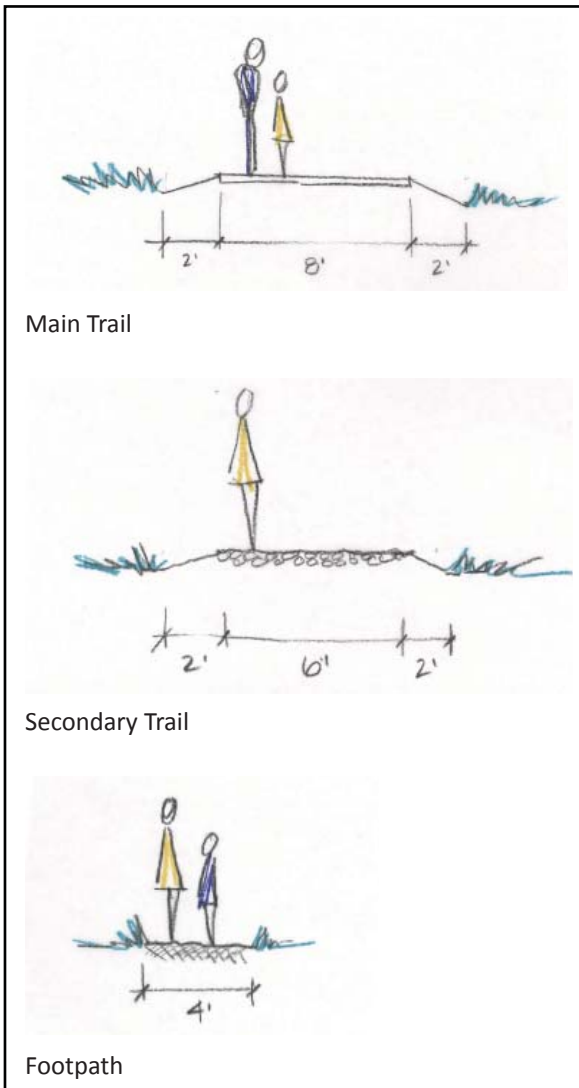
All trails within the park should meet one of the following trail types:

### 1. MAIN TRAIL

This trail is an 8' width, asphalt surface with 2' gravel shoulders on both sides. The surface of the trail is fully accessible and allows for traffic to travel easily on both sides.

### 2. SECONDARY TRAIL

This trail is a 6' width, mulch or compacted gravel (3/4" minus with fines) surface with 2' shoulders on both sides. Mulch surface may be preferred for areas with lighter use, but is not an ADA accessible surface. The compacted gravel allows for heavier use than the mulch trail and provides an ADA accessible surface, but does not allow for as heavy use as the asphalt trail. These types of secondary trails are



appropriate for spur connections off of the main trails.

### 3. FOOTPATH

This trail is a 2-4' width, bark mulch surface. This is not an accessible route, and therefore, is appropriate where circulation is necessary but damaging to lawn or planting areas. Placement of a mulch 'footpath' will prevent further soil erosion.

### 4. INFORMAL TRAIL

This trail, also called a desire line, is created by a user and was not originally intended to occur. These are typically very narrow in width, typically accommodating only one user who needs to walk quickly from point to point.

## PARK GATEWAYS

Proposed gateways in the park should conform to one of the following gateway types:

### 1. PRIMARY GATEWAY

The intent behind this type of gateway is to acknowledge the presence of the park within the community, and identify a location as a primary access point. It serves to welcome and direct the all types of park users from without the community into the park. It should be easily identified upon first arrival to



The existing sign and plantings at Illiamna and Turnagain Parkway act as a primary gateway at this corner. It could be more effective if connected to the access point.

the Park.

### 2. SECONDARY GATEWAY

This type of gateway is to identify a location as another access point into the park, typically one that is familiar to the residents of the neighborhood. This type may not be as visible upon arriving to the Park, but is well-known with the locals. Signage is important to identify the park and orient users.

### 3. ACCESS POINT

This type of gateway is to acknowledge an access point to the park. Signage is not needed, but it should have a similar character (either in planting styles or material use) to the other gateways and park elements to help users understand that this access point is part of the Park.



Primary Gateway - Accent paving, seating, large signage, accent planting



Secondary Gateway - Same use of materials as with Primary Gateway, no designated area for seating, secondary level of signage



Access Point - Highlight trail entrance with use of plantings, no need to use decorative materials



# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

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## Appendix B - TCC Resolution

A Resolution of Turnagain Community Council (TCC) adopted on December, 6, 2007 and as amended January 3, 2008.

WHEREAS, high density housing in the areas surrounding Lyn Ary Park is resulting in more visitors and impact on the park;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the TCC supports maintaining the character of Lyn Ary Park as a neighborhood park and not a citywide destination or Coastal Trail head. The TCC requests the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) seek TCC approval before providing any amenities, upgrades or landscaping to Lyn Ary Park that would change the character of the park or attract more visitors. Lyn Ary Park should remain a small neighborhood park;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the TCC provides for the MOA, Division of Parks and Recreation the following guidance on Turnagain Community Council goals for Lyn Ary Park:

### 1) USE:

The TCC supports maintaining the current multiple use areas of Lyn Ary Park, including

- Open space and times for neighborhood games and free play
- Children's equipment and play area
- Summer tennis courts/Winter Ice-skating rink
- Designated baseball below the bluff for the Anchorage West Little League's seasonal use

Because of safety concerns arising from over-scheduling of Lyn Ary Park, both in terms of frequency and size of events, the TCC does not support increasing the number or size of permitted users scheduled during 2007.

For the safety of Lyn Ary Park users, the TCC requests that the MOA notify schools and the general public of the MOA requirement that large groups wishing to use the park for special outings or festivities must obtain a permit.

The TCC supports posting park rules in the parking lot.

### 2) NATURAL BUFFERS:

The existing natural boundaries of Lyn Ary Park provide wonderful creative play areas for children using the park and a buffer for neighbors to the park. The TCC supports maintaining the existing trees and natural growth at Lyn Ary Park. The TCC requests the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) seek TCC approval before providing any amenities, upgrades or landscaping changes to Lyn Ary Park that would change the character of the park.

### **3) LIGHTING:**

Because most activities at Lyn Ary Park occur in the summertime and the park is surrounded by private homes, no increase in lighting is needed.

### **4) FENCING:**

Although some permanent fencing currently exists in Lyn Ary Park to support baseball, no additional permanent fencing is needed. Any additional fencing should be safe, temporary, and moveable on a seasonal basis.

### **5) CONCESSIONS:**

Concessions at Lyn Ary Park should not be permitted due to increased garbage and traffic that could be created by these activities.

### **6) PARKING:**

Lyn Ary Park is situated in the middle of a neighborhood and is not an appropriate park for increased vehicular traffic. People arriving by vehicle should be encouraged to use the parking lot. The TCC supports posting a sign along Illiamna Street, directing users to the Lyn Ary Park parking lot. The parking lot should always be accessible year round during those hours that the park is open.

### **7) ACCESS:**

Lyn Ary Park has poor vehicular and pedestrian designated access. The result is safety hazards, foliage degradation, and trespass. The TCC supports designating specific vehicular and pedestrian entrances to the park with appropriate and aesthetically pleasing landscape. The TCC also supports modifying pedestrian entrances for handicap access.

### **8) MAINTENANCE:**

Lyn Ary is an important neighborhood park given its access to the Coastal Trail and ability to host open space and little league activities. Therefore, the TCC believes that the MOA has an obligation to support and maintain the park.

Maintenance includes:

1. Regular and scheduled garbage removal
2. Regular and scheduled mowing
3. Regular and scheduled maintenance of tennis courts, including tree trimming and root removal too close to courts
4. Regular cleaning of porta potties
5. Removal of dead, diseased trees
6. Sustaining existing tree and shrub ecosystems

7. Repair of existing playground equipment

## 9) SIGNAGE:

The TCC supports minimal signage to maintain the neighborhood character of the park. Unofficial signs should not be permitted.

## 10) SAFETY:

Illegal, after hour, and unsafe activities have occurred at Lyn Ary Park. Illegal activities include speeding, vandalism, drugs, fires, and general disturbances. The TCC supports that the MOA provide frequent police patrols both within and around the park, particularly in spring and fall when the level of illegal activity increases.

## 11) RID IMPACTS:

The TCC is concerned for safety of park users during the 2008-2009 RID construction west of Lyn Ary Park. The project will significantly increase traffic in close proximity to pedestrian entrances to the park. The TCC recommends MOA oversight, including adequate signage and patrolling during construction to protect the park, its users, and the neighborhood.

The TCC is adamant that the final design of the Foraker intersection, Lyn Ary Park parking lot, and expansion of Marston Street are safe and enhance natural boundaries and landscaping. Because of the potential impact the RID could have on the park and park users, including loss of parking spots, usable park land, and pedestrian access, the TCC requests that the RID project engineer consult with, consider, and incorporate suggestions from the Lyn Ary Park Subcommittee on how to best design those portions of the RID that will affect Lyn Ary Park.

To the extent that new hard surfaces are created by extension of Foraker, the turn onto Marston, and expansion of the parking lot, the TCC strongly opposes using these spaces for snow storage, which is unsafe, filthy, and limits use of the park.

## 12) STORAGE BUILDINGS (as amended January 2008):

The TCC believes as a matter of policy, the Municipality should resume responsibility for Lyn Ary Park field maintenance and, were that to occur, park users like Anchorage West Little League (AWLL) would not be "burdened" with the "excessive fees" to pay for that maintenance. In addition, the Municipality would fulfill its maintenance responsibility by engaging in regular maintenance to preserve the field's playing conditions, landscaping, cleanliness and safety of the park/fields.

The TCC does not support temporary storage facilities at Lyn Ary. While AWLL is maintaining the fields per the existing agreement with the Municipality, the TCC recognizes that the storage of maintenance equipment and seasonal fencing is onsite. These temporary facilities as currently exist, should be used for storing maintenance equipment and temporary fencing, consolidated, consistent with the nature and quality of the park and be near public parking. TCC urges the municipality, AWLL and the TCC Lyn Ary Subcommittee to work together consistent with paragraph 13 of the December 6, 2007 TCC resolution regarding Lyn Ary Park to develop a plan for the location and design for storing maintenance equipment and temporary fencing.

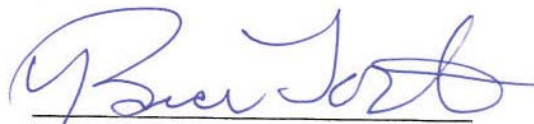
### 13) PARK FOUNDATION FUNDS:

The TCC recommends that Park Foundation funds be leveraged for matching funds, and be used to develop a Master Plan for Lyn Ary Park that includes landscaped entrances, recognition of the park's historical significance, and upgrade of playground equipment.

### 14) RETAINING RESOLUTION:

The TCC adopted the foregoing resolution on December, 6, 2007 at a regularly noticed Turnagain Community Council Meeting. The TCC asks that the MOA keep this resolution on file and, until it is superseded by a more recent resolution, refer to it as a guide when issues regarding Lyn Ary Park arise. If issues not covered in this resolution arise, the TCC requests that the MOA notify the TCC so that it may provide input on any decisions that will affect Lyn Ary Park.

ATTESTED TO:



Breck Tostevin  
Turnagain Community Council  
President

Dated: June 19, 2009

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

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## Appendix C - Limits of Acceptable Change

The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process is based on the premise that changes to a site will occur over time as a result of natural and human factors. The goal of management is to keep the character and rate of change within acceptable levels that are consistent with plan objectives and protection of the site. The management challenge is one of deciding:

- What changes should occur?
- How much change will be allowed?
- What management actions are needed to guide and control it?
- How will managers know when the established limits have been reached?

The LAC process establishes benchmarks to quantitatively determine what management actions would restore conditions should changes become incompatible with the park's vision.

In order to identify change, measurable indicators are chosen that address particular areas of concern. An indicator serves as a measuring stick to indicate changes in conditions that occur over time. To be effective an indicator should be judged against the following criteria:

- **Relevant:** Helps describe the overall health of the Lyn Ary Park system
- **An Early Warning Signal:** Alerts managers about trends in conditions before it is too late to act
- **Measurable:** Can be stated in quantifiable units
- **Specific & Significant:** Detects a change in conditions that reduces the future desirability or ecological viability of the area
- **Sensitive & Discriminating:** Detects a change in condition that occurs within one year and as the result of human activities (vs. natural fluctuations)
- **Reliable:** Can be measured accurately by different observers using the same procedures to collect information
- **Cost Effective & Feasible:** Can be measured by field personnel using uncomplicated equipment and straight forward sampling techniques

Examples of Indicators:

- Ground cover loss
- Crowding
- Trail damage and multiple-trailing

Each indicator has an associated standard, a quantifiable measure that dictates at what point change becomes unacceptable. When this standard is exceeded, a specific management action may be initiated to maintain desired conditions.

Potential problem areas will be identified by the comparison of existing conditions to standards. This helps to identify management actions that could be implemented to restore or achieve desired conditions. Possible actions will be evaluated in terms of their desirable outcomes and undesirable side effects. For any given alternative, there may be a number of potential management actions that could be undertaken to achieve standards.

When implementing the LAC planning system, monitoring takes on a new role of importance and relevance. Monitoring becomes perceived as an essential, practical element of the park management process. To this end, citizens and park user groups may volunteer to become involved in assisting with the monitoring program, raising public awareness and cooperation in sound management. In essence, they will become partners in management and also become a knowledgeable constituency who can help when new situations require adjustments or new decisions to be made to perpetuate the desired future conditions of the Lyn Ary Park Master Plan.

## Appendix D - Survey #1 Results (For Adults)

Other responses to Question 3 included: Biking, sledding, birding, sitting, looking at views, football, frisbee, ultimate Frisbee, soccer, running, biking, photography, writing, reading, being close to nature, maintaining the memorial garden, picnicking, skateboarding, using the beach, socializing, group events, skiing, swings, climbing wall, tennis, birthday parties, play with dogs, snowman building, fort building, and maintaining flower beds

1. How often do you use Lyn Ary Park? (Choose one)			Response Percent	Response Count
Daily			33.0%	38
Weekly			40.9%	47
Monthly			19.1%	22
Yearly			4.3%	5
Never			2.6%	3
<i>answered question</i>				<b>115</b>
<i>skipped question</i>				<b>1</b>

2. How much time do you typically spend in the park when you visit? (choose one)			Response Percent	Response Count
One to ten minutes			16.8%	19
Ten to thirty minutes			26.5%	30
Thirty to sixty minutes			34.5%	39
Greater than one hour			22.1%	25
<i>answered question</i>				<b>113</b>
<i>skipped question</i>				<b>3</b>

3. How do you use Lyn Ary Park? (choose as many as apply)			Response Percent	Response Count
Access to Coastal Trail			89.3%	100
Tennis Courts			40.2%	45
Baseball			36.6%	41
Playground			50.9%	57
Open Play			45.5%	51
Walking			64.3%	72
Dog Walking			40.2%	45
Other (please specify)			31.3%	35
<i>answered question</i>				<b>112</b>
<i>skipped question</i>				<b>4</b>

4. How do you typically get to Lyn Ary Park? (choose one)		
		Response Percent    Response Count
Walk		71.7%    81
Run		11.5%    13
Bicycle		51.3%    58
Car		14.2%    16
Other (please specify)		3.5%    4
<i>answered question</i>		113
<i>skipped question</i>		3

Other responses to Question 4 included: skiing

5. Approximately how far from Lyn Ary Park do you live? (choose one)		
		Response Percent    Response Count
One to five minute walk		44.2%    50
Five to ten minute walk		28.3%    32
ten to twenty minute walk		20.4%    23
A different measurement (type in below)		7.1%    8
<i>answered question</i>		113
<i>skipped question</i>		3

6. We would like to set goals for what the Master Plan achieves. Please complete this sentence: "The Lyn Ary Master Plan will..." (i.e. The Lyn Ary Master Plan will ensure our park stays clean)		
		Response Percent    Response Count
1)		100.0%    88
2)		88.6%    78
3)		75.0%    66
4)		51.1%    45
5)		28.4%    25
<i>answered question</i>		88
<i>skipped question</i>		28

Answers to Question #6 were summarized for ranking in Survey #2

7. Please tell us that you think the strengths of Lyn Ary Park are:

		Response Percent	Response Count
1)		100.0%	92
2)		87.0%	80
3)		69.6%	64
4)		54.3%	50
5)		29.3%	27
<i>answered question</i>			92
<i>skipped question</i>			24

8. Please tell us what you think the weaknesses of Lyn Ary Park are:

		Response Percent	Response Count
1)		100.0%	87
2)		70.1%	61
3)		47.1%	41
4)		23.0%	20
5)		14.9%	13
<i>answered question</i>			87
<i>skipped question</i>			29

9. What are some opportunities that you see for Lyn Ary Park:

		Response Percent	Response Count
1)		100.0%	65
2)		55.4%	36
3)		23.1%	15
4)		13.8%	9
5)		6.2%	4
<i>answered question</i>			65
<i>skipped question</i>			51

10. What are some threats that you see to Lyn Ary Park:

		Response Percent	Response Count
1)		100.0%	84
2)		58.3%	49
3)		32.1%	27
4)		16.7%	14
5)		7.1%	6
<i>answered question</i>			84
<i>skipped question</i>			32

Answers to Questions #7-10 were summarized for ranking in Survey #2



## Appendix D - Survey #1 Results (For Children and Young Adults)

1. How old are you?			Response Percent	Response Count
Up to five years old			11.1%	1
Six to twelve years old			88.9%	8
Thirteen to fifteen years old			0.0%	0
Sixteen to eighteen years old			0.0%	0
			<i>answered question</i>	9
			<i>skipped question</i>	0

Other Question 3  
response: Scooter

Other Question 4  
responses: Bike trail

2. How often do you use Lyn Ary Park? (Choose one)			Response Percent	Response Count
Every day			11.1%	1
Two or three days a week			55.6%	5
Once a week			11.1%	1
Once a month			11.1%	1
Not very often			11.1%	1
Never (if so, please tell us why you don't use the park.)			0.0%	0
			<i>answered question</i>	9
			<i>skipped question</i>	0

3. How do you typically get to the park? (Choose one)			Response Percent	Response Count
Walk			22.2%	2
Ride your bike			55.6%	5
In the car			0.0%	0
Other (please specify)			22.2%	2
			<i>answered question</i>	9
			<i>skipped question</i>	0

Other Question 5 responses: Another swing set, soccer nets, picnic or barbecue shelter, more play structures, forts and things to play on, permanent bathrooms

4. What is your favorite part of Lyn Ary Park? (Choose one)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Playground		55.6%	5
Tennis Courts		0.0%	0
Baseball fields		22.2%	2
Lawn Area		0.0%	0
Forest		0.0%	0
Other (please specify)		22.2%	2
<i>answered question</i>			9
<i>skipped question</i>			0

5. What are your favorite things to do in the park? (Choose one or more)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Walk the dog		11.1%	1
Play on the playground		66.7%	6
Build forts		11.1%	1
Talk with friends		33.3%	3
Play games		33.3%	3
Play baseball, tennis, or other sports		66.7%	6
Have a picnic		22.2%	2
Ride your bike		66.7%	6
Other (please specify)		0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>			9
<i>skipped question</i>			0

6. What would you like to see in Lyn Ary Park that is not already there?		Response Count
		7
<i>answered question</i>		7
<i>skipped question</i>		2

# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## Appendix E - Survey #2 Results

1. From the results of the last survey, we distilled responses and summarized them as they would relate to the statement, "Our Master Plan will guide our park so that it..." Please rank each of the responses as to how important you feel they are to the Master Plan for Lyn Ary Park, and guiding its future. Our Master Plan will guide our park so that it:

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
1. Provides and preserves natural areas of greenspace	8.2% (8)	10.3% (10)	21.6% (21)	<b>59.8% (58)</b>	3.33	97
2. Provides active recreation facilities (such as baseball, playgrounds and tennis)	3.1% (3)	9.3% (9)	21.6% (21)	<b>66.0% (64)</b>	3.51	97
3. Provides passive recreation opportunities (such as reading, socializing, and relaxation)	7.4% (7)	27.4% (26)	<b>36.8% (35)</b>	28.4% (27)	2.86	95
4. Provides facilities to accommodate open play and community gathering.	3.1% (3)	14.6% (14)	<b>41.7% (40)</b>	40.6% (39)	3.20	96
5. Is maintained as a clean and aesthetic park with adequate seasonal bathroom facilities	1.0% (1)	10.3% (10)	25.8% (25)	<b>62.9% (61)</b>	3.51	97
6. Is accessible to visitors without negatively impacting the neighborhood	6.4% (6)	21.3% (20)	33.0% (31)	<b>39.4% (37)</b>	3.05	94
7. Provides a safe and comfortable atmosphere to encourage use (i.e. clear sight lines...)	4.1% (4)	21.6% (21)	<b>41.2% (40)</b>	33.0% (32)	3.03	97
8. Provides opportunities for all-season recreation.	7.4% (7)	18.1% (17)	35.1% (33)	<b>39.4% (37)</b>	3.06	94
9. Discourages inappropriate uses (i.e. off-leash dogs, after hours parties) through design, parks enforcement and collaboration with MOA Police.	5.1% (5)	22.2% (22)	25.3% (25)	<b>47.5% (47)</b>	3.15	99
If we've missed something in our summaries, please add it here.						12
<i>answered question</i>						100
<i>skipped question</i>						2

- Low cost and low maintenance are the keys, upgrading existing without having to demolish and start from ground zero. A park shelter with large natural grill would be a great addition.
- No. 6 is a loaded question. #9 ---We have done fine in the past without a lot of enforcement.
- Safety is paramount. Not sure winter activities so important- in theory they are, but in reality, people really do tend to prefer to stay indoors here in ANC.
- The plan must focus on fewer cars. There is inadequate parking. The cul-de-sac at Susitna View Court should be re-opened. Users should be directed to the parking lot below the tennis courts. Cars parked along Turnagain and Iliamna cause a safety issue as kids and bikers dart out from behind them.
- Way too much of the park, (around the tennis courts, above the parking lot and along the side adjoining Turnagain Pkwy), is unsafe for play, inaccessible and unusable because of overgrown trees and shrubs.
- We greatly appreciate that it is designed to be entirely handicap accessible, a very important factor of consideration.
- What does clear sight lines mean? Everyone wants a safe park, but if that means cutting down all the trees, then NO!! Nothing is perfectly safe, and I don't want a sanitized park with no wild areas for us to run around and play in.

### Additional comments for Question #1:

- Include active participation in Trail watch. High Priority
- A small fenced off-leash dog area would be great. Many of us use the area for dog play and have for yours. We pick up waste and take care of the Park. You can't throw a frisbee in your back yard, not with any force, so you and your dog can play and exercise. PLEASE, consider dogs.
- Another opportunity to consider is the role of Lyn Ary Park in the history of Anchorage.
- As I get older #5 gets more important
- I feel that these survey questions are rigged in favor of eliminating the ball fields. The folks at Anchorage West Little League deserve a lot of credit for volunteering their considerable time to maintain these fields when the municipality and the neighborhood failed to do so. There are too many people who view this park as their own personal preserve.

**2. Existing Facilities & Amenities** These are the existing facilities that are planned to remain as part of the park. Please prioritize these items based on need for maintenance and upkeep.

	Low Priority (not a concern to you)	Medium Priority (maintain as is)	High Priority (need repairs/upgrade)	Rating Average	Response Count
1. Ballfields	19.0% (19)	52.0% (52)	29.0% (29)	2.10	100
2. Tennis Courts	14.4% (14)	44.3% (43)	41.2% (40)	2.27	97
3. Play areas (general)	6.1% (6)	55.6% (55)	38.4% (38)	2.32	99
3a. Play Structure - Ship	12.2% (12)	64.3% (63)	23.5% (23)	2.11	98
3b. Play structure	8.2% (8)	66.0% (64)	25.8% (25)	2.18	97
3c. Climbing wall	14.3% (14)	64.3% (63)	21.4% (21)	2.07	98
3d. Tire Swing	15.2% (15)	64.6% (64)	20.2% (20)	2.05	99
3e. Swings	6.1% (6)	65.7% (65)	28.3% (28)	2.22	99
3f. Spring Toy	22.2% (22)	58.6% (58)	19.2% (19)	1.97	99
4. Natural areas	11.1% (11)	42.4% (42)	46.5% (46)	2.35	99
5. Benches	2.0% (2)	41.4% (41)	56.6% (56)	2.55	99
6. Litter bins	1.0% (1)	34.7% (34)	64.3% (63)	2.63	98
7. Picnic tables	6.3% (6)	42.7% (41)	51.0% (49)	2.45	96
8. Portable Toilet (seasonal)	8.2% (8)	37.1% (36)	54.6% (53)	2.46	97
9. Signage	21.4% (21)	54.1% (53)	24.5% (24)	2.03	98
10. Flower garden	13.1% (13)	55.6% (55)	31.3% (31)	2.18	99
11. Trails	3.0% (3)	38.0% (38)	59.0% (59)	2.56	100
12. Sidewalks	15.0% (15)	49.0% (49)	36.0% (36)	2.21	100
13. Parking Lot	25.3% (25)	36.4% (36)	38.4% (38)	2.13	99
14. Fencing	33.7% (32)	44.2% (42)	22.1% (21)	1.88	95
Did we miss an existing facility or amenity? If so, please tell us and rank it using the above scale.					16
<i>answered question</i>					100

Additional comments for Question #2:

- A couple of covered picnic tables would be nice.
- A large natural rock grill with a small shelter would be a great addition to the park.
- Ball fields can only be used by ballplayers - a huge amount of space that is for a small percentage of population. If they need upgrades, then some of the money should come from that user group
- Dogs. Dogs. Dogs. People will be there with pooches, so accommodate them in such a way as to minimize negative impacts.
- Grassy area of the park needs repair, (holes, depressions, uneven areas), and upgrade to capture some of the unused, overgrown areas of the park. High priority to this very overused park.
- I could not rank fencing because it is too broad a category. I like the fencing the baseball fields provide because they provide separate areas to allow diverse activities to occur at the same time. More people can use the open space. I have watched these areas over the years and more people use them when the

fencing is up. I see people using these areas for off leash dog training areas which is an acceptable usage even though I do not do this.

- I'm not sure what fencing there is. There should be none. Turnagain's original covenants said no fencing.
- Lawn in upper area needs irrigation and watering in the summer
- Open grassy space for pick up games is very important and I would place it as high priority. Currently that space is co-used with ball fields.
- Park needs building for water/snack sells.
- Plants for moose and people browse. High Priority How about planting some apple trees and raspberry bushes.
- The baseball fields are a complete waste of space when considering the fact they take up the most space and they are used for only a handful of months throughout the year. The fences around the baseball fields are an eyesore.
- The benches and picnic tables in place are fine, but we could use a few more. The north (single) ball field needs the missing half of the gate replaced - It's been broken/missing for at least 3 summers.
- The flower garden near the coastal trail is a nice area for reading, visiting, and meditative activities.
- The wood block wall that divides the upper park from the lower park should be replaced with something similar but perhaps less intrusive that better enhances the views of the Inlet from the upper park. High Priority. The wooded hillside above the parking area should be upgraded to prohibit cut-through access from the trail above to the parking lot below. The amount of erosion is a concern. High priority. One other area that begs for attention is the issue of access to the coast from the Lyn Ary area across the TK Coastal Trail. I have appreciated the lack of formal access to this area since the trail was first constructed but now believe some provision for access should be considered. The number of people recreating in this area is substantial and the increasing development of informal trails is impacting the vegetation on the bluff. I have also observed a wider range of users out on the coast, from youth to seniors, and this should be encouraged. We are a coastal city, after all.
- Upgrade trail through down to coastal trail - not so close to dug outs of ball fields. Too many close calls with bikers and ball players.

3. Proposed facilities The following have been identified by community residents as potential desired additions to the park. Please prioritize them:

	Low Priority (not interested)	Medium Priority (a good idea)	High Priority (we need this)	Rating Average	Response Count
1. Dog station (bags and litter bin)	11.0% (11)	39.0% (39)	50.0% (50)	2.39	100
2. Frisbee golf	62.6% (62)	26.3% (26)	11.1% (11)	1.48	99
3. Barbecue	36.1% (35)	50.5% (49)	13.4% (13)	1.77	97
4. Bike rack	14.1% (14)	45.5% (45)	40.4% (40)	2.26	99
5. Signage (General)	42.7% (41)	41.7% (40)	15.6% (15)	1.73	96
5a. Signage (Specific) - Directs cars to parking area	44.3% (43)	33.0% (32)	22.7% (22)	1.78	97
5b. Signage (Specific) - Directs to ballfields	40.6% (39)	36.5% (35)	22.9% (22)	1.82	96
6. Community Garden	32.3% (32)	45.5% (45)	22.2% (22)	1.90	99
7. Shelter	45.8% (44)	37.5% (36)	16.7% (16)	1.71	96
Did we miss anything? If so, please tell us and rank it with the above scale.					13
<i>answered question</i>					100
<i>skipped question</i>					2

may unintentionally attract. Community Garden - Nice idea but may require too large of a space allotment & plus the added cost of watering pipes -installation and service.

- High priority to provide dog station, but signage needed and enforced that it is NOT a dog park.
- I think adding frisbee golf to the park is a bad idea (safety concerns). Also would not like to see barbecue areas added to the park. In short, please do not let this park become another "Valley of the Moon," which my family no longer visits because of concerns around cleanliness and personal safety.
- I think we really need signs telling people not to stand on the trail to watch games or to occupy more than one half of the trail. Groups of people blocking the trail cause problems for people trying to get through. It's especially dangerous near the bottom of that hill, because of bikers. It sounds like a no-brainer, but a lot of people just don't think about it.

• Lyn Ary Park is supposed to be a neighborhood park, not a mecca for the whole city. Please, maintain it as a pocket gem for the people who live nearby. We walk, ski, roller blade, and skijor there with our families. Some of us go down there and clean up after others on a regular basis, as well. Don't turn it into something grandiose. We want a quiet and safe place where there aren't dozens of strangers parked on the streets where our children and pets now play. Thanks.

• Maintain what is there is more important than building anything new. Shelter should be simple, open-air facility that is low cost to maintain. Areas of family use most important, like picnic area with BBQ and simple shelter

- More defined areas for each family using the park for barbecuing and eating.
- Signage about what's available on the trails and distance from Lyn Ary. High Priority Perhaps having an emergency phone like are on some highways and include a camera for monitoring prank calls and possibly the bike rack. High Priority
- Winter-Ice Rink

• Yes. These results have been collected and presented in such a way that is ambiguous and does not let us see all of the good ideas that folks have presented. This survey would have been better if it had presented the ideas first, then let us rank them. Sometimes a very good idea is missed by everyone because they didn't have a chance to even see it. Also frisbee golf doesn't mix well with other users of the park -ouch.

### Additional comments for Question #3:

- A quick comment on the option of frisbee golf: I do not believe the MOA adequately thinks through the impact that frisbee golf has on existing vegetation and natural areas in general. I do not believe Lyn Ary has sufficient open space and natural areas to support this activity and would not support it because frisbee golf has not been limited seasonally the way mountain biking has been (i.e. closures from breakup to early June to allow vegetation to become established). The amount of vegetation trampling and corresponding erosion from frisbee golf along the lower Chester Creek bike trail is discouraging. I am sure a park like Lyn Ary could not tolerate this type of use without substantial impact.
- Any amenity that will draw people from outside of the neighborhood should be avoided and those that already come from outside the neighborhood should be directed to the parking lot and any parking along the streets should be secondary.
- Every morning I walk our dogs and pick up litter
- Frisbee golf takes a lot of space and once a large game is started prohibits others from enjoying wide swaths of park area. Usually older teens and adults play - may intimidate younger kids from enjoying play space. At Westchester Lagoon, they play frisbee golf well past midnight on summer nights and the nearby trash bins are all filled with beer & Liquor bottles. Consider the crowd that you

Question # 4: requested volunteer contact information (results not shown)

5. Who do you typically visit the park with? (Choose one)		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Your children	58.7%	54
Your parents	0.0%	0
Friends	13.0%	12
Your pet	28.3%	26
Other (please specify)		10
<i>answered question</i>		92
<i>skipped question</i>		10

6. Have you ever gotten a use permit with the city to use the park?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	12.9%	13
No	87.1%	88
If yes, please specify what for		10
<i>answered question</i>		101
<i>skipped question</i>		1

7. If you answered yes to Question 3, please comment upon your experience. How would you describe your experience with obtaining a use permit with the city? (Choose one or specify other)		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Easy to organize, no problems	7.7%	1
Fairly easy	76.9%	10
Somewhat frustrating	0.0%	0
Unpleasant	15.4%	2
Other (please specify)		4
<i>answered question</i>		13
<i>skipped question</i>		89

Comments for Question #7:

- Only required because the fields were so over scheduled that there was no time available for unorganized neighborhood play. Getting the permit cost money, required a resolution from the TCC and required dealing with Parks and Rec for the permit. Simpler solution, ensure that one or two nights a week during the summer are left unscheduled for open play.

Question #8: Asked for additional things that we may have missed

- Access to the Ball fields and park from Susitna View Court from 8 am to 10 pm should be restored to the public. Conservation easements should be obtained on existing green space around the Park and along the coastal trail. If you look at Yahoo maps you will be surprised at how large the public believes the park is and when you look at the actual boundaries of the park, how small it really is. The Park needs to be protected from encroachment by large mansion builders.
- Additional traffic on Foraker due to the addition of road and houses. Parking, sidewalks, speed limits, speed bumps etc will be essential to safety of walkers, bikers and park users
- After hours use by teens can be very intimidating to local residents. I have been accosted on numerous occasions and have felt that I need to avoid the area at certain time.
- All the best to those involved in the planning process for making this beautiful area the best, safest and most useful it can be for all. Thank you.
- Amenities that could go with an Anchorage to Seward separated pathway (which would include connecting the Coastal Trail south of Kincaid) making Anchorage and Seward a destination of multi-modal transportation (bike, bus, Alaska Marine Highway, Anchorage International Airport, Alaska Railroad).
- Baseball fields need to have flag pole and practice areas.
- Be sure the bike/ped path doesn't intersect with the active rec. area. The path needs to have more direct access from street level to coastal trail.
- Can we view the existing master plan somewhere?
- Do not allow removal of treed areas. Leave the wild spaces wild.
- Encroaching development on the perimeter of the park; lawsuit against muni regarding garden area on someone else's land
- Ensuring that private interests do not outweigh public interests
- I appreciate the idea of the flower garden; however it lacks oomph. The design could be improved for higher impact. ( I say this without volunteering, so take it with a grain of salt.) I know it is managed by volunteers and appreciate their efforts. Maybe putting in a community vegetable garden in conjunction could make better care possible by bringing people regularly to site.

- I hope the ball fields will not be eliminated due to the new homes under construction or those to be built.
- I want to see this park maintained as it was originally intended, as a local, not community wide park.
- Loose dogs are a big problem and people still let the dogs crap all over everything without cleaning it up. Also, there is too much space devoted to sports like baseball that hardly ever get used for that purpose. Eliminate all fences.
- Need some Bleachers at the Baseball fields and the trail to not be in the middle of it all. Kind of scary with the big hill of young riders flying down with us spectators getting possibly ran into. It almost happened a few times
- Not sure. Because of the mess of construction, we have spent less time than usual at Lyn Ary. We hope that it will be more friendly and useful soon.
- Parking in cul-de-sac is not illegal - Why are we blocked from parking there?
- Parking should be allowed on Susitna View Ct - that it is posted No Parking any time and under surveillance is ridiculous. Is it not a public street?
- Parking. If people do not use the lot, then there needs to be some sort of limitation on street parking. Sooner or later, someone's kid or dog is going to be hit by a speeder passing a line of parked cars that hides pedestrians. And not allowing parking on Susitna Circle is just ridiculous. For crying out loud, they are part of the neighborhood, too, and shouldn't enjoy privileges others do not have. It is all for one and one for all.
- Please do not let the few wealthy souls on the NW corner of the park have more influence than they deserve. The park was there long before they were there, and they should adapt to the park, not the other way around.
- Please ensure that this park remains a neighborhood park and does not become an attractive magnet that brings traffic and parking issues for which the park and neighborhood are too small to handle.
- Please leave the park as natural as possible.
- Safety of mixed user groups; such as a trail that is not used as seating and viewing area for baseball, like a by pass trail. Toilet doors that don't directly access to the trail so that people don't walk into moving traffic on the trail.
- The more we "build up" the park (BBQ stations, shelters, etc) the more "out of neighborhood" traffic we'll have. I worry about overuse and

overcrowding.

- This park is small and is a neighborhood park. It should not be used to encourage barbecues and large events from outside the neighborhood because there is very little parking.
- This park should not become a place for groups to just “hang out,” thus inhibiting others from wanting to visit and use park facilities. To me, some of the beauty of the park is that for the most part, users are active -- children playing, people walking their pets, coastal trail users, youth sports, etc. I would hate to have that character of the park go away.
- Too many cars on Iliamna cause traffic problems and congestion
- Tree buffers needed to be planted in appropriate areas to visually shield housing development on the east and west sides of the park.
- Upgrades at low cost without disrupting the natural surroundings. It should continue to blend in with the neighborhood and not look like something from the lower 48.
- Upgrading the coastal trail entries with architect and / or mowed upkeep.
- We need the ball fields!!



# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

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## Appendix F - Crime and Park Permit Statistics

Crime incidents which occurred in the park or within 300 feet of the park which resulted in a report being written.

Count of SIMPLIFIED	YEAR					Grand Total
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
SIMPLIFIED						
ALL OTHER OFFENSES					1	1
BURGLARY		1			4	5
DISTURBANCE					1	1
FALSE ALARM	4	3		3	10	20
FRAUD/FORGERY			1		1	2
LOST/FOUND PROPERTY			1			1
RESISTING/ESCAPE					1	1
SEX ASSAULT		1				1
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE	1		1		1	3
THEFT		1			1	2
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT		2	1	1		4
VANDALISM	1	1	4	2	2	10
WARRANT SERVICE		1				1
WEAPONS OFFENSE					1	1
Grand Total	6	10	8	6	23	53

Park Use Permits:

The information below is aggregate information for three summers of booking (2007, 2008, 2009):

- Baseball field bookings - 1145 individual baseball diamond bookings
- Picnic/Park use - 25
- Liquor Permits - 2
- Trail bookings (trail events) - 12 events
- Trail bookings (groups of individuals) - 194 people

## Appendix G - Friendly Rules Sign (Regulatory Signage Text)



Welcome to this Anchorage municipal park.  
This park is for the enjoyment of all.

**To make sure everyone has a safe, healthy park visit, please:**

- Visit the park between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m.  
Park is closed between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- Refrain from using motorized vehicles in parks and on trails.
- Help keep our parks clean. Please take your trash with you.
- Keep your dogs and other pets on a leash and under your control.  
Pick up your pet's waste and pack it out.
- Cooperate in keeping restrooms clean and sanitary.
- Cook only in safe grilling sites using grills or barbecues and properly dispose the hot coals. Please do not build campfires and be watchful of fire hazards.
- Do not damage or deface natural resources, structures or equipment.
- Enjoy viewing wildlife but do not harm animals or birds.
- Be BEAR AWARE. When recreating in bear country, please travel in groups of 3 or more, make noise and carry bear spray. Obey trail closure notices for your own safety.
- Do not discharge firearms of any kind in any Anchorage park.
- Be courteous of other trail users. In particular, skateboarders, skaters and cyclists should watch out for pedestrians and others."
- Refrain from consuming alcoholic beverages in parks.
- HAVE FUN!

[www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org](http://www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org)

Graffiti Busters 343-GONE	Adopt-A-Park 343-4288	Trail Watch 343-4296	Police non-emergency line 786-8500
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# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

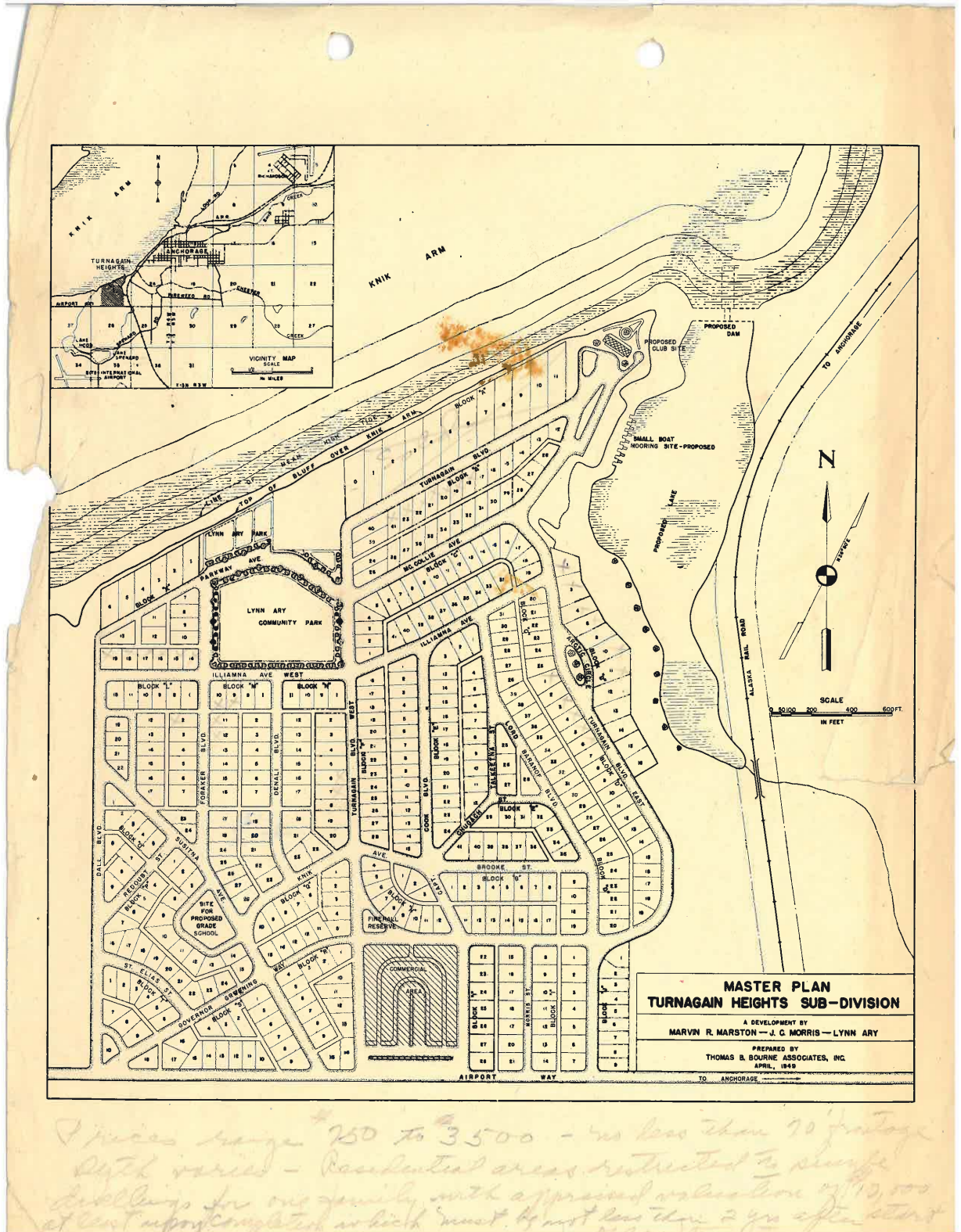
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## Appendix H - AWLL Agreement

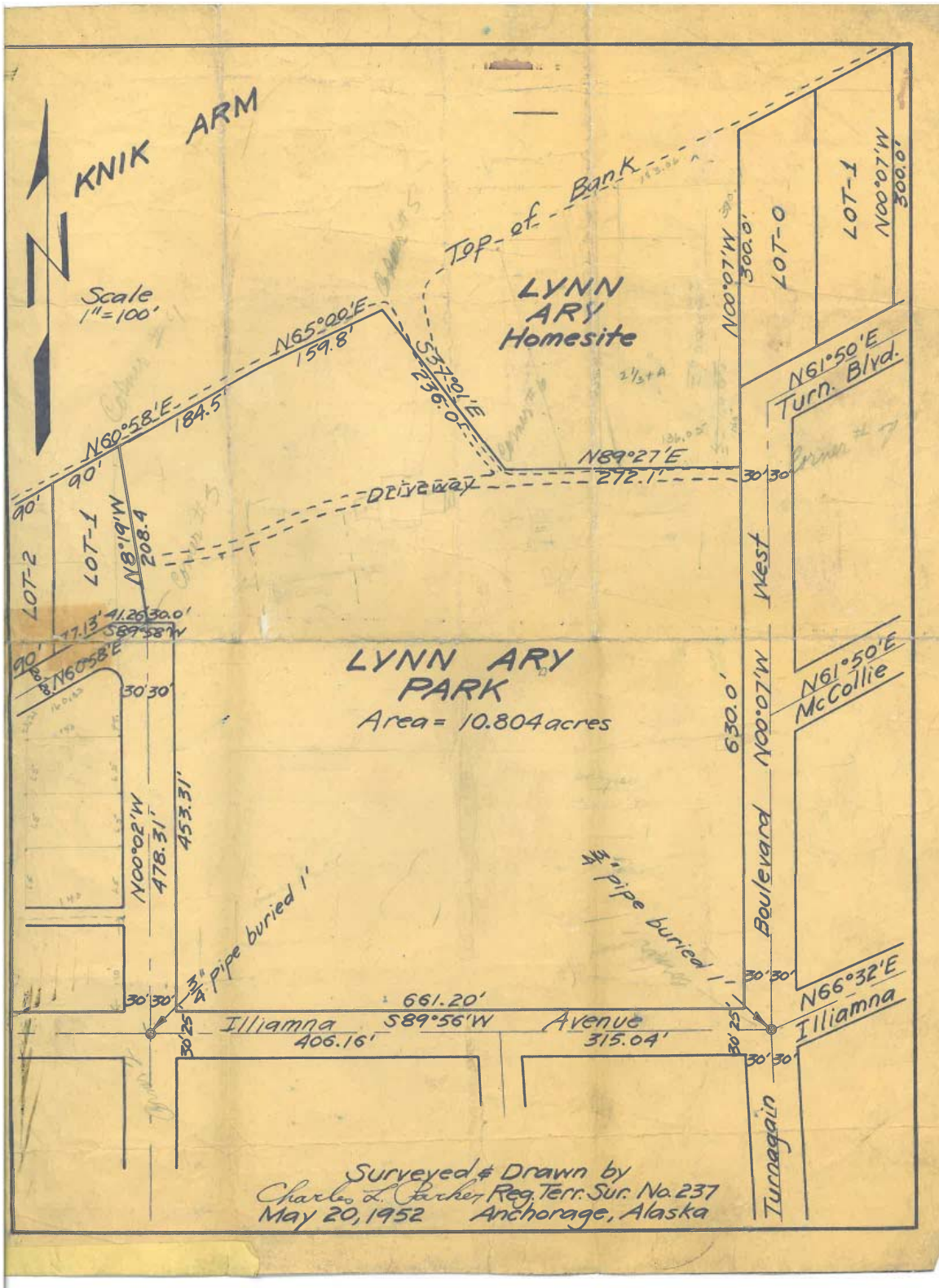
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# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## Appendix H - Historic Documents: 1949 Turnagain Plat

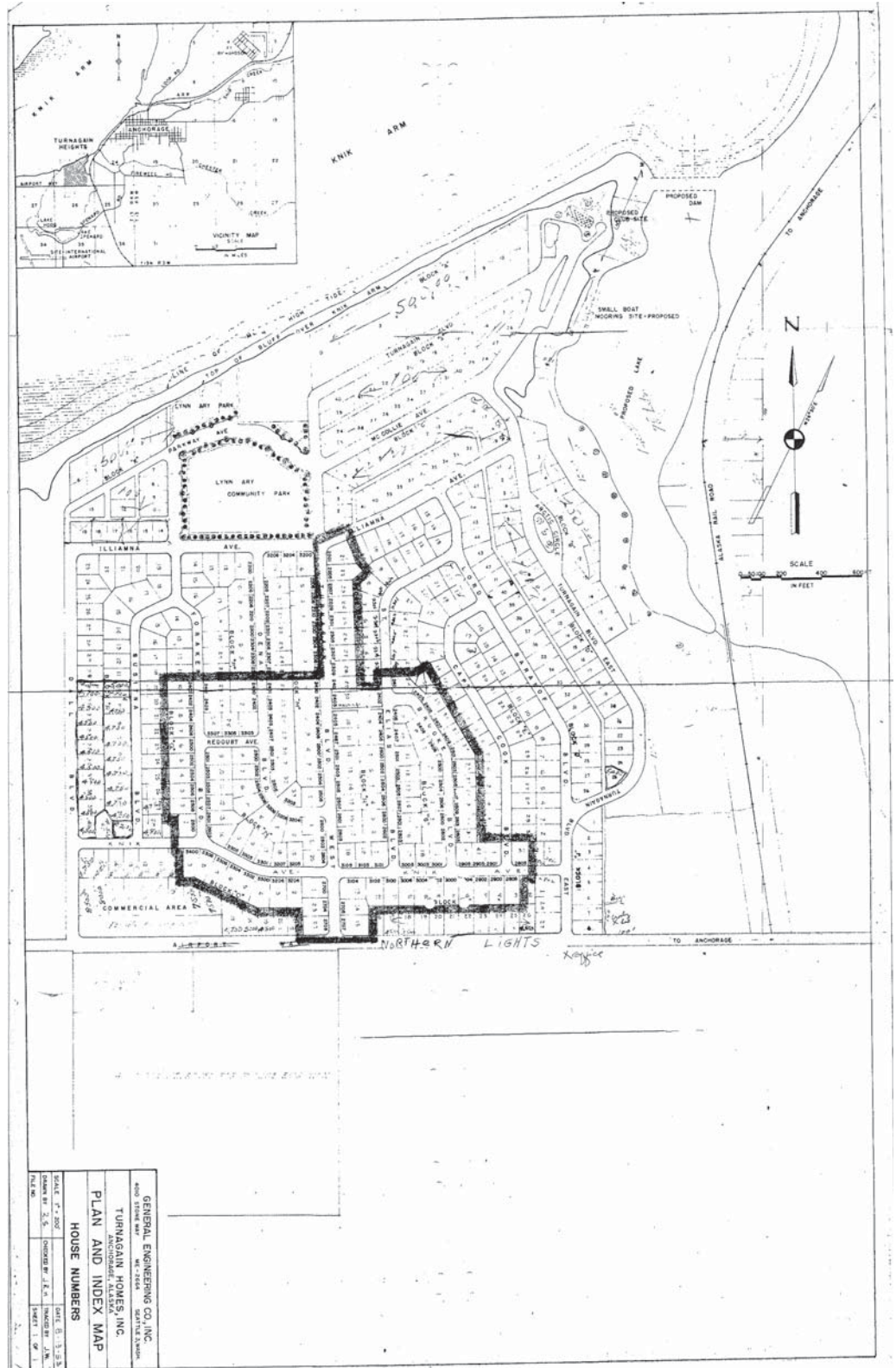


## 1952 Lyn Ary Park Survey

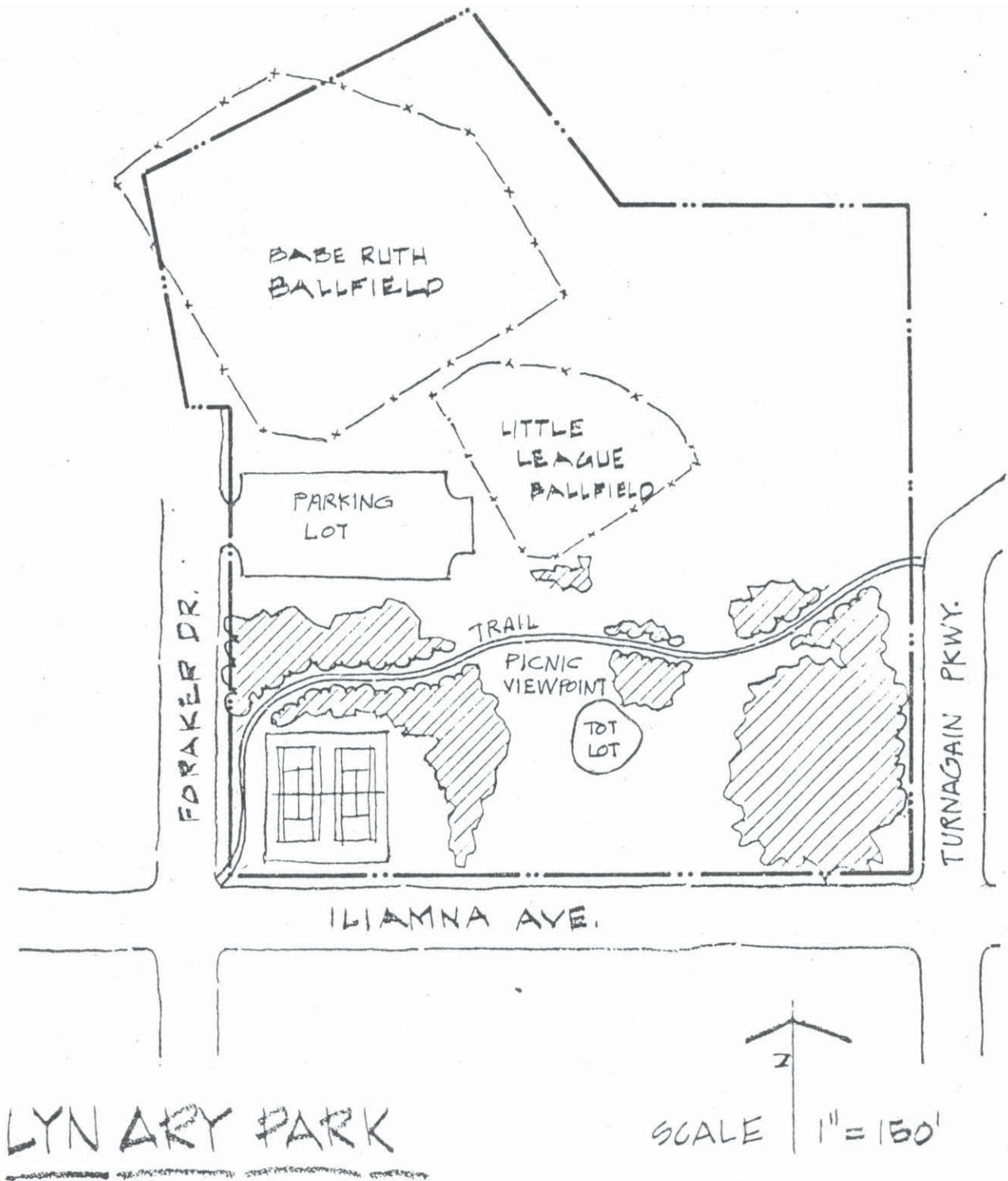


# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## 1953 Turnagain House Numbers



## 1980 Lyn Ary Park Plan (Revised)



REVISED 5/80 D.B.  
MR. REVISED 11-21-78

## Historic Photos

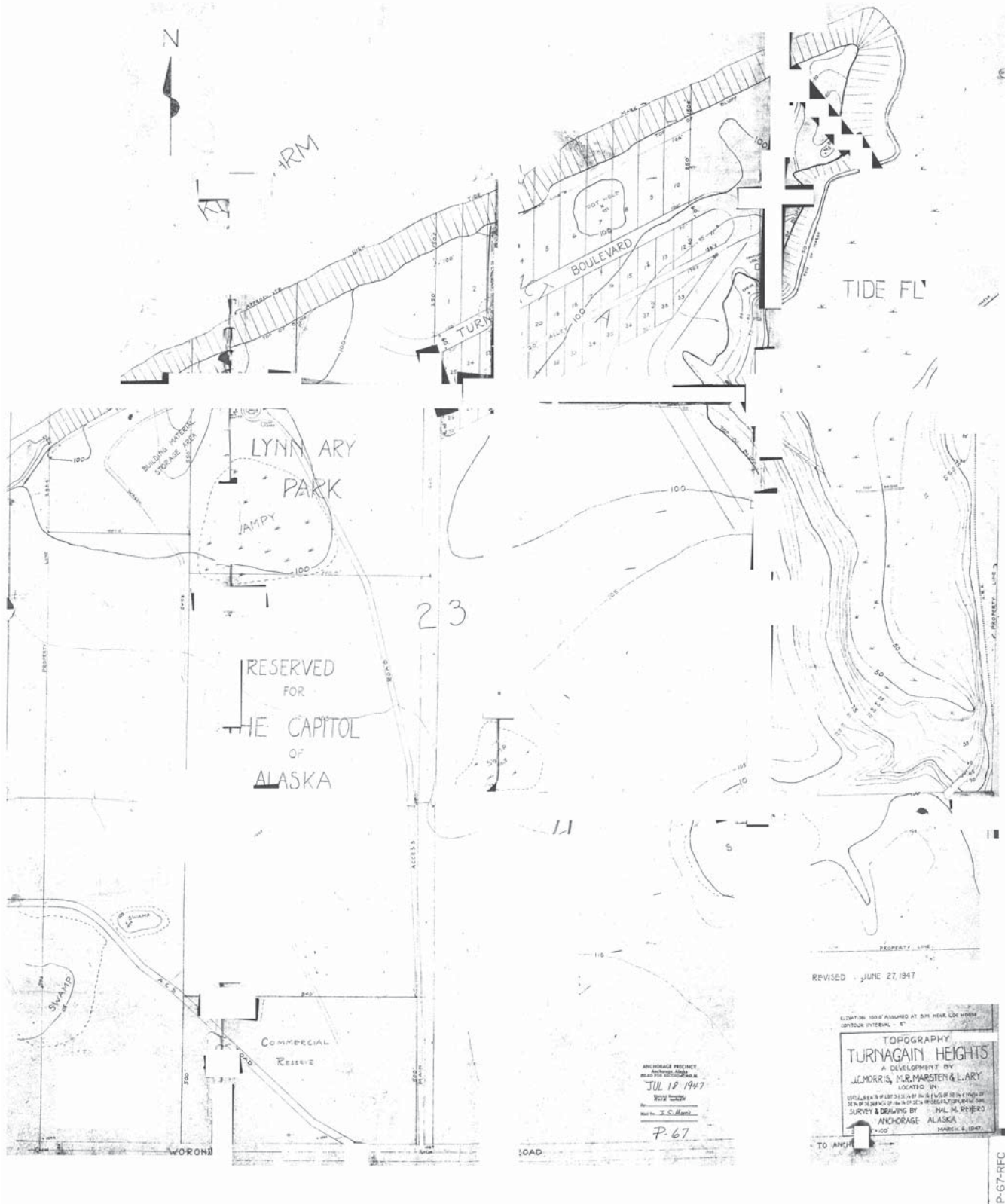


Blythe, can you provide captions for these?





## 1947 Turnagain Plat - Future Capitol Site



# Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

## 1948 Turnagain Heights Plat

