

Resolution Supporting Draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan

Whereas, Lyn Ary Park has been an important neighborhood resource of the Turnagain Community since the Park was established as a private community park in 1947 and since portions of the Park were formally dedicated in February 1971 by the City of Anchorage for parks and recreational purposes;

Whereas, the Turnagain Community Council, in December 2007 and January 2008, adopted resolutions setting forth its goals for Lyn Ary Park and recommended that the Municipality of Anchorage adopt a Master Plan for Lyn Ary Park;

Whereas, the Turnagain Community Council resolutions called for maintaining the character of Lyn Ary Park as a neighborhood park and preserving the natural boundaries of Lyn Ary Park both for recreation and as a natural buffer for neighbors of the park;

Whereas, the Turnagain Community Council's Lyn Ary Park Subcommittee has worked with the Municipality of Anchorage's Parks and Recreation Department and the Anchorage Park Foundation in developing a draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan;

Whereas, the development of the draft Master Plan has involved many meetings and community input through two online surveys of adults and children and an Open House at the 2009 Turnagain Neighborhood Block Party;

Whereas, the Lyn Ary Park Subcommittee has provided briefings of its work at the monthly Turnagain Community Council meetings and in the Council's agenda and minutes;

Whereas, the draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan implements the goals set forth in the Council's December 2007 and January 2008 Resolutions;

Whereas, the draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan sets forth limits of change for the Park, identifies undesired uses, calls for improved maintenance of existing park assets and prioritizes future desired uses for the Park;

Whereas, the draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan calls for title to all of the Park's parcels within proposed Park Boundaries be clarified and resolved and that all of these parcels be formally dedicated by the Municipality as parkland;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Turnagain Community Council:

1) endorses the draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan, dated November 30, 2009, (along with attached memo of corrections from Parks Planner, Suzanne Little, and inclusion of the replacement text of the December 2007 and January 2008 TCC Resolutions provided to Suzanne Little on December 1, 2009 for Appendix B);

2) supports the inclusion of a paragraph in the Lyn Ary Park Master Plan history section describing the 2007 tree planting/arbor installation/improvement project at the memorial garden and on page 14, Planting Areas, the following text:

- **Continue support of TREErific Anchorage, Turnagain Community Council and neighbors to water, prune, pull weeds and generally maintain memorial garden area.**

3) urges the Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Assembly to approve the draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan; and

4) calls on the Municipality of Anchorage to fully implement the approved Lyn Ary Park Master Plan in consultation with the Turnagain Community Council.

Adopted this day, December 3, 2009, by the Turnagain Community Council at its regularly scheduled meeting.

Attested to:



Breck Tostevin, President
Turnagain Community Council

Date: 12/14/2009



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE PARKS & RECREATION

Memorandum



DATE: December 3, 2009
TO: Turnagain Community Council
FROM: Suzanne R. Little, Senior Park Planner
SUBJECT: Draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan Corrections for 11-30-09 Draft

A solid collaborative effort involving Parks staff, Corvus Design and the caring Turnagain Community Council citizens has produced the current November 30, 2009 Draft Lyn Ary Park Master Plan.

Noted Edits to this draft are listed here:

- Page 2 Introduction – correct the park description as follows: “Lyn Ary Park is located in northwest Anchorage (Figure 1), approximately 3.6 miles from the central business district. It is a 14+ acre park that can be divided into three main areas, the tidelands-coastal trail-memorial gardens portion, an area of sports fields and the uplands portion of the Park with more passive activities and non-programmed space.”
- Page 10 – Get the correct TCC Resolution Date
- Page 10 – The Turnagain Community Council’s Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met numerous times to help identify issues, etc.
- Page 18 ACTIONS – Make sentence clearer: “Maintain trails to ensure they are safe. Upgrade or limit access, as appropriate, to accommodate new use levels.”
- Page 25 – Lyn Ary Park Master Plan Graphic
 - Show second existing connex
 - Provide legend description of yellow line as “Partial Park Boundary”
- Page 33 – Turnagain Community Council Resolution – Get the correct copy and replace the current text with the correct text.
- Page 57 – Picture labels – switch the picture labels for the two middle pictures.
- Page 58 – Grab history language for ‘How park came to be’ where indicated
- Page 59 – Remove Double comma
- Page 8 – correct Pink should be Purple on Marston Foundation property

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

WHEREAS, over time, the land surrounding Lyn Ary Park has been and is being developed with residential housing that is resulting in increased park impact; and

WHEREAS, although the designation for Lyn Ary Park in the Anchorage Bowl Park, Natural Resource, and Recreation Facility Plan is a Community Park, the TCC supports maintaining the neighborhood-like character of the Park because it is located in a completely residential area with restricted vehicle access through Turnagain neighborhood streets and has limited parking space for outside visitors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that 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 current neighborhood character of the Park; and that the TCC provides to the MOA, Division of Parks and Recreation, the following guidance on Turnagain community goals for Lyn Ary Park:

1) USE: 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 (AWLL) 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 the 2007 season. For the safety of Lyn Ary Park users, 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.

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. 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. TCC supports posting a sign along Illiamna Street, directing users to the Lyn Ary Park parking lot. The parking lot should be accessible year round during those hours that the park is open.
- 7) ACCESS: Lyn Ary Park has poor vehicular and pedestrian designated access resulting in safety hazards, foliage degradation, and trespass. TCC supports designating specific vehicular and pedestrian entrances to the park with appropriate and aesthetically pleasing landscape. TCC also supports modifying pedestrian entrances for handicap access.
- 8) MAINTENANCE: Lyn Ary is an important park given its access to the Coastal Trail and ability to host open space and Little League activities. Therefore, 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: 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. 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: TCC is concerned for safety of park users during the RID construction west of Lyn Ary Park. The project will significantly increase traffic in close proximity to pedestrian entrances to the park. TCC recommends MOA oversight, including adequate signage and patrolling during construction to protect the park, its users, and the neighborhood.

TCC is adamant that the final design of the Foraker intersection, Lyn Ary Park parking lot, and expansion of Marston Drive 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, 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, 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 that, as a matter of policy, the MOA should resume responsibility for Lyn Ary field maintenance and, were that to occur, park users like AWLL would not be burdened with excessive fees to pay for that maintenance. In addition, the MOA would fulfill its maintenance responsibilities by engaging in regular maintenance to preserve the fields playing conditions, landscaping, cleanliness and safety of the park/fields.

The TCC does not support temporary storage of 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 on site. Those 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 MOA, AWLL and the TCC Lyn Ary subcommittee to work together, consistent with Paragraph 13 of Dec. 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: 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, and 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: Dec. 1, 2009