

Eagle River Community Council

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Eagle River Community Council Resolution 2024-4 Restoration and Improvement of Schroeder Park

WHEREAS, Schroeder Park has been a vital community space in our neighborhood for many years, offering a place for families to gather, children to play, and residents to engage in recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, Schroeder Park has suffered from neglect and a decline in facilities and amenities, resulting in diminished use and increased negative behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the community is experiencing significant growth with over 300 new low-income housing units planned nearby, increasing the demand for accessible and welcoming public spaces; and

WHEREAS, the current condition of Schroeder Park, including the loss of natural beauty, removal of essential amenities, and lack of maintenance, has made the park less inviting and has contributed to its decline; and

WHEREAS, there is ample evidence supporting the notion that well-maintained public spaces reduce crime and juvenile delinquency; and

WHEREAS, community residents, have articulated a clear vision for the revitalization of Schroder Park through various immediate and long-term proposals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; the Eagle River Community Council calls upon the Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation take the following actions to restore and improve Schroeder Park:

1. Reinstall Essential Amenities

- A: Reinstall picnic tables in covered areas to facilitate family gatherings.
- B: Provide porta-potties during the summer months to enhance usability for families.

2. Complete Existing Projects:

Finalize renovations of the tennis courts, including installing entrances next to the parking.

3. Improve Waste Management:

Install additional trash cans and dog waste stations at key access points to promote cleanliness and responsible pet ownership.

4. Implement Low-Cost Quality of Life Upgrades,

Examples to consider,

A: Add benches near the basketball court for spectator comfort.

B: Install BBQ grills and extended concrete patio near the pergola to encourage community gatherings.

C: Recondition horseshoe pits.

5. Revitalize the Playground:

Upgrade the outdated playground equipment to ensure safety and attract families back to the park.

6. Remove Unused or Hazardous Amenities:

Consider other uses for outdated or underutilized amenities to free up space for more relevant community activities.

7. Improve Access to the Park:

A: Consider paving and enhance the Davis and Tandy entrances for better accessibility, particularly for families and individuals with mobility issues.

B: Formalize the Lake Street entrance and make it safer for incoming families with proper signage and amenities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eagle River Community Council urges the Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation Board of Supervisors to consider this resolution for immediate action, recognizing the importance of Schroeder Park as a communal space that fosters family engagement and neighborhood connections.

Resolution passed and approved on Sept 12, 2024 by a vote of: For 12 Against 0

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President

Eagle River community Council