

ROGERS PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED MASTER PLAN FOR EASTCHESTER
PARK**
RESOLUTION 2025-01

WHEREAS, Eastchester Park is an 80-acre dedicated municipal park made up of five parcels between the Seward Highway and Lake Otis Parkway, and contains two play areas, open fields, paved and soft-surface trails, and significant natural resources; and

WHEREAS, in 2023 the Parks and Recreation department began a public process to create a Master Plan for Eastchester Park that would identify and prioritize park investments over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan was created with input from residents and park users through a variety of outreach methods, including pop-up events in the park and at the Fairview Recreation Center, an online survey, a Community Advisory Group, and outreach to the Fairview, Airport Heights, and Rogers Park Community Councils; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan addresses current and future needs, balances public access with environmental health, and sets a framework for sustainable development; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan is guided by the public's interest in year-round enjoyment of Eastchester Park, creating new connections to surrounding parks and neighborhoods, and building a place where people of all ages and abilities can gather, play, and celebrate; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan concept, vetted and supported by the Community Advisory Group, focuses on improving park infrastructure to support gatherings, community events, and celebrating Alaska life; and

WHEREAS, the key recommendations include upgraded parking area off E 20th Ave, improved playgrounds and park amenities, management and maintenance of natural resources and invasive species throughout the park, installation of vegetative buffers between the park and the highway, additional park lighting, a new trail connection connecting Chester Creek Trail north to Sitka Street Park, pond viewing and erosion control at Hillstrand Pond, and the restoration of Chester Creek where it was channelized in the area south of E 20th Ave and Juneau St (commonly known as Woodside Park); and

WHEREAS when relocating Chester Creek to the south, consider replacing or retaining the surrounding trees to open up sightlines, create continuous park space, provide shaded areas, and maintain vegetative screening from the highway; and

WHEREAS, clean and safe restrooms must be incorporated in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan provides conceptual drawings, cost estimates, an implementation and funding strategy, and an outline of the multi-agency partnerships needed to accomplish recommendations in the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Rogers Park Community Council supports the proposed Master Plan for Eastchester Park.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED by the Rogers Park Community Council by a vote of:
Ayes ___22___, Nays ___0___, Abstentions ___1___.

Attested this __13__ day of ___January___, 2025



Scott McMurren, President

Rogers Park Community Council