

**Kincaid Park Regional Facility Infrastructure Improvements
Pending State Capital Grant for Soccer & Nordic Facilities**

Your help is needed now!:

A \$ 1million grant for the Kincaid Park Project Group (KPG) was approved this legislative session in the State Capital budget for Regional Infrastructure Improvements at Kincaid Park that will benefit Alaskans from throughout the region. If approved by Governor Palin, these funds will be used toward installation of a water system for much-needed snowmaking at Kincaid Park and a soccer facility that will provide desperately needed new fields and relief for other over-used fields throughout the community. If the funding is approved by the Governor, the artificial turf field could be in use as soon as next year's high school season, and for the entire outdoor summer soccer season.

What you can do to help:

Write a letter to Governor Palin asking that she approve the pending funding for the Kincaid Park Project in the Capital Budget.

Write to:

Governor Sarah Palin: sarah.palin@alaska.gov

With copies to:

Lieutenant Governor Sean Parnell: sean.parnell@alaska.gov

Management & Budget Director Karen Rehfeld: karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov

Please act now -- Governor Palin must take action on the Capital Budget by May 23!!

Why we need Soccer Improvements at Kincaid Park

- Soccer is the sport with the most participants in Anchorage, and that participation has grown 50% in the past 5 years.
 - The new soccer fields at Kincaid will benefit players from across Alaska, including high school teams from across Alaska, youth recreational players, and competitive players from Anchorage and the Mat-Su Valley (whose teams play in the Anchorage league).

- The Parks and Recreation Department estimates that Anchorage is 16-22 fields short to meet demand.
- Several hundred kids have been turned away from local soccer programs in the last two+ years because of a lack of fields for them to play on.
 - The poor condition of most Anchorage fields causes injuries to our kids.
- The new fields at Kincaid will help fill the current field shortage, and allow for other fields in the region to be rested and improved
- Many Alaskan communities smaller than Anchorage (including Fairbanks and Kenai) have multi-field soccer complexes. These complexes are more efficient to maintain than fields scattered through the community
 - Sports facilities throughout Alaska have had State funding approved by the Governor in the past two years, and approval of funding for the Kincaid facility is consistent with those projects
- Kincaid project will put fields in a location that already has existing infrastructure like parking and restrooms

Kincaid Park Project Background:

- A \$ 1million grant to the Kincaid Project Group (KPG) was approved this legislative session in the State Capital budget for Regional Infrastructure Improvements at Kincaid Park that will benefit Alaskans from throughout the region. If approved by Governor Palin, these funds will be used toward installation of a water system for much-needed snowmaking at Kincaid Park and a soccer facility that will provide relief for other over-used fields throughout the community.
- The \$1 million approved by the Legislature was half of what was included in the MOA request developed by the Mayor’s office and approved by the Anchorage Assembly last fall.
- Kincaid Park Project is comprised of individual components:
 - 8 new soccer fields, including one artificial turf stadium
 - Snowmaking system for heavily-used trails in the park
 - Water system to provide irrigation to the soccer fields and water for the snowmaking loop
 - New biathlon range
 - Disc Golf Course
 - Paved training loop

- Maintenance endowment fund to cover maintenance costs in perpetuity
- Total cost of constructing all components is \$9 million, with \$4.2 million raised from various sources so far and a \$2 million matching grant pending from the Rasmuson Foundation, and a \$1 million maintenance fund drive also underway.

Who is the Kincaid Park Project Group (KPG):

- KPG came together 5 years ago and was incorporated as a 501(3)c in January 2004. We are a donor advised fund of the Alaska Community Foundation.
- **Mission:** Create world-class, year-round recreation opportunities at Kincaid Park for the benefit of Anchorage and the greater Alaskan Community.
- Three driving forces behind initiative:
 1. Improve year-round Health and Recreation opportunities
 2. Meet needs of growing community
 - Lack of snow making
 - Improved trails (including summer training loop)
 - Soccer is fastest growing sport in Anchorage and US (17 fields short today)
 3. Provide Economic Stimulus
 - Hosting soccer and ski events have economic benefits to Anchorage and AK. (Ina K. soccer tournament generates \$800K annually, Ski for Women over \$200K).

Public Process:

- The Project has received regulatory approval at the local municipal level following a public process that lasted over 2 years
 - 10 feature articles in the Daily News and numerous Letters to the Editor
 - 6 feature stories on local TV stations
 - 16 community meetings (Parks Commission, Community Councils, etc)
 - KPG website update periodically (kincaidproject.org)
- Project is supported by soccer community, NSAA, Sand Lake Community Council, Nordic Ski Association, Soccer community and many others
- Recreational sports facility improvements were envisioned as additions to the park over 20 years ago (1983 Master plan called for over 20 acres of Sports fields in Kincaid Park)