



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PRAC) AGENDA

September 06, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94184441385> or +1 253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 941 8444 1385

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Christopher Trail Reroute – Presented by Michele Elfers, P&R and Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Trail Mix

A modification to the Christopher Trail route is being proposed with a bridge repurposed from the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail. This trail reroute will avoid a steep, erosive and difficult to maintain section of trail and reduce bike traffic and bike/pedestrian user conflicts on the Flume Trail.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department pursue obtaining leases with AELP, AJT and DNR for the Christopher Trail Reroute.

2. Amplified Sound Policy – Presented by G. Schaaf

The Parks & Recreation Department offers Amplified Sound Permits for persons and organizations that wish to use sound amplification equipment in parks and outdoor facilities managed by the Department. Presently, there are no guidelines or policies to help staff determine whether to issue a permit or require any conditions. The Department receives a number of complaints every year due resulting from the use of sound amplification equipment in parks throughout the year.

Parks are “public forums” that are afforded some of the strongest First Amendment protections. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that governments may impose only limited restrictions on the time, place, and manner of speech in parks, including the use of sound amplification equipment. Governments may not restrict or restrain the content of speech, which includes things like music, dance, and other forms of expression in addition to spoken words.

This policy provides general guidelines for issuing Amplified Sound Permits in parks. Assuming a permitted activity is conducted in compliance with any conditions imposed by the Department, the activity would qualify for an exemption pursuant to CBJ 42.02.095(e) (Disturbing the Peace).

3. Board Assignments – Presented by C. Mertl

The PRAC needs to elect a new board Chair and Co-Chair.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

H. STAFF REPORTS

4. Aquatics – Terra Patterson will be our next Aquatics Manager! Her first day will be September 28, 2022. Ms. Patterson joins CBJ from Astoria Parks & Recreation in Oregon, where she has worked for over 20 years, the last five as the Aquatics & Recreation Supervisor where she oversaw a large staff and budget.

Ms. Patterson holds a number of aquatics certifications, including Lifeguard Instructor Trainer. She is currently an officer in the Aquatics Section of the Oregon Recreation & Parks Association, and is a graduate of the National Recreation & Parks Association's Revenue Management School. We are excited to see where her leadership will take the Aquatics Division in the future.

Treadwell Arena – Treadwell Arena opened for its 19th season on August 1. New dasher boards and glass greeted the Arena's first customers, as well as Alaska's first hockey vending machine offering an assortment of hockey sticks, pucks, and other gear. We are excited to continue offering free skating to every 3rd grade student in Juneau all season long, including Open Skates, Family Skates, Stick 'N' Puck, and Pond Hockey.

Parks & Landscape – Progress continues on Capitol Park, and we are on track for a soft opening later this fall. The poured-in-place playground safety surfacing is nearly complete and the play structures have been installed. The turf field, lighting, and central staircase are scheduled to be installed next.

Our Park Maintenance staff and Park Rangers completed many large and small projects in preparation for Alaska's first IRONMAN race on August 6: They pressure washed the floating boardwalks at the Auke Lake Trail and replaced a damaged section; swept the entire length of the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei (Brotherhood Trail), and cleared over an acre of alder in Dimond Park. The race was a huge success and we are excited to help deliver a great experience to these athletes again over the next two years.

As the days get shorter, you will notice that the Twin Lakes path is a little brighter. We have partnered with AEL&P to install LED lighting along the entire length of the paved path, from Project Playground to the Juneau Pioneer Home.

The draft Master Plan for the Montana Creek Recreation Area was presented at a public meeting on August 10. The draft plan is available at bit.ly/MontanaCreekMasterPlan and comments are being accepted via email to parks.rec@juneau.org through September 10.

Sports & Community Recreation – "Walk Southeast," our regional hiking contest, wrapped up on September 2 and the drawing for two roundtrip tickets from Alaska Airlines will be held on September 9 at 9:30am. live on KINY. We had a great turnout this year, including participants from Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, Ketchikan and other small southeast communities – this year's trophy will be sent to the community with the highest average of miles walked per participant! We will release full details after the drawing.

August is our "Month of Play" and chock full of fun – and FREE – activities for kids and families in Juneau. The free Passport to Play grants every kid and up to two guardians free swimming at both pools, free admission to the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, a free public skate at Treadwell Arena, free access to the Dimond Park Field House, the ever popular Trucks n' Stuff, and access to fun self-guided activities all month long. Every activity completed earned an entry to win things like pool passes, free ice skating, and even a night at the Eagle Valley Center. Big thanks to our friends at the Juneau Park Foundation, Discovery Southeast, and SAIL for hosting a sunny Community Day at Amalga Meadows Natural Area Park for over 200 people!

Dimond Park Field House – We are delighted to announce that Jamie Thill has been selected as the new Dimond Park Field House Supervisor! Jamie will start her new position on September 12, just as the facility ramps up for the busy fall and winter season. We are also moving forward with a project to replace dozens of sodium-vapor lights with high-efficiency LEDs that will reduce operating costs and improve lighting on the field.

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

J. ADJOURNMENT



TO: Chris Mertl, Chair Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
FROM: Michele Elfers, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation
DATE: September 6, 2022
RE: Christopher Trail Reroute

Trail Mix and Parks and Recreation staff are proposing a change to the Christopher Trail corridor to avoid a steep, erosive slope and to minimize bike and pedestrian conflict on the Flume. The lower section of Christopher Trail has been closed for a few years due to an eroding section of the Gold Creek bank and Trail Mix has been planning to reconstruct it this year. The planned improvements would likely only last five or ten years and then major maintenance would have to be done again to keep the trail open along this slope. However, this slope can be avoided and a more stable route is possible by installing a bridge further downstream on Gold Creek. This option had been deemed too expensive in the past but now a bridge is being removed from the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail with the appropriate span and can be used at Cope Park.

As part of a Transportation Alternatives Program grant, ADOT will be replacing the pedestrian bridge over Montana Creek on the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail next summer. The bridge span is too short as Montana Creek is incising and widening, however the bridge is in good shape, with an appropriate span for Gold Creek.

Trail Mix has identified and flagged a new route for the Christopher Trail that starts at the lower asphalt plaza and picnic area and joins up with the existing route of the Christopher Trail on the North (Mt. Juneau) side of Gold Creek. The trail then crosses the flume and continues uphill to an existing old bench road above the flume and connects to Perseverance Trail.

The proposed trail alignment will be safer, requires less maintenance and will help to resolve issues along the flume of pedestrian and biker conflict. A 1989 agreement between CBJ and AELP outlines ownership and management of the flume structure and trail. AELP owns the flume structure and maintains it. CBJ maintains the pedestrian walkway atop the flume structure including the deck boards and hand rails. The agreement states that no bikes, skateboards, skates, skis, sleds, motorbikes, wagons, ATV's or rollerblades can use the flume. Bikes do use the flume and CBJ receives complaints from the public about the conflict in use as the flume is narrow and can't accommodate a bike and pedestrian side by side in some areas.

The proposed trail would create a connection for bikers from Perseverance trails to Cope Park pump track and lower downtown. By designing the trail as a fun bike trail for beginners with some low rollers, it will encourage biker use and move bikers off of the flume. The trail could also be used by pedestrians, and the low rollers are easy to walk over. Juneau Mountain Bike Alliance (JMBA) is supportive of this proposed route and plan.

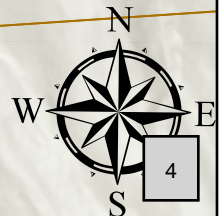
The proposed route as shown on the attached map passes through CBJ, AELP, AJT, DNR and private land. CBJ will need to develop easements with AELP, AJT and DNR for the trail corridor. Staff requests a motion of support from the PRAC to obtain easements for the Christopher Trail corridor with AELP, AJT and DNR.

Christopher Trail Proposal



TRAIL MIX, INC.

Data Credits: CBJ, Trail Mix Inc.





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PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT POLICY MANUAL

Policy No. 700-002	Title: Amplified Sound
Date Reviewed by PRAC: Date Approved by Director: Director Signature:	Last Reviewed:
CBJ Code / Regulation: CBJ 42.20.095 (Disturbing the Peace)	Other Reference:

PURPOSE:
To establish policies and procedures for the use of sound amplifying equipment in municipal parks and outdoor facilities.

POLICY:
It is the policy of the Parks & Recreation Department to:

1. Recognize that parks are traditional public forums where speakers enjoy the strongest First Amendment protections; and
2. Protect the health, welfare, and safety of the City & Borough of Juneau’s residents by issuing permits for amplified sound that include narrowly tailored conditions regarding the time, place, and manner of amplified sound; and
3. Not censor, control, or restrain the content of any speech.

SCOPE:
This policy applies to all municipal parks and other outdoor facilities managed by the Parks & Recreation Department.

PROCEDURE:
The City & Borough of Juneau has a substantial governmental interest in protecting its residents from unwelcome and excessive noise, as well as ensuring the sufficiency of sound amplification at events in order to allow citizens to enjoy the benefits of parks and other facilities. Amplified Sound Permits are approved by the Director of Parks & Recreation on a case-by-case basis according to the guidelines established by this policy. Use of sound amplification equipment in municipal parks and other outdoor facilities managed by the Parks & Recreation Department without a valid permit may result in civil liability pursuant to CBJ 42.20.095.

I. General Operating Conditions

- “Sound amplification equipment” means any electronically powered, operated, or assisted device that amplifies sound. A sound amplification device includes, but is not limited to, any system of public address, bullhorns, boom box, music or voice amplifiers, speakers, megaphones, or any combination thereof.
- Amplified Sound Permits will not be approved for activities in municipal parks between 8 p.m. and 10 a.m., except the use of sound amplification equipment may be authorized after 8 p.m. at the following places and times:

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- Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park, Dimond Park, and Melvin Park between March 1 and October 31.
- Auke Lake between August 1 and August 31.
- Savikko Park between June 1 and July 5.
- Overstreet Park and Marine Park between July 3 and July 5.

II. Application

- (1) The applicant must apply for an Amplified Sound Permit on a form provided by the Department. The application must include sufficient information and detail for the Director to make a determination, including the location, date, time, and type of amplified sound (e.g. recorded music, concert, speech, etc.).
- (2) The applicant must submit any other applications, payments, and related documents required for the activity, such as Facility Use Permit Application, Shelter Reservation Request, etc.
- (3) There is no fee to apply for an Amplified Sound Permit.

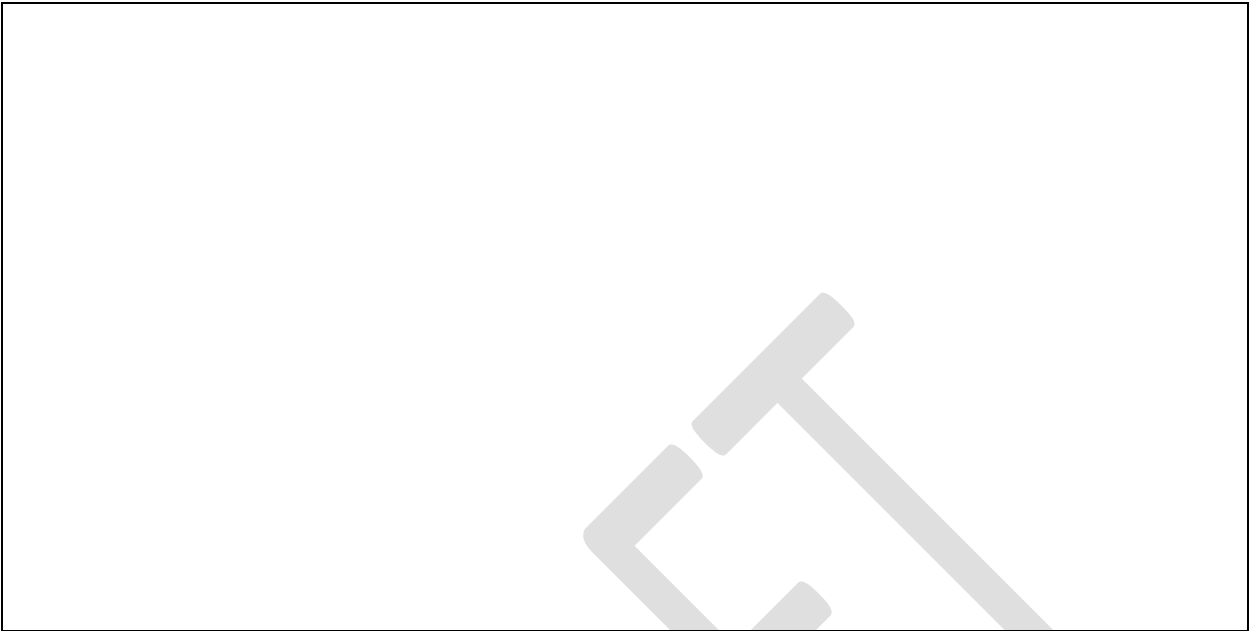
III. Enforcement

An activity conducted pursuant to a valid Amplified Sound Permit and in compliance with all conditions thereof may be exempt from the CBJ noise ordinance pursuant to CBJ 42.20.095(e).

A person who makes any unreasonable noise in a park, other than in compliance with a valid Amplified Sound Permit, may be liable pursuant to CBJ 42.20.095 (Disturbing the Peace).



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