

Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation South Division Director's Records, 1994-2002

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Title	Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation South Division Director's Records
Dates	1994-2002 (inclusive) 1994 2002
Quantity	1.8 cubic feet, (5 boxes)
Collection Number	5808-02
Summary	Records concerning parks and playgrounds in South Seattle.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Historical Note

The Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the City's parks, shorelines, and boulevards; and administers community centers, public golf courses, and other athletic and cultural facilities. Seattle's first park was established in 1884 after David Denny donated land to the City for that purpose. At that time, a three-member park committee, with limited authority, was created to manage the nascent park system. A Board of Parks Commissioners was established in 1890 with control over all public parks and authority to appoint a Parks Superintendent. In 1896, the City Charter created the position of Superintendent of Streets, Sewers and Parks. The Parks Department became a separate entity in 1904. In 1926, a City Charter amendment abolished the position of Superintendent, distributing its responsibilities between the Head Gardener and the Landscape Architect. A 1948 City Charter amendment required the Board of Park Commissioners to appoint a park superintendent to administer the department. In 1967, another City Charter Amendment reconstituted the Board as an advisory body to the Mayor and City Council, changed the agency name to Department of Parks and Recreation, and placed fiscal and operational administration under the superintendent. In 1902 the City hired the Olmsted Brothers, the country's premier landscape architectural firm, to design a parks and boulevards system. Although not all of the plan was implemented, the Olmsted legacy is evident in many of

Seattle's parks and boulevards. The City acquired significant amounts of property for park purposes following the turn of the 20th Century, but in 1926 further acquisition was limited by a City Charter amendment that stipulated only money in the Park Fund could be used for that purpose. However, in the 1970s the Forward Thrust Bond issue, along with federal grants and the Seattle Model City Program, supported the largest expansion of the Park system in Seattle history. These programs funded more than 70 new parks and park facilities. The Department manages over 6,000 acres of park land, over two dozen community centers, five municipal golf courses, the Aquarium, and many other recreational and athletic facilities.

Content Description

Correspondence of the Division Director with citizens and community groups regarding park facilities and programs in south Seattle neighborhoods. Also included are copies of letters of the Mayor and Parks Superintendent responding to citizen correspondence about south district parks issues and complaints

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation South Division Director's Records , Record Series 5808-02. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Arranged into five subseries: South Division Director's correspondence, Mayor's correspondence, Superintendent's correspondence, log letters and subject files.

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

South Division Director's Correspondence, 1997-2002

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	South Division Director's Correspondence	1997
1/2	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1998

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/3	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1998
1/4	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1998
1/5	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1998
1/6	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1999
1/7	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1999
1/8	Lou Clark's Correspondence	1999
1/9	Lou Clark's Correspondence	2000
1/10	Lou Clark's Correspondence	2000
1/11	Lou Clark's Correspondence	2001
1/12	Director's Correspondence	2002
1/13	Correspondence - Complaints	2000
1/14	Correspondence - Southeast	2000
1/15	Southeast Manager	2001-2002

Mayor's Correspondence, 1996-1998

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/16	Mayor's Correspondence	1996
1/17	Mayor's Correspondence	1997
1/18	Mayor's Correspondence	1998

Superintendent's Correspondence, 1994-2001

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/1	Superintendent's Correspondence	1994-1995
2/2	Superintendent's Correspondence	1995
2/3	Superintendent's Correspondence	1996
2/4	Superintendent's Correspondence	1996
2/5	Superintendent's Correspondence	1996
2/6	Superintendent's Correspondence	1997
2/7	Superintendent's Correspondence	1997
3/1	Superintendent's Correspondence	1997
3/2	Superintendent's Correspondence	1998
3/3	Superintendent's Correspondence	1998
3/4	Superintendent's Correspondence	1998
3/5	Superintendent's Correspondence	1998
3/6	Superintendent's Correspondence	1999
3/7	Superintendent's Correspondence	1999
3/8	Superintendent's Correspondence	1999
3/9	Superintendent's Correspondence	1999
3/10	Superintendent's Correspondence	2000
3/11	Superintendent's Correspondence	2000
3/12	Superintendent's Correspondence	2000
4/1	Superintendent's Correspondence	2000

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/2	Correspondence - Southwest	2000
4/3	Superintendent's Correspondence	2001

Log Letters, 2001-2002

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
4/4	Director's Log Letters - Genesee Park, Elizabeth Yates	2002
4/5	Director's Log Letters - Queen Anne Community Center, Patricia Berger	2002
4/6	Director's Log Letters - Director's Log Letters - Ballard Pool, Caren Edwards	2002
4/7	Director's Log Letters - Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	2002
4/8	Director's Log Letters - Rainier Community Center Advisory Council	2001-2002
4/9	Director's Log Letters - Alki Bathhouse, Jackie Ramels	2002
4/10	Superintendent's Log Letters - Friends of Seward Park	2002
4/11	Superintendent's Log Letters - Seattle Housing Authority	2002
4/12	Superintendent's Log Letters - Hiawatha Community Center Advisory Council	2002
4/13	Superintendent's Log Letters - Queen Anne Community Council	2002
4/14	Superintendent's Log Letters - Lake City Playground, Stenholm	2002
4/15	Superintendent's Log Letters - Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance	2002
4/16	Superintendent's Log Letters - Ravenna Community Center / Skateboarders	2002

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/17	Superintendent's Log Letters - Occidental Park, Gayle Chronister / Pioneer Building	2002
4/18	Superintendent's Log Letters - Friends of Bradner Gardens	2002
4/19	Superintendent's Log Letters - Blacks In Government, Walter E. Washington	2002
4/20	Superintendent's Log Letters - Greater Seattle Senior Games	2002
4/21	Superintendent's Log Letters - Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance	2002
4/22	Superintendent's Log Letters - Kid's Place, Zeondra Richardson	2002
4/23	Superintendent's Log Letters - Rainier Beach Community Center, Ron Momoda	2002
4/24	Superintendent's Log Letters - Lowell Barger	1997-1998
4/25	Superintendent's Log Letters - Whittier Heights Community Council	2002
4/26	Mayor's Log Letters - Westcrest Park	2002
4/27	Mayor's Log Letters - Parks Vehicles	2002
4/28	Mayor's Log Letters - Queen Anne / McClure SPICE Center Closing	2002
4/29	Mayor's Log Letters - High Point Park, Rodney and Seana Barker	2002
4/30	Mayor's Log Letters - Magnolia Soccer Fields	2002
4/31	Mayor's Log Letters - Freeway Park	2002

Subject Files, 1994-2002

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/32	Advisory Council Rosters	2000-2002
4/33	Alki Bathhouse	2002
5/1	Friends of South Ferdinand Park	1998
5/2	Georgetown Playfield	1994-1997
5/3	Parks Resource Operations Meeting	1995
5/4	Parks Resource Operations Meeting	1996-1998
5/5	School District's Facilities Plan	1998
5/6	Staff Meetings	1995

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Parks--Washington (State)--Seattle

Playgrounds--Washington (State)--Seattle

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness
2011