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## INFORMATION RELEASE

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### **Project Playground cleanup wraps up; redesign process set to begin in August**

Cleanup of the burned Project Playground site at Twin Lakes is complete. City and Borough of Juneau contractor GR Cheeseman Construction began the process June 19 and was finished by June 23.

“The cleanup went really well,” CBJ Project Manager Nathan Coffee said. “We appreciate the quick and efficient work of the contractor.”

Results of soil sample tests from the site are due shortly and Coffee doesn’t anticipate any contamination. The contractor will then plant grass seed over the site. Once grass starts growing, CBJ plans to remove the fence and allow the public to access the area. The entryway of Project Playground is still standing on the site.

“The fire didn’t get everything there,” Coffee explained. “We had some fence pickets that were salvageable and reusable, a couple art panels that were salvaged and that entrance was relatively untouched by the fire.”

The volunteer Project Playground steering committee hopes the standing entryway will serve as a reminder to the public that another playground will be built. Committee chair Mike Goldstein said an RFP for design services will go out shortly and be open for a month.

“In August, we should be finalizing the contract with who the designer is and then we’ll work on design through early fall,” he said. “That will let us know what our true fundraising goals are. We’ll be continuing to fundraise throughout this period because we do estimate that it will cost more than what we have raised to date.”

So far, the Juneau Community Foundation has raised about \$162,000. Once the design is complete, the steering committee will set a fundraising goal. In the meantime, look for the Project Playground float in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade on Tuesday.

“We appreciate everyone’s support. If people want to participate in future events or volunteer in any way, they can go to our website and they can sign up there,” Goldstein said.

The official website for Project Playground is <http://goprojectplayground.org/>. To donate, please go to <http://juneaucf.org/> or drop off/mail checks to JCF’s office at 350 N. Franklin Street, Suite 4, Juneau, AK 99801.

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