OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

PUBLIC MEETING OPEN HOUSE
APRIL 1, 2019
DOG PARKS ARE FOR PEOPLE TOO

48% households own at least one dog. Dog Population: 89.7 million

“Animal presence can facilitate human social approach, increase the likelihood of social contact, and serve as a conversation trigger between strangers or casual acquaintances.”

“Since 2009, the largest 100 U.S. cities saw a 40% increase in dog parks.”

“Parks where dogs can roam freely off-leash are the fastest growing segment of urban parks.”

“In recent years, there has been an accumulation of evidence that associates dogs with physical, mental, and social dimensions of human health.”

“Dog ownership has risen by 29% in the past decade.”

“Pets serve as a common thread among people at the dog park, allowing owners to meet people and navigate space through their pets.”

Of those that own dogs...

- 10% have three or more dogs
- 20% have two dogs
- 35% own a large dog
- 50% own a small dog
- 28% own a medium dog

Humane Society

Olympia Park: 48
Off-leash Dog Parks: 0
OFF-LEASH AREAS...

...many shapes and sizes

Portland, OR

Ashland, OR

Utah

Seattle, WA
TYPES OF OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

• Dedicated facilities (fenced)
• Shared facilities (no fence)
• Off-leash Trails

Boise, ID –
Off-leash Trail

Portland, OR –
Shared Park Schedule

Mission Dolores Park, San Francisco –
Shared Facility
SUNRISE PARK PROBLEMS

- Adjoining back yards of neighboring properties
- People not respecting Park Closed hours
- Overwhelming use for only one acre
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

• Park Rangers work 7 days a week

• Park Stewards for each off-leash area
SITE SUITABILITY CRITERIA

- Size
- Distance from Residences
- Use Conflict Avoidance
- Protect Natural Areas
- Land Suitability
- Parking
- Geographic Distribution
Proposed Off-leash Dog Area Locations

- McLane Parcel
- Evergreen Park
- Ward Lake Park
PROPERTY NEAR MCLANE ELEMENTARY

- Very large site without nearby neighbors
- Lease with School District
- Far West Olympia, but near Hwy 101
EVERGREEN PARK

- Near Multi-family Housing
- Centrally located in Olympia
- Smaller in size
WARD LAKE PARK

• Large, flat area; partially fenced
• Functions as an unofficial dog park currently
• Parking on site
• Interim use until water-oriented use is developed
NEXT STEPS

- View the concepts and let us know your thoughts

- Take the online survey posted at olympiawa.gov/dogparks until April 15th

- Permitting (~6 months)

- Installation (~2 months)
VIEW, COMMENT & DISCUSS