
(5/8/13)

Chris - I am unable to attend this meeting but wanted to express my strong support for this project & hopes that it will move forward.

I am semi-retired so walk my dog during the day. Contrary to what many believe, the Walnut Grove Park is highly under-utilized. It is empty most weekday mornings & early afternoons. The addition of a dog park would actually bring people into the park to use its facilities. I am so excited about the idea of actually walking to a dog park instead of having to pack up Bailey & get her settled in the car & then driving some distance. I rarely do it because it is such a hassle. This would be a joy! A neighborhood dog park! YEAH! Less air pollution & more exercise!

I also view the dog park as an enhancement to our neighborhood. It will promote a sense of community - bringing many together from the surrounding neighborhoods. Instead of just a nod & hello, we will actually talk, share & make new friends as our dogs play. What a lovely concept!

I understand there are those that are opposed. I can appreciate their concerns - I can't always agree with their logic however. I don't believe that there will be a lot of barking or traffic from outside this neighborhood. Again, rarely do I see children at the playground when I walk by so the danger should be minimal. However I am not so naive to think that there won't be issues - all dog owners & parents must be responsible for their charges! That in of itself will alleviate many concerns.

I agree with many that the increased foot traffic will potentially halt problems regarding teenagers.

I don't mean to be redundant - you've heard the above before at our meetings. Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts.

julie vincent
Walnut Grove Drive

(5/7/13)

Hi Chris -

We will not be able to attend the meeting on Wednesday, May 8th, but would like to go on record as a YES vote for the proposed dog park.

I have attended several of the Walnut Grove meetings and have heard the pros and cons.

We need a safe, fenced in area where our dogs can run off leash to play with each other, run for toys, etc. in our neighborhood. There is nothing on the west side of Madison at all. Right now I drive to several of the bigger parks and it would be so nice to have this park within walking distance for days that I don't have time to drive to a walk.

I think the safety issues with the playground are over stated by non dog lovers. People who take the time to do things with their dogs have happy, well adjusted social animals that are NOT a menace to other animals or people.

Parking issues are another smoke screen and I feel those people who are opposed just don't get it.

Please put my husband and I down for two votes for the dog park.

Thank you.

Carlyce and Harley Skjervem
Harwood Circle

(5/7/13)

Dear Mr. Pedretti,

I am contacting you to ensure my voice is heard in the process of determining whether or not to put a dog park in Walnut Grove Park. I use the park regularly with my young son and I have also coached soccer games and practices there. My concerns are that dog owners often seem oblivious to others' perspectives. Even with the current city ordinance of no dogs in the park, people regularly have their dogs both on and off leash there. They do not seem to notice that not everyone has the same comfort level with their dogs as they do. I have had to walk around dog walkers on the path by going on the grass. If there is a dog park, the path will be rendered useless by non-dog users. I am also concerned about access. When cars are parked along Westfield visibility is reduced. It is already difficult sometimes to cross with my son as cars zoom along Westfield. Additionally, I am worried about poop. Who cleans up the poop at the dog park? Will there be poop in other places in the park too? (Yes) I am trying to see the positives and negatives of the dog park and I'm struggling to come up with any positives other than for the minority of households that own dogs. This does not seem to be a best use for our neighborhood park. Thank you, Jennifer Vena Levesque Colony Circle
