



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Master

File Number: 39163

File ID: 39163

File Type: Resolution

Status: Passed

Version: 1

Reference:

Controlling Body: BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

File Created Date : 07/01/2015

File Name: Authorizing a pilot program to expand the dogs in parks policy to include additional locations where dogs are allowed within designated parks as authorized by Madison General Ordinances 8.19(1)(a)(3).

Final Action: 07/21/2015

Title: Authorizing a pilot program to expand the dogs in parks policy to include additional locations where dogs are allowed within designated parks as authorized by Madison General Ordinances 8.19(1)(a)(3).

Notes:

Sponsors: Denise DeMarb, Ledell Zellers, Chris Schmidt, Paul E. Skidmore, Maurice S. Cheeks, Amanda Hall and Barbara Harrington-McKinney

Effective Date: 07/22/2015

Attachments: Dogs in Parks Pilot Program Survey.pdf, MGO 8.19.pdf

Enactment Number: RES-15-00611

Author: Eric Knepp

Hearing Date:

Entered by: nmiller@cityofmadison.com

Published Date:

History of Legislative File

Version:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Parks Division	07/01/2015	Referred for Introduction				
	Action Text:		This Resolution was Referred for Introduction				
	Notes:		Board of Park Commissioners Meeting 7/15/15, Common Council Meeting 7/21/15				
1	COMMON COUNCIL	07/07/2015	Referred	BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS		07/15/2015	Pass
	Action Text:		A motion was made to Referred to the BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS. The motion passed by voice vote/other.				
	Notes:						
1	BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS	07/15/2015	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER				Pass
	Action Text:		Motion made by Leopold, seconded by Ragland, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.				

1 COMMON COUNCIL 07/21/2015 Adopt Pass
Action Text: A motion was made by Cheeks, seconded by Schmidt, to Adopt. The motion passed by voice vote/other.
4 registrants in support.

Text of Legislative File 39163

Fiscal Note

No significant fiscal impact is anticipated from this pilot program. Ranger staff providing additional enforcement and education will be reallocated within the Parks Division's budget. There may be a marginal increase in dog park permit revenue and additional dog licenses issued by the Clerk's Office from this program, as it will create more contacts with dog owners by City staff.

Title

Authorizing a pilot program to expand the dogs in parks policy to include additional locations where dogs are allowed within designated parks as authorized by Madison General Ordinances 8.19(1)(a)(3).

Body

WHEREAS, Madison Parks recognizes that as dog ownership has increased and the roles of dogs in the lives of residents has changed, there is a need to evaluate the existing policies related to dogs in parks; and

WHEREAS, Dog walking in parks is currently regulated extensively, with very few opportunities to legally take a dog on a walk in a park; and

WHEREAS, Dog walking provides individual health benefits as it keeps dog owners more active and also provides community building opportunities as it connects people who share a common interest; and

WHEREAS, Madison Parks strives to have the park system used extensively, both to promote the health of our community through positive activities, as well as to discourage negative behaviors on public land; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission and Long Range Planning Subcommittee will be considering policy modifications regarding dogs in parks as well as off-leash dog park exercise areas and establishing standards for locating these amenities over the coming year; and

WHEREAS, Madison Parks is interested in evaluating on a modest scale the impact of operating under a policy related to dogs in parks that provides access, focuses on education of dog owners, and establishes accountability for owners to obey the reasonable rules established; and

WHEREAS, Madison Parks staff established a process to evaluate parks that could be included in a pilot program that would be effective until April 15, 2016 and could be used to inform future policy decisions on this issue; and

WHEREAS, the pilot program would authorize dogs on leash in designated areas (on paved

trails, or within six feet of them) of specified parks, so long as they are licensed and permitted as stated in MGO 8.19(1)(a)(3); and

WHEREAS, Madison Parks has conducted a survey of neighbors and residents to determine if there is interest in this pilot program and whether or not it was supported; and

WHEREAS, with 754 responses as of July 1st, 84% overall supported the pilot program; and

WHEREAS, in all 13 locations the survey results were supportive of the policy with results ranging from support of 75% up to 100% of respondents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following parks be included in a dogs in parks pilot study program administered by the Parks Division and in effect until April 15, 2016.

Acewood Park
Baxter Park
Blackhawk Park
Door Creek Park
Garner Park
Greentree Park
High Point Park
James Madison Park
Norman Clayton Park
North Star Park
Richmond Hill Park
Walnut Grove Park
Wingra Park