



Legislation Text

File #: 30010, Version: 1

Title

Establishing a Dog Park at Walnut Grove Park.

Body

Dog Park Proposal at Walnut Grove Park

DESCRIPTION:

Parks Division Staff is proposing the creation of a fenced off-leash dog exercise area at Walnut Grove Park located on the West Side of Madison. The dog park would be slightly over 1 acre in size. The dog park would be designed to current Parks Division standards, including a completely enclosed fenced area and a double gated entry system. This dog park would be an addition to our existing off-leash dog park program and would require a permit to utilize. Madison Park Rangers would enforce and collect fees on a daily basis at the site. Madison Residents and Parks Staff have identified a need for west side dog park locations. Attached is a map showing the existing dog park areas that participate in the collaborative dog park program and the primary range of people they serve. This includes the City of Madison, Dane County, City of Middleton, and City of Sun Prairie. The map of existing dog park service areas shows a service area deficiency on the West Side.

Parks staff are currently evaluating multiple options for dog parks to service the West Side of Madison in addition to the site at Walnut Grove. Due to the size of the proposed dog park, we consider this to be a “neighborhood dog park” and not a “destination dog park” like many of the larger dog parks within the system. We do not anticipate that residents will drive to this location from a distance when there are many other larger options to drive to. We expect that much of the use will be from walking traffic to the park. A new dog park would become part of the collaborative dog park system. The design, permitted usage, rules and regulations would be the same as our other dog parks. City of Madison Traffic Engineering Dept. was contacted to evaluate the site based on the anticipated traffic flow to the park, they did not see any issues with traffic flow. Based on other dog parks in the system, the traffic and dog parks is random throughout the day, not like a soccer game that draws large numbers of vehicles to an area at the same time.

PROCESS:

Attached is a flow chart used for the creation of a dog park site. Parks staff have evaluated the site, had opportunities for public input, and are recommending approval for this usage to the Board of Parks Commissioners. Parks staff have also evaluated locations at Odana School Park, Garner Park, Elver Park, Mineral Point Landfill, Greentree Landfill, Odana Hills Park, Quarry Park, and Westmorland Park, most of which have been eliminated for various reasons. Notification and support was received from Alder Paul Skidmore regarding the Walnut Grove project. We utilized the Neighborhood Associations and direct mailing to notify residents of the meetings and survey process. The following schedule represents a list of the public input process for this location.

September 27, 2012	Public Meeting at Walnut Grove Park
October 17, 2012	West Side Dog Park Meeting at Meadowridge Library
January 27, 2013	Presentation at Walnut Grove Neighborhood Association
Jan. 18 - Feb. 8, 2013	Conducted Survey regarding proposal at Walnut Grove (Walnut Grove, Tamarack Trails, and Sauk Creek Neighborhood Assoc.)
April 2, 2013	Public Meeting at Lussier Community Center

April 29, 2013

Public Meeting at Walnut Grove Park

FUNDING:

The project will be fully funded with existing dog park permit revenues held in a segregated revenue account and will not rely on tax levy support. All revenues collected from sale of dog park permits and daily passes are utilized for maintenance, supplies, and expansion of the dog park program. The construction of the dog park will be conducted using a combination of City staff resources and contractors selected using appropriate City of Madison competitive bidding processes.

ATTACHED MATERIALS:

Site Map of Proposed Location

Map of Existing Dog Parks and their Service Areas

Dog Park Planning Flow Chart

Alder Support Letter

Dog Park Survey Results

Walnut Grove Neighborhood Association Letter and Recommendations

Public Input Received as of April 30, 2013