CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

MEMORANDUM

Community Services Department

DATE: February 12, 2014

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Bruce Hurlburt, Parks and Open Space Manager
J.P. de la Montaigne, Community Services Director

SUBJECT: Off-Leash Dog Venue Study

RECOMMENDATION

Provide input on whether or not off-leash venues and hours should be pursued. Provide direction to staff regarding alternatives.

FISCAL IMPACT

- $20,000 to $40,000 or more per fenced off-leash Dog Park depending on size and amenities.

- $250 to $1,000 per off-leash unfenced area depending on amenities.

BACKGROUND

The City Council has inquired about dog parks, off-leash dog areas, hours, and potential expansion of these services. The Council asked the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) to review the issues, gather community input, and report back on their findings.

In August 2013, the Police Department conducted a community online survey which included questions regarding dogs, off-leash dogs, and dog parks. Of 744 responses to the dog questions, 26.7 percent of respondents indicated a desire for more fenced dog parks and 66.8 percent indicated a desire for parks with designated off-leash areas during designated times.

The PRC reviewed the information at their October 16, 2013 meeting (Attachment 1) and directed staff to return with information on the following items:

- Review current off-leash dog training application and rules.
- Review and survey other jurisdictions with off-leash areas and times.
- Review and evaluate potential sites for fenced-in dogs areas at Cuesta, Rengstorff, Cooper, and Whisman Parks or other potential areas.

Current Rules and Off-Leash Dog Training Areas

According to Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority, there are 2,708 licensed dogs in Mountain View. The National Recreation and Park Association states the national average for cities is one dog park per every 48,000 residents. Mountain View has a population of 76,621 and would require two dog parks to meet the national average.

The City maintains one fenced 0.59-acre dog park east of the entrance to Shoreline at Mountain View Park (Shoreline Park). The dog park has areas for large and small dogs. Amenities include a decomposed granite surface, trash receptacles, doggie bags, drinking fountains for dogs and people, parking, portable restroom, and shaded seating. Recently, a small dog park, open to the public, was established in the open space portion of the residential development at San Antonio Shopping Center.

There are currently 36 parks within Mountain View totaling 195.7 acres, excluding Shoreline Park (755 acres) where dogs are not allowed. School sites account for 81 acres of this total. The City has a cooperative use agreement with the school district allowing public use of their open space before and after school hours.

Mountain View Municipal Code, Section 5.18, Restraint of Dogs, states: "The owner, harborer or keeper of every dog shall keep such dog confined to his own premises or premises under his control or shall keep such dog under physical restraint by means of a leash not to exceed six (6) feet in length. However, an owner or keeper may train a dog under his control without a leash in designated areas of specific city parks, all as determined by the director of parks and recreation, if a permit for such activity has been obtained in accordance with Chapter 38 of this City Code."

The Recreation Division issues off-leash dog training permits. Fees are $10 for residents and $13 for nonresidents. Three parks—Cuesta, Rengstorff, and Whisman—have unfenced areas designated for off-leash training of dogs. There are currently 33 valid permit holders. These permits are for training only and not intended for off-leash play.

Review and Survey Other Jurisdictions with Off-Leash Dog Areas

Staff conducted research for information on fenced and unfenced off-leash dog parks in the Bay Area. The City of Sunnyvale completed a survey (Attachment 2) in July 2013 of 30 agencies within Santa Clara, San Mateo, and Alameda Counties. The survey indicates most cities have at least one dog park in their community. The vast majority of the dog parks are fenced. Sunnyvale has one fenced off-leash dog park with two additional fenced parks to be constructed.

Foster City, San Carlos, and Menlo Park provide unfenced, off-leash areas for dogs with designated times. In 1999, Foster City designated five parks with off-leash areas and specified use times. Dogs may be off-leash (but under control) between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. at Farragut, Boothbay, Edgewater, Catamaran, and Sea Cloud Parks. Foster City also has one dedicated 20,000 square foot fenced dog park at Boat Park.

San Carlos began a six-month off-leash pilot in February 2012 that is continuing. San Carlos offers two parks, Burton and Highlands, with off-leash areas. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 6:30 p.m. to dark. Both cities have a citizen advisory committee to address issues related to off-leash dogs in the parks.

The City of Menlo Park provides off-leash opportunities at Nealon and Willow Oaks Parks. The baseball field at Nealon Park is available for off-leash use Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Willow Oaks is open seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m. to dusk.

Two large metropolitan cities, San Francisco and Portland, Oregon, also have successful off-leash dog policies. Since 2001, the City of San Francisco has provided 28 off-leash areas at parks distributed throughout the city. The city has a dog advisory committee that listens to concerns and also makes recommendations regarding the establishment of new off-leash areas in neighborhood parks.

Portland, Oregon has 23 off-leash areas in local parks and 10 fenced dog parks. Formal efforts for an off-leash program began in 1995 and a report to their city council in 2004 endorsed and expanded the program. Like previously mentioned cities, Portland has an off-leash advisory group. The committee works with neighborhoods to address program problems and look for solutions.

Not all off-leash programs have been successfully adopted. In 2011, the City of San Mateo rescinded their trial off-leash dog program. The Parks Manager wrote a report

endorsing continuing the program. The program had a number of complaints, including a senior citizen being knocked over by an overzealous dog. San Mateo decided to fence in the previously unfenced, off-leash areas. The city council of Burlingame also voted in March 2012 to end their pilot unleashed program at Cuernavaca and Washington Parks.

Review and Evaluate Potential Sites for Fenced-In Dog Areas at Cuesta, Rengstorff, Cooper, and Whisman Parks or Other Potential Areas

Locations for dedicated, fenced, off-leash dog parks present some challenges. There is competition for use of the limited open space within the City and the need to balance the diverse needs of the community. Many of Mountain View's large open space parks are on school district property and cannot be used for fenced parks. Many of the other parks abut residential property which could raise issues of noise or odor. Areas fenced off for dedicated off-leash dog use will reduce the open space available for other uses and users.

- Cuesta Park off-leash training area could be fenced off for a dedicated dog park. This site has the advantage of no nearby residential.

- Rengstorff Park off-leash training area could be fenced. The eastern border of this area is next to apartments.

- The northeast corner of Cooper Park could be fenced. It abuts residential and permission from the school district for this use would be required.

- Whisman Park off-leash area could be fenced. It is located on the northern side of the park on Hetch Hetchy property. A dedicated fenced park would require a revocable use permit with San Francisco Water. This area also abuts several apartment complexes.

- Shoreline Boulevard Open Space Parcels—There are two undeveloped parcels on Shoreline Boulevard large enough for a fenced dog park. The parcel on the southwest corner of Latham Street and Shoreline Boulevard is 0.61 acre and the one on the northeast corner of Church Street and Shoreline Boulevard is 0.79 acre. Both parcels abut residential property. Potential issues could be mitigated with installation of a boundary fence between a dog park and residences.

- City Parcel at Bryant Avenue and Diericx Drive—This undeveloped 1.27-acre property is located next to Alta Vista High School. It is the former site of a water

tower. It is the future landing site for the final bridge over Highway 85 for Stevens Creek Trail.

DISCUSSION OF OFF-LEASH ALTERNATIVES

Numerous dog owners currently allow their dogs to be off-leash in Mountain View parks in violation of Municipal Code. This can cause friction between other park user groups. In response to limited dog parks, some dog owners have requested the City provide unfenced off-leash areas in some parks. As noted earlier, there are cities that provide posted, unfenced, off-leash areas at specific parks for use during specified times. They have established rules and criteria for use of these areas and often have a citizen advisory group to address issues that inevitably arise.

Posted off-leash, unfenced options can be an inexpensive way to allow for multiple uses of limited park open space. Staff identified a group of feasible sites in nine parks that could potentially accommodate off-leash use. The parks include Bubb, Cooper, Cuesta, Eagle, McKelvey, Rengstorff, Sylvan, Thaddeus, and Whisman Parks (Attachment 3). The parks are distributed throughout the City, providing dog owners off-leash opportunities in most neighborhoods.

RISK AND LIABILITY

From a liability and risk management perspective, permanently fenced dog parks are the most effective way to mitigate issues between park users and off-leash dogs. Posted, unfenced, off-leash areas pose more risks. Dog behavior is unpredictable and not all dog owners have voice control over their dog or behave in a responsible manner. This can include cleaning up after their dogs.

Current law makes the owner of any dog liable for any damages suffered by a person that is bitten while in a public place. Assembly Bill 265, the "Dog Park Immunity Act," became law on January 1, 2014. The legislation provides that a local public entity, such as the City of Mountain View, shall not be liable for harm to a person or pet resulting solely from the action of a dog in a dog park. Implementation of posted off-leash dog parks would not create additional liability for the City of Mountain View and would not expose taxpayers to the cost of litigation.

CONCLUSION

The City of Mountain View faces the challenge of trying to meet the needs of many diverse user groups with a limited amount of open space. Survey results from the August 2013 survey of proposed changes to the animal ordinance indicate support for

off-leash, unfenced dog parks. A number of communities operate successful off-leash parks in the Bay Area. Many perspectives would need to be taken into consideration if Mountain View were to adopt a trial off-leash dog program.

Community support and involvement would be integral to the process of developing rules and regulations should community members indicate support for this option. Off-leash, unfenced dog parks would be an inexpensive way to allow for multiple uses of limited park open space.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Maintain the current status of Mountain View's dog policy. Leave current off-leash permit training in place for Cuesta, Rengstorff, and Whisman Parks.

2. Construct fenced, off-leash dog parks in the current permit training areas at Cuesta, Rengstorff, and Whisman Parks or other location.

3. Direct staff to hold additional public meetings to discuss designated off-leash locations and times and establish rules under the authority of the Community Services Director.

4. Recommend a one-year trial of off-leash areas at Bubb, Cooper, Crittenden, Cuesta, Eagle, McKelvey, Rengstorff, Sylvan, Thaddeus, and Whisman Parks.

PUBLIC NOTICING

In addition to agenda posting, staff posted a meeting notice on the City's website and Community Services Department's web page, published an announcement in the *Mountain View Voice*, and posted notices at Cuesta and Rengstorff Parks and the Dog Park. Community members who have expressed an interest were notified.

BH-JPdlM/7/CSD
216-02-12-14M-E

Attachments:
1. October 16, 2013 Parks and Recreation Report
2. City of Sunnyvale Dog Park Survey
3. Maps of Potential Off-Leash Dog Areas

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

MEMORANDUM

Community Services Department

DATE: October 16, 2013

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: J.P. de la Montaigne, Community Services Director

SUBJECT: **Off-Leash Dog Survey Results**

RECOMMENDATION

Review and discuss survey results pertaining to off-leash dogs and dog parks and provide direction to staff for next steps.

BACKGROUND

A community survey was conducted recently regarding the proposed changes of the animal ordinance in conjunction with the Police Department. The survey was expanded to include a couple of questions regarding dogs, off-leash dogs, and dog parks. A total of 885 surveys were submitted, and the survey results are attached (see Attachment 1).

ALTERNATIVES

The Parks and Recreation Commission can recommend staff pursue the following opportunities:

1. Review and evaluate potential sites for fenced-in dog areas at Cuesta, Rengstorff, Cooper, and Whisman Parks or other potential park sites.

2. Review and survey other jurisdictions doing off-leash dog areas and times.

3. Review current off-leash dog training application and rules.

4. Recommend staff review and report on additional questions or information related to dog parks.

JPdlM/CV/9/CSD
231-10-16-13M-E

Attachments:
1. Survey Summary
2. Additional Dog Park Citizen E-mails (4)
3. Notes from Community Meeting

Animal Ordinance Revision - Community Input

SurveyMonkey

1. Are you a resident of the City of Mountain View?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	97.4%	862
No	2.6%	23
answered question		885
skipped question		0

2. Do you own pets?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	78.7%	654
No	21.3%	177
answered question		831
skipped question		54

3. The current and proposed ordinance allows dogs in parks while on leash, in dog parks off leash, and in designated training areas off leash. In your opinion, when should dogs be allowed off leash?

	Response Percent	Response Count
In fenced dog parks only.	26.7%	199
In parks with a designated off-leash area during designated times.	**66.8%**	**497**
Dogs should not be off leash in public places.	6.5%	48
answered question		**744**
skipped question		**141**

4. Should the City create more dog parks?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**71.7%**	**523**
No	28.3%	206
answered question		**729**
skipped question		**156**

5. Where should the City create additional dog parks?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Cuesta Park	**74.8%**	**344**
Rengstorff Park	63.7%	293
Cooper Park	42.2%	194
On City owned parcels on South Shoreline Blvd (between Church and Mercy)	60.0%	276
Other (please specify)		112
answered question		**460**
skipped question		**425**

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1	Seems that environmentally, there should be ones within walking distance of residences. The one out at Shoreline requires most folks to drive there.	Sep 3, 2013 7:22 AM
2	Any of the above	Sep 2, 2013 10:01 PM
3	No opinion.	Aug 31, 2013 11:01 AM
4	make sure you have even times at cuesta and cooper park , some people only take their pets out at night thank you	Aug 31, 2013 9:37 AM
5	Bad question. Only City knows where it will build such parks!	Aug 31, 2013 8:38 AM
6	Monte Loma	Aug 30, 2013 4:26 PM
7	Any of these would be fine with me, as these locations are all more centrally located than Shoreline Park. Also, PLEASE have grass at any future dog parks!!!	Aug 30, 2013 3:01 PM
8	designate "dog hours" at thaddeus park	Aug 29, 2013 4:22 PM
9	We need small dog parks (for little dogs)	Aug 29, 2013 7:58 AM
10	Any of the above that are feasible	Aug 28, 2013 8:55 PM
11	No other place for comments on this form. Number of pets should be tied to weight of pets and size of home/land parcel.	Aug 28, 2013 3:04 PM
12	In/ear parks that are not too close to homes and have adequate parking. The city-owned parcels on South Shoreline Blvd abut homes--I pity those homeowners if a dog park is created there. Noise, loss of privacy, and parking congestion are not what they anticipated when they moved to the neighborhood.	Aug 28, 2013 1:15 PM
13	I don't know. Wherever they aren't now.	Aug 28, 2013 1:11 PM
14	Use park of the Cuesta Annex as a dog park	Aug 28, 2013 12:39 PM
15	Annex at Cuesta is a perfect place for dogs to be off leash. It is away from playgrounds, not many kids around and a less used area. It would be a good place for a dog owner to throw a ball for their dog or to let their dog run.	Aug 27, 2013 7:03 PM
16	monta loma	Aug 27, 2013 6:38 PM
17	People seem to want to let their dogs off leash outside their own yard - maybe for social play. The more places provided, the fewer places people will do it illegally and there is less chance my dog will be harassed when out being walked on leash.	Aug 27, 2013 4:56 PM
18	There should be one for each neighborhood. It would be a social injustice to eliminate any particular neighborhood, AND residents would complain if people from other neighborhoods were bringing their dogs to their neighborhood to use the park. This is MV...	Aug 27, 2013 3:45 PM
19	large parks where it doesn't infringe on citizen usage.	Aug 27, 2013 3:35 PM

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20	Have no particular opinion.	Aug 27, 2013 3:09 PM
21	don't know enough about pros/cons of each to answer	Aug 27, 2013 1:07 PM
22	I don't own dogs, but I think dog owners are very limited as to where they can exercise their pets.	Aug 27, 2013 9:09 AM
23	I'm not sure which parks, but I think these parks are vital to the health and happiness of pet dogs, and they provide a wonderful gathering place for dog lovers. The dog owners benefit every bit as much as their pets. And people walking dogs need to follow the leash laws so my cat is safe walking on his leash--his favorite part of his day. I know cats on leashes are rare, but he's my second to love the leash. Leash laws for dogs also protect small children who don't know how to behave around dogs. So the dogs really need parks that are safe spaces for them to run off leash and play.	Aug 26, 2013 8:29 PM
24	Whisman park? At easy st and middlefield	Aug 26, 2013 6:00 PM
25	all of the above	Aug 26, 2013 3:40 PM
26	Monta Loma, honestly all areas in all parks should have an off leash part.	Aug 26, 2013 2:21 PM
27	No preference	Aug 26, 2013 1:47 PM
28	Do not put dog parks at any of the parcels above except for Rengstorff and possibly Cuesta near my home. The parcels on Church & Mercy are too small. Cooper's park is near a school which is a conflict (dog bites) and residents homes back right up to it (noise). Cuesta Park is already heavily developed with BBQ, tennis, and children's activities and not enough parking because of misuse by the YMCA staff. However, if saving Cuesta open space means a dog park, make it MINIMAL with an enclosed fence at the back of the property not visible from the street. In summary, I think you should look at Rengstorff Park because of its central location, size, and away from residences.	Aug 22, 2013 11:49 AM
29	Cuesta Annex	Aug 21, 2013 6:38 PM
30	There is a parcel on Moffett & Middlefield where there was a temp. library 10 years ago. Does the city own it? there is parking already and water supply, elect. etc. Please add more dog parks all around the city. We need many more!! Also need fenced dog space in Whisman park, places along the Stevens Creek trail, and YES, in Shoreline park! Get rid of the geese and have some off leash fenced areas!	Aug 21, 2013 5:50 PM
31	Dog parks are great but not necessary. In my experience dog owners are very responsible and it is wonderful to see the dogs play with their owners and other dogs off leash. Dog parks are great for those who live close and can walk.	Aug 15, 2013 7:40 AM
32	Not Rengstroff!!! Not safe - even for dogs!	Aug 14, 2013 10:20 PM
33	Why is there no option for allowing dogs off leash at all our parks?	Aug 14, 2013 8:01 PM
34	I live in Monta Loma and there are LOTS of off leash dogs in this neighborhood. I've been menaced by an off leash dog in my own home. I'd like to see a place for people who ignore the leash laws to take their pets that is within walking	Aug 14, 2013 2:37 PM

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	distance. Monta Loma park seems large enough to allow for a small dog park, perhaps in the largely unused space behind the baseball diamond.	
35	CUESTA ANEX	Aug 14, 2013 2:21 PM
36	Whisman Park should convert the off leash dog training area to a dog park. There are already so many dogs that use the space. I think it would be used and appreciated in that park.	Aug 14, 2013 1:50 PM
37	somewhere in old mountain view/downtown neighborhood	Aug 14, 2013 1:01 PM
38	downtown somewhere	Aug 14, 2013 12:28 PM
39	I don't know, that's up to people who track park use.	Aug 14, 2013 11:02 AM
40	I am neither a dog advocate nor a user of all of these spaces but agree that dog owners should have multiple options for their dogs to run free outdoors.	Aug 14, 2013 10:42 AM
41	there are plenty of places for more dog parks. I would go to Remington Park in Sunnyvale before going up to Shoreline, which was all sun last time I was there.	Aug 14, 2013 10:20 AM
42	Dog parks with grass are much more pet and pet-owner friendly than that dirt pit dog "park" at Shoreline is. Also, I am against programs that charge more fees to citizens for the sole purpose of raising more revenue for the city and some of these new licensing rules feel very much like fundraisers rather than laws to address problems in the community.	Aug 14, 2013 9:59 AM
43	no opinion	Aug 14, 2013 7:38 AM
44	Not enough, need more dog parks.	Aug 13, 2013 10:49 PM
45	Fairmont Park at Bush & Fairmont	Aug 13, 2013 9:47 PM
46	Easy st area	Aug 13, 2013 9:46 PM
47	Pioneer Park	Aug 13, 2013 9:41 PM
48	Any space where dog owners can walk their dogs to, and not have to drive. And ideally it should be fenced to keep the dogs and public safe. Also, artificial turf would make a better surface, like is being used at Foster City dog park. Shoreline is a mud pit, and the dogs are too dirty to put back into the car after going there. We never use it because of that. Grass would be better also.	Aug 13, 2013 6:11 PM
49	don't know	Aug 13, 2013 5:19 PM
50	We need to have more dog parks near to where the dogs actually are. Out by Shoreline is too far away. No dogs live anywhere near there. How about also investigating possibility of at least one fenced area near the Stevens Creek trail? Lots of space there between the trail and Highway 85 that could be used.	Aug 13, 2013 5:18 PM
51	- Fence Whisman School Park off leash area. - Fence an area at Landels	Aug 13, 2013 5:10 PM
52	Varsity Park	Aug 13, 2013 4:52 PM

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53	Somewhere easily accessed off the creek trail	Aug 13, 2013 4:47 PM
54	Need more options north of Central Expwy in addition to Shoreline Park	Aug 13, 2013 4:43 PM
55	Whisman and Stevens Creek Trail	Aug 13, 2013 4:40 PM
56	Whisman School Park	Aug 13, 2013 4:37 PM
57	in EVERY city park - off leash areas for dogs under owner control	Aug 13, 2013 4:35 PM
58	Improve the Shoreline dog park, a dust bowl next to wildneress area where we cannot even walk our dogs on-leach before/after playing at the dog park is not an attractive option.	Aug 13, 2013 4:10 PM
59	Jackson Park	Aug 13, 2013 4:10 PM
60	In the City Council chamber	Aug 13, 2013 3:41 PM
61	dogs need exercise to remain mentally and physically healthy -- a dog that is not allowed to run free occasionally is not a happy or healthy dog.	Aug 13, 2013 3:29 PM
62	Please stop the unleashed dogs at springer, I can no longer walk there in the evenings. The dog owners are hostole about leashing their animals	Aug 13, 2013 3:25 PM
63	Don't encroach on existing parks if at all possible	Aug 13, 2013 11:15 AM
64	somewhere close to downtown, but not near a busy street. On Shoreline is asking for trouble. Dogs escape out of the parks sometimes.	Aug 13, 2013 11:02 AM
65	no opinion on this	Aug 13, 2013 10:58 AM
66	Shoreline dog park is one of the nicer dog parks in the area. However with the growth of businesses in the area it is increasingly difficult and inconvenient to get to that park. Dog park areas, even if smaller in size compared to Shoreline on the other side of Central Expressway would be desirable.	Aug 13, 2013 10:49 AM
67	I still don't understand why Cuesta Park stopped allowing off-leash dogs in the dog area. This used to be a terrific, safe place to allow dogs to play and now no one except licensed and certified trainers can have dogs off-leash.	Aug 13, 2013 9:03 AM
68	Fairmont Park	Aug 13, 2013 8:34 AM
69	sf water land between shoreline/middlefield area at corner of moffett/shoreline	Aug 13, 2013 8:31 AM
70	In parks where there is soft grass for a dog to walk and play on.	Aug 13, 2013 6:48 AM
71	Where ever best suits the needs for dog owners and other park visitors	Aug 13, 2013 6:25 AM
72	Monta Loma park	Aug 13, 2013 3:33 AM
73	I would like to dogs to be allowed off leash in the hour before sunset at all local schools and perhaps some small parks as well. This happens anyway, and neighbors are good about policing each other. Self policing would be even more reliable if there were an official policy allowing this. I also like that it creates true	Aug 13, 2013 2:21 AM

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	neighborliness with people who live within walking distance of each other. This will be a tremendous boon in emergency situations, such as after earthquakes.	
74	As a dog owner, I feel that if you have control over you dog, being that on leash or thru voice commands, that should be enough to allow your dog the freedom to run in any park in Mountain View! Dogs are "good" or "bad" depending on their owners! I feel that I have a dog that is highly trained and I am not allowed access (for dog to run free) in parks just because I have have a dog. Children can run free and cause problems and be very disruptive. But forbid that the City gets involved in where and when a child can go!!! I know that my dog/s will always be trained to the level of absolute highest that a dog can go. And with that being said maybe the city should look into dog psychology techniques/help that will help/make a dog reliable at most times leashed or off leash. I will say that at a park that I will take my dog,, 90% of the time all dogs and owners take pride and the utmost in responsibility! There is always a dog and or owner that lags. But peer pressure can be more effective than any city ordinance	Aug 12, 2013 11:22 PM
75	Downtown Mountain View near Castro where home lot sizes are smaller.	Aug 12, 2013 11:10 PM
76	any place would work, but provide water and shade.	Aug 12, 2013 10:06 PM
77	Wherever possible--helps k9 health and welfare	Aug 12, 2013 9:35 PM
78	There are several neighborhood parks that would do--Thaddeus Park, for example, has a great area for dogs but I don't think it's labeled specifically for dogs to be off-leash. I would like there to be a fence between the off-leash dog areas and children's play areas, however. I love my dogs AND my kids, but I don't really want dogs I don't know to be off leash around my kids.	Aug 12, 2013 9:27 PM
79	The empty lot next to Cuesta Park	Aug 12, 2013 9:16 PM
80	I think city should allow dogs on grassy areas of local school grounds, after hours if dogs are obedience trained, canine good citizen certificated.	Aug 12, 2013 9:07 PM
81	Don't know -- have not looked into it.	Aug 12, 2013 8:42 PM
82	North Shoreline north of Central Expwy	Aug 12, 2013 8:40 PM
83	I don't know.	Aug 12, 2013 8:18 PM
84	Klein Park, The park area at the end of Sleeper St.	Aug 12, 2013 7:57 PM
85	I would fence in the "dog training area" at Cuesta Park and make it a true dog park. Also would consider a dog park at Bubb Park as currently many residents take their dog "off leash", and there have been incidents where kids can't safely play in Bubb Park because of these off leash dogs.	Aug 12, 2013 7:54 PM
86	Slater and/or Whisman School	Aug 12, 2013 7:41 PM
87	The City could very easily enclose the "dog training" area at Cuesta Park and make it an official dog park. I live in the Cuesta Park neighborhood and rarely drive to the dog park near Shoreline Park.	Aug 12, 2013 7:23 PM
88	Sylvan park	Aug 12, 2013 7:21 PM

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89	None.	Aug 12, 2013 7:20 PM
90	Anywhere and everywhere feasible	Aug 12, 2013 7:17 PM
91	NOT FAIRMONT PARK!!!	Aug 12, 2013 7:09 PM
92	In a section of the Annex	Aug 12, 2013 6:58 PM
93	Eagle Park	Aug 12, 2013 6:07 PM
94	Wherever it is reasonable and sanitary to do so, and safe for dogs, dog owners and other park users alike.	Aug 12, 2013 6:07 PM
95	Whisman Station neighborhood Chetwood Park	Aug 12, 2013 6:04 PM
96	No opinion - I'm not a dog owner so I'm not familiar with where there is a need for them. I would not object to dog parks in the areas mentioned that are near me.	Aug 12, 2013 5:44 PM
97	Let dogs be off leash at schools during early morning or evenings when no children are nearby. We like to WALK to the nearby elementary school. We would never drive to a dog park. We know and trust our local dogs and owners. But we wouldn't know the temperment of unknown dogs at a "Dog Park".	Aug 12, 2013 5:43 PM
98	School grass areas after a designated time IF the school does not have a problem with people NOT cleaning up after their dog. Pet poop bags should be included in all areas where dogs are allowed to play together.	Aug 12, 2013 5:35 PM
99	Northwest corner of Whisman Park between the sidewalk, the fence, and the creek.	Aug 12, 2013 5:32 PM
100	I think dogs should be allowed at any park. But it would be nice to have a park near rengstorff and cuesta seeing as they are mack in the middle of neighborhoods	Aug 12, 2013 5:10 PM
101	Near San Antonio Rd & California St	Aug 12, 2013 5:06 PM
102	there should be off leash dog hours at all parks. Enclosed dog parks are not the best in Mountain View.	Aug 12, 2013 4:53 PM
103	I think they should at least have a fenced area in every part of town so people can safely exercise their animals outdoors without risk to other people.	Aug 12, 2013 4:20 PM
104	In the whisman park area	Aug 12, 2013 4:14 PM
105	no opinion I don't own any dogs	Aug 12, 2013 4:13 PM
106	Bubb Park	Aug 12, 2013 4:09 PM
107	Bubb park	Aug 12, 2013 4:05 PM
108	Sylvan Park	Aug 12, 2013 4:01 PM
109	All parks that have space	Aug 12, 2013 3:59 PM

Page 7, Q5. Where should the City create additional dog parks?		
110	I think the city should make an ordinance and enforce it strictly that aggressive dogs and/or dogs that don't play well with other dogs and/or people should NOT be in dog parks.	Aug 12, 2013 3:57 PM
111	I'm not really sure. Wherever works I would think.	Aug 12, 2013 3:51 PM
112	Charleston Park	Aug 12, 2013 2:22 PM

Valencia, Champika

To: de la Montaigne, JP
Subject: RE: I never saw publicity for the survey regarding animals

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From: Jonathan Levley [mailto:jonathan@levley.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2013 5:14 PM
To: , Animals
Subject: I never saw publicity for the survey regarding animals

I am a reader of the Mountain View newspaper and follow the city activities on Facebook. I never saw publicity for the recent survey that went out until someone posted the results on nextdoor.com.

For whatever it is worth, I have never seen someone utilize the off leash dog training areas for permitted off leash dog training. I would love to see these areas converted into small dog parks. If there are dog training classes, I think it would be appropriate for them to be able to reserve the new dog parks for 1- to 3-hour intervals. I am from Irvine, one of the most regulated cities in the country, and they do city dog training in any city park area.

I hope my input can be used.

Jonathan Levley (né Penley)
Sent from my Windows Phone

Valencia, Champika

To: de la Montaigne, JP
Subject: RE: Dogs on Leash

From: Abigayll Tamara [mailto:abby537@att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 7:35 PM
To: , Animals
Cc: ABIGAYIL TAMARA
Subject: Dogs on Leash

To Whom it May Concern:

I have just completed your Animal Survey and have some comments. I have a Service Dog, from a program in Pennsylvania, due to a need for balance and support. I live across the street from the Mountain View/Whisman District Office. The large playground and grassy areas surrounding the district office and 2 schools on the property are a haven for many dog walkers in the area. I constantly come across people that have one or two dogs off leash and are throwing balls, sticks, etc... for them to retrieve. I rely on my dog to work for me. When dogs are running near me unleashed I am always afraid of them attacking my dog or coming up to my dog uncontrolled. One woman, whose unleashed dog was quite aggressive, wouldn't leash her dog as I requested. I stopped walking my dog at times she was around due to this. I think that dog owners with unleashed dogs are completely inconsiderate of other dog owners who control their dogs. I am a firm believer in leash laws and dog owners being responsible for their animals.

Sincerely yours,

Abby Tamara

Valencia, Champika

To: de la Montaigne, JP
Subject: RE: additional comments

-----Original Message-----
From: Chris Umminger [mailto:umminger@alum.mit.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 8:07 PM
To: , Animals
Subject: additional comments

Dear Council Members,

I believe there is a vocal group of dog owners who would like to see more off leash recreation for their dogs. One idea floated is to allow off leash dogs in parks such as Landels school. Please do not do so.

Already, most dog owners run their dogs off leash at the school. My children, who attend the school and play there after hours have encountered dog feces on the grounds several times and been approached by dogs off leash, which makes them very uncomfortable.
Although most dog owners pick up after their dogs, it only takes a few negligent ones to make an unpleasant mess. Every week I pick up dog feces from my lawn in old Mtn. View from the minority that won't bother to clean up after their animals and view my lawn as a public dog restroom.

Many dog owners seem to be lax about the safety concerns of others.
Often I have been approached by threatening dogs, only to hear the owner say something to the effect of "he is harmless". That is generally true for the owner, to whom the dog is loyal. It is not necessarily true for strangers, which some dogs view as a threat.
Owners seem to have difficulty seeing their pets through the eyes of others. At least when on a leash, the surprised and apologetic owner can rein in their dog when it lunges. Off leash, their is no backup control.

I have no problem with dogs off leash in enclosed designated places like dog parks. If the city can afford to add more such parks, that is also OK with me. It would be great if it reduced the amount of off leash dogs in regular parks.

At the same time, I would also like to see some enforcement of the leash law on the sidewalks and parks in Mtn. View. You can go to Landels almost anytime outside school hours and find dogs running off leash. It is effectively a dog park already, albeit not legally.

Regards,
Chris Umminger
561 Bush St.

Valencia, Champika

To: de la Montaigne, JP
Subject: RE: dog parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Alex Diddams [mailto:adiddams@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 10:26 AM
To: , Animals
Subject: dog parks

Hello,

I would like to suggest the following regarding dog parks. I will refer to it as "park sharing".

Instead of spending valuable tax dollars on creating new dog parks, why not have have specific times, once a day, at each city park when dogs can be off leash.

Different times can be posted for near by parks, to allow for different walking schedules.

This would allow dog owners to socialize and run their dogs near their homes instead of getting in their cars to drive to a dog park (a greener option).
Socialized dogs make much better pets, and cause much less trouble for the city than unsocialized dogs.

It would alert folks who are afraid of dogs when to visit the park so they can be assured no dogs will be off leash.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Diddams

NOTES FROM COMMUNITY MEETING
HELD ON AUGUST 29, 2013

DOGS IN CITY PARKS

1. The resident is in favor. They do it in Palo Alto with no problems. The resident does this already after 5:30pm at a local school and the socialization is great.

2. The resident lives near Monta Loma school area and sees the dogs running free and thinks it's great for the dogs and the community.

3. The resident wants to know what SVACA and MVPD are doing about the dogs off leash at Cuesta Park. The dogs' run off leash all over the park and it is concerning how the dogs run up to her and her dog that is on leash. Also in the 'pit area' where the "training" is to occur, the owners may have the permits required, but they are doing free play, not actually training which is what is required per the permit.

4. The resident likes the idea of the dogs being off leash during certain times. There needs to be more options of where to allow the dogs to be off leash.

5. At Cuesta Park, all dogs are well behaved. This resident has never had a problem at all. But at the dog park at Shoreline, the dogs there are too rough.

6. The resident feels that there is only one percent who causes the problems with their dogs and there needs to be a way to report those who are causing a problem at the dog park and other parks as well.

7. If this is going to happen, there needs to be areas dividing dogs based on their size.

8. It is a great idea to open up parks to free roam for the dogs. An off leash area is great but it should be gated.

9. The Annex at Cuesta Park should be gated off and an area for dogs to run off leash.

10. Dogs are naturally social creatures. They need to be social and active. There should be larger fenced areas for dogs.

11. The Cuesta Park Annex is a great idea, but it is not usable in the summer months due to the foxtails that get on the dogs and in their nose.

12. The resident lives in an area where there is a small park. The kids play in the park during the day, but at 6:30pm, the dog owners come out with their dogs. It creates a great environment and allows the dogs to run free. There are often kids there too. When MVPD shows up (in response to the off leash dogs) the dogs and their owners run away.

ATTACHMENT 2

DOG PARKS AND OFF-LEASH AREAS IN MUNICIPALITIES IN ALAMEDA, SAN MATEO AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES

City	Population	Dog Park(s)	Off-leash unfenced area(s) allowed	Separate area for small and large dogs	Owner-provided temporary fencing allowed	Fee(s) if applicable	Special Features	Notes
Sunnyvale	**145,973**	**Las Palmas**	**no**	**no**	**no**	**no**	**Fenced; water; double-gated entry; benches,**	**Opened in 1992; half acre**
SANTA CLARA COUNTY CITIES								
Campbell	39,664	Los Gatos Creek County	no	yes	no	$5 parking	Irrigated lawn w/ decomposed granite pathways; public art; pet-friendly water fountains; logs & boulders for dog play	.5 acre
Cupertino	58,747	Mary Avenue (proposed)	no - On 7/21/09 Council reviewed results of 2327 surveys with 63% opposing trial off-leash unfenced program	yes @ proposed site	no	no	Proposed amenities may include installation of benches, trash receptacles, dispensers for waste mitts and a drinking fountain.	.44 acre site
Gilroy	49,391	Las Animas Veterans Dog Park	no	Separate area for small and large dogs	no	no	Fenced; water; double-gated entry; benches	Dog park located within 23-acre park
Los Gatos	29,651	Los Gatos Creek County, located in Campbell	no - on 6/18/12 Town of Los Gatos voted no to off-leash pilot program	yes	no	$5 parking	Refer to Campbell's dog park	Town contributed resources to Santa Clara County Parks for fenced dog park

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Milpitas	67,476	Ed Levin County Park	no	yes	no	$ parking	Benches, picnic tables, water, bags, restroom	County Park
Morgan Hill	38,309	Morgan Hill Dog Park	no	yes	no		Natural turf; hilly terrain, benches, gravel path	
Mt. View	74,723	Shoreline Dog Park; dogs are not allowed at Shoreline Park	Yes, with dog training permit in certain areas of Cuesta, Rengstorff & Whisman	Yes	no	no	Double gated entry; water; picnic tables, shaded areas, bulletin board	2/3 acre park
Palo Alto	64,943	Mitchell; Greer and Hoover Parks	no		no	no	varies by site	varies by site
San Jose	958,789	Nine dog parks: Butcher, Delmas, Fontana, Miyuki, Olinder, Raleigh Linear, Ryland, Saratoga Creek & Watson	no	yes	no	no	varies by site	varies by site
Santa Clara	118,169	Reed & Lafayette	no	yes	no	no	Natural turf; hilly terrain, benches, gravel path	1.5 acres; Closed Thursdays for maintenance
SAN MATEO COUNTY CITIES								
Brisbane	4,328	Brisbane Dog Park	no	no	no	no	Wooden play structure for dogs; water station, picnic table w/ shade, chairs, lighting, bags	1/4 acre; adjacent to City Hall
Belmont	26,031	Cipriani Dog Park	no	yes	no	no	Lighting, water, bags, benches, picnic tables	3/4 acre

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DOG PARKS AND OFF-LEASH AREAS IN MUNICIPALITIES IN ALAMEDA, SAN MATEO AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES

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Burlingame	29,009	Bayside Dog Park	No- on 3/120/12 Council voted to end pilot, unleashed program at Cuernavaca and Washington Parks	yes	no	no	Bayside fully gated	3/4 acre
Daly City	101,920	Mission Hills; Palisades Park	no	yes	no	no	bags; adjacent picnic area	
Foster City	30,790	Boat Dog Park	Yes, at five park sites in designated areas/times	yes at Boat Dog Park	no	no	Lighting, water station, bags, restroom. DG surface, shade structures, tables, benches,	1/2 acre
Menlo Park	32,319	Nealon Park M-F 8 AM - 10AM; Willow Oaks Park 7AM-9AM and 4 PM to Dusk	no	no	no	no	Partially fenced; shared use of sports field	Organized group of dog owners @ Nealon Park
Redwood City	77,712	Shores Dog Park	no	yes	no	no	Water, located near lagoons, wildlife preserve & walking trails	.6 acres. Partnership w/ "Shore Dogs" organization
San Bruno	41,842	Commodore Park	no	yes	no	no	water, bag stations, benches, picnic tables, restroom and adjacent playground	1/2 acre

DOG PARKS AND OFF-LEASH AREAS IN MUNICIPALITIES IN ALAMEDA, SAN MATEO AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES

City	Population	Dog Park(s)	Off-leash unfenced area(s) allowed	Separate area for small and large dogs	Owner-provided temporary fencing allowed	Fee(s) if applicable	Special Features	Notes
San Carlos	28,615	Heather Dog Exercise Area	Yes - pilot program at Burton & Highlands Park was authorized by Parks & Rec. Director and Muni Code 12.12.270 D	no	no	no	Heather 1.5 acres: Pooper Scooper Dispenser, Hiking Trail, Open Space,	Unfenced, off-leash program hours vary by season w/ sports and camps
San Mateo	97,966	Seal Point	no - discontinued off-leash, unfenced program at Beresfored, Central Park and Bayside Parks	yes	no	no	Located on Shoreline: water, bags, restroom, bench, shade structure, dirt surface	3 acres at Seal Point
ALAMEDA COUNTY CITIES								
Alameda	74,081	Main Street Dog Park; Washington Dog Park	no	Yes	no	no	Separate area for small dogs at Washington Dog Park	1.3 acres at Main Street; 5.7 acreas at Washington
Berkeley	114,046	Cesar Chavez Park (unfenced) & Ohlone Park (fenced)	yes at Cesar Chavez in designated areas;		no	no	Cesar Chavez site built on former landfill; views of bay	17-acres at Cesar Chavez Park;
Dublin	46,743	Dougherty Hills Dog Park; Bray Commuons Park includes an enclosed .25 acre area for small dogs weighing less than 20 lbs.	no	yes at Dougherty Hills Dog Park;	no	no	Doggie drinking fountain, bench seating,	Public Art called "Animal Series"

ATTACHMENT 2

DOG PARKS AND OFF-LEASH AREAS IN MUNICIPALITIES IN ALAMEDA, SAN MATEO AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES

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Fremont	215,711	Central Park Dog Park	no	yes	no	no	Artificial turf; two double gated entrances; drinking fountains for dogs and owners; shade structures	1.2 acres for large dogs; .02 acre for small dogs
Hayward	145,839	4 fenced dog parks: Castro Valley, San Leandro, San Lorenzo & Hayward	no	yes	no	no	Hayward Area Recreation & Park District	HARD - independent special use district
Livermore	81,678	Five fenced dog parks; one unfenced dog area at Robertson Park	yes, at Robertson Park in designated meadow area	yes, at Marlin Pound park	no	no	Livermore Area Recreation & Park District; not City of Livermore	LARPD an independent special district
Oakland	392,932	Five fenced dog play areas	no	yes	no	no	Open dusk to dawn. City of Oakland offers: Dog Play Parties, Dog Birthday Parties, Puppy Play Class, Senior Dog Fitness Class, Pool Party & Canine Activity Fair	Community Maintenance Dog Play areas. Users are responsible for keeping ground clean, week removal and graffiti removal within the runs.
Pleasanton	70,643	Muirwood Community Park	no	yes	no	no	Play surface is bark	100 yards x 10 yards

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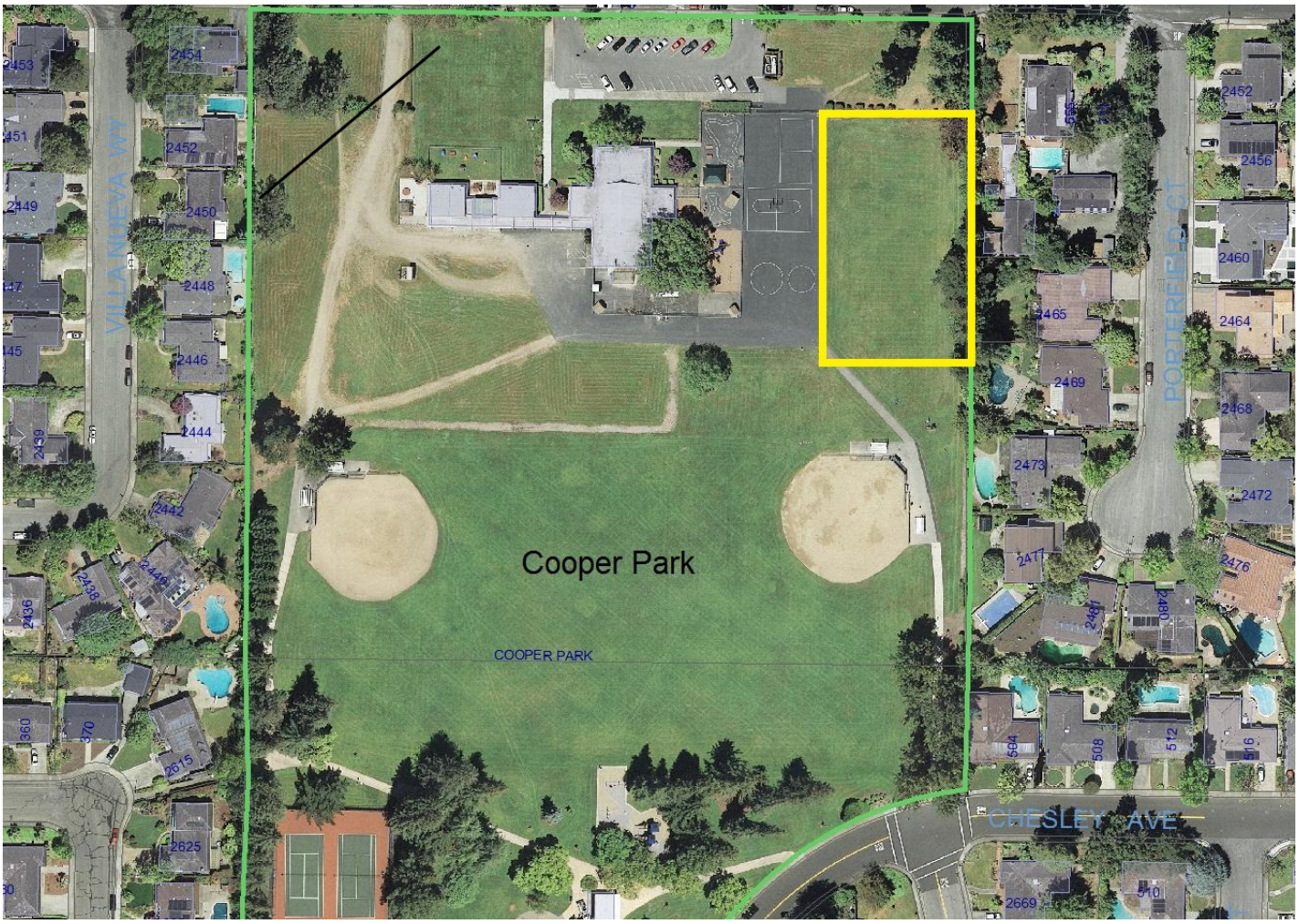
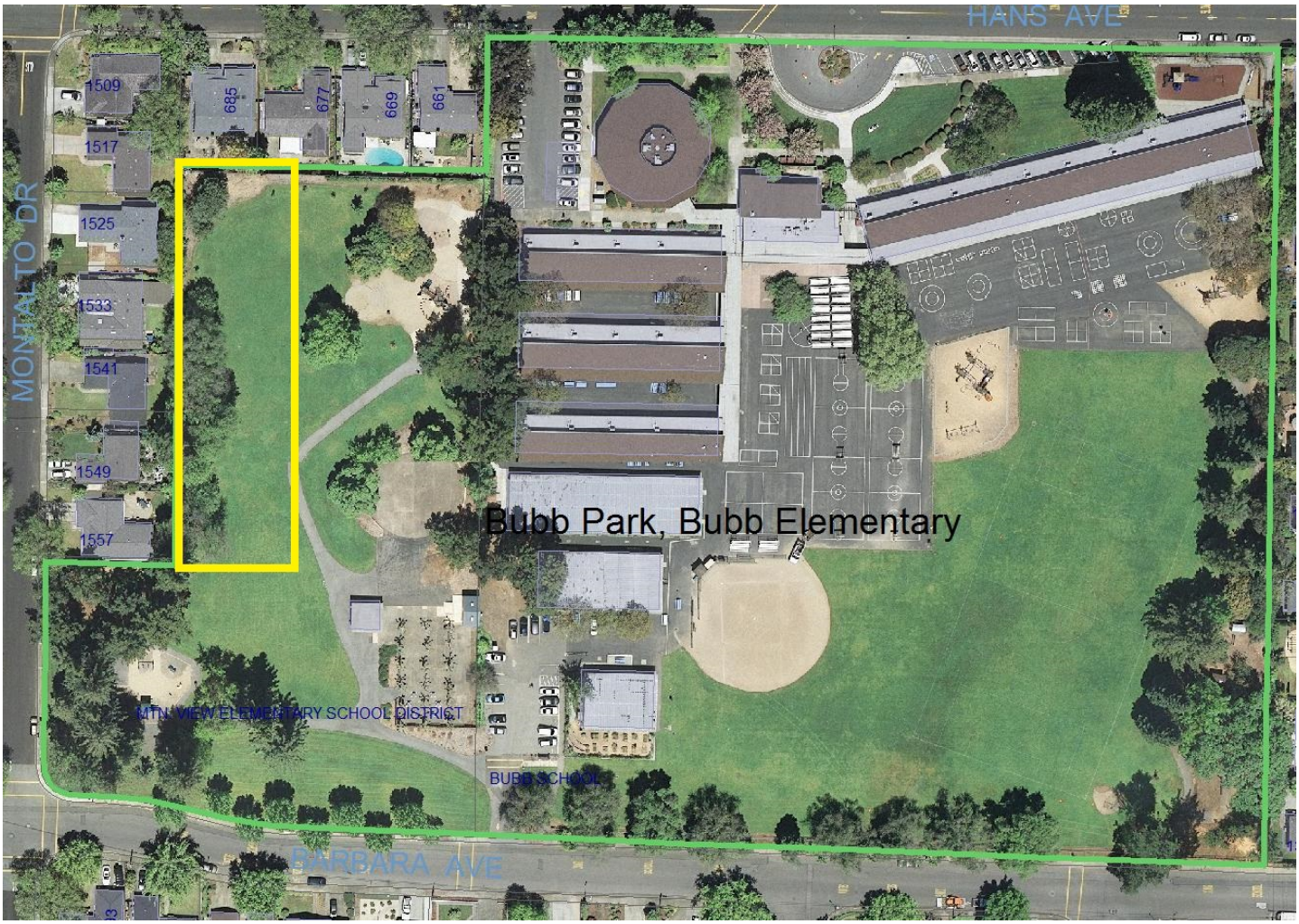
DOG PARKS AND OFF-LEASH AREAS IN MUNICIPALITIES IN ALAMEDA, SAN MATEO AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES

City	Population	Dog Park(s)	Off-leash unfenced area(s) allowed	Separate area for small and large dogs	Owner-provided temporary fencing allowed	Fee(s) if applicable	Special Features	Notes
San Leandro	85,490	San Leandro Dog Park	no	yes	no	no	shade structures with picnic benches; water faucets; benches and garbage cans. Restrooms adjacent to parking lot.	58,000 sq/ feet
Union City	69,850	Drigon Dog Park	no	yes	no	no	Fake fire hydrants, doggie watering stations, scooper sidpensers, dog bone shaped walkway, dog jumps, dog tunnels and a dog climbing platform	Friends of Drigon Park

Cooper Park


Cooper Park
COOPER PARK
CHESLEY AVE
VILLANUEVA WY
PORTERFIELD CT

Bubb Park, Bubb Elementary



Cuesta Park


CUESTA DR
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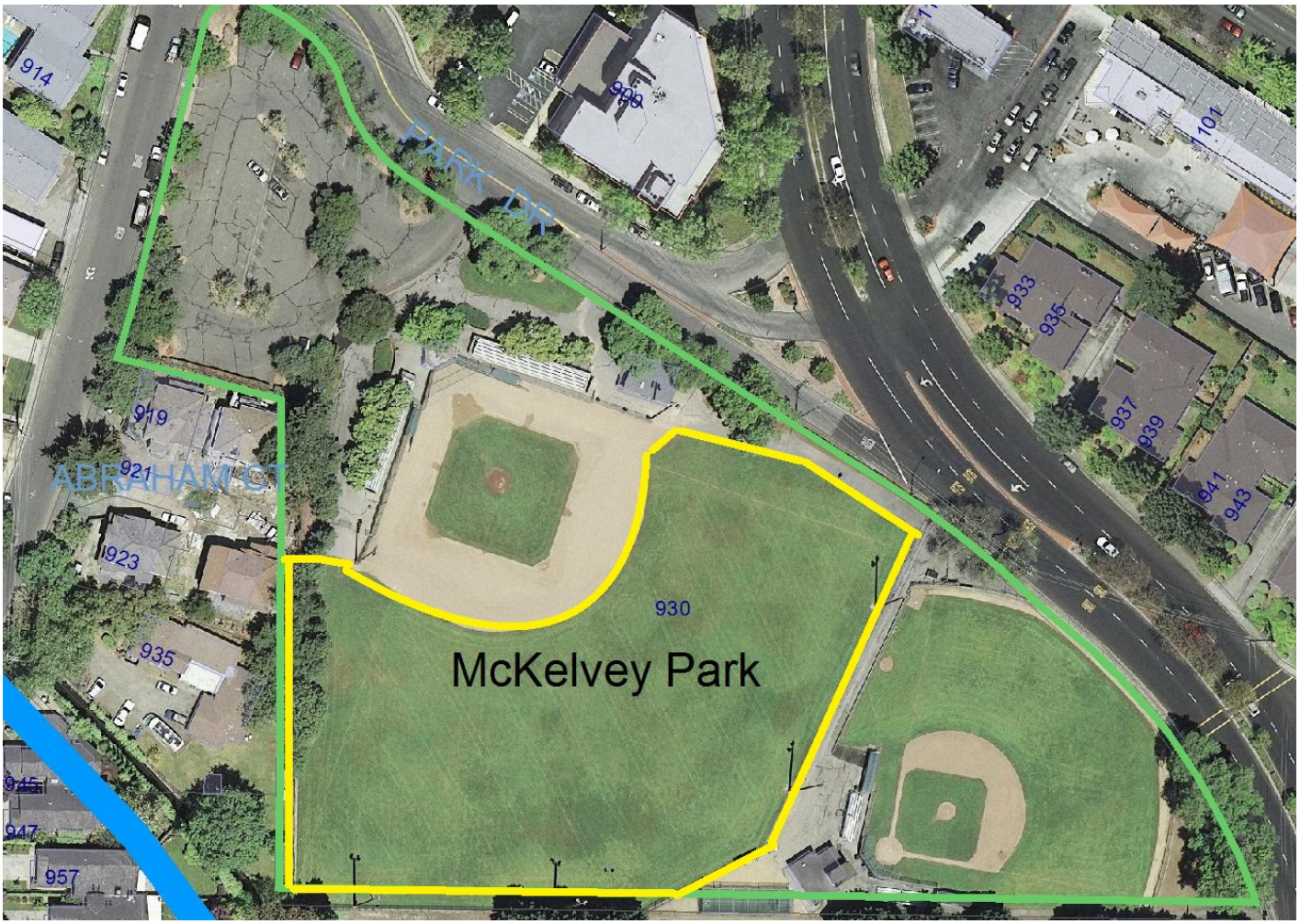
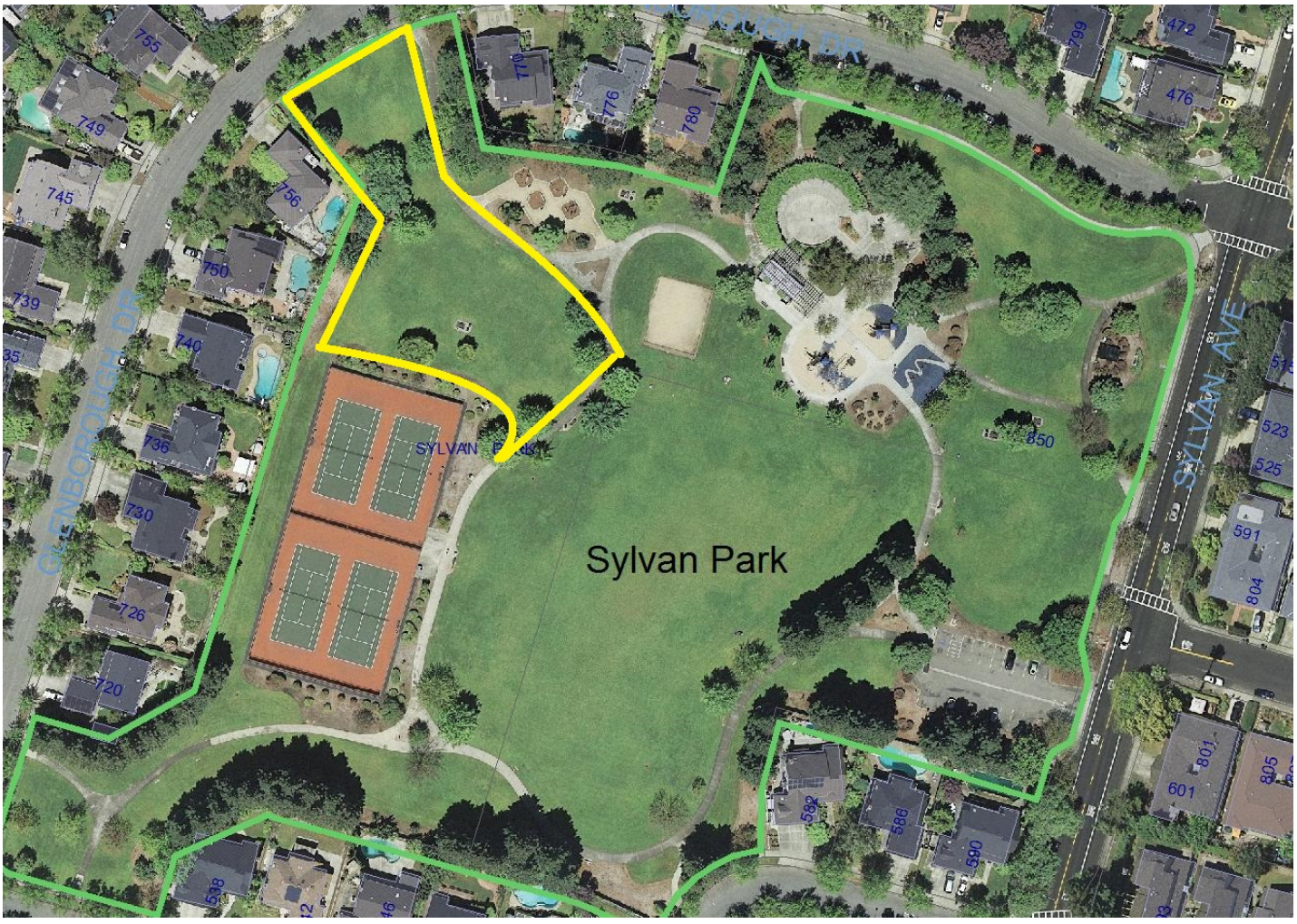
Eagle Park

McKelvey Park



Rengstorff Park

Sylvan Park



Thaddeus Park

Whisman Park