

APPENDIX 1 – FCPA DOG PARK STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

PURPOSE OF STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

The standards and guidelines are intended to be used as resource for the public establishment process, planning, and design of FCPA dog parks. These guidelines can also be referenced for the development of privately owned publicly accessible dog parks in the County. The standards and processes provided shall be considered a living document and are subject to change by way of alterations, additions, and deletions at any time. Any member of the Board of Supervisors, the FCPA Board or citizen may recommend changes or exceptions to these Standards; however, all changes and exceptions must be approved by the FCPA Board.

DOG PARK ESTABLISHMENT

The Fairfax County Park Authority 2020 Dog Park Study has provided several ways new dog parks can become established, including through a community process to propose specific sites within FCPA parks. To ensure that new dog parks are developed that adhere to environmental, community, regulatory, and operational perspectives, FCPA has developed a review process for new dog park proposals.

PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING NEW FCPA DOG PARKS

1. **Letter of Interest:** The interested party first submits a Letter of Interest using the provided template to communicate to FCPA Planning Staff, Director, and Park Authority Board the desire and reason to locate a new dog park in a specific FCPA park or area of the County. It is recommended that the interested party review and reference the siting guidelines and criteria in the [Preliminary Dog Park Site Feasibility Checklist](#) to ensure that the minimum requirements for a dog park can be achieved. The letter of interest must be accompanied by additional information showing community support, including signatures of support or opposition from households (owners or renters) and businesses that immediately adjoin the parcel or area of interest.
2. **Planning Review:** FCPA Planning Staff reviews the feasibility of the proposed location(s) using the siting guidelines and criteria established in the [FCPA Dog Park Standards and Guidelines](#) and determines if the request is feasible. FCPA Planning Staff should respond within 30 to 45 days and follow up with any questions or additional information needed.
3. **Review Funding:** The ability to fund the construction and operation is considered and funding sources are identified before moving forward with planning, design, and construction of a dog park. Funding sources can include grants, donations, and sponsored improvements from the public. Additionally, the interested party should

determine if establishing a Friends Group or Volunteer Team is desired as a means of support should the dog park be developed. The [Fairfax County Park Foundation](#) should be consulted by the interested party to discuss possibilities. A Mastenbrook Grant may be available from FCPA to help contribute towards the required funding. More information about the Mastenbrook Grant can be found [here](#).

- 4. Master Planning Process:** Park planning staff review the approved master plan and/or conceptual development plan for the park and determine whether a proposed dog park is an acceptable planned facility. If a dog park is not shown as a planned improvement within the master plan or the park does not have an approved master plan in place, then a master planning process, with public input, must be completed by FCPA park planning staff, and the resulting master plan approved by the FCPA Board.

The process to develop or update a master plan involves a detailed review of the park with opportunities for public input to comment on any newly proposed or changed facilities, including dog parks. The master planning process is complete when the master plan is approved by the FCPA Board and the process can take 6 to 12 months, or longer depending on the complexity of the site and proposed changes. It should be noted that the master planning process may yield that a dog park is not desirable if public commentary and/or site analysis supports this conclusion. The siting guidelines and criteria established in the [FCPA Dog Park Standards and Guidelines](#) will once again be referenced to determine the ultimate planned size, location, and design in the master plan. More information on FCPA's Park Master Planning Process can be found [here](#).

- 5. Obtain Public Use Determination:** Once the park master plan is approved, the Fairfax County Planning Commission determines whether the planned public improvements conform to the County's Comprehensive Plan regarding their location, character, and extent, as required by Virginia Code §15.2-2232. This formal process, known as a Public Use or "2232" Determination is initiated by FCPA planning staff and is coordinated with the County's Department of Planning and Development. The timeline from initiation to receiving a determination from the Planning Commission can take six to eight months. Learn more about the 2232 process [here](#).
- 6. Secure Funding:** After the Public Use Determination has been approved, the funding sources identified earlier are secured to ensure that funds are available in an amount sufficient to pay for design, permitting, and construction. Continued funding or a plan for the ongoing maintenance of the dog park is finalized.
- 7. Establish Stewardship Volunteers:** The successful operation of a dog park depends upon sustainable help from volunteers. Individual volunteers, Park Volunteer Teams, and Friends Groups are the programs that the County utilizes for volunteering in parks. The suitability of each program for the proposed dog park is

reviewed and the process to establish the selected program is initiated. Information about Park Volunteer Teams can be found [here](#) and information about Friends Groups can be found [here](#).

8. **Design & Permitting:** After all necessary funding has been provided, the site design and approval process can begin. A Site Plan, Minor Site Plan, or Rough Grading Plan is prepared by FCPA Staff or a contracted design/engineering firm. The construction plan(s) are submitted to Land Development Services as required to ensure that the dog park’s design conforms to county codes and standards. These plans are reviewed by applicable county departments for conformance and eventual approval after any reiterations. More information about the County’s site development review process can be found [here](#).

After the County has approved the plans for the dog park, construction documents are prepared to communicate the design and details of the dog park for construction and potential bid. These documents are prepared by a design/engineering firm or FCPA staff. The design and approval process can take three to twelve months depending upon the complexity of the project.

9. **Construction:** Once the construction and permitting documents are completed, construction is scheduled and coordinated by FCPA Planning and Development staff. Construction can take between three to twelve months for completion.
10. **Grand Opening:** Once the construction has been approved by FCPA Planning and Development staff and all other applicable parties, the dog park can open, provided that the established Friends Group or Park Volunteer Team has implemented an approved operating plan and sustainable approach to help maintain the park.

STEPS TO ESTABLISH A DOG PARK – HANDOUT/WEBSITE INSERT

FCPA DOG PARK ESTABLISHMENT PROCESS

1 LETTER OF INTEREST



Complete a Letter of Interest using the online template to communicate to FCPA Planning Staff, Director & Park Board the desire and reasons to locate a new dog park in a specific FCPA park or area of the county.

2 PLANNING REVIEW



FCPA Planning Staff will review the feasibility of the proposed location using the siting guidelines and criteria established in the FCPA Dog Park Standards & Guidelines and make a determination if the request is feasible.

3 REVIEW FUNDING



Before a dog park can be considered, plausible funding sources for design and construction need to be identified. Funding sources can include grants, donations, and sponsored improvements from the public. The Park Foundation should be consulted by the interested party.

4 MASTER PLANNING PROCESS (CREATE OR REVISE PARK MASTER PLAN IF NO PLANNED DOG PARK)



For more information about the master planning process visit the [Park Planning Process Webpage](#).

5 OBTAIN PUBLIC USE DETERMINATION

A Public Use Determination must be prepared and submitted to Fairfax County Planning Commission by FCPA planning staff to ensure that the public dog park conforms with the County Comprehensive Plan. This process is called a 2232 Determination. Learn more about the 2232 process [here](#).

6 SECURE FUNDING

The funding sources identified earlier will need to be secured to ensure that funds are available in an amount sufficient to pay for design, permitting, and construction. Continued funding or a plan for the ongoing maintenance of the dog park will also need to be finalized.

7 ESTABLISH STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEERS

The successful operation of the dog park will depend upon help from volunteers. Individual volunteers, Park Volunteer Teams, and Friends Groups are the programs that the County utilizes for volunteering in parks. The differences between these volunteering opportunities should be reviewed and steps should be taken to initiate the establishment process of the selected program. Information about Park Volunteer Teams can be found [here](#) and information about Friends Groups can be found [here](#).

8 DESIGN & PERMITTING

After all necessary funding has been provided, the site design and approval process can begin. A Site Plan, Minor Site Plan, or Rough Grading Plan will need to be prepared by FCPA Staff or a design/engineering firm. The construction plan(s) will be submitted to Land Development Services as required to assure that the dog park design is conforming to county codes and standards. After the County has approved the plans for the dog park, construction documents will need to be prepared for construction and potential bid.

9 CONSTRUCTION



Once the construction and permitting documents are completed, construction will be scheduled and coordinated by FCPA Planning and Development staff.

10 GRAND OPENING



After construction has been approved by FCPA Planning and Development staff and all other applicable parties, the dog park can open. At this time, there should be an established Friends Group or Park Volunteer Team with an operating plan or approach to help maintain the park.

NEW FCPA DOG PARK LETTER OF INTEREST TEMPLATE

The first step for parties interested in establishing a new dog park is submitting a Letter of Interest as outlined in the FCPA Dog Park Establishment Process. The following template can be used to communicate to FCPA Planning Staff, Director, and Park Authority Board the desire and reason to locate a new dog park in a specific FCPA park or area of the County.

FCPA Park Name:

Your name and/or organization information and relationship to the park

Please provide your name and/or the organization name that is interested in a new dog park within the FCPA park provided above. What is your or the organization's relationship to the park? (neighbors, dog advocacy group, etc.)

Proposed approximate location and size in park

Please provide the approximate location and size of the proposed dog park within the park. The proposed location can be described verbally or shown graphically on a map.

Preliminary Dog Park Site Feasibility Checklist

Has the Preliminary Dog Park Site Feasibility Checklist been completed? (Y/N)

Does the proposed dog park location meet the minimum threshold criteria shown in the checklist? (Y/N)

Please attach the completed checklist as part of this letter.

Statement of Justification for new dog park

Please provide a brief explanation for the reason(s) you believe a dog park is needed in this park. The justification should include the probable utilization of the dog park and any supporting information.

Signatures and letters of support and opposition

Please provide signatures and/or letters showing community support or opposition. These should include community interest groups and organizations as well as households (owners or renters) and businesses that immediately adjoin the parcel or area of interest.

Statement of Understanding

The letter should include a statement that the interested party has read and understood the FCPA DOG PARK STANDARDS & GUIDELINES and accepts responsibility for being the primary party for communication regarding this request.

Planning Review

FCPA Planning Staff will review the feasibility of the proposed location(s) using the siting criteria established in the FCPA DOG PARK STANDARDS & GUIDELINES and determine if the request is feasible. FCPA Planning Staff will respond within 30 to 45 days and follow up with any questions or additional information needed.

DOG PARK PLANNING SITING CRITERIA AND CHECKLIST

The dog park siting criteria and the Preliminary Dog Park Site Feasibility Checklist have been provided as part of this appendix and should be referenced in the feasibility and planning stages of a dog park as described in the Process for Establishing New FCPA Dog Parks section. The siting criteria can be considered the minimum requirements a site must meet for a future dog park to be considered at that site. The checklist is intended to be used as a planning tool, which factors in the siting criteria detailed below, as well as dog park visitor preferences for shade, water, and designated areas for dogs.

SITING CRITERIA

1. **Location.** The establishment of new FCPA dog parks requires review by the FCPA Planning and Development Division, and approval from the Park Authority Board. A Public Use Determination also must be approved by the Planning Commission (this process is often referred to as a 2232 Review). The feasibility of establishing a new dog park within a FCPA park should be evaluated and vetted during the park master planning phase along with any other potential new facilities, with input from the public. The siting of a new dog park is also subject to the County site plan provisions as administered by Fairfax County Land Development Services (LDS). FCPA will evaluate all prospective locations within the park against established criteria and will use the GIS dog park siting model and site criteria checklist. If the location is deemed suitable, funding sources for construction would need to be identified and a public engagement process would be required. A maintenance plan would also need to be established. Similarly, if the location of a planned but unbuilt dog park is revisited, a public engagement process would ensue if a significant period of time has passed since the master plan was approved, funding sources would need to be identified and a maintenance plan established.
2. **Size and capacity.** The size of an FCPA dog park is determined, in part, by the population density of the area. In more densely populated areas, the minimum size for a dog park is $\frac{1}{4}$ acre. In less densely populated areas, the minimum size for a dog park is $\frac{1}{2}$ acre. Note that these criteria apply to dog parks, not dog runs, which are typically sited in more dense areas and are often smaller than $\frac{1}{4}$ acre and may be privately owned and operated. A dog park should have separate areas for large dogs and small dogs when the size of the dog park permits. Dog park carrying capacity, or dog park maximum occupancy, is the total number of dogs a fenced-in dog area can safely accommodate. The carrying capacity for FCPA dog parks should be determined using a metric of between 500 to 700 square feet per dog within fenced-in dog areas. The dog park carrying capacity will be determined during the master planning or site design phase and will be responsive to the specific site conditions of the park. Signs should be posted at or near the respective entrances for each designated dog area stating the carrying capacity.

3. **Buffer from residential areas.** The proximity of the potential dog park location to nearby neighbors should be considered, with a recommended minimum distance of 100 feet from location to the exterior of nearby existing residential dwellings. When siting a dog park near a residential area, screening (e.g., engineered barrier, vegetation) should be considered. The need for screening will be identified during the park master planning phase, and screening specifications will be determined at the time of site plan review.
4. **Land suitability.** A new dog park should be constructed on well-drained soils. The site should be relatively flat (between 1.5%-4.5% slope); excessive slopes and marine clay soils should be avoided. If a desirable site has excessive slopes, it should be designed such that erosion does not become an issue. Additional health and safety protocols will be required should construction occur in soils containing naturally occurring asbestos.
5. **Natural and cultural resource protection.** Due to regulatory controls and the FCPA's mission objectives, dog parks cannot be placed in locations where there is abundant native vegetation, nor within Resource Protection Areas (RPAs), Floodplains, Environmental Quality Corridors (EQCs), on sites with cultural resources, or within most easements. New dog parks should be sited at least 50 feet from floodplains²⁷. In addition, park design should consider utilizing the following best practices to minimize the impacts of dog parks to stormwater and waterways:
 - Install a curb around the outside perimeter of the dog park to contain surface runoff, or a vegetated buffer to minimize runoff; and
 - Install pet waste stations/bags near dog park entrances, at intersections of walking paths, and near parking lots that serve the dog park.
6. **Park/visitor use conflicts.** A new dog park should not conflict with, displace, or encroach upon other desired recreation activities in the park. The location of the proposed dog park should work in harmony with the overall park design and adjacent facilities. Planning a dog park in concert with other park facilities adds to the potential for shared amenities, such as a water supply or shade opportunities. Locations directly adjacent to sport fields and other high use areas should be avoided.

²⁷ The Fairfax County RPA is defined as 100 feet distant from any perennial stream unless a detailed analysis trumps its delineation. The floodplain refers to, "those land areas in and adjacent to streams and watercourses subject to continuous or periodic inundation from flood events with a one (1) percent chance of occurrence in any given year (i.e., the 100-year flood frequency event also known as the base flood) and having a drainage area greater than seventy (70) acres, and include all areas of the County which are designated as a floodplain by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), by the United States Geological Survey, or by Fairfax County." (ZO 20-300). The Fairfax County EQC is typically designated during a zoning application and contained within a resource-based park. EQCs "include 100-year floodplains, areas of 15% or greater slope adjacent to floodplains, or 50 feet from all streams, all wetlands connected to stream valleys, and all and measured from the stream bank 50 feet plus four feet per percent slope."

7. **Proximity to other dog parks.** The proximity of a potential site to existing dog parks should be considered. In less dense areas of the County as displayed in Figure 18, consider 20-minute drive access and in more dense areas of the County, consider 10-minute walk access (10-minute walk = ½ mile).

8. **Pedestrian connectivity and parking.** Connections to nearby trails and footpaths should be considered and the site should be evaluated for its ability to support safe, comfortable, and convenient pedestrian connectivity. If the site is in a less densely populated area, the site should provide sufficient parking (a minimum of 10-20 spaces). In more densely populated areas, a dedicated parking lot may not be necessary. Regardless of setting (e.g., more/less dense areas in the county), all parking provided should be convenient and designed to minimize impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.

PRELIMINARY DOG PARK SITE FEASIBILITY CHECKLIST

Preliminary Dog Park Site Feasibility Checklist ¹		
Required Criteria		
Criteria	YES	NO
Size Less densely populated area – site is a minimum of 0.50 acres More densely populated area – site is a minimum of 0.25 acres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residential Buffer Site is at least 100 feet from nearby residential dwellings. Screening and/or a vegetated buffer is strongly preferred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land Suitability Site is located on well-drained soils and can support drainage design that minimizes erosion potential; site is between 1.5-4.5% slope; proposed space within the site does not contain an existing facility.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural and Cultural Resource Protection Site is not located in an RPA, Floodplain, EQC, on a site with cultural resources, a location where there is heavy native vegetation, or within an easement, and is at least 50' from adjacent floodplains.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Park/Visitor Use Conflicts Site does not conflict with nor displace other desired park uses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proximity to other dog parks The proximity of existing, nearby dog parks has been considered (20-minute drive access in less dense areas and 10-minute walk or half mile in more dense areas).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pedestrian Connectivity and Parking The site can support safe, comfortable, and convenient pedestrian connectivity and connections to nearby trails have been considered. If the site is in a less densely populated area, the site can support 10-20 spaces. If the site is in a more densely populated area, dedicated parking may not be necessary. Where applicable, parking that is convenient, with minimal impact on the surrounding neighborhood, can be supported.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preferred criteria, but not required. If a site does not have these elements, they should be considered as part of the dog park's design.		
Designated Areas – strongly preferred Site can support separate areas for small and large dogs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shade- strongly preferred Site has mature trees and a good mix of shade and open space.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water- strongly preferred Site has a water line connection that can support a drinking fountain for visitors and a water source for dogs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ The general framework of the above siting criteria was modeled after Ann Arbor's Recommendations and Guidelines for Dog Park Site Selection, Design, Operations and Maintenance. Retrieved from: <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/Parks-Recreation/play/Documents/Recommendations%20and%20Guidelines%20for%20Dog%20Park%20Site%20Selectio%20Updated%204-10-15.pdf>

About this checklist. New locations in FCPA-owned parks for dog parks are required to undergo FCPA's formal master planning process and are subject to the County site plan provisions. This checklist was created to establish a standardized site evaluation process for prospective dog parks within existing FCPA parks. All required criteria need to be met for a site to be considered.

This checklist should be used by FCPA Park Planning staff to gauge the feasibility of a site for a prospective FCPA dog park and should be used in conjunction with the GIS dog-park site feasibility model, which was also completed as part of the 2019-2020 dog park study. The checklist can be used to assess one site as part of the master planning process, or to compare the feasibility of multiple prospective sites. Some of the required criteria are directly tied to physical site constraints, other criteria require consideration.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

The following FCPA dog park design guidelines were informed by the analysis and findings of best practices conducted as part of the 2020 FCPA Dog Park Study. These design guidelines are intended for the design of future FCPA dog parks and as a resource for the development of privately owned publicly accessible dog parks in the County.

SIZE AND LOCATION

The dog park size and location should adhere to the siting standards provided as part of the Dog Park Planning Siting Criteria and Checklist.

DESIGNATED AREAS

Separate areas for large and small dogs (designated areas) should be provided when space and funding permit. These designated areas can accommodate smaller dogs that are uncomfortable in the portion of the park designated for larger dogs. Designated areas also provide opportunity for maintenance and operations tasks in one area of the dog park while keeping the other area(s) open.

PARKING AND PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY

Sufficient parking, convenient to the site, should be provided such that the dog park does not create undue burden on surrounding neighborhood streets. In lower density neighborhoods as displayed in (Figure 18), 10 to 20 parking spaces should be dedicated to dog park use. In higher density neighborhoods, which are generally more walkable and may have on-street parking spaces, a dedicated parking lot may not be necessary. The parking need for all dog parks in both lower and higher density neighborhoods should be determined and provided as part of the park master planning process.

Accessible pathways that comply with ADA (The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336, 104 Stat. 328 (1990), as amended) regulations should connect the dog park to parking areas and any existing public sidewalks if possible. Pedestrian connections should be made to existing trail networks wherever possible. In addition, while pedestrian connections to FCPA parks are typically provided by FCDOT (Fairfax County Department of Transportation/VDOT (Virginia Department of Transportation), FCPA should work with these agencies when establishing new dog parks to ensure that there are safe, comfortable, and convenient crossings for pedestrians.

SURFACING MATERIAL

The type of surfacing to be used within a dog park is dependent upon the size, context, budget, and maintenance regime of the dog park. Each type of surfacing has advantages and disadvantages depending on the context of its use. Below are the surfacing recommendations for FCPA dog parks.

Natural Turf

Given the maintenance demands and size requirements, natural turf is not recommended as the primary surface within FCPA dog parks. Natural turf can be considered for newly proposed dog parks if the area is larger than three acres and if an appropriate maintenance regime is shown as feasible.

Crusher Fines/Washed Stone Dust

This type of surfacing is the preferred choice for FCPA dog parks. The composition of stone for the crusher fines or washed stone dust should be between #4 and #200 as shown in the table below. A construction detail for crusher fines/washed stone dust surfacing is provided in the Design Details section of this appendix.

CRUSHER FINES/WASHED STONE DUST COMPOSITION	
SIEVE SIZE	% PASSING
No. 4	95-100
No. 8	75-80
No. 16	55-65
No. 30	40-50
No. 50	25-35
No. 100	20-25
No. 200	5-15

Synthetic Turf

Synthetic turf is only appropriate for privately owned smaller dog parks or dog runs in urban or dense communities. Synthetic turf can be considered for partial sections of a new FCPA dog parks but is not recommended as the primary surfacing for the entire dog park.

Wood Mulch Surfacing

This type of surfacing is not recommended for FCPA dog parks due to the maintenance issues it poses.

SURFACING DESIGN

The design of the dog areas, entryways, and pathways have a direct correlation with the longevity of the chosen surface material and the overall accessibility of the dog park. The following surface design elements are recommended.

Entrance Surfacing

The surface within and directly outside double gated entryways should be concrete for ease of maintenance, dog safety, and ADA accessibility. A 10'x 10' minimum entry corral with two gates is recommended. If amenities are located within the entry corral the size

should be large enough to accommodate ADA accessibility standards and space for dogs and people to maneuver. An ADA accessible pathway should lead to the entrance and connect to a public sidewalk and/or ADA parking spaces. A construction detail for entry corral layout is provided in the Design Details section of this appendix.

Pathways and Alternative Surfaces within Dog Parks

A concrete, asphalt, or poured-in-place rubber pathway that forms a loop or multiple loops within a dog park provides enhanced accessibility and allows owners to interact with and monitor their dogs more closely. It also adds additional interest to the park. Pathways and walking loops should be provided if there is sufficient space and funding.

Surfacing Edge and Containment

A concrete or timber curb that is a minimum of 6 inches in height from finished grade inside the dog park and a minimum of 8 inches in width should encompass the surfacing of the dog park to minimize material migration. Weeps (drainage holes) incorporated within the curb should be placed where appropriate to facilitate surface drainage.

FENCING

Dog parks should be fully enclosed with a 6-foot height black vinyl 6-gauge chain-link fence except where existing features of the site provide the same level of enclosure as that provided by a fence. Posts should be embedded in footings securely to frost depth and the chain link portions adequately anchored to ensure that no dog may escape.

The dog park should be equipped with a minimum 10' x 10' double-gated entry corral to deter dogs from escaping and to facilitate access for individuals with disabilities. If the dog park has separate designated areas, entrances to these separate areas should be located within the entry corral. Placing gates in the corners of the fenced area is not recommended, as this allows new dogs entering the park to easily be cornered by other dogs as they rush to greet each other. Gates should be equipped with a page latch and lock for durability. A separate lockable 8-foot-wide gate is recommended for maintenance access in designated dog areas.

Other types of fencing and barriers may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Other types of barriers include walls, transparent polycarbonate sound-reducing panels, and architectural welded wire mesh fencing. Fencing and gate details are provided in the Design Details section of this appendix.

PERIMETER LANDSCAPING/BUFFERS

If the budget and site permit, and if it is necessary to buffer the dog park, vegetation should be planted on the outside of the fence to enhance the aesthetic quality of the site and to assist in mitigating noise associated with the dog park. Plant material that is native, low maintenance, and not dangerous (low toxicity, no thorns, etc.) to dogs is

recommended. Small rain gardens, bio-swales, or curbs surrounding the perimeter of the dog park are encouraged for capturing and treating runoff whenever feasible.

SHADE

Shade is critical for the wellbeing of dogs and visitors within a dog park. Dog parks should offer shaded areas using trees and/or shade structures to allow visitors and dogs to retreat from the sun. A maintenance regime should be established for shade shelters if present. Rigid shade structures, such as pergolas and arbors, require less maintenance and upkeep than shade sail structures.

DRINKING FOUNTAIN

A source of drinking water for dogs and visitors is highly desirable within or adjacent to the dog park area and is recommended if a connection to a water line is feasible. The drinking fountain should be ADA compliant and frost free. A hose bib is also recommended for maintenance needs. Both the hose bib and the fountain should be placed on an accessible concrete pad that freely drains. A drinking fountain detail is provided in the Design Details section of this appendix.

TRASH RECEPTACLES AND WASTE BAG DISPENSERS

Trash receptacles should be located within the entry corral area or immediately adjacent to the outside of the dog park fence near the entrance to encourage waste disposal and to facilitate ease of emptying. Receptacles should have self-closing lids to prevent insects, rodents, and odor. Pet waste bag dispensers mounted at ADA height should be located within each designated dog area in proximity to the entrance(s). Pet waste stations/bags should also be placed near the primary dog park entrance, at the intersections of walking paths, and near parking lots that serve the dog park.

SITE FURNISHINGS

Dog parks should incorporate several benches and/or tables located in accessible areas for people to rest or socialize. Benches should be strategically located within the dog park and outside the fenced perimeter of the dog park to allow for a comfortable visitor experience. Selected benches and/or tables should be treated, or powder coated metal to limit deterioration. Benches and tables should be surface-mounted to a concrete pad whenever possible. A detail exhibiting the surface mounting standards is provided in the Design Details section of this appendix.

RESTROOMS

Permanent restroom facilities should be considered during the planning and design of a new dog park if the inclusion of the restroom is found to support other park uses. A dog park alone does not warrant a permanent restroom as most dog park visitors utilize the facility for a short period of time and the development and maintenance costs of such a facility are considerable.

AGILITY EQUIPMENT

Agility equipment provides dogs with engaging activities, opportunities for physical fitness, and enhanced communication with the owner. If desired by the community, these amenities may be included if there is a maintenance plan that details care and replacement costs.

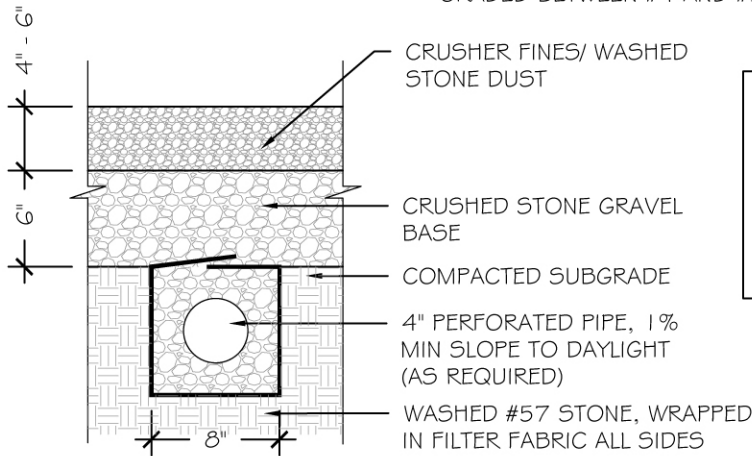
SIGNAGE

FCPA Dog Park Rules, including codes of behavior, hours, and requirements for entry, should be clearly posted in clear view and near the entry. A community kiosk and bulletin board should be provided outside of the fenced dog area to provide a place to post local community information related to pet services, meetups, and events as permitted.

DESIGN DETAILS

NOTES:

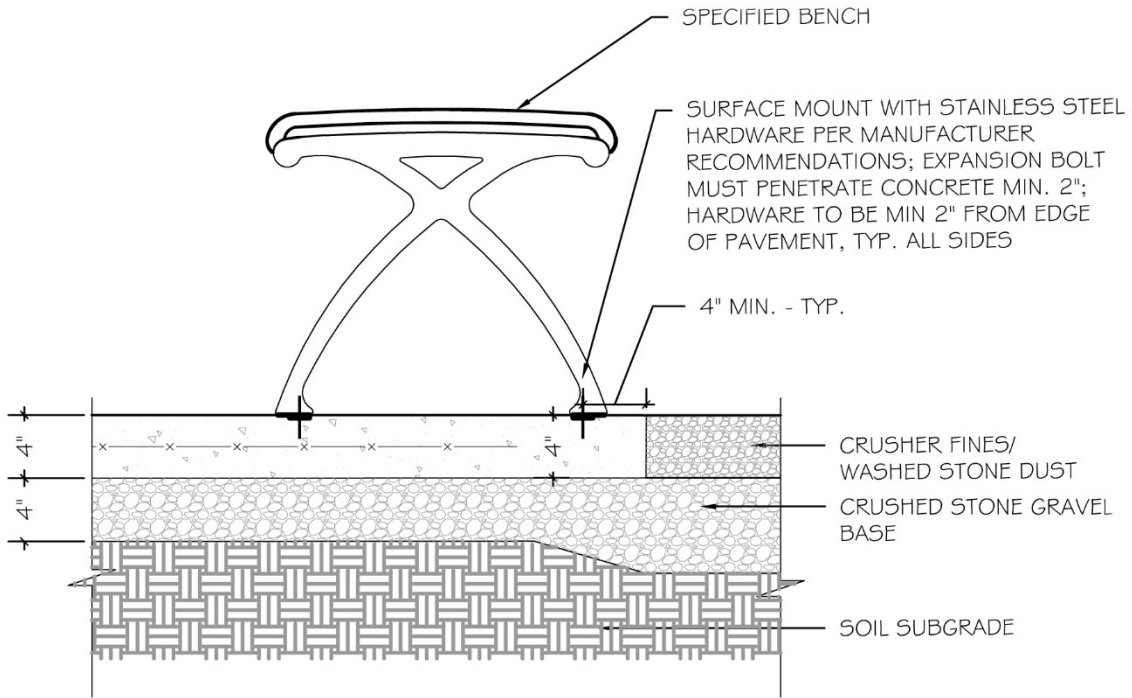
- CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE CRUSHER FINES OR WASHED STONE DUST SAMPLE TO PARK AUTHORITY PROJECT MANAGER FOR APPROVAL, PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. IDEAL COMPOSITION OF CRUSHED ROCK FINES SHOULD BE GRADED BETWEEN #4 AND #200 AS FOLLOWS:



SIEVE SIZE	% PASSING
NO. 4	95-100
NO. 8	75-80
NO. 16	55-65
NO. 30	40-50
NO. 50	25-35
NO. 100	20-25
NO. 200	5-15

CRUSHER FINES/WASHED STONE DUST SURFACE

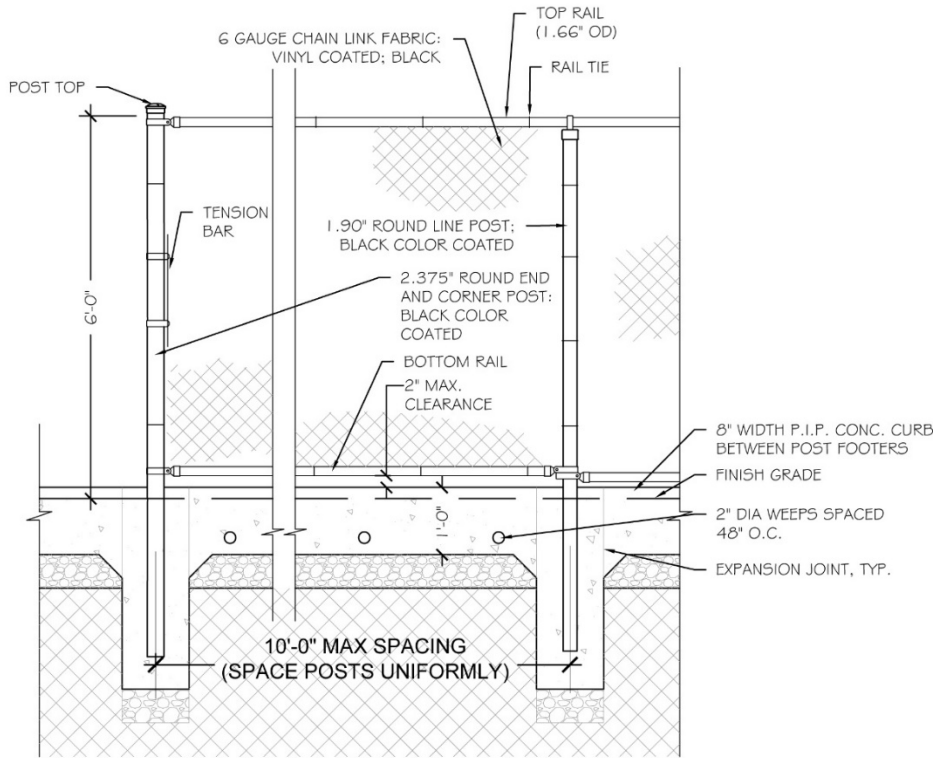
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BENCH MOUNTED ON CONCRETE SURFACE

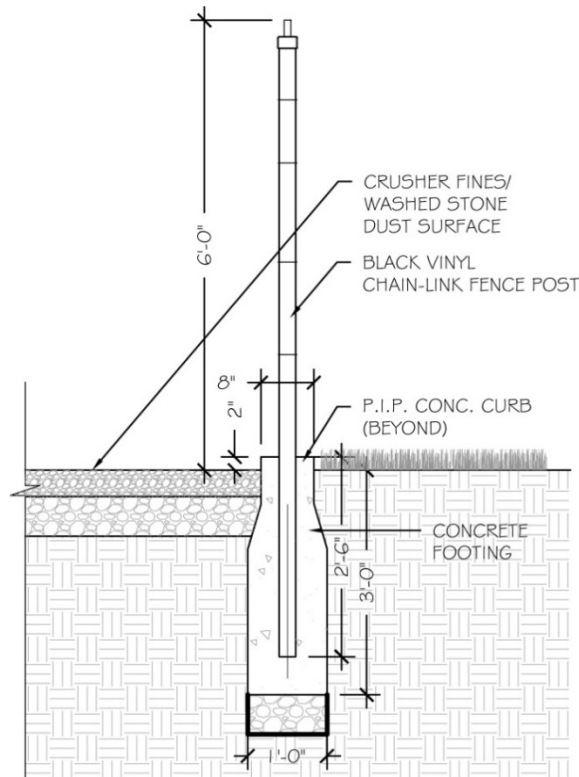
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FENCE WITH INTEGRATED CONCRETE CURB ELEVATION

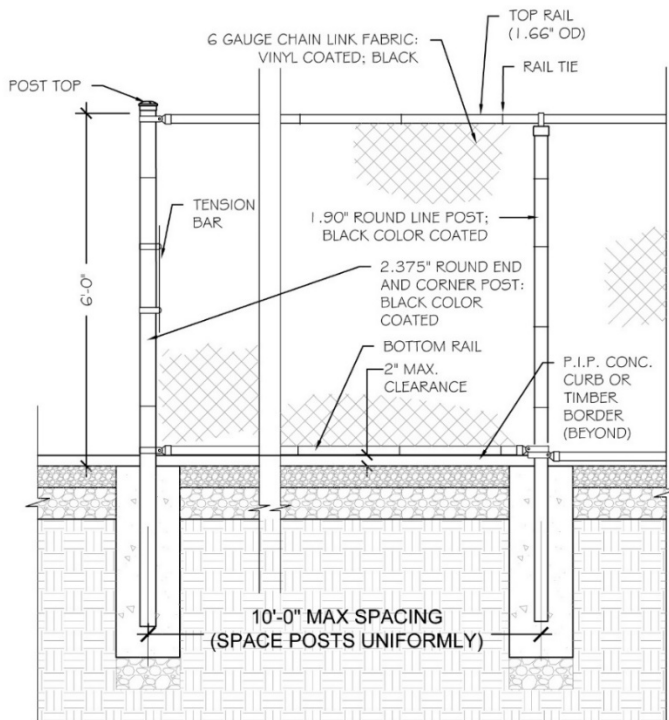
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FENCE WITH INTEGRATED CONCRETE CURB SECTION

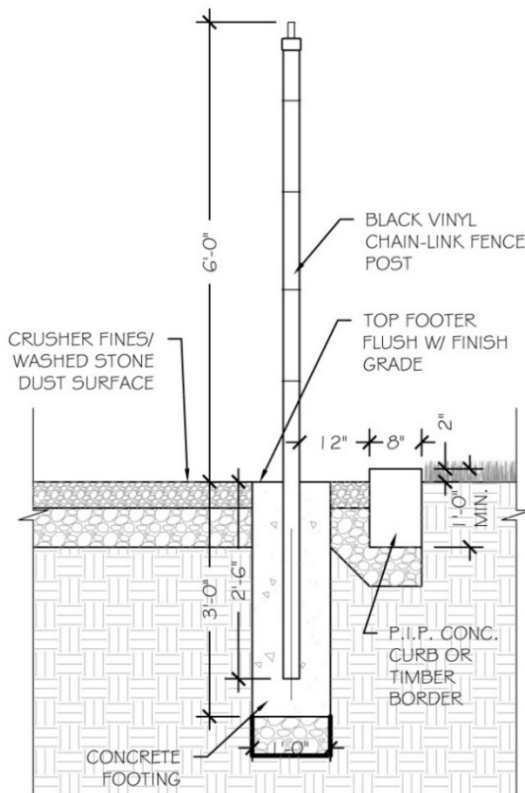
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FENCE WITH

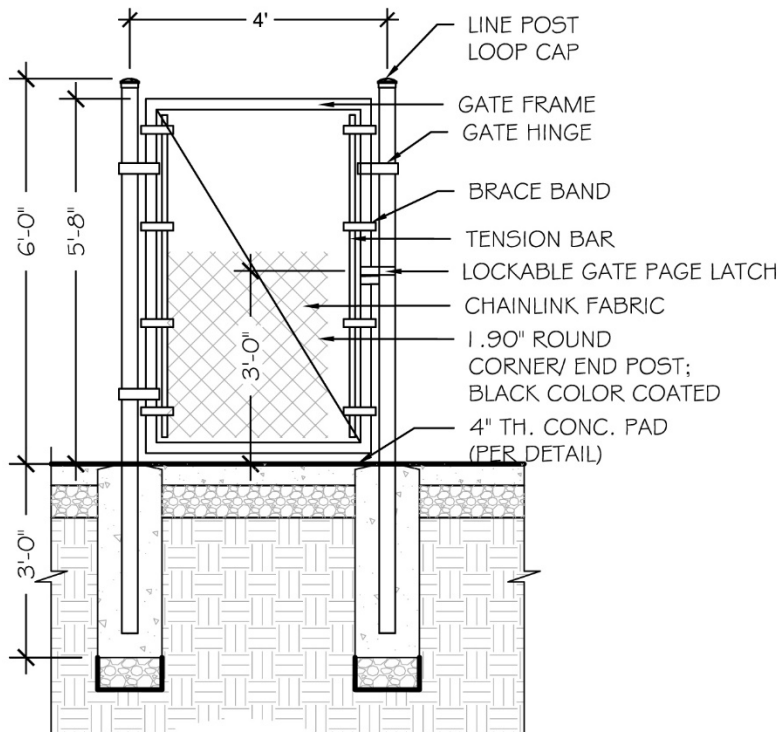
NOT TO SCALE



FENCE WITH OFFSET CURB SECTION

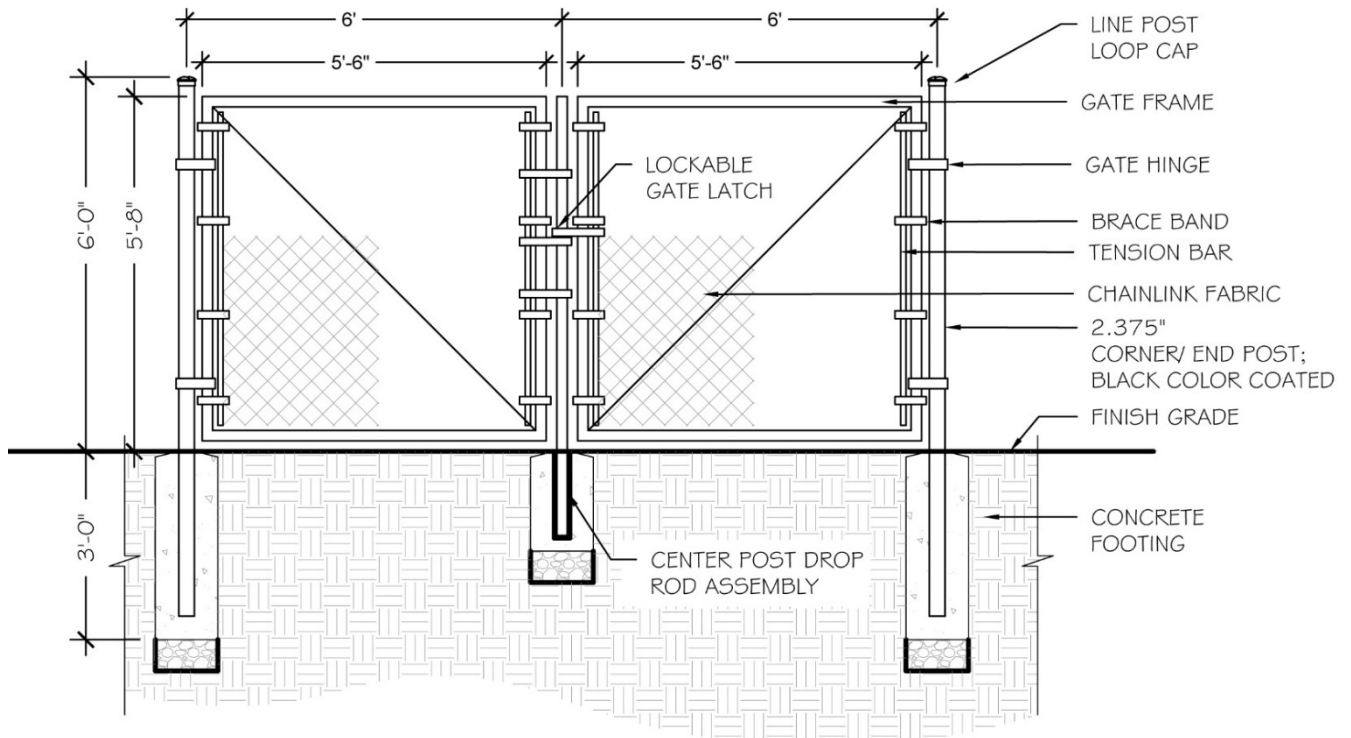
NOT TO SCALE

APPENDIX 1 - FCPA DOG PARK STANDARDS & GUIDELINES



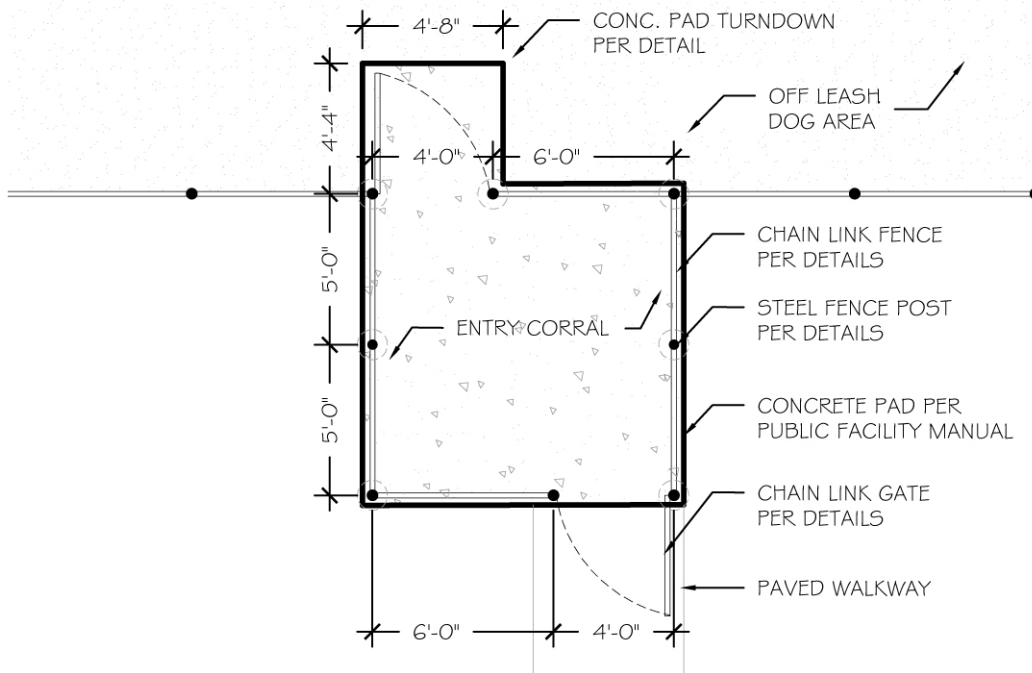
DOG PARK ENTRY GATE

NOT TO SCALE



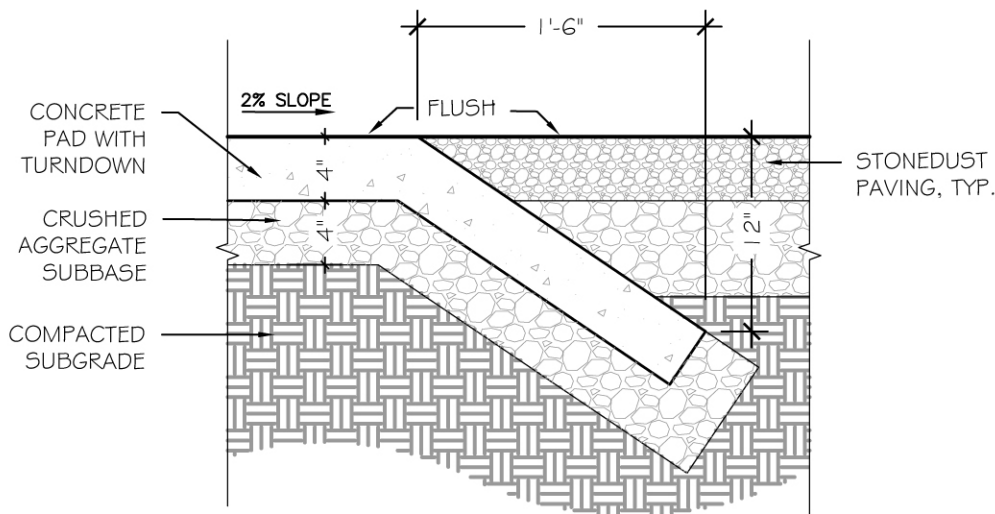
DOG PARK MAINTENANCE GATE

NOT TO SCALE



DOG PARK ENTRY CORRAL LAYOUT

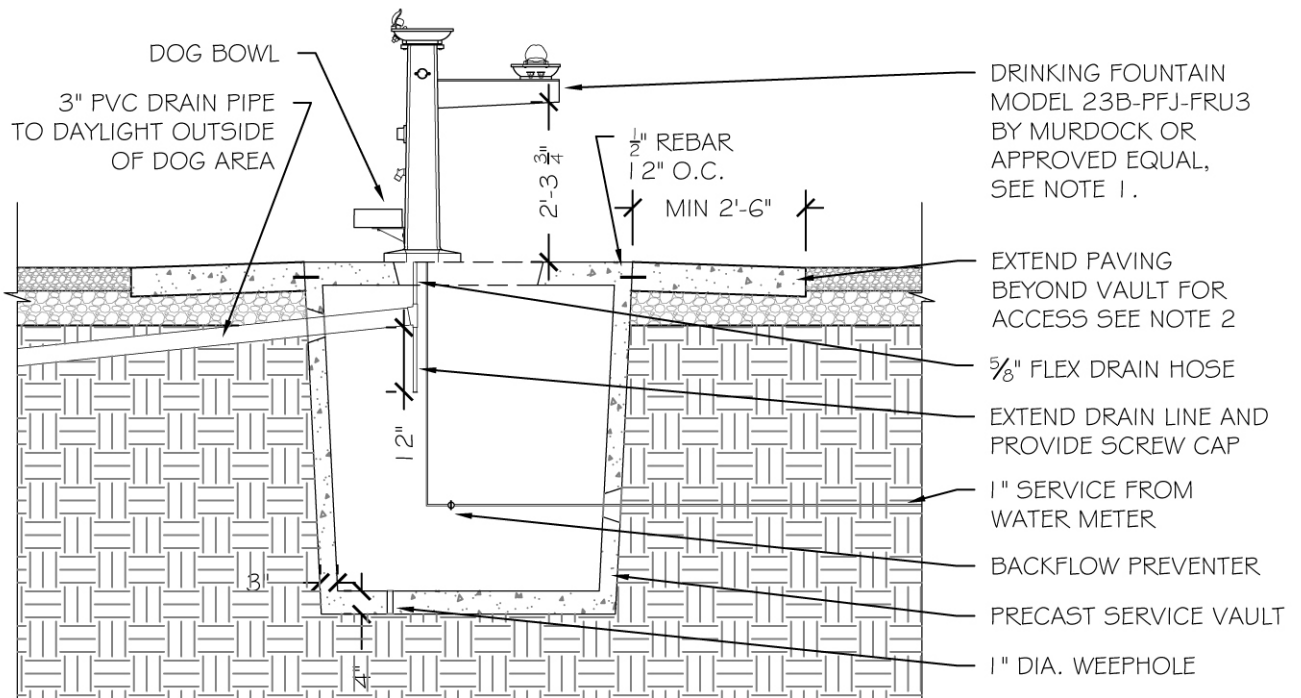
NOT TO SCALE



ENTRY CORRAL CONCRETE SURFACE TO STONE DUST SURFACE

NOT TO SCALE

APPENDIX 1 - FCPA DOG PARK STANDARDS & GUIDELINES



NOTES:

1. DRINKING FOUNTAIN MUST MEET ADA REQUIREMENTS AND BE FROST-FREE.
2. PROVIDE MINIMUM 2'6" PAVING AROUND ALL SIDES OF VAULT.

DOG PARK DRINKING FOUNTAIN

NOT TO SCALE



Fairfax County Park Authority

Dog Park Volunteer Monitor Checklist

This form is for the use of authorized FCPA Volunteers who have been approved for the Dog Park Monitor volunteer opportunity. Proper completion of the form and timely submission assists the Park Operations Division with awareness of maintenance and operational conditions observed during the day/time noted. The Division's response time to reported issues varies according to staff availability and nature of the issue. This tool is not intended to prompt immediate response. Volunteers are trained on how and when to report urgent issues.

Complete and submit this checklist to the FCPA Park Operations Division at the end of each volunteer shift. Provide details for any incidents or situations requiring follow up. Email to parkmaintenance@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Start/End time:** ____/____

Name of Dog Park: _____ **Weather:** _____

Large Dog Area: People Count: _____ Dog Count: _____

Small Dog Area: People Count: _____ Dog Count: _____

Yes	No	Indicate which of the following tasks you completed.
		Collect and discard any dog waste and trash left on ground – both inside and around the perimeter of the dog park.
		Check trash receptacles. Note condition (full/not full):
		Check waste bag receptacles.
		Make sure water faucet (if any) is completely turned off when not in active use.
		Make sure gates are working properly and signage is not defaced or missing.
		Fill any holes, to the best of your ability, with surrounding dirt.
		Enter hours in VMS (do no less than monthly).
		Other tasks:
Yes	No	Did you observe violations of any of the Dog Park Prohibitions or Rules?
		Number of dogs exceeding posted capacity.
		Dogs barking incessantly.
		Food (includes treats, bones, edible toys)
		Glass containers.
		Dogs under four months of age.



Fairfax County Park Authority Dog Park Incident Report Form

This form is for the use of authorized staff and FCPA Volunteers who have completed training for the Dog Park Monitor volunteer opportunity. The purpose of this form is to facilitate accurate reporting of incidents which were concerning to staff or volunteer monitor. Examples include but are not limited to dog bites, serious injury to canine, injury to human, park property damage, or other incidents of concern.

Please complete and forward to your FCPA staff contact within one day of the incident. If police were called, contact your FCPA staff contact as soon as the incident is resolved or sooner if possible.

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Dog Park Location: _____

Date & Time of Incident: _____

Whom did you call? (check all that apply)

911

Police/Animal Protection Non-Emergency: 703-691-2131

FCPA Staff Contact

FCPA Staff Name (if contacted): _____ Phone Number: _____

For Park Operations Division staff use only:

IF VANDALISM OR PROPERTY LOSS OF COUNTY EQUIPMENT IS OBSERVED, FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE MUST BE CONTACTED AND A CASE NUMBER PROVIDED.

In most cases this can be done online at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crs/>

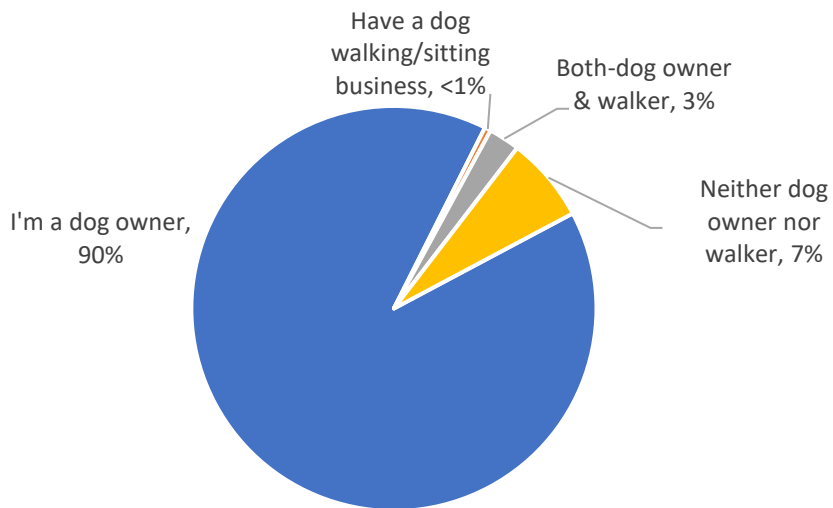
Please describe the incident in the page below. Please provide as much detail as possible. State the facts as you observed them. Try to describe the events in chronological order. Describe individuals involved, canines (if any) involved, action taken by you or others, location/scene of incident, witnesses, etc.

APPENDIX 2 – COMPLETE SURVEY RESULTS & QUESTIONNAIRE

SURVEY RESPONSE SUMMARY

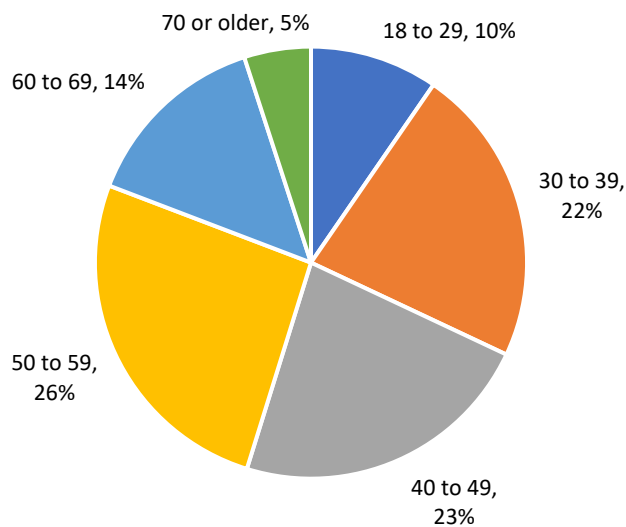
This section summarizes who responded to the survey and how respondents found out about the survey.

Which of the following best describes you?

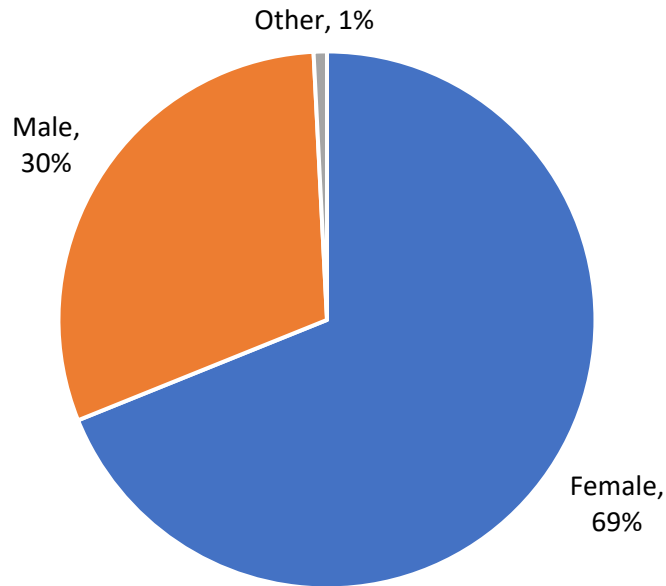


The FCPA dog park survey received a total of 4,645 valid responses.

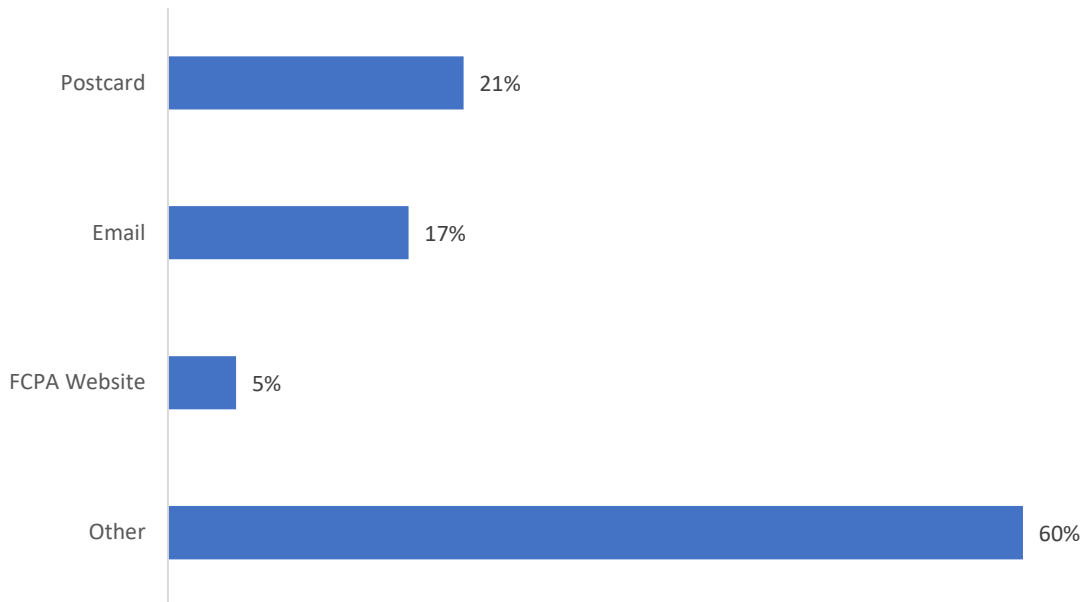
What is your age?



What is your sex?

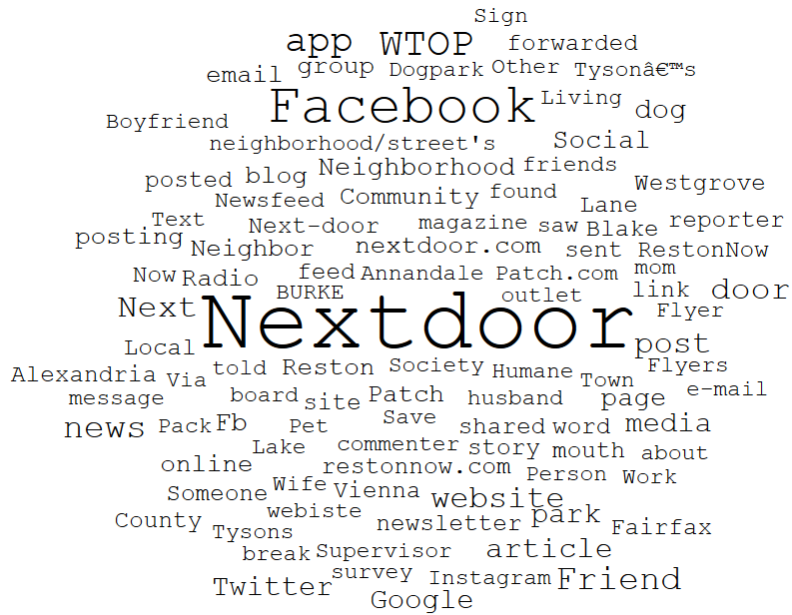


How Did You Find Out About this Survey?



Note: Percentages add up to more than 100% since multiple selections were allowed.

How Did You Find Out About this Survey?

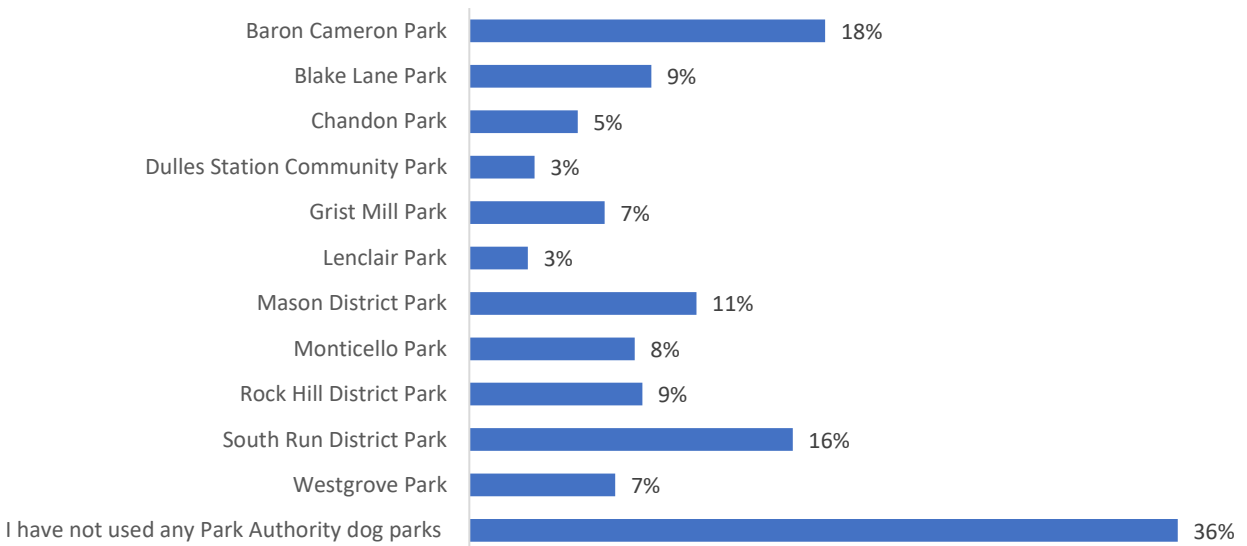


Results based on respondents who selected “other” to the above question.

FCPA DOG PARK VISITATION

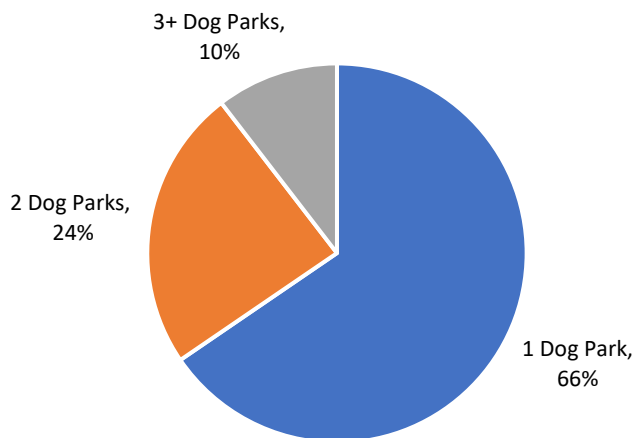
This section presents information about FCPA dog park visitation, such as which FCPA dog parks respondents frequent most often, how often they go there, and other dog parks they may have visited.

Which FCPA Dog Parks Have You Visited in the Past 12 Months?



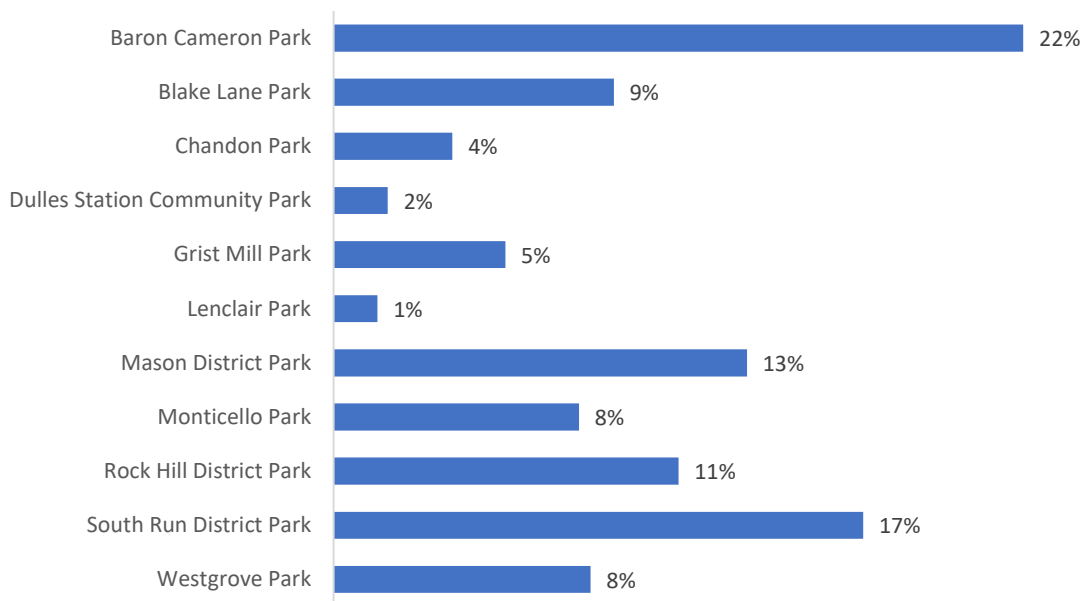
Results based on responses from those who self-identified as either dog owners, dog walkers or both. Percentages add to more than 100% since multiple selections were allowed.

How Many FCPA Dog Parks Have You Visited in the Past 12 Months?



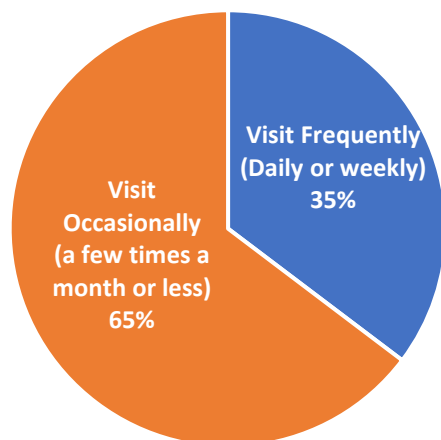
Results based on those who reported visiting one or more FCPA dog parks in the past 12 months.

Which FCPA Dog Park Do You Visit Most Often?



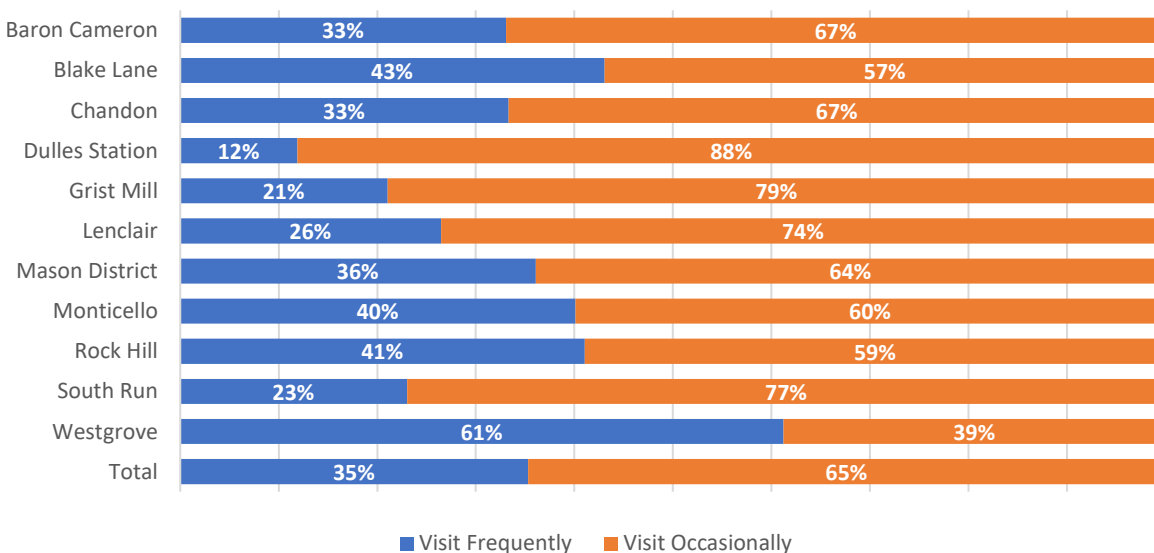
Results based on those who reported visiting one or more FCPA dog parks in the past 12 months.

How Often Do You Visit This Dog Park?



“Visit frequently” includes all respondents who indicated that they visited “daily” or “weekly.” “Visit occasionally” corresponds to those who indicated they visited either “a few times a month” or “monthly or less.” Results based on those who reported visiting one or more FCPA dog parks in the past 12 months.

How Often Do You Visit This Dog Park?



“Visit frequently” includes all respondents who indicated that they visited “daily” or “weekly.” “Visit occasionally” corresponds to those who indicated they visited either “a few times a month” or “monthly or less.” Results based on those who reported visiting one or more FCPA dog parks in the past 12 months.

Which of these dog parks have you visited in the past 12 months?											
Percent (%) of visitors who visited other FCPA dog parks, in addition to their favorite FCPA dog park											
Dog Park	Baron Cameron	Blake Lane	Chandon	Dulles Station Community Park	Grist Mill	Lenclair	Mason District	Monticello	Rock Hill	South Run	Westgrove
Baron Cameron	N/A	27%	67%	46%	8%	15%	16%	7%	19%	11%	6%
Blake Lane	14%	N/A	13%	20%	8%	13%	17%	15%	13%	9%	5%
Chandon	20%	7%	N/A	40%	3%	9%	2%	3%	11%	3%	3%
Dulles Station Community Park	9%	7%	24%	N/A	4%	9%	3%	5%	10%	3%	4%
Grist Mill	3%	6%	4%	8%	N/A	40%	8%	8%	2%	12%	38%
Lenclair	3%	4%	5%	8%	17%	N/A	6%	5%	3%	3%	28%
Mason District	10%	21%	5%	9%	14%	23%	N/A	21%	6%	16%	11%
Monticello	3%	13%	5%	12%	9%	13%	15%	N/A	4%	26%	9%
Rock Hill	9%	12%	17%	27%	3%	9%	4%	5%	N/A	6%	3%
South Run	10%	16%	7%	16%	28%	18%	23%	51%	11%	N/A	13%
Westgrove	2%	4%	5%	9%	41%	69%	7%	8%	3%	6%	N/A

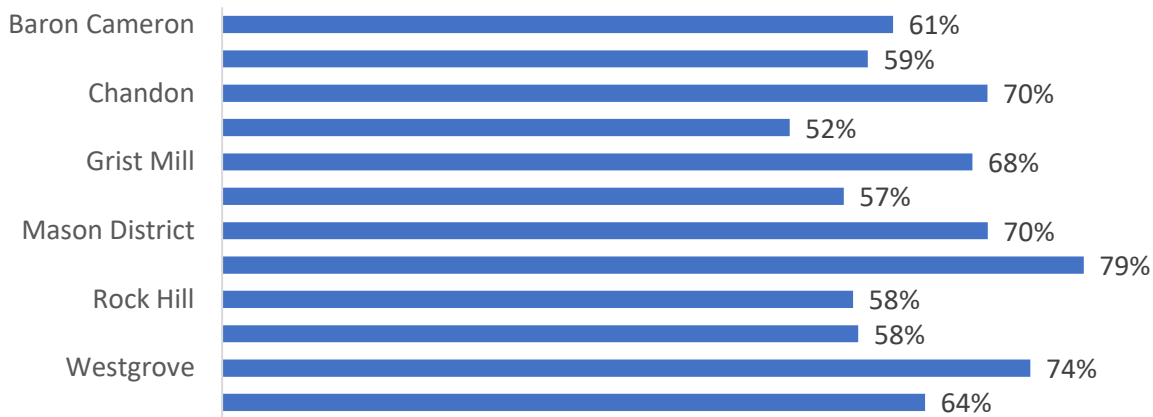
A note for interpreting this chart: each column represents the visitors at one FCPA dog park as noted in the column heading. Read down the column to see what proportion of the visitors of that dog park also visited other FCPA dog parks. For example, 14% of Baron Cameron Dog Park visitors also had visited Blake Lane Dog Park and 20% had visited Chandon Dog Park.

SATISFACTION RATINGS FOR MOST VISITED FCPA DOG PARK

The following section presents the results for the levels of satisfaction respondents indicated for the FCPA dog park they visit most (i.e., visitors’ favorite dog park).

Rate your satisfaction with the level of cleanliness of this dog park.

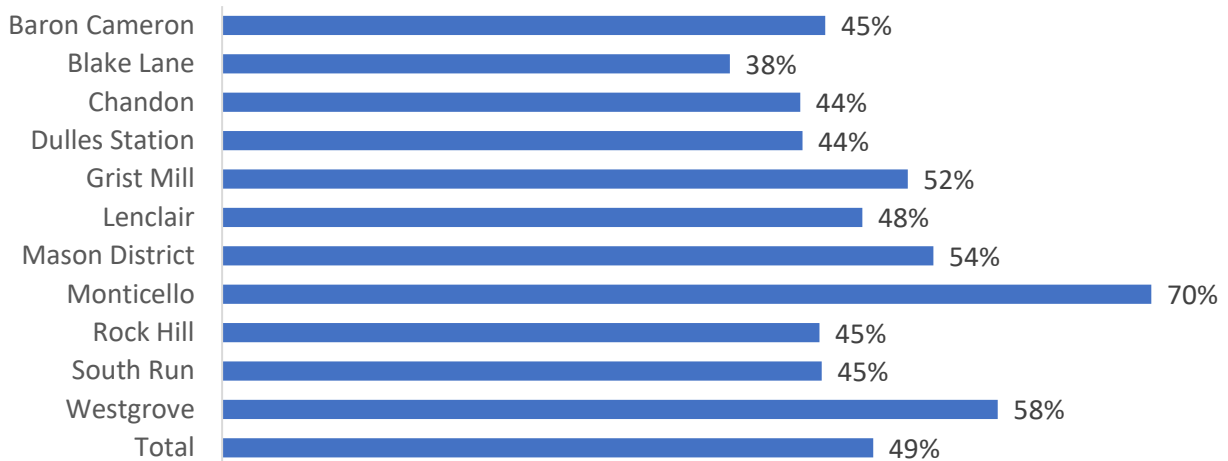
% Satisfied - Dog Park Cleanliness



Note: Respondents were asked to evaluate their satisfaction with FCPA dog park surface conditions on a 5-point scale, ranging from 1 “very unsatisfied” to 5 or “very satisfied”. The percentages shown here reflect the percentage of who indicated they were either “somewhat satisfied” or “very satisfied” with surface conditions.

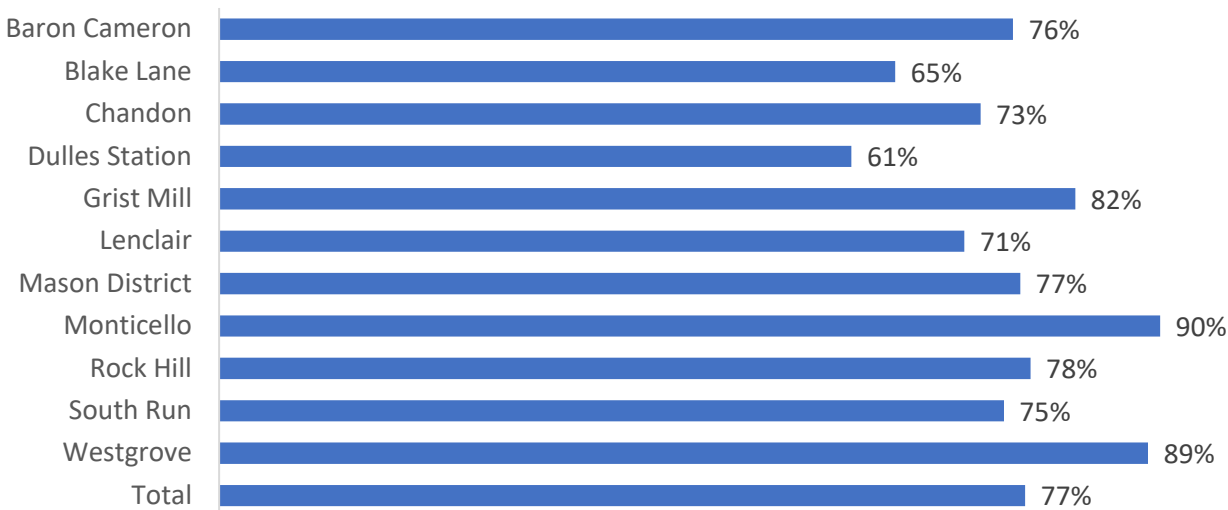
Rate your satisfaction with the surface condition of this dog park.

% Satisfied - Dog Park Surface Condition



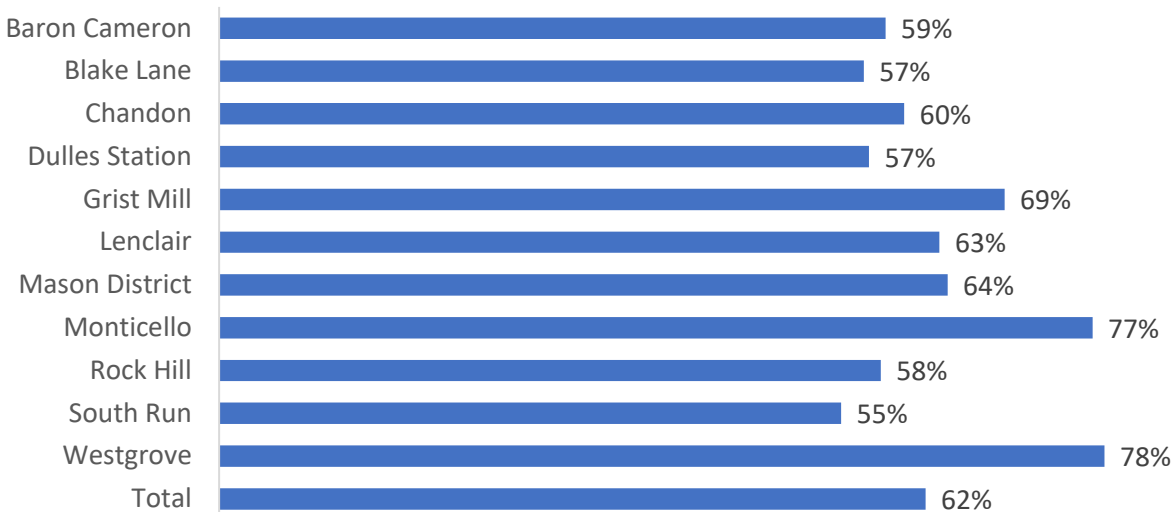
Percent (%) satisfied includes those who indicated they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” - the top two rating points on a 5-point rating scale ranging from “very satisfied” to “very unsatisfied.”

Rate your satisfaction with the fencing condition of this dog park.
% Satisfied - Dog Park Fencing Condition



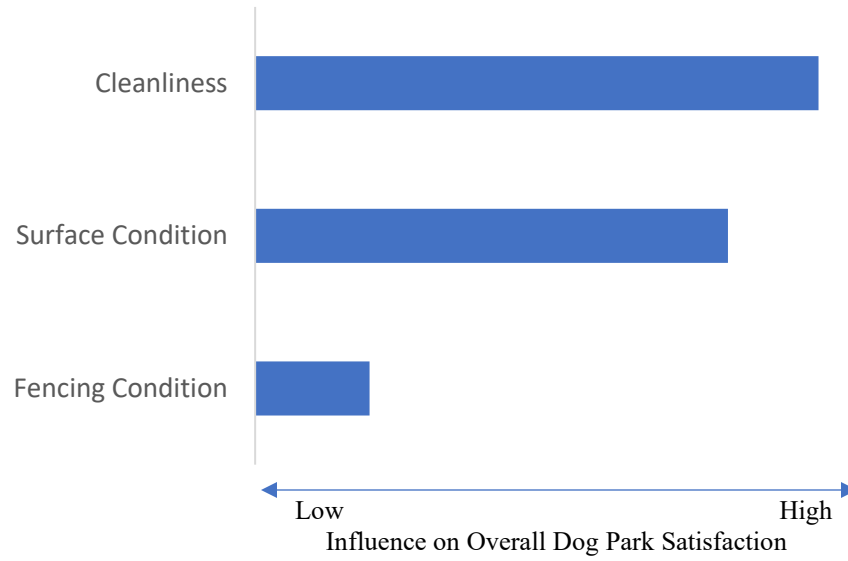
Percent (%) satisfied includes those who indicated they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” - the top two rating points on a 5-point rating scale ranging from “very satisfied” to “very unsatisfied.”

Overall, how satisfied are you with this dog park?
% Satisfied - Overall Dog Park Satisfaction Rating



Percent (%) satisfied includes those who indicated they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” - the top two rating points on a 5-point rating scale ranging from “very satisfied” to “very unsatisfied.”

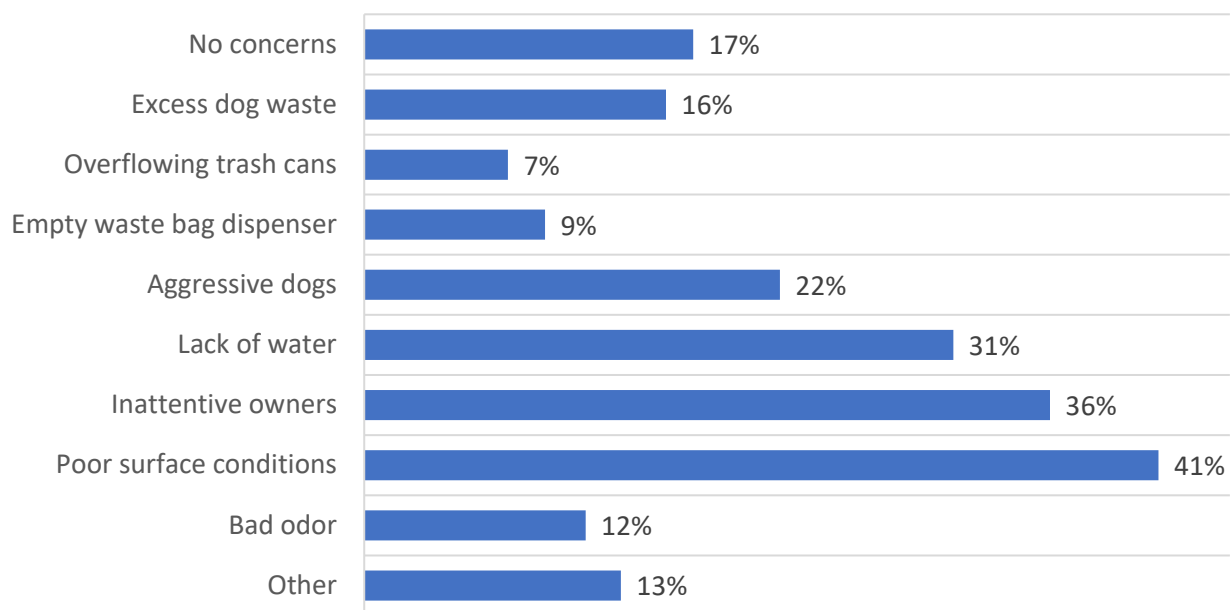
Dog Park Satisfaction- Key Driver Analysis



CONCERNS IDENTIFIED AT VISITORS' FAVORITE FCPA DOG PARK

This section presents the results pertaining to issues identified at the dog park that respondents visit most.

Are There Issues At This Dog Park That Concern You?



Results correspond to concerns that dog park users identified at their most frequently visited FCPA dog park. Percentages add up to more than 100% since multiple selections were allowed.

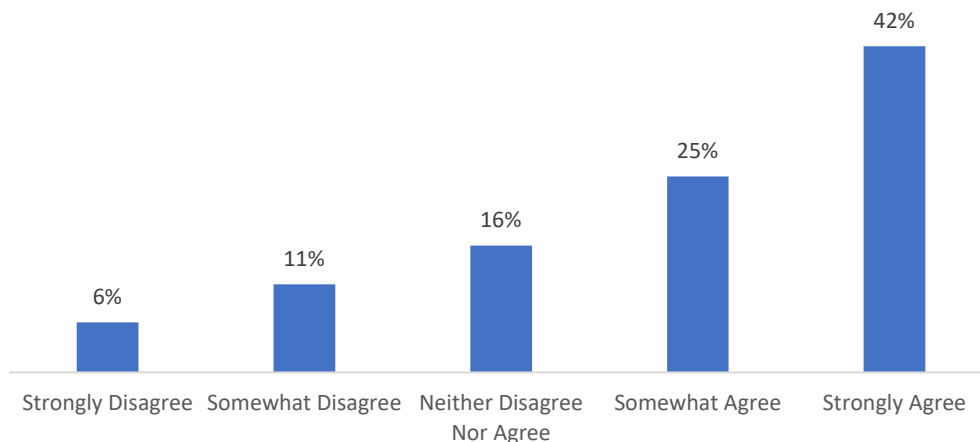
Are There Issues at This Dog Park That Concern You?										
Percent (%) of FCPA dog park visitors indicating a concern about this issue, by most visited dog park										
FCPA Dog Park Visited Most, Last 12 Months	No concerns	Excess dog waste	Overflowing trash cans	Empty waste bag dispenser	Aggressive dogs	Lack of water	Inattentive owners	Poor surface conditions	Bad odor	Other
Baron Cameron	18%	14%	9%	8%	26%	13%	41%	43%	25%	13%
Blake Lane	17%	9%	6%	13%	13%	41%	22%	49%	8%	17%
Chandon	17%	19%	3%	4%	25%	22%	35%	62%	5%	16%
Dulles Station Community Park	15%	18%	18%	9%	21%	30%	27%	33%	12%	12%
Grist Mill	33%	6%	4%	11%	20%	11%	25%	36%	2%	8%
Lenclair	32%	18%	11%	21%	11%	18%	29%	36%	0%	21%
Mason District	18%	14%	5%	10%	20%	52%	31%	32%	7%	11%
Monticello	25%	8%	8%	13%	25%	15%	35%	22%	8%	23%
Rock Hill	11%	30%	7%	9%	19%	57%	37%	43%	12%	12%
South Run	12%	13%	12%	10%	28%	43%	40%	41%	8%	12%
Westgrove	14%	28%	3%	4%	8%	11%	44%	56%	5%	12%
Overall	17%	16%	7%	9%	22%	31%	36%	41%	12%	13%

To interpret this table, please read the rows across. Each row represents those who said they visited a particular dog park the most (i.e., visitors’ favorite dog park). Reading across each row, the percentages indicate the proportion of respondents who identified one of nine concerns at that dog park or said they had no concerns. For example, of dog park visitors who said they visited Westgrove Dog Park most frequently, 14% had no concerns, while 56% identified poor surface conditions as a concern.

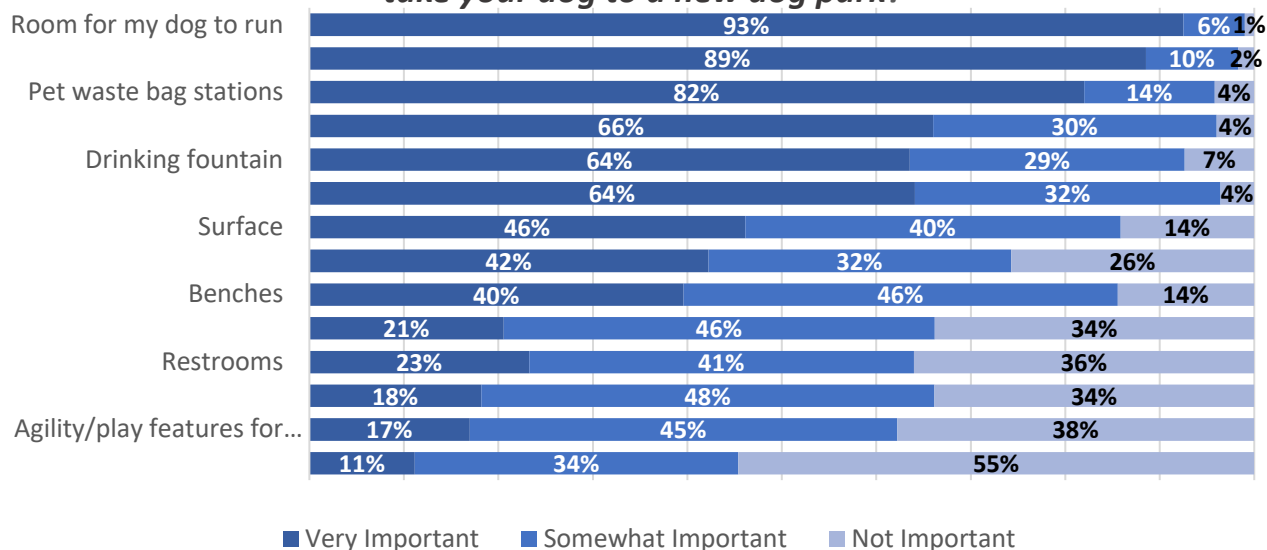
DOG PARK PREFERENCES

The following section presents respondents' preferences when it comes to dog parks. Respondents shared their thoughts on FCPA's two dog rule, features that are most important in a dog park, walking and driving preferences, and where in the county they felt a new dog park was most needed.

Currently, handlers may not bring more than 2 dogs into a Park Authority dog park at one time. How much do you agree or disagree with this rule?

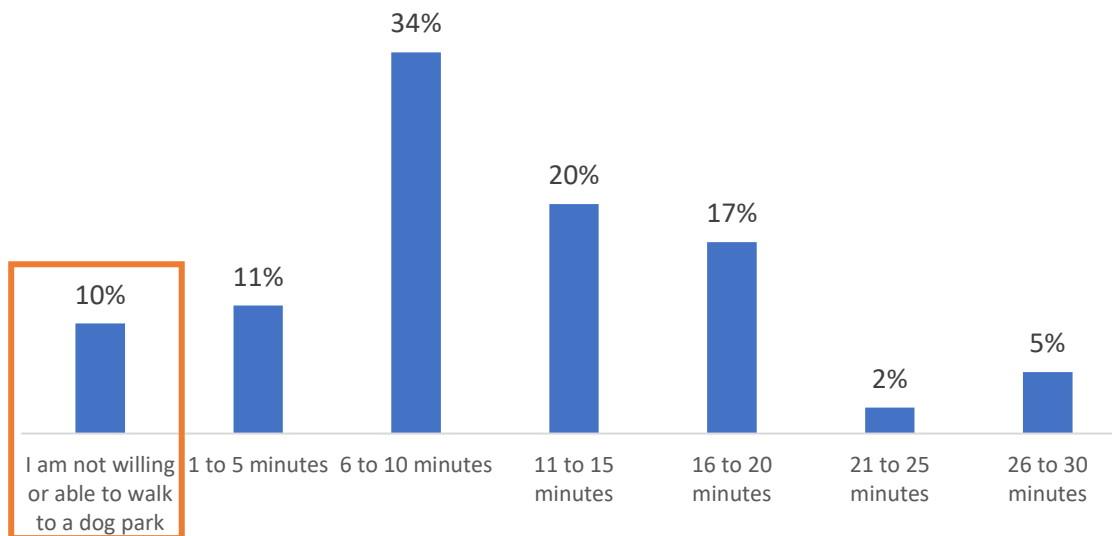


How important are each of these features when deciding whether to take your dog to a new dog park?

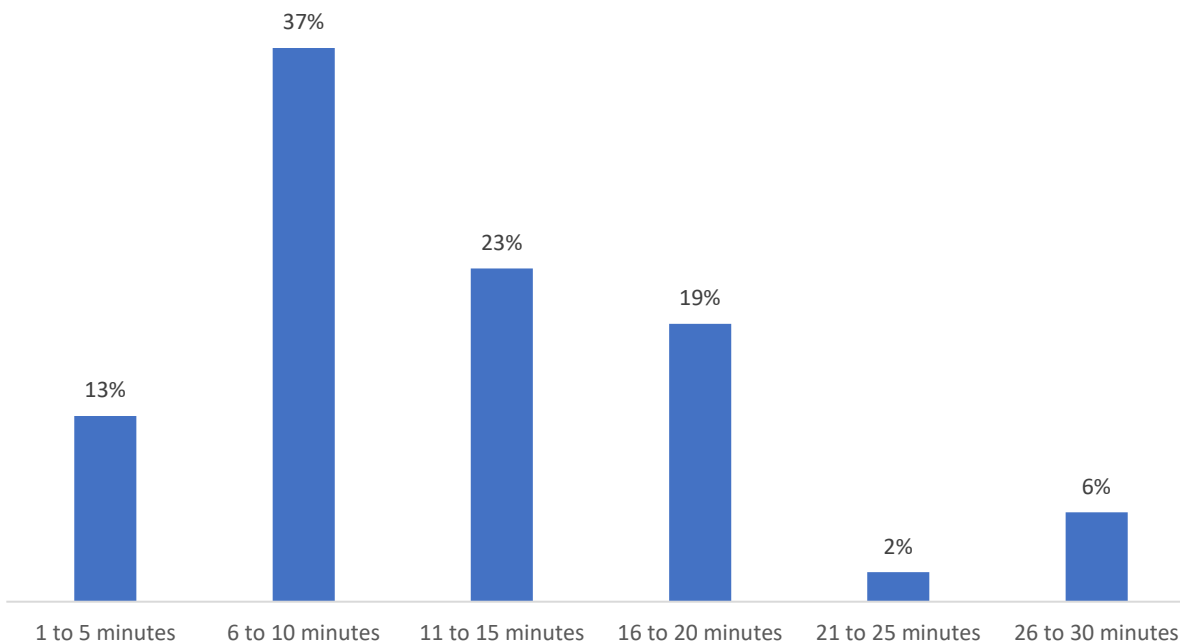


Based on responses from dog owners and dog walkers. Percentages for some features in the above chart may not add to 100% due to rounding error.

**How far are you willing to walk to go to a dog park?
(All Respondents)**

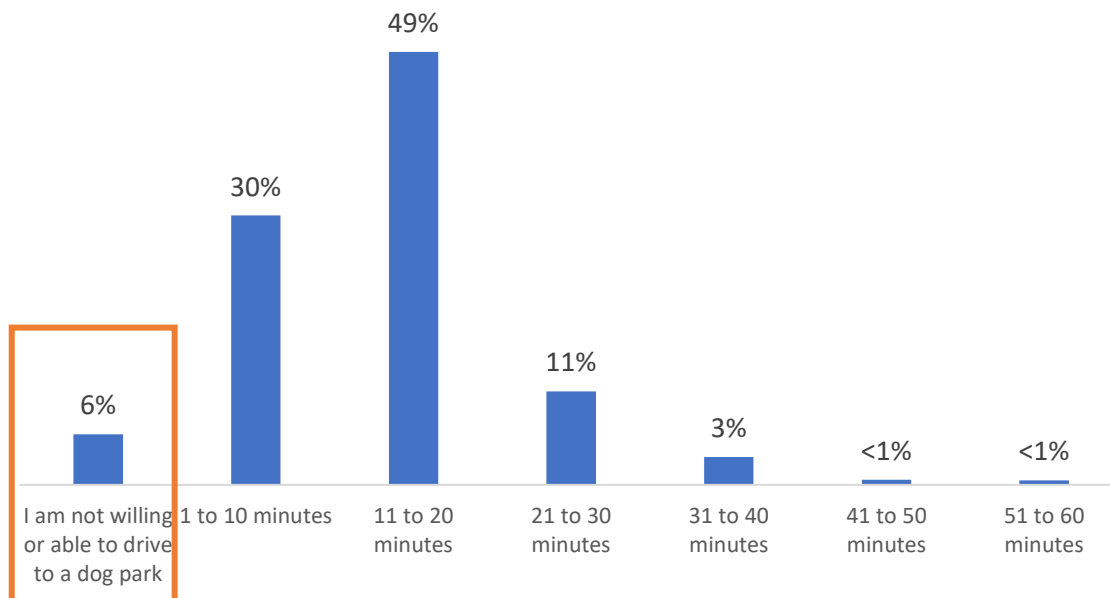


**How far are you willing to walk to go to a dog park?
(Respondents willing to walk)**

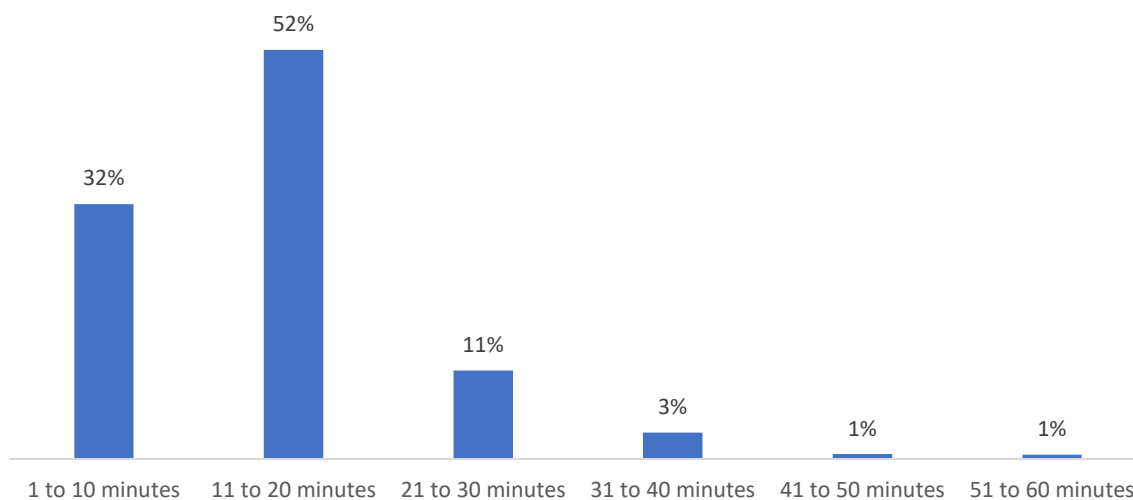


Note: Only those respondents who indicated they were willing to walk are included in the above chart.

**How far are you willing to drive to go to a dog park?
 (All Respondents)**

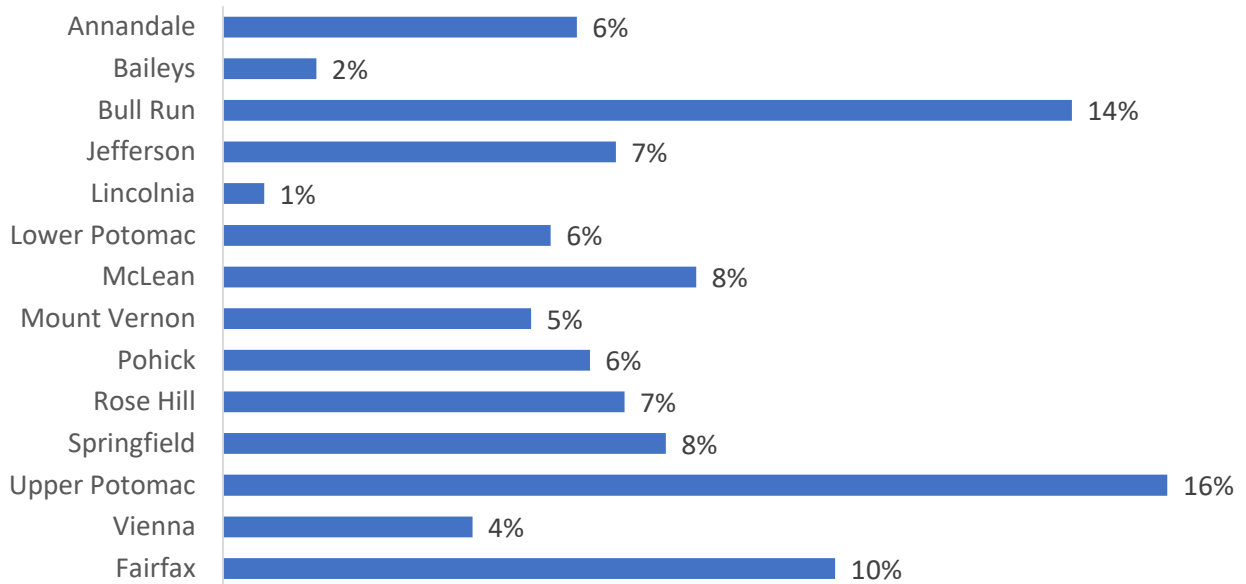


**How far are you willing to drive to go to a dog park?
 (Respondents willing to drive)**

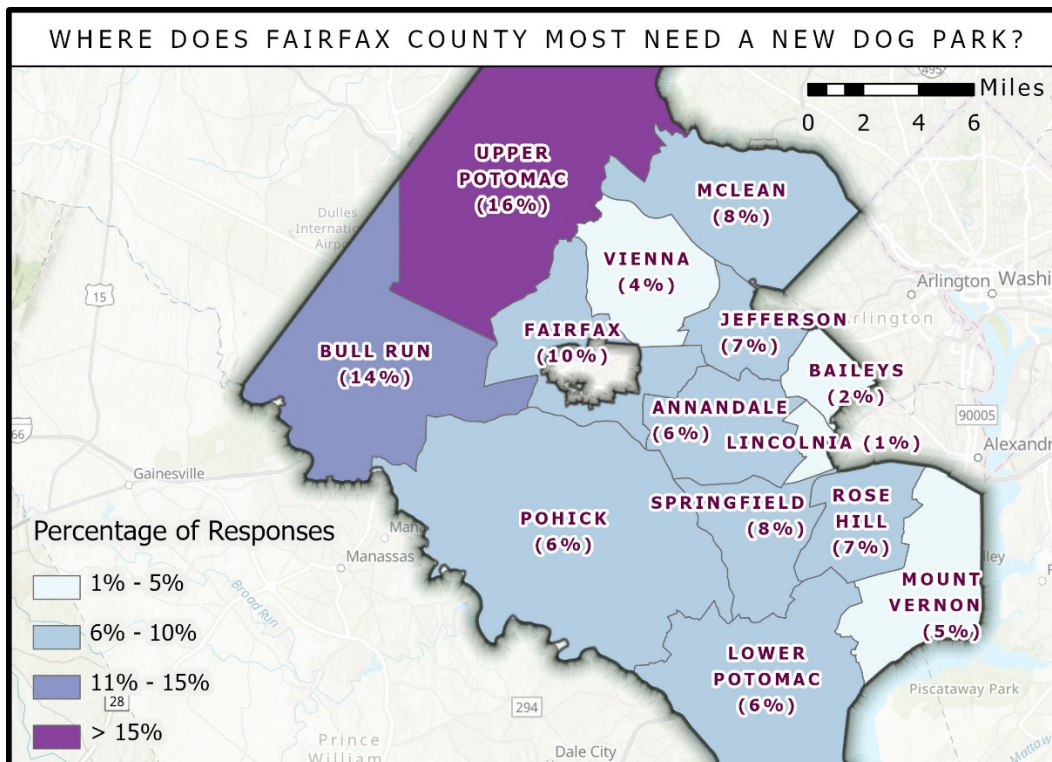


Note: Only those respondents who indicated they were willing to drive are included in the above chart.

Where Does Fairfax County Most Need A New Dog Park?



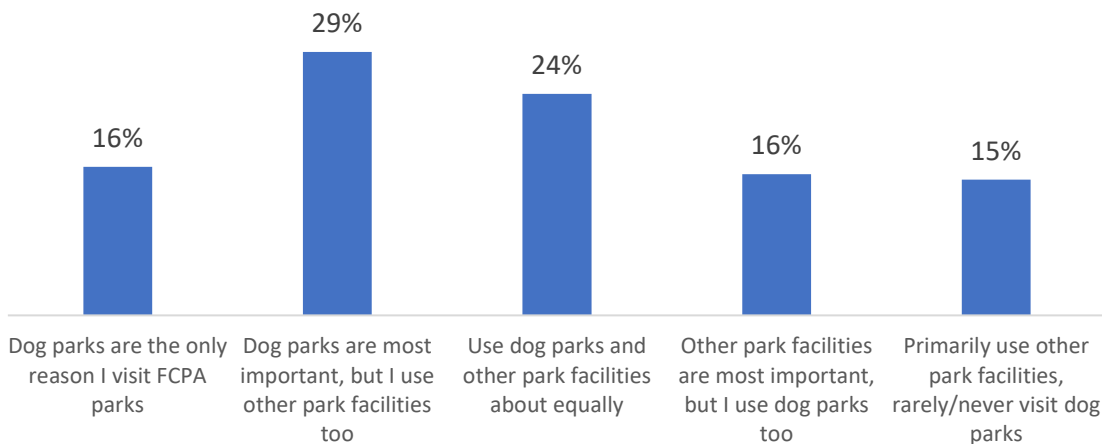
Dog owners and dog walkers were asked to select one of the Fairfax County planning districts from an accompanying map to indicate where they thought Fairfax County most needed a new dog park. The above results are summarized in the map below.



FCPA DOG PARK INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT

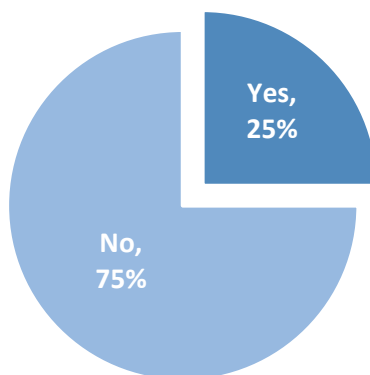
The results shown below provide insight into how respondents feel about dog parks compared to other FCPA services and amenities, as well as respondents' interest in volunteering in FCPA dog parks.

Compared to other services provided by the Park Authority, how important are dog parks to you?



Based on responses from dog owners and dog walkers.

Interested in finding out about volunteer opportunities with dog parks?

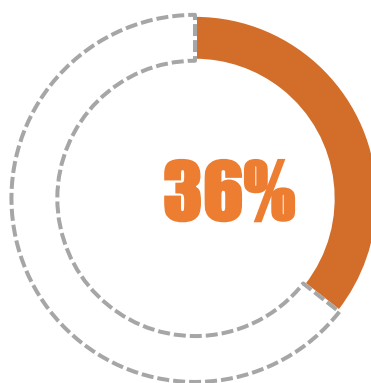


Based on responses from dog owners and dog walkers. Contact information was received from 719 survey respondents who were interested in finding out about volunteer opportunities with FCPA dog parks.

NON-USE OF FCPA DOG PARKS

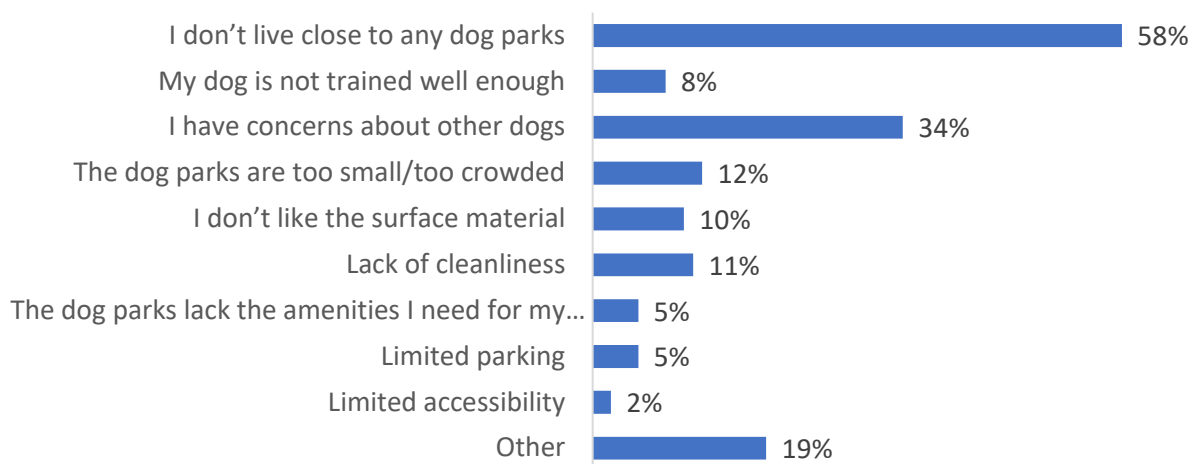
The results shown below share insights from respondents who indicated they have not visited an FCPA dog park in the past year, as well as insights from those who have visited other, non-FCPA dog parks in the region.

I have not used any Park Authority dog parks in the past 12 months.



Percentage of dog owners and dog walkers when asked which FCPA dog parks they have used in the past 12 months.

Which of the following are reasons why you don't use Park Authority dog parks?



Results based on respondents who were dog owners and dog walkers who had not visited an FCPA dog park within the last 12 months. Percentages add up to more than 100% since respondents could select multiple answers.

FCPA DOG PARK SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

The following is the full questions and provided selections for the dog park survey as it was administered.

Which of the following best describes you? (Select one)

- I'm a DOG OWNER
- I have a DOG WALKING/DOG SITTING business
- BOTH – dog owner and dog walker
- NEITHER a dog owner nor dog walker

There are 11 dog parks located in Fairfax County Park Authority parks (see the map for locations - click it to make it larger). Which of these dog parks have you visited in the past 12 months? (Select all that apply from the list below)

- Baron Cameron Park
- Blake Lane Park
- Chandon Park
- Dulles Station Community Park
- Grist Mill Park
- Lenclair Park
- Mason District Park
- Monticello Park
- Rock Hill District Park
- South Run District Park
- Westgrove Park
- I have not used any Park Authority dog parks

Of the Park Authority dog parks you have visited in the past 12 months, which **one** do you visit **most** often? (Select one)

- Baron Cameron Park
- Blake Lane Park
- Chandon Park
- Dulles Station Community Park
- Grist Mill Park
- Lenclair Park
- Mason District Park
- Monticello Park
- Rock Hill District Park
- South Run District Park
- Westgrove Park

The next few questions are about the Park Authority dog park you visit most often...

How often do you typically visit this dog park? (Select one)

- Daily
- Weekly
- A few times a month
- Monthly or less

Rate your satisfaction with the following features of this dog park.

	Very Unsatisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Neither Unsatisfied nor Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Level of cleanliness	Very Unsatisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Neither Unsatisfied nor Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Surface condition	Very Unsatisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Neither Unsatisfied nor Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Condition of the fencing	Very Unsatisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Neither Unsatisfied nor Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied

Overall, how satisfied are you with this dog park? (Select one)

- Very Unsatisfied
- Somewhat Unsatisfied
- Neither Unsatisfied nor Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Very Satisfied

Are there issues at this dog park that concern you? (Select all that apply or select 'None' if no issues concern you)

- None – I have no concerns
- Excess dog waste in the dog park
- Overflowing trash cans
- Empty waste bag dispenser
- Aggressive dogs
- Lack of water for dogs
- Inattentive owners
- Poor surface conditions (standing water, holes, dust)
- Bad odor
- Other

What is the one thing we could do to most improve this dog park?

Currently, handlers may not bring more than 2 dogs into a Park Authority dog park at one time. How much do you agree or disagree with this rule?

- Strongly Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Neither Disagree Nor Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Strongly Agree

Which of the following are reasons why you don't use Park Authority dog parks? (Select all that apply)

- I don't live close to any dog parks
- My dog is not trained well enough
- I have concerns about other dogs
- The dog parks are too small/too crowded
- I don't like the surface material
- Lack of cleanliness
- The dog parks lack the amenities I need for my dog
- Limited parking
- Limited accessibility
- Other

Please list any other dog parks you have visited in or near Fairfax County besides those run by Fairfax County Park Authority.

How far are you willing to **walk** to go to a dog park? (Select one)

- I am not willing or able to walk to a dog park
- 1 to 5 minutes
- 6 to 10 minutes
- 11 to 15 minutes
- 16 to 20 minutes
- 21 to 25 minutes
- 26 to 30 minutes

How far are you willing to **drive** to go to a dog park? (Select one)

- I am not willing or able to drive to a dog park
- 1 to 10 minutes
- 11 to 20 minutes
- 21 to 30 minutes
- 31 to 40 minutes
- 41 to 50 minutes
- 51 to 60 minutes

Where does Fairfax County most need a new dog park?

(Click the colored area on the map where you feel a dog park is most needed.

Zoom in and out to see more details on the map using the + and - buttons.)

- Annandale
- Baileys
- Bull Run
- Jefferson
- Lincolnia
- Lower Potomac
- McLean
- Mount Vernon
- Pohick
- Rose Hill
- Springfield
- Upper Potomac
- Vienna
- Fairfax

How important are each of these features when deciding whether to take your dog to a new dog park?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Benches	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Shade	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Landscaping, plantings	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Separate small dog area	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Parking	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Grass surface	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Drinking fountain for dogs and people	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Varied terrain	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Water play feature	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Agility/play features for dogs	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Restrooms	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Pet waste bag stations	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Trash cans	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Room for my dog to run	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important

Compared to other services provided by the Park Authority, how important are dog parks to you? (Select one)

- Dog parks are the only reason I visit Fairfax County Park Authority parks
- Dog parks are most important, but I use other park facilities/services too
- I use dog parks and other park facilities/services about equally
- Other park facilities/services are most important, but I also use dog parks
- I primarily use other park facilities/services and rarely or never visit dog parks

Are you interested in finding out about volunteer opportunities with Fairfax County Park Authority dog parks?

- Yes
- No

Thanks for your interest. Please provide your contact information and Park Authority staff will be in touch to discuss volunteer opportunities.

What is your home zip code?

What is your age?

- 18 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 to 49
- 50 to 59
- 60 to 69
- 70 or older

What is your sex?

- Female
- Male
- Other

How did you find out about this survey?

- Postcard in the Mail
- Email Invitation
- Park Authority Website
- Other

Please share any comments you have about Park Authority dog parks.

Thanks for participating in the survey. All of your responses have been submitted. Click the Finish Survey button to close-out the survey.

If you would like additional information about the FCPA Dog Park Study, copy and paste the following link into your browser. You can also sign up for email updates at FCPA's Dog Park Study page.

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/planning-development/dog-park-study_

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

There are a total of 13 publicly owned and operated dog parks in Fairfax County. Eleven of these dog parks are owned and/or operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) and are indicated by the black pawprints in Figure 1 below. Two (2) dog parks are owned and operated by other local jurisdictions (the City of Fairfax and the Town of Vienna). These are indicated by the yellow pawprints in Figure 1 below. More information about these two dog parks is provided in the Planning findings section of this report.

This section presents an inventory and overview of the 11 existing FCPA dog parks within Fairfax County. Details on the dates of park construction, existing amenities, and dog capacity are summarized in the table below, which is subsequently followed by a brief overview and history of each individual FCPA dog park.

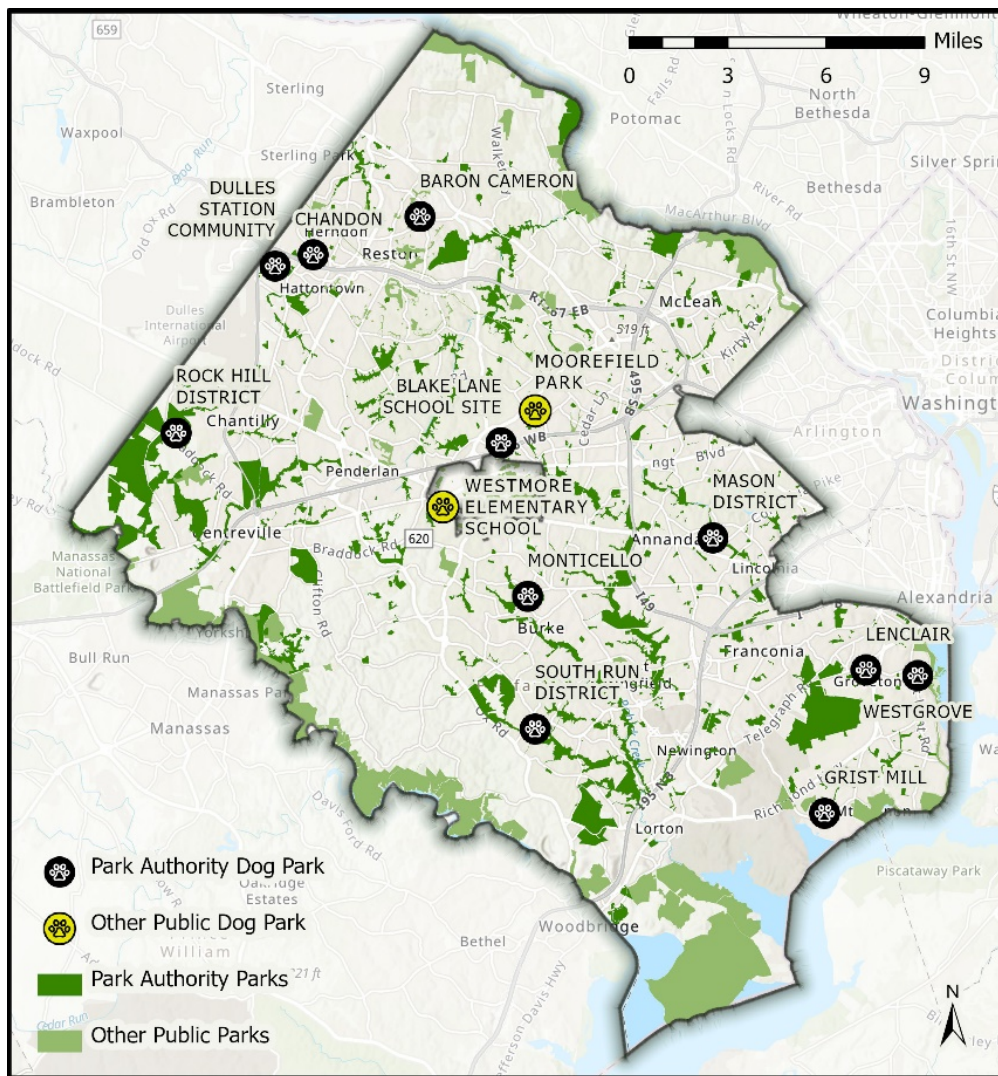


Figure 1: Existing Dog Parks in Fairfax County

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS



EXISTING FCPA DOG PARK SUMMARY TABLE

Dog Park Name	Address	Size (SF /Acres)	Establishment Date	Surface Type	Amenities	Max Dog Capacity
Baron Cameron	11300 Baron Cameron Ave Reston, VA 20190	24,841 SF /0.57 Ac	1/9/2001	Crushed Stone	Benches, Natural Shading, Parking, Water supply, Portable Restroom (Seasonal)	35*
Blake Lane (Park is owned by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and maintained by FCPA)	10033 Blake Lane, Oakton, VA 22124	17,166 SF /0.39 Ac	1/6/2000	Grass/Natural Surface	Benches, Parking	25
Chandon (Park is owned by the Town of Herndon and maintained by FCPA)	900 Palmer Drive Herndon, VA, 20169	34,340 SF /0.79 Ac	1/1/2003	Grass/Natural Surface	Benches, Natural Shading, Parking, Water supply, Portable Restroom (Seasonal)	47*
Dulles Station Community (Privately maintained)	13707 Sayward Blvd. Herndon, VA 20171	12,902 SF /0.30 Ac	6/22/2017	Crushed Stone	Benches, Shade Structure, Parking, Water supply	18
Grist Mill	4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria, VA 22309	44,944 SF /1.03 Ac	1/4/2006	Crushed Stone	Benches, Natural Shading, Parking, Water Supply, Portable Restroom (Seasonal)	64
Lenclair/Blackjack	6725 Lenclair Street, Alexandria, VA 22306	32,189 SF /0.74 Ac	1/10/2014	Crushed Stone	Benches, Parking, Water supply	46
Mason District	Intersection of Alpine Drive and Pinecrest Parkway, Annandale, VA 22003	43,679 SF /1.00 Ac	1/6/2002	Crushed Stone	Benches, Natural Shading, Parking	62
Monticello	5315 Guinea Road, Burke, VA. 22032	28,823 SF /0.66 Ac	11/20/2018	Crushed Stone	Benches, Parking	41*
Rock Hill District	15150 Old Lee Road, Chantilly, VA, 20151	63,247 SF /1.45 Ac	1/3/2006	Crushed Stone	Benches, Natural Shading, Parking	90*
South Run	7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield, VA, 22153	59,146 SF /1.36 Ac	1/12/2001	Crushed Stone	Benches, Natural Shading, Parking, Portable Restroom (Year-round)	85
Westgrove (Maintained in partnership w/ Westgrove PACK Friends Group)	6801 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22307	58,085 SF /1.33 Ac	1/11/2012	Grass	Benches, Shade Structure, Parking, Water supply	82*

Figure 2: Existing FCPA Dog Park Summary All parks are owned and maintained by FCPA unless otherwise noted.

*Indicates there are designated areas within these dog parks based on dog size

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

BARON CAMERON DOG PARK

(Established 2001)

The 0.5-acre dog park was added to the Baron Cameron Park Master Plan in 2001 following a public planning process to amend the master plan. The dog park was subsequently established as a sponsored use with Reston Dog Park Coalition, locally known as “Reston Dogs”, according to the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between FCPA and Reston Dogs. The dog park is served by multiple parking lots that are shared with athletic field users. The dog park is owned and maintained by FCPA.



Figure 3: Baron Cameron Dog Park Map

BLAKE LANE DOG PARK

(Established 2000)

Blake Lane Dog Park is Fairfax County’s first public dog park. The master plan for Blake Lane Park was revised in 1999 to incorporate a small dog park in response to numerous local dog owners expressing the need for this facility. The dog park was subsequently constructed and opened in 2000. The dog park is surrounded by dense residential development and is accessible via a pathway from the parking lot. The parkland is owned by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and is maintained by FCPA.



Figure 4: Blake Lane Dog Park Map

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

CHANDON DOG PARK

(Established 2003)

Herndon Dogs, Inc., a dog park advocacy group, petitioned the town of Herndon for a dog park in June 2000. The group spent over a year gathering information and researching potential sites in the Herndon Area. They determined that Chandon Park was the most suitable site for this type of facility based on available land, neighborhood impact, and accessibility. This information was presented to the Town Council in 2001 and the proposal was unanimously supported. FCPA revised the Chandon Park Master Plan in 2002 and included a dog park with a specified location, size, fencing, surfacing, amenities, additional parking, and operational guidelines. In 2003, the dog park was built according to the specifications outlined in the master plan. The dog park is owned by the town of Herndon and maintained by FCPA.

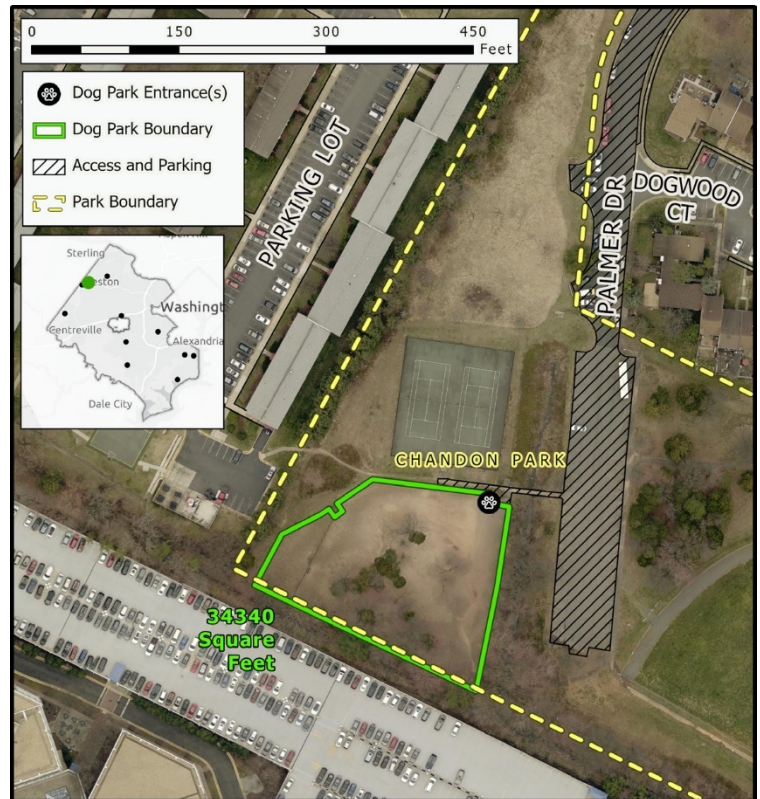


Figure 5: Chandon Dog Park Map

DULLES STATION COMMUNITY DOG PARK

(Established 2017)

Dulles Station Community Park was approved in 2013 as part of a proffer agreement associated with the development of Greystar’s Station on Silver Apartments. The agreement between the County and Greystar included a park with a playground, seating areas, a multi-use court, a shade pavilion, and a dog park. Construction of the park was completed and opened in 2017. The park, including the dog park, is owned by FCPA but maintained by the development’s HOA.

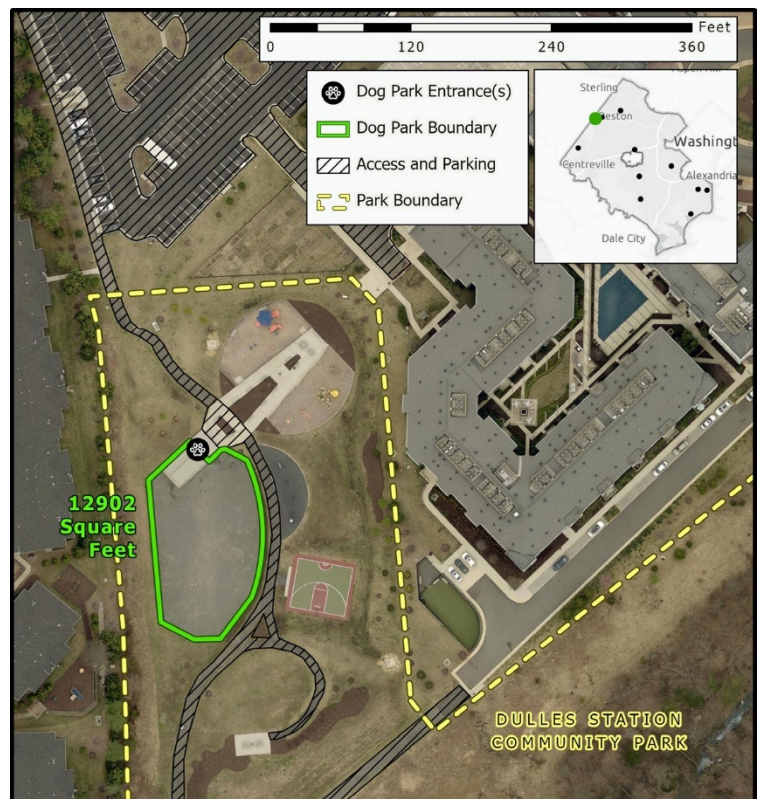


Figure 6: Dulles Station Community Dog Park Map

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

GRIST MILL DOG PARK

(Established 2006)

FCPA accepted a recommendation to consider a dog park in each County supervisor district. Several possible sites were identified for each district and Grist Mill Park was selected as the preferred site in the Mount Vernon District. The master plan was revised in 2002 to include a dog park slightly under one acre in size. The dog park was constructed and opened in 2006. It is owned and maintained by FCPA.

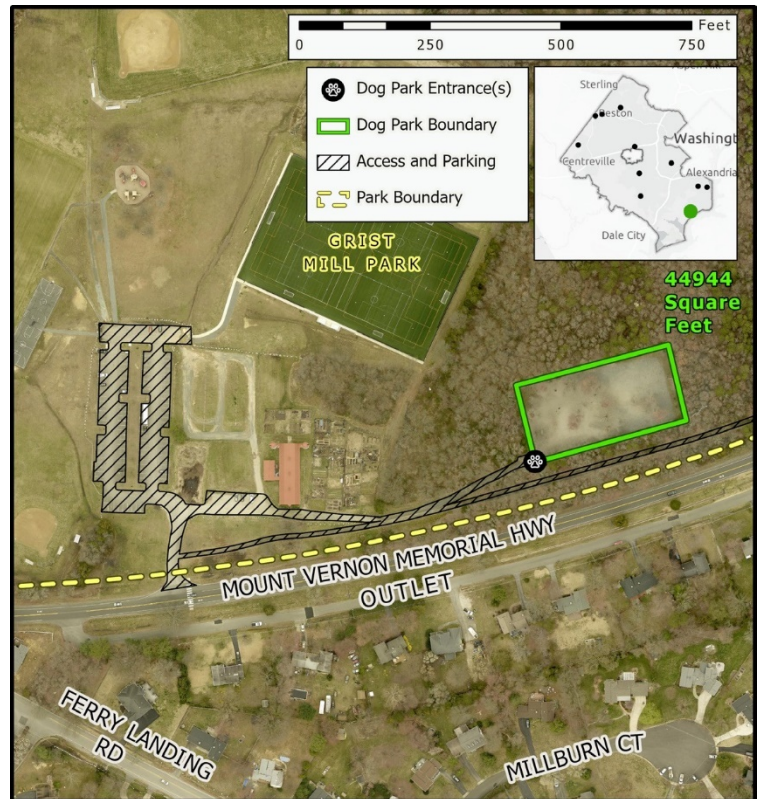


Figure 7: Grist Mill Dog Park Map

LENCLAIR/BLACKJACK DOG PARK

(Established 2014)

As part of a rezoning for the Beacon of Groveton Apartments in 2005, a public dog park was proposed as part of the dedicated Lenclair Park. FCPA and local residents collaborated on the design of the dog park and construction began in 2013. The dog park opened in 2014 and is owned and operated by FCPA.

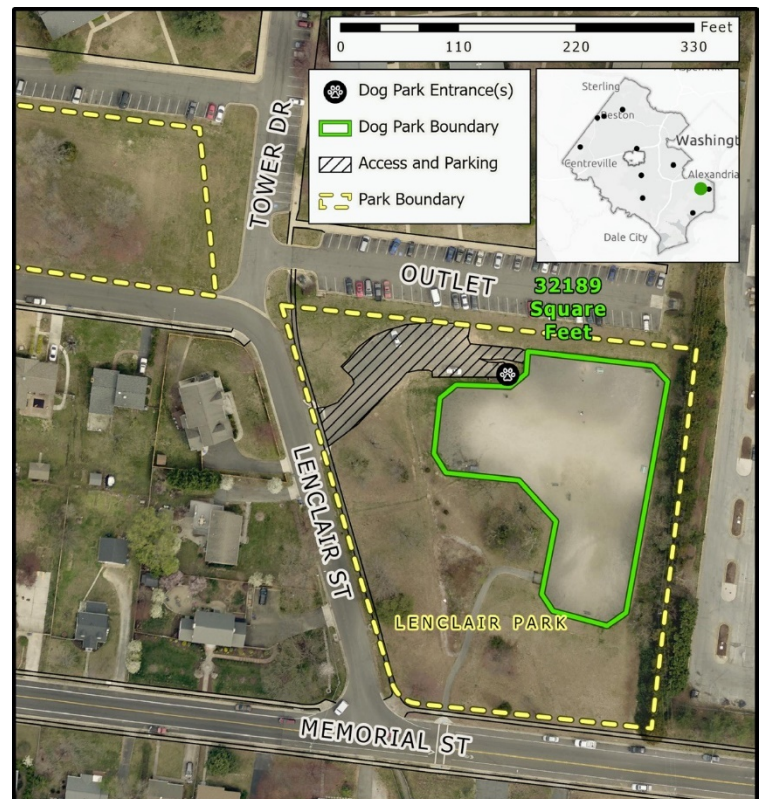


Figure 8: Lenclair/Blackjack Dog Park

APPENDIX 3 - INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

MASON DISTRICT DOG PARK

(Established 2002)

Prior to 2001, a dog park advocacy group, Dog Opportunity Group, was established by local dog owners. The group sent out a survey to 2,000 registered dog owners in the Mason District to determine the interest in a new dog park. The results favored the development of a new dog park in the area and the Mason District Park Master Plan was amended in 2001 after several public meetings to include a dog park, open play area, and additional parking within the park. The development of the dog park was funded by D.O.G. (Dog Opportunity Group) and was opened in 2002. The dog park is owned and operated by FCPA.

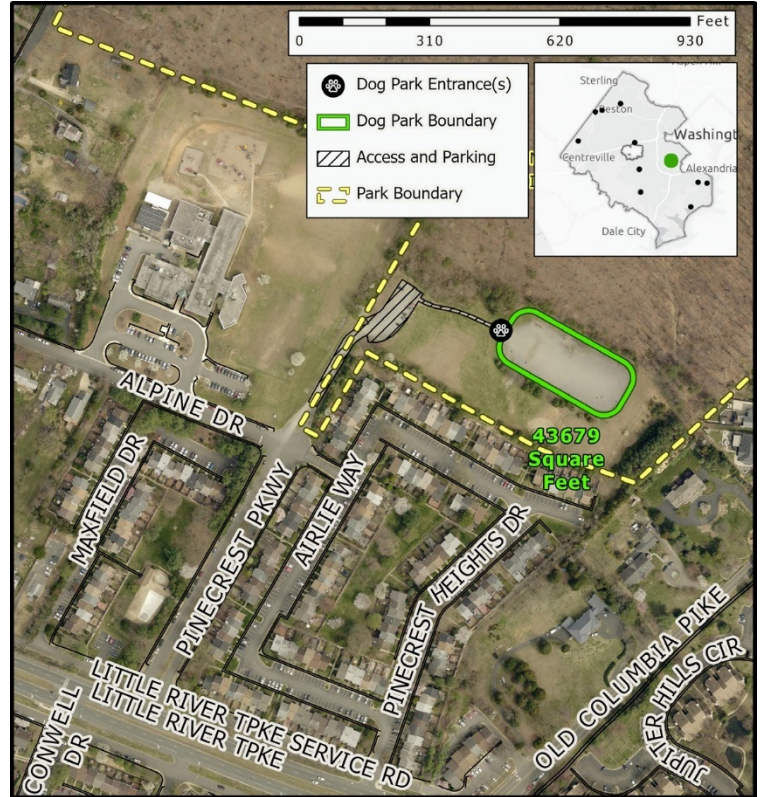


Figure 9: Mason District Dog Park Map

MONTICELLO DOG PARK

(Established 2018)

Braddock Dogs, an organized sponsor group, sought a location within the immediate vicinity of most of its initial members and evaluated 42 potential sites in the Burke and Fairfax areas. Evaluation of these candidate sites indicated that Monticello Park was the optimal park site for the dog park, based on proximity and site suitability. Locating the dog park in the Braddock District also supported FCPA's objective of having a dog park in each County supervisor district. The Monticello Park Master Plan process began in 2011 and public outreach showed support for a dog park. The master plan was approved in 2012 and the dog park was constructed in 2018. The dog park is owned and operated by FCPA.

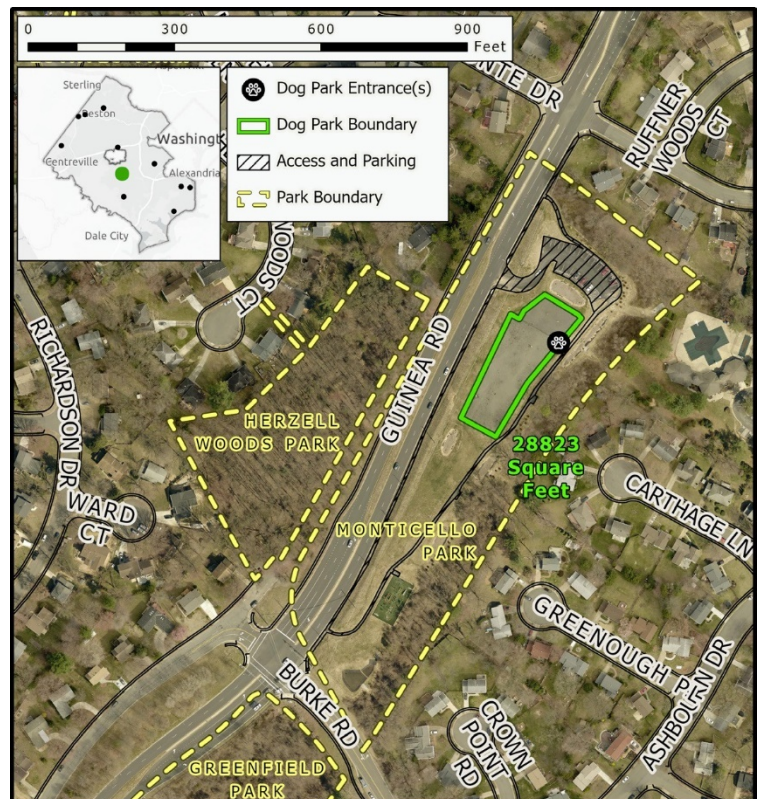


Figure 10: Monticello Dog Park Map

APPENDIX 3 - INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

ROCK HILL DISTRICT DOG PARK

(Established 2006)

Rock Hill District Dog Park was formed as an interim use at Quinn Farm Park in 2006. The dog park was sponsored by Centerville Dogs, a sponsor group of 350 area residents and businesses. The group raised funding for the construction of the park through donations and a Mastenbrook Grant from the Fairfax County Park Authority. The park was later renamed to Rock Hill District Park. The dog park is owned and operated by FCPA.



Figure 11: Rock Hill District Dog Park Map

SOUTH RUN DOG PARK

(Established 2001)

Following the development of Blake Lane Park, a dog park advocacy group, formed and recommended a dog park in South Run District Park. The master plan for South Run District Park was amended in 2001 to include an off-leash dog area with a minimum size of one-quarter acre to the west of the park entrance road within the forested area and extending into the open, grassed area of the Dominion Virginia Power utility-line easement. The dog park was constructed and opened in 2001. The dog park is owned and operated by FCPA.



Figure 12: South Run Dog Park Map

APPENDIX 3 – INVENTORY & EVALUATION OF EXISTING DOG PARKS

WESTGROVE DOG PARK**(Established 2012)**

Prior to 2012, a mowed open area at Westgrove Park was regularly used by dog owners from nearby communities. In 2010, the need for this area to become designated as a formal dog park was recognized and a volunteer Friend's Group, known as the Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK), was formed. The Westgrove PACK Friends Group obtained approximately 500 signatures on a petition to establish a dog park on an interim basis within the park. At the time, there was documented support from local civic associations and the community. A MOU between FCPA and Westgrove PACK was signed in 2011 that outlined each parties' respective responsibilities for the development of the dog park on an interim basis. The dog park was constructed in 2012 and the park's master plan was amended to include a permanent dog park in 2013. The dog park is owned by FCPA and operated in partnership with the Westgrove PACK Friends Group.



Figure 13: Westgrove Dog Park Map

APPENDIX 4 – DEFINITIONS

Throughout this study, various terms and acronyms are referenced. The definitions provided below are intended to provide clarification and background for the reader.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY (FCPA)

The Fairfax County Park Authority, also referenced in this report as FCPA or the Park Authority, was created by action of the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, at its meeting on December 6, 1950, by Resolution, in accordance with the provision of the Park Authorities Act (Sec. 15.1-1228 to 15.1-1238.1, Ch. 27, Code of Virginia. FCPA is governed by a 12-member Board, referenced in this report as the Park Authority Board or FCPA Board, with members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Park Authority Mission is to enrich quality of life for all members of the community through an enduring park system that provides a healthy environment, preserves natural and cultural heritage, offers inspiring recreational experiences, and promotes healthy lifestyles.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK FOUNDATION (FCPF)

The Fairfax County Park Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit charitable corporation under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors and staffed by an Executive Director with a lean and efficient staff. The Board is comprised of community and business leaders. The Fairfax County Park Foundation supports the Fairfax County Park Authority by raising private funds, obtaining grants, and creating partnerships that supplement tax dollars to meet the County's needs for parkland, facilities, and services.

OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS(OLDAs)

Off-Leash Dog Areas (OLDAs) are publicly accessible fenced in dog facilities within FCPA parks where dogs are permitted to be off-leash.

DOG RUNS

For the purposes of this report, Dog Runs are typically less than 0.25 acres and may have less amenities than a dog park. They are typically constructed by private developers in densely populated settings.

DOG AREA

For the purposes of this report, the Dog Area is defined as the portion of the dog park that is fenced in specifically for allowing dogs to be let off leash.

SPECIAL PLANNING AREAS

Special Planning Areas are land use planning designations in the County's Comprehensive Plan that include Urban Centers, Suburban Centers, Community Business Centers, and Transit Station Areas. Generally speaking, these Special Planning Areas are areas within the county that have a higher population density compared to

other parts of the county and are areas planned for guided growth. These are locations where walkable, mixed-use neighborhood planning is especially encouraged and emphasized. Note that because the analysis in this report is centered around population density, two Special Planning Areas, Industrial Areas and Large Institutional Land Areas, were excluded from Figure 18.

RESOURCE PROTECTION AREA (RPA)

Chesapeake Bay Act Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) are regulated corridors of environmentally sensitive land that lie alongside or near the shorelines of streams, rivers, and other waterways.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CORRIDOR (EQC)

The Environmental Quality Corridor system is an open space system in Fairfax County that is designed to link and preserve natural resource areas. The EQC policy can be found in Objective 9 of the Environmental section of the Policy Plan volume of Fairfax County’s Comprehensive Plan.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources are those sites or structures, including their landscape settings, that exemplify the cultural, architectural, economic, social, political or historic heritage of the County or its communities.

MS4 PERMIT

MS4 permits authorize cities, counties, or other governmental entities to discharge stormwater collected by their storm sewer systems to waters of the United States.

FRIENDS GROUP

Friends Groups are individuals who come together to provide ongoing operations, programmatic, maintenance and/or fundraising support at a park, facility, or specified program, and who work closely with a FCPA staff liaison to develop projects and plans.

PARK VOLUNTEER TEAM (PVTs)

Park Volunteer Teams (PVTs) are volunteer-led teams who offer support for a site or program. The PVT volunteers can develop and implement their own services and work in coordination with site plans and programs. PVT volunteer services help advance the mission of the site and embody the Park Authority mission and vision to inspire a passion for parks amongst visitors and the community.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a legal agreement between two or more parties outlined in a formal document. For the purposes of the Park Authority’s dog parks, an MOU is often between the Park Authority and a nongovernmental community group and outlines the responsibilities of the parties.