CITY OF KIRKLAND
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: James Lopez, Assistant City Manager
Jairid Hoehn, Customer Service Supervisor
Kari Page, Senior Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
Philly Marsh, Special Projects Coordinator
David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
Christian Knight, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
Patrick Tefft, Volunteer Services Coordinator

Date: April 5, 2019

Subject: OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS OUTREACH FINDINGS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At the request of the Parks & Community Services department, staff undertook a process of public participation to better understand the community's perspective on whether there was need for additional off-leash dog areas throughout the Kirkland Parks system, and, if so, what type of area would be preferred. Staff employed 11 outreach techniques to collect a total of 1,182 survey responses as well as verbal and written comment. The techniques used and events attended are described in more detail on page 14 of this memo. It should be noted that the survey was not randomized and is not statistically valid.

61.9% of survey respondents indicated that they had a dog, while 34.4% indicated that they did not have a dog (3.7% indicated that their dog possession was "complicated"). Overall, 74.9% of survey respondents indicated support of additional off-leash dog opportunities in the larger parks in Kirkland, such Heritage Park, Juanita Beach Park and Crestwoods Park. 71.2% of respondents also indicated support for additional off-leash dog opportunities in Kirkland's neighborhood parks. A majority of respondents, whether they had a dog or not, indicated that if the City were to increase off-leash areas, they would prefer dog parks that were fenced.

The socialization of dogs and humans was identified as the most positive potential impact to having more off-leash dog areas by those having a dog, while those who reported not having a dog indicated the most positive potential impacts to more off-leash dog areas were that having safe and controlled areas as well as reducing the need for enforcement in other areas. Respondents who reported having a dog were more likely to see no significant concerns on having more off-leash dog areas, while those who reported not having a dog indicated that the most negative potential impact of more off-leash dog areas would be that they can be dangerous.

Additional perspectives expressed by the public include concerns about dog waste, uncontrolled off-leash dogs, lack of enforcement, and the need for education for dog owners. Community members also expressed concerns related to prioritization of park space, environmental impacts, and cost to the City.

BACKGROUND:

Since 1998, community members in the City of Kirkland have identified off-leash dog areas as a highly desired amenity for the Kirkland Parks system. In February 2015, the Park Board received a proposal to expand off-leash dog areas from the Kirkland Dog Off-leash Group (KDOG). The Park Board expressed their support for the proposal at that time. Staff received direction to prepare a public engagement plan that could be implemented in 2016, however that plan was delayed until 2018 when Kirkland would take over animal services from King County. The 2017-2018 Parks & Community Services work plan identified an area of work for the Park Board to "Seek public feedback and provide guidance on Designated Off-Leash Area proposal".

At the January 2018 City Council Park Board Joint Study Session, Park Board members shared their desire to conduct public outreach for the Designated Off-Leash Area (DOLA) concept. The study session concluded with the Park Board stating that public outreach for Designated Off-Leash Areas would be complete in 2018. As a part of the Parks & Community Services 2018 work plan, staff consulted with key stakeholders including dog owners and those who don't own dogs, neighborhood groups, and other interest groups, to learn:

1. Whether the City of Kirkland should provide more off-leash dog opportunities; and, if so
2. Whether those additional areas be fenced or unfenced and in neighborhood parks or larger parks.

FINDINGS

THOUGHTS ON DESIGNATING OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS IN PARKS

Two priority questions on which staff sought insight were: "**What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood parks?"** and "**What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?"**. For each question, the answers available to respondents were: A) Strongly Support; B) Somewhat Support; C) Somewhat Oppose; D) Strongly Oppose; E) Not Sure.

To simplify analysis and the presentation of findings, staff grouped "Strongly Support" and "Somewhat Support" together for an overall "Support" value, and staff similarly grouped "Oppose" values. A detailed account of the varying amounts of support are included in Appendix A. It should be noted that not every survey respondent answered every question, so raw counts of responses may add up to less than 1,182, the total amount of surveys received.

Table 1: **Thoughts on Designating Off-Leash Dog Areas in Park**

Analysis: Respondents were far more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in neighborhood parks. For larger parks, respondents were again far more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas.			
What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood parks?		**What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?**	
Support	**837** **71.2%**	Support	**880** **74.9%**
Oppose	**286** **24.3%**	Oppose	**239** **20.3%**
Not sure	**52** **4.4%**	Not sure	**56** **4.8%**
Total	**1,175** **100%**	Total	**1,175** **100%**

Table 2: **Do you have a dog?**

Analysis: Those who have a dog represented almost two thirds of survey respondents.	
Yes	**728** **61.9%**
No	**405** **34.4%**
It's complicated	**43** **3.7%**
Total	**1,176** **100%**

Cross Tabulation Analysis
Survey respondents, whether online or in-person, had the option to self-identify on several behavioral and demographic questions. During analysis, staff cross-tabulated survey results by some behavioral or demographic indicators to identify themes and trends in the community. Those cross-tabulations are summarized below.

Table 3: **Do you have a dog?** cross-tabulated by **What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood parks?**

Analysis: Those who reported having a dog were significantly more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in Kirkland's neighborhood parks. Those who reported not having a dog were slightly more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in neighborhood parks.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood parks?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
Do you have a dog?	Yes	604 83.2%	95 13.1%	27 3.7%	**726** **62.1%**
	No	202 50.4%	176 43.9%	23 5.7%	**401** **34.3%**
	It's complicated	28 65.1%	13 30.2%	2 4.7%	**43** **3.7%**

Table 4: **Do you have a dog?** cross-tabulated by **What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?**

Analysis: Those who reported having a dog were again significantly more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in larger Kirkland parks. Those who reported not having a dog were somewhat more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in larger parks.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
Do you have a dog?	Yes	618 85.1%	83 11.4%	25 3.4%	**726** **62.1%**
	No	225 56.1%	147 36.7%	29 7.2%	**401** **34.3%**
	It's complicated	33 76.7%	8 18.6%	2 4.7%	**43** **3.7%**

Table 5: **Do you have a dog?** cross-tabulated by **If the City were to expand off-leash dog areas, which type of area would you prefer?**

Analysis: Respondents that responded as not having a dog were significantly more likely to prefer a dog park with a fence if the City were to expand off-leash areas. Respondents that have a dog were somewhat more likely to prefer a dog park with a fence if the City were to expand off-leash areas, however the option of both a dog park with a fence and designated time and space was also of interest.		If the City were to expand off-leash dog areas, which type of area would you prefer?				**Total**
		Dog Park with Fence	Designated Time and Space	Both	Neither	
Do you have a dog?	Yes	312 43.0%	117 16.1%	273 37.6%	24 3.3%	**726** **62.2%**
	No	283 70.9%	35 8.8%	55 13.8%	26 6.5%	**399** **34.2%**
	It's complicated	28 65.1%	6 14.0%	6 14.0%	3 7.0%	**43** **3.7%**

Table 6: **Area of Residence** cross-tabulated by **What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood park?**

Analysis: A by-neighborhood analysis illustrates that respondents across the City are consistently more likely to support than oppose off-leash dog areas in neighborhood parks.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood park?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
In which part of Kirkland do you reside?	North Kirkland (Finn Hill, Juanita, Kingsgate, Totem Lake)	274 70.3%	101 25.9%	15 3.9%	**390** **35.4%**
	Central Kirkland (Market, Norkirk, Highlands, North Rose Hill)	257 70.6%	94 25.8%	13 3.6%	**364** **33.1%**
	South Kirkland (Moss Bay, Everest, S. Rose Hill, Lakeview, Central Houghton, Bridle Trails)	222 72.1%	73 23.7%	13 4.2%	**308** **28.0%**
	I live outside of Kirkland	28 71.8%	5 12.8%	6 15.4%	**39** **3.5%**

Table 7: **Area of Residence** cross-tabulated by **What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?**

Analysis: A by-neighborhood analysis illustrates that respondents across the City are consistently more likely to support than oppose off-leash dog areas in larger parks.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
In which part of Kirkland do you reside?	North Kirkland (Finn Hill, Juanita, Kingsgate, Totem Lake)	280 71.6%	95 24.3%	16 4.1%	**391** **35.5%**
	Central Kirkland (Market, Norkirk, Highlands, North Rose Hill)	274 75.3%	78 21.4%	12 3.3%	**364** **33.0%**
	South Kirkland (Moss Bay, Everest, S. Rose Hill, Lakeview, Central Houghton, Bridle Trails)	239 77.6%	54 17.5%	15 4.9%	**308** **28.0%**
	I live outside of Kirkland	27 69.2%	3 7.7%	9 23.1%	**39** **3.5%**

Table 8: **Housing Type** cross-tabulated by **Initial Thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in neighborhood parks**

Analysis: Although both homeowners and renters were significantly more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in neighborhood parks, of those surveyed, renters indicated slightly stronger support than homeowners.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood park?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
What is your housing situation?	Own	604 70.6%	224 26.2%	28 3.3%	**856** **84.2%**
	Rent	108 77.7%	21 15.1%	10 7.2%	**139** **13.7%**
	Unhoused	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	**0** **0.0%**
	Prefer not to answer	12 54.5%	9 40.9%	1 4.5%	**22** **2.2%**

Table 9: **Housing Type** cross-tabulated by **Initial Thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in larger parks?**

Analysis: Although both homeowners and renters were significantly more likely to support than oppose designating off-leash dog areas in larger parks, renters indicated slightly stronger support than homeowners.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
What is your housing situation?	Own	634 74.1%	187 21.9%	35 4.1%	**856** **84.2%**
	Rent	109 78.4%	23 16.5%	7 5.0%	**139** **13.7%**
	Unhoused	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	**0** **0.0%**
	Prefer not to answer	15 68.2%	6 27.3%	1 4.5%	**22** **2.2%**

Table 10: **Age** cross-tabulated by **What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood park?**

Analysis: Overall, all age categories except for 80+ indicated support for designated off-leash areas in neighborhood parks, with the most support coming from those under 20 and those aged 20 to 35. The likelihood of support decreased as the age of the survey respondent increased.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood park?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
What is your age?	Under 20	9 90.0%	1 10.0%	0 0.0%	**10** **1.0%**
	20-35	119 79.3%	21 14.0%	10 6.7%	**150** **15.2%**
	35-50	276 75.2%	76 20.7%	15 4.1%	**367** **37.1%**
	50-65	237 68.5%	100 28.9%	9 2.6%	**346** **35.0%**
	65-80	67 59.3%	44 38.9%	2 1.8%	**113** **11.4%**
	80+	2 50.0%	2 50.0%	0 0.0%	**4** **0.4%**

Table 11: **Age** cross-tabulated by **What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in larger parks?**

Analysis: Overall, all age categories except for 80+ indicated support for designated off-leash areas in larger parks, with the most support coming from those under 20 and those aged 20 to 35. The likelihood of support decreased as the age of the survey respondent increased.		What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in larger parks?			**Total**
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	
What is your age?	Under 20	9 90.0%	1 10.0%	0 0.0%	**10** **1.0%**
	20-35	123 82.0%	18 12.0%	9 6.0%	**150** **15.2%**
	35-50	287 78.2%	69 18.8%	11 3.0%	**367** **37.1%**
	50-65	250 72.3%	80 23.1%	16 4.6%	**346** **34.9%**
	65-80	74 65.5%	35 31.0%	4 3.5%	**113** **11.4%**
	80+	2 50.0%	2 50.0%	0 0.0%	**4** **0.4%**

POTENTIAL POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF MORE OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

Staff asked the public to comment on what they saw as the most significant potential positive and negative impacts on the community of expanding off-leash dog areas to determine how people's values and perspectives on off-leash dog areas may inform their initial support or opposition to the expansion of off-leash areas.

Cross-Tabulated Analysis

During analysis, staff again cross-tabulated survey results to identify themes in the community. Those cross-tabulations are summarized below. It should again be noted that not every survey respondent answered every question, so raw counts of responses may add up to less than 1,182 (the total amount of surveys received).

Staff asked: **What would be the most significant potential positive impact on the community of more off-leash dog areas?** The answers available to respondents were: A) Socialization of dogs and humans; B) Exercise for dogs and their handlers; C) Safe and controlled area; D) May reduce the need for enforcement in other areas; E) I see no significant benefits.

Table 12: **Do you have a dog?** cross-tabulated by **Potential Positive Impact**

Analysis: Respondents who reported having a dog identified *socialization of dogs and humans* as the most positive impact. Respondents who reported not having a dog indicated that *safe and controlled areas* and that it *may reduce the need for enforcement in other areas* as the most positive impacts.		Potential Positive Impact					
		Socialization of dogs and humans	Exercise for dogs and their handlers	Safe and controlled area	May reduce the need for enforcement in other areas	I see no significant benefits	**Total**
Do you have a dog?	Yes	193 27.3%	186 26.4%	178 25.2%	113 16.0%	36 5.1%	**706** **62.2%**
	No	46 11.8%	53 13.6%	107 27.4%	106 27.1%	79 20.2%	**391** **34.4%**
	It's complicated	8 20.5%	6 15.4%	9 23.1%	12 30.8%	4 10.3%	**39** **3.4%**
Total		247 21.7%	245 21.6%	294 25.9%	231 20.3%	119 10.5%	**1136** **100.0%**

Staff asked: **What would be the most significant potential negative impact on the community of more off-leash dog areas?** The answers available to respondents were: A) Less Park space and/or increased traffic; B) Can be dangerous; C) Cost of maintaining; D) Damage to the natural habitat; E) I see no significant concerns.

Table 13: **Do you have a dog?** cross-tabulated by **Potential Negative Impact**

Analysis: Respondents who reported having a dog were more likely to *see no significant concerns* on having more off-leash dog areas. Respondents who reported not having a dog responded that the most negative impact of more off-leash dog areas would be that they *can be dangerous*.		Potential Negative Impact					**Total**
		Less Park space and/or increased traffic	Can be dangerous	Cost of maintaining	Damage to the natural habitat	I see no significant concerns	
Do you have a dog?	Yes	66 9.2%	126 17.5%	194 14.5%	61 8.5%	362 50.3%	**719** **62.2%**
	No	78 19.7%	113 28.5%	61 15.4%	68 17.2%	76 19.2%	**396** **34.3%**
	It's complicated	9 22.0%	10 24.4%	7 17.1%	5 12.2%	10 24.4%	**41** **3.5%**
Total		153 13.2%	249 21.5%	172 14.9%	134 11.6%	448 38.8%	**1156** **100.0%**

QUALITATIVE THEMES

In addition to the quantitative data from the survey responses, staff also collected qualitative input from an open-ended survey question by asking "Any other thoughts or feedback you'd like to provide?" Staff also took notes on verbal feedback from focus groups, Neighborhood Association meetings, interest group meeting and booth experience, and park interviews, as well as submitted via email.

Staff synthesized this feedback. Although the majority of survey respondents support having off-leash dog areas, many respondents identified concerns which staff categorized into the themes reported below. A comprehensive listing of comments categorized by survey respondents and their off-leash area preference and dog ownership status is in Appendix B.

Concerns with Dog Behavior

- Concerns regarding dog waste
  For many respondents, dog waste was a major concern of off-leash dogs, especially around schools. Some stated dog waste should be more of an enforcement priority than dogs off leash, including imposing fines. Some suggested that the City should prioritize having poop bag stations and poop bags as well as trash cans available. There were also comments regarding people not picking up dog waste in people's yards and leaving bags on sidewalks.

- Concern with owners who can't control unleashed dogs
  While some respondents stated that there are controlled, non-aggressive off-leash dogs, many community members raised concerns with off-leash dogs not being under voice control of their owners and that dogs can be unpredictable. Many respondents pointed out owner irresponsibility with untrained dogs and concerns with off-leash dog owners being inattentive, acting entitled, and getting angry when confronted about their dog being off leash. Respondents commented on a need for proper off-leash etiquette including being respectful of others' concerns and ensuring valid voice control and leashing dogs when around others and that the dog community needs to assist with policing this.

- Concerns regarding leash anxiety with unleashed dogs who run up to leashed dogs
  Many respondents illustrated that dogs that are unleashed, although friendly, are not under voice control and run up to leashed dogs that may not be friendly, which can cause both aggression and leash anxiety in the leashed dog. Respondents with smaller dogs are concerned about safety when larger dogs run toward them.

- Concerns with dogs-and-children interaction
  Many respondents expressed concern regarding off-leash dogs interacting and threatening children and that dog waste ruins areas designed for children.

- Concerns with unleashed dogs interacting with people who are allergic to dogs
  Some respondents expressed concern with being allergic to dogs and off-leash dogs running up and interacting with them.

Comments on Enforcement and Education

- Enforcement
  Many respondents commented that there is no enforcement of current laws and that the current fine of $25 is too low to deter the behavior. Suggestions included raising the fine and increasing the fines for repeat offenders and a way for the public to report offenders such as SeeClickFix or an established photo dog recognition data base. A suggestion included visible signage with the rules and expectations listed at the parks with contact information for calling in concerns and violations. Another suggestion was to enlist police explorers or volunteers to patrol.

Other comments included that enforcement should be on a case-by-case basis, that dog owners are uncomfortable being criminalized based on a City code that doesn't meet a need, and that there is no problem needing to be fixed.

- Education and training for dog owners
  Some respondents suggested that there needs to be better education for dog owners, including information on leash laws, waste collection, sensitive areas, training opportunities, and proper etiquette. A suggestion was that this information could be provided when a dog receives a license and that there could be training in the community and incentives for responsible dog owners. Others suggested that a training certificate or test should be required to promote more well-behaved humans and dogs, and that the dog could get a special tag identifying it as approved for off-leash work and that even a contract could be signed. Another comment was that there should be some restriction on how far the dog can roam away from their handler.

Comments on Public Space and Funding

- Space prioritization
  Some respondents commented that they do not want dogs to take space away from children's opportunities and that parks should be for people and prioritized as such. One commented that there should be dog free zones in parks. However, others commented that dog owners are tax payers and not everyone has children and that scarce resources and facilities need to be shared to accommodate various uses.

- Space underutilization
  Some respondents commented that there are many parks that are underutilized and are rarely used many hours of the day, and that those could be used for off-leash use for responsible owners.

- Kirkland zoning and increased density
  Some respondents mentioned that due to increased density there are less yards and responsible dog owners need accessible places to train and exercise their dogs. It was specifically mentioned that there are no dog park options near areas with increasing density in south Kirkland and downtown.

- Environmental impacts
  While some respondents expressed concerns with dog feces in sensitive areas and the lake, as well as trampling of greenspace and disruption to wildlife, others mentioned that more dog options in Kirkland would decrease the need to use a car to drive to dog parks and that dogs leave less waste than humans.

- Cost
  Some respondents mentioned that taxpayers should not subsidize dog owner opportunities and that the license fee should cover all enforcement and maintenance costs. However, other respondents mentioned that dog owners are also tax payers who don't use other public goods provided for others.

- Dogs build community
  Respondents mentioned that dog ownership promotes friendship between strangers and off-leash areas build community and social engagement among neighbors. Off-leash areas can also foster a volunteer base to assist with maintenance and engagement needs.

- Comments on timed unfenced options
  Many responders commented on having a timed off-leash opportunity at parks in the early

mornings or evenings when the park is not being utilized by others. Some suggested a pilot and only start with the mornings, when it is more likely to not have other utilization and see if dog owners are responsible and clean up after their dogs. One respondent referred to this as “canine community hour”. Some commented that it would be important to communicate and have signage so any other visitors to the park know what to expect.

Other Neighborhood Concerns

- Roaming and stray dogs with no owner present
- Neighborhood dog barking
- Free-roaming cats causing problems and killing birds
- More dog parks increasing traffic to neighborhoods

Challenges with Current Kirkland Dog Parks

General comments on the challenges of current Kirkland dog parks include that they are too small and overcrowded with not enough space to chase a ball and no lake access. Additionally, the two dog parks are concentrated in the north end and too far away, with traffic to get to for most residents of Kirkland.

Comments specific to the challenges of Jasper’s dog park included that it is too small, hill and muddy with an awkward layout and no benches. Others mentioned that dog poop does not get picked up and has become a dog health hazard. There were also comments that aggressive dogs frequent that park and cause fights and that the park itself is hard to find, there is no parking and it feels dark and unsafe.

Comments specific to Edith Moulton included that there are too many entrances that don’t have a double fence which jeopardizes dog security, that it is shaded, and cold.

Beneficial Amenities

- More and better maintained poop bags and waste collection bins, including compostable dog waste areas
- Water bowls
- Water Access
- Dog wash onsite
- Sites that meet the different needs of different dogs
    - Special need, shy elderly dogs
    - Small dogs
    - High energy dogs that need to run and chase balls
- The entrance to the dog area should be close to ample parking.

A full account of comments categorized by survey respondents and their preference and dog ownership status is in Appendix B.: Comprehensive Listing of Submitted Comments.

OUTREACH METHODOLOGY

STRATEGIC APPROACH TO CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

The City Council was briefed by the Assistant City Manager at the February 23, 2018, Council Policy Retreat on a new strategic approach to civic engagement initiated to further the 2017-2018 City Work Program item: "Enhance resident and business engagement in Kirkland through community-based initiatives that foster a safe, inclusive and welcoming City and a love of Kirkland."

One component of this approach was the formation of an informal, interdepartmental civic engagement service team that consists of the staff listed at the beginning of this memo. At the direction of the Assistant City Manager, this team crafted the strategy and techniques to collect community feedback on designated off-leash dog areas and oversaw the implementation of the engagement plan in coordination with the communications team and Parks & Community Services staff. The civic engagement team relied primarily upon the methodology of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2), a robust framework used internationally for civic engagement in support of sustainable decisions. Staff utilized the IAP2 process both in the formulation and execution of the feedback collection process.

TECHNIQUES USED TO COLLECT FEEDBACK

Staff collected feedback through a survey, written comments, and verbal comments at events. Staff sought a wide range of perspectives from the community and utilized five methods of in-person outreach and six methods of digital outreach to collect 1,182 total survey responses. The specific methods include:

Table 14: **In-Person Techniques**

Event Type	Quantity	Attendance*	Surveys
Neighborhood Association Meetings *Moss Bay, Juanita, S. Rose Hill / Bridle Trails, Central Houghton, N. Rose Hill, Everest, Lakeview, Norkirk, Evergreen Hill, Market*	10	145	87
Community Event Booth Experiences *Turkey Trot, Winterfest, Google Lights***	3	497	119
Park Visits *Edith Moulton Park, Heritage Park, Jasper's Park, Juanita Beach Park, O.O. Denny Park, Marina Park*	6	24	7
Community Meeting at City Hall *December 6*	1	34	16
Focus Groups *Dog Owners, Heritage Park Users, Green Kirkland Stewards*	3	18	n/a
SUBTOTAL	**23**	**718**	**229**

With few exceptions, all events except for Community Event Booth Experiences consisted of a produced video or standard PowerPoint presentation, followed by a group discussion and paper survey responses. Community Event Booth Experiences consisted of individual conversations and paper survey responses.

*Total number of people that were present at a meeting or with whom staff interacted.
**Individual conversations at Google Lights, which account for approximately 410 of this value, were more limited than at other Community Booth Experiences and in many cases consisted of handing out an info card with a short website link for the survey.

Table 15: **Digital Outreach Techniques**

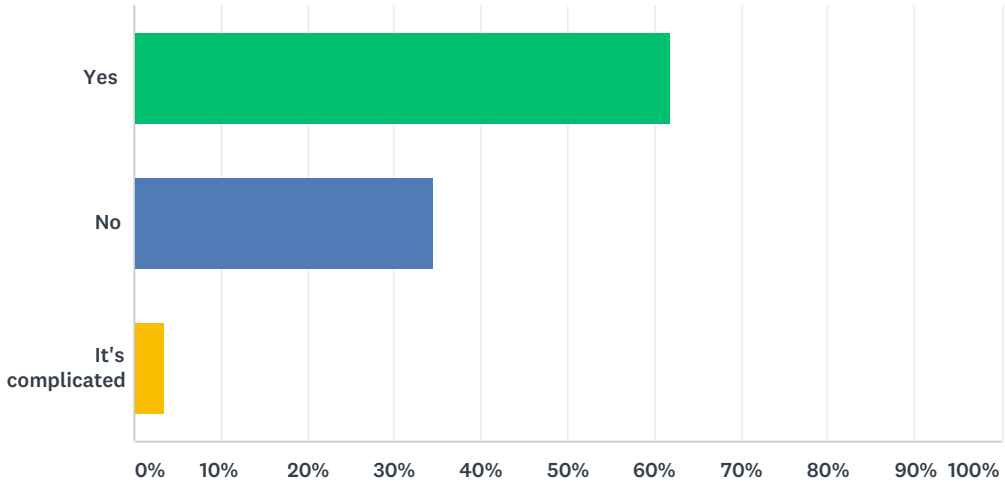
Digital Outreach Type	Quantity	Views***	Surveys
Partner Email Promotion *Neighborhood Leaders email, Park Board sharing*	****	****	171
Facebook Posts	12	11,377	782
Twitter Tweets	9	11,774	
Landing Webpage (www.kirklandwa.gov/offleashdogs)	1	787	
City Newsletter Articles	9	9,550	
Video posted on YouTube and Facebook	1	512	n/a
SUBTOTAL	**32**	**34,000**	**953**

*** "Views" defined as: Facebook Reach, Twitter Impressions, Email Unique Opens, Webpage Unique Visits, YouTube Views, and Facebook Video Views.
**** Data unavailable.

Appendix A: Summary of Survey Results
Appendix B: Comprehensive Listing of Submitted Comments
Appendix C: Demographic Profile of Survey Respondents

Q1 Do you have a dog?

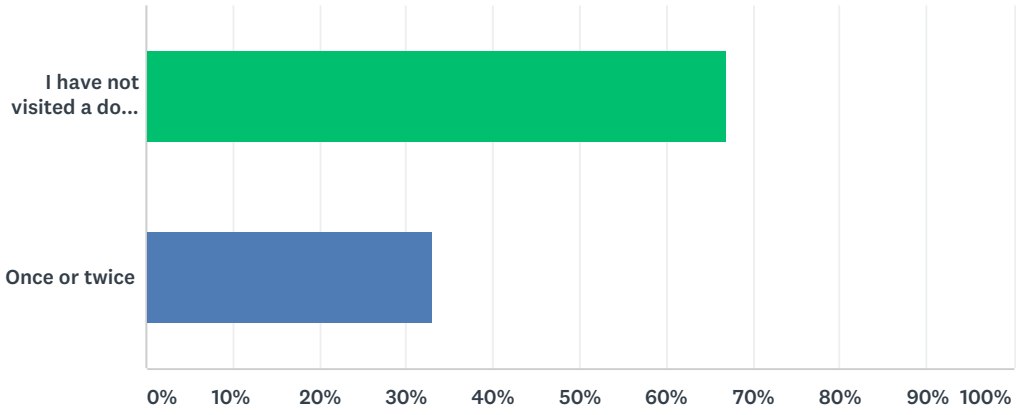
Answered: 1,176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.90%	728
No	34.44%	405
It's complicated	3.66%	43
TOTAL		1,176

Q2 In the last six months, how often have you used a Kirkland dog park?

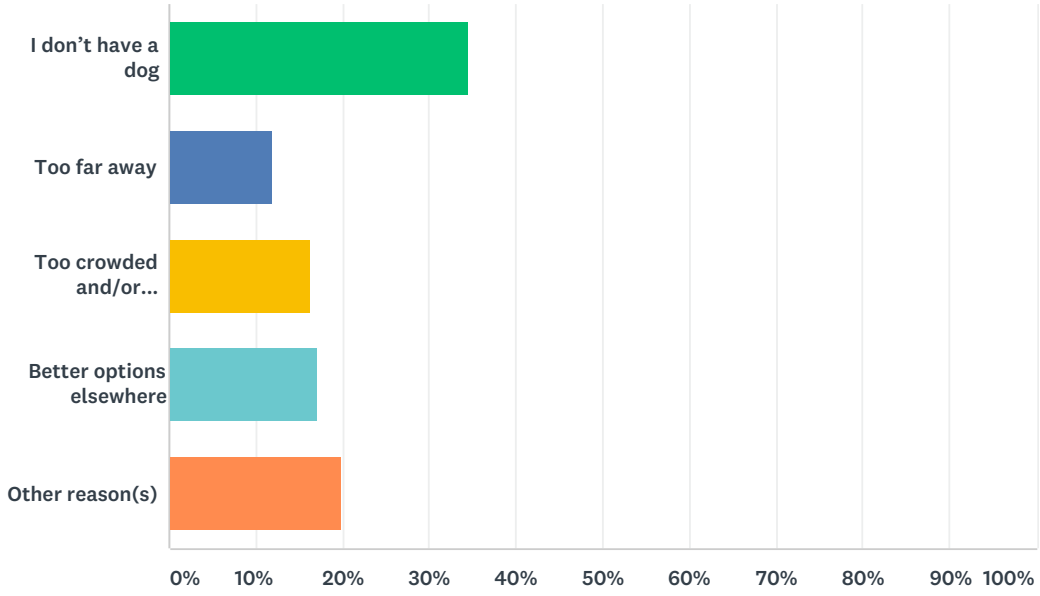
Answered: 1,165 Skipped: 17



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I have not visited a dog park in the last six months	66.95%	780
Once or twice	33.05%	385
TOTAL		1,165

Q3 If you haven't visited a Kirkland dog park in the last six months, why not?

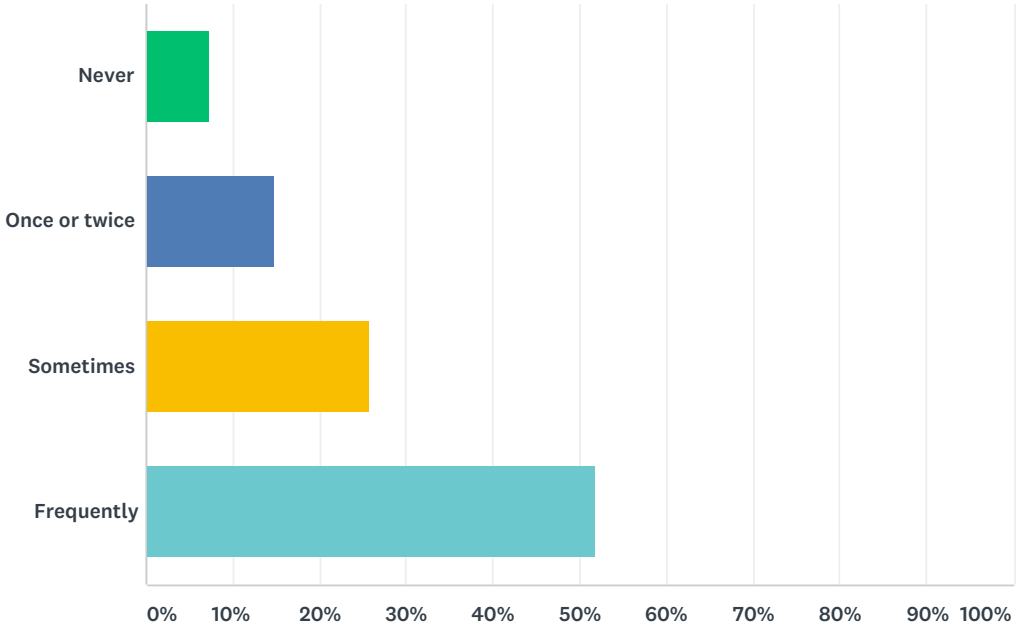
Answered: 1,046 Skipped: 136



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I don't have a dog	34.61%	362
Too far away	11.95%	125
Too crowded and/or intimidating for my dog	16.35%	171
Better options elsewhere	17.21%	180
Other reason(s)	19.89%	208
TOTAL		1,046

Q4 How many times in the past month have you seen a dog off-leash in an area not designated for off-leash dogs?

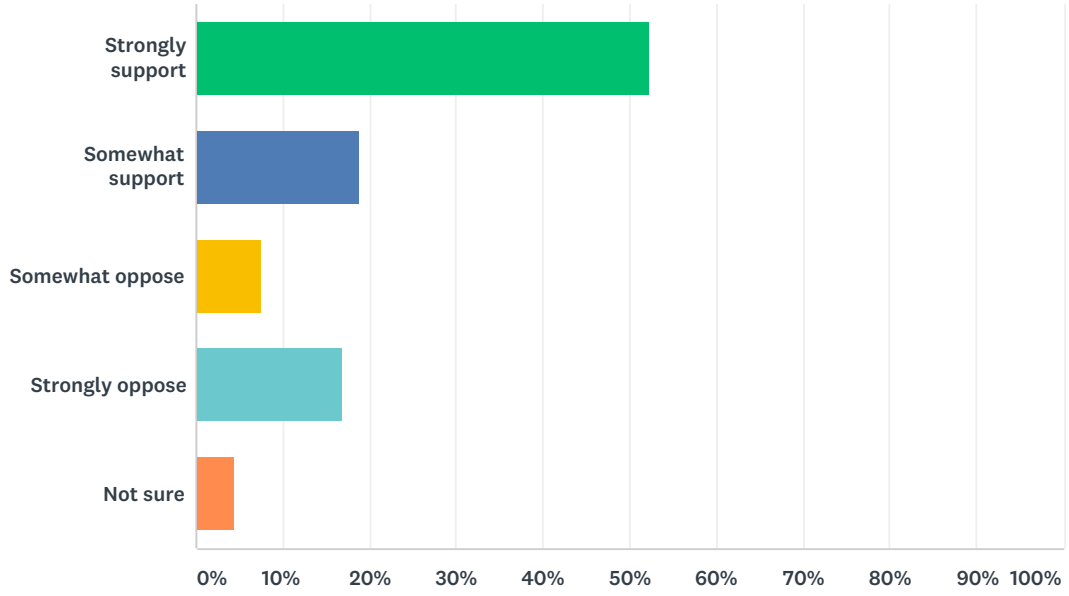
Answered: 1,166 Skipped: 16



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Never	7.38%	86
Once or twice	14.84%	173
Sometimes	25.81%	301
Frequently	51.97%	606
TOTAL		1,166

Q5 What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in your neighborhood park?

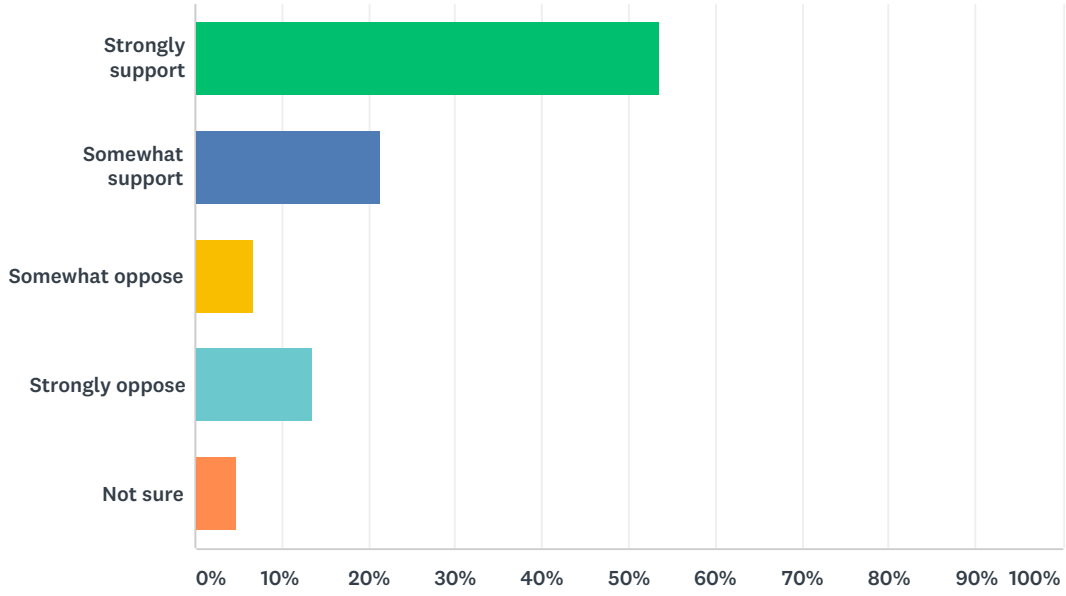
Answered: 1,175 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly support	52.34%	615
Somewhat support	18.89%	222
Somewhat oppose	7.49%	88
Strongly oppose	16.85%	198
Not sure	4.43%	52
TOTAL		1,175

Q6 What are your thoughts on designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods?

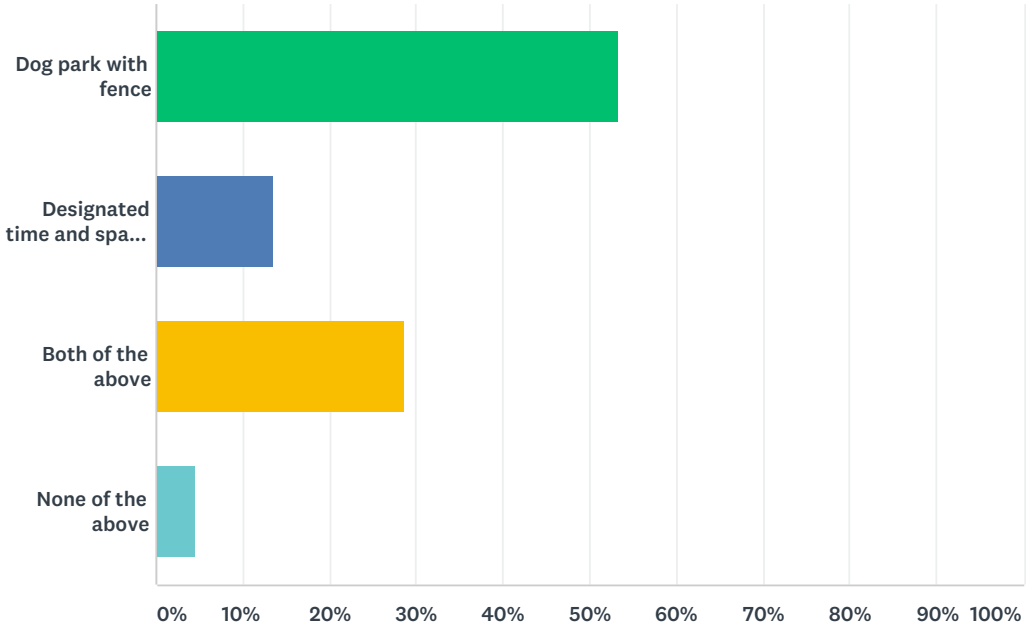
Answered: 1,175 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly support	53.53%	629
Somewhat support	21.36%	251
Somewhat oppose	6.64%	78
Strongly oppose	13.70%	161
Not sure	4.77%	56
TOTAL		1,175

Q7 If the City were to expand off-leash dog areas, which type of area would you prefer?

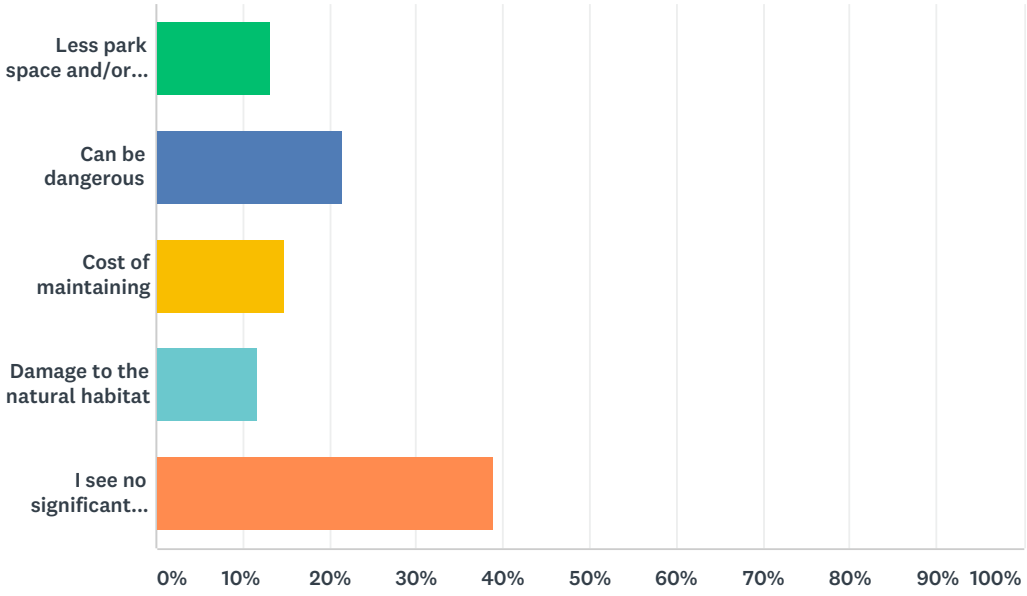
Answered: 1,174 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Dog park with fence	53.32%	626
Designated time and space for off-leash in a park	13.54%	159
Both of the above	28.62%	336
None of the above	4.51%	53
TOTAL		1,174

Q8 What would be the most significant potential negative impact on the community of more off-leash dog areas?

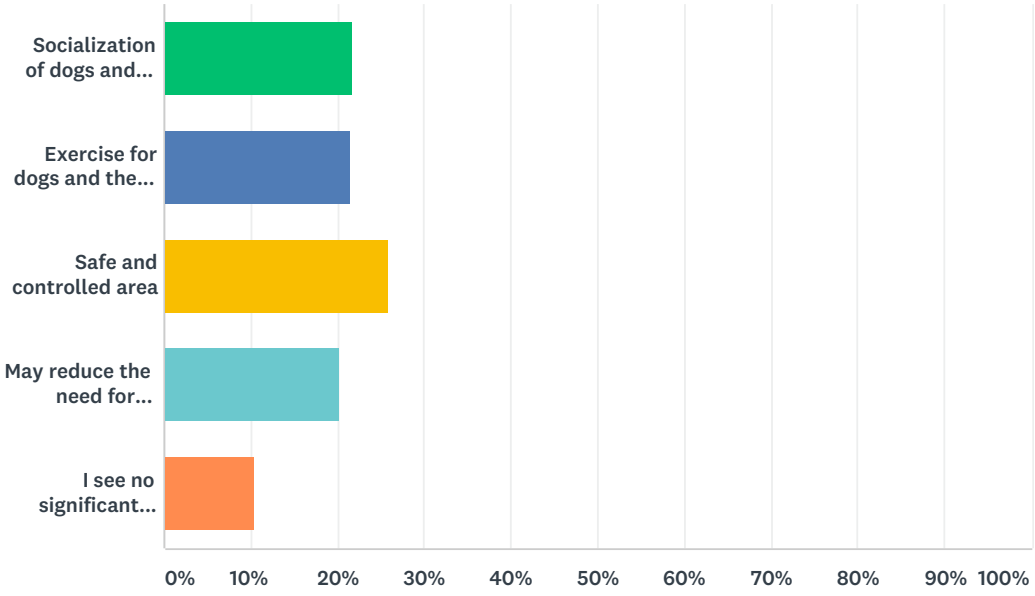
Answered: 1,161 Skipped: 21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less park space and/or increase traffic	13.18%	153
Can be dangerous	21.45%	249
Cost of maintaining	14.90%	173
Damage to the natural habitat	11.63%	135
I see no significant concerns	38.85%	451
TOTAL		1,161

Q9 What would be the most significant potential positive impact on the community of more off-leash dog areas?

Answered: 1,140 Skipped: 42



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Socialization of dogs and humans	21.75%	248
Exercise for dogs and their handlers	21.49%	245
Safe and controlled area	25.88%	295
May reduce the need for enforcement in other areas	20.35%	232
I see no significant benefits	10.53%	120
TOTAL		1,140

Appendix B: Comprehensive Listing of Submitted Comments

Survey……2

"*Any other thoughts or feedback you'd like to provide?"* filtered by which type of area would you prefer

Prefer fenced ……2
Own a dog……2
Do not own a dog……13
It's complicated……25
Prefer off-leash area……26
Own a dog……26
Do not own a dog……31
It's complicated……32
Prefer both……33
Own a dog……33
Do not own a dog……43
It's complicated……45
Neither……45
Own a dog……45
Do not own a dog……46
It's complicated……47
"*If you haven't visited a Kirkland dog park in the last six months, why not*?" – Other reasons than I don't have a dog, too far away, too crowded and/or intimidating for my dog, or better options elsewhere.
Other reasons……48
Own a dog……48
Do not own a dog……52
It's complicated……53

Neighborhood Association Meetings & Special Events……54

Focus Groups & City Halls ……57
October 6, 2018 Focus Group……57
December 6, 2018 Town Hall……58
February 22, 2019 Focus Group……60

Emails and Letters……64

Survey

The following verbatim answers to the open-ended survey question *"Any other thoughts or feedback you'd like to provide?"* were filtered by which type of area would you prefer.

Prefer fenced Areas – and I own a dog

- Dogs should not be unleashed in unfenced parks where people have recreation in part due to dog feces left behind by owners. Also, a leashed dog becomes wary and defensive when unleashed dogs approach. I have seen unleashed dogs congregate around a leashed dog causing trouble. This can result in pulling an owner off balance and the off-leash dogs attacking the leashed dog. I have seen an unleashed dog jump up on a stranger who was an elderly woman. Someone responded and rescued her before she fell.
- I would like to see the city spend time on educating dog owners regarding the leash laws, and laws around not picking up dog poop. 99% of dog owners do the right thing, but it is that 1% that make like difficult for other dog owners.
- The city is not responsible for providing parks for exercising people's dogs. I have a dog and walk it in the neighborhood, leashed, to and from a small community park. 2) If you do decide to put one in I suggest one in the South end of town as there are already two in the north end of town (Jasper and Molten) 3) you will still need animal control/enforcement dog park or no dog park. 4) If the city thinks that parks as as much for dogs as they are for people, and they put in bathrooms for people they should add dog poop bags as a required item in the park and not asking the neighborhood associations to have to buy separately. Its like providing a toilet and asking people to bring toilet paper on their own. Petty. It is a health hazard when people leave their dogs "gifts" in the park.
- Off-leash dogs are at the owner's discretion and decision, whether their dog is trained and their actions predictable enough to be off-leash. For the most part it is ok, some people try to impose or do not control their dogs around yours, even when it is clear you are not accepting of that for yours and your dog's safety. I feel for this to work these areas should be designate by fences off areas only.
- As beneficial as leash laws are the downside is that more dogs are not naturally socialized to positively interact with other dogs. These unsocialized dogs with agressive behavior present a problem in any unleashed dog park.
- Dogs ownership has a positive effect on human health and happiness! Let's find ways to welcome them and their owners into our parks.
- As a former park board member, this topic gets revisited yearly. Very time consuming. Parks must have dogs on leash or no dogs depending upon setting. Dog parks need to be self supporting due to the limited use/application - horses, cats, iguanas are all pets too. Simply cannot make parks for every separate use.
- What to do about aggressive off-leash dogs that threaten us in our yard? We live next to Kiwanis park and park users often break the leash rule and we end up with a barking aggressive dog in our backyard.
- For people like me who's dog doesn't get along with all dogs I feel like the off-leash dog area should be fenced

- The issue is owners who have not trained their dogs and public safety. Off-leash dogs cause issues with dogs that ARE on leashes and create situations. Defined, fenced areas are a better solution, even then all owners need to be responsible owners.
- I feel the current status quo (people randomly let dogs run off-leash in every park in Kirkland, with no consequences) is the worst possible option. So any move you make should help. My dogs get very upset about dogs off-leash and it makes our walks much less pleasant to encounter off-leash dogs out and about.
- We live in Juanita and would absolutely love an off-leash, fenced area for our beagle to run, he has so much energy. We use the park everyday, and often see dogs off-leash running, you never know what to expect when an off-leash dog comes running towards you. It would be nice to have a designated, fenced space where our dog can run and we can feel more confident about the other dogs in that space.
- I have a little dog who has been attacked more than once in Kirkland by different off-leash big dogs in a Kirkland. I moved here for the beautiful parks...I NEVER go to them since the attacks. I drive all the way to Edmonds to walk my on leash dog (Edmonds enforces their leash policy). Kirkland acts like it's an optional suggestion. I will move back to Edmonds as soon as I can afford to sell my Finn Hill home.
- What is nice about Marymoor is that dogs can swim. Also, having a dog wash onsite is a major plus. I would like to see something like this in Kirkland
- I do not find unfenced off-leash areas safe for either the dogs, nor for other users of parks/neighborhoods. I would not support off-leash areas that aren't securely fenced.
- Big Finn Hill park has been an offleash park in practice for at least the last twenty years. This is the observed primary use of the large open space to the south of the play area. Kirkland should just make it official with some fencing an call it good.
- We much prefer Marymoor to Jasper's, because Marymoor is large enough that you can move your dog to another area when there is a negative dog v dog interaction. Too many times aggressive dogs at Jasper's are ineffectively managed by their owners.
- I think off-leash areas would significantly reduce owners breaking the rules. I think the additional exercise for the dogs could reduce neighborhood barking. I would absolutely love off-leash parks. I think Big Finn has the perfect space. I never see anyone using that huge grass area behind the play structure.
- Will there be more enforcement of neighborhood dogs free roaming?
- We need this soon!
- Kirkland and its neighboring cities have plenty of places for off-leash dogs. I am an owner of 2 myself, but if your animal is off-leash when it shouldn't be, you should receive a ticket. People with multiple tickets get banned from the park. Funds from tickets can help the parks funding and if a person receives a ticket, it should inhibit their ability to liscense the pet as well if they haven't paid the fines.
- A big problem lies with people panicking about their animals. I've seen people freak out when another dog smells their dog. We need to get the crappy attitude back out of kirkland

- Off-leash dogs are a menace to those who are afraid of dogs.
- I heard some elderly women who meet very early in the morning with their dogs to play at Heritage Park grass field have been warned, or got tickets for having their dogs off-leash. That makes me sad. I walk often around the perimeter of that park and often see people who let their dogs off-leash. I keep my dog on a leash, but have never seen the off-leash dogs being a problem. I would love to see that large grass area become an off-leash area during certain hours. I'd rather see the enforcement effort go towards ticketing people who walk their dogs and let them poop without picking it up. I have picked up poop from other dogs along Lk WA Blvd. and on the grass at Marina park OFTEN. Please ticket those people!!!
- We love the Edith Moulton park. There is a huge safety issue at the dog park behind Fred Meyer... i cannot explain why but dogs are agressive and owners do not care... it has a very bad reputation and a lot of owners stopped going there, like me.
- I am opposed to some people's ideas of allowing off-leash dogs in public places
- I think question 5 is a bit vague. Are you asking about a fenced or an unfenced area? Personally, I do not think dogs belong unleashed in public areas. Too many risks.
- I am a professional dog handler and despite my skill and experience at working with them for years, I can't safely walk my dog on leash in my neighborhood, nearby parks, or the city of Kirkland in general because people refuse the law and don't think they will face consequences or harsh enough fines. Post the names of offenders in the paper, public shame is a great deterrent. I recommend tripling the current first ticket at a minimum because $25 is below 2 hrs of work at minimum wage. Increase enforcement heavily, there should be at least 5-8 people enforcing this policy. Unleashed dogs will almost always cause dog fights with leashed dogs and sometimes there will be expensive medical bills as a result.
- Ample off street parking must be provided for any off lease dog area
- How about a small off-leash dog area at Crestwoods? It seems like there is room - you could extend it into the woods a little.
- People should be fined for not picking up their dog waste. To me, dog poop is the biggest negative of allowing more dogs off-leash
- We live on Spinney Homestead Park and are unable to walk our leashed dog due to the number of unleashed dogs running out of control! Owners say they have verbal control but don't! People are on their cell phones or not paying attention as their dogs defecate or run up to a leashed animal or children. When asked to place their dog on leash, many flatly refuse, even when reminded of the law. This extends to the Highland neighborhood streets where owners walk their dogs without leashes, resulting in dog confrontations with leashed animals, a scenario ripe for a dog fight. We have never seen any enforcement of the laws despite walking our dog twice daily. This is totally unreasonable given the legal codes and extends to most of Kirkland's parks, where we go at least twice a week to do on leash dog training. Increase the number of fenced dog parks and increase enforcement, and penalties. $25 is not a deterrent, it's a joke! Allocating parts of our parks to be unfenced dog parks is not the solution when so many owners cannot control their dogs! Can you imagine a ball loving lab staying in its "designated" area as children play softball and soccer in the next field? Lastly, educate our public about dog and owner behavior and laws through social media, pamphlets, neighborhood meetings, etc. Having a dog is a responsibility and not an entitlement to harass your law abiding neighbors!

- The majority of us who let our dogs go off-leash have well controlled, non-aggressive dogs, so I do not consider more off-leash dog activity as potentially dangerous, as long as the off-leash areas have fences so that dogs do not get into traffic.
- Enforcement in Kirkland is horrible. Terrace park is badly abused, the corridor trial is a nightmare at time, etc....
- I have noticed an increase in dogs off lease on the Cross Kirkland Trail. Having a designated off-leash area would be very helpful. Heritage Park would be a great central location! Thank you for your support of this issue!
- Of all the issues we face, it is odd, at best, that this one is getting such focus.
- I'm more concerned to see increased enforcement of leash laws in neighborhoods.
- Fully support the fenced areas for off-leash dogs.
- I have a small dog and I am concerned about her safety when a much bigger dog, with no leash on runs towards her in public park which has actually happened few times, I also think for some people to follow up with the signs that indicates dogs should be on leash,they have to get tickets as a fine.
- It is not fair to leashed dogs and responsible dog owners in non-leash areas to allow off-leashed dogs in the same area. I no longer walk my dog in Big Finn Hill Park because of that.
- How should we report unleashed/dogs not under verbal command?
- I live in the south part of Kirkland and heavy commuter traffic after work is a deterrent to use the only dog parks in Kirkland which are both located in the Juanita area.
- People should not have dogs off-leash in unfenced areas. Unsafe, dogs can be unpredictable.
- Edith Moulton park has way too many entrances and is too large a space for older citizens to keep their dogs contained when there are not guards on the gates to keep dogs from leaving.
- With Marymoor dog park so close to Kirkland not sure additional dog parks is the answer. Would rather see more education and friendly enforcement of leash laws. Having more than one animal control officer is my preference.
- More effort should be put into this as there is a larger percentage of homeowners that have a dog vs those who bike, yet millions of $$ are set aside for bikers. This despite the fact pet owners are required to pay a licensing fee whereas bikers ride for free.
- My dog is reactive (i.e. he barks and lunges) when on leash. It's very stressful to have an off-leash dog run up to us. I think having more dog parks could, perhaps, reduce the dogs off-leash illegally. Dog parks, though, are not a panacea for dog owners. There are many dogs who do not have the appropriate temperament for that type of social interaction. Owners still want their dogs to get exercise, so I think they will go ahead and take them off-leash on trails and other areas. I would appreciate increased enforcement and/or larger fines.
- I cannot walk my LEASHED dog any longer through Heritage Park, his favorite nearby walk from our home due to the many off-leash large dogs. They are a nuisance.
- I am dog owner and obey leash laws but am impacted at parks by irresponsible dog owners who allow their dogs to roam free. Enforce off-leash laws at parks
- People tend not to obey existing city laws for leashing your pet. These same people also tend not to have well behaved pets. On more then one occasion my gentle LEASHED dog has been aggressively approached by unleashed dogs whos owners just dont care or recognize their dog’s dangerous behavior. Those same people also do not pick up after their pets. If people dont respect existing laws & rules, adding more unleashed areas is like rewarding them for bad

behavior. I would rather see more law enforcement and steeper fines to curb this bad behavior. My family including our dog, do not feel well protected against people and their sometimes dangerous pets.

- We could really use some additional off-leash areas. They have to include areas specific to small dogs. The entrance to the dog area should be very close to parking. Unlike Jaspers.
- My dog is too reactive for off-leash but I support any new dog parks. The dogs need it!
- We have a Staffordshire and do not let him off-leash. Dog parks are not for all breeds, However, we have had a series of black labs who used off-leash areas often, Luther Burbank (Mercer Island) is a good set since dog area and general park are well-separated.
- Do not consider Snyders Corner without large neighborhood input.
- All dog parks must be fenced for safety of dogs and other park users. Kirkland needs more dog parks. Taylor Fields would be great!
- Taylor Field (N. of transfer station) would be a perfect place for a 24/7 fenced dog park.
- Taylor Fields - perfect large area away from traffic.
- I would like to see off-leash dog parks in Rose Hill & Meadows and/or South Rose Hill Park.
- Due to congestion of people with many different activities (running, walking, biking), the park needs to have strict rules about the pets on leash while near people.
- The worse part right now is that people who let their dogs off-leash rarely can control them with voice commands. I often have to stop my run (with my dog) to wait for someone to try to corral their dog. Also, flex leashes should be outlawed.
- check one at corner of 110th and 132nd Ave.
- Why not survey residents for local routes so you can strategically locate dog parks? Plot on 132nd ave and 110th Pl.
- More areas to exercise dogs = better behaved dogs in our neighborhoods.
- Do it!
- Love off-leash parks! We need more!
- I'm pro more areas for off-leash dogs
- I live near McAuliffe park and there are always people with their dogs off-leash. I would love to see a safe area for pet parents to run their dogs. Parking is plentiful as well.
- No one can say there won't be any issues when dogs are playing off-leash. Owners need to do best practice for there dogs and human, especially children. that said, there is a strong sense of community associate with dogs and their owners. And what fun to see the dogs free to run around. It would be nice if there was some water play as well. Do you consider Denny Park?
- enforcement is expensive, hasn't proven to work, and is focusing resources on a low priority. Let's provide dog run areas within walkable distance. Maybe only provide a certain number of parking spots for people with dogs at parks?
- Would love for an off-leash fenced dog park around the south rose hill area. It feels like the parks we have in our area are usually smaller and have less stuff even for kids play area and nothing for dogs. i think we keep focusing on the other areas in Kirkland would be great if we have something nicer like grasslawn type of park in south rose hill as well
- People don't clean up.

- Love that this is being considered!
- It would be great to have even a smaller dog park area near south Rose Hill/Bridle Trails
- Consider using SeeClickFix to collect reports of problems with dogs (or any other problems related to the city, like with bike shares or road conditions, etc).
- Kirkland is a great place to live and making more off-leash dog parks will only continue on that trajectory. The 2 off-leash dog parks in Kirkland are not centrally located
- People let their dogs run in non-designated areas because there are a distinct LACK of designated areas available for dogs.
- I oppose off-leash dog parks at Denny Park
- Most of the off-leash dogs that have run to us have been friendly. However, my dogs are not. I've trained them a lot to not be leash aggressive. Every time a dog runs up to them I have to start the training again for a while. It's frustrating. If people could let their dogs run in fenced parks these situations wouldn't happen so much.
- Better signage needed at Edith Moulton Park about dog park location, rules. Love it there! Also one of the gates near the old parking lot doesn't stay closed anymore.
- We recently got an off-leash area in our local park (Edith Moulton). I've met several people coming over from Finn Hill, so maybe putting in an off-leash area at Big Finn Hill Park or Juanita Woodlands would be a good idea. Most of the people I meet are very happy with the off-leash area, but the gates were never installed properly and need to be fixed.
- I walk the CKC every day with my dog on a leash, as most people do. I don't approve of an off-leash dog area on the CKC. Larger parks are a better option.
- I strongly oppose unfenced off-leash areas due to safety concerns. It is unavoidable that some dogs will fail to obey their controllers, leave the area, and endanger other people and dogs nearby. It also may result in legal liabilities to the city and its taxpayers. This is unacceptable.
- Owners frequently say that their dog is friendly if the dog is not trained enough in recall and runs up to you. As an owner whose on leash dog has been attacked by off-leash dogs in a "leashed area" this is my biggest concern. I know how a very reactive dog because of someone else. Walking her is now stressful enough without worrying about off-leash dogs running around.
- There has to be monitored parking - my car was broken into at Jaspers. I haven't gone back.
- Jasper's is great but the general opinion of those of us who frequent dog parks is that Edith moulten is less than desirable. There is no double fence at entry and the existing fence would be easy to knock open. It is also very shaded and therefore colder than Jasper's. I would drive elsewhere before I would go again.
- Owners responsible for dog.
- Are off-leash dog laws even enforced here? I see them all the time.
- I'd love to know more about current off-leash dog areas!
- Well behaved dogs and owners should not be penalized for the actions of poorly behaved owners. (it's never the dog's fault!). Concentrate enforcement on the bad actors and the well behaved will be fine.

- Rent some parking spaces from the property owners of the empty lot to provide more spaces for Jasper's dog park, which I don't actually use myself. My service dog cost me $15,000 and I'm not endangering him to make some pit bull owners happy.
- Bridle trails parks closest to he Kirkland border, should open up a part of their park for canines. Jasper's Park is relatively unheard of behind Totem Lake Fred Meyer. Great park! It needs more advertisement. Maybe a road sign or two.
- I live near the Houghton Landfill. There is already available parking there for a dog park. But.. it needs to be fenced to be a safe place for dogs to exercise.
- dogs need to be focused on their handler not other dogs
- This is too dangerous. Because numerous dog owners refuse to obey the current city ordinances it has become unsafe to walk through & enjoy Juanita Beach park without mace and/or a stick.
- Kiwanis Park is often used by dog owners for water excercise (for dogs). Non dog owners rarely use it. It's a good option for off-leash activity.
- We love the idea of more fenced in off-leash dog parks in Kirkland! This would also help keep our parks cleaner and more sanitary if people are more prone to take their dogs to the dog park.
- Dog walkers at schools is a big problem. Dog waste on school playgrounds is obviously a bad thing
- it is important to have FENCED areas, both for large and small dogs.
- Aggressively ticket owners who have dogs off-leash in the wrong areas. Would also like to see enforcement of the state ban of dogs in food serving businesses.
- Kirkland dog owners often do not respect the rules. Our kids' school playground is riddled with poop. Actually poop is the biggest problem. I think that people can just go to existing dog parks
- Have lived near Crestwoods for 20+ years and off-leash works daily and works well. Uneducated or inconsiderate owners need and get educated by frequent visitors. Maybe two aggressive dog situations in all my time here. Different times of day have different dog walking communities.
- The city has many parks that I walk my dog through and having dedicated areas would save me from driving to marymoor and using the park there. I have heard of the park in Kirkland but it is significantly farther then driving to Redmond especially with traffic in Kirkland in the mornings and evenings being as bad as it is.
- I have a medically necessary service dog, and frequented Everest Park daily in non raining weather from 2016-2017. After having way too many close calls with rapidly increasing frequency, I had to stop walking the park early this year. Now I'm limited to taking breaks sitting in my car (witnessing daily repeat offenders with misbehaving dogs) instead of walking. My dog cost ten of thousands of dollars, hundreds of hours of training and testing, and took three years to be placed with me. She is with me at all times (on a leash, we're not above the law) to ensure that I am alerted to certain medical events, and thus saving my life. All it takes is one incident for all that to go down the drain. I would always get the "Don't worry, my dog is friendly!" call as offending owners coming trotting towards us, trying unsuccessfully to call their dog back. While their dog might want to play, my dog cannot/doesn't. She was raised as a puppy to ignore other dogs and to focus on her handler. An unleashed dog rushing us, no matter how 'nice' they are could 1) distract my dog, thus endangering my life, or 2) it could end up in a fight, because ultimately animals are unpredictable. Even if my dog wasn't injured in a fight, the psychological effects can undo years of training by causing a fear response. I am only able to have independence and leave the house alone because of my service dog. All it takes is one incident

of an off-leash dog to strip that independence away for years. I strongly support the implementation of off-leash parks, along with stronger enforcement of offleash laws. I understand people wanting to let their dogs run around, and there aren't a lot of places where that's a responsible option. It would allow those who wish to socialize their dogs or let them roam free to do so with freedom, and leave the offense of letting their dog off-leash in common areas as completely inexcusable. There are many other arguments to made, such as child safety, environmental impacts, etc.; but this is coming from my viewpoint as a disabled citizen. I would love to feel safe walking the park again.

- General off-leash parks are not safe for small dogs. Some cities have small dog only parks or fenced areas within dog parks. I'd like to see this in Kirkland.
- I would really like to see enforcement on school district properties. LWSD staff time should be focused on students, not dealing with and cleaning up after off-leash dogs.
- I think it is very important to have an increase in off-leash areas but they're also needs to be options for dog owners who don't want off-leash areas such as owners with timid dogs who are more secure walking on a leash.
- I've been a dog owner for years and believe in doggie socialization. Recently, there are too many irresponsible owners that let dogs out off-leash and are not controlling their pet's behavior making it uncomfortable and unsafe for responsible owners.
- I'm really tired of off-leash dogs running up to my leashed dog without my consent. It is rude, annoying, and potentially dangerous. I don't understand why people can't put a leash on their dogs. A large, fenced dog park away from other parks would be nice, but I doubt it will deter people from letting their dogs run around off-leash elsewhere.
- Enforcement is a joke in this city. If going to have off-leash, it needs to be fenced . People think they have voice control of their dogs, but most don't.
- I have to go to Mercer island Luther Burbank off-leash for a good experience. Would love to see a similar park for dogs in Kirkland
- If there were more fenced in off-leash dog parks less people would have their dogs off-leash in inappropriate areas.
- Tired of having my on leashed dog attacked by so called "owner controlled" off-leashed dogs. So not fair. Now I have leash agression issues with my dog.
- In the last 6 months a friend was bitten by a dog that was roaming the neighborhood. No one every fessed up that it was their dog. Dogs need to be on leashes when they are out and about. A dog park where they can be off-leash in an enclosed area would be good and then enforcement of those not leashed wandering the neighborhood would be appreciated.
- I appreciate that instead of just making a decision in a closed room somewhere, the city is looking for opinions of its residents. I highly respect that. Thank you.
- I have a reactive dog who is always on a leash. I have to avoid the park across the street from our home because there are almost always dogs off-leash there. Although their dogs might be friendly, my dog is unpredictable and very often their dogs run up to mine and are not under voice control. This means that I'm wrestling with my dog while the owner of the dog that's run up is clear across the park and has no control over their dog. I seriously wonder what would happen in a situation like this if my dog were to react faster than I could.
- I fully support FENCED off-leash dog areas even though I wouldn't not use them with ny current dog.

- If more ENCLOSED off-leash areas will truly lead to fewer dogs being off-leash in other areas, I'm all for it. Off-leash dogs in open areas are unacceptable. (I am a dog lover, but not all leashed dogs do well around other dogs, many people have phobias, and some off-leash dogs aren't as well behaved as their people like to think.)
- I would love more options for dogs to socialize, and it would be awesome for these areas to be possibly divided (small/medium and big pups). Some enforcement would be great, too - not necessarily just for the off-leashness, but the number of dog feces that I see in the public parks is astonishing. That is something that I would love for people to adhere to: watch and control your dog, pick up after it.
- I find that people already let their dogs off-leash at-will, regardless of the rules. My (leashes) dog and I hike the trails at OO Denny and it's a rare day when we don't encounter another dog running up to us with its owner nowhere to be found. The dogs are generally very friendly, but my dog isn't friendly with smaller dogs. I'm afraid that these kinds of situations will only increase of Kirkland creates more of a grey area of off-leash/not off-leash. Also, we are an area of many immigrants and a number of my new neighbors don't care for or are frightened of dogs - allowing off-leash in non designated off-leash parks means that they will not be able to use the park.
- Unfortunately, many dogs owners are very irresponsible when it comes to dog training and behavior. The only option to keep other dogs and people safe are to have an endive all dog areas to be on leash. Unless the city is willing to provide a fenced off-leash area that is monitored and all dogs/owners using it have their dogs good citizen trained. Medina Park is a good example of failure having lived there. No enforcement and I and many people stopped bribing dogs there because people came with aggressive off-leash dogs that attacked many over and over. Cops do nothing
- I wish off-leash areas would work, but there just too many irresponsible and ignorant people out there ruining the experience for the rest.
- I have a dog and would love to have an off-leash fenced area for my dog in my neighborhood (lakeview). It needs to be fenced for the dog/human safety. With so many apartments in the area many would benefit from this resource.
- I have noticed more dogs off-leash in resident areas in North Rose Hill by Mark Twain Elementary. It's to the point where I don't enjoy going for walks anymore. I use to walk everyday until my dog was attacked by an unleashed dog. I thought that may of been a fluke, but since then I have noticed more dogs unleashed wander around.
- People letting their dogs run off-leash in the parks is both dangerous to people and to people who follow the rules with their dogs on leash. My dogs are always leashed, and it's very difficult for me to control my dogs on a leash, when other non-leashed dogs approach us. I get nervous to even walk my dogs in my neighborhood b/c of fear of the non-leashed dogs. I like on Lake WA Blvd.
- The postage stamp dog parks are useless. Need to have space to run, and benches to sit for older citizens to socialize with their dogs and other citizens.

- Dogs should not be off-leash on the CKC.
- Cannot share human park play areas with off-leash dogs due to feces left behind.
- I don't mind paying a fee (e.g., $1 for parking) to cover additional dog park overhead costs
- As the owner of two smallish mini-schnauzers and one mid-size mixed dog, big dogs running loose in parks or anywhere without fencing is scary. Off-leash areas should be expanded and fenced.
- 18 months ago I was bit by a dog who's handler was a young child. I have never seen this dog before or after. As an owner of a large dog, the handlers should be old enough to handle the dog incase it is too big for the person it is with. In my case, I hand to have 41 stitches and it cost me, over 8,000 in doctor and hospital bills. I will not ever take our dog to a dog park again because many of the people with dogs don't attend to their dogs, don't pick up after them and refuse to manage them. Much like people who don't watch their children in the city parks because they are too busy on their phones
- Provide off-leash areas with smaller fence area for little dogs. Water bowl area, small trash bins or compostable dog waste area.
- I do not support allowing dogs to be off-leash unless in a safe environment for both dog & people. Worst part of dog park, owners not picking up after their dogs!
- We have like one dog park and it’s overrun
- I don't understand the last question #10. I believe the City has to act now. We have a lot of dogs in our community and we need off-leash time and/or fenced areas.
- Email or phone for calling in concerns or suggestions clearly posted at parks.
- There are people who regularly take their dogs (large and small) to our local park (132nd Street Park). Our two small dogs are always leashed and on a few occasions have been rushed by large off-leash dogs who scare them. This is not fair to those of us who prefer a regular park with leash laws. Visible signs need to be erected and people who don't adhere need to be cited and referred to the off-leash parks they can use.
- Our dog does very well in off-leash dog areas -- he does very poorly when he's on a leash and an off-leash dog runs up to him. Having additional off-leash areas would be wonderful.
- While walking with my 4-year old grandson, I’ve too often been concerned for his safety when off-leash dogs did not respond to their owners’ commands.
- We need a designated fenced in area, particularly close to down town. Jaspers is not a convenient location and gets too muddy. I recently moved from okc, where there was a small dog park (midtown mutts-look it up :)) that was small but frequently used after work. My dog got plenty of exercise and I made friends. Since I’ve moved, I’ve mostly been walking my dog and it’s not enough exercise for her. She pulled me over three weeks ago and I actually fractured my wrist. This was never an issue when I was able to take her to the dog park in okc daily. I am very passionate about this issue.
- I walk my dog, on leash, by Heritage Park at least a couple of times per week. The off-leash dogs cause problems for me as I'm trying to train and socialize my on leash dog. More than once a dog has run up to my dog, out of control of the owner. I've also used Jasper's dog park, which is a short drive away. That seems like a great venue, and maybe people don't know about it. I'd like to see either a smaller fenced in area at Heritage, or just more enforcement of leash laws.

- There are so many dog owners in Kirkland. Would be great to have a section in Peter Kirk Park for a dog park. But the police would have to actually patrol there and keep the addicts and homeless out of it. I don't feel safe in that park anymore
- My dog (when leashed) is highly uncomfortable with unleashed dogs running up to her, and becomes very frightened. Enforcement would really be appreciated.
- Kirkland does need more off-leash areas; trails would be nice rather than fenced in small parks.
- Juanita Beach begins the Eastside Counseling Service is regular frequented by off-leashers. This would be a good are for an off-leash fenced area as the are is otherwise not ver usable.
- It should be "sold" as being for people, emphasizing the benefits for the people, just like other park benefits. Opposition might see it as spending resources for dogs, but it isn't, really.
- Enforce the damn leash laws or get rid of them!!
- My dog has been attacked by off-leash dogs several times a year, especially on the KCC. I have observed kids at playgrounds and fields being molested and frightened by off-leash dogs. Any expansion of off-leash areas need to be placed away from play areas and fields.
- Clearly, as a dog owner who is hyper sensitive to other humans potentially not being head-over-heels in love with my dog, I'm totally on board with more dog parks or off-leash areas. However, I approach any off-leash area as appropriate for my dog if it's enclosed; this is because my dog is inconsistent in recall. While there is no concern that my dog would be friendly to humans both young and old, there's no telling what a human might do if my dog came up to them. If they were uncomfortable who knows what they'd do to my dog. I'm of the mindset that all areas should be off-leash accessible, but only if the owner can control their dog with voice commands. I sometimes tested this while training my dog and would love an open field area far away from cars to continue to test this (and I would LOVE to be able to walk/run some of the neighborhood trails without my dog tethered to me).
- My husband has a guide dog as he is blind. The walk the cross corridor and along the lake. Dogs off-leash are a major concern and issue.
- Fenced in (off-leash) areas for dogs in local parks would be wonderful!
- all DOGS need to be on LEASH outside of these parks and no one is ever available for us to contact because city workerrs have to see the dog off-leash, wtf, the dog and owner are gone by the time you get there. I will take up to and including deadly force to protect my dog per the law.
- Most of the off-leash dogs seem older and well behaved. I think that should be allowed as long as the dog isn't causing problems.
- I recognize that offleahs dogs can be scary for people and pose a threat to other dogs. I'd advocate for more designated areas so that people can make a choice about whether to visit those areas, and people who enjoy playing with their (well behaved) dog off-leash should be able to do that (eg plaunfetch in the lake, play frisbee in a park, etc. I think that indoor/covered dog park would also be a great option (and you could charge a fee), in addition to more outdoor spaces.
- Tough issue. No easy answers. Thanks for asking!

Prefer fenced areas – and I do not own a dog

- Poop is a problem. It is never entirely cleaned up
- I am often walking or running through St Edwards and other Kirkland parks and see people with their dogs off-leash. It's rude and potentially dangerous. As a former dog owner I hated it - my dog passed away a year ago but when he lived he was terrified of other dogs and could be aggressive when they ran up to him off-leash. I'd tell the other dog owners to control their dogs and that they should be on a leash but they never cared. More enforcement of off-leash laws and dog waste disposal laws are definitely necessary!
- We are considering getting a dog. I don't support people approaching my dog in an open forum or my kids approaching other dogs. Too many moments of dogs getting aggressive. Kids/People are priority when it comes play areas like parks and beaches. I support a fenced area that doesn't take away the best areas for kids to play or people to walk.
- to many dogs everywhere and seemed to like peoples children. upset when the dogs are allowed instores.
- Keep unleashed dogs off the CKC! Their unleashed moves are dangerous to those of us who bike the CKC. It is well known that dogs on the CKC should be leashed, but there seems to be no enforcement
- I have been chased , barkeds at and nipped at by that famous "he doesan't bite dog" stepped in poo all because of a few bad owners, but the good ones don't confront them so enforcement is the only option (heritage park) when I ask why isn't your dog on a leash, i get threatened
- I live near a Kirkland park. I have had off-leash dogs in my front yard, in my backyard and even in my house. I have been "jumped" by an off-leash dig in my backyard. I have dog poop left in my front yard. And worse, my 97 year old neighbor has been jumped by a dog in her yard. If she fell it could actually take her life. Dog owners really need to keep their dogs on leash and go to off-leash areas if they feel their dogs need more exercise.
- I don't like dogs being unleashed at our parks so designated a fenced area that doesn't greatly impact the rest of the park would be a good compromised.
- My grandchildren role on and play in the grass. There will be poop that dog owners don't clean up. Heritage park is my front yard. Do you want dogs in your front yard peeing????
- Thank you for asking the community for feedback. Dogs off-leashes pose health/safety risks for many people. Please do enforce the rules. There is also so much dog waste in the area. This is a health hazard and gives a bad name to responsible dog owners. Please consistently enforce the leash law. Thank you!!
- We've had dogs since we were kids. We don't now because our kids are more than we can handle. We were always conscientious owners and ALWAYS cleaned up after our dogs. These days (and past several years) we've noticed a trend of dog poop everywhere - even on sidewalks/streets. It's disgusting and my kids always manage to step in it or ride their bikes through it. Hence, we never feel we can safely run through or play at Waverly, Heritage, Juanita Beach parks (etc.). I very much hope that FENCED, designated areas and an aggressive FINE structure (for not picking up waste and for having dogs off-leash in leash law areas) will solve this problem. My kids have also faced aggressive dogs off-leash whose owners clearly did not

have command of them. PLEASE take appropriate action so that our kids can safely enjoy our beautiful parks! Thank you!

- Dogs create anxiety on some people regardless of claimed friendliness. Even leashed dogs intimidate those people. Separation is needed.
- I see off-leash dogs daily in the Kirkland parks that should have enforcement. Ticketing would greatly prevent this. I know if two attacks last year with off-leash dogs. One recently where a friend and her husband were attacked walking their leashed dog. I spite of a vicious attack by an unleadhed and non collared dog, a trip to an urgent care for the friends husband and a trip to the vet the reaction was the dog would have had to kill the dog or bitten the individual more than once. To be classified as s dangerous dog. The owner had a dog bite that couldn't be stitched because it was an open would. There were several tooth marks on his hand. He was told not to ex excercise for 2 weeks. The dog had a bite to the muscle in his neck chest area and was lucky to live. My friend was knocked to the ground. This I Why I feel people should be responsible owners and leash their dogs. It's fortunate my friends were fit because if they weren't this large breed dog could have done more damage than it did. Their dog was a small breed. The attacker ran down the street to attack them.
- Dog owners benefit from dog parks and other designated public areas for dogs. Nobody else benefits. It is not the responsibility of taxpayers to subsidize a discretionary choice like pet ownership for dog owners. If the city and its taxpayers/residents vote to support a dog park ALL expenses should be at the SOLE expense 100% of dog owners, via licensing or other such collection directly from ONLY dog owners. Such costs should be, the property, the maintenance, waste bags and dispensers and all other related supplies. Fines for not licensing ones dog should be steep to encourage owners to adhere to the licensing laws.
- Charge all dog licenses additional fee to cover the cost of increased enforcement and maintenance of offleash areas and increased maintenance due to scofflaws.
- Current enforcement is nice to see. I would like to see enforcement increased as well as more fenced off-leash areas.
- Education for dog owners. There are a high amount of dog owners letting their dogs off-leash in school properties and other areas where it can pose danger to kids and adults.
- I'm terrified of off-leash dogs, based on multiple negative experiences. And some of the owners act arrogant and entitled about not following leash laws.
- I am a huge dog lover and strongly support more off-leash areas for dog owners. I am also the parent of small children and am so tired of dog owners letting their dogs off-leash in areas Not designated for that (most especially at big Finn hill park).
- Kirkland desperately needs enforcement of the leash laws. I stopped going to my neighborhood park years ago because of the dogs running free every time I went. Dog owners think the parks are only for their dogs....beaches and lake too
- Currently there is ZERO enforcement by the city at parks (or schools). We've had many close calls with off-leash dogs nipping and chasing our kids in public areas. When we speak the owners about leashed being required they have been rude, sworn at us and one told us to put our kid on a leash (our kid was on the playground equipment when the dog approached him). I'd LOVE to see a City rep at events for owner education and ticketing leash law violators.

- I have yet to see any enforcement at all. I owned dogs for over 20 years and always respected the laws and other peoples space. There are many people who are afraid of dogs as well as many dogs not trained to stay with their owner. Since moving out west I'm extremely surprised how many people just simply disobey the rules and show no respect for others. Let's start by enforcing rules and laws.
- Just start ticketing people.. it's illegal and the message needs to get out there especially on the narrow cross kirkland trail. We dont need to be avoiding out of control dogs on there or trampling poop at heritage hall park. Use ticket money to fund dog park
- I am afraid of dogs. I have encountered off-leash dogs on woodland park trails and this makes me angry because they shouldn't be off-leash and I have few options in avoiding them on a narrow trail. I want to give dog owners options so that they can behave better, so I understand the need for a off-leash park. The one off-leash area in our neighborhood (North Juanita) doesn't appear to be big enough to be attractive to dog owners since I have only seen it being used twice in the 6 months I have lived in this neighborhood. The Marymoor dog park seems very, very popular. It is a shame how the use will continue to damage the stream-side habitat. Do not put a park on Juanita creek or we will have the same problem. A big destination park like Saint Edwards would be a good location for an off-leash area, but I understand that this is a State resource -- any chance you could partner with them?
- What can be done about people taking their off-leash dog into the lake? It’s dangerous and scares the children. I wish there was a totally separate park with lake access to keep the dogs away from the parks with playgrounds where children play.
- There is a problem I our parks of owners with dogs on long "extendable" leashes that do not control the dogs. I am constantly having to navigate around wondering dogs, with inattentive handlers.
- I don't really want the city to spend too much money to enforce BUT would be nice to have a way to report repeat offenders/locations.
- CKC and Everest Park need more enforcement of leash laws.
- I've had dogs many times in my life. Love them. However, it's no fun to have poop in parks, streams, or the lake. It's really important to keep our big open lawns safe for kids to run though and our streams and the lake free from fecal coliform. Thank you.
- I understand that dog owners want their dogs to have an area where they can be off-leash. Currently, the number of dogs off-leash illegally is so high, it's as if there were no requirement. I'm in favor of more designated areas in the hopes that there will be more compliance overall.
- When getting a pet license, do dog owners receive info about off-leash areas, rules & fines? $25 seems pretty low for a first offense, & $50 for a second one is low as well. Higher fines might increase compliance. I am especially upset by seeing dogs running in & out of Lake Washington.
- There would appear to be at least three significant issues associated with additional off-leash areas. First, there is the question of the space. Parks are heavily used and provide for natural areas. Would additional off-leash areas reduce the current availability (smaller general purpose park areas)? I personally would object to that approach. If not, then how does Kirkland propose to fund the acquisition of additional property for off-leash use? The second issue is the cost. Already mentioned is the acquisition cost. What about maintenance? Who cleans up the waste

from the dogs? What if owners do not clean up after their pet(s)? What is the on-going cost to refresh the ground cover (chips, mulch or other) and how does the city propose to fund that? Are there license fees that can be used for maintenance purposes? Thirdly, there is the issue of enforcement. What does the city currently do to enforce the existing laws? How are those costs covered and what would be the budgetary impact of additional off-leash areas? Does the city have any history of actually ticketing owners for violations of the existing codes? I've never seen a warning, much less a ticket.

- I plan to have a dog in the future, and would love to have more places to play with my dog. Dogs (and humans) are healthier and happier when they can run around outside.
- I was a parks commissioner in another WA city. The issue of off-leash dogs in parks was undoubtedly the most controversial and emotional topic. There is no decision that will make all sides happy--there is no panacea. I don't own a dog because I rent and am not allowed to have pets, but I love dogs. That said, I have been bitten by dogs while walking on the sidewalk and while running on trails/in parks. Every dog owner thinks his dog is perfectly trained which sadly is not accurate. I'm in favor of more off-leash dog parks, but also in favor of increased enforcement of off-leash rules. The city needs to make the most conservative decision based on safety and health of the citizens (bites, allergies, and people who are just plain scared of dogs)--and that means no dogs off-leash other than in designated areas. There will always be dog owners who believe leash laws do not apply to them, but increased enforcement might reduce the number of such owners. I live very near the CKC and use it frequently (multiple times per week) and almost always see off-leash dogs. This should not be acceptable. More off-lease dog parks will help, but never completely reverse this behavior. I applaud the city for trying to address it, but again, understand there is no solution to satisfy all sides. City government should not be afraid to make the tough decision on this one. Thanks.
- Park safety concern (for children especially) regarding people who allow dogs to be off-leash (and out of their direct control) when transferring from off-leash area to their cars or to other offsite areas.
- The city needs to recognize that the activity will continue to occur, but more options and increased enforcement will contain the potential for unsanitary and unsafe use of the parks by off-leash dogs.
- Please enforce no dog policy also for Denny park. There are lots of small kids at play in the summer and owners have their dogs just enter the water. Also a hygiene issue, I don’t want to swim right next to a dog. No dogs at beaches for humans, strictly enforced
- If more space is needed, more space is needed. However, many people in the area seem to think it is their right to have their dogs running everywhere, and to be able to bring them everywhere. As someone who is highly allergic, this limits my ability to utilize the space. If there is need for more space, then they should work with the city to fix the problem rather than just ignore the city regulations and act like they do not apply to them.
- I would characterize the current state of affairs as widespread civil disobedience. I frequently see pet owners letting their dogs loose in areas that are explicitly signed as not for dogs, such as Crestwoods Park and Kirkland Junior High. I know the police have better things to do than monitor parks for illegal dog behavior, and so do the dog owners - hence the civil disobedience. More dog parks might reduce, but WILL NOT eliminate the unintended use of Crestwoods' carefully groomed baseball fields as doggy playgrounds, and I expect the same will be true for

other Kirkland parks as well. I'm willing to have tax dollars go to additional dog facilities, but I strongly believe that dog owners need to get the message that using other parks as off-leash areas is illegal. I think dog owners near a great park are simply going to use that park as their personal dog run if it's more convenient than going a little further to a dog-friendly space, since there is pretty much zero chance of getting caught. Hence, I think more enforcement is required even if we get more dog parks.

- Please help keep our parks and trails friendly to people first and the natural environment second. Currently, I find most dog owners are behaving in an entitled way. I support dog parks because I want the dogs to go to the dog park. I am happy to share my trails and parks with a leashed dog - whose owner picks up after it.
- The problem is the small minority of dog owners who dont clean up or control there dogs. Owners think there dogs are safe because they havent bitten anybody (yet). Mixing dogs and kids is not a good idea. I stop going to several kirkland parks (big finn hill) because dog owners off-leash thier dogs
- Dogs need have leashes on at all times therefore a fenced area in the larger parks, away from the more publicly used areas would be most ideal. Having times and a general area with no fences will lead to the rules either being abused or ignored.
- I don't have a dog now but have in the past. I would like to see more opportunities for people to exercise their dogs off-leash.
- I live by the Mark Twain park where signs about having dogs on a leash are on display. Dog owners ignore them and in 12 years I've never seen anyone enforce the law. As a tax payer as well as a law abiding citizen I feel cheated.
- I don't want any City money spent on dogs. Private fundraising best to obtain land/easement for dog park or at most fee system for dog benefits.
- I'm concerned about safety and trusting dog owners to be responsible. I've been bitten while on a walk.
- The parking and traffic will always be a problem. Pet owners need to understand the rules of proper pet handling.
- ticket the stupid people that think their dog is special and can run free everywhere tripping us old people. I see dogs attacking other dogs on leash Ticket them , Please
- I would like to ask that people with dog allergies and phobias be considered more than they seem to be. The fact that dog owners would be responsible for safety in the unfenced off-leash areas is way too unreliable, but I understand the desire for more areas for dogs so I am all for trying to add more fenced in areas in appropriate places. Also, although there are leash laws currently, I am unclear on what is being done to enforce them and if more can be done by people to help enforce them. More education about that could be helpful.
- there seems to be zero enforcement of leash laws in the Kirkland parks. I'm getting tired of being harassed by dogs running loose in parks that my tax dollars paid for.
- I spend a significant amount of time at O. O. Denny Park working as a Park Steward on habitat restoration. I have seem many incidents of off-leash activity in the open areas and the trails of O. O. Denny Park but have never seen any education or enforcement. It is my observation that many of the dogs have little or no training, so they become a nuisance to park goers and the habitat. Your assistance will be appreciated.

- My wife and I walk a lot around our neighborhood. We're near Kamiakin Middle School. That school property is used 7 days a week as an off-leash unfenced dog park at all hours of the day and night. Signs are posted; people just ignore them. Dogs poop wherever they want; bark at and chase whom ever they want. Reminding the irresponsible dog owners gets you the middle finger. Dog owners want convenience so I'm not convinced more fenced off-leash parks would help unless they're within 2 blocks of the dog owner's home. Unfenced dog parks are, IMHO, worthless--the dogs are under no control and most for owners don't care. More enforcement would be a mandatory first step before you go through the complex and more expensive option of the creation of more off-leash dog parks.
- I see dog owners breaking the leash rules literally every single day I go for a walk on the cross Kirkland corridor.
- We live in a house that backs up to a public park (Mark Twain Park) that's supposed to be on-leash, but I would guess that at least half or more of the users have their dogs off-leash. We have had stray dogs enter our yard and had an incident when my son was a toddler. A dog charged across the park toward the kids playground and tackled him, knocking him into the picnic bench where he hit his head. The owner did nothing except shout across the park "Don't worry! He's friendly!!!" Um, no he wasn't. He attacked my son. Bottom line is, we see dogs off-leash daily in this park. I don't understand why we should be catering to these scofflaws. Put your dog on a freakin leash!
- I'm tired of being pestered by dogs while I'm trying to run or enjoy a park. Dog owners seem to think that everyone loves their dog as much as they do. Dogs need to be on a short leash.
- I don't want dogs to take away space from children, particularly the natural area at South Rose Hill Park. I've had lots of negative interactions between dogs and small children in places where dogs should be on leash- South Rose Hill Park, Edith Moulton Park.
- consider impacts on adjacent properties.
- Co-use with fenced areas in most neighborhood parks that can be walked to easily.
- Enforcement of existing laws should start now.
- Dogs should remain on leash in any parks with kids or people having a picnic. Dedicated dog parks better answer.
- More signage on the CKC about off-leash dogs being illegal.
- Enforcement!!!
- I support increasing designated area. I prefer fenced areas because unleashed dogs outside fenced areas can be threatening and scary! I agree with enforcing leash laws.
- Make enforcement easier: a photo of violation should suffice. Increase dog licensing fees, establish dog recognition data base, fine owners based on photos.
- off-leash areas should be fenced
- I have a special needs child with an intense fear of dogs. We frequently have to leave places due to people having dogs off-leash when they’re not supposed to be or there being dogs when there aren’t supposed to be. It feels dogs have become priority over children in many cases.
- I think there is enough space for dogs (more than any other animals). We should continue enforcing the current rules
- Ckc needs better enforcement
- I didn't have the option to write this above, but I see off-leash dogs in areas where they are not supposed to be on a daily basis, and even though most owners are good at redirecting their

dogs, some are not, which makes it difficult when you have small children that might be afraid of dogs due to previous bad experiences. Although I certainly understand dogs need their exercise, and I completely support having more designated areas for off-leash dogs, I also believe the city should be enforcing the current regulations and fining owners with off-leash dogs in areas that are not designated as such.

- I have a special needs child who is terrified of dogs, no matter the size or breed. We purposely go to parks that do not allow dogs and constantly see them there and off-leash. He has to leave the park and is unable to play because of this. This is not limited to my child or special needs children, more and more playgrounds are becoming less about kids playing and more about dogs. I am not against dogs and I had one growing up, but they should be limited to specific areas with fencing and I would like to see more and tougher enforcement of leash regulations.
- If a park is designated, their owners need to make sure they clean up after their pets. Pets then should not be allowed to run free somewhere else.
- Education programs need to be more often in the community.
- Some owners aren't a good judge of their dogs comfort or their verbal control, so unfenced areas are not a good solution. Shared area- dog owners may not clean up poop after shared hours are over.
- People tend to think they can control their dog verbally more than is actually the case. How to define? Impossible to enforce an un-fenced off-leash dog area.
- My priority versus other basic services is low for off-leash dog areas. Maybe try one trial for cost and use analysis.
- Along with enforcement educate owners about the importance of training. Just last weekend we were nearly attacked by an unleashed doberman that was ~50 yards away from it's owner on a school playground. The owner caught it in time, but the dog didn't respond to the owner's verbal command at all.
- I can't believe we are considering off-leash times in parks when we can't enforce existing leash restrictions.
- Expand options will take some time to build and implement. In the meantime, these should be enforced. off-leash dogs are dangerous in parks, disturb children and wildlife, and owners frequently do not clean up after them.
- Damage to natural habitat
- maintenance, signage, H2O. Kenmore
- Many dog owners have no regard for leash laws. I wish the laws we're enforced more. It is a significant safety concern, especially with young children around.
- Thanks for the excellent video presentation; it shows how this is not a "cut and dried" simple issue. I support the concept of dog parks, but it could detract from non-dog owner park use if it clogs the parking areas or takes away too much space. So perhaps only the larger parks should be evaluated for this.
- Location of park not near other city limit borders to encourage mostly/all Kirkland residents. Juanita beach best location! Put link fence in water for control and placard rules of use. Include fresh water shower area on hard surface to rinse dogs?
- Increase enforcement and increase options!
- Main concern is safety of kids. Dog owners always think their dogs are friendly but that's not true. And dog poop that's not cleaned up is a major concern as well.

- Thank you for asking for feedback. I think off-leash dogs are OK when in a contained area (so any conflicts can be contained and non-dog owners are not impacted).
- Include dog waste stations at fenced dog parks.
- I'd rather see the city focus on solutions to the issues of people leaving pet feces in parks and trails, bagged and unbagged. That is a much bigger public health issue and is personally much more frustrating than seeing someone with their dog off-leash.
- I regularly see off-leash dogs at Kirkland parks and on the cross Kirkland trail. The owners of these dogs know that they are not allowed to take their dogs off-leash, but do anyway. There is no enforcement of off-leash rules. I have been attacked twice by off-leash dogs, including pitbulls twice while jogging in my neighborhood. I sustained a sprained ankle from a dog attack from an off-leash dog. I have tried to report off-leash dogs but could not find anyone to take a report. The owners of the off-leash dogs believe that the rules do not apply to them and they believe their dog is well behaved and special even if it jumps and snaps at children while disregarding its owners commands.
- Yes. I don't think the negative options question captured another negative aspect, which is the potential for increased fouling without owner pickup. I've seen many dogs on the CKC scamper off to relieve themselves many times on the trail and the owners either ignore the action or smile weakly.
- As long as the off the leash dog park is fenced, I have no problem. But if it will not be fenced, then I strongly object the idea of off-leash dog park
- I see few people using the existing dog park area off Waverly. Are dog owners really going to use these new parks? Without enforcement/ fines to owners, I don’t see how leash laws are even helping now. I firmly believe enforcement will help dog owners comply.
- People seem to have turned Heritage Park & often Marina Park into off-leash parks. I see off-leash dogs there almost daily.
- More fines need to be given if the leash law is not followed. There are off-leash dogs everywhere, including areas where I have small children. The dog waste left on trails and in parks is out of control. Dog parks are loud and ruin the habitat, but if they are shown to reduce the off-leash and waste issues, then we need to create space.
- What is the capital costs for more off-leash dog areas? More importantly, what would be the increased maintenance costs of having more off-leash dog areas? What revenue streams would there be?
- Yes. As a parent of a special needs child who has a dog phobia and goes to weekly therapy sessions to help her cope with all the dogs in public, I would ask that people be more sensitive to the fact that humans come before dogs. Being a dog owner is a privilege and with privileges comes responsibilities. For dog ownership it requires the owner to plan for a place away from the general public for their dogs needs. There are many designated areas where other people who enjoy dogs frequent. Our public parks like Juanita Beach Park should remain dog free even for those on leashes in my opinion. With the reason trend of everyone owning one and two dogs, people have been required to share more public space than ever before with dogs. Keeping them in designated areas is not too much to ask. Then they are assured that everyone in that space wants to be near dogs instead of assuming everyone loves their dog as much as they do when they're at the public parks.

- I used to like dogs and had them when I was young. I have had many encounters where I've felt threatened or invaded by dogs whose owners have little or no control of them. I've had sleep deprivation for five years because a neighbor let their dog out in the middle of the night and it barked and woke me. The laws for that are a joke. It put all the work on me instead of the owner and the fine was so low it would never discourage the owner from changing their behavior or their dogs. I only support off-leash areas that are fenced. I want much higher fines beyond the first to discourage owners from letting their dog invade or threaten me or others because they have little control.
- Open space and parks are for people and should be prioritized as such. Where off-leash is allowed, the area should be separated with a fence or other physical boundary. When not separated, Open fields quickly become over run with dogs playing fetch and interfere with kids and/or adults' activities. Off-leash dogs are a nuisance and can be intimidating, especially to small children. Not to mention the issues with confrontations between dog and non dog owners.
- The options you give for negative impact are way too narrow.
- I would like to see a fine to the owner of a dog when they allow dogs to jump unexpectedly on a person. In my case I am allergic to dogs and I am older and they can almost knock me down not to mention ruin in my clothes.
- The city should enforce the rules so dog owners are not taking their dogs off-leash in Kirkland's public areas. there should be fines to violators.
- I have a couple of comments. 1st, when you have unleashed dogs and leashed dogs together, this can cause dog issues. Second, without fences, unleashed dogs have totally come up to my son playing in the park who is highly allergic and licked him (he is highly allergic to their saliva). Without other fenced areas for dogs in the areas, people actually call the playground at my kids school an off-leash park for their dogs. I've heard them say it. We have gardens, habitat space that we are trying to restore that get trampled. The staff has to pick up poop laying around in the playground all the time. Even though some people are good about picking up after their dog, not all are and cause a problem.
- off-leash means no one picks up poop off-leash means confrontations with dogs do not have a responsible owner present
- This is definitely something that needs to be addressed. I have been walking in parks that have signs requiring dogs on leash many times, had dogs come at me in aggressive ways and owners yelling at me when I ask them to leash their dogs. I have seen as many as six unleashed dogs running in highlands pk when toddlers and young children are playing. This is dangerous at best because dogs can be unpredictable and though most owners are conscientious, there are many who are not. I have been trying to launch a paddleboard at waverly and had multiple dogs off-leash running haphazardly, or owners not controlling their dog and letting it run across/on my towel and gear. This effort is long overdue.
- The dog off-leash parks need to be fenced always. Living in Scandinavia and here, I noticed that in WA we have more dogs but much less of fenced dog parks.
- It's frustrating to have run-ins with off-leash dogs who owners can't control when you have kids or adults that are scared of dogs.
- Enforcement is what is missing. One person has a dog that's OK off-leash, but there are those who see one dog off-leash and assume they can do it, too, even though their dog is

unpredictable. People seem to need more supervision than not. The dogs in general are great, but often the owners are inconsiderate.

- I am a runner and have frequently encountered off-leash dogs on my runs. Owners often insult me when I comment that they are not in an off-leash area. I would very much appreciate better monitoring of this situation and a clear procedure for people to follow when they encounter an off-leash dog and its owner.
- No
- I would like to see more enforcement and I very much support designated, fenced off-leash areas.
- I have been a coach for the last three years and frequently have to ask people to leash their dogs. Many people become belligerent. I am also an emergency room physician and have had to sew up too many children's faces from dog bites and too many hands of adults who are breaking up dog fights. Dogs need a place to run but citizens also need to be safe. More enforcement please.
- I quite like dogs and just happen not to own one at the moment. I think off-leash dogs in areas not designated for them are a problem, the best solution for which would be to have more fenced areas for this.
- Pets make better people and providing safe convenient spaces for dog owners to exercise their dogs would benefit the community as a whole.
- I feel especially frustrated with off-leash dogs at the FHMS track when my son is trying to run. There have been off-leash dogs every single time he runs there (several times a week), and not a one has been courteous enough to leash their dog when they've seen my son. The dogs run towards him, getting in his way and making him feel afraid they might attack.
- As a parent who has been bit by off-leash dogs on more than one occasion, and who has small children who are afraid of dogs, I do not want any off-leash dogs in parks for families and children.
- I have a young son who is very afraid of dogs. Off-leash dogs make him scared when he's in a park.
- I think penalties and enforcement of should be stronger. No matter how big the area or how it is fenced, there are always people who don't follow directions. In an ideal world, someone would monitor slap people with strong penalties for not doing what they're supposed to.
- It's natural for a dog to explore so being off-leash makes sense. However as a mom with small children, unruly dogs are dangerous, so designated spaces are good for dog lessons. Maybe raise awareness. "if your dog behaves like this(xyz) they need to stay in designated areas until they are taught to behave like this (xyz)"
- Leash laws are frequently ignored even with designated spaces.
- I love dogs but it drives me crazy when they are off-leash in a non off-leash park. I have small children and it isn't safe for them, for me, or for other dogs. The dogs also harass local wildlife which is not okay.
- As a mother with young children, I never want to see dogs off-leash in my neighborhood parks.
- We need to remember that there are people in our community who have a fear of dogs (based on their lived experience with them) who also have a right to enjoy our parks. If the designated area is not fully enclosed I will not be able to bring my son to enjoy the park. I think it is most important to consider the enjoyment of our human residents when prioritizing park access.

- I really don't want to encounter an off-leash dog out side of designated areas. I see potential for harm to humans and other animals and dogs tsking food or equipment or jumping on people.
- Really tired of seeing off-leash dogs everywhere. Granted, I'm not a dog person, but it goes to the point of following the rules. I wouldn't mind having a fenced off area in parks for dogs. I'd much rather have that than have a dog come up to me while I'm sitting enjoying the day. Maybe this would also contain the poop.
- Not listed in the potential negative impact area are 2 items of issue: 1. increased incidence of owner not picking up after their dog; 2. dogs approaching people who are afraid of dogs. Both of these situations would have less impact on the public if the city were to implement enclosed (fenced in) spaces for off-leash.
- Dogs off-leash are pretty scary to non dog owners. Should only be allowed in designated areas.
- Fine people if they break the law. The law is the law. Until it is changed.
- Not only does dog poop pose a significant threat to water quality, but it poses a threat to public health when dogs are allowed to run free in areas where children play and or families picnic. I support fenced off-leash areas and greater enforcement of leash laws, but I oppose expansion of off-leash areas to areas abutting our natural waterways, wildlife habitat, schools, play fields, picnic areas or any green space with high use by kids and families, or cyclists. A dog's need to run has zero priority over the health and safety of kids and family and their enjoyment of open spaces without having to deal with someone else 's dog or it's feces.
- Juanita Bay park has good space for an off-leash dog area.
- I live near the Houghton Landfill and on a daily basis observe people using it as an off-leash area. The few I have talked to seem to feel it is their right to be there and have their dogs running free ("he's friendly" as the dog charges toward me is a common refrain). I would really like to see enforcement of the existing law. If we can fence new areas, fine, but ignoring the scofflaws just makes it worse. Thank you for addressing this.
- I don't like when dog owners let their dogs off-leash in public areas. If more enforcement will reduce this problem, then I am pro-enforcement. I don't particularly mind if additional off-leash areas are created, but it would ideal if the funds came from animal licenses, etc.
- I have been jumped on and entangled when walking on paths in our parks by off-leash dogs. It is dangerous and disrespectful of owners to not follow the rules. I think dogs should always be on a leash unless it is in a designated, fenced area.
- Every dog owner thinks their dog is wonderful and nice. In the park near my home I have been attacked, charged, and knocked down by off-leash dogs. The owner's response is always "my dog is a nice dog he won't hurt you", as I push the growling barking dog off of me and try to flee. Dogs are great but owners must keep them on a leash and under control when in a public space.
- As a runner I have often been threatened and more than once been bitten by off-leash dogs in my neighborhood park. It has caused me to greatly reduce my use of this park.
- I go to parks every day! There is a huge need to have dogs run free in a safe containment area, for the dogs and people!Theres plenty of space to utilize, and it would help the people who use it the most! Please bring off-leash areas to Juanita Beach Park!
- I live in N Rose Hill, and often see dogs off leach in Mark Twain and Woodlands Parks. It's also common to see dog waste and my kids(5&7) have been harassed twice this year by unsupervised dogs. Please reign in this situation.

- Please focus enforcement based on relative risk. Off-leash dogs near playgrounds or in narrow areas like the CKC are particularly problematic for off-leash dogs.
- So tired of encountering off-leash dogs in Crestwoods, especially on the trails. People already use the grassy areas as an off-leash run, so we should figure out a way to make it enclosed and legal so that people will hopefully be dis-inclined to use the trails as an off-leash run. I'd also love for enforcement on the trails!
- Many dog owners do not have control of their pets if they are not leashed. This creates a danger for both other dogs and people.
- There has always been poor enforcement of having dogs on leashes in city parks. Dog poop is a problem and also dogs going into wildlife/restoration areas is a problem. This is getting worse, year after year, and dog owners get nasty (and sometimes physically aggressive) when they are challenged. Look at how other cities deal with this. e.g. Wenatchee does a good job and warn people that they will be fined for having dogs off-leash in a park where there is wildlife around etc. Kirkland is one of the worst places for bad dog owners.
- My young children are afraid of dogs. We have had several incidents where people's off-leash dogs have come running at my kids while Playing with their owners. My son in particular is vert anxious about dogs. This is traumatic for them and I have to confront the owners to put their dogs on leashes while my kids are in the park or walking through our neighborhood. Please think about small children before the city stops enforcing off-leash dogs. Everyone likes to think their dogs are wonderful and well behaved but not everyone is comfortable around dogs or feel safe when a dog is not leashes.
- I frequent Crestwoods Park, and constantly see off-leash dogs. My dog passed away last year, but was anxious around other dogs especially when they would approach off-leash. One time I had a large dog bolt toward me when I was 9 months pregnant, and it was jumping on me trying to get to my dog (which I picked up for it's safety). Now I have two young children and the off-leash dogs are a big concern. I understand some are well behaved, but the few that aren't create an unsafe environment. Thank you
- In every Kirkland park I visit I see off-leash dogs. Enforcement is not happening. Dog owners are not showing that they are responsible for following rules. If they want off-leash areas, they should pay to purchase land and pay to maintain the off-leash areas. Natural parkland should be off limits to dogs at all times.
- Please help dog-owners understand their responsibility to follow current rules! Ignoring posted signs (and common decency) is NOT OK. I see owners let their dogs run wild on middle school athletic fields, where they aren't supposed to be at all. This is trespassing, and unhealthy for the students, teachers and parents who legally use those fields. I also find poop on sidewalks and in my yard; not cool. Part of me wonders if we should reward rule-breakers by paying for expanded options. However, if it helps the many law-abiding dog-owners, and expanded access plus active enforcement and fines reduce the rule-breakers, I support expanding fenced dog areas in parks.
- We live near a park that isn't an off-leash park but every owner assumes it is. We have seen dogs fight, run into traffic more than a few times. We have neighbors that walk their dogs off-leash in our neighborhood. Even the best trained/behaved dog can suddenly run, bite or go after an animal, and the owner has no way to restrain them My child has been bitten by a dog and is scared of them. Seeing one off-leash in our neighborhood is terrifying to him. There have

been times when people have had their dogs off-leash at Juanita Bean Park and the dog has ran over to us, though our picnic making my child scream and cry hysterically. This is a HUGE problem in our parks. The owners have no way of controlling/restraining the dog and they frankly don't seem to care about anyone else except what they want to do. I'd love to see increased enforcement of the leash policy AND increased enforcement at animal free events in the DT parks- especially in the summer).

- I have been frightened often by off-leash dogs at Heritage, Waverly and Juanita parks. I find it offensive that owners allow their pets to jump on and bark at strangers. I feel the city has done a poor job of reprimanding offenders so many dog owners ignore the law and allow their dogs to run wild. Selective dog parks are fine....maybe get dog license fees to support them.
- Non-dog owners' views should be prioritized over those of dog owners. Pet ownership is a privilege just like a driver's license and exercise of that privilege should be controlled without infringing on the enjoyment of public areas by non-dog owners.
- We absolutely need more off-leash dog areas; there should be one in each area of the city Off-leash dogs should ONLY be allowed in off-leash areas, and there should be strict signage, fines, and enforcement in other areas Off-leash areas should not be too near playgrounds due to safety, allergies, kids' fear of dogs, and potential for disease in contaminated soil Off-leash areas should not be too close to homes due to noise and smells Off-leash areas should be full time only; no part time areas as these would be too hard to monitor, too hard for the public to keep track of, and soil would be contaminated and grass destroyed Areas must be large enough for dogs to run; many off-leash violations I see are people throwing balls for their dogs Absolutely no off-leash dogs on the CKC!!
- Dogs should not be allowed off-leash even in the Lake or Shoreline unless its made to be part of a dog park area.

Prefer fenced areas – and It's complicated

- If a dog owner has voice control of an off-leash dog outside of a designated dog park and that dog is trained not to approach people or other dogs when off-leash then I say let it be
- Designated dog parks and fenced areas are a great idea. Best in bigger parks like Crestwoods. Many dog owners have great etiquette but some are very selfish (let dogs run off-leash and harass people and other dogs). I see this in Juanita Bay Park frequently.
- I am a bit concerned about having large dogs in off-leash and not separated areas of the park.
- I'm at Finn Hill state park almost on a daily basis and every time I'm there I see dogs off-leash!
- Edith Milton dog park is an excellent design, well planned and an asset to our community. Thank you
- off-leash dogs combined with dogs on a leash are a problem - i always walk our shared dog on a leash and combination of off and on is not ok for dogs or owners, dog on the leash cannot run away from aggressive or overly friendly dogs and it is not safe for dogs or owners
- Passionate dog owners will out shout other local residents...don't let that win the day. The more silent residents do NOT see the need to have dogs off-leash. Leash laws were originally put in place for a very good reason - public safety - and dogs and owners have not changed since these laws were enacted. If you want to exercise your dog...walk you dog on a leash...quite simple really. Part of being a responsibles dog owner. Or maybe don't buy a dog.

- We have had many types of dogs, extended family has dogs, friends have dogs, friends are breeders and even a vet. That being said, many dogs are not social, either the fault of previous neglect/abuse, original owners unable or unsure of how to socialize their dogs, certain breeds which tend to be aggressive, protective of owners, or known to be less than fond of other dogs. We also have friends who fear dogs, friends who have been attacked by off-leash dogs, friends whose pets on leash's have been attacked by off-leash dogs. In conclusion, dog parks are great! But, please do not allow off-leash dogs in our parks. If you do, be prepared for increased liability!
- I am a dog walker. Dog-safety first!
- Fences provide safety for both dogs & humans.
- Some of these parks are on school property and teachers/staff are having to spend time to clean up poop and maintain the land instead of teaching our children. Shouldn't be that way.
- I keep hearing stories of leashed dogs being attacked by unleashed dogs. Unleashed dogs are dangerous since you never know how they are going to react to another dog.
- Juanita Beach needs enforcement. It is a multi-use park with tons of kids. Dogs off-leash and dog crap are everywhere all the time. Not safe for kids much of the time. A fenced area for dogs might be nice and more safe for everyone.
- I think having fenced in areas for off-leash would be ok in the bigger parks but having small children around off-leash dogs could be dangerous.
- Snyder's Corner would make an excellent off-leash collaboration between Kirkland, Redmond and Bellevue cities. It could also support a tri city pea patch. The off-leash areas must be securely fenced or you will have dogs running in traffic, not to mention a futile attempt to contain dog poop. A secure swim space for dogs would be wonderful. It can still be accessed through a fenced area so you don't have run away dogs.

Prefer off-leash dog areas – and I own a dog

- An hour in the morning and an hour in the evening when dogs can be off-leash in parks like Heritage seems the perfect solution. Few people are going to mind off-leash dogs at 7-8am and 6-7pm.
- Think that most dog owners are very conscientious to pick up after and manage their pooches. Let's not get carried away with enforcement!
- Taking dogs to the park off-leash during the week before 8 am and 9 am on weekends is not a burden or danger to anyone. No one is around and it's just other dog owners looking to build the community and enjoy the beautiful park of Kirkland. I am specifically talking about heritage park at these times. It is 2 blocks from My house and i take my dogs to the park daily around 7:30 am. The other dog owners who are around that time are respectful to the park, we clean up after ourselves and do not bother other patrons. I hope we can come to a solution soon that makes everyone happy!
- Off-leash dog areas during specific times of the day are good for dogs, humans and the community. Any human found not cleaning up after their pet should be fined.
- I walk and run multiple times a week in downtown Kirkland. The biggest hazard by far is the small dogs on retractable leashes! They either dodge out in front of me or chase and nip from behind. The larger dogs either on or off-leash are never a problem.

- thank you for addressing this important issue. Making Kirkland dog-friendly is important for maintaining the wonderful atmosphere of our community
- thank you for taking the time to gather this info
- I think it would be a great option to have off-leash dog times offered early in the mornings (7-8:30am) and evenings (8-9:30pm) when parks aren't busy and to reduce off-leash dogs all times of the day.
- I believe it would be good for well behaved dogs to be able to run off-leash at certain times in larger parks such as the Heritage Park. However, there should be a control system for aggressive dogs and owners not cleaning up after their dog (s). Thank you.
- Good judgement should be used about where off-leash is enforced with safety being the main priority. Open natural areas such as Watershed should have low enforcement priority, but the Kirkland Corridor should have high priority.
- Dogs are a very important part of our society... zoneing has a big part in why people are taking pets off-leash as lots shrink the parks will feel the impact as citizens look for ways to interact with there pets
- People need to chill out. This area is proving to be very unfriendly to others and requiring dog owners to travel great distances to shitty parks for off-leash options. It's ridiculous. I just moved here and am appalled at people's attitudes towards pets and their entitlement. Off-leash times and offering everyone a solution is best.
- I typically walk my dog off-leash and he is very much in my control. The owners who can't control their dogs typically have them on a leash, those who can control their dogs typically walk them off-leash. I think it is already self-patrolled. Well behaved dogs are often so because they are not on a leash.
- We need large flat areas to exercise dogs. Plenty of small places to socialize dogs, there's no where in the city to play fetch without other dogs. Also need swimming areas. I'd be for a permit system based on training.
- 10,000 registered dogs...Wow!
- There is no need to ticket off-leash dogs when they are in a park no one else is using.
- Off-leash unfenced areas are dangerous for the dogs. Owners rarely have full voice control over their excited dog. Also, a reactive dog, on-lead, outside of that dog designated area can easily be attacked or become uncontrollable despite the owners actions if quickly approached by dogs crossing out of the designated area, even if to say hello. If parks are to have unfenced off lead areas within them, the off-lead areas should be only at specific times, (6-9 AM and 4.30-7PM) so other dog owners and non dog people can enjoy the park safely. These should be well-enforced to keep everyone abiding by the rules. Fenced areas in the largest parks are a great resource, and keep everyone safe. (PS I own 2 Golden Retreivers, both of which have been attacked while walking on lead in our neighborhood park by dogs that were supposedly under voice command, and "friendly".)
- Medina Park works well with seasonal off-leash areas. We make a special trip there many times for a treat..
- Offleash parks are great, but get extremely muddy in the winter and dusty in the summer. Off-leash hours and sensible enforcement (owner's ability to recall the dog) should be encouraged.

- I pay a large amount of money in property taxes. My dog is under voice control.I see no issue of having my dog in the park off-leash between daylight and 10 AM when no one is in the park except people with dogs. Also at night a designated time would be great.
- We have energetic dogs that need a lot of exercise. Unfortunately, the off-leash parks are far from our house - far enough that we never visit. It would be great to have off-leash areas designated in larger neighborhood parks - seems like a good compromise to allow dogs and owners to get more exercise but also keeps most of the park available to those who prefer to avoid contact with off-leash dogs. As a dog owner, I fully understand others' frustrations with off-leash dogs - I just wish we had more safe areas to allow our dogs to run. Thanks for considering our input!
- The fenced parks do not provide exercise for Me. I like to walk some distance for exercise and my dog needs the run as well.
- There r many parks in which there could easily be a time arrangement for dogs off-leash. No need for 24/7 in all parks. Residents need to be able to get to a decent dig off-leash area without going through downtown Kirkland. Must be natural ground not concrete or ashohalt as a dog cannot fetch safely on such materials.
- Throwing balls for dogs to retrieve, whether on land or in the water, is a hallowed and healthy American tradition. Dogs are joyous.
- Law has no value, unless it is enforced consistently. Do not create something that you may not to be able maintain for lack of resources, which could lead to citizens being placed in a confrontational environment, or in harm's way.
- Most days I drive by a park and they are underutilized by residents. We pollute the environment more by driving to dog parks than being able to let our dogs off-leash locally. More socialization means friendlier dogs. Provide poop collection bags and have garbage cans readily available, to keep the parks cleaner. Teens litter more than dogs.
- Dogs need to run daily to stay healthy, better on grass than dirt or bark.
- There are many parks close to our home (in Kirkland Highlands) that I visit with my dog where we find nobody there during various hours of the day. It would be great if we could have the opportunity to allow our dogs to run during designated times so that they can be exercised. While I am glad Kirkland has a dog park, this park doesn't get much sunshine and not much area to walk (paths), so my husband and I instead frequent Marymoore. We would welcome the opportunity to have more dog welcoming open spaces in Kirkland. Thank you for considering these options.
- Creating leash areas in our parks will bring neighbors together and encourage people to get outdoors and get exercise. Great idea! Support it 100%!
- I am very happy to know that Kirkland is looking to provide off-leash area expansion. I am good with time limits. Early morning to allow for working residents to exercise their dog and early evening following work. Watershed Park is my local preferred option.
- Look at Medina park- copy that. Set aside early morning hours for dogs at parks.
- Register or charge user fee for dogs in off-leash areas.
- As in parts of our society, freedom is a positive. Violators against the community laws should be punished.
- Strongly suggest training as requiring a CGC (Canine good citizen) certification to encourage good dog behaviors, need water access.

- There should be more options for small dogs.
- The dogs aren't going away; we need more space.
- I have found small fenced off-leash areas are dangerous. I much prefer allowing dogs off-leash in our parks during non-peak hours, usually early mornings.
- you could register all dogs who wish with an off-leash permit that could be revoked and surrendered if the dog/owner were a nuisance
- Downtown Kirkland has a high density of residents with no yards yet there is nowhere we can walk with our dogs offleash. I would really like to see a designated time for our elderly dog to be allowed offleash on the corridor. She is too old to do well with lots of dogs in a small fenced area.
- Hertiage park would be awesomeeeeeee!!!!
- A simple and effective solution would be to designate certain hours of the day in local parks as "off-leash" hours. Typically dog owners exercise their dogs before and after work, so an hour on either end of the workday would be convenient to dog owners and beneficial to their animals.
- If an off-leash dog is causing a problem of course the owner should be held accountable. Otherwise I think its a non important issue for the city to waste time on. My neighbors gather at Heritage early most mornings to let their dogs play and they socialize. Everyone's dog is well behaved. I walk by all the time and never have had a problem. What a wonderful use of our beautiful parks!
- City of Medina has designated dog off-leash times within parks....works well. We should recognize that scarce resources/facilities need to be shared to accommodate various uses....much the same as our public pools which have designated times for different activities. Our neighborhood benefits by allowing groups to gather at specific times...social interaction, etc.
- On question 9 there should be an option to check the first 4 answers. Off-leash areas are a tremendous benefit to the community as a whole. It adds to the desirability of the community and stops the waste of resources trying to enforce laws/rules that are for the most part impossible to enforce. As long as dog owners are diligent about cleaning up after their dogs they have little or no impact on park areas or community. Any expert in the area of dogs will tell you they are healthier and happier when off-leash. You only have to go to Marymoor off-leash areas to see that proved out. It has also been extremely successful in other areas to designate specific times of the day "off-leash". I strongly encourage the city to consider some common sense in this area and allow options for dog owners to exercise their dogs.
- Make Heritage Park an off-leash area from 7am to 10am! Our neighbors love meeting in the morning. We are responsible dog owners and our dogs are well behaved!
- 7-8 am seems like a great option, and late evening. Thanks for considering.
- Dogs who've 'escaped their home' and are running off-leash in the neighborhood is a different matter than well-trained obedient dogs walking like 'Lassie' next to their 'owner/guardian.' Encouraging neighbors to 'judge each other' privately and publicly creates negative outcome and damages relations. There has been no harm to anyone in Kirkland with dogs off-leash. If owners take the risk of infringing on the law, it is their risk to consequence. Spending city funds to enforce such a law is wasteful to money which ought to be spent elsewhere.
- I propose morning off-leash time for dogs in designated Kirkland parks. During the morning, few people use the parks so the dogs wouldn’t disturb anyone. Dog owners are generally very good

about cleaning up after their dogs but if by chance someone didn't, I would definitely be in favor of fining the person. We had a wonderful off-leash group at Waverly Beach Park for quite awhile and I made so many neighbor friends and felt very attached to the people, their dogs and the community because of it. Thank you for your consideration!

- I feel that off-leash dogs are dangerous to people and other dogs. I think we need more enforcement of the rules in parks!!!
- We live across from a neighborhood park and dogs are often off-leash. So far no incidents as we walk by with our small dog on-leash. The only downside is that that park grass is getting torn up.
- There are many parks that are not utilized during the week days. It would be great to have an area or time designated for off-leash. I go to parks where this is a regular occurrence. No one else is there. Everyone I see is conscientious about picking up poop as we police each other on this. Dogs won't tear up the grass any worse than the ultimate frisbee players who use the parks. Probs less
- I'd like to see some trails in Kirkland allowing dogs to walk off lease (like MI does) if kept in sight of owner and if dog responds to a voice command. I'd like to have certain times of the day like early mornings or weekends when the parks are not used for sports available for responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs. I would not want the parks turned into a "dog park" all the time.
- Some of us have dogs that DON'T mix with other dogs, because of their temperament. My black lab, for instance, just wants to chase a ball -- and other dogs intimidate her, so I couldn't use a dog park even if it was accessible to me.
- Medina Park is a great model. Half the park is off-leash year round and the other half is seasonal. I like taking my dog out off-leash in the early mornings or dusk when the parks are not in use. I think sharing is a great idea, why not make these parks that we pay for useful to all? The times I go it's almost exclusively dog owners.
- Off-leash dogs is a minor issue in town. I never have my dog off-leash (big and not a breed with reliable recall skills for the city), but I honestly have no issues when a few dogs are having fun in Heritage Park, etc, Officially allowed or not. We have far bigger issues to deal with.
- I am excited to see something being addressed. Exciting
- Bellingham has many of it's park areas open to off-leash till 10 am. Which I think is a great idea. Maybe have a training program for people to socialize their dogs. One of my dogs has been attacked twice at Marymoor, and my other got an infection from swimming in the river. Teach people the importance of cleaning up after their dogs.
- One option would be restricting off lease to certain times of the day.
- We bring our dog to medina dog park. There is a playground for our tidgler and a gravel path for exercise while the dog roams. There are rarely offensive breeds or large unruly dogs here which is a big draw for us.
- Seems like case law consistently holds the owner of the dog accountable for controlling their dog in all the information I could find. Why not consider allowing Off-leash dogs under voice/ sight control the freedom to share recreational space with non-dog users where indicated within specified times. Another idea would be to allow Off-leash dogs under voice/ sight control the freedom to share recreational space with nondog users where indicated in specified zones of every park. At any rate, this is one of those areas that I believe a majority of people are

willing to be a scofflaw where the rewards outweigh the risks. It is impossible for any City in America to police offleash dogs yet every one of them have a specific offleash law on the books. Dogs are no longer considered something we own. They are part of our Family and we need to quit wasting money and resources acting like we can somehow control enforce these administrative laws. Don't get me wrong....I think we should always hold irresponsible dog owners accountable if they can't control their dogs. The courts already consistently do this. I just think we need to quit pretending that we can somehow equitably enforce off-leash prohibitions within our parks systems. Lets focus efforts on education and celebrating responsible pet owners. Let's place the enforcement on the backs of all the responsible dog owners in the City. Lets quit making otherwise law abiding citizens break the law while enjoying the park with their families (dogs included).

- There are quite a few cities doing this, if done with clear communication (signs, email, etc.), off-leash areas and times make great sense and have far less maintenance. And it brings people together, so you have an easier volunteer base when you do need to maintain. Involve the neighborhoods, please.
- I think Kirkland should consider the Medina model where dogs are allowed off-leash in certain parks during certain hours. Fenced dog parks like Jaspers seem to make the dogs uncomfortable. I've had more negative experiences there (dog fights, etc.) than anywhere else. Conversly, my experience at Marymoor and Medina (not fenced) has been a lot more positive and few to no altercations. Fenced parks are needed for dogs that are not inclined to stick close to their owners but most well behaved, obedient dogs pose no threat to other park users.
- Would there be someone there to make sure people are handling their dogs properly and whos going to clean up after the dogs ?

Prefer off-leash dog areas – and I do not own a dog

- I prefer not to have off-leash areas at places like crestwoods and jusnita beach, which are high use with a lot of kids. People don't pick up after their dogs and its gross to play soccer and visit the beach amongst the poop. Dog owners also think their dogs are better trained than they are and the dogs can sometimes be unpredictable. I prefer dogs on-leash and dog parks separate.
- Would like to see areas for dogs to be able to run!! They need to run off-leash! Dog owners are tax payers too and deserve to have this in their city!!
- Dog owners benefit from dog parks and other designated public areas for dogs. Nobody else benefits (I am a dog lover but not a dog owner). It is not the responsibility of taxpayers to subsidize a discretionary choice like pet ownership for dog owners. All dog related accommodations -- such as fencing, waste bags, bag dispensers, and the supply and maintenance of dog parks and dog areas -- which the city would undertake to make available for dogs should paid for by dog owners through usage-based and/or licensing schemes. Before the City continues pursuing the niceties of supporting a dog friendly environment for a minority of citizens it should collect and publish data on all currently associated costs, and the sources of funding for these costs. Then, as additional plans develop the changes to costs need to be understood, and sources for additional funding should be discussed with and accepted by the citizenry before any changes to the status quo are made.

- Heritage is pretty much already off-leash in the morning. Formalize the hours so I know when to avoid it! Maybe also find a water access area, because that's the other place I'm likely to see dogs off-leash.
- Having the same public park space shared by dog-lovers, dog-neutral and non-dog-haters seems simple to do (especially as a pilot/trial) - just designate certain days and times when off-leash dog walking is allowed. For example, Mon/Wed/Fri/Sun before noon and Tues/Thur/Sat after noon, with the schedule alternating for different parks. Please seek a win-win solution by maximizing the amount of good for the maximum number of people.
- Would never take a dog off-leash unless at a dog park.
- Consider dog permits/certification for off-leash dog areas. Water access.
- If we don't give dog owners off-leash areas then all parks become off-leash areas, and as a frequent walker I don't like being confronted with off-leash dogs.
- I think respectful owners with well-behaved and trained dogs are not a problem, it's the few dogs who shouldn't be offleash that are the problem. I find owners that don't clean up after their dogs are much more of a problem than the off-leash dogs who are usually just chasing a ball or each other and bothering no one.
- We can expand options for off-leash dogs in our parks but dog owners will really need to step up their consideration of others. Some dog owners are excellent and others are selfish and show a serious lack of concern for others.
- The exaggerated overreactions of people opposed to off-leash dogs is irritating. I walked my dog off-leash for 10 years and never witnessed a problem except for one time when a pit bull jumped into my arms. No harm done. Yes, I'm sure occasional issues arise. But to hear some people talk, you'd think off-leash problems are a rampant crisis. Education and tolerance are called for; not punitive measures and denying dogs joy.
- Enforcement is inadequate at the moment

Prefer off-leash dog areas – and It's complicated

- Please provide a designated spot where dogs can access lake Washington for swimming. Designated times seems appropriate and parks where human swimmers are not generally present.
- Love the integration of dogs and people into outdoor spaces.
- We don't need to reinvent the wheel. Look at what other areas and cities are doing that works! BC has so many designated dog areas as well as offleash friendly regular parks. Even NYC has designated offleash hours in regular parks. Also think about the positive benefits of having dog owners in parks - we are eyes and ears and deter crime!
- Would prefer not to have fenced off areas as these would attract more out of area folks and dogs. If there is a more "casual" way (maybe designated times or ???) that is mainly known to neighbors in the vicinity, it could work and not attract out of area folks. If we did this in a park in almost every neighborhood, then it would be serving US! Also, I see no reason that dogs should ever be off-leash on the CKC.

Prefer both fenced and off-leash dog areas – and I own a dog

- Most dog owners are very responsible in terms of controlling and picking up after their animals. Spending any money on enforcement, or supervision seems like a waste of money that should be directed to other priorities. Few cities on the eastside enforce these types of dog controls today.
- With responsible owners and well behaved dogs, they make less negative impact on our environment than most of our youth who leave non-decomposible garbage behind.
- I hate dog parks because it's lazy people on their phones paying zero attention to their badly behaved dogs. I like the space and safety of sidewalks, parks, or the trail. Mine are leashed, but we had a dog who didn't need to be on leash. I'm smart enough to know the difference! :)
- There are many parks that are rarely used many hours of the day and can be used within reason for off-leash use.
- Time limits for off lease in main parks would be great. 7-11 am for example
- From an environmental and community harmony standpoint, it's seems a no-brainer to allow dog owners to be able to walk their dog to neighborhood parks and let them off-leash, so long as they don't run in the street or otherwise directly accost pedestrians in the park.
- It is important that dog owners/park users pick up after their dogs and that aggressive dogs are not allowed or kept on leash. It only takes a few irresponsible owners to ruin the experience for all. A combination of peer pressure and law enforcement would be helpful.
- in city and in parks many people do not clean up after their pet. Kirkland should provide signs and dog cleanup bags so people will clean up after their dogs. Having enclosed dog park areas would also allow for people to control their dogs more easily.
- Dog owners must clean up after their dog poops.
- Off-leash trails in addition to fenced park would be nice. Providing poop bags & disposal important.
- A special off-leash license at additional cost and with specific requirements for controlling your dog might work well
- Too many dangerous off-leash dogs in neighborhoods. Too hard to involve animal control.
- I am so tired of my young children being approached by off-leash dogs. It has ruined park outings more than once. My oldest was never afraid of dogs until an off-leash large breed puppy jumped and scratched him when he was 6 years old. The owner said “he’s just a puppy” as though that somehow made less scary or hurt my son less. In the 15 years I’ve lived in Kirkland I’ve noticed significantly more off-leash dogs with owners nearby. I’ve never seen citations issued or warnings given....
- Don’t let a few scared citizens prevent dogs from having natural exercise. I won’t let my dog off-leash anywhereunless I know he’ll obey but many non-dog-owners assume that all dogs are out of control and get really aggressive. I worry about how unfriendly many areas are even to leashed dogs, and I’d like to see more designated dog-friendly areas even if they are leash-required.
- Enforcement must be increased. Off-leash dogs in already crowed parks are so dangerous to leashed dogs and people.

- Strongly in support of more off-leash areas! We are severely lacking! Thank you for soliciting interest.
- Thank you for putting this out there!
- It would be great to have more areas in the city to let my dog off his leash
- The lack of space to appropriately exercise ones dog leads to normally law abiding citizens breaking the leash law. Please explore all options for expanding park use for those of us who exercise our dogs daily.
- Those of us that worked so hard to bring the creation of off-leash areas in Kirkland feel the latest outreach is quite a negative approach to improvement. Many years have been given to try to improve things in a positive way. I was told that the current park director told a citizen that she is not in favor of dog parks as she's been bitten by a dog. Seems important for any Kirkland Park director to have a positive approach to including dog and owner off-leash recreation opportunities. The citizens have continuously asked for that. The current approach seems to be in favor of more regulating, rather than healthy solutions. The City should reach out to KDOG. There is still a KDOG Facebook page. The survey should be shared with pet owners there and at Jasper's Dog Park, The Park Board and former KDOG leadership have worked hard to move towards expanding off-leash opportunities. I don't want to see the very few with prior negative experiences with dogs, keep our citizens from enjoying the recreation opportunities they want.
- The current offleash areas are not usable by all dog owners. Many dog owners do not have access to these areas, as driving is required. They are accessible to a segment off The population with cars, dogs who are able to ride in cars, or are walking distance. More areas, in appropriate locations, provides more access to greater population and encourages owners to utilize those spaces rather than using areas that dogs should not be off-leash.
- Even after becoming a dog owner, I believe that all dogs should be leashed in public areas, specially parks. Parks are for people, families, children. They have a priority to feel safe and at peace to enjoy their time in a park without worrying whether an unleashed dog is going to jump on their child, or wondering whether the dog charging to you is friendly or not. Unless, there is a clear fenced area, dogs should be leashed. In a regular park, how do you make sure you separate the people who don't want dogs around them from unleashed dogs? To me, designated park areas and times, doesn't seem a plausible solution...fences, yes.
- There are no dog park options near areas with increasing density in S. Kirkland. Consider adding offleash to Watershed Park and open areas in Taylor Fields.
- Well behaved dogs off-leash should be fine... but there should be rules about behavior that is not acceptable, so people know what is OK and what is not.
- Many dog owners need a safe place to exercise their dogs off-leash. I would love to have existing parks designate off-leash times/areas.
- I think that most dog owners are aware of their dog's ability to handle being off-leash and only do so if they are able to recall dog on command.
- Many areas require voice control instead of leashes. This could be an option to consider.
- More important to deal with a lot of other issues in our city than off-leash dogs. If a dog is a problem, deal with that. Leashed or unleashed, if a dog is in control, no enforcement is necessary. If the dog is out of control, the presence of a leash doesn't do much

- I think you are framing the issue very narrowly. Other cities provide multiple options. 1) In Boulder, CO, dogs who respond to voice commands are allowed to be off-leash anywhere; the city charges to test the owner and dog for this. 2) There should be mandatory education for people who scream at dog owners or complain even when dogs are on leash because these people are clearly terrified of dogs and uninformed; the Humane Society could partner with the City to provide the people education about canine behavior and reduce the person's fears. 3) As a dog owner, I have had the Kirkland law enforcement agent tell me that people carry guns and could potentially shoot my dog if it's off-leash; your enforcers need to stop using intimidation and need better community communication training. 4) Cats kill 4 billion song birds a year. I would like to see legislation to keep cats indoors and give tickets to cat owners who let their cats outside to "roam". 5) I think you need input from the Humane Society and reputable dog training centers to set policy. 6) Work with the County on setting aside local dog park areas, such as fields at Finn Hill Park by the baseball fields. 7) There is a lot of evidence that dog owners are happier, more social, and that dog socialization helps the dogs adjust to each other and people. There is so much measurable good that comes from community places for dog parks.
- Dogs should be allowed off-leash. Except for dangerous breeds. They should be on leash and muzzled always.
- Its difficult to find a safe place that isn't too crowded to run highly active, energetic dogs. I have firm voice control of my dogs but people in the dog parks don't always. I need a local place to exercise my large dogs where we don't infringe on others and aren't harassed by packs of small dogs. Please don't assume all off-leash owners are just being irresponsible. With Kirkland becoming so crowded I can appreciate the problem of providing for everyones needs. Good luck.
- Grassy parks like the marymoor dog park work better for my dog, she only runs back and forth for a tennis ball and with bark covered dog parks it causes her to ingest bark that sticks to the ball. Lighting is also a problem in the winter you get home after dark and can’t play or walk anywhere safely.
- We need an area like marymoore dog park in Redmond. One where the owners can walk with their dog. There are plenty of parks/walking trails in the area so why not make one off-leash. Also if a park is empty and there is a dog off-leash why should they get a ticket. There is nobody around. Id understand if it was full of people and kids.. But on a gross day with nobody in it?? We already pay enough to live in kirkland.
- Please put back the dog poop bags at O. O. Denny. We used to have them when it wasn't a Kirkland park. Other city's do this and it helps dog owners make sure they clean up.
- I love to walk with my dog off-leash along trails or through fields. The concept of gathering spots for wrestling and playing works for very few dogs and shouldn't be the major emphasis for dog opportunities. (we pay taxes too) In addition, there need to be some clear guidelines of what earns the privilege to be off-leash in areas outside fenced dog parks such as reliable recall, not harassing wildlife and humans etc.
- The new Edith Moulton Park is world class! Thanks so much for that gift! One of the great unapproved off-leash parks back in the day was what's now Heritage Park. We'd average 50 people per weekday and 100+ on the weekends (~2000 per month), and we made good friends there. That meeting place has never been replaced. Although we like the wooded areas

(Kingsgate, Crestwoods, Watershed), having canine community hours at Heritage would be great. Thanks for asking!

- OO Denny Park is a great option for a fenced off-leash area. The water is clean and there is a good amount of parking. Jasper's Park does not have enough parking, it is too muddy, and the hillside is awkward.
- Fenced in dog parks may be dangerous at times. I tend to avoid them due to nervousness on my dog's part and prior experiences with aggressive dogs. In my current dog training class with my new puppy, I have learned that many dogs are not really great about meeting other dogs and unless owners are really astute about watching dog behavior they not be able to see problems until it is too late. They have their own dog park where each animal has verification of good health (no parasites, vaccines up to date) and good behavior. This is how things *should* really be done, but it is not realistic on the scale this town needs and with the resources available. I also suffer from a knee injury and have been hit in the knees on several occasions around rowdy groups of dogs. This raises important questions - how can we incentivize people keeping their dogs healthy, under careful observation, and on good behavior in these spaces? Until then, I simply don't think it is the right space for me and my dogs. I prefer to bring my dogs out into open spaces where they can run, but don't have to have too much contact with other dogs (private property/ravine near my neighborhood). I live near Finn Hill Park and would love to see a portion of that park and/or a portion of the day dedicated to dogs being off-leash. I also realize that if this happens, I can expect that the park will have much more dog traffic than it already has. It will go from a great place for my dog to see a few "regulars" who I know and trust to a busy place where I may not be able to bring my dogs. Having dogs keeps me healthy. They get me out of the house several times a day for long walks. I think the best of all worlds is for everyone to have spaces near their houses (like I have the amazing privilege to have) where they and their dogs can get exercise. I am not sure if the town can realistically support the number of dogs that are around - meaning have enough places so that each place has the right number of dogs. That is what I would hope for in the end.
- It would be nice to have an off-leash dog area in Kingsgate. :)
- Portion of Heritage Park would work best fenced area.
- I currently drive to Marymoor off-leash dog park. I don't expect that Kirkland can provide what Marymoor does but we should be able to find space available for more dog parks. Also, I would hope that we could provide off-leash areas in an area such as Heritage that could be open certain hours so that owners and their pets could enjoy the exercise and camaraderie. We should at least be able to try it on a temporary basis. Owners who have to keep their dogs on a leash because they can't control them could find other places to take their dogs when the off-leash area was open.
- Better information about the dog trails at Edith Moulton Park (on website, etc.)
- Love the new space at Edith Moulon! It's not very condusive to allowing dogs to really RUN though. It would be great to have a larger open area where dogs can really sprint.
- PLEASE see number 3 above. A well behaved dog is socialized and gets excersize!
- Dogs do not present any significant risk to safety, they are man's best friend. I grew up in Kirkland with dogs living in harmony with people and without the notion that all dogs must be on a leash at all times. Some dogs need a leash, dog owners know which they are. Why are we

afraid of dogs now? Why are we not more social in general? Is that the reason for leashes, because dogs don't know not to say hello?

- Just remove the prohibition against unleashed dogs altogether. Create specific “dog free” zones.
- There are more well behaved dogs Kirkland than other cities because of the community embracing off-leash dogs and holding each other accountable for good doggy behavior and sharing best practices. We would be better off with signs showing good conduct for owners to reference than having a patrol for dogs. We humans are doing a pretty good job
- Please enforce current laws.
- The laws need to be more defined, parks for special needs dogs.
- Do not be influenced by a relatively small group of complainers screaming loudly!
- I Love Dogs
- My dog is off-leash often. He is also highly trained. He doesn't run off and has NO interest in any other animal. I think law enforcement has to make case by case decisions. Some dogs defecate in all areas and have irresponsible owners. My dog loves fetch and frisbee and swimming without being off-leash, he couldn't do these things.
- Kirkland/Redmond border resident
- Unless kept extremely sanitary and policed well, they can be dangerous both health wise and most dog owners need training.
- Not a whole lot of good options near my home. I end up traveling to Magnuson or Marymoor Parks.
- This has been a long time coming. Down town Kirkland is in desperate need of an off-leash park. Another advantage is that it decreases the need to use a car to drive to one further away - more environmentally friendly. It’s also great for non-dog owners who can get a chance to see and watch dogs play while also being safe. Great socializing opportunity for the community.
- The current enforcement policy of 1) educate, 2) warn, 3) fine is silly. 1 and 2 are the same. Go straight to the warning, the warning is also the education. There are just way too many dogs running loose for the city's limited manpower to deal with.
- It's amazing to me that a supervised dog is ticketed, but cats with free run are able to continue with their practice.
- Dogs are, in general, more well behaved than most of the people that are on the CKC day in and day out. Its a bonus to the community to have a dog friendly environment
- I'd like to see Kirkland promoting proper training of dogs and owners in general. Education on the laws and proper etiquette would be very beneficial.
- Besides off-leash areas, there should be on leash areas as well!
- Off-leash at the Taylor Fields site would seem to make sense as it is hardly used except by dog owners... either make it off-leash or do something with it because even the ball fields are in bad condition
- More dog parks are needed. Edith is great addition, but is too small. Need a bigger space park like Jasper
- I do enjoy dog parks and want one.
- Thank you!
- Kirkland needs green space for our dogs to run around. Unfortunately the housing is so overbuilt that people having own backyards large enough just don’t exist anymore

- If there were better options for both unfenced off-leash areas AND possibly fenced areas, I wouldn't have to go to the Marymoor Park unfenced off-leash Park. I joined the one-year parking membership b/c I take my dog there 4-5 times a week. Marymoor offers many experiences; swimming opportunities for the dogs, social experiences for my dog & myself, exercise opportunities for both my dog and myself. I also see many people there with no dog, they go there to view the many animals that are protected and inhabit the Park. I believe Marymoor is an enhancement to Redmond. The members get together every year to participate in the park maintenance, i.e., building bridges, spreading the yearly new bark. This volunteer maintenance is another opportunity for the people that use the park to socialize with each other. I have made "personal" friendships. If Kirkland would designate times that dogs would be able to legally play in the water, it would be a very exciting time, I wouldn't have to travel to marymoor park, if my dog could swim here and it, would possibly provide an opportunity to meet other people living in Kirkland.
- Responsible pet owners who control their dogs should be allowed to walk their pet anywhere, off-leash or not.
- The arguments against new dog parks presented, except for the environmental concerns, are very weak. It's no different than not having a child and saying you don't want a new school near your house because of noise and traffic or that it doesn't suit your personal tax dollars. Facilities should be in place for all segments of a population, and I really think more designated options for dog owners will make non designated trails/parks safer for everyone. Especially if they're decently maintained and have plenty of waste cleanup options.
- People need to control their pets. If pets are controlled I see no reason not to have on leash!
- From my experience, there is absolutely no need for resources to be allocated towards additional enforcement. Every off-leash dog I have encountered in an non-official off-leash area has been 1) well socialized, 2) accompanied by a responsible owner, 3) has never impacted the activities of others who are using the same space or nearby.
- dog owners should not treated as 2nd class citizens. What if the rules were so biased against people with children??
- There is not nearly enough park space allocated for dogs to be off-leash AND for dogs who need to be on leash & safe from being approached by other dogs. We need many more options from fenced areas to beach areas to walking trails. I am a dog trainer and a dog owner and I train assistance dogs (who also are greatly harmed by other dogs who are off-leash when they shouldn't be). There are places I can't go that are supposed to be for dogs because there are aggressive dogs brought to dog parks by clueless owners AND there is no leash enforcement for places that are designated for on-leash dogs. We also need options for people who wants to get their dogs exercised even though those dogs aren't good with other dogs (many of them adopted from our shelters and rescues). Thanks!
- Dogs off-leash is a frequent and repetitive problem. I've especially have noticed this at Heritage and Crestwood. My dog always on lease, have been approached numerous times while walking around Kirkland Middle school. The KMC are in force but needs teeth to change the behavior of dog owners who allow dogs off-leash. Larger fines, repeated visits from animal control,etc. I'd like to see fence dog runs where owners can reserve a space to play ball or exercise the dog. These runs provide safety between dogs and safety of humans. The problem is when one dog is on lease and the other dog is off lease. There is an imbalance between the dogs. The off lease

owner says, " it's ok my dog is friendly". Probably right but my dog (is on lease for a reason) to comply with KMC and for safety. Something needs to be done to change the behavior of dog owners who allow dogs off lease. It's bad and getting worse

- Dogs with responsible owners are the best! The people walking their dogs, I've come across both on the street and in Watershed Park, are always super friendly. Great way to get to know your neighbors.
- We live close to the CCK trail and near Terrace Park in Kirkland. I routinely see other dog owners using Terrace Park for off-leash exercise in early morning periods when there are no other playground users. I *LOVE* this idea, and while I've never felt comfortable to break the rules in this way, I would love to see dog-friendly times/zones in Kirkland parks that are currently underutilized in the community. I'm not sure how sustainable this would be in larger, crown jewel city parks, but for smaller neighborhood parks this is sustainable and community-beneficial.
- I have 2 dogs and strictly obey leash laws. I see dog owners on a daily basis allowing their dogs off-leash and have been met with hostility reminding owners of the leash law. I'm tired of the "rules don't apply to me" attitude in Kirkland and the complete lack of enforcement. I would love to see more of the smaller neighborhood parks such as Spinny Park having off-leash areas or designated off-leash times. The CKC due to its multi use should remain a leash area and should be better enforced.
- While my dog is not good off-leash I understand the need for more off-leash dog areas. The yards here are small. I think that if there are designated times and spaces that people can follow they would work well. I moved here from NYC where this is common in Prospect park and people respect it. Also, enforcement of the time and places is necessary for this to work. I would not advise a space near a playground to be designated off-leash.
- Our favourite place to go with our dogs is Marymoor or Edmonds dog park where this is water access. I have often wondered why a small portion of Juanita beach has not been dedicated to dogs so that we keep the cars off the road and encourage community spirit between dog owners.
- I think the city needs to be clear and have integrity about their offleash policy. If they are going to keep "off-leash" laws, then, enforce them. If you don't intend/can't enforce them, then drop the law. I also think it is unrealistic to think that dog parks solve off-leash in other parks/locations.
- I think we should promote dog obedience in a positive way. A dog that finds his owner more interesting than anything else can go almost any where. They could wear tags that say they are approved for off-leash work. I would love more opportunity to train my dog off-leash in quiet surroundings.
- Being dog friendly is one of the things I love about our region.
- Off-leash dogs (even in a leash area) should only be punishable if they cause a problem
- It would be nice to have an official dog swim beach.
- There are a lot of areas people can exercise their dogs off-leash . I've been to a lot of leash beaches in California and never whitnessed problems. One of my favorite hikes in LA was off-leash dogs and the dogs hiked just like the people and kept to them self.
- The vocal anti off-leash people have to much say. Will you reach out and listen to off-leash dog owners?

- There are several areas that are "unofficial" off-leash areas such as the trails between Crestwood park and the cross Kirkland corridor, and the watershed park in the Houghton neighborhood. The majority of dog owners that use these spaces are very responsible. It would be a shame to take these spaces away with unnecessary increased enforcement. A fenced dog park is not the same.
- Appreciate the consideration
- Current enforcement is harassment of the public. The city should spend at least as much time enforcing cross walk usage and stopping jaywalking which is more relevant to public safety
- As new dog owners, our time spent with other dog owners at a local park has been game changing. We moved to Kirkland 6+ years ago and it became clear that having a dog was almost a requirement! Everyone seems to have a dog! We finally have the capacity in our lives to bring a puppy into our home. As new owners, the support and guidance we have received from the numerous dog owners we see each day at a local park has helped us through the early puppy raising stages. More importantly, it has provided us models of what good owner/dog relationships look like. The community we have become part of is something that NEVER would have been realized at Jaspers. Jaspers is dark, stuck in a corner... I know with confidence that these fellow Kirkland residents we engage with most days will always look out for our sweet dog, as we will for their dogs. For the first 6+ years of our time living in Kirkland, we maybe knew 3 families on our street. In the last four months, our community has grown 5x that, or more. As noted earlier, that simply would not happen in a dark park like Jaspers. Given the constraints that exist in Kirkland, we often pack up our dog into our car and drive to another city to give our dog the opportunity to run and engage with other dogs. Seems like the Medina park model would perfectly reasonable to apply to Heritage park, for example. At Medina, there are specific hours and/or sections of the park for off-leash. Given just how many people have dogs in our beautiful city, it is sad that I have to drive elsewhere to find an answer for our dog.
- Dogs, like humans are all different, so there will be well-behaved dogs and those that are less so. Having off-leash areas is a huge benefit to everyone, even if you don't have a dog, as it gives dogs an outlet to burn off energy and socialize. This makes them much better when they are on a leash around town!
- A separate area for small or SHY dogs would be nice.
- For leash control, public streets, areas with cars definitely. Maybe not so much in parks. As long as the dog is good. I do however feel that if you do not pick up after your dog you should not have one. Poop spreads disease. Maybe enforce curbing more than leashing.
- As the city becomes more dense we do need options to exercise and socialize with our dogs
- I own and operate an Off-Leash service company and am strongly against off-leash dogs approaching any leashed animal. Lay down the law on leash violations while Kirkland evolves their alternate solutions.
- We need larger off-leash parks like marymoore . “Jasper” is too small and confined.
- In the uk where I originate from there are no on leash requirements, all dogs are entitled to walk off-leash and there are never any issues, the dog owners are responsible about their pups, maybe because it’s always been that way so the owners have always assumed responsibility rather than relying on authorities to do so.
- Dogs should be absolutely non aggressive under voice control at all times. This includes little dogs

- I think off-leash areas should be up to the owners' discretion. If the park is empty (or close to empty) dogs should be allowed off-leash, but if there's a number of people and other dogs, it might become more stressful and chaotic for owners and dogs. Also if there's many small children or near a playground it could become a hazard to have too many off-leash dogs.
- Don't see the big deal using public parks for off-leash purposes as long as responsible owners picking up poop and controlling their dogs on command. letting dogs go off-leash builds community within kirkland which is a special thing.
- I don't currently take my dog to the Kirkland dog parks b/c they are too small and overcrowded. We drive to Marymoor at least once a week.
- I walk at bridle trails a lot & my dog is always leashed. If joggers or horses come by, I pull my sog to the side. Even though he is small, I don't want a jogger to worry or think he might get tangled in a leash. I always bag the poop, but in some areas there are no trash cans. So I have to carry it & then even put the stinky bags in my car until I can dispose of them. Providing bags & trash cans is important. Grasslawn park, Redmond does this.
- Off-leashed dog owners should be ticketed on the spot
- Off-leash parks are good for the community
- Having more unleashed areas would be perfect for community engagement! Just should have enforcers for dogs pooping/peeing as some owners dont cover this, and this is frustrating even as a responsible dog owner, this is ONLY concern.
- Dogs needs exercise! :)
- I dont see a problem with having a dog off-leash so long as the dog is trained and responds to their owner. Obviously everyone needs to know their own dogs limits. I see alot of socializing amongst fellow dog owners at kirkland parks which I think is great for promoting positive interaction in the community.
- It would be ideal to have a stretch of a path where dogs can be offleash. Maybe for half a mile so during the daily walk, they can run. It could be to the side, running parallel to a paved path where folks walk. We rarely use dog parks. Too many aggressive dogs and disinterested owners who don't seem to care.
- Dog owners are more likely to pick up their dogs waste than parents do their kids' mess of food, litter. Suggest making water tower park off of 132nd a shared area for dogs and humans. Or put in a fenced area like edith mouton park so the can be peace for all. Thank you for considering!
- Usually off-leash dogs are exercising weekends and early hours. Not usually a problem
- I know there are a lot of demands on public funds,but given the propensity for dog ownership in this general area, the off-leash options are very poor.
- Not all dogs are regularly exposed to children, which can create stressful situations. I understand there cannot be a rule against children coming into a dog friendly area, however I think it is important to consider some sort of barrier or clearly marked area and specify it is intended for dogs and their owners.
- I was just in London. Well behaved dogs are off-leash in all parks I walked through. We have the most onerous dog leash laws I have encountered anywhere. I always leash up my dog if I see a single human or other dog. Otherwise I keep him off of sensitive areas but let him run on trails or grass. I hate having to view our police officers as the Stasi which I do when out in the parks with my dog.

- I’m aware there are dogs that are aggressive off-leash. Every time I’ve encountered an off-leash dog, the owner has quickly responded by leashing their dog. I believe there are many people out there looking to make an issue out of nothing. There are some aggressive dogs. Usually they are in their owners yards.
- People who love dogs but don't have one LOVE to watch them run free and play. It's healthy for the dogs - being leashed is for safety but to provide dogs a place to run free and socialize is healthy. Not all dogs do well with others - but the ones who do deserve to experience the healthy benefits of that. Life is short! I worry less about the dogs & more about the irresponsible HUMANS. So, they need to be held responsible for poor judgement with their dogs - not the dog being punished.
- Please look at Bellevue’s Medina park as an example. Simple rules and everyone is happy. Kirkland needs to do more for dog owners especially considering how many of us are here. Instead, it’s just enforcement. Please have an open mind here.
- dog 🐩 owners need to take more responsibility for their dogs . I stop coming to a dog park because of too many rules and people that feel the need to tell what to do!
- My thought is if a dog is under strong voice control, its owner is picking up its waste AND nobody else is using the park, a dog off-leash is okay. Fine people who don't pick up the poo!
- My dogs are at the center of my social life. If I could have them with me near home it would make it a lot easier to get to know my neighbors and community.
- Kirkland is off to a great start at being a dog friendly community, be great to continue that to show to neighboring communities that it's a positive to be pet friendly. Far better than Bellevue.
- I frequent the marymoor dog park often and it’s an amazing park. If there was a similar offering in Kirkland, I would go there instead. Water access is huge bonus.
- I do once in while see a dog off-leash, most of the time they are not off lease with owners permission, but rather a dog that has gotten out of a back yard or something like that. There is one park I have seen people walking or playing with a dog off-leash after work hours, etc., but the dog has never been a problem to others and no reason to get up tight about some play time all dogs need, no one seems to have big yards anymore, some have no yards at all. The one off-leash dog park we have can be a bit of a drive for many people, so expanding areas where this can be allowed would be a good thing. Dogs are a part of our community. People just need to be way better at picking up their puppy's do do, but that is not an off-leash problem.
- Like most issues rule followers far exceed those who disregard the rules, so I would rather see reasonable options for respectful dog owners primarily because it benefits the health of owners and dogs and also gets people out in their own neighborhood. I visit an off-leash dog park regularly at least 5 times a week.
- There'd be very little impact to allowing some off-leash times early in the day
- Please please provide off-leash areas. Look at South Mercer Island Park ?Terrywood?) as an example. They have done a great job of offering off-leash option with walkers.
- Work with king county to make large off-leash dog park in Taylor fields area (transfer station). There’s so much real estate that can’t be used for many other purposes. Given how expensive land is in this area, it’s ridiculous to not better utilize this land.
- I have a dog and I know that she will jump on people, so I make sure I hold her while people pass when I let her off at public parks. I think people do a really good job of managing theirs dogs off-leash but more designated spots would be awesome! Especially water front areas! Thanks!!

- Maybe have certain hours for off-leash, so park can be shared:)
- Who do you call if there is a dangerous aggressive dog off-leash? Thank you for all your work!
- I often have to drive to Medina to use their off-leash dog park. Is so pleasant to socialize and for the dogs to get exercise. Would love to have a space/time in Kirkland.
- The City should consider opening more dog areas and requiring the pet license and/or dog training to go with it to use the off-leash areas. Stricter penalties with high fees should also be considered.
- The city's agenda to push increased density throughout our city has imperiled our neighborhoods and private yards. Responsible dog owners need an accessible place routinely to train and excercise their dogs. They should have access to do so off-lease during certain hours or in designated spaces in their own neighborhood park. Kirkland wants to reduce car traffic and we don't necessarily want to have to drive to a dog park, especially one as ridiculous as Jasper's to then load our muddy dog into our cars. Please consider early morning or late day off lease hours in our parks.
- Need to enforce laws no matter what. Many people and gigs fear others dogs and owners of off-leash dogs do NOT have the control that they think they do. I am afraid every time I see an off-leash dog nearby.
- I think off-leash should only be enforced on a case by case basis. I like being able to go to a park that is empty and letting my dog chase a ball. However, if anybody else shows up, I put my dog back on her leash. It'd be nice to say its okay if no ones there and then strictly leash laws when people show up. Because not every dog is like my dog, I still want to make sure people are being smart with their dogs and held responsible by leashing them in the presence of others. Thank you!
- I take my dog to Marymoor, it has always been a great place as dogs have plenty of space and owners are walking with their dogs and paying attention to them. Jaspers was not a great space as it proved to be too small and owners would stand in one place and look at their phones. Poop would not get picked up and fights occured because owners didn't manage or monitor their dogs.
- There should be some restriction on how far the dog can roam away from their handler.
- Many dogs do much better when not on leashes than when on leashes. I personally drive to Redmond to use Marymoor's park 2-3 times a week as it is a pleasant place to walk with my dog and both of us get exercise and time outside. That dog park is a HUGE draw for Redmond and can tell you is one of my visiting family/friends favorite places they have gone when visiting (tops the Space Needle). We have so much parkland here, it would be nice to see Kirkland do the same. While I have seen many people let their dogs offleash at Juanita, I have never seen one incident where the dogs caused harm or concern and most owners are overly cautious and responsive when new (non-dog) owners come near.
- Off-leash dogs are happy & friendly. More people are having dogs versus babies so we need more outdoor space for everyone.

Prefer both fenced and off-leash dog areas – and I do not own a dog

- Heritage Park is the worst. Dogs run into Waverly Way to great other dogs people are walking across the street on the sidewalk. There's no enforcement and you can go there almost anytime and see off-leash dogs. I'm allergic to pets and dogs run up behind and poke there noses in

uncomfortable places or on my hands which cause an immediate rash. If I would touch my face I'd start wheezing and get sick. Plus I am tired of stepping on dog shit on the Waverly Way sidewalk. I swear people let their dogs shit in the middle of the walk just to aggravate other people and show power. Plus those people who leave filled dog shit bags in front of houses like we want to pick up their dog's shit and take it to our trash! You asked...

- People who have well behaved dogs often don't consider that even if their dog is "nice" other dogs or people may not want to interact or be approached by the or friendly off-leash dog.
- Be Flexible!!!!
- I am also wondering about the common situation of dogs in restaurants, stores, etc. Unless they are service dogs, they should not be allowed. There needs to be a lot more reinforcement about this. Thank you.
- Care should be taken. Most dogs are friendly, but dog attacks, while rare, can cause serious injury. People do frequently disregard "off-leash" rules, but there have not been any dangerous incidents to my knowledge, so it seems reasonable to be more leniant in the sense of allowing dogs to be off-leash in more areas.
- There are definitely NOT enough off-leash areas right now nor are they conveniently located, so everyone is just doing whatever they want. This is awful for everyone who wants to enjoy our parks without getting mobbed by a dog (and dog crap). I love dogs, but not everyone does and they shouldn't have to put up with that. Dogs are also a danger to wildlife. However, ramping up enforcement without giving people a better option is pretty crummy, too.
- If dog training was standardized and required, I would be very in favor of most areas being off-leash.
- As a non-dog-owner, benefits are theoretical. But any area must be fenced, and great care taken near the lake, and, most important, NO off-leash on the CKC!
- Dogs are wonderful.
- I would want to more information on maintenance on off-leash uses. Also, how would they be funded? Dog registration fees?
- I'd like people to keep their dogs odd our lawn and shrubs. Maybe if they had other areas to "go" they'd do less damage to our landscaping.
- I'm personally biased against expanded dog off-leash areas because I don't like dogs. I had a bad experience with off-leash dogs when I was a kid.
- Prospective dog owner.
- Please make sure there are plenty of poop bag dispensers and trash cans to help owners pick up after their dogs.
- Many apartment communities do not have space for animals. Public off-leash allows animals to exercise beyond their human's capabilities. While it may cost more to add off-leash options, it is safer for animals to have areas fenced off. Many schools require volunteer hours to graduate. My dog passed away a few months ago. She loved Heritage the most!
- No off-leash dogs where they are not controlled or limited.
- Untrained dogs with owners not having control is a negative impact.
- It's not the lack of space, but the unwillingness of certain residents to comply with existing rules and be considerate of others. I walk 100th Ave in Jaunita frequently, and just as frequently see dog poop on the sidewalk. These dogs that people are unwilling to train properly should be impounded not given more space.

- My only problem is dog poop in the parks.
- Dog owners should always be held responsible for the action of their pets.
- Dogs are an important part of our community. As long as owners are responsible for their dogs and use responsibly, we need more proper off-leash areas/dog parks.
- With designated areas it cuts down on dogs running around without limits.
- Off-leash cats seems to be ok but they are killers, yet dogs are treated like evil things.
- It was beyond frightening to be attacked by an off-leash German Shepard while walking and wearing my 5 week old infant in McAuliffe Park. This is clearly posted as a park where leashes are required and Jasper's is just around the corner. I'm glad the city is addressing this safety concern, as I felt like the only person harmed by other's disregard to the rules and never came forward. Thankfully no permanent harm was done to my child.
- The heart of this issue is the behavior of the dog, not whether they are on or off-leash. A well behaved dog is a joy on or off-leash, and poorly trained or aggressive dogs are a risk whether they are on or off-leash. The better question is how should the city can better hold dog owners responsible for the behavior of their pet, regardless of leashed or not. There is truth in the adage that there are no bad dogs, only bad dog owners.
- Like to see more enforcement by Kirkland animal control officer at city parks. Biggest problem is dog owners not scooping their animals' manure. Walk at Juanita Beach/Bay 3-4 times a week and see dog crap maybe 15 percent of the time, especially during warmer weather. See dogs off-leash 50-70 percent of the time. Education/enforcement would help.

Prefer both fenced and off-leash dog areas – and It's complicated

- I think it is crazy that there are so few options for dogs to run free.
- I think more dog parks can b made but people will walk their dogs any where anyways.

Prefer neither – and I own a dog

- People should be responsible for their animals, their own behavior as well as their children's. A well trained dog does not need a leash. People should be responsible for their pets actions, but people often approach dogs on a leash without asking the owners permission. This is way more dangerous than off-leash dogs, yet it is seldom discussed. Education on how people interact with pets should be the focus, not leashes...
- Have a trial period and as long as the pet owners are responsible and clean up after their pets make it permanent. Aren't there bigger issues to deal with?
- More owner awareness and training should be offered rather than an open space where untrained owners think their dog can act however it wants.
- Not everyone is a dog person (cat people, other pets, no pets) once you start down this road of making special arrangements for dogs, the list of requests from other special interest groups will grow out f control
- I pay for licensing fees and have less options for my pets then my taxes pay for others children's parks....
- I never have my dogs off-leash. I am concerned something might happen to them. I love them. I take them to Juanita Beach. There are dog waste stations with NO poop bags. Not acceptable.

People don't pick up their dogs poop. The City of Kirkland needs to have poop bags available. I would be happy to keep the Poop Bag Stations filled if the city would supply the bags.

- Dogs are family pets and they need to be walked close to their home, in their neighborhood. Encouraging Kirkland citizens to load their dog in a vehicle, further overloading our already crowded roads and streets - to visit a dog park located elsewhere may sound lovely, but isn't the solution for Kirkland WA
- Keep out dogs in Heritage Park that are not leashed.
- Our dogs are our responsibility and we should not be expecting others to be paying and providing for them.
- off-leash times 7:00 am-9:30 am for the entire park
- Allow dogs owners to choose how to walk with their dogs. Only seek enforcement when something goes wrong for the specific injury or wrong.
- I care more about people picking up after their dogs. More enforcement in this area!
- Dogs and their humans have a wonderful time connecting
- There have been so many reports of off-leash dogs (in non off-leash areas) attacking other dogs that I think it shows not all pet parents have an accurate view of their dogs temperament or are willing to take responsibility for their dog's behavior (leaving the scene of attack without giving information for example). I don't think these owners who are already skirting the law by letting their dogs off-leash should have their behavior and (lack of) judgement rewarded while putting other dogs and children (adults as well) at risk.
- Access to the lake for the dogs to swim
- I walk my dog 6 times a day, he's never off the leash. I get really upset when I have to deal with people and there dogs off-leash at Heritage Park, Waverly Park, Marina Park, it makes for a dangerous situation in my opinion with my dog
- There are more aggressive dogs at fenced in dog parks that out in the open. Dog owners I've encountered that have their dogs off or on leash know their pets and are not bothered by dogs off-leash. Most of the time there few dogs in any park at any given time with no issues for pets or people. Leash a dog is important for aggressive big or little dogs. Owners know their pets.
- The city needs to enforce the leash law. There does not seem to be any current enforcement
- People are not taking responsibility for their dogs and innocent dogs are being attacked and hurt. Responsible dog owners are being disrespected and held accountable. So interesting those that follow rules are always having to clean up after those that dont.

Prefer neither – and I do not own a dog

- RE: Question 8 "negative impact on the community of more off-leash dog areas?" I think all of the listed options (and more, including the high risk of spreading canine diseases in dedicated dog parks and off-leash areas) are significant. RE: Question 10 : "How would you prioritize the City's next actions on off-leash dogs in Kirkland?" I would answer neither increased enforcement nor expanded options if that was possible in the survey. The limited ways I can answer suggests a bias in the survey, assuming there is a problem with dogs being off-leash in public parks. I disagree. I believe dogs (on- and off-leash) and humans have a long track record of safely interacting in Kirkland's parks. If a dog misbehaves, the owner should be charged with an existing law. From my experience, misbehaviors of this sort have occurred extremely infrequently and when they have, existing laws should cover the issue.

- I think we have enforcement issues. Adding new dog parks will not help at all. Also the average citizen's attitude is wrong. My wife has cynophobia and we have been avoiding Kirkland waterfront parks for two years now. We have had terrible experience when off-leash dogs were roaming around. The response of the average owners when I warned them was also negative. To be honest, a person who breaks the law by letting their dog off-leash, is very likely to be aggressive when warned about their mistake. We need better enforcement! How many tickets have been issued in 2018 for off-leash dogs? My guess: zero! Another thing to do is to tell us how we can take action when we see an off-leash dog. In many occasions, I have taken pictures of the dog and the owner, but what should I do with those? whom should I contact? A better education along with enforcement is necessary.
- I live very near Heritage Park. I had a dog for years but no longer. There are many dogs off-leash very frequently in and around the park. I believe that the current laws that are not strictly enforced are adequate. I can not remember in my 15 years living in Kirkland a dangerous or frightening incident involving a dog off-leash. Making Heritage Park an off-leash park would, I'm afraid increase traffic in my neighborhood drastically. The status quo is sometimes the best, no need to fix a problem that doesn't exist.
- Dogs are a benefit to people - they are only bad if they have irresponsible owners who don't train & socialize them properly and don't pick up their waste. Dogs promote friendships between strangers and they make people happy. Owners need to be responsible for their dogs so they don't get injured or injure people or other dogs. Most dog owners are responsible people who manage their dogs so they don't bother other people or animals.
- Many off-leash users allow their dogs to poop at Crestwood park and then leave it there
- Should we charge more to license dogs to cover costs?Please do not convert parks we have to dog parks. Why can't we have an app that uploads pictures to enforcement.
- I work with animals. Just because someone trusts their dog off-leash does not mean they can trust other off-leash animals or the environment to be safe.
- Priority: human safety> dog safety. No fence, costly + excessive, can't control people x scheduling time
- Terrace Park-Ridiculous experience. No off-leash!
- Give children first priority not animals. Too many children with all the apartments and condos don't have areas to play together or do sports
- Dogs should be leashed.
- I am tired of seeing dog poop everywhere, dogs off-leash at parks with pkaygrounds, dogs off-leash at schools and pooping with owner not picking up poop. Kirkland needs to enforce leash, pet license and puck up you pets poop laws.

Prefer neither – and It's complicated

- Expand enforcement in parks and areas where dogs without leash are not allowed. Mostly parks near schools
- I stopped visits to off-leash dogs parks because of the dog poop not being picked-up. Not only does it stink up the park, it's dangerous. Dog poop is full of harmful bacteria (2 of my friends have dogs diagnosed with giardia!). I would bet if tested, the soil in Jasper's would come back code red level hazmat. And doesn't that bacteria is leach into the stream and flow down to the

lake? My preference is that owners keep their dogs on-leash or off-leash under control in our parks; and in either case watched and cleaned up after 100% of the time.

- Dogs are NOT children, nor are owners 'pet parents'. Owners should be educated about what constitutes good canine behavior, but many do not take any training classes to become educated. For example, eye to eye greeting is NOT friendly canine behavior especially in poorly or non socialized animals. Many dogs simply do not know how to behave in a canine environment, when left off-leash. Many owners do not know how or when to respond to escalating situations, nor do they understand the sometimes subtle body language canines display (flattened ears, lip licking, lip curls, etc.) which signal a potential problem is brewing. Off-leash dog parks become high risk areas, with a substantial potential for injury. There is also risk of communicable canine diseases.

The following verbatim answers to "other reasons" in the question "*If you haven't visited a Kirkland dog park in the last six months, why not*?" – Other reasons than I don't have a dog, too far away, too crowded and/or intimidating for my dog, or better options elsewhere. The answers were filtered by if you have a dog or not.

Other reasons - and I own a dog

- a Min. Schnauser attacked my dog and bit her neck. Completely unprovoked attack. All dogs are not well-behaved.
- Didn't know they exsisted and like to take dog on cox.
- my dog and i attacked by two dogs
- My dog is 3 pounds 3 ounces
- He jumps the fence at Jaspers
- Many people don't have control of their dogs
- i have
- I'd rather WALK my dog to a park in my neighborhood than DRIVING to the Kirkland dog park!
- We walk out dogs in town on leash
- Where are they?
- Didn't know there were any
- My dog was eating broken tennis balls left in park
- Walk in neighborhood
- Aging dogs no longer so able to play there
- Many dog owners don't respect common courtesy
- My dog is old and not playful
- The dog park near me is hard to get to with busy roads that don't have sidewalks
- I prefer other dog parks.
- There can be drama at dog parks. I prefer to walk them on forest roads
- The fences are too low for my large dog. He can easily jump over a 4ft. fence. Also the fenced areas are too small.

- I think the dog park by Fred Meyer is too remote. I don't like to go there alone. If I go to a dog park, I go to Marymoor as it is busier and doesn't feel so tucked away in the woods. It's also more populated.
- My dog is old
- I go to the dog park
- potential diseases / illnesses from other dogs
- My dog does not like them
- Don't know where they are
- Too risky as owners can't control their dogs
- If I had known I would be skeptical, given the overcrowding in Bellevue, Mercer Island, Marymoor, Seattle. And filth.
- older dog, hard to get in/out of car to travel to dog park
- I use Marymore dog park instead of Kirkland ones
- Too many fights & contagious diseases
- I didn't know about them
- We let our dog play in our backyard and walk her in our neighborhood with her leash on,
- I am concerned about the level of responsibility of dog owners that frequent dog parks
- I have a large yard
- bad dog owners
- Dog is old and infirm
- I go to Juanita Beach and have my dogs on leash
- Magnuson and Marymoor are better options
- Too easy to use my neighborhood sidewalks and trails w a leash
- Didn't know there were dog parks
- Rules of usage prohibit intact dogs
- There is only one dog park that I know of in Kirkland and it is small and overcrowded.
- Lack of water/lake access for my older dogs joints & too crowded. Also not enough space to really run and bounce without interference from other dogs bc too crowded
- Didn't know any existed
- Don't like dog parks
- Don't believe in them
- Poor grounds
- Walk dog on leash
- We walk our local neighborhood and parks
- I have my well behaved dog offl leash everyday in Heritage Park so my dog can excersize and play and I can meet and make friends with my neighboors. Many friendships have begun this way. I have lived west of market for 37 years. I have had six golden retrievers and two yellow labs. Two of those were raised as service dogs and one as a therapy dog. We go to hospitals, schools, colleges,bookstores etc. if Medina's biggest best park is off-leash, Kirkland should be able to figure it out. Central Park in New York has a big offl leash area. Whistler BC is a prime example. Most every park has a "Barking Bay" or "Canine" corner marked of with a split rail fence designated "dog friendly".
- We usually walk our dogs. Jaspers gets very crowded.

- Reactive dog. Not good at dog park.
- wrong kind of dog
- Don't want my dog getting so dirty at Jaspers.
- Don't feel dogs and owners should have to go to a park for off-leash
- Fleas at Jasper's
- the parks are not good.
- Dog sometimes fights
- sick dogs
- Jasper has an awkward layout that doesn't work well with my dog. I end up taking him to Marymoor to utilize the extra space.
- No parking at Jaspers
- Parking
- I only walk my small dog locally. I don't need a dog run but appreciate other owners do
- Didn't know that Kirkland had any. We have gone to Marymoor off-leash dog park.
- Too far away and too crowded.
- Getting there is tough
- My dog doesn't like to run in wood chips.
- Jasper's dog park has been the source of many dog's sicknesses. Additionally, there are agressive dogs that frequent that park.
- not a nice dog park
- I didn't know they existed
- My dogs don't like other dogs
- Marymoor off-leash
- unaware of where they are
- Didn't know we had any?
- Don’t know where they are
- Don’t feel it is safe
- I didn’t know Kirkland had dog parks! Where do I find info on this?
- too crowded and not fun to walk around
- Heard of many bad incidents at the jaspers.
- I go to Marymoor in Redmond a few times a week
- I don't want my dog killed by other dogs.
- Didn't know about it
- fights, dumb people
- When my dog gets to a park, he wants to be off-leash and is unhappy when he can't be.
- Jaspers Park is a dump. It’s terrible
- The existing off-leash options feel unsafe to humans and dogs
- I have a small dog and am not comfortable for either of us being around unleashed (groups of) dogs...some dogs tend to be aggressive and some owners are distracted and not present when they should be. An accident waiting to happen.
- Go to Marymoor daily
- Very narrow and muddy, acces is terrible.
- Old dog

- I don’t take my service dog to dog parks for safety reasons
- I have tiny dogs and would only take them to small dog only parks.
- Too much poop
- My dog & I go for 1 mi + walks almost daily
- Too many experiences with aggressive dogs and owners not paying attention to their dogs. Not safe for either of us.
- We walk out neighborhood or visit walking trails
- I use dog parks regularly
- Dogs in dog parks can be unpredictable and dangerous. Dog parks aren’t generally recommended by dog experts
- Didn’t know there were any
- We prefer Marymoor
- do not know where it is
- Driving to the park is not an option
- Dog is too old
- Dog is not friendly with other dogs.
- Because kirkland residents complain too much about everyone else (thus, everyone else’s dogs). So I keep my baby girl close to me while in Kirkland.
- My dog can occasionally be aggressive if other dogs approach her
- I use them almost daily
- Why can't I skip this question? I visit Kirkland dog parks frequently.
- My dog is a rescue and still learning how to socialize
- our dog doesn't respond well to unknown dogs approaching her.
- Gets enough exercise on leash and our dog is not social
- Dog’s too young and needs to be better socialized. I’m worried about untrained or aggressive older dogs around mine that mine would have to deal with or learn from
- I have a reactive dog who gets nervous around unleashed dogs.
- My dog is a rescue and not comfortable in
- Dog aggressive dog
- Where are they?
- My dogs aren't neutered
- Some unruly dogs there make it unsafe for my little dog.
- My dog go off-leash
- Dogs off-leash
- Messy because people don't pick up poop, untrained and vicious dogs.
- Bad owners
- Too many dogs passing illnesses
- My dog likes to chase a ball and Jasper and Edith Moulton are not the best options. Too many small dogs at Jasper and not convenient
- Which one? Jasper? That's the only one I know of and it's further from me than Marymoor.
- I don't know if any in the downtown kirkland area.
- Don’t know where they are

- We have a small dog, just walk her on the sidewalks most of the time. Otherwise, prefer her loose only with smaller dogs.
- not any good ones in Kirkland where I live
- Love off-leash parks when owners watch their dog's behavior
- Didn't know
- Poorly maintained dirt patch.
- Fenced yard and we walk 2-3 miles a day on leash
- The dog park in Kirkand is too small, for big dogs to get any exercise plus the bark that is spread on the ground
- New child
- Jasper's little dog area is awkwardly laid out
- I have a large enough yard to run my dog. The few times I've taken my dog to the dog park, there were untrained and undisciplined dogs which made it too uncomfortable to return or attend more frequently.
- Still training our dog to be a good playmate.
- I'd rather take my dogs on a walk
- Dig oarks are dangerous
- We need an off-leash area for training our unaltered 8 mo old puppy. Our park is over regulated with its no training trays, no harness, no unaltered males (puppy or no) rules. The apparent attitude is pretty a pretty exclusive...if you don't like it, don't bring your dog.
- I have visited
- No option to skip question
- Don't trust other people can properly control their dogs.
- Don't see a need to take dog to one
- Our dog isn't always nice to other dogs and I don't like when they just run up. I also was not aware that we had a dog park in Kirkland.
- i don't visit dog parks
- My dog is in poor health
- We just adopted our dog.
- just got the dog in Sept
- Not a fan of dog parks
- The off-leash park off 124th is small dirty and over crowded which makes some dogs aggressive.Its not for big dogs,not enough room to roam
- Didn't know there were any

Other reasons - and I do not own a dog

- "Dog parks" are a source of canine diseases. Dedicated dog parks are not a good idea for the community.
- afraid of dogs
- Busy
- Current HOA not allowing dogs.
- Didn't know we had any
- Didn't know about them.

- didn't know there were any
- Dog passed
- don't like dog parks
- Don't visit parks
- foot surgery
- had a dog
- Highly allergic to dogs
- I believe these parks are bad for the environment
- I don’t believe that any dog is safe due to untrained or irresponsible owners (not understanding canine behavior, or communicable canine disease).
- I go with my daughters dog but she avoids because of disease like they got at Marymoor
- I have visited a dog park out of curiosity
- I take it to neighborhood park
- My friend has been too busy as I go w/him to Jaspers’
- Not applicable
- old dog, too frail
- Only go with friends dogs
- Our dog died
- Sometimes parking was too limited at Jasper's.
- Too far (mounting) and too crowded (jaspers)
- Walk by dog on a leash

Other reasons - and It’s Complicated

- Busy
- Current HOA not allowing dogs.
- Didn't know about them.
- Dog passed
- don't like dog parks
- I don’t believe that any dog is safe due to untrained or irresponsible owners (not understanding canine behavior, or communicable canine disease).
- I take it to neighborhood park
- old dog, too frail
- Too far (mounting) and too crowded (jaspers)
- Walk by dog on a leash

Neighborhood Association Meetings & Special Events

Central Houghton, Everest, Evergreen Hill, Highlands, Juanita, Lakeview, Market, Moss Bay, Norkirk, North Rose Hill, and South Rose Hill/Bridle Trail, Turkey Trot, Winterfest

- Enforce existing laws
- Designated dog parks separate from other park users
- Where would the funding come from to maintain parks and regulate laws? Dog registration fees?
- Concern about children's safety
- My kid is afraid of dogs
- We talked about bike share, how about a city pilot of dog share
- Congestion of people with many different activities (Running, walking, biking) the park needs to have strict rules about the pets on-leash while near people
- There should be more signage on the CKC about off-leash being illegal
- Enforce leash laws
- Increase dog license fees
- Do not convert existing parks
- Potential dog owner
- Bad experience with off-leash dog in the past
- Positive: gives a place for dogs to relieve themselves besides on private property and lawns
- Off-leash should be fenced
- Make enforcement easier; photo of violation should suffice. Increase dog licensing fees and establish a dog recognition database and fien owners based on photos.
- App that uploads photos for enforcement
- Pro: bring neighbors together and encourage people to get outside
- Reactive dogs can be hostile
- Separate dogs from public
- Taylor Fields is a good option, away from traffic, large area
- Distance should be walkable
- Needs to cater to multiple breeds
- Get community input before considering Snyder's Corner
- Off-leash dogs are an issue at S. Rose Hill
- Do not want to take park space away from my children and given to dogs. Had negative experiences with children and dogs
- Education programs needs to be more often in the community
- Owners should clean up after pets
- City should survey residents for local routes to strategically locate dog parks
- Corner of 132nd Ave and 110th
- "My priority for dog off-leash areas versus other basic services is low"
- Cost and use analysis
- It is impossible to enforce an un fenced off-leash dog area
- Some owners aren't a good judge of their dogs comfort or their verbal control so unfenced areas are not a good solution

- Shared areas: dog owners may not clean up poop after shares hours are over
- "My priority for dog off-leash areas versus other basic services is low"
- Cost and use analysis
- It is impossible to enforce an un fenced off-leash dog area
- Some owners aren't a good judge of their dogs comfort or their verbal control so unfenced areas are not a good solution
- Shared areas: dog owners may not clean up poop after shares hours are over
- Terrace Park would be a good option since it is attached to the CKC. It is nice to walk your dog on-leash and let them loose in a off-leash area.
- Council should consider incentives for people to be responsible dog owners.
- Get the dog owner community involved during National Night Out, Lakeview does a promotion for dog walkers and neighborhood watchers
- An app to engage the dog owners
- Increase enforcement, signs are not enough
- No good options around here. Go to Marymoore or Magnuson Park
- Dog walker in Kirkland
- Lake WA HS -let dogs in a unused grassy area
- Law enforcement make case by case decision because some owners are responsible and have trained dogs while others do not and it hinders responsible owners and dogs from enjoying off-leash opportunities
- More options for small dogs
- Avoid parks because of dog fights
- Fences are good for the safety for dogs and humans
- A positive is the integration of dogs and humans
- More off-leash Parks
- More areas to have dogs exercise = more better behaved, healthy dogs
- Irresponsible owners and untrained dogs causes issues
- Unless areas are kept extremely sanitary and policed well, they can be dangerous, healthwise, and most dog owners need training
- Maintenance, signage, water
- Oppose to "designating off-leash dog areas in some of Kirkland's larger parks, such as Heritage, Juanita Beach, or Crestwoods" because they are too public facing
- Please enforce current laws
- Time/zone is a good compromise.
- Pat Wilburn is NOT supportive of time/zone model b/c it encourages people to drive to quiet park early in the morning—would desecrate park. Wouldn’t be conducive to families.
- Time/zone is better than nothing.
- Prefers fenced dog park—has been bitten three times by a dog
- Denver permits off-leash dogs based on obedience. Can scan poop for DNA of dog and trace back to dog.
- It’s an honor system; must be harsh repercussions
- Resident pays $400/year to be a member of a private park in Duvall
- Consistency is very important. Time/zone would be confusing.
- Interview with dog-owners at Heritage Park:

- Owns golden retriever. Drove to Heritage on way to work. Does this five days a week. Only comes here b/c she's working. If not working, goes to neighborhood park. Sometimes goes to water park. Does not like Jaspers. When puppy is used to other dogs. Now prefers natures; wants solitude. She walks to neighborhood park half the time and drives half the time on weekends. Weekday she goes to Heritage. Weekend she goes to neighborhood pocket park. Pocket park does not provide exercise, it's providing a way to get out of the house. That's it.
- Don't do another Jasper's. Time/zone from dawn to dusk is ideal. Then you spread it out. More people invested. Shoulder hours. I think we're all responsible dog owners. When you see a kid running, the dog has a chase instinct. Shoulder hours are community building. When kids come, we hook up and leave. If we don't know the dog, we put our dog on a leash.
- Dog bags and restroom @ Heritage. Signage that tells them to pick up the poop. By spreading it around it prevents dog park phenomenon. Majority of people who use that park are from the area. I want it to be neighborhood based. Down at Waverly, only one there. If someone shows up walking, would put dog on leash.
- Got a warning once. When we go to waverly, we tidy things up. If Mom and Kid are present, we ask if they are okay with dogs off-leash.
- Puppy Manners in Woodinville.

Community Meetings at City Hall
Focus Groups and Town Hall

October 6, 2018 Focus Group
Considerations to look at with off-leash dogs in the community-

- Off-leash areas
    - Enclosed
    - Time Zone [Symbol] 2x a day; need at least 1 hour
- Distance to off-leash park
- Create park like Medina's park (1 half of the park is year-round; 2nd ½ is seasonal only with rainy months)
- Water access – especially in summer
- Access to park (not going through apartments)
    - Ease of access
- Parking near dog parks
- Pilot Program? Times @ Locations (Off-Leash DOLA)
    - Prefer Fence; Depends on location
- Allow under control – Formalized training
    - Previous Code?
- More signage
- Need additional space
- Permit process by trained facilitator/trainer
    - Require obedience test
- Allow trainer to conduct training in park
    - Monthly event?
    - Free?
    - Could be paid if done by the right person
    - Class put on by the Parks & Recreation department?
- Limit dogs per person
-

Thoughts/Concerns about off-leash dogs in the community

- Scared/not comfortable/nervous around dogs
- Need area's as outlet [Symbol] Fee like they are currently breaking the law
- Not conducive to playing fetch (current parks)
    - one-on-one time
    - depends on the dog
- Socialization of Dogs & Owners
- On-leash causes behavior concerns in dogs
    - Concerns with off-leash dogs approaching leashed dogs
- Some parks are not close (Marymoor/Medina/Willis Tucker in Snohomish)
    - 30 minutes or more to get to location
    - Weather also creates issues with parks
- Concerns if dog is off-leash (non-off-leash park) for other users
- Neighbors complain to Kirkland Police
- Designated Off-Leash areas during specific times
    - All Parks

    - Also depending on Park – Mark Twain park for example.
- No Designated Off-Leash Area (DOLA) for swimming
    - Water access is important
- Changes to code
- Other dogs being aggressive
- Park users police themselves well
    - Courteous – some aren't as nice
- Usually unpleasant events between other owners
- More trouble on-leash vs. off-leash
    - Dominance between dogs
    - Dogs become nervous
- Cultural fears of dogs while others may be ok
- Lack of signage
- Dog owner – they know their dog
- Currently there are private options for "Sniff spot" (rentable locations)
- Depends on how long people have lived near the park
    - Don't want to exclude people
- Safety concerns
- Busy schedule
- Hobby
    - Depends on what par of life, etc.
    - Lifestyle
- Good advice from others about dealing with do when out with others.

December 6, 2018 Town Hall

- Where is King County - for KC parks in Kirkland
- Should we be talking with KC about Big Finn Park
- Marymoor Park is great because it is huge. Jasper is too small
- Heritage park is a wonderful park to let dogs run - it is a community event for neighbors and community for people and dogs
- Like to be close to the neighborhood - proximity is big
- Jasper doesn't have grass, great first step, but isn't like MM or Heritage Park
- Confined small space can be a safety issue for some dogs (everyone comes running at the dogs when they come in)
- Edith Multon Park is better because it is more like a trail
- Jasper - feels to confined if there is an aggressive dog
- Heritage - you can self police and it works well
- Medina unleashed park works great - off-leash dog area is great
- Most people here have a dog
- Neighborhood park feel good community, ownership, better for the dogs - want to keep it clean - it is "our park"
- Designated time would work better so people know when not to come if they don't like dogs

Pro Off-leash Dog Areas:

- safer
- community
- proximity
- should be a time when there are not children - currently they are self policing

Con Off-leash Dog Areas:

- dogs come running over to you
- owners say "my dog wont hurt anyone" - but they don't know
- safety about people first…
- not where there are people there
- Heritage Park - looks like an off-leash park
- people assume trust when the owner says their dog wont hurt them
- people don't respect the fact that they are not supposed to be there
- we don't have enforcement
- if we can't enforce the rules we have on the books now - how can we enforce more off-leash

General:

- People go to a park and expect it not to be a dog park
- Difficult to self police - neighbors shouldn't have to tell their neighbors what the rules are
- There is a conflict between neighbors because of this situation
- Children may be in harms way
- Consider special needs dogs (hearing impaired)
- Forced to take dogs to fenced areas and it doesn't work for everyone
- What about a reserved time - where you could have the special needs dog be there alone
- Designating hours - doesn't work for everyone. Some people don't work those shifts (like this person)
- Create a special needs dog site
- Could require a permit for a dog in some areas (maybe a permit for a special needs dogs)
- Need to consult experts for signage, because experts will say you should take your dog off-leash in when other dogs are off-leash
- Jan 1 - took off the allowance for trained dogs to be off-leash legally in Kirkland
- No issues in the big dog parks like Marrymoor and Medina - with little kids. People are afraid but there isn't an issue. Like Amsterdam in bikes - look at who is doing this successfully and find out how they are doing it.
- Some small off-leash dog parks are okay - Magnusson, Mercer Island, Medina
- Jasper Park doesn't work for their 11 pound dog - no grass, people ignore input from others
- Need garbage cans at the dog park
- Dogs have been attached at Jasper
- More accidents for humans and dogs in fenced in dog areas (according to a trainer)
- Require a certification and training
- Dogs shouldn't run up to someone - not allowed
- Certification may let your dogs run off-leash in any park?
- But could also require them to put them on a leash if it is around too many people - certain times/places
- One person said they should be on a leash at all times - except fenced
- Perhaps with a clear demarcation (separating dog area with leashed dog area)
- Maybe anytime before 9:00 would be good
- Charge a user fee
- Safety of children is paramount
- Sign a contract - like renting a car, clean up the poop, if you are reported for not respecting the laws - you are rejected
- Jaspers park has fenced off everything interesting for a dog. There is NOTHING there for them to play with

- More people want the off-leash areas in a neighborhood park - where you can walk to it
- At the end of the day - we need to think about what we can do with enforcement (we aren't enforcing now)
- Maybe increase the cost of a dog license so we can enforce
- A minority thinks we should increase enforcement
- No place for dogs to swim
- Many people go early and then drive to a dog park (Medina) later in the day if necessary
- Get data from Medina - it is a shared park experience - but signs saying rules that are expected (x number of dogs per person, must have a leash on you, etc.)
- Expectations - if you know the park has dogs and expect this - it is better
- Puppy manners - in woodinville - dones studies of dog parks and have research
- collect surveys in different neighborhoods to learn

Summary in the end

- No Jasper Park – not a good park and doesn't meet needs for most
- Interest in off-leash dog areas - if clear expectations
- Need water access
- Big or little park - not sure
- Maybe not a fix all solution for all parks
- Some people think more fenced areas
- More people want a complete off-leash park without fence (or maybe divided by some physical barrier for where the leashes are required)
- A bridge could be the barrier between off-leash and leash requirements

February 22, 2019 Focus Group

<u>What do you think about initiative and need for more space for dogs?</u>

- Yes, need to go up north or to Seattle. Most people who use Juanita Heights Park are off-leash (90%)
    - Doesn't bother to have dogs off-leash
- Different issue with travelers in the corridor
    - Church has allowed off-leash use - malicious activity (graffiti or tearing things up) went away
- Very Positive
- Seems like more and more people and a need - City is growing
    - For People not Dogs
    - Good way to socialize and meet others
    - Heritage has a history of having off-leash dogs
- Once it became Heritage (planted) it still stayed as off-leash - people disregarded signs
- Came to committee and said they would not put dog on a leash
- Run into people who have had dogs off-leash at JBP - Lady was encouraging - Birds were nesting
    - Not sure if signage at Parks is not good enough or enforcement isn't effective
- Most parks have off-leash dogs
- Would be nice to have additional off-leash dogs parks
- Thought North side of JBP would have been a great place for off-leash dog parks
- Must be a fenced off area - Haven't seen an off-leash dog in restoration area in Wenatchee where signage is key
- Have had neighbors with off-leash not wanting to attend parks due to disease (if fenced)
    - Some dog owners prefer to have on a leash

    - People that have been encountered have "agreement" to have off-leash on trails
    - Also stated not interested in picking up after the dog
    - Less people would take off-leash if the area was put on the north end.
- Area by Kayaks at JBP is impromptu off-leash area
- OO Denny - West Side have lots of dogs off-leash
    - Dogs are running through restoration areas - Concern is no matter how many off-leash areas, people will continue to do what they will do. Signage at OO Denny is good - people won't go to designated area.
- Regional Parks - People drive from other areas to come to the parks with dogs off-leash.

Should the council take action to create more (legal) off-leash areas?

- Depends where it is…
    - Removed Native Vegetation - Not a place to put park
    - OK if it's in a place like old Houghton Dog Park
    - Put Dog Park in Heritage Park
    - Nice to have something in Downtown
    - Must be fenced
    - Dogs don't run amuck in dog parks
    - Peter Kirk - Maybe an area as younger couples to socialize
    - Yes - all agreed that more off-leash is needed

3 Policy Alternatives - Fenced, DOLA, etc.

- Needs to be fenced with Gated area to clearly denote

Model #1 - Ok for different times of day (Off-Leash Dog Unfenced)?

- Mixed thoughts
    - Opens Doors
- Consistent times - Private Property
    - JBP - Regulars
    - OO Denny - Regulars
    - Seems to be fairly consistent
- Good Idea? -
    - Worked at Church
    - Could work if all dog owners are responsible and dogs responded on command
    - Safety issue
    - Inability for owners to keep dogs separate
    - Not trained
- Bad Idea? -
    - Separation in areas - most are, but Kids may be scared if together with dogs
    - Owners are irresponsible
        - Dogs are not trained
        - Owners are yelling at dog to come back - disrupts the quiet of the park
        - Uncomfortable when dog comes over
        - Liability for City if dog jumps on someone?
        - Older person is pushed over - what is the City's position?
        - Not currently enforced - Not seeing it
    - Enforcement - Should be enforcement on baseball fields - maintained

    - If City is paying for staff to maintain fields, different than someone not liking dogs off-leash
    - Signage on some of the ballfields -
    - Doesn't matter to people if fields are open or fenced - owners still take their dogs out there.
    - Prioritization should be keeping off baseball field - trail is a bit less (dog owners would be less tolerant of objecting on trail)
    - Good to know about enforcement being out
- Opinion is for Off-Leash (Fenced) areas - Prefer not (Unfenced)
  - Unfenced Open Field Areas is not good
  - On the trails is fine if they are controlled

Model #2 - Find 2-3 big parks as designated without fences - Times or Open

- Doable - Based on what seen
  - Divided between the group (almost 1/2 and 1/2)

What characteristics/attributes for off-leash dog area (unfenced)?

- Close to Parking
- Make sure Dogs/Owners are trained
- Self-Contained - pretty well known where the area is
  - Natural boundaries - street, hill, hedge - if thick enough (much better looking)
  - Ground would be turning to dirt
- Can see Dogs - Natural Barriers
  - Somewhat Confined
- Limited to 2 or 3 parks - or all the neighborhood parks?
  - Smaller off-leash where can be contained
  - consensus for bigger parks instead of smaller

Would prefer more areas that are fenced

What characteristics/attributes for off-leash dog area (Fenced)?

- Would like something like Snohomish's Park (3 different areas based on size or training)
  - All fenced - Double fenced
  - Less aggressive if can get leash off before entering (2 gates)
- Likes Magnusson Park for their amenities
  - Enjoyed walking off-leash on a trail
  - Would like a place that has off-leash
- Big field to throw ball - not muddy
- Where to put it ecologically?
  - Don't want to ruin areas by putting it in.
- Vision - Fenced - Want to be able to capture dog
- Jaspers - Needs to be fenced because wetland right next to it - ecological and safety
- A bit removed
- Lack of parking can be an issue - Need to have parking
- Fenced Dog Park in existing Park - Heritage yes, others???
- Depends on Dog obedience & owner
  - Need to plan for dogs/owners that are not obedient or trained
  - Instincts kick in -

- Dog owners think they are their kids and can do whatever

How would you craft a policy-

- Take Power Line out and allow dogs to run free
- Find new - and Develop
- Most won't want to take green park away
- City decide where Park should be and put it there
- Can't have houses right next to dog park - constant noise
- Transfer station land (landfill) would be an area that the City should look at
- Going to need to do something even though neighbors don't approve
- Don't do 3 years of work and then put out and expect to happen
- Don't put a fence around existing park - could also be existing if appropriate with additional criteria

Do you think creating fenced dog area will address off-leash problem?

- Might help
- Try and see - start @ heritage and see if it helps
- Wouldn't solve people complaining
- Viewed as enhancement to the city - instead of way to correct the problem?
    - Could be coupled with enforcement and education
    - People might respond - right now there aren't any consequences
- More notification and awareness about dog parks
    - More pamphlets are parks to help redirect

Find another location or property that isn't used and use that to create park.

Emails and Letters

- I think you are framing the issue very narrowly in asking if there should be more off-leash parks. Other cities provide multiple options.

    - In Boulder, CO, dogs who respond to voice commands are allowed to be off-leash in any park; the city charges to test the owner and dog for this.

    - There should be mandatory education for people who scream or complain at dog owners even when dogs are on leash because these people are clearly terrified of dogs and uninformed; the Humane Society could partner with the City to provide the people education about canine behavior and reduce the person's fears. These people take time from law enforcement with their calls. Some emotional help desensitizing them to animals or some education to understand dog behavior might save money and time for Kirkland City staff.

    - As a dog owner, I have had a Kirkland law enforcement agent tell me that people carry guns and could potentially shoot my dog if it's off-leash; your enforcers need to stop using intimidation and need better community communication training.

    - Cats kill 4 billion song birds a year. Cats kill 22.3 billion mammals a year. I would like to see legislation to keep cats indoors and give tickets to cat owners who let their cats outside to "roam". There is no evidence that cats “need to roam”. I would also like to see required education for cat owners about these facts, and neutering cats to reduce feral cat populations. Consider partnering with the East Side Audubon Society and Humane Society on this topic.

    - I think you need input from the Humane Society and reputable dog training centers to set policy.

    - Work with the County on setting aside local dog park areas, such as fields at Finn Hill Park by the baseball fields. These fields are not being used and are used informally as off-leash dog park areas.

  There is a lot of evidence that dog owners are happier, more social, and that dog socialization helps the dogs adjust to each other and people. There is so much measurable good that comes from community places for dog parks.

- Hope you guys have seen this - https://ezine.nrpa.org/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&edid=a6d87432-862f-4a08-ae40-9d905ee8f0af&pnum=52

Also, hope you're talking with SODA – they have a lot of experience on what it takes to make a dog park work - https://www.soda.org/

- I do not think off-leash dogs are a problem in our city nor should any time or resources be wasted on this "issue". Of course if someone's dog (off-leash or not) is misbehaving the owner should be held accountable. Otherwise there's nothing to be done. I know my neighbors gather early at the parks near me to exercise their dogs and socialize amongst themselves. I walk by often and have never seen or heard of a problem. What a wonderful use of our beautiful parks! I live on corner West of Market and have dogs and their owners pass by daily. I care far more that they pick up after their dogs (which everyone does) than whether or not they are on a leash.

- Yes, I think Kirkland should allow dogs "off-leash" during early morning. And no, there should not be an evening off-leash period.

  We have lived in the Juanita area for 19 years and have been walking dogs in two Kirkland Parks EVERY morning for 19 years. Other than dog walkers, the parks are empty and unused before 9 or 10AM, depending on the weather and time of year. Dogs could be at large and not bother anybody.

  Evenings are a different matter. A lot of ordinary people visit parks in the evening, especially during the summer. Evening off-leash hours would put expose too many dogs to too many people. Not good. It is reasonable and prudent that dogs remain on leashes in the evening.

  The Kirkland parks we use were unincorporated King County for a long time before the annexation. Lease laws were ignored and unenforced by King County. It is only the last two months that Kirkland's dog cops started harassing dog owners. I find this enforcement action unreasonable, unprecedented and unwarranted, especially since the parks are empty in the wee hours of the morning. An early morning off-leash period is a reasonable compromise between dog owners and other park users.

- I think that there should be designated off-leash hours for dogs in Denny park. I think this is a necessary compromise so that dog owners can take good care of their dogs while those who are bothered by off-leash dogs know which hours to avoid the park and which hours are safe.

- I am an avid dog lover living in the Juanita Bay area. I have a very large golden retriever who I walk on a leash every day at Juanita Beach. Many times I have run into other dog owners who let their dogs off-leash. My dog has been attached numerous times by dogs running up to us while walking. It takes all my effort to hold my dog back while other dogs approach. Sometimes I have to vary my walking route to avoid off-leash dogs. As a law abiding citizens this just doesn't seem fair. Another experience I have had at Juanita Beach is going for a swim on the west side of the pier and finding a dog pooping in the water. How disgusting is that?!?!?!

  The city has designated off-leash parks for owners who let their dogs off-leash. Dog owners should not take advantage of our other parks and open areas that are not designated as off-

leash. I am a firm believer, for the safety of all dogs and for citizens who may not be comfortable around dogs that dogs need to be on a leash. The city needs to enforce the leash law. It shouldn't take an accident, dog bite, or dog fight for the city to take action.

The law is not the problem. We have a people problem. Some people will do whatever pleases them with disregard to the law or others. Below is a great sign from the City of New Orleans. Their fine is minimal but if you start fining people and the word gets out, then maybe this will help the issue. Btw, this is Kirkland, I'd raise the fine a minimum of $100.

A few years ago I called animal control to assist in a situation where my dog was on leash and another dog owner had their dog running loose. At that time I was told the department was not staffed sufficiently to have someone come out. I sincerely this is not the case today.

Here's some suggestions on ways to enforce the law:

- Routine patrols of city parks to ensure animal regulations are followed
- Fine the owner
- Enlist the help of Police Explores or other volunteers to patrol and hand out fines
- Impound the dog

I love living and working in Kirkland, especially since it is so dog friendly. But for the safety of all, please enforce the leash law.

- I do understand why some park users would want all dogs on a leash, but I do believe it is equally important for dogs and their owners should have the opportunity to have times off-leash in the park. I have lived here since 1993 and taking my dog and letting him run is a part of my lifestyle. After decades of paying taxes, working on the trails, helping to pay for the land for the park behind my house, I think it is only right to have designated off-leash times such as before 9:00 and after 7:00.

- I live a few houses down from Denny Park where I walk my dog every day early in the morning before work. I've been doing this for the last two years and I love having that as part of my day.

  The only other people I have seen at the park that early in the morning on weekdays for the past two years are other dog owners with their dogs. Recently, animal control and police have been making sure that no dogs are left off-leash in the park, even when there is no one else in the park, and that is understandable because that is currently the rule.

  I believe the rule should be reevaluated. Considering the park is empty other than dogs and

dog owners between 6 and 8:30 am on weekdays, is it possible to change the rule such that those hours on weekdays are off-leash hours? I understand that any later than that would not be possible because of the school bus schedule, and I know how busy it gets during the weekends. I only ask for weekday early mornings knowing it's effectively only being used by dog owners during those times.

- Answering the survey questions:

  I do not have a dog.
  I have not used a Kirkland dog park in the past six months.

  I frequently see a dog off-leash in an area not designated for off-leash dogs. Specifically, my neighbors at XXXXXXXXX walk their dog daily off-leash on N.E. 65th Street, never on a leash.

  My neighborhood park is South Rose Hill Park. I am unsure how I feel about designating a portion of this park as off-leash. If so designated, the off-leash are should be fenced off from the remainder of the park. I'm concerned that enforcement would be impossible. I observe many very young children using this park. Indeed the playground equipment is designed for use by very young children who would be at potential risk from unleashed dogs.

  The King County abandoned landfill site, partly occupied by Taylor Field, is n ideal off-leash site.

  Next steps: increased enforcement plus some expanded options

- I am a dog owner and longtime resident of the Denny Park area. I understand there is an effort to promote off-leash dog hours at Denny Park. The following are reasons why I do not support this idea:
  1. My husband was bit by an off-leash dog while walking our two dogs on leash through the park a few months ago. The owners did not call either of their dogs back and one of them subsequently bit my husband. The dynamic between on and off-leash dogs would prohibit me from walking through the park with my dogs on leash. In addition, we incurred medical bills that were unexpected.
  2. Denny Park is not fenced…and I would not want it to be fenced. A lack of fencing would put many dogs at risk. I had firsthand experience with this several years ago when I was walking my leashed dog along Holmes Pt Drive in front of the Denny Park parking lot. An eager and enthusiastic dog jumped out of its owner's car and made a beeline straight to greet my dog, but was unfortunately hit and killed while crossing the road unleashed. I would never want this to happen to another dog.
  3. The lure of an off-leash dog park would attract an excessive amount of dogs to the park that already has a problem with waste disposal. The "leave a bag, take a bag" idea doesn't work. Most of the time, I have found it to be used as a receptacle for dog waste…not its intended purpose.

We have regularly used Jasper's Dog Park near Fred Meyer and found it to be acceptable for those desiring off-leash areas for their dogs. I hope you will consider my comments at your upcoming meeting.

- Dogs are synonymous with the very special atmosphere and livability of Kirkland. The dogs that meet, along with their owners, at Heritage Park, and others, are under direct control of their owners who are among the most conscientious owners in the city. I feel that if a dog is playing off-leash, but in immediate voice control with his owner, it is a good thing. If this needs to be codified one could require the dog to be within 100 feet of his owner at all times. Dog owners are very good at self policing, and unfriendly dogs do not participate.
  On the other hand, dogs on the corridor should be leashed to keep them from accidentally walking in front of a bicyclist.

  Dogs should be welcome at lakefront parks and allowed to swim off-leash if under direct voice control, particularly in non swimming areas and during non hours.
  Dog owners are the heart and soul of Kirkland, pay a huge amount of taxes, and as a population group should be INCLUDED in the city's welcoming.

  Thank you for giving us this opportunity to have our voices heard. We have a ten year old golden retriever and have owned and lived in downtown Kirkland for 8 years and love it!

- I live very close to Denny park and own a dog.
  I think that there should be designated off-leash hours for dogs in Denny park. I think this is a necessary compromise so that dog owners can enjoy the park and take good care of their dogs while those who are bothered by off-leash dogs know which hours to avoid the park and which hours are dog-free.
  Thank you for your time.

- Thank for you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. Other than the designated, legal off-leash areas, I do not support changing what our current city law states. Dogs should be leashed. Just because a dog has never bit anyone does not mean that they are not capable of doing so. Not everyone is a dog lover; and their fears, reluctance to interact with unknown dogs, or allergies should not respected. When people are not following the law it takes away others' rights to enjoy our city neighborhoods and parks. We pay taxes for the enhancement of our city's recreational areas and for the safety of our neighborhoods.

  We have only had our dog for a few months. Jasper Park has a varied reputation for how dogs behave off-leash. It is up to the owners to train, watch and then take their dogs out if they don't behave. Our experiences have been mixed. I know there have been reports of people injured by aggressive dogs at Jasper Park. We have left when dogs are nipping at other dogs aggressively and the owners do not respond. Edith Moulton has a nice gathering area where it has been nice to talk to experienced dog owners and share ideas and get questions we have answered. That entrance is small enough that people are pretty much forced to be sure their dogs behave. Would more off-leash parks be nice? Of course!

  Again, thank you for the opportunity to respond.

- I live on Holmes Point Drive. I walk my dog every day early in the morning before work. I've been doing this for the last two years and I love having that as part of my day.

  The only other people I have seen at the park that early in the morning on weekdays for the past two years are other dog owners with their dogs. Recently, animal control and police have been making sure that no dogs are left off-leash in the park, even when there is no one else in the park, and that is understandable because that is currently the rule.

  I believe the rule should be reevaluated. Considering the park is empty other than dogs and dog owners between 5 and 9:00 am on weekdays, is it possible to change the rule such that those hours on weekdays are off-leash hours? I understand that any later than that would not be possible because of the school bus schedule, and I know how busy it gets during the weekends. I only ask for weekday early mornings knowing it's effectively only being used by dog owners during those times.

  Thank you for your time.

- I live a few houses down from Denny Park where I walk my dog every day early in the morning before work. I've been doing this for the last two years and I love having that as part of my day.

  The only other people I have seen at the park that early in the morning on weekdays for the past two years are other dog owners with their dogs. Recently, animal control and police have been making sure that no dogs are left off-leash in the park, even when there is no one else in the park, and that is understandable because that is currently the rule.

  I believe the rule should be reevaluated. Considering the park is empty other than dogs and dog owners between 6 and 8:30 am on weekdays, is it possible to change the rule such that those hours on weekdays are off-leash hours? I understand that any later than that would not be possible because of the school bus schedule, and I know how busy it gets during the weekends. I only ask for weekday early mornings knowing it's effectively only being used by dog owners during those times.

- I live on NE 100th St. Because of offleash dogs, there were many occassions when we went to the parks and stayed in the car parking and had to return with out using the park.
  Some dog owners really are careless and ignore other reaident's concerns and are confrontational if we ask to put the dogs on leash though there are signs everywhere.
  My wife is really scared of dogs due to her own childhood experience and hence we now avoid going to the parks.
  You can observe these situations on any given day in Spinney Homestead park or McAuliffe park for example.

Park Interviews

Edith Moulton Park, Heritage Park, Jasper's Park, Juanita Beach Park, OO Denny Park

Edith Moulton

- Big Finn Hill Park would be a great spot to have a designated off-leash area or park

Heritage Park

- The dog owners don't like dog parks and don't think the solution involves creating new dog parks. They value the pristine nature of Kirkland's parks. Their recommendation is to distribute the load of dogs throughout all of the City's parks—to allow dogs to roam at dawn and at dusk. "By spreading it around," said Michael Lyons, who lives on 10th Avenue West, "you prevent the dog park dynamic."
- And none of the five people with whom I spoke wanted a dog park dynamic.
- This is a sentiment that emerged on Tuesday evening in a discussion with Diedre Johnson, the former chair of the South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails Neighborhood. She said she doesn't like to take her dog to either of Kirkland's dog parks or even to Marymoor because the dogs there, she said, tend to be pretty aggressive.
- Four of the five people live within the neighborhood and walk to the park. The ability to walk to the dog area is imperative, they said. A strong majority of residents at the South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails meeting said the same thing.
- One of the five people with whom I spoke, Sapphire Fei, said she drives to Heritage on her way to work. She lives in Juanita and works in Seattle and Heritage is along the way. Fei cited the "running at large" ordinance as justification for having her dog off-leash. She, like us, had been confused by the difference between "off-leash" and "at large. And was insistent that she was not violating the rule. The other four admitted to letting their dogs go off-leash and knew that it was not legal.
- Group members said they'd be willing to support increased enforcement, but only as a political concession.
- Group members said dog walkers/owners form a micro sub-culture with a series of unspoken norms, such as leashing their dogs when a child or an unfamiliar dog arrives at the park and enforcing the clean-up of poo.
- A dawn and dusk schedule, they said, was community-building and could help thwart petty crime, such as graffiti and drug use, at parks by allowing dog owners to be in the parks at a time the crime might otherwise take place.

Juanita Beach Park

- Interviewee works in Kirkland and likes to walk their dog along the CKC. There is a small field near Forbes Creek Apartments that is used as an off-leash area for dogs. It is secluded and would be a great spot to make as a designated off-leash area or park.

- One resident is impressed with the City's response to maintaining the dog park and fixing the fence quickly after the storm had knocked it over.
- One resident felt that there were plenty of options with Jasepr's and Marymoore, both 15 minutes away. Does not take her dog off-leash because it is reactive.
- One resident felt unsure about available space for a dog park.
- For all mixed use areas, dog should not be off-leash.
- People let their dog off-leash frequently at the field across the street from Juanita Beach Park

OO Denny Park

- Juanita Beach is not a good place for dogs to play in the water. The water is dirty. It could be from all the ducks and birds. OO Denny is a better option for an off-leash dog area. The water is cleaner, there is a good amount of parking, and there is a nice loop to walk around across the street.
- A lot of dog owners walk their dogs and let their dogs off-leash more so during the Winter season versus summer. This is a popular area from 7-9am and around dusk.
- "I rather drive to Magnuson or Marymoor versus the quicker trip to Jasper's. Jasper's is too muddy and the parking situation is not the best".

Appendix C – Demographic Profile of Survey Responses

DEMOGRAPHIC CATEGORY	Survey Responses[1]	Census Estimates[2]
Neighborhood[3]		
North	35.4%	56.2%
Central	32.9%	19.5%
South	28.1%	24.3%
Outside Kirkland	3.5%	--
Housing Situation		
Rent	13.9%	36.1%
Own	86.1%	63.9%
Unhoused	0%	--
Age[4]		
Under 20	1.0%	22.3%
25-35	15.1%	22.2%
35-50	37.0%	22.5%
50-65	35.1%	19.9%
65-80	11.4%	9.8%
80+	0.4%	3.3%
Gender Identification		
Female	62.8%	51.1%
Male	31.6%	48.9%
Prefer not to answer	5.6%	--
Race/ethnicity[5]		
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.6%	0.3%
Asian	6.7%	17.4%
Black or African American	1.2%	2.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1.6%	0.5%
Hispanic or Latino	1.3%	7.0%
White	90.7%	81.9%
Some other race	0.7%	2.3%

[1] Excluding those who chose not to answer

[2] Source: 2017 American Community Survey (ACS), Demographic and Housing Estimates

[3] Neighborhood population estimates computed by staff based on ACS data and housing units per neighborhood association boundary.

[4] Survey data collection age categories not parallel with Census data collection methods. Staff computed age estimates based on ACS data.

[5] Survey data collection methods differed from Census methods.