



STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item: 8

Report To: Open Space Advisory Committee
and Parks and Recreation Commission

Meeting Date: June 21, 2021

Staff Contact: Lyndsey Boyer, Open Space Manager, lboyer@carson.org
Jennifer Budge, CPRP, Parks and Recreation Director, jbudge@carson.org

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action regarding recommendations to staff and/or to the Board of Supervisors concerning a dog use policy or ordinance for Carson City parks and open space areas, including a review of community dog survey results. *(Lyndsey Boyer and Jennifer Budge)*

Staff Summary: This item will continue the discussion and gather feedback from both the Open Space Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Commission regarding potential direction concerning dog use policies within Carson City. Additionally, a survey was made available to the public requesting input from residents and visitors related to dog use at City parks, trails, and open space properties. The survey results will be reviewed and discussed in order to provide guidance to the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department on potential municipal code updates and other rules and regulations that may be considered related to dog use, as well as potential recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Agenda Action: Other/Presentation

Time Requested: 30 minutes

Proposed Motion

N/A

Board's Strategic Goal

N/A

Previous Action

N/A

Background/Issues & Analysis

This item is a continuation from the joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) and Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) in December 2020, as well as individual meetings with PRC and OSAC in April 2021 regarding dog related policies within the City's Park and Open Space system. Due to the challenges with inconsistent signage, locations and regulations throughout Parks, Open Space and trails, more consistent policies are desired by staff for transparency with the public. The purpose of this item is to obtain feedback from both the Open Space Advisory Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission on potential policies to consider within Carson City, with potential recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for future consideration. Additionally, the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department released a public survey from 5/19/21 – 6/10/21 and received a total of 773 responses. Results from the public survey are provided for reference and further discussion. Copies of the informational materials previously presented by the Park Rangers are also provided as attachments for reference. Applicable codes from Carson City and other jurisdictions

within the region are included within those materials, as well as the map of pet friendly parks in Carson City.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

CCMC provisions related to dogs:

13.02.090 - *Dogs in park.*

13.02.120 - *Animals.*

13.02.140 - *Flora and fauna.*

7.13.080 - *Responsibilities of owner: Duty to restrain; duty to provide food and water; duty to dispose of animal's solid waste; prohibition against causing offensive conditions; duty to arrange for medical care and report results that are positive for the rabies virus.*

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? Yes No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? Yes No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Provide staff with additional direction or policies to research.

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

1) _____

2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)

Exhibit A

DOG USE IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

PRESENTED BY PARK RANGERS JOHN
COSTELLO AND TYLER KERVER



ADJACENT AGENCY'S LAWS

United States Forest Service

Title 36: Parks, Forests, and Public Property

- §261.8 *Fish and wildlife.*
- The following are prohibited to the extent Federal or State law is violated:
 - (d) Possessing a dog not on a leash or otherwise confined.

§261.16 *Developed recreation sites.*

- The following are prohibited:
 - (j) Bringing in or possessing an animal, other than a service animal, unless it is crated, caged, or upon a leash not longer than six feet, or otherwise under physical restrictive control.
 - (k) Bringing in or possessing in a swimming area an animal, other than a service animal.
 - (l) Bringing in or possessing a saddle, pack, or draft animal except as authorized by posted instructions.

Bureau of Land Management

- BLM does not have leash requirements. Similar to the USFS, BLM advises to check with the local office in which you are recreating for leash policy. BLM encourages hikers with dogs to yield to all other trail users and keep dogs under control.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

- The county has different regulations for different locations.
- In campgrounds, dogs must be leashed at all time.
- Douglas recently opened a new fenced-in dog park called Johnson Lane Park in July 2020.
- Douglas has recently discussed identifying and developing additional designated areas for dog owners and their pets, whether on or off leash



WASHOE COUNTY

- Pets must be kept on leash at all time in most Washoe County parks
- There are two areas within Washoe County parks that allow off-leash use: The Multi-Use Pasture located within Rancho San Rafael Regional Park and the Link Piazza Dog Park
- Pets are not permitted at Bowers Mansion Regional Park
- The Wilbur D. May Arboretum, located within Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, prohibits pets
- Dogs are permitted part of the year on a leash at Silver Lake and Swan Lake Nature Study Area



SPARKS

- Sparks has specific regulations for different areas within their jurisdiction. Sparks has areas designated for off leash, otherwise dogs are on leash and it is expected that owners will be picking up dog feces.



RENO

- Owners must remain within the fenced area in view of their dog and maintain verbal control over their dog at all times
- Owners are responsible for picking up dog waste and disposing of it properly.
- Dogs must be removed from the park at the first sign of aggression.
- Female dogs in heat are prohibited from entering the park.
- Dog owners must have a leash at all times.
- Dogs must be on the leash when entering and before exiting the gated area.
- Keep small children and infants under close supervision.
- Owners must prevent their dogs from digging holes.
- All dogs must have a current license.



INCLINE

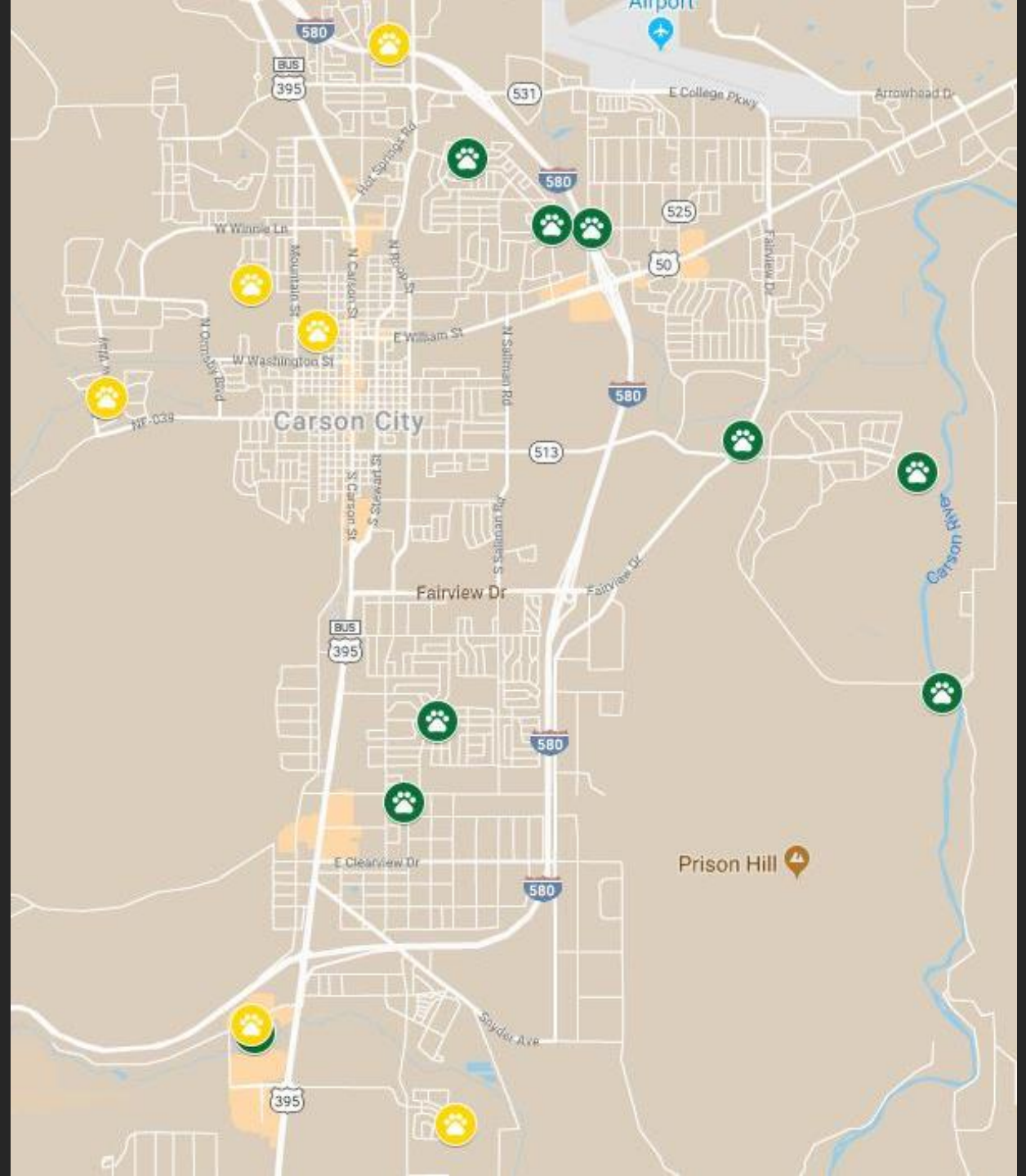
- As of August 1st, 2020, Incline Village has issued a mandatory “no dogs” policy on all of their beach properties, with the exception of Ski Beach (October-April).
- All other outdoor recreation locations are designated for specific sports.
- Village Green and Aspen Grove Open Space allowed on or off leash.

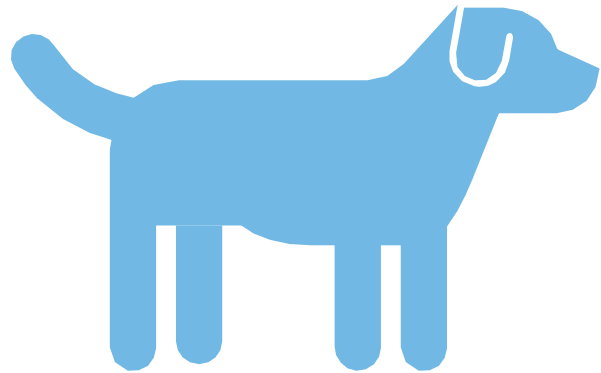




**CARSON CITY
PET FRIENDLY
PARKS**

MAP OF CARSON CITY PET FRIENDLY PARKS





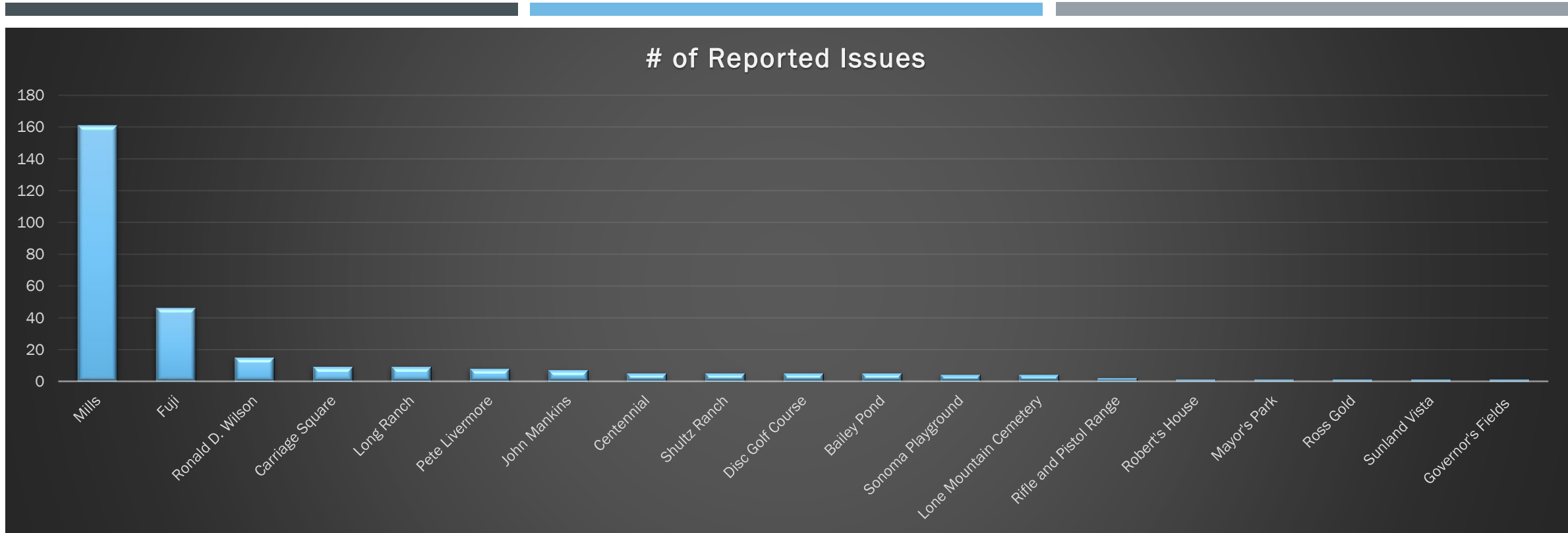
PET FRIENDLY PARKS OVERVIEW

- Dogs are prohibited in Carson City parks unless otherwise stated
- Carson City has 15 city parks that allow dogs
 - 6 of them require dogs to be on leash at all times
- Carson City has two dog-specific parks and one planned
 - Fuji Dog Park
 - Sonoma Park
 - Lompa Ranch East Development (Planned)
- Parks that don't allow dogs often lack any CCMC and don't have adequate signage
 - Creates challenges for users and Park Rangers

CARSON CITY CODES

- 13.02.090 - *Dogs in park.*
- 13.02.120 - *Animals.*
- 13.02.140 - *Flora and fauna.*
- 7.13.080 - *Responsibilities of owner: Duty to restrain; duty to provide food and water; duty to dispose of animal's solid waste; prohibition against causing offensive conditions; duty to arrange for medical care and report results that are positive for the rabies virus.*





CARSON CITY PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE DOG COMPLIANCE

Compiled data relating to dog contacts between dog owners and the Park Rangers in Carson City Parks

March 25, 2019 – November 10, 2020



NEVADA HUMANE SOCIETY

CARSON CITY AGREEMENT

- Carson City contracts with the Nevada Humane Society to oversee animal issues on City's behalf
- They provide shelter operations, vaccines, licensing and other animal health services for Carson City residents
- They do not officially have citation authority
- Citations must be issued by the Carson City Sheriff's Office or the District Attorney's Office
- The Nevada Humane Society has 3 ACOs in Carson City
- They utilizes many forms of education including media outreach, informational brochures, social media, in person outreach, and through incoming calls to the shelter

DOGS & OPEN SPACE

- 6,000-ACRES OF OPEN SPACE
- CARSON RIVER CORRIDOR, SILVER SADDLE RANCH, AND BUZZY'S RANCH ARE AREAS THAT MAY NEED ADDITIONAL REGULATION DUE TO SENSITIVE LANDS AND WILDLIFE
- HAVE HAD AN INCREASE IN USE ON OUR TRAILS, MAY NEED MORE GUIDANCE TO AVOID USER CONFLICTS



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



DETERMINE IF PETS ARE WELCOMED BEFORE BRINGING THEM ALONG

ACCORDING TO CCMC 13.02.090, PETS ARE WELCOMED IN PARKS THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED FOR THAT USE.



OPEN SPACE PET POLICIES

Open Space areas in Carson City welcome pets on and off leash.

It is important that your pet responds to your commands and does not disrupt other Open Space visitors.

Remember to practice Leave No Trace principles by cleaning up after your pet and preventing it from disturbing wildlife.

MORE HELPFUL INFORMATION

Every park has a specific pet policy based on a variety of factors. Please know that if a park does not allow pets, there is a legitimate reasoning behind it. If you are uncertain if pets are allowed, please contact the Parks Department before bringing your pet.

Remember to keep our parks and open space areas clean; always clean up after yourself and your pet. Waste bags are available where ever pets are welcomed.

Carson City Parks and Open Space areas are open to all community members; always be respectful of others.



3303 Butti Way #9
Carson City, NV 89701

Carson City Parks

Pet friendly parks and other helpful information



QUESTIONS?



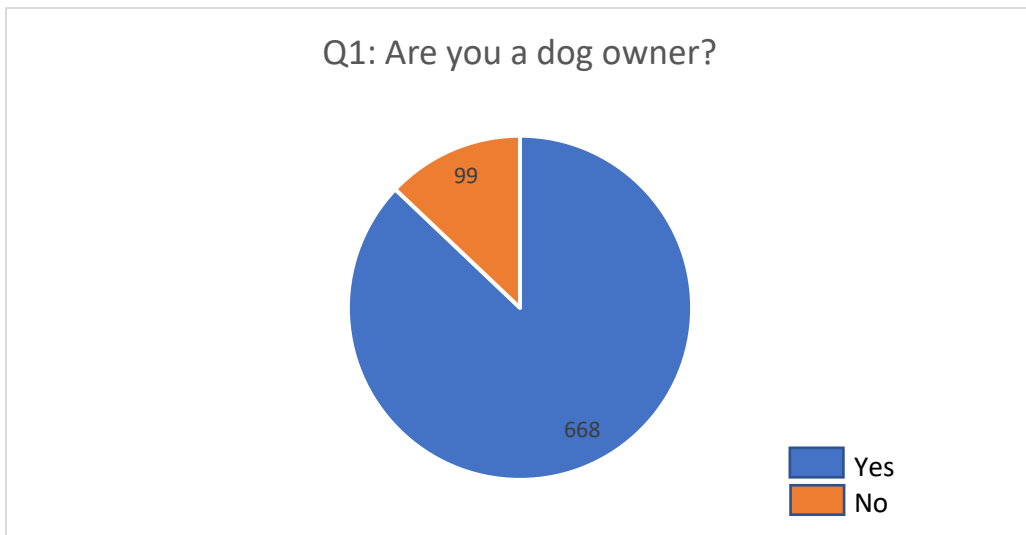
DOG USE IN CARSON CITY'S PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES – Public Survey

Introduction: Carson City seeks public input from residents and visitors related to dog use at City parks, trails, and open space properties. To gather feedback, this community survey will be available to the public via the Carson City website through June 10th. The survey will help guide the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department on potential municipal code updates and other rules and regulations that may be considered related to dog use.

Please take a few minutes to answer the questions below related to your experiences and observations in Carson City. The results will be presented at the joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission and Open Space Advisory Committee on June 21, 2021. **Thank you for your time and input!**

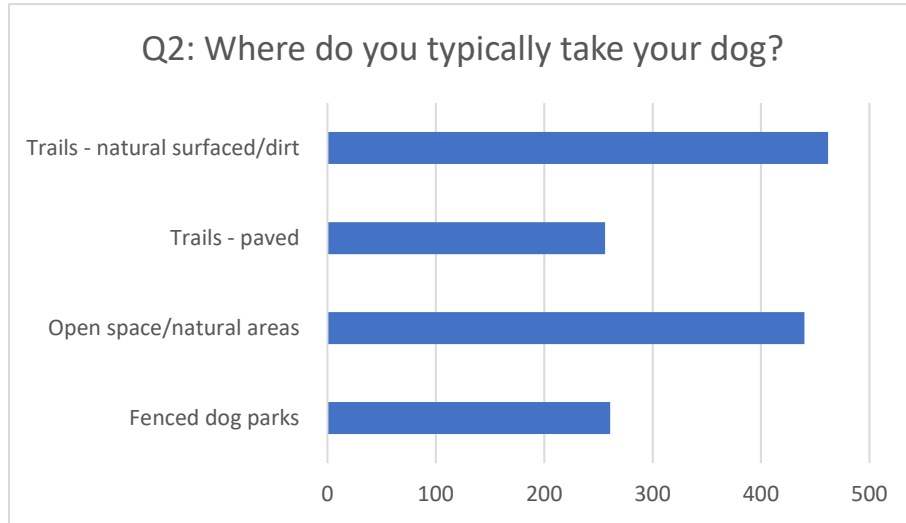
GENERAL

1. Are you a dog owner?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

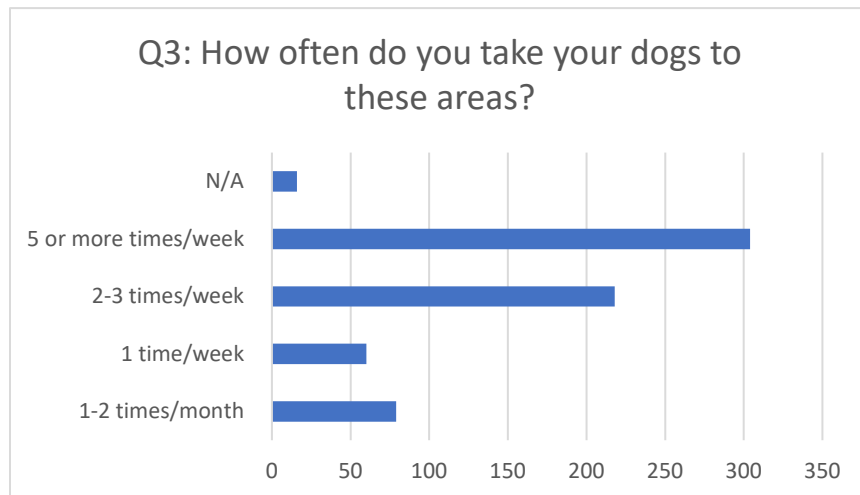


2. If you answered no to question #1, please skip to question #5. If you answered yes to question #1, where do you typically take your dog? Please select all that apply.
 - a. Parks
 - b. Fenced dog parks
 - c. Open space/natural areas
 - d. Trails – paved
 - e. Trails – natural surfaced/dirt
 - f. Other (fill in box)
 - i. *Anywhere dogs are allowed*
 - ii. *Patio dining*
 - iii. *Community/neighborhood*
 - iv. *Streets and sidewalks*
 - v. *Downtown, legislature park, and events*

- vi. *Kings Canyon*
- vii. *Public land (BLM/USFS)*
- viii. *Campgrounds*
- ix. *Jacks Valley School*
- x. *Tahoe*
- xi. *Mexican Ditch Trail*
- xii. *Places with water access, Carson River*
- xiii. *Blackwell Pond*
- xiv. *Mills Park*

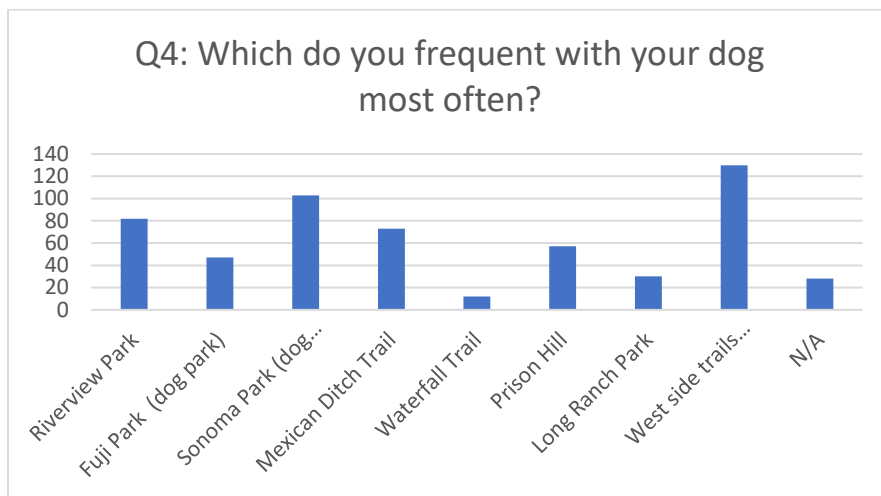


- 3. How often do you take your dog out to these areas?**
- a. 1-2 times/month
 - b. 1 time/week
 - c. 2-3 times/week
 - d. 5 or more times/week
 - e. N/A

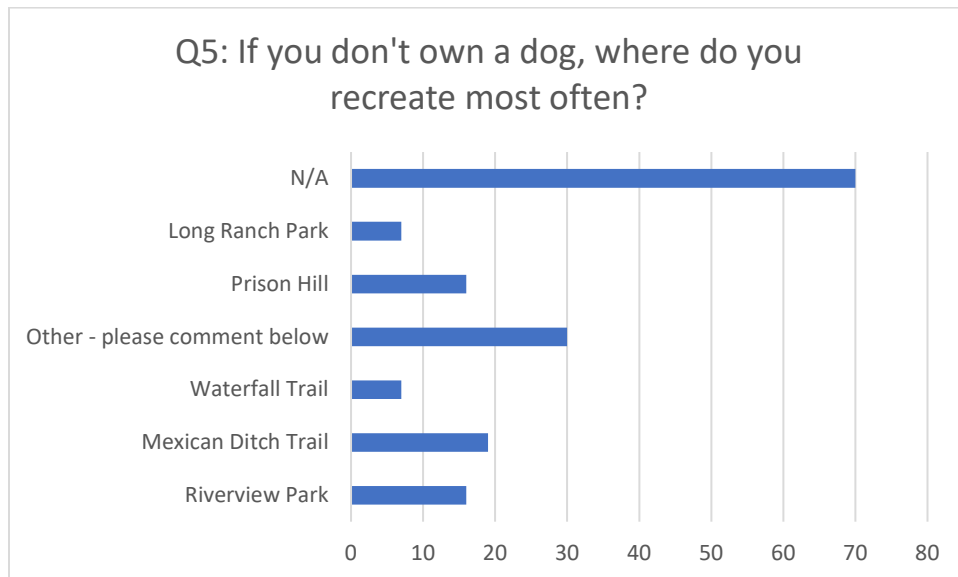


4. Of the following areas, which do you frequent with your dog most often?

- a. Riverview Park
- b. Fuji Park (dog park)
- c. Sonoma Park (dog park)
- d. Mexican Ditch Trail
- e. Waterfall Trail
- f. Prison Hill
- g. Long Ranch Park
- h. West side trails (C-Hill, WNC, V & T Trail etc.)
- i. Other: (fill in box)
 - i. Mills Park – 5
 - ii. Mayor’s Park – 4
 - iii. Off HWY 50
 - iv. Dog Park on 5th and Roop - 8
 - v. BLM Lands, Pinenut Mountains - 4
 - vi. Steinheimer Park - 7
 - vii. Ash Canyon - 3
 - viii. Schulz Ranch - 2
 - ix. Carson River – 1
 - x. Silver Oak
 - xi. Kings Canyon
 - xii. Linear Ditch Trail - 2
 - xiii. Freeway Multi-use Path - 4
 - xiv. Silver Saddle Ranch – 2
 - xv. Blackwell’s Pond – 6
 - xvi. Sunset Park
 - xvii. James Lee Park – 4
 - xviii. Centennial Park - 2
- j. N/A

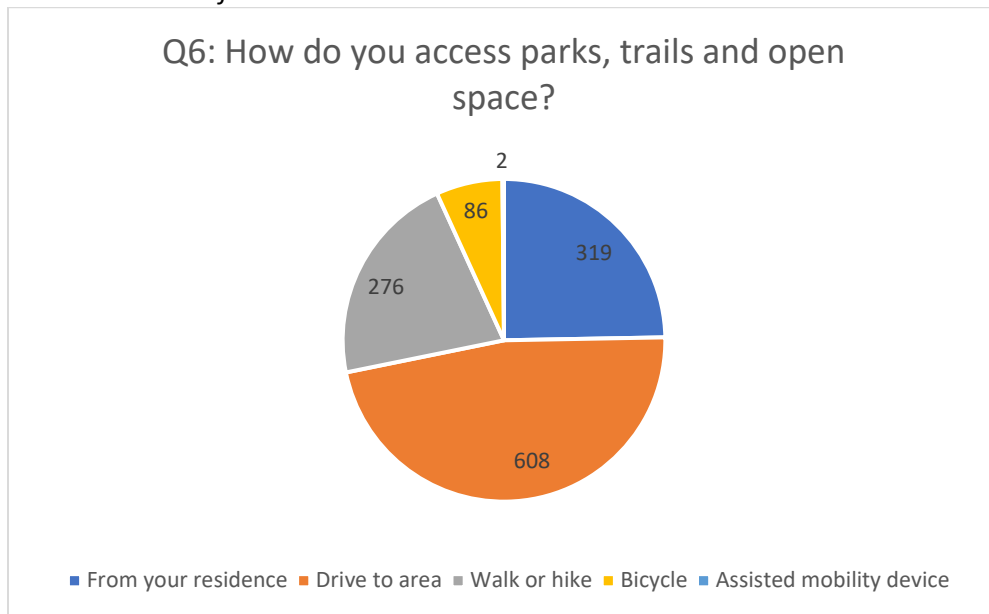


5. If you do not own a dog, where do you recreate most often? (Dog owners skip this question)
- a. Riverview Park
 - b. Mexican Ditch Trail
 - c. Waterfall Trail
 - d. West side trails (C-Hill, WNC, V & T Trail etc.)
 - e. Prison Hill
 - f. Long Ranch Park
 - g. Other: (fill in box)
 - i. *Disc Golf Course*
 - ii. *Sunridge South Park - 2*
 - iii. *Playgrounds*
 - iv. *Park Terrace*
 - v. *Mill's Park - 2*
 - vi. *Lone Mountain*
 - vii. *Kings Canyon*
 - viii. *Neighborhood sidewalks*
 - ix. *Ash Canyon*
 - x. *Fuji Park – 3*
 - xi. *Silver Saddle Ranch*
 - xii. *Sonoma Park*
 - xiii. *Goni*
 - xiv. *Silver Oak*
 - xv. *Public lands – BLM – 2*
 - xvi. *Carson River*
 - h. N/A

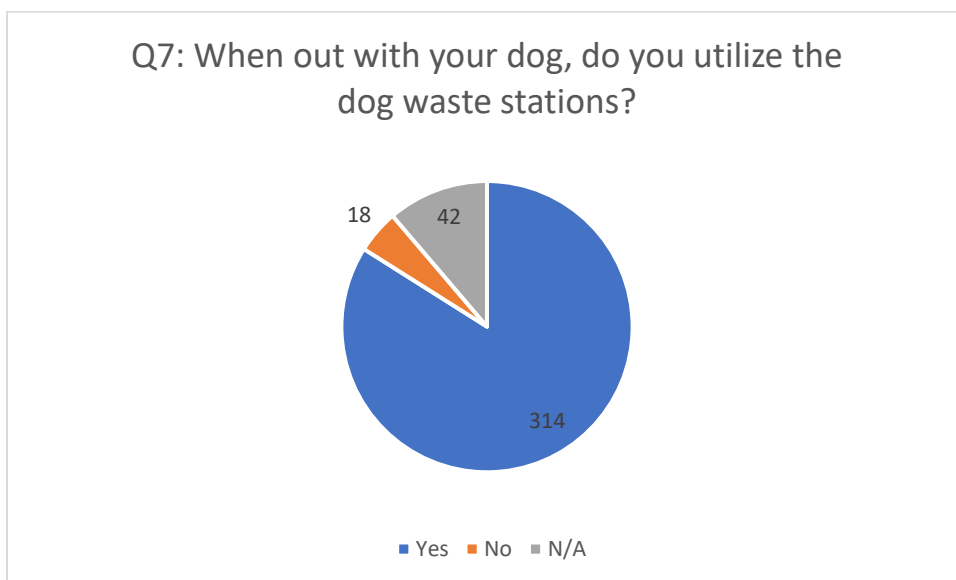


6. How do you access park, trails, and open space? Please select all that apply.
- a. From your residence
 - b. Drive to area
 - c. Walk or hike

- d. Bicycle
- e. Assisted mobility device
- f. Other: (fill in box)
 - i. All of the above



7. When out with your dog, do you utilize the dog waste stations/bags provided throughout the City?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. N/A



8. Are there any other locations that dog waste stations/bags should be provided?
- a. Yes (fill in box)

- i. Downtown - 14*
- ii. More 'Poo Loops' at trails*
- iii. Every trail that allows dogs - 30*
- iv. All trailheads and parking areas – 20*
- v. Along middle of trails, not just beginning – 10*
- vi. All around the City*
- vii. Centennial - 2*
- viii. Silver Saddle Ranch - 7*
- ix. Near schools – CMS, EVMS - 3*
- x. Prison Hill, Clearview*
- xi. Prison Hill – throughout – 10*
- xii. Prison Hill, East Trail*
- xiii. Fairview Path*
- xiv. James Lee Park*
- xv. V&T - 11*
- xvi. Long Ranch*
- xvii. Schulz Ranch – 3*
- xviii. Freeway Multiuse Path - 3*
- xix. Mexican Ditch Trail - 5*
- xx. John Mankins - 2*
- xxi. Residential areas*
- xxii. Goni - 2*
- xxiii. Combs Canyon - 2*
- xxiv. Street corners*
- xxv. Ash Canyon - 8*
- xxvi. Kings Canyon - 3*
- xxvii. Silver Oak*
- xxviii. Carriage Square Park*
- xxix. Walmart*
- xxx. Mills Park - 3*
- xxxi. Ross Gold*
- xxxii. C-Hill - 3*
- xxxiii. Empire Ranch Trail*
- xxxiv. Behind the MAC/Boys and Girls Club*
- xxxv. Sonoma Park*
- xxxvi. Carson River – 7*
- xxxvii. Hells Bells*
- xxxviii. Pet Cemetery*
- xxxix. Roop and 5th Dog Park*
 - xl. WNC*
 - xli. Fuji Park*
 - xl.ii. Shopping Areas – 4*
 - xl.iii. Bus stops*

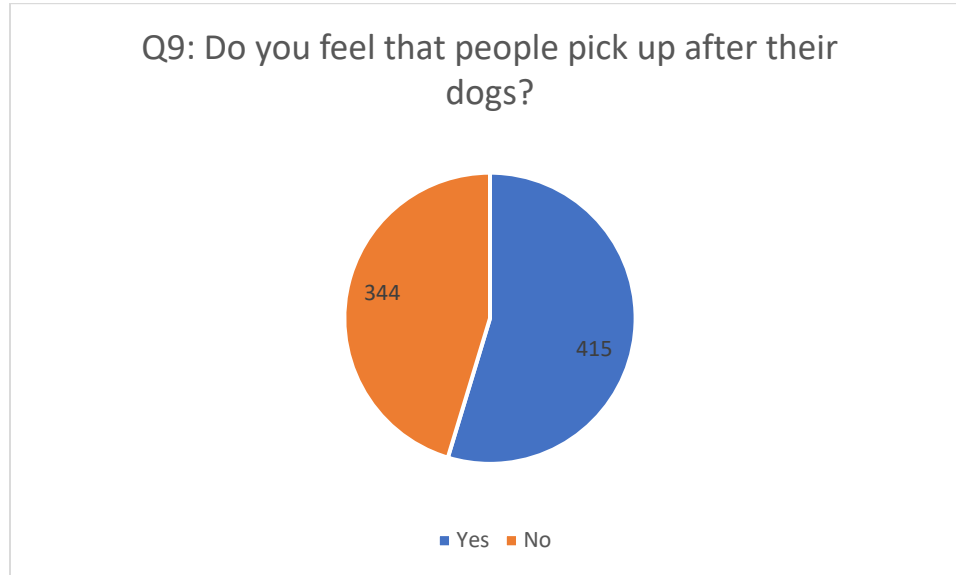
b. No: 233 responses

c. N/A

9. In general, do you feel that people pick up after their dogs?

a. Yes

b. No



10. When out with your dog, do you keep them on a leash?

a. Always

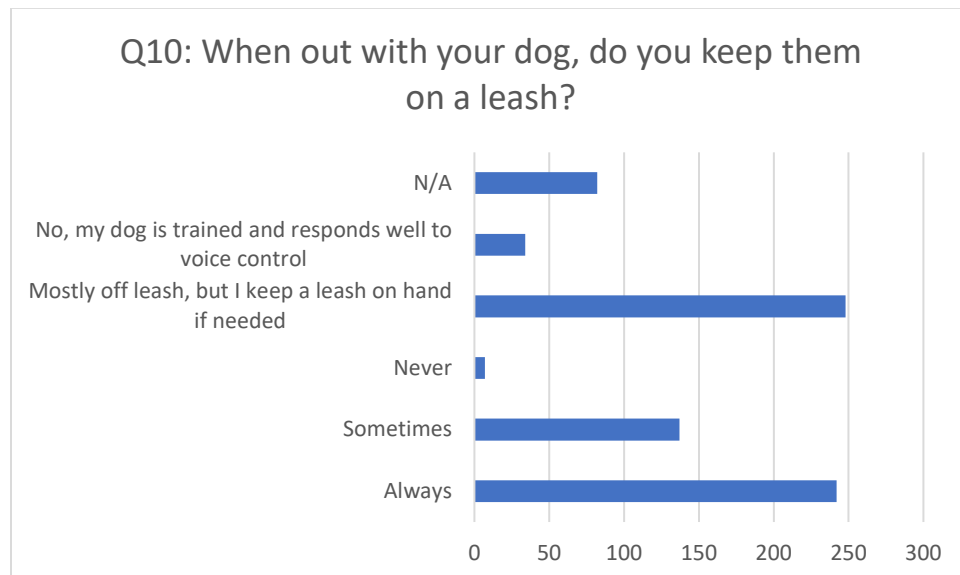
b. Sometimes

c. Never

d. Mostly off leash, but I keep a leash with me if needed

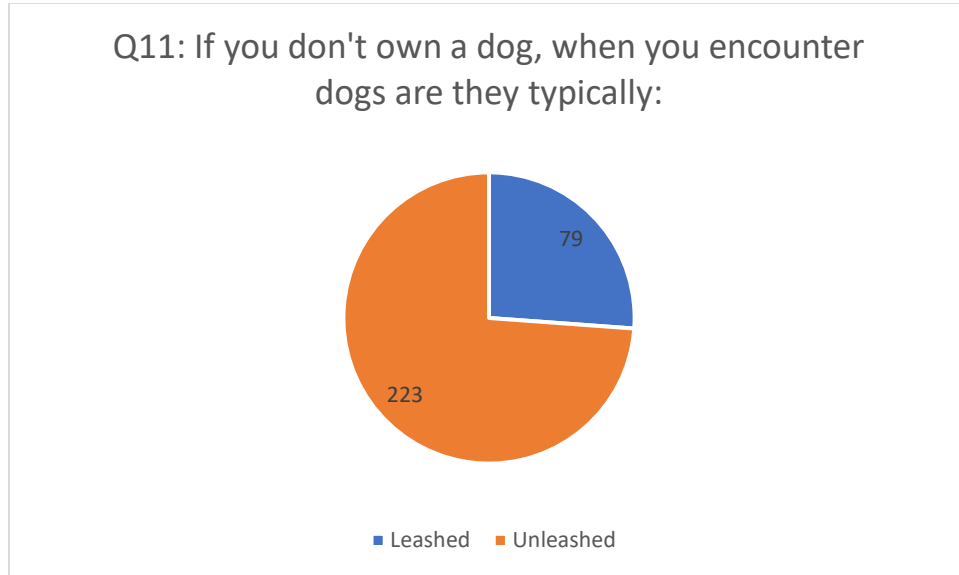
e. No, my dog is trained and responds well to voice control

f. N/A



11. If you do not own a dog, when you encounter dogs in parks, trails or open space are they typically:

- a. Leashed
- b. Unleashed



12. Other than traditional fenced dog parks, what other areas should be designated for off leash use:

- a. *Fill-in Response (fill in box)*
 - i. *Places with water*
 - ii. *Open Space - 63*
 - iii. *All Trails - 78*
 - iv. *Dirt Trails not paved trails - 21*
 - v. *All areas - 43*
 - vi. *Riverview – 22*
 - vii. *Silver Saddle Ranch - 10*
 - viii. *Prison Hill - 8*
 - ix. *Public Lands – 14*
 - x. *Fuji Park - 5*
 - xi. *Natural Areas – 8*
 - xii. *Fenced areas only - 4*
 - xiii. *Mills Park - 5*
 - xiv. *Carson River - 5*
 - xv. *Dog park only – 7*
 - xvi. *Long Ranch*
 - xvii. *Mexican Ditch Trail - 8*
 - xviii. *Parks – 12*
 - xix. *Waterfall Trail*
 - xx. *West side – 10*

- xxi. *Mayor's Park - 3*
- xxii. *Ross Gold - 2*
- xxiii. *In general, many respondents qualify dogs being under control of the owner as the most important part of designated off leash areas.*

b. No additional dog parks are needed

13. Are there any specific areas you feel that dogs should be prohibited and why?

a. *Fill-in Response (fill in box)*

- i. *Off leash areas are dangerous to bike riders, children and seniors*
- ii. *Children's parks and playgrounds - 43*
- iii. *Multi-use trails (equestrian conflicts) - 5*
- iv. *Heavy use trails*
- v. *Disc Golf Courses*
- vi. *Restaurants and stores - 16*
- vii. *Paved trails*
- viii. *Wildlife habitat - 9*
- ix. *Public events - 3*
- x. *Riverview Park - 7*
- xi. *Carson River*
- xii. *Sports Fields - 7*
- xiii. *Public Lands*
- xiv. *Parking lots/trailheads*
- xv. *Capitol - 5*
- xvi. *Schools - 10*
- xvii. *All City Parks unless leashed*
- xviii. *Steep/narrow or crowded trails*
- xix. *Mills Park - 10*
- xx. *Golf Courses*
- xxi. *Waterfall Trail*

14. Are additional fenced dog parks needed in Carson City? If yes, please list where.

a. Yes, please list where (fill in box)

- i. *5th and Roop - 8*
- ii. *Downtown - 10*
- iii. *North Carson – 62*
- iv. *Central Carson – 7*
- v. *South Carson – 4*
- vi. *Silver Oak - 4*
- vii. *Mills Park - 18*
- viii. *West side - 25*
- ix. *Fenced area for dogs at every park - 8*
- x. *East side - 9*
- xi. *Rural areas*
- xii. *Sonoma Park for small dogs*

- xiii. *Fuji Park – turf - 13*
 - xiv. *Northridge – 5*
 - xv. *John Mankins*
 - xvi. *Lompa*
 - xvii. *Riverview Park - 3*
 - xviii. *Mayor’s Park*
 - xix. *Ronald D. Wilson*
 - xx. *Ross Gold - 5*
 - xxi. *Carriage Square - 5*
 - xxii. *Prison Hill - 3*
 - xxiii. *Long Ranch Park - 3*
 - xxiv. *Silver Saddle Ranch - 3*
 - xxv. *General comments: respondents would like turf and large and small dog separation.*
 - xxvi. *Sports Complex - 5*
- b. No

SAFETY AND SECURITY

1. Have you ever observed or experienced conflicts between **dogs** when using City parks, trails, and open spaces?
 - a. Yes Explain: (fill in box)
 - i. *Dog fighting*
 - ii. *Chased/charged by dogs*
 - iii. *Aggressive dogs*
 - iv. *Unleashed vs. leashed conflicts*
 - v. *Dog bites*
 - vi. *Conflicts with multi-users (bicycles, equestrians etc.)*
 - vii. *Uncontrolled dogs, not under voice control*
 - b. No

2. Have you ever observed or experienced conflicts between **dog owners** when using City parks, trails, and open spaces?
 - a. Yes Explain: (fill in box)
 - i. *Owner altercations with their dog*
 - ii. *Threats from another owner*
 - iii. *Threats of using weapons (pepper spray, guns etc.)*
 - iv. *Verbal altercations*
 - v. *Physical altercations*
 - b. No

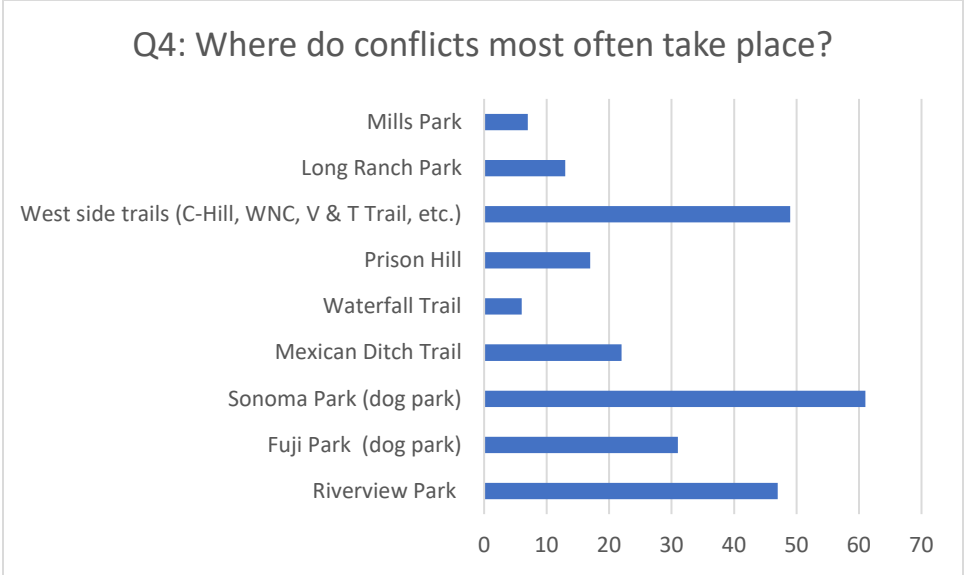
3. Have you ever observed or experienced a **dog encounter a dangerous situation** such as a dog conflict/chasing wildlife, dog running out into a busy street/traffic, dog bite/attack etc. when using City parks, trails, or open spaces?
 - a. Yes Explain: (fill in box)

- i. Dogs running into traffic*
- ii. Chasing wildlife*
- iii. Chasing horses/equestrians*
- iv. Conflicts with other users*
- v. Conflicts with sheep*
- vi. Physical altercations with aggressive dogs to protect children*

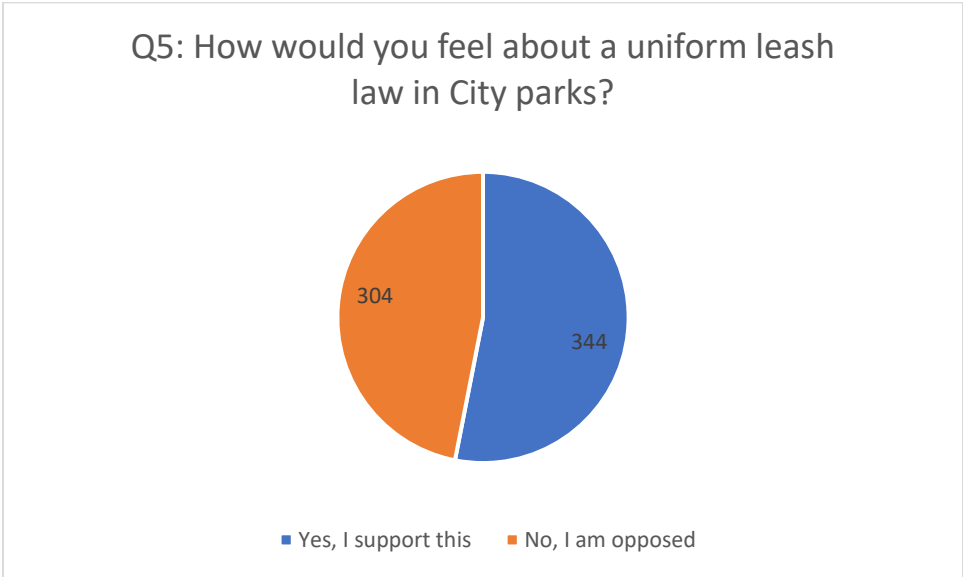
b. No

4. If you answered yes to any of the previous 3 questions, where do these conflicts most often take place?

- a. Riverview Park
- b. Fuji Park (dog park)
- c. Sonoma Park (dog park)
- d. Mexican Ditch Trail
- e. Waterfall Trail
- f. West side trails (C-Hill, WNC, V & T Trail etc.)
- g. Prison Hill
- h. Long Ranch Park
- i. Mills Park
- j. Other: (fill in box)
 - i. Longview*
 - ii. Disc Gold Course*
 - iii. Linear Ditch Trail*
 - iv. Mexican Ditch Trail*
 - v. Parks*
 - vi. Neighborhoods*
 - vii. Blackwell's Pond*
 - viii. Lone Mountain*
 - ix. Empire Ranch Trail*
 - x. C-Hill*
 - xi. Steinheimer*
 - xii. Centennial*
 - xiii. Silver Saddle Ranch*

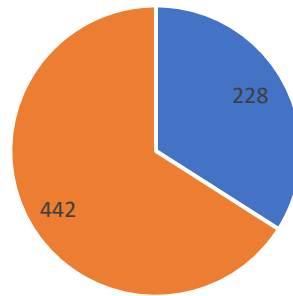


5. How would you feel about a uniform leash law in City parks?
- a. *Yes, I support this* (fill in box)
 - b. *No, I am opposed* (fill in box)
 - c. *Other:* (fill in box)



6. How would you feel about a uniform leash law on City trails and open spaces?
- a. *Yes, I support this* (fill in box)
 - b. *No, I am opposed* (fill in box)
 - c. *Other:* (fill in box)

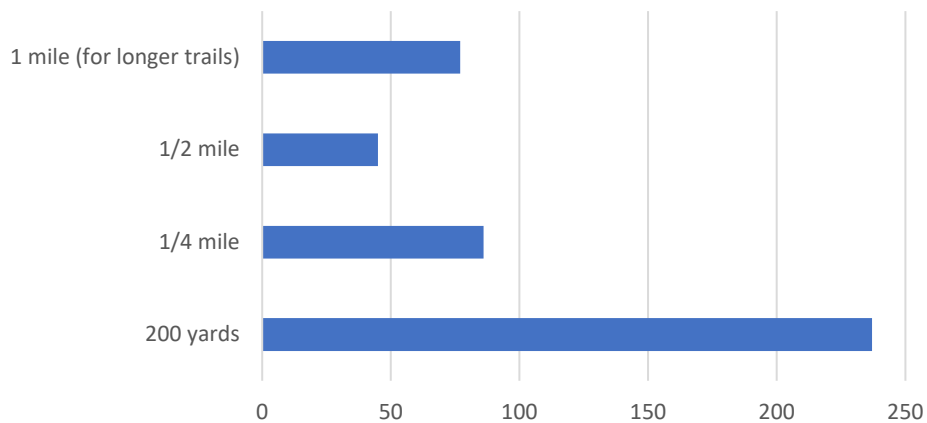
Q6: How would you feel about a uniform leash law on City trails and Open Spaces?



■ Yes, I support this. ■ No, I am opposed.

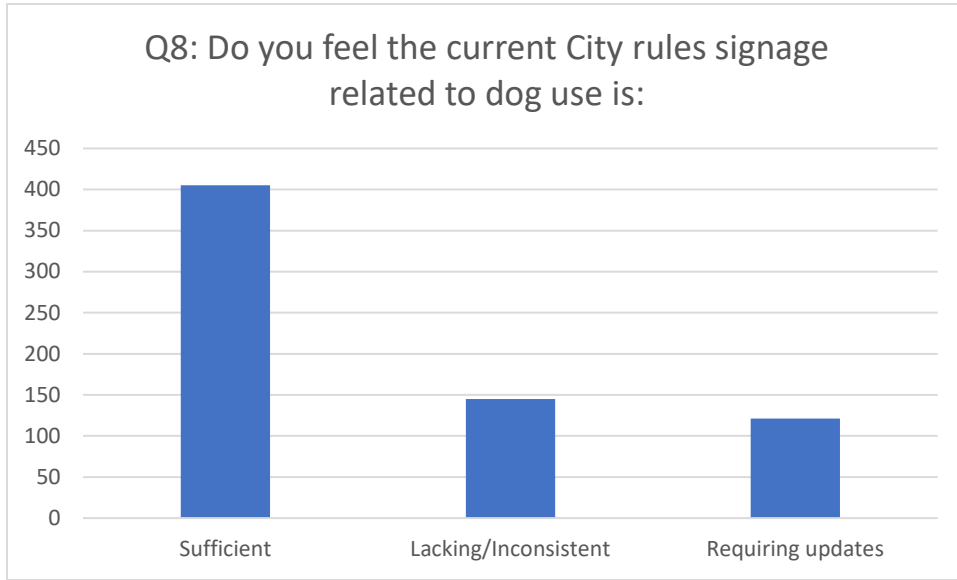
7. Would you support allowing dogs off leash within a specific distance from trailheads?
- a. 200 yards
 - b. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile
 - c. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
 - d. 1 mile (for longer trails)
 - e. Do not support this option – please explain (fill in box)
 - f. Other: (fill in box)

Q7: Would you support allowing dogs off leash within a specific distance from trailheads?



8. Do you feel the current City rules signage related to dog use is:
- a. Sufficient
 - b. Lacking/Inconsistent
 - c. Requiring Updates

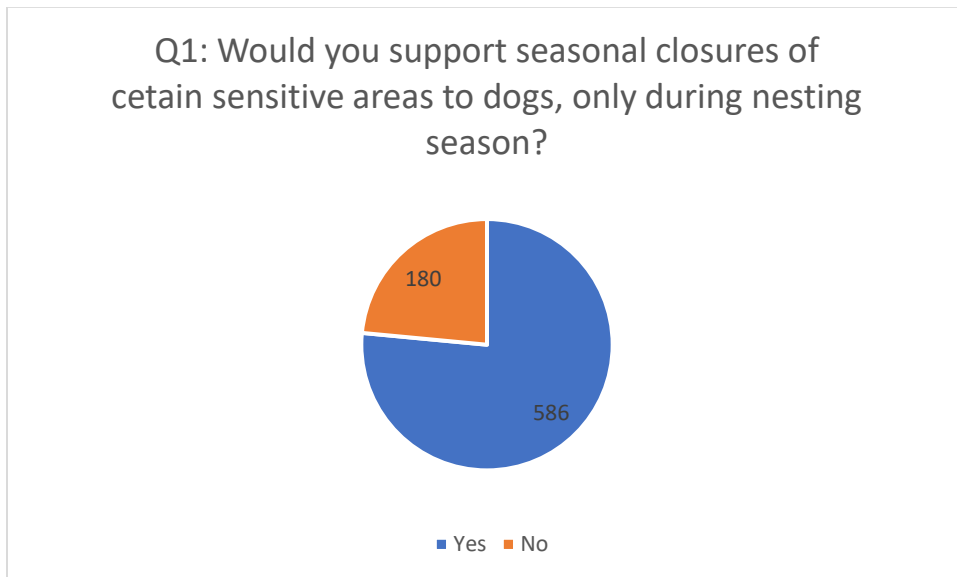
d. Other: (fill in box)



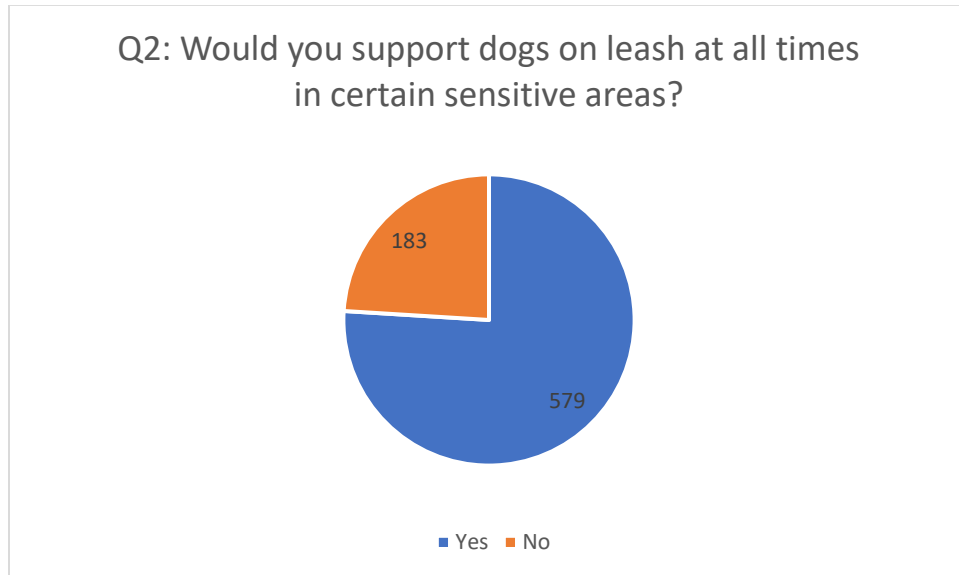
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Carson City has nearly 7,000 acres of undeveloped natural areas and open space that support wildlife habitat, drinking water, critical floodplain, agricultural lands, and viewsheds. These lands are sensitive, and in CERTAIN AREAS ONLY may require additional considerations to protect natural, cultural, or historic resources. Potential considerations include in CERTAIN AREAS ONLY prohibiting dogs, requiring dogs be on a leash, or seasonal closures during sensitive time periods such as nesting or migration season.

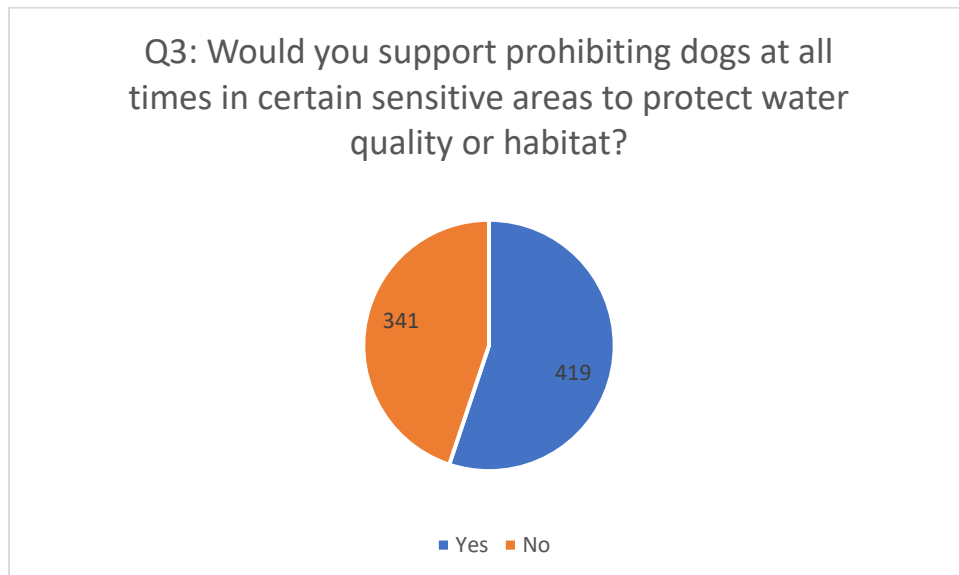
1. Would you support seasonal closures of certain sensitive areas to dogs, only during nesting season?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No



2. Would you support dogs on a leash at all times in certain sensitive areas?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

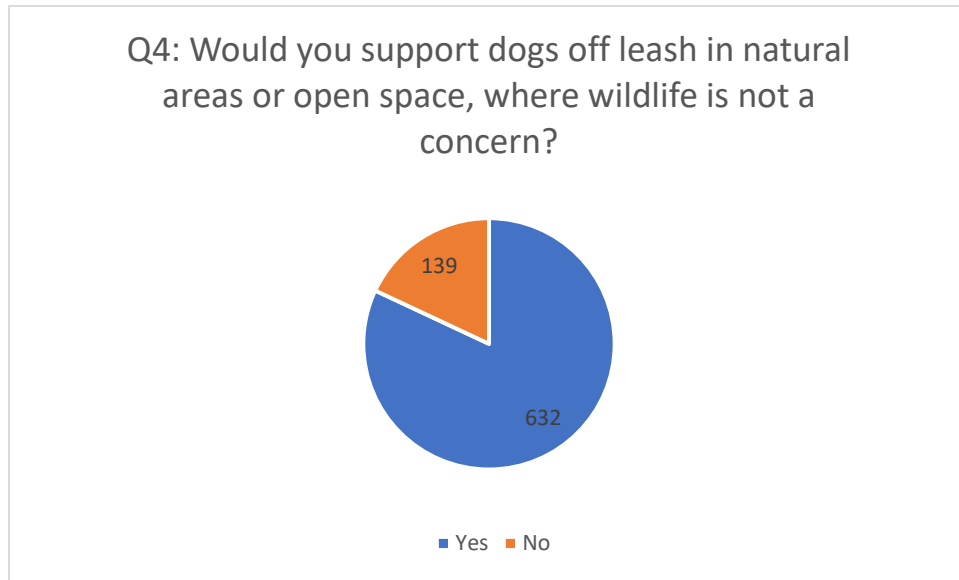


3. Would you support prohibiting dogs at all times in certain sensitive areas to protect wildlife habitat or water quality?
- a. Yes
 - b. No



4. Would you support dogs off leash in certain natural areas or open space, where wildlife is typically not a concern?
- a. Yes

b. No



5. Are there any other comments, concerns, or ideas you would like to share re. dog use in City parks, trails and open space?

a. *Fill-in Response* (fill in box)

Comments:

- I have pretty much stopped going to all of them. Constant issues with off leash dogs NOT under the control of their owners. I have a PTSD service dog. He's not a Wannabe! He's fully trained! We have been attacked twice! I don't feel safe utilizing any of these areas anymore!
- I think all trails should be off leash under the control of the owner. I think the way our trails and open spaces are now should remain. There are places for on leash for those uncomfortable with off leash but a majority of our trails are off leash and that's what makes Carson great!
- there should be a sign that says "Owners are responsible for controlling their dogs and picking up any waste"
- I don't feel leashed dogs should be prohibited at normal parks. I am a believer that all dogs need to be leashed at all times unless they are at a designated dog park.
- I have a difficult time taking my dogs and kids to dog friendly parks because people do not have their dogs leashed even though signs specify that those are the rules. I have a large breed dog that could easily injure other small dogs in play and it makes it difficult to take her out when people disobey the rules
- Potential for registration or license fees to pay for mutt mitts etc.
- Not prohibited, but leashed and under control. Dogs can be extremely reactive around horses
- I am a dog owner, my concern are the trails all along the Carson river from Empire Ranch golf course all the way to the small dam on the Mexican ditch trail. Most of the dogs I encounter are off leash. I've had them change at my two, six month old dogs walking on leash multiple times. I also mountain bike the whole area there and around Prison hill. I've been chased by off leash dogs and nipped at more times than I can recall. I always announce myself when I'm coming up on

walkers and dogs and slow down so it's very frustrating to have to deal with the dogs off leash. I am all for dogs using the trails, I just would like to see better enforcement of the leash policy.

- I appreciate the "no dogs allowed" feature at many of our family parks. I hope that this feature remains, but I have not had any problems with dogs otherwise.
- No, as long as the owners are following laws, have control over their dog, and clean up after them I feel like dogs should be allowed in most public outdoor spaces.
- Any public place not specifically dogs only. Dogs are out of control and their owners take no responsibility. We can't walk our streets without loose dogs running us down. Why would we allow more areas??? Keep them out of public spaces. If needed make a few more dog parks but not near other public spaces because they will run them loose. It is OUT OF CONTROL.
- I think any park where there are playgrounds should not have dogs allowed. My dog is good with kids when we are in public, but not everyone's dog is like that, especially when they are in group with a bunch of other strange dogs. Dog fights happened and if kids get into the field and run around, they are at risk of being hurt or attacked. We have been at a park and watched someone come in with their dogs who immediately attacked and killed another dog, the owner had no control of her animals. Sadly that's not uncommon for people to have badly trained dogs and yet still take them into public places that put the dog and everyone else at risk.
- I wish there was a better way to support dog owners and keeping their dogs under control. Out of control dogs are a nuisance to everyone including responsible dog owners. It's really frustrating when a couple irresponsible people lead to restrictions for everyone.
- The "easy" trails like the Riverview loops are COVERED in dog waste. It's a terrific place for an easy relaxing stroll and I like bringing my dog there... but he is always on leash which makes it easy to control/and clean up. There are lots of dogs there off lead, not always well controlled by owners and because owners are often so distant from their dogs, they can't see - or simply ignore when their dogs leave a pile behind. So close to the river and so covered in dog waste. I think it's difficult to think about banning dogs there but it would be great if there were a way to raise public awareness that dog waste is NOT organic. ALSO: there is a lot of wildlife and wetland there and I have seen people fail to keep their dogs out of the wetlands -especially as they dry up..... not to mention the river. I once saw a pair of dogs traipsing through the river and startling a couple of pairs of mated ducks into flying off.
- Although I thought it was strange when I first moved here that dogs are prohibited in many parks I now appreciate it. Please continue to not allow dogs in Mills Park and other areas. People are terrible about cleaning up after their dogs and I enjoy being able to use the park with out stepping in dog poop.
- Education of leash use, poop bag use, and enforcement of each. I know the above costs money though, and there are other priorities for funding.
- Well behaved leashed dogs should be allowed in city parks. It is frustrating to live within walking distance of 2 parks and not be able to walk through them. We walk around the perimeter of Carriage Square Park many mornings and look at the empty park- wondering why a leashed dog is not allowed on the paths. Please consider allowing leashed dogs on paths in more parks. Fenced dog parks are not helpful for dogs that do not like to socialize in large groups (which is many many dogs)
- I do not think dogs should be prohibited. I do think people should be sanctioned for not picking up after their dog and that dogs should be well trained. That being said, I realize enforcement of this type is tricky. The city could/should address dog 'rules'.
- Children's play areas i.e. where slides, monkey bars, etc. are located. Many children are afraid of dogs. Many children also do not have experience with dogs which may result in negative

interactions between the two entities because the children cannot recognize cues that canines give which are indicators of anxiety and stress.

- I think that areas where small children are likely to be should be kept free of dogs. It's an unnecessary source of danger and anxiety considering the majority of dog owners either keep their dogs off leash, let a leashed dog right up to a child even if they're barking/excited/kid is uncomfortable. The times someone has done this, over my first and second objection with a smile on their face saying "Fido is fine." is approaching a detachment from reality. People have in large part gotten a view that their dogs are not animals and don't deserve the respect of realistic boundaries considering potential behavior and completely ignore the rights of others.
- I do not think dogs should be prohibited from any spaces but I do think there should be more signage about keeping dogs on leashes outside of dog parks. There are too many people everywhere who don't have 100 percent control over their dogs and don't practice good dog ownership by allowing their dogs to freely approach people who may have skittish or aggressive dogs, especially on paved trails. On back country trails I think there's a difference as it's more expected for a dog to be off leash, but on family-friendly trails I think dogs should be leashed.
- Dogs should be prohibited everywhere that allows them to be unleashed, with the exception of enclosed dog parks. I've stopped taking my dogs to open parks because
- almost all the other dogs we encounter are unleashed.
- Dogs should always be on leash on walkways. They are often not and owners do not seem to care or understand that other people do not want their dogs coming up to them. Some people have been bit before. Some people have their dogs on a leash (like they are supposed to) and other dogs come up to them and cause accidents where the person holding the leash falls. Even on true open trails, they disrupt the wildlife.
- No but I sure wish we could get more people to pickup after their dogs. I have two dogs that I always pickup after and I also usually pick up a few other piles each time we walk. I've considered posting a shaming sign on my back fence and even wearing one on my back while I walk the trails! I think our city does an excellent job making dog waste stations available. People that don't pick up don't seem to care. Some of them ride their bikes while their off leash dogs run with them...they don't even know when and where their dogs relieve themselves.
- A seasonal prohibition on the West side of town would be good when the sheep are on the hill for fuel reduction.
- City PARKS not open space trails (this is confusing, Riverview Park is called a PARK and it's a favorite place for off-leash dog biking and hiking) might have playgrounds or grassy areas that should be leash only or no dogs in that specific area. We specifically love Carson City because it allows us to bike and hike with our dogs off-leash on open space properties and trail systems.
- Only dogs that have aggressive behaviors should be leashed, or disallowed in public parks and walking paths.
- I find that friendly dogs are enjoyed by most non-dog owners, and actually approach my dog probably 98% of the time to pet him...It is therapeutic even out in the public parks!
- No. Properly supervised and cared for, dogs should be allowed in all parks and open spaces, with restrictions during special events.
- No, I think it's important to exercise and socialize your dog. I have seen many aggressive dogs because they are not socialized and they are not getting out enough.
- Dogs are not the problem. They love grass and do what comes naturally in parks. It is the owner who doesn't pick up or allows aggressive dogs off leash.
- Perhaps there could be certain hours when dogs and their owners are allowed in current parks. Many parks are not fully utilized and see few kids playing.

- There could be restrictions on neighborhood parks where there is a lot of kid activity. All neighborhoods and parks are not equal. With the continued building of track homes, parks provide the open space needed since lots are too small to allow dogs to run and play. Also, more apartments and multi-family housing coming online means even less space for dogs to roam. Let's not make this a one size fits all scenario.
- As a homeowner bordering Long Ranch Park, it is sad to see it turned into an unleashed dog park. When we bring children and grandkids to the park, unleashed dogs run up to us constantly. Even in the kids play area. There are many places and trails appropriate for unleashed dogs in our community, but an unfenced neighborhood park is not one of them. There are at least 20 cars a day that drive up and park in front of the "dogs must be leashed" sign. They open their door and let the dogs run, occasionally into our front yard. There is no apparent enforcement from the park ranger.
- There should be an easy and much advertised way to report aggressive uncontrolled dogs. This should include a way to post pictures of the dog/owner from the incident. I wouldn't restrict dogs though. Some rules only punish those who follow the rules.
- No. I think that encouraging respectful dog owners to bring their pets to the open spaces in Carson City greatly enhances the quality of those spaces. I understand qualms from citizens who are bothered by pets owned by those who don't respect the spaces or other citizens, but I do not believe that prohibiting dogs from certain spaces will solve this problem, only frustrate those who do choose to follow the laws.
- Mills Park because of the variety of events in the park. Dog are incompatible with many of those events. Many of the other small neighborhood parks as well due children playing in the grassy areas.
- I may be in the minority, but I would appreciate more open space hike areas that require dogs to be on leash. My dog is very well trained, but not a huge fan of other dogs, and especially not a fan of strange dogs that are not on leash... so our excursions tend to be much more limited than I would prefer.
- I am a frequent user of the dog parks, hiking trails and open space areas in Carson City. My dog is well behaved and is welcomed off leash in the areas I frequent. Residents and visitors to the Long Ranch area typically enjoy this area as the dogs are friendly when off leash, under owners commands and the fellow dog owners are friendly and welcoming. It has become a pleasant and preferred place for Carson City residents to bring their pets. It would certainly be nice if the yard crews (City and Lawn Pro) would make an effort to to suck up the abundance of foxtails that grow every year once they are cut down. They are a terrible threat to dogs walking in this area, getting into their feet, ears and eyes. Although, the park off Longview is supposed to be a leash only park, everyone also walks and plays with their dogs off leash here and there have been no complaints or incidents. It would be nice if this were officially open again to off leash as well.
- I think all dogs in any of our trails or parks should be leashed. For the safety of all of us. Most dogs are friendly and can be controlled by their owners. But there are always some that aren't. I've been scared more than once by a dog who is not obedient.
- Not prohibited, but I think ALL areas should be required to leash their dogs. Many times while walking my dogs leashed, I have encountered dogs unleashed running up to me in an aggressive manor while their owners are frantically yelling and trying to control them. I have witnessed many dogs harassing wildlife, chasing the geese from the ponds, quail and rabbits from the bushes, and owners allowing it to happen as the dogs run free on the WNC trail and the C-Hill trails. The unleashed dogs poop wherever they decide, and the owners have no clue where the

dog has pooped because they are not with the dog. The WNC trails are loaded with dog poop because of this. On a typical walk with my dogs, I will pick up 6 - 8 piles of poop in the morning just around the bottom pond at the WNC trail. I walk every day, sometimes three or four times and on a weekend, I am picking up the poop at least twice a day.

- Outside of fenced dog areas, dogs should be on a lease. A possible exception might be well trained dogs that are under the direct control of the responsible party. Unfortunately, this would be difficult to enforce and "well trained and under control" is open to interpretation.
- The current practice on the Mexican Ditch and River view park allowing dogs off leash under control of owners is working fine. Owners know their dogs and act appropriately.. I strongly object to the implication that additional leash requirements will be imposed on current facilities that accommodate dogs. I see almost no issues currently and do not understand the movement toward more restrictions. The citizens of Carson City are competent to manage themselves and their dogs without any more restrictions.
- I believe that dogs should be no be allowed to run on any open space property and public park. Dogs should be prohibited off trails and leashed. Open Space properties were acquired to protect the natural state and all ecological features they contain. Dogs are particularly disruptive to the environment. All wetland and riparian areas need to be off limits for free running dogs. The park on Roop and 2nd st. - it is labeled as a dog park on google maps, but it doesn't have fencing all the way around (wooden rails aren't fence) and is on a busy street. Any time I am near there and see an owner with their dog I am afraid that the dogs will run into the street and get hit!
- Please keep long ranch park and the V & T trail open to off lease dogs. Yes, there are certain people who don't always do a great job with their dogs, but for the most part (I'd say 9 out of 10 people) are very good about controlling their animals. I find that i've had more problems with dogs on leash than off lease. Just seems to be something about a dog's lack of ability to get away that makes them uncomfortable. My unleashed dog has been attacked on two occasions by leashed dogs - and my dog was not anywhere near the leashed dogs - in these two instances, the leashed dog either escaped the owner's grasp or got out of their collar.
- Dogs should be excluded from Carson river access and other sensitive wildlife habitats. These areas include most open space properties that are meant to protect native environments with limited human intrusion. Open space gives the public an opportunity to experience our natural spaces with the least amount of manipulation and as much preservation as reasonable. Dogs should be confined to landscaped and groomed areas (parks and neighborhoods or dog parks) where the environment has already been transfigured and dogs have less impact on the environment. If dogs are allowed on open space properties they should always be on a leash.
- There are an abundance of areas for dogs-on-leash and that's fine but I can hike for hours in a week at Prison Hill and never encounter anyone. Please don't make Silver Saddle or Prison Hill more restrictive.
- It depends on enforcement of under voice control of the owner. If a dog is 100 yards away from the owner, there is no control. I don't believe people should let their dogs range away from them unless they are off and away from public trails. If a dog is well trained, under control, and next to their owner (or close to them) I have no problem with them being off leash. But people abuse that ALL THE TIME and there is zero enforcement. People have no protection against aggressive dogs and irresponsible owners who take advantage of off leash areas.
- A law mandating the dogs be either on the leash or under voice control would be more appropriate, I think.

- I would be opposed to uniform leash laws on trails and open spaces. I have met many people with their dogs off leash. Mostly, the dogs and their owners know which dogs/people are problematic and step off the trails to avoid issues. Many off leash dogs have been trained to run along a runner or biker or like my dogs are e-collar trained and obey commands.
- Many trail users (bike/hike/equestrian) enjoy letting their animals run along. Education is better than restrictions.
- My own dog has been in conflicts with other dogs which is why I now keep her leashed most of the time. I think allowing dogs off leash at a distance from trailheads may be acceptable. I think signage regarding leash laws and where dogs are allowed needs to be clear and more prominent. I personally don't take my dog to dog parks but I am not aware of one on the west side of town, that might be helpful to add one.
- I have a concern that there is the appearance of an effort to change the rules for dogs in areas that have historically been off leash areas. Carson City had always been known as a dog friendly community. My guess is that this apparent effort may be the result of newer residents not valuing the traditions of Carson City as they may have come from restrictive urban areas?
- It would be nice to see a presence of enforcement working with people rather than too many restrictions. We have many irresponsible dog owners and scared non dog owners that I am afraid will ruin dog walking for everyone. Animals need to be off leash and socialize. Many studies prove that social time makes dogs healthier and better behaved. So many dog walkers and non dog walkers are so afraid of other dogs they create many of the problems. As for dogs that chase wildlife for example sheep. Enforce that with heavy fines. Where is the enforcement??
- As a responsible dog owner, I stay away from Parks and use open space only. In the fifteen years I had a single minor problem with another dog that was aggressive at Fuji Park. Seems the rules and regulations in place are sufficient. But I am also acutely aware it only take a single complaining person so ruin it for everyone else. I would hope before any changes are made that the City realizes the complaints maybe over represented and not a true picture of what happening.