



STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item: 5

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

Meeting Date: December 7, 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 a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding a proposed draft Dog Rules and Regulations policy for Carson City Parks and Open Space areas. (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, including 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 meetings with the Parks and Recreation Commission (“PRC”) and Open Space Advisory Committee (“OSAC”) in December 2020 and June 2021, as well as individual meetings with PRC and OSAC in April and August 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 the potential policies being considered by staff, with potential recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for future consideration. Also attached is an analysis of potential costs associated with additional dog waste stations and signage.

ATTACHMENT 1 – Capital Improvement and Maintenance Cost Estimate

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: Additional costs will be incurred by expanding the areas where dogs are allowed, and as a result more infrastructure such as dog waste stations and signage will be required.

Alternatives

Provide staff with additional direction or policies to research.

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

1) _____

Aye/Nay

2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)

Dog Waste Station Cost Analysis

ATTACHMENT 1

Current Dog Waste Station locations	# of Stations
580 Freeway Trail – Imperial Entrance	1
580 Freeway Trail – Northgate Each Side of Street	2
580 Freeway Trail – Emerson Each Side of Street	2
580 Freeway Trail – Retail Court / College Parkway	1
580 Freeway Trail – College Parkway by South bound on Ramp	1
580 Freeway Trail – Northridge Entrance	1
Imus St. – South	1
Imus St. – North at Bonanza	1
Lakeview Trail Head – End of Hobart Rd.	1
V & T Trail – Wellington / Ash Canyon	1
V & T Trail – Foothill / Winnie Lane	1
V & T Trail – End of Desert Peach	1
V & T Trail – Behind WNC (Murphy St. / Van Patton St.)	1
Long Ranch – Open Space	11
C Hill – End of McKay St.	1
C Hill – End of S. Ormsby Dr.	1
Green Belt – Behind Office Depot – Behind DMV by Ditch	2
Linear Ditch Trail – Airport / 5 th St.	1
Linear Ditch Trail – Saliman St. / Freemont School	1
Linear Ditch Trail – Saliman St. / Cardinal St.	1
Linear Ditch Trail – End of Path at Roop St.	1
Mexican Ditch Trail/Moffat on Hells Bells Rd-Lower Hidden Meadows	11
Riverview Wetlands	7
Carson River Park –Trash Can by Fishing Deck	1
Empire Ranch Trail	2
Fulstone Wetlands – 2 Cans Along Freeway Path, 1 by Alley Way	3
Northridge Linear Park – Spooner Dr.	1
Northridge Linear Park – Rockbridge Rd.	1
Northridge Linear Park – Ravenshorn Rd.	1
Northridge Linear Park – Wilma St.	1
Northridge Linear Park – Newridge	1
Korean War Veterans Memorial Park	1
Monte Vista Park	2
Morgan Mill River Access	1
Sonoma Park	4
Mayors Park	2
Fulstone Park	1
Blackwell's Park	3
Steinheimer Park	3
Treadway Park	4
Saliman Walk – Saliman & Sonoma	1
Saliman Walk – Saliman & Kingsley	1
Long Ranch – Park	4
Ronald D. Wilson Park	2
Fuji Park – Not on the Route or Trash Truck	14
Schulz Ranch Park	6
Prison Hill, 5th Street	1
Silver Saddle Ranch, entrance	1
Kings Canyon Trailhead	1
Longview/Lincoln Bypass Trailhead	1
Current Total Number of Dog Waste Stations	116

Dog Waste Bag Orders	Cost	Cases	Price/case
2018	\$5,999.00	100	\$59.99
2019	\$13,705.00	200	\$68.53
2020	\$7,284.00	100	\$72.84
2021	\$4,354.00	100	\$43.54
Totals	\$31,342.00	500	\$62.68

Maintenance of Dog Waste Stations

Employee Hourly Salary	Approx. hours per year	Est. total cost
\$ 30.00	700	\$ 21,000.00

Note: Employee hourly salary is based on Parks Maintenance Worker average hourly rate. Total hours of service are based on servicing the waste stations 2X a week for 35 weeks and 1X a week for 17 weeks. The Department also has 10 volunteers helping service 25 of the dog waste stations. They are only filling the dog waste bags and not emptying the trash cans.

Information provided below are estimated amounts and cost impacts to Department if remaining (no dog) parks were converted to allow dogs, on leash

	Estimated Number of dog waste stations needed
Blackwell Pond	4
Carriage Square Park	3
John Mankins	4
Mills Park	15
Park Terrace	3
Riley Circle	1
Ronald D. Wilson (Already have 2)	2
Ross Gold Park	6
Sunland Vista	1
Sunset Park	2
Treadway Park	3
Greenbelt	2

Estimated Total Amount Dog Waste Stations needed

Average Cost of New Dog Waste Stations	\$ 375.00
Total estimate Purchase cost of additional stations	\$ 17,250.00
Estimated Man Hours to install	4
Estimated Cost per employee/per hour	\$ 30.00
Estimated cost of supplies per station (Concrete \$80/ bag X 2 plus misc. parts)	\$ 200.00
Estimated Cost to install one dog waste station	\$ 320.00
Cost to install all new stations	\$ 14,720.00

Initial direct cost for adding Dog Waste Stations

Total estimated dog waste stations	162
Total estimated Hours for annual maintenance	1000
Updated estimated annual cost for employee maintenance	\$ 30,000.00
Estimated update in total amount of cases annually	150
Estimated cost annual for dog waste bag cases	\$9,402.60

Estimated overall annual cost for dog waste maintenance

Current annual dog waste stations maintenance cost	\$ 28,835.00
Estimated increase to budget annually	\$10,567.60

ATTACHMENT 2

DRAFT DOG RULES AND REGULATIONS POLICY GUIDANCE FOR OSAC/PRC DISCUSSION ONLY:

1. Dogs are required to be licensed, healthy, and up to date on all vaccinations
2. Dogs are required to be on a leash at all times except in designated areas. Dogs are required to be on a leash at all parks.
3. Dogs are prohibited (except service animals) at certain specialty parks, buildings, or facilities

Parks and Recreation Buildings:

- a) Aquatics Facility
- b) Community Center
- c) Foreman Robert's House
- d) Multipurpose Athletic Center (MAC)
- e) Parks and Recreation Administration
- f) Red House at Silver Saddle Ranch
- g) Wungnema House

Special Use Facilities and Sports Complexes

- a) Capital City Gun Club
- b) Carson Ridge Disc Golf Park
- c) Governor's Field
- d) JohnD Winters Centennial Park (includes Eagle Valley Golf Course)
- e) McFadden Splash Pad
- f) Pete Livermore Sports Complex (Edmonds)
- g) Rifle and Pistol Range
- h) Tom Miggs Archery Range
- i) Cemeteries (Lone Mountain, Pioneer, Empire)

4. Certain areas are designated for off leash use. Dogs off leash in designated areas must be under voice control of the owner and the owner must carry one leash for each dog under their control at all times.

The following areas are “dog friendly” and designated for off leash use:

- Fenced dog parks (Sonoma and Fuji Parks)
- Open Space
- Trails

5. Dogs are required to be on a leash OR are prohibited in certain areas that are environmentally sensitive, contain a conservation easement/deed restriction, or are historically or culturally significant. Environmental sensitivity may include nesting habitat, wetlands, riparian areas with critical cottonwood galleries or similar areas as authorized by the Director.

- Seasonal Closures during nesting season (April-October)
- Active ranching/grazing areas (ex. sheep on west side)
- Wetlands (Fullstone, Washo)

Trailheads (owners may let dogs off leash on trail, but *at least* 100 yards from trailhead)

Discussion Topic: How should trailheads be defined?

Staff currently following up on dog use specifically related to these items:

- **Planning for additional off leash areas within parks:**
 - *John Mankins Park*- repurpose ballfield area- 1-acre dog park-need master plan update
 - *Ronald D. Wilson Park*-2 acre dog park, has established parking, minimal fencing needed, has a loop walkway-need a master plan update
 - *Imus and Ruby Lane* property-undeveloped area, costly to install from scratch, but 4-acre dog park potential
 - *Lower Centennial Park*- Could get 5-10 acres; concerns near golf course or a master plan update that might change its use in the future
 - *Buzzy's Ranch*-Due diligence needed (proximity to river/wildlife conflicts) and would require a master plan update, parking available at Carson River Park; could be similar to Rancho San Rafael dog park/working pasture.
- Detention basin parks (water quality and health concerns?)
- Tributaries of Carson River ie. Ash and Kings Creek (water quality)
- Nesting habitat and potential conflicts with birds
- Researching benefits of dog licensing and if there is an opportunity to add to licensing costs to offset costs for maintenance, education and compliance. (example: perhaps add \$1/license directed to Department)
- Needs: education campaign and volunteer support (use volunteer coordinator position as the lead with Park Rangers)