



COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Commission

SUBJECT: Discussion on amending the city code prohibiting pets in parks -
Commissioner Shrouder

RECOMMENDATION:

Commissioner Shrouder is requesting amending the City Code to allow leashed pets in passive parks.

BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

On January 25, 2022 the Commission had a discussion regarding pets in passive parks. A survey was made available to the residents on the City's website to obtain input, it ran from February 3rd to February 17th. The survey gathered 1,280 responses. 69.5% were in favor of allowing leashed dogs in suitable passive parks. 30.5% did not favor a change.

The Code currently states:

"Chapter 12 Parks and Recreation Article III Section 12-44 (g) (1) states No animals or pets of any kind are permitted in city parks, except that dogs shall be permitted in areas specifically designated for dog use by the posting of a sign. Dogs shall not be allowed to run loose, but shall at all times be restrained or kept on a leash of not more than six (6) feet in length. Chapter 5 Article II Section 5-18 states No person owning or having possession of any dog shall cause, permit or allow the dog to run, go, or in any other manner be in or upon any public park or recreational area, whether such dog be at large or restrained in any manner by the owner."

ANALYSIS:

- Amend the code to allow leashed animals in passive parks.

ALTERNATIVES:

- N/A

ATTACHMENTS/BACKUP:

1. Chapter 12 Parks and Recreation Article III Section 12-44 (g) (1)
2. Chapter 5 Animals and Fowl Article II Section 5-18