



## **PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE**

The following is public correspondence received by the City Clerk's Office after the posting of the original agenda. Individual contact information has been redacted for privacy. This may *not* be a comprehensive collection of the public correspondence, but staff makes its best effort to include all correspondence received to date.

To send correspondence to the City Council, on matters listed on the agenda please email [PublicComment@losaltosca.gov](mailto:PublicComment@losaltosca.gov)

**From:** [Dee Miller](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** DOG PARK  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 2:41:18 PM

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I writing to go on record as being totally in favor of the proposal to put a fenced dog park at the Mackenzie Park location. The addition of a dog park here in Los Altos has been a long time goal for many of us long time residents and I am pleased the council is moving forward ( she said hopefully!) . I have heard many reasons in favor of the park and have also heard some of the opposition arguments. Some made no sense: drivers from afar bolting down from nearby freeways to let their pets out - there are far larger and well-known parks in Sunnyvale, Mtn View and Palo to name just a few. As to the loss of the play structure adjacent to Fremont Ave and the tennis courts, that just bears no validity. Having lived in Los Altos near Loyola Corners for over 50 years and raised children here, I drive by there almost daily to go downtown or to andronicos, or the medical offices, and there are almost (and I say almost in that never is hard to prove) never any children using that space. I didn't use that space for my kids, its much too close to a roadway with way too few structures for safe and fun play. Much better to head back to the larger and safer play structures and places to run in the back of the park. It would be an excellent location, not adjacent to houses.

I do fervently urge the council to take this opportunity to serve the needs of many of the Los Altos residents with dogs.

Please contact me with any questions. Am not including an address as this looks like public comment, but will happily supply it to verify my residency.

Dee Miller



**From:** [becky sarabia](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments 2/8/2022 Meeting Item #7 Dog Parks  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 6:16:23 PM

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Please do not go forward with the fenced-in dog park at McKenzie. I am a dog owner, and I walk through the park every day, enjoying the serenity of the park as do all the people who walk with me. This park (both sides) is well used by older folks who stroll through it, by the nursing home folks near by, and by those who use it for some sports, picnics, and Tai Chi during warmer weather. This park is serene and beautiful. And green space in Los Altos is so scarce. It would be a travesty to see any part of McKenzie repurposed for a fenced-in dog park! You would be taking away precious green space from those of us who use the park. Based on our canvassing of our neighborhoods, there is overwhelming consensus that McKenzie should not have a fenced-in dog park.

It would make more sense to wait until Hillview has been implemented before committing to a second location. There should also be some evidence that South Los Altos residents are in favor of repurposing McKenzie Park. Yes, some may have been in favor of a fenced-in dog park, but the people I spoke with were not told that the fenced-in dog park was going to mean removing green space from McKenzie. I am not at all opposed to a fenced-in dog park somewhere. We can work with council on a better location that works for both the community and the protection of green space.

In my opinion, we could still try off-leash hours in several parks instead of destroying the natural beauty of the west side of McKenzie. I have proposed that part of the maintenance yard be repurposed for a dog park as a possible site. I do not see this as a bona fide hardship for the maintenance department. Rather, it would take some brainstorming and a little extra work to find a place for the 2-10 vehicles held there for court evidence.

I once again urge council to stop any action at this time that would repurpose McKenzie Park.

Becky Sarabia  
1427 Miramonte Ave  
Los Altos

**From:** [becky sarabia](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments 2/8/2022 Meeting Item #7 Dog Parks  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 6:24:57 PM

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Please do not go forward with the fenced-in dog park at McKenzie. I am a dog owner, and I walk through the park every day, enjoying the serenity of the park as do all the people who walk with me. This park (both sides) is well used by older folks who stroll through it, by the nursing home folks near by, and by those who use it for some sports, picnics, and Tai Chi during warmer weather. This park is serene and beautiful. And green space in Los Altos is scarce. It would be a travesty to see any part of McKenzie repurposed for a fenced-in dog park! You would be taking away precious green space from those of us who use the park. Based on our canvassing of our neighborhoods, there is overwhelming consensus that McKenzie should not have a fenced-in dog park. Yes, originally, some may have been in favor of a fenced-in dog park, but the people I spoke with were not told that the fenced-in dog park was going to mean removing green space from McKenzie.

I am not at all opposed to a fenced-in dog park somewhere. It would make more sense to wait until Hillview has been implemented before committing to a second location. There should be some evidence that South Los Altos residents are in favor of repurposing McKenzie. We can work with council on a better location that works for both the community and the protection of green space.

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Becky Sarabia  
1427 Miramonte Ave  
Los Altos

**From:** [Yoav Agmon](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Agenda Item #7 (unleashed dog parks)  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 7:10:18 PM

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Dear Los Altos council members,

It appears as this item is not settled and continues to generate a lot of emotions and grievances. Unfortunately, some previously proposed locations will cause residents unacceptable damage such as in Heritage Oaks area as there are homes less than 50 feet away, thus for a good reason they were removed from the proposal and are no longer included.

The last 2 places that were finally selected are deemed more appropriate, at least for that reason.

However, maybe a much better option is to engage with the county and collaborate on bigger and better areas such as Rancho San Antonio park. That area contains much less restricted spaces that will provide a much healthier and natural environment for dogs to happily run and play.

With respect,

Yoav Agmon  
McKenzie Ave.  
Los Altos

**From:** [joanne marent](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment; joanne marent](#)  
**Subject:** Please reconsider the need for TWO dog parks in Los Altos  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 8:06:03 PM

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Hello,

I am a Los Altos resident (17 years) and a long time dog owner, and I would implore the City Council to reconsider the idea of building TWO Dog Parks in Los Altos.

-- Not all dog owners (or dogs) are interested in dog parks. I have never, and will never, take my dog to a dog park, and that is quite likely the feeling of a majority of dog owners. Dog parks are not safe for smaller or older and many breeds don't do well socializing with other dogs. Don't let the quantity of dogs in Los Altos suggest that most dog owners are interested in dog parks

-- A dog park is necessary in large, dense cities where dogs cannot be safely exercised. In Los Altos we have safe, pedestrian friendly streets and parks so dog owners can properly and easily walk, run and exercise their pets

-- Our city is small - **6.5 square miles**. The consideration by the City Council to build TWO dog parks in this limited geographical area is fiscally irresponsible (at \$50,000/park) and totally unnecessary for a city this size. If you must build a dog park, start with one at Hillview (where the majority of residents noted was first choice) and then gather data to determine if a second location is warranted.

-- Of the two sites under consideration, the Hillview site makes the most sense due to its **size, central location, flat, open, and sunny** space. Many pet owners can walk to Hillview.

-- McKenzie Park site is small and bordered by Foothill Expressway. Most users would access by car. The removal of grass will endanger the health of the many mature redwoods and heritage oaks. Furthermore, it will reduce usable open park space currently enjoyed by all Los Altos residents - not just dog owners interested dog parks.

Please be prudent and fiscally responsible with this decision and start with the construction of ONE Dog Park at a time in Los Altos.

Thank you,  
Joanne Marent

If some Los Altos residents are interested in a dog park, start by constructing one at Hillview and measure demand. Hillview location is better suited

-- more centrally located  
-- sunny and wide open

- won't threaten or damage heritage trees
- plenty of parking.

**From:** [Caroline Chen](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEM 7- February 8, 2021  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 10:30:13 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I now drive to Mountain View or Redwood City for their off-leash parks. My dog Levi needs off-leash time to exercise and stay healthy. Please please make these two dog parks happen. Thank you!!

Chiiluh Chen  
64 Chester Cir  
Los Altos

**From:** Victoria Hambly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 7, 2022 7:39 PM  
**To:** Public Comment <[publiccomment@losaltosca.gov](mailto:publiccomment@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** [SPAM] PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEM 7, Feb. 8, 2022

I strongly support an off-leash dog park at McKenzie Park. This dog park should pose no hardship to any nearby residents, or to the greater portion of McKenzie Park itself. It is proposed to be in a small corner of McKenzie, by the tennis courts, and does not interfere in any way with children and others who use the main part of McKenzie Park. There is ample parking without impeding any of the nearby residents.

A city like Los Altos should have a genuine fenced in dog park. There are plenty of parks and open spaces in Los Altos. Without a dedicated dog park, dog owners are forced to use public spaces not intended for dogs - places such as baseball and soccer fields. Year round, or especially on any late afternoon or summer evening many dog owners can be seen with their dogs, on school grounds or parks, breaking the law, but enjoying socializing with each other while their dogs socialize with other dogs. There is no reason that there can't be a dedicated and legal dog park in an affluent and friendly community such as Los Altos. Dogs are wonderful companions and a great addition to our community. They need space to run and the opportunity to socialize with other dogs.

I strongly support a dedicated dog park, actually both the Hillview and McKenzie proposed parks.

Sincerely,

Victoria Hambly  
23980 Spalding Ave.  
Los Altos, CA 94024

**From:** [Katie Wurtz](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEM 7- February 8, 2021  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 11:06:23 AM

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Dear City Council Members,

I'm writing in support of the proposed enclosed dog park @ McKinsey Park. As a dog owner who lives in South Los Altos, I heartily recommend it as a way to give both dog owners and non-dog owners a place where dogs can play off-leash without the possibility of the dogs running over to/bothering non dog owners (or anyone else walking by!) I see the proposed location @ McKinsey Park as ideal, especially because it's currently an area that is not well-used (I rarely see people over there when I drive by,) and it's not right near any homes, which is ideal.

The dog park is a way for not only dogs to get exercise and play/socialization they need to be safe dogs, but it's also a way to strengthen our community in Los Altos. Please support this important effort -thank you! Best,

-Katie Wurtz  
786 Mora Drive  
Los Altos, CA94024

**From:** [Svetlana Kelman](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEM 7- February 8, 2021  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 12:56:48 PM

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Hello,

I'm writing this email in **strong support of implementing an off-leash dog area at McKenzie!!!**

There is not a single off-leash area in Los Altos and I often travel with my dog to Mountain View or Sunnyvale to allow my dog and myself to socialize. I would love to have an opportunity to connect with other dog owners in Los Altos without having to travel outside of Los Altos.

I also believe that the suggested McKenzie area is perfectly suited for a dog park -- it's far enough from the housing and won't create extra traffic. In fact, I already take our dog for walks in that area and really enjoy it.

Thank you in advance for considering and approving this option!

Svetlana Kelman  
1557 Plateau Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024

**From:** [Victoria Hambly](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEM 7, Feb. 8, 2022  
**Date:** Monday, February 7, 2022 7:39:38 PM

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I strongly support an off-leash dog park at McKenzie Park. This dog park should pose no hardship to any nearby residents, or to the greater portion of McKenzie Park itself. It is proposed to be in a small corner of McKenzie, by the tennis courts, and does not interfere in any way with children and others who use the main part of McKenzie Park. There is ample parking without impeding any of the nearby residents.

A city like Los Altos should have a genuine fenced in dog park. There are plenty of parks and open spaces in Los Altos. Without a dedicated dog park, dog owners are forced to use public spaces not intended for dogs - places such as baseball and soccer fields. Year round, or especially on any late afternoon or summer evening many dog owners can be seen with their dogs, on school grounds or parks, breaking the law, but enjoying socializing with each other while their dogs socialize with other dogs. There is no reason that there can't be a dedicated and legal dog park in an affluent and friendly community such as Los Altos. Dogs are wonderful companions and a great addition to our community. They need space to run and the opportunity to socialize with other dogs.

I strongly support a dedicated dog park, actually both the Hillview and McKenzie proposed parks.

Sincerely,

Victoria Hambly  
23980 Spalding Ave.  
Los Altos, CA 94024

**From:** [Willem De Lange](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Dog Parks in Los Altos  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 5:19:43 PM

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> Hello dear City Council members,

>

> Just want to express my opposition to getting fenced in dog parks in Los Altos making the parks smaller and unappealing for people who like Margriet and I, Willem, like to go for a stroll in our neighborhood parks. Please consider putting a pool for people on the community center grounds. Our pool was taken out some 25 years ago at Covington school and a new site on Rosita was rejected because of traffic concerns. Dog parks win over health benefits for people??

> Would you Please align your views focusing on needs for the general (aging) population!

>

> Willem and Margriet De Lange

> 951 Castilleja Ct

> Los Altos, CA 94024

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [steve schaper](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Dog Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 5:44:18 PM

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As a former dog owner I appreciate the concept of a dog park as long as it is a non fenced area. I support **having limited, specified "off-leash hours" for dogs at most or all of the neighborhood parks, as an alternative to fenced in dog parks. I am opposed to any modifications at MacKenzie Park. It is an oasis bordered on three sides with residential and commercial properties. Parking is shared with tennis court and is not adjacent to the park. It is a serene place where humans and dogs have comfortably coexisted for the many years that i have lived in Los Altos.. No need to change. Also spending a \$100,000 plus monthly maintance fees is a waste of money. If you really want to take care of the under-represented (dogs and teenagers) build a skate park. Seriously.**  
**Steve Schaper**

**From:** [Hillview Dog Park Preservation Society](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEM 7- February 8, 2022  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 7:36:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [McKenzie Dog Park \(Responses\).pdf](#)

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Please see the attached PDF with 37 electronic signatures expressing support for a fenced dog-park at McKenzie Park West. We were able to secure these signatures in a very short amount of time.

We appreciate your preliminary approval of the dog parks at Hillview and at McKenzie. We have mostly stayed clear of sharing an opinion on parks other than Hillview, but the stark reality is we need to share both the love and the impacts that the permanent dog parks will bring for a successful implementation in either place.

While we sympathize with the nearby neighbors who are afraid of making these important changes, the underlying changes necessitating fenced dog parks have already occurred. Los Altos has a huge number of new dogs and puppies. Our park lands have shrunk due to selling parcels for residential and other use. Dogs running freely on unfenced property pose a threat to passerbys afraid of dogs, as well as to the off-leash dogs themselves. Run away dogs could potentially cause traffic accidents on nearby roads or our parking lots. Yes, we dog owners need to be able to control our dogs, yet recall training is a process that can take some time.

Off-leash exercise and socialization is a basic need for most dogs. A well exercised, well socialized dog is a much better dog citizen of our community. While some dog owners can take their dogs to dog parks in surrounding cities, a) this is unfair to our neighboring cities, and b) this is unfair to those of us who simply don't have the time and/or resources to take their dogs to other cities, such as parents of young children; people whose work schedules don't permit them to take time away for dogs; and people with medical issues; and c) dogs are most comfortable when they see familiar faces in the crowd, so constantly introducing them to new dogs (including potentially vicious dogs - because yes this happens around here) is very stressful on both the owners and our dogs.

Please stay the course on both Hillview and McKenzie!

Best regards,

Bette Houtchens

--

Bette Houtchens  
Steering Committee Member  
The Hillview Dog Park Preservation Society

I support a permanent fenced-in dog park at McKenzie Park West! \*

Dear City Council,

Thank you for the preliminary approval of McKenzie Park West as a permanent, fenced-in, off-leash space for our dogs - *without* the removal of any trees! We residents need safe, legal, outdoor places for our dogs to socialize and play. We hope our signatures help you continue the effort to design, develop, and implement a permanent park.

Promote Public Health and Safety: Puppies and adult dogs need room to run, play, and socialize. A community dog park permits them to do so, while responsible owners prevent them from endangering themselves and others. Dogs who are accustomed to playing with animals and people other than their owners are more likely to be well-socialized and react well towards people and dogs they do not know.

Improve Community Bonds: During the Hillview Pilot, many Los Altans developed strong bonds with other members of the community, their families, and their dogs. We want to develop a similar dog-friendly community here in South Los Altos. We are willing to work through any issues and concerns with the City, Parks & Rec, and residents with or without dogs.

This is my electronic signature.

| Time stamp | I support a permanent fenced-in dog park at McKenzie Park West! | First name Last Name | City          | I am a dog owner |
|------------|---|----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1/29/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Mehmet Deveci        | LOS ALTOS     |                  |
| 1/30/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Haritha Nandela      | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/30/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Ekta Sahasi          | Los Altis     | Yes              |
| 1/30/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Victoria Hambly      | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/30/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Manisha Arora        | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/30/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Divya Ramakrishnan   | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/30/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Brynn Hambly         | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Chris Couhault       | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Sarah Couhault       | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Lula Couhault        | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Mia Carlsson         | Los Altos, CA | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Svetlana Kelman      | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | karina nilsen        | los altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Victoria Levy        | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | Wendy Allyn          | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 1/31/2022  | This is my electronic signature.                                | David Barkan         | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 2/1/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Katie Wurtz          | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 2/1/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Michelle Kelman      | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 8 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Wendy Brugman        | Los Altos     | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 8 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Schmitz              | Los Altos     | Yes              |

I support a permanent fenced-in dog park at McKenzie Park West! \*

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|------------|---|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2/5/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | James Gibbs          | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | June Yip             | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | dee miller           | los altos       | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Ramelli              | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Max Kelman           | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/5/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | James Sweeney        | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Victoria Levy        | LOS ALTOS       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | James Sweeney        | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Ragnar Borg          | LOS ALTOS       | No               |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Suresh Shanmugham    | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Kaori King           | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Karen mecker         | Los Altos hills | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Dee milker           | Los altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Yael kleefeld kohavi | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Nina Srinath         | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Linda folkman        | Los altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 1 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Steve folkman        | Los altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 2 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Zeenat Khan          | Los Altos       | Yes              |
| 2/7/2022 2 | This is my electronic signature.                                | Joshua Huang         | Los Altos       | Yes              |