



DATE: September 14, 2022

AGENDA ITEM #2

**TO:** Parks & Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Manny A. Hernandez, Parks & Recreation Director/Staff Liason

**SUBJECT:** Dog Park Pilot Update

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive oral staff report and discuss public evaluation process on usage and impact of dog parks located at Hillview and McKenzie Parks

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**BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION**

The week of June 27, 2022, the City of Los Altos opened two new fenced off-leash dog parks. As part of the approval of opening the dog parks at Hillview and McKenzie, the Parks & Recreation Department needs to evaluate the impacts of their installation and usage. In previous discussions, the Parks & Recreation Commission committed to assisting in these evaluations.

The Hillview Dog Park, currently located on the east end of the soccer field, is considered a temporary site that will eventually be relocated to the northwest end of the soccer field. The McKenzie Dog Park is located adjacent to the tennis courts and is currently considered a pilot. Evaluations of these new park amenities will be evaluated for decisions in the permanent site (Hillview) and viability within the park (McKenzie).

After internal considerations and suggestions derived from public meetings, the Parks & Recreation Department staff gathered several evaluation points to consider for both facilities. This list is not exhaustive.

- 1) Tracking parking
- 2) Utilization of the park - # of dogs, # dogs per human, times of day for use
- 3) Incidents at site - bites/fighting/poorly behaved owners etc.
- 4) Calls to animal control and/or police
- 5) Noise reports from nearby offices/tennis courts/park users
- 6) Issues with clean up (people not cleaning up after dogs etc)
- 7) Feedback from park users - track if they are dog owners, purpose at park, where live, how got there (walk/drive etc), if car - where parked, comments
- 8) Email submitted comments

The Parks & Recreation Commission will discuss additional evaluation points to add to the above list, as well as their involvement in gathering the information. There will also be discussion on a schedule and the evaluation period.

Attachments:  
None