
Concerned RW Citizen

From Laney Marx [REDACTED]

Date Thu 11/13/2025 4:11 PM

To Makayla Rodriguez <mrodriguez@rollingwoodtx.gov>

Hi Makayla,

I'm a concerned Rollingwood Resident about a few facts. From what I understand there was a city vote on a Rollingwood Master plan years ago that included many things, one of which was a separate dog park from the ball fields. The master plan was VOTED on by our community and I recently heard that the head of the City council is ignoring this plan in order to have their own interest served (as majority dog owners).

I am VERY in favor of dogs and a designated area. However I'm not in favor of having dogs poop, pee and ruin the grass of ball fields. Two of my four kids play there this year and the fields are in horrible shape. Can we not find a better solution that 1) Follows the agreed upon plan 2) gives the dogs space and 3) Creates a clean area for our 5 and 9 year old to play.

PS - I was at the ball fields last night and many dog owners showed up expecting to use the dog park. One guy showed up with 5 dogs who live in the City of Austin. So I ask myself, are we doing all of this for a handful of those in power and residents who don't even live in our neighborhood?

Additionally, I did a quick Google search (screenshot below) and it seems that it is generally considered illegal and unsanitary for a dog park to share the same field as children. Many reasons below.

How can I help with this cause?

Can you please confirm you received and read this email?

is it legal or sanitary to have dog parks on the same field as kids baseball fields?

It is **generally considered both illegal (per local ordinances) and unsanitary** for a dog park to share the exact same field as a children's baseball field. 

Legality

- **City Ordinances:** Most Texas cities and municipalities have specific ordinances that prohibit dogs from being on designated athletic fields, especially those used for organized youth sports.
- **Safety & Distraction:** These rules are in place for safety, as dogs can be a distraction to young players, and the potential for a dog to run onto the field poses an injury risk.
- **Service Animals:** The only exception typically allowed is for certified service dogs, which are permitted but must remain with their owner and off the immediate playing field. 

Sanitation

- **Health Hazards:** Dog feces can contain parasites and bacteria that are harmful to humans, especially children who are more likely to touch the ground and put their hands in their mouths.
- **Maintenance:** Even responsible owners may occasionally miss cleaning up after their dog, and the accumulation of waste makes fields unsanitary for players who slide into bases or dive for catches.
- **Designated Areas:** Dedicated, often fenced, dog parks have specific rules requiring owners to clean up waste, and the areas are managed differently to minimize health risks compared to athletic fields. 

Ask anything

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