
Hatley Fields

From Justin Nolan [REDACTED]
Date Wed 11/12/2025 12:56 PM
To Makayla Rodriguez <mrodriguez@rollingwoodtx.gov>
Cc Emily Nolan [REDACTED]

City Council, Parks Department and RCDC,

I am writing as a Rollingwood resident and parent to urge the City to create a dedicated, fenced dog park somewhere other than Hatley Park. Currently baseball fields 3,4 and 5 are used as both a dog park and for children's baseball games. It's a disgusting mix and should never have been allowed. Moving the dog park to a separate area would resolve ongoing conflicts, reduce costs, and honor the park's deed while serving **all three major user groups**:

1. **Youth Sports (Little League & Eanes ISD associations)**
2. **Dog Owners** seeking safe off-leash recreation
3. **General Community** (picnics, kite-flying, exercise classes, informal play)

Why a Separate Dog Park is Essential

1. Eliminates Scheduling & Safety Conflicts

- Fields 3, 4, and 5 remain **100% available** for organized youth sports.
- Dogs are contained in a **fenced zone**, preventing run-ins with players, coaches, or equipment.
- No more last-minute cancellations or cleanup delays before games.

2. Protects Turf & Reduces Maintenance Costs

- Dog waste and digging **destroy athletic turf**—requiring reseeding, aeration, and irrigation repairs.
- A dedicated dog park **localizes wear**, sparing the City repeated field renovations.
- **Duplicate fencing costs avoided**: Installing a dog fence now *and* later moving it for parking is wasteful. Plan both together.

3. Preserves Open, Multipurpose Green Space

- Unfenced fields stay **flexible** for community events, pickup games, or yoga.
- Parking edges can use **boulders, trees, or planting beds** as natural buffers—no extra fencing needed.

4. Protects Kids From Disease Found in Dog Feces

- It's dangerous to force small kids to play in this toxic mess where they can contract Toxocariasis, Cutaneous Larva Migrans, Campylobacteriosis, or an E. coli Infections. Dog feces can harbor a

variety of harmful pathogens, including parasites, bacteria, and viruses, which pose a significant risk to children. Kids are especially vulnerable because they often play on the ground, put their hands in their mouths, or have less developed immune systems. These zoonotic diseases (transmissible from animals to humans) spread when children ingest or come into skin contact with contaminated soil, sand, or water where feces have contaminated the environment.

- In one day I found 10+ pieces of dog feces on fields 3,4 and 5. I have attached photos below.

Fully Consistent with Hatley Park Deed

The deed prioritizes **athletic fields for Eanes ISD youth sports** while explicitly allowing the “**balance of the property**” for **other park and recreational purposes**. A **separately enclosed dog park** in a non-athletic corner:

- Protects field integrity (no dogs on turf)
- Honors the deed’s intent
- Creates a permitted recreational amenity

Thank you for your leadership in keeping Rollingwood a safe, vibrant, and fiscally responsible community that is SAFE FOR CHILDREN.

Justin Nolan

















