



RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

QUINLAN COMMUNITY CENTER
10185 NORTH STELLING ROAD • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-5732
TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3120 • FAX: (408) 777-3137
CUPERTINO.ORG

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: March 5, 2019

Subject

Jollyman Park Unfenced Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) Trial

Recommended Action

Receive presentation from trial project supporters and provide staff with direction on whether to include the development of a six-month trial of a Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) at Jollyman Park on the City Council draft work program for 2019-20.

Discussion

A City survey was completed in July 2018 to determine if Cupertino residents would accept a three to six month trial of an off-leash dog area within Jollyman Park. The DOLA would only be available during the last two hours the park is open. The proposed location is in the Southeast section of the park. A map of the area is included (see Attachment A).

A self-selected survey was made available to all Cupertino residents, posted on the City's website and Next Door between June 29 and July 23, 2018 (see Attachment B). Of the 304 people who took the survey, 138 completed the survey by registering into the system, while 166 completed the survey anonymously. Collectively, 61% of survey respondents lived within ½ mile of Jollyman Park.

Key findings from the survey:

Registered Respondents:

- 97.8% of respondents lived within the City of Cupertino
- 73.9% owned a dog. 59% of those dogs were 24 inches or shorter.
- 74% of respondents lived within ½ mile of the park.
- 65% of respondents would use the dog off leash area
- 77.5% think the location is good while 76.6% believe the time the DOLA is available is good.
- 76.8% of registered respondents supported the dog off leash area trial.

Unregistered Respondents:

- 97.0% of respondents lived within the City of Cupertino
- 61.2% owned a dog. 59% of those dogs were 24 inches or shorter

50.6% of respondents live within ½ mile of the park
52.7% of respondents would use the dog off leash area
71.2% think the location is good while 64.6% believe the time the DOLA is available is good.
70.0% of unregistered respondents supported the trial dog off leash area.

Overall, 72.7% of respondents supported the dog off-leash area trial.

In October of 2018, staff proposed including the work to support a DOLA trial in an update to the 2018-19 Work Program, however the City Council chose not to direct staff to move forward at that time. At the February City Council Priority Setting Session, several speakers spoke in favor of the Council including this initiative in the upcoming 2019-20 Work Program.

The trial will require a significant amount of staff time to engage local neighbors and therefore will need to be included in the City Council's approved work program for 2019/2020. Work would include doing additional community outreach, analyzing compatibility with other current or potential uses, and determining appropriate signage.

The trial off-leash dog area has been determined to be compatible with the all-inclusive playground, as concluded by the design consultant, Verde Design (2018).

Sustainability Impact

No sustainability impact.

Fiscal Impact

Preparations for the DOLA would require city staff to install approximately six poles or barricades to display signs with designated hours of operation. A dog bag dispenser and garbage cans would also need to be put in place. Following the trial period, turf renovations will likely need to be initiated. Proposed fiscal impact including materials and staff time, would be approximately \$2,200, which would cover the cost of signs, poles, trash receptacles, and potential turf renovation.

Prepared by: Jeff Milkes, Director, Recreation and Community Services

Reviewed by: Timm Borden, Interim City Manager

Approved for Submission by: Timm Borden, Interim City Manager

Attachments:

A – Map of Proposed Area for a Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) at Jollyman Park

B – Jollyman Park: Unfenced Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) Trial Survey