

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	East Side Off-Leash Dog Area Recommendation		
DEPARTMENT:	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services		
PRESENTED BY:	Dick Deal, Director Maureen Colaizzi, Project Coordinator		
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

This staff report provides the City Council with background and information regarding the East Side Off-Leash Dog Area site selection recommendation by the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PRCS) Board. The recommendation is to allow the City to enter into a five-year property lease agreement with the State of Washington’s Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) that would allow the City to construct and operate a fully fenced off-leash dog. The area is a two-acre section of the southeast corner of the Fircrest Campus located at 1750 NE 150th Street. If Council authorizes staff to pursue the lease, it would be effective May 2013. A location map of the two-acre area is included as Attachment A. The cost to lease the two-acre area is \$200 per month for the five-year term.

In 2011, during the update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, the PRCS Board received community feedback to expand the system of off-leash dog areas in Shoreline. The existing off-leash dog area at Shoreview Park and the seasonal off-leash area at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park are on the west side of Shoreline. The majority of interest Staff received was for an off-leash dog area on the east side of Shoreline. To learn if a suitable site existed in east Shoreline, the PRCS Board reinstated the Off-Leash Study Group Subcommittee to help with a search.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Off-Leash Dog Areas project is included in the adopted 2013-18 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with a budget of \$12,242 to construct the project and lease the property in 2013. The annual cost to lease the two-acre area is \$2,400. Beginning in 2014, the PRCS Department will need an additional \$2,400 annually for four years to continue to pay for the lease.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no action required of Council tonight, as this item is scheduled for discussion. If the Council concurs with development of an off-leash dog area at the Fircrest site, staff will bring this item back at a future meeting to request the City Council to authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year lease agreement with DSHS.

Approved By: City Manager **JU** City Attorney **IS**

INTRODUCTION

This staff report provides the City Council with background and information regarding the East Side Off-Leash Dog Area site selection recommendation by the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PRCS) Board. The recommendation is to allow the City to enter into a five-year property lease agreement with the State of Washington's Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) that would allow the City to construct and operate a fully fenced off-leash dog. The area is a two-acre section of the southeast corner of the Fircrest Campus located at 1750 NE 150th Street. If Council authorizes staff to pursue the lease, it would be effective May 2013. A location map of the two-acre area is included as Attachment A. The cost to lease the two-acre area is \$200 per month for the five-year term.

BACKGROUND

In 2011, during the update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, the PRCS Board received community feedback to expand the system of off-leash areas in Shoreline. The existing off-leash dog area at Shoreview Park and the seasonal off-leash area at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park are on the west side of Shoreline. The majority of interest Staff received was for an off-leash dog area on the east side of Shoreline. To learn if a suitable site existed in east Shoreline, the PRCS Board reinstated the Off-Leash Study Group Subcommittee to help with a search.

2011-13 Off-Leash Dog Area Study Group

The PRCS Board directed the Subcommittee to:

- review the work of the 2007 Off-Leash Dog Area Study Group;
- review the site criteria used in 2007;
- evaluate previous recommended east side sites;
- identify a single site;
- host a public open house; and,
- a recommendation to the PRCS Board..

DISCUSSION

Recommendation

From November 2011 through January 2013, the re-instated Off-Leash Dog Area Study Group met nine times to formulate their recommendation to the PRCS Board. After the committee visited, reviewed and evaluated potential sites east of Meridian Avenue N, the southeastern field on the Fircrest Campus located east of 15th Avenue NE off of NE 150th Street rose to the top of the reviewed sites for three main reasons:

- The site is a flat open lawn area with shade trees and will be easy to modify for an off-leash dog area.
- There is enough room for at least twenty on-site parking spaces.
- The site is away from residential housing.

In March 2012, the Study Group discussed potential sites for an east side off-leash area with the PRCS Board. The preferred site was the southeast field at the Fircrest Campus located at 1750 NE 150th Street. The PRCS Board provided support for City Staff to contact DSHS to discuss the project proposal.

State of Washington Use Request and Draft Lease Agreement

After meeting with members of the Fircrest Administration, DSHS and the State Public Health Lab to discuss the potential project, the City submitted an application to DSHS that requested use of this two-acre area for a fully fenced off-leash dog area and up to 20 parking spaces. After submitting an application, a 90-day review of the City's request ensued. The State's review included the Fircrest Administration, the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC), the State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory and the Fircrest RHC Administration. In August 2012, City staff received notification from DSHS that they would grant approval for the City's requested use for a fee of \$200 per month for up to five years. Attachment B includes three letters of support for the project from these agencies and ShoreDog. A lease agreement was drafted in the fall of 2012 and has been reviewed by both the City and State legal staff.

Concept Plan

Also during that time, City staff developed a budget for the construction and operation and maintenance of a site. In November 2012 both the Off-Leash Dog Area Study Group and Park's maintenance staff visited the site to assess how the site would be modified for construction. Based on the review of the site, a concept plan was created. A copy of the concept plan is included as Attachment C. This project design and site amenities will be very similar to the Shoreview Off-Leash Dog Area. A project design will include:

- Street signage to the site on NE 150th Street and 15th Avenue NE and 25th Avenue NE;
- On-site identification signage for parking and pedestrian entry;
- 4' perimeter fencing;
- Double gated pedestrian entry;
- Maintenance gate entry;
- Information kiosk with posted rules;
- (1) Portable restroom
- Several trash cans for dog waste removal; and
- Benches and picnic tables.

Public Information and Involvement

A public open house meeting was held on January 24, 2013. Over 20 community members attended this meeting to learn about the east-side site recommendation and the process that the Off-Leash Dog Area Study Group conducted to formulate their recommendation. This meeting was advertised in the winter issue of Currents; posted on the City website and east side neighborhood associations were notified. Since September 2011, City Staff have updated the PRCS Board about the project progress on a regular basis. Public comment received at the meeting and comment forms following the meeting have all suggested positive support for the off-leash dog area recommendation.

Site Stewardship and Maintenance

Upon approval of the lease agreement, staff will begin construction in early June, following some site reconnaissance in May. If approved, City staff will include this site in

the daily maintenance and dog waste removal routine. ShoreDog, the nonprofit off-leash stewardship and advocacy group, is excited for this opportunity and they are currently seeking interested volunteers to assist with site stewardship.

2013 Proposed Project Schedule

If approved, the following is a schedule for implementation:

January

Community Open House
Park Board recommends proposed site

March

City Council reviews proposed site on March 4
City Council approves lease agreement on March 18
Design site improvements
Implement design

May

Prepare site for construction

June-July

Construct site improvements
Ribbon Cutting Celebration (TBD)

2013-2018

Monitor use and maintenance needs
Discuss possible renewal of use agreement with DSHS

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

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RECOMMENDATION

There is no action required of Council tonight, as this item is scheduled for discussion. If the Council concurs with development of an off-leash dog area at the Fircrest site, staff will bring this item back at a future meeting to request the City Council to authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year lease agreement with DSHS.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Fircrest Off-Leash Dog Area Location Map
Attachment B: Letters of Support
Attachment C: Fircrest Off-Leash Dog Area Concept Plan

**ATTACHMENT A:
Location Map**

**Fircrest School
Campus**

**2-acre
Fenced
Off Leash
Dog Area**

**Shorecrest
High-
School**

**Food
Lifeline**

**South
Woods
Park**

**WA State
Public
Health Lab**

to 15th Av NE 150th Street to 25th Av NE

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**ATTACHMENT B:
Letters of Support**

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
FIRCREST RHC
B17-31 • 15230 – 15th Ave NE • Shoreline WA 98155-7196**

December 21, 2012

Dick Deal,
Director Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue North,
Shoreline WA 98133.

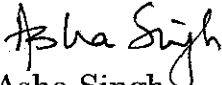
Dear Mr. Deal:

Well maintained and managed dog parks can be an excellent source of social interaction for both people and their pets. The Washington State Division of Developmental Disabilities is pleased to support the creation of a dog park at the Fircrest School campus in Shoreline.

The proposed site for the dog park is within an area designated for lease under the Developmental Disabilities Community Land Trust. Establishing a dog park on these lands benefits the community as a whole as well as addressing the needs of its citizens having developmental disabilities and their families. The rent will be placed in an account that may be used by the State Legislature to provide family support and employment to individuals with developmental disabilities living in the community. Many of these citizens are past residents at Fircrest Residential Habilitation Center.

As you proceed through the public review process, the Division of Developmental Disabilities and the Fircrest School Administration encourages the City of Shoreline to give this proposal serious consideration.

Sincerely yours,


Asha Singh

Superintendent – Fircrest RHC



STATE OF WASHINGTON

Developmental Disabilities Council

2600 Martin Way E Ste F • PO Box 48314 • Olympia, Washington 98504

(360) 586-3560 • 1-800-634-4473 • (TDD & Voice) • FAX (360) 586-2424

November 6, 2012

Dick Deal,
Director Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue North,
Shoreline WA 98133.

Dear Mr. Deal:

Well maintained and managed dog parks can be an excellent source of social interaction for both people and their pets. The Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) is pleased to support the creation of a dog park in Shoreline.

The proposed site for the dog park is within an area designated for lease under the Developmental Disabilities Community Land Trust. The rent will be placed in an account that may be used by the State Legislature to provide family support and employment to individuals with developmental disabilities living in the community. Many of these citizens are past residents at Fircrest Residential Habilitation Center.

Consequently, establishing a dog park on these lands benefits the community as a whole as well as addressing the needs of its citizens having developmental disabilities and their families.

As you proceed through the public review process, the DDC encourages the City of Shoreline to give this proposal serious consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Ed Holen

Edward M. Holen
Executive Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

101 Israel Rd SE • Tumwater • PO Box 47811 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7811
Tel: (360) 236-4202 • FAX: (360) 236-4245 • TDD Relay Service: 1-800-833-6388

January 7, 2013

Mr. Dick Deal, Director
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue, North
Shoreline, Washington 98133

Dear Mr. Deal:

Well maintained, managed dog parks can be a source of physical activity for both people and their dogs. Our agency supports physical activity to improve the health of people in Washington. Our Public Health Laboratories are located adjacent to the proposed site for the dog park, which is within an area designated for lease by the Department of Social and Health Services on the Fircrest campus.

As you proceed through the public review process, we encourage the City of Shoreline to give this proposal serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela Lovinger
Chief Administrator
Disease Control and Health Statistics

cc: Romesh Gautom, Director
Terry Williams, Architect



January 15, 2013

Dick Deal
Director Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue North
Shoreline WA 98133

Dear Mr. Deal:

Shoreline Dog Off-leash Group (ShoreDOG) is a non-profit volunteer stewardship group that is dedicated to establishing and supporting neighborhood dog off-leash areas (OLAs) within the City of Shoreline where well behaved canine citizens can exercise, play and socialize with other dogs and their people in a clean, safe environment.

ShoreDOG fully supports the establishment of a new OLA at the proposed Fircrest site, as there has been continuing community interest in an east side OLA. This site will be a welcome addition to the two current west side OLAs. We hope the PRCS Board and City Council adopt the recommendation of the Off Leash Dog Area Study Group.

Sincerely,

Maggie Dean, ShoreDOG Treasurer
On behalf of the Board of Directors of ShoreDOG

Proposed Off-Leash Dog Area Fircrest Field Design

1760 150th Street



- Access Signs
- Access Signs
- Restroom (portable)
- Dog Waste Station

- Fence
- Seating Gate
- Gate

