

Off-leash Dog Area Public Engagement Results

Supporting Engagement:

2008 November	Off-leash area use scoping survey	607 respondents
2009 March	Open houses	150 attendees
2009 April	Online survey	4400+ respondents
2009 July	Telephone survey	500 respondents
2009 August	Onsite intercept surveys	51 respondents

*Highlights from the two key 2009 surveys are contained below.

	Online survey (March-April 2009)	Telephone Survey (July 2009)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ over 4400 respondents ○ primarily dog owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 500 respondents ○ demographically balanced
<i>Issues</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conflicts due to lack of separation between off-leash dogs and other users ● Number and location of garbage bins ● Poop bag availability ● Close proximity of off-leash areas to roadways and pathways ● Dog owners or walkers who are unable to supervise or control their dog(s) ● Dog owners not picking up dog waste ● Lack of respect and courtesy between dog owners and other users (primarily cyclists) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dogs not kept under control ● Dog poop not picked up ● Concern with other park users
<i>Solutions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clear signage indicating transitions between off-leash and on-leash boundaries and regional pathways ● Fencing or a physical separation to decrease user conflict and improve safety ● More garbage bins and waste bags ● Increase the number of off-leash areas (79% of respondents) ● Develop specific areas for dogs ● Drinking water for dogs ● More communication and education, and enforcement for off-leash use ● Washrooms in larger parks ● Limit number of dogs for dog walkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More enforcement presence ● Designate more off-leash areas (suggested by 89% of dog owners, 75% of non-dog owners) ● More public education ● Require dog owners to walk/exercise dogs in designated areas only ● Provide more garbage cans and have poop bags available ● Create fenced dog areas ● More visible signs