

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"> o over 4400 respondents o primarily dog owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 500 respondents o 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