

Public Hearing and Work Session

Agenda Item #	1 and 2
Meeting Date	June 2, 2014
Prepared By	Suzanne Ludlow Deputy City Manager
Approved By	Brian T. Kenner City Manager

Discussion Item	Dog Park Development
Background	<p>City staff began working on background information relating to the potential development of one or more dog parks in the late summer/early fall of 2013. City staff discussed potential locations and next steps for the development of one or more dog parks with Council most recently on May 19. Six locations were evaluated.</p> <p>During the discussion with Council regarding the findings of the evaluations, two sites appeared to be easier and faster to develop than the others. Those two sites are the natural parkland portion of City-owned Heffner Park that is located at the end of the Darwin Avenue parking lot, and the grassy triangle bounded by Prince George's Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue that is City-owned right of way.</p> <p>Notice of the public hearing was made in a number of ways, including hand distribution of fliers at homes nearest the two top locations as well as via the City's website, E-News and social media outlets. An article announcing the public hearing was on the front page of the May 29 <u>Gazette</u> newspaper.</p> <p>A Council work session will be held to give direction to the City Manager on which location(s) to pursue for dog park development at this time. Staff will do any additional survey or site data that is needed for the site(s) identified by Council and will schedule community meetings to discuss possible dog park development at the identified site(s).</p>
Policy	Council is concerned with the provision of community amenities.
Fiscal Impact	Funding of \$70,000 is in the FY 15 budget for dog park development.
Attachments	Background information.
Recommendation	Hold public hearing; provide direction to the City Manager.
Special Consideration	



Dog Parks

Site Analysis

Agenda

- **Proposed Locations**
- **Site Selection Criteria**
- **Analysis of Locations**
- **Potential Dog Park Scenarios**
- **Next Steps**



M-NCPPC Site Selection Criteria

- Existing parkland
- Area of high density and walkability
- Site is underutilized
- Underutilized or doesn't involve conversion of desired park uses
- No environmental constraints / good drainage
- Appropriate distance from residents (200')
- Ease of implementation
- Minimum of 10,000 square feet (0.25 acres)
- Ease of maintenance
- Compatible and complementary with other park uses
- Accessible parking area



Decision Matrix

Location	Favorable consideration by property owner	Minimal environmental impact	Accessible Parking	200' from nearest residence	Ease of implementation	Compatible with current or desired use
Sligo - Maple	No	No	Maybe/unclear	No	No	No
Prince Georges Ave	Yes	Yes	Maybe/unclear	No	Yes	Maybe/unclear
Takoma - Piney Branch Park	No	No	Yes	No	No	Maybe/unclear
Heffner Park (near Darwin Ave Parking Lot)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maybe/unclear	Yes
Spring Park	Yes	No	Maybe/unclear	No	Yes	No
Forest Park	Yes	Maybe/unclear	Maybe/unclear	No	Yes	No

Yes 

Maybe/ unclear 

No 

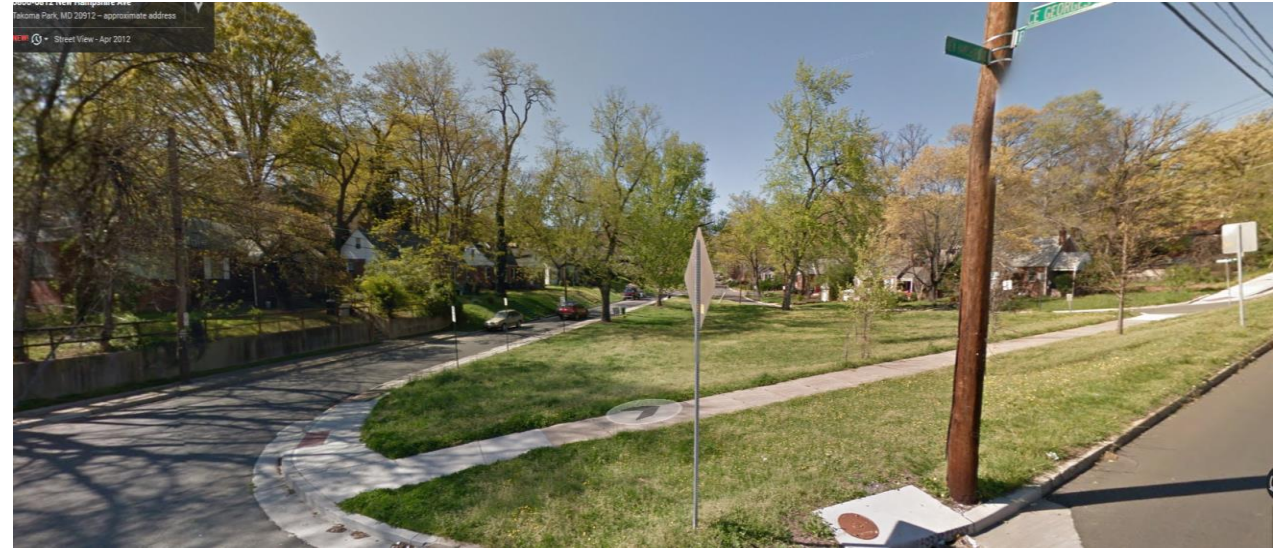


Potential Locations

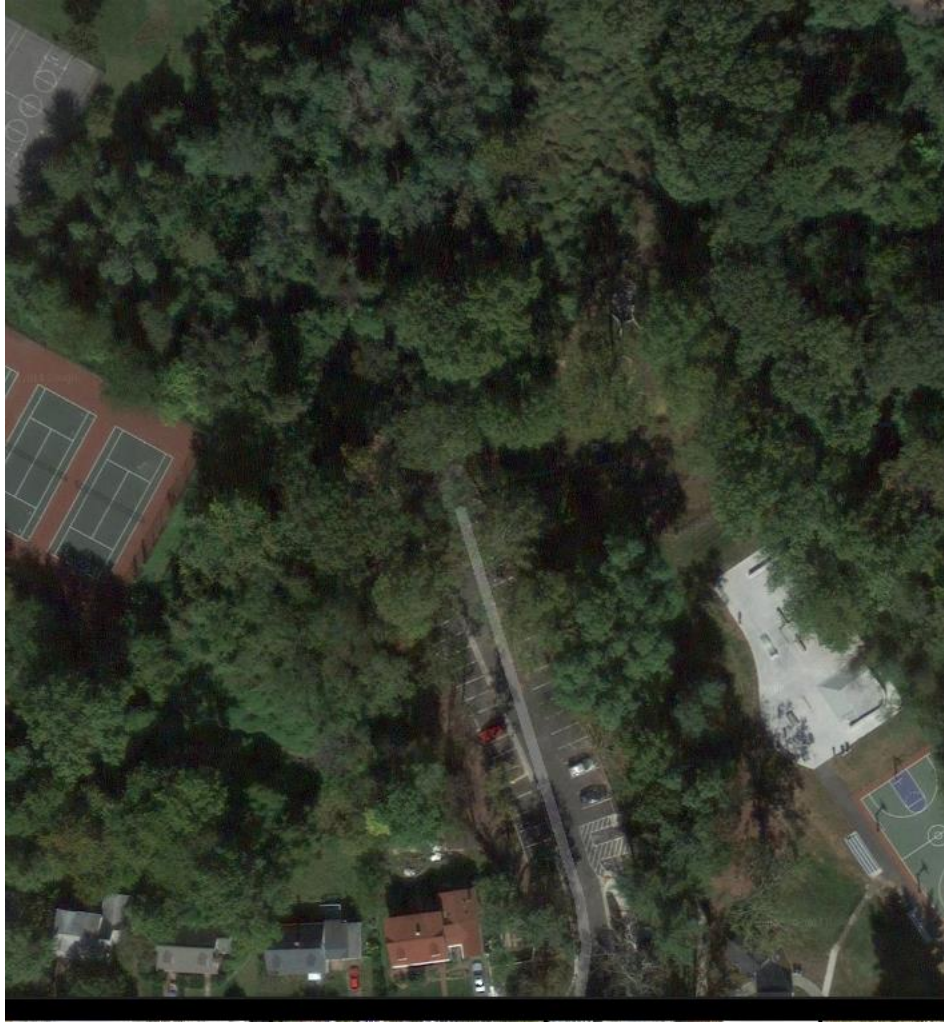
Location	Ward	Size of open space	Size of dog park (sq. ft.)	Parking	Distance to nearest residence
Prince George's Ave	2	17,000 sq ft	5k- 10k sq ft	Street parking w/ potential for lot	70 feet
Heffner Park	4	145,000 sq ft	5k- 10k sq ft	Parking lot	250 feet



Prince George's Ave



Heffner Park



Dog park scenarios



2 small parks



1 pilot



1 premier park



Criteria

Staff complexity

Speed of Construction

Design

Size

Locations



Park options

	Few small parks	Pilot park	Premier park
Geography	Heffner Park AND Prince George's Ave	Heffner Park OR Prince George's Ave	Heffner Park
# Locations	2	1	1
Size	5,000 – 10,000 sq ft	5,000 – 10,000 sq ft	10,000+ sq ft
Design	Simple <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing • Groundcover • Simple furniture • Minimal accommodations for topography 	Simple <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing • Groundcover • Simple furniture • Minimal accommodations for topography 	Simple to more complex <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better fencing • Better groundcover • Amenities (water, furniture, agility equipment) • More design features
Speed of construction	Medium	Fastest route	Phased in – basic design/construct in FY15; phase added FY16



Costs

	Low	Medium	High
Fencing	Chain link fence \$14/ linear foot (\$4200 - \$5600)*	Aluminum/Steel \$35/ linear foot (\$7,500 - \$14,000)*	Wrought Iron \$60/ linear foot (\$18,000 - \$36,000)*
Ground cover	Mulch Free	Decomposed granite \$20 - \$30/ ton (\$2,000 - \$6,000)	Canine turf \$12 per square foot (\$60,000 - \$120,000)
Design Features	Low Survey and geotechnical + basic design/landscape (unknown)	Medium Minimal + topography mitigants (unknown)	High Medium + designated park areas (unknown)
Amenities	Low Benches (\$500-\$1000)	Medium Water (unknown)	High Medium + agility equipment + portable bathrooms (unknown)
Maintenance	Waste pick up (\$10,000 - \$15,000)	Waste pick up, water (\$15,000 - \$25,000), ground cover replacement, fencing repairs	Waste pick up, water (\$15,000 - \$25,000), fencing repairs

* 5k square feet - 10k square feet



Next Steps/Considerations

- ✓ **Size?**
- ✓ **Location?**
- ✓ **Additional information to gather?**
- ✓ **Community meeting for residents near potential park(s)**



