

PEOPLE PARKS & DOGS

A strategy for sharing Vancouver's parks

Round 2 – Public and Stakeholder Consultation:
Key Draft Recommendations
Discussion Guide and Survey

January 30 – March 10, 2017



MICHAEL WHEATLEY / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO



For more information about the strategy visit: vancouver.ca/people-parks-dogs

Please submit your feedback by March 10, 2017

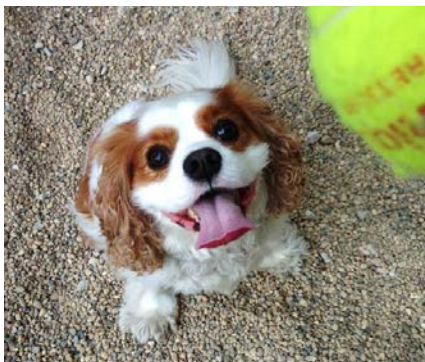
SURVEY INSIDE

WELCOME TO ROUND 2 OF CONSULTATION FOR THE PEOPLE, PARKS & DOGS STRATEGY!

The Vancouver Park Board is developing a comprehensive strategy to guide the planning and design of safe, engaging and appealing parks for people with and without dogs.

In Round 1 of public consultation, you told us about what's important to you and what opportunities and challenges you see for the city's off-leash and leashed areas.

Now in Round 2, we're asking for your feedback about key draft recommendations. The planning team developed these recommendations after mapping and analyzing existing dog off-leash areas, looking at what other North American cities are doing, reviewing historical work and input, and talking with our Advisory Committee, City and Park Board Staff. We've also integrated what we learned from you through the over 4,000 pieces of feedback we received in Round 1 consultation.



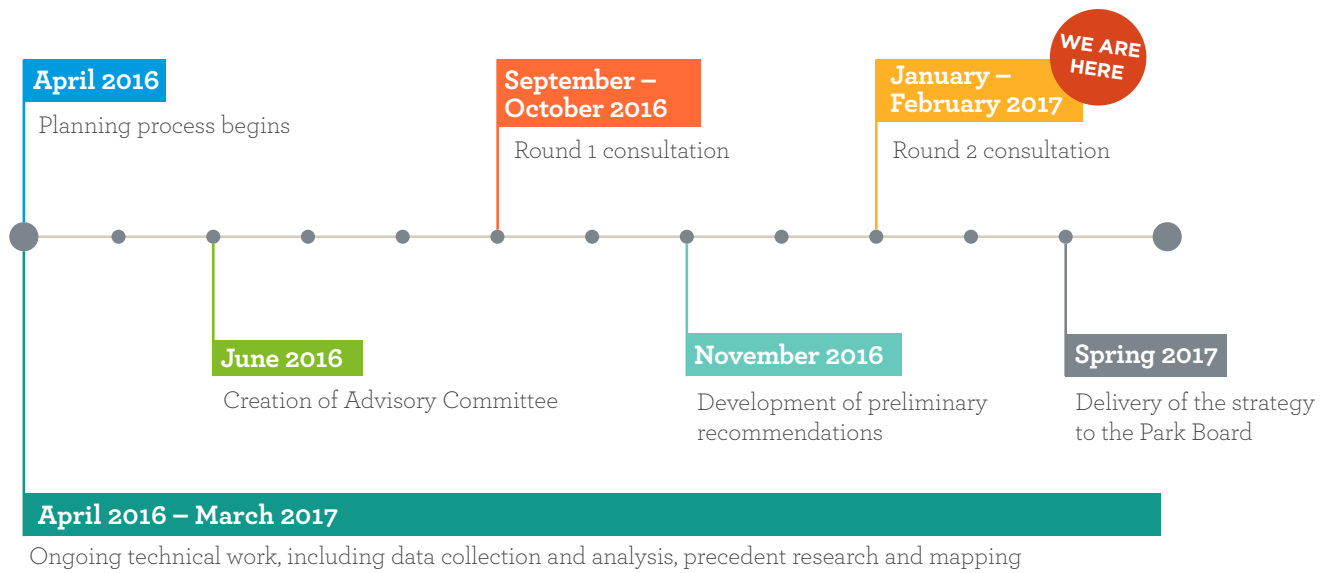
Your feedback is very important to this process! Be sure to visit page 21 of this guide to fill in the survey or fill it out online at vancouver.ca/people-parks-dogs. You can also turn to pages 5 and 6 to see other ways to learn more about and participate in this round of consultation.

How feedback will be considered

The planning team will consider feedback from this round of consultation as it refines the draft recommendations for the planning, design and management of Vancouver's parks, beaches and dog off-leash areas. The planning team will provide these refined recommendations to the Vancouver Park Board in spring 2017, for review and approval.



Planning Process Timeline



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The Park Board is developing a bold, accessible and innovative master plan to guide the planning and provision of Vancouver parks and recreation facilities and services for the next 10 years and beyond. The Park Board and its planning team will incorporate *People, Parks & Dogs: A strategy for sharing Vancouver's parks* in this master planning process.



HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN ROUND 2

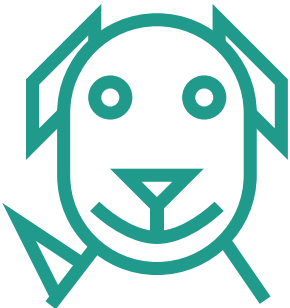
Your feedback is very important to this process!
As in Round 1, there are many different ways you
can provide your feedback:

1 Discussion Guide and Survey

Online at vancouver.ca/people-parks-dogs
In person at a meeting (see #3)



2 Written Feedback



By email PeopleParksDogs@vancouver.ca
By mail *People, Parks & Dogs*
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
2099 Beach Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4



Mapping and analysis: We've looked at how off-leash areas, licensed dogs and people are distributed across Vancouver to understand where there's demand for more off-leash areas now and in the future. We've also evaluated and mapped each of the City's 36 existing off-leash areas.



Reviewing records of previous work: While the People, Parks & Dogs strategy is the first of its kind in Vancouver, community groups and individuals have made significant contributions over the years on topics related to people with and without dogs sharing parks. We've reviewed these materials, including work by the Vancouver Dog Strategy Task Force, work supporting the 2012 Dog Off-Leash Area Guidelines, and previous community-led petitions for new dog off-leash areas. These valuable documents are informing our recommendations.



Round 1 consultation: Round 1 consultation took place from September 8 to October 14, 2016. During this round of consultation, we asked stakeholders and the public to tell us about the successes and challenges related to people with and without dogs sharing park space. Participants were encouraged to participate by attending a consultation meeting, filling out the survey or providing written feedback by email or mail. There were a total of 4,373 public and stakeholder interactions during the People, Parks & Dogs Round 1 consultation period. The report summarizing consultation feedback is available at vancouver.ca/people-parks-dogs.



Phone survey: We surveyed 400 Vancouver residents by phone to complement the Round 1 consultation process and test support for some preliminary recommendations.

The planning team has considered all of this information in developing the draft recommendations. Now we're asking for your feedback.

WHAT DO WE KNOW?

From the work we've done and feedback we've collected and reviewed, here is what we've heard about what is working well and where we have opportunities to improve:

What's working well



DESIGN AND AMENITIES: Support the needs of people with and without dogs in parks with off-leash areas

- Vancouver's dog off-leash areas are intensively used by both people with and without dogs.
- Off-leash areas can play an important role in fostering a sense of community in neighbourhoods.
- Dog owners and non-dog owners are supportive of the separated dog waste collection pilot project currently being testing in Charleson, Grimmett and John Hendry Parks. For more information about the dog waste collection pilot project, please visit vancouver.ca/home-property-development/dog-waste-collection.aspx



BOUNDARIES: Provide clear and effective off-leash area boundaries

- People with and without dogs share parks more effectively when off-leash area boundaries are clearly marked, since people know where off-leash dogs are allowed and expected.
- Many dog owners, such as those with dogs in training, like having the option to use fenced off-leash areas.



VARIETY OF PARKS: Offer a variety of off-leash experiences

- People with dogs value large areas for their dogs to run and play fetch off leash.
- People with dogs appreciate having access to off-leash areas that include water access so their dogs can swim.
- Grass surfacing works well in larger or less intensively used off-leash areas. Gravel surfacing provides good drainage and is more durable in highly-used sites, but improvements can be made to the type of gravel so that it is more appealing for dog owners and dogs.

Where there are challenges



DESIGN AND AMENITIES: Support the needs of people with and without dogs in parks with off-leash areas

- Dog waste management is an ongoing challenge expressed by both people with and without dogs.
- Dog off-leash activity in on-leash areas – or outside of designated times – can cause conflict, and makes it harder for park users with and without dogs to share limited park space.
- The current level of enforcement of dog off-leash activity and waste pickup is frustrating for both people with and without dogs, and contributes to conflict.
- Dog access to sensitive wildlife habitat, which is currently allowed at some sites, has the potential to impact the environment. At Spanish Banks, for example, dogs are able to access sensitive intertidal mudflats at low tide. This can negatively impact important wintering habitat for migrating waterfowl and shorebirds.
- Conflicting park uses within or adjacent to dog off-leash areas affect park user safety and comfort. For example, several dog off-leash areas have play areas, sports fields or multi-use paths within their boundaries or immediately adjacent to their boundaries, which can create conflict amongst park users.
- Without a clear code of conduct, there are varying expectations amongst people with and without dogs for what to expect in off-leash areas.



BOUNDARIES: Provide clear and effective off-leash area boundaries

- A lack of clear on-the-ground boundaries contributes to off-leash activity in on-leash areas. It makes it difficult for people without dogs to know where to expect dogs off-leash and people with dogs to know where off-leash activity is allowed.
- Confusing and inconsistent signage makes it difficult for park users to understand and follow the off-leash area boundaries.



ACCESS: Improve to dog off-leash areas throughout the city

- There is unequal distribution of off-leash areas across Vancouver, and some neighbourhoods lack off-leash areas to meet local demand. Examples of neighbourhoods that are currently underserved by off-leash areas include Downtown, the West End, Mount Pleasant, Kitsilano, Fairview, and Grandview-Woodland, among others.



VARIETY OF PARKS: Offer a variety of off-leash experiences

- Some off-leash areas lack the amenities to support the basic needs of site users, making these sites less appealing to use.
- Grass surfacing is in poor condition in smaller and/or intensively used off-leash areas.
- There is currently only one off-leash area (Hinge Park Off-Leash Area) that has a separated small dog area. There is demand for more separated small dog areas to address owner concerns about small dog safety.



WHAT ARE WE RECOMMENDING?

Based on feedback from Round 1, public and other work described on pages 7 through 10, the planning team developed these key draft recommendations that consider what is working and what isn't working well in Vancouver's parks:

The recommendations fall under five themes:

DESIGN AND AMENITIES:

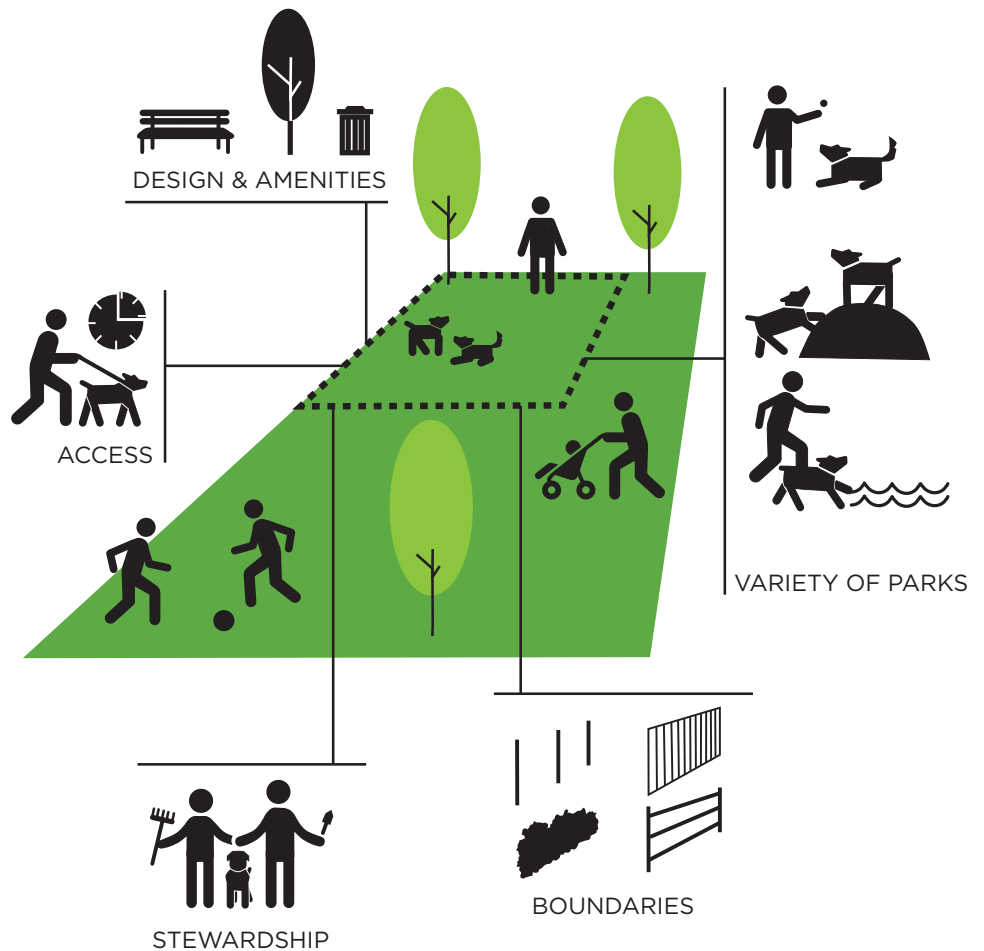
Support the needs of people with and without dogs in parks with off-leash areas

BOUNDARIES: Provide clear and effective off-leash area boundaries

ACCESS: Improve access to dog off-leash areas throughout the city

VARIETY OF PARKS: Offer a variety of off-leash experiences

STEWARDSHIP: Formalize residents' role in off-leash area stewardship

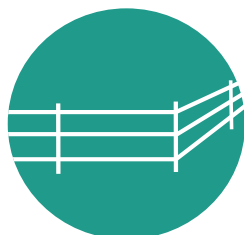




DESIGN AND AMENITIES: SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT DOGS IN PARKS WITH OFF-LEASH AREAS

Key recommendations:

- Provide amenities (such as waste bins, dog waste bag dispensers and shade) to meet the needs of people with and without dogs.
- Locate and design off-leash areas to reduce potential conflict between off-leash dogs and adjacent neighbourhood and park uses. For example, parks will be designed so that major paths do not go through off-leash areas.
- Develop off-leash area code of conduct for people with and without dogs. See survey question 1 for a new proposed code of conduct.
- Restrict dog activity in areas where this activity may be in conflict with other park uses. In addition to not allowing dogs on playgrounds, as is currently the case, this would include restricting dog activity in designated picnic areas, sports fields and ecologically-sensitive areas.



BOUNDARIES: PROVIDE CLEAR AND EFFECTIVE OFF-LEASH AREA BOUNDARIES

Key recommendations:

- Clearly mark off-leash area boundaries using a combination of tools, including signage, fencing, bollards and vegetation. Determine the appropriate boundary tool(s) based on adjacent park uses, land uses and existing site features.
- Ensure off-leash area signage is concise, clear and consistent.
- Locate and orient off-leash area boundary signage so that the boundaries between on-leash and off-leash areas are clear.

Secure boundaries



Secure fencing: Decorative steel (left), Chain link (center), or post and rail with mesh panels (right) to securely contain dogs.

Non-secure boundaries



Non-secure boundaries: Bollards, in wood or steel (left), Post and rail fencing (centre), or vegetation (right) where secure containment is not required



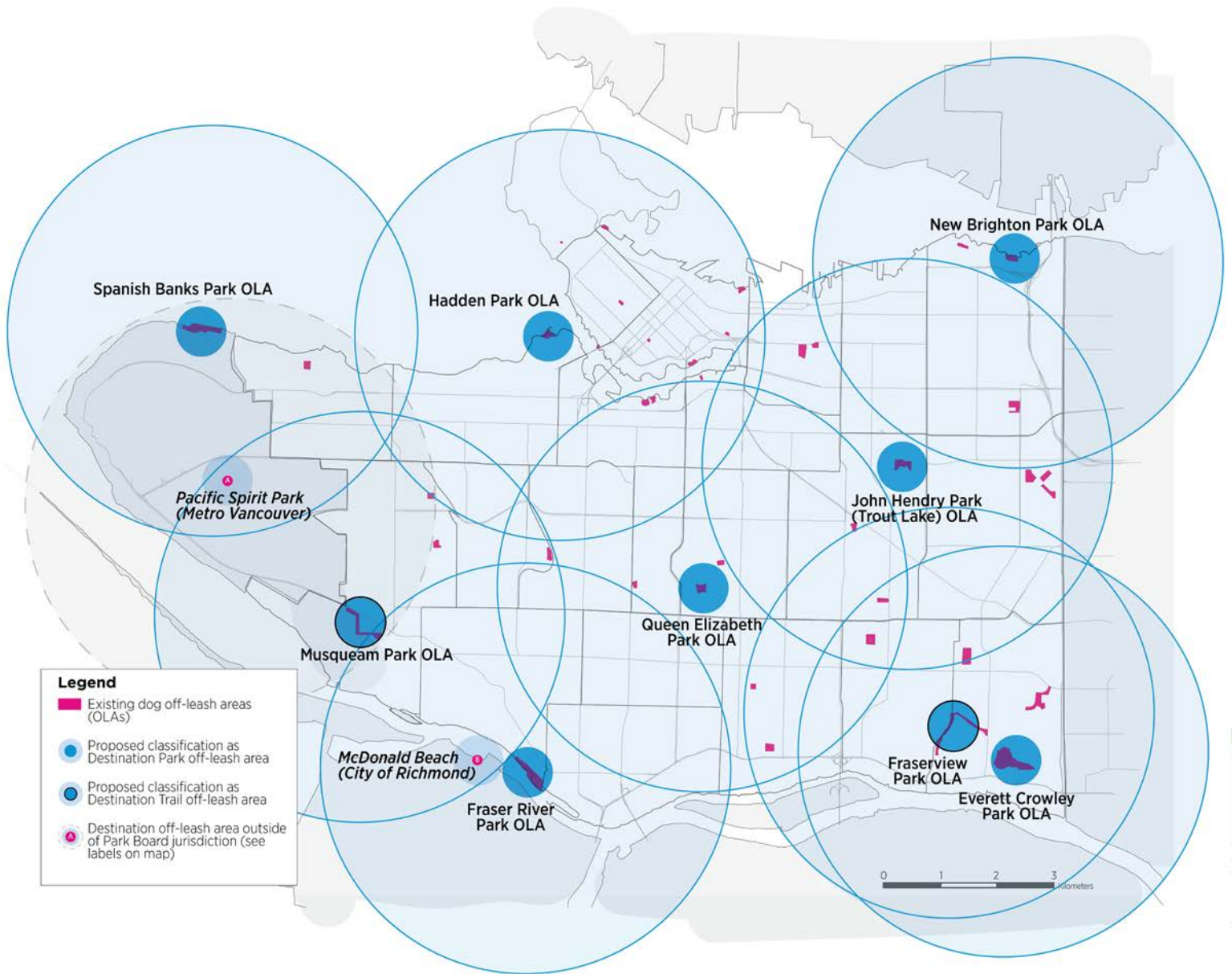
ACCESS: IMPROVE ACCESS TO DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

Key recommendations:

- Ensure Vancouver residents can access neighbourhood off-leash areas within a 15-minute walk (1 km).
- Ensure Vancouver residents can access destination off-leash areas within a 35-minute walk or a short drive.
- Make additional investments in urban off-leash areas (i.e. Neighbourhood Urban Off-Leash Area) to encourage more people to use them, and to support a high level of use.
- Prioritize adding new off-leash areas to underserved and densely populated neighbourhoods, such as West End, Downtown, Kitsilano, Fairview, Mount Pleasant and Grandview-Woodland.
- Encourage neighbourhood access to off-leash areas, for example through improved access routes to off-leash areas.
- Improve the hours for off-leash areas, to increase access to off-leash areas across the city.
- Introduce a morning-only off-leash hours pilot project in selected downtown parks.

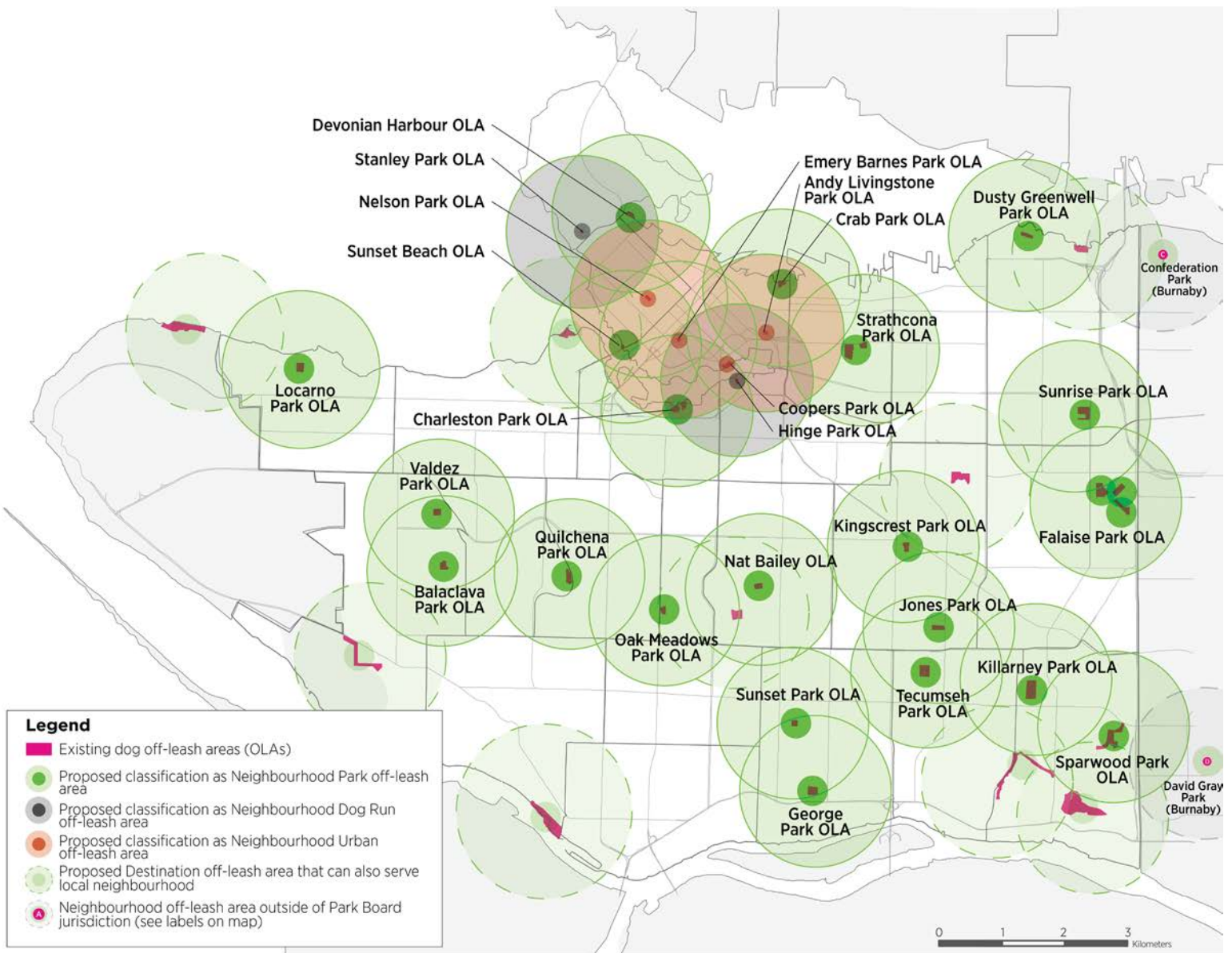


MAP OF EXISTING DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS: DESTINATION OFF-LEASH AREAS





MAP OF EXISTING DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS: NEIGHBOURHOOD OFF-LEASH AREAS





VARIETY OF PARKS: OFFER A VARIETY OF OFF-LEASH EXPERIENCES

Key recommendations:

- Develop different types of off-leash areas that provide a variety of experiences for park users, from smaller urban sites to larger more natural areas:
 - Destination Park Off-Leash Area
 - Destination Trail Off-Leash Area
 - Neighbourhood Park Off-Leash Area
 - Neighbourhood Urban Off-Leash Area
 - Neighbourhood Dog Run Off-Leash Area

DESTINATION Park Off-Leash Area



Size: larger than 1.2 ha (>3 acres)



Surfacing: Grass and fine crushed gravel



Boundaries: fencing (secure / non-secure), bollards, vegetation



Adjacencies: Flexible



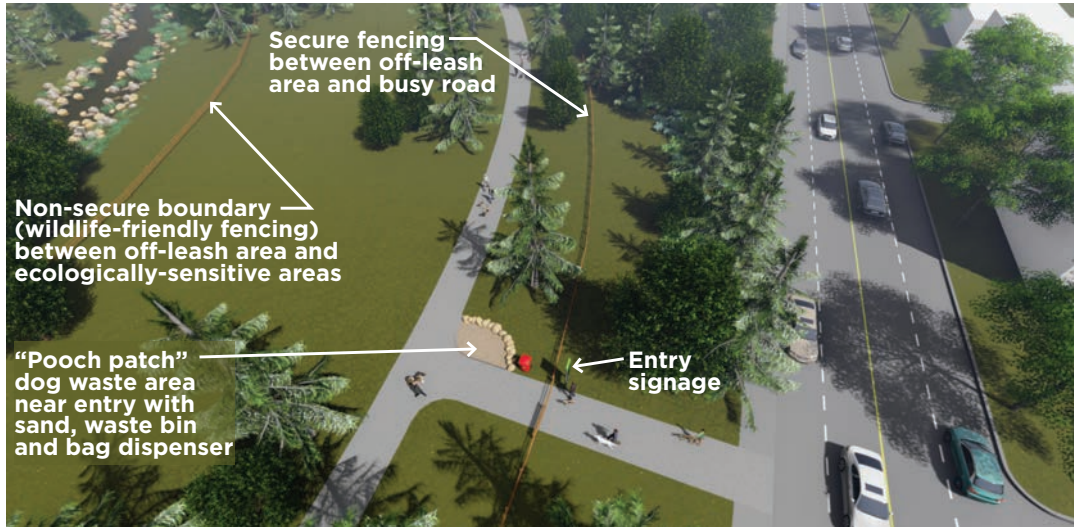
Circulation: Separated off-leash looping paths



Standard amenities and special amenities such as washrooms, water access, drinking water, and parking



DESTINATION Trail Off-Leash Area



Size: No size target



Boundaries: fencing (secure / non-secure), bollards, vegetation



Circulation: Off-leash path



Surfacing: Gravel or wood chip path, planting

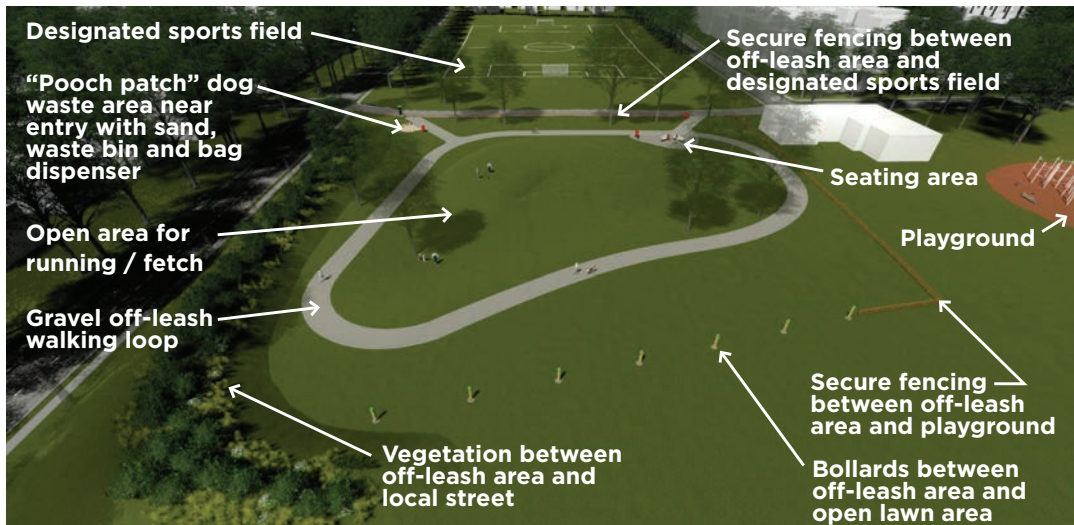


Adjacencies: Flexible



Standard amenities: waste bins, open space, shade, bag dispensers, seating.

NEIGHBOURHOOD Park Off-Leash Area



Size: From 0.4 to 1.2 ha (1-3 acres)



Boundaries: fencing (secure / non-secure), bollards, vegetation



Circulation: Separated off-leash looping path



Surfacing: Grass and fine crushed gravel



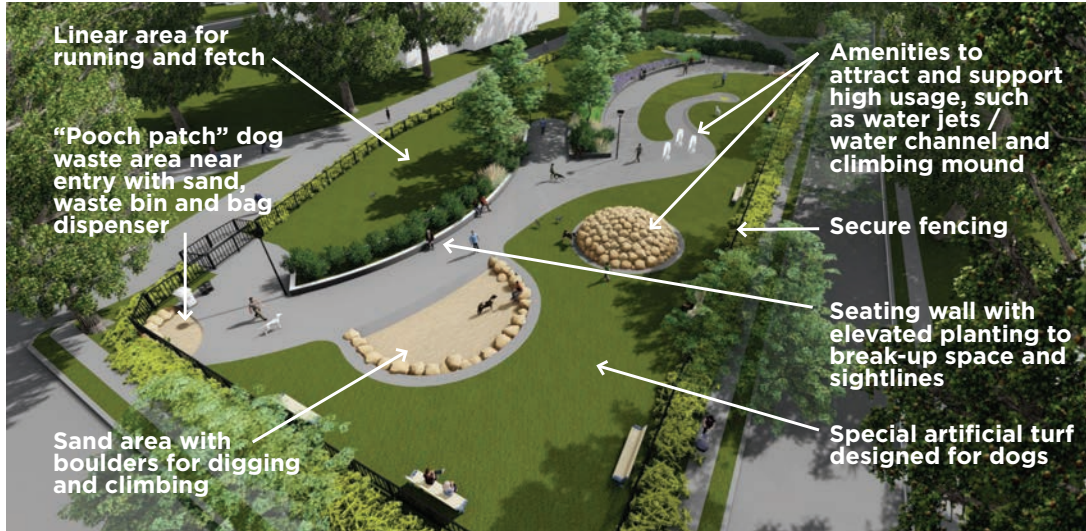
Adjacencies: More compatible adjacencies



Standard amenities: waste bins, open space, shade, bag dispensers, seating. Special amenities on case-by-case basis.



NEIGHBOURHOOD Urban Off-Leash Area



Size: From 0.04 to 0.4 ha (0.1 to 1 acre)



Boundaries: secure, high quality fencing



Circulation: Designed to reduce congestion



Surfacing: Durable, specialty surfacing



Adjacencies: More compatible adjacencies



Standard and special amenities to attract and support high use, such as water play and agility

NEIGHBOURHOOD Dog Run Off-Leash Area



Size: From 0.04 to 0.4 ha (0.1 to 1 acre)



Boundaries: secure, standard fencing (e.g. chain link)



Circulation: Designed to reduce congestion



Surfacing: Durable standard surfacing, such as fine crushed gravel



Adjacencies: More compatible



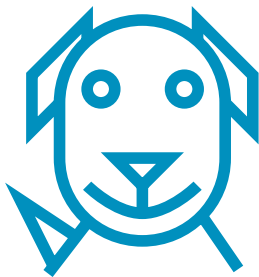
Standard amenities: waste bins, open space, shade, bag dispensers, seating. Special amenities on case-by-case basis.



STEWARDSHIP: FORMALIZE RESIDENTS' ROLE IN OFF-LEASH AREA STEWARDSHIP

Key recommendations:

- Establish Off-Leash Area Ambassador Groups in formal partnership with the Park Board to steward Vancouver's dog off-leash areas.
- Provide opportunities to engage volunteers in education, monitoring, reporting, fundraising, and light maintenance for off-leash areas.
- Explore funding mechanisms for Off-Leash Area Ambassador Group(s), such as through a portion of dog licensing fees.
- Implement a clear and transparent process to establish, change or eliminate off-leash areas that engages local neighbourhoods.
- Engage local residents in establishing, changing or eliminating off-leash areas.



Now that you've heard about what we're recommending, we want to hear from you! Turn to the next page to fill out the survey or fill it out online at: vancouver.ca/people-parks-dogs



HELP US MAKE VANCOUVER PARKS BETTER FOR PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT DOGS – FILL IN OUR SURVEY!

The Vancouver Park Board is developing a comprehensive strategy to guide the planning and design of beautiful, safe and engaging parks for people with and without dogs.

In Round 1 of public consultation, you told us about what's important to you and what opportunities and challenges you see for the city's off-leash and leashed areas.

Now in Round 2, we're asking for your feedback about key draft recommendations. The planning team developed these recommendations after mapping and analyzing existing dog off-leash areas, reviewing historical materials, looking at what other North American cities are doing, reviewing historical work and input, and talking with our Advisory Committee, City and Park Board Staff. We've also integrated what we learned from you through the over 4,000 pieces of feedback we received in Round 1 consultation.

The recommendations fall under five themes:

- A. DESIGN AND AMENITIES:** Support the needs of people with and without dogs in parks with off-leash areas
- B. BOUNDARIES:** Provide clear and effective off-leash area boundaries
- C. ACCESS:** Improve access to dog off-leash areas throughout the city
- D. VARIETY OF PARKS:** Offer a variety of off-leash experiences
- E. STEWARDSHIP:** Formalize residents' role in off-leash area stewardship

Your feedback will help us as we refine the draft recommendations. The planning team will provide the refined recommendations to the Vancouver Park Board in spring 2017, for review and approval.

A. DESIGN AND AMENITIES: SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT DOGS IN PARKS WITH OFF-LEASH AREAS

We know that successful parks need to meet the needs of people with and without dogs. Dog off-leash areas need to be safe, comfortable and appealing to all park users, and there should be amenities to support user needs, such as seating, shade, and waste bins.

It is also important that people with and without dogs meet a common set of expectations at dog off-leash areas, such as a shared code of conduct. Some park uses may not be compatible with dogs, either on-leash or off-leash, and these areas should be clearly identified.

Key recommendations:

- Develop an off-leash area code of conduct for people with and without dogs and post at all off-leash areas.
- Restrict dog activity in areas where this activity may be in conflict with other park uses.

Q1

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS: To promote safe and inclusive off-leash areas, we are recommending a consistent off-leash area code of conduct to set expectations for both dog owners and non-dog owners in off-leash areas. The code of conduct will complement the Parks Control Bylaw and Animal Control Bylaw.

PROPOSED CODE OF CONDUCT:

For people with dogs using off-leash areas:

- Keep dog under voice control and supervise closely at all times
- Do not allow your dog to be aggressive towards dogs or people
- No digging
- No nuisance barking
- Pick up all dog waste
- Respect off-leash area boundaries
- All dogs must be licensed

For all people using off-leash areas:

- Be prepared to encounter dogs off-leash
- Supervise children closely
- Limit open food
- Do not approach a dog without owner permission

a WHICH THREE POINTS DO YOU THINK ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO INCLUDE AS PART OF THE OFF-LEASH AREA CODE OF CONDUCT?

Please only select three.

- Keep dog under voice control and supervise closely at all times
- No digging
- No nuisance barking
- Pick up all dog waste
- Respect off-leash area boundaries
- All dogs must be licensed
- Be prepared to encounter dogs off-leash
- Supervise children closely
- Limit open food
- Do not approach a dog without owner permission

b WHICH THREE POINTS DO YOU THINK ARE LEAST IMPORTANT TO INCLUDE AS PART OF THE OFF-LEASH AREA CODE OF CONDUCT?

Please only select three.

- Keep dog under voice control and supervise closely at all times
- No digging
- No nuisance barking
- Pick up all dog waste
- Respect off-leash area boundaries
- All dogs must be licensed
- Be prepared to encounter dogs off-leash
- Supervise children closely
- Limit open food
- Do not approach a dog without owner permission

Q2

RESTRICTED AREAS FOR DOGS: Dogs are currently not allowed, either on-leash or off-leash, in or within 15m, of playgrounds or on artificial turf fields. To help reduce conflict, and maintain the safety, health, and comfort of park users with and without dogs, we are recommending that off-leash and on-leash dog activity also be restricted from the following areas:

- Splash pads
- Wading pools
- Designated picnic areas
- Designated sports fields, and
- Designated ecologically-sensitive areas

HOW IMPORTANT DO YOU THINK EACH OF THESE RESTRICTED AREAS FOR DOGS IS FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF VANCOUVER'S OFF-LEASH AREAS?

Please rank them from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important).

- Splash pads
- Wading pools
- Designated picnic areas
- Designated sports fields
- Designated ecologically-sensitive areas

B. BOUNDARIES: PROVIDE CLEAR AND EFFECTIVE OFF-LEASH AREA BOUNDARIES

We know that a lack of clear on-the-ground off-leash area boundaries contributes to off-leash activity in on-leash areas, and makes it hard for people to know where off-leash activity is allowed and expected.

Key recommendations:

- Clearly mark off-leash area boundaries using a combination of tools, including signage, fencing, bollards and vegetation. Determine the appropriate boundary tool(s) based on potential for conflict with adjacent park uses, land uses and existing site features.

Q3

PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES: We are recommending that both signage and borders identify dog off-leash areas, using a mix of tools that vary depending on the site conditions and other park uses. Specifically, we recommend using:

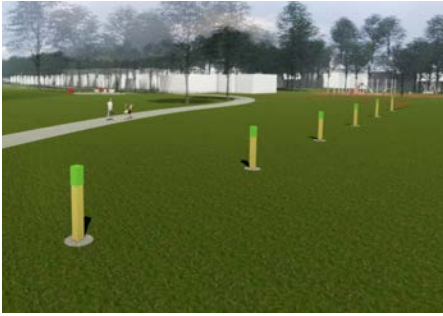
- **Secure boundaries: Secure fencing** for off-leash areas located next to less-compatible park uses, including playgrounds, splash pads, wading pools, multi-use trails, designated sports fields, designated environmentally-sensitive areas, busy roads and other designated areas (selected sports fields and selected picnic areas).
- **Non-secure boundaries: Tools such as bollards, vegetation and non-secure fencing** (fencing that delineates the boundary but does not necessarily keep dogs contained inside) for off-leash areas located next to more compatible park uses, such as open lawn areas and walking trails. Wildlife-friendly fencing would be used next to ecologically-sensitive areas.

Secure boundaries



Secure fencing: Decorative steel (left), Chain link (center), or post and rail with mesh panels (right) to securely contain dogs.

Non-secure boundaries



Non-secure boundaries: Bollards, in wood or steel (left), Post and rail fencing (centre), or vegetation (right) where secure containment is not required

a WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT LOCATIONS TO USE SECURE FENCING:

Please select top three.

- Playgrounds
- Splash pads
- Wading pools
- Multi-use trails
- Designated sports fields
- Designated environmentally sensitive areas
- Busy roads
- Other _____
- _____
- _____

b HOW MUCH DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH USING NON-SECURE BOUNDARIES:

Tools such as bollards, vegetation and non-secure fencing (fencing that delineates the boundary but does not necessarily keep dogs contained inside) for off-leash areas located next to more compatible park uses, such as open lawn areas and walking trails. Wildlife-friendly fencing would be used next to ecologically-sensitive areas.

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

C. VARIETY OF PARKS: OFFER A VARIETY OF OFF-LEASH EXPERIENCES

We know that it is important for parks to support people with dogs and people without dogs. To support keeping off-leash activity to designated areas and minimize conflicts between users, it is important to provide a variety of well-designed and maintained spaces for off-leash activity. Off-leash area users have indicated that they would like to have smaller **Neighbourhood Off-Leash Areas** that offer basic amenities, urban off-leash areas that provide a wider range of robust amenities suitable for high-density use, plus **Destination Off-Leash Areas** that provide more open space or off-leash trail opportunities.

Key recommendations:

Develop different types of off-leash areas that provide a variety of experiences for park users, from smaller urban sites to larger more natural areas:

DESTINATION PARK OFF-LEASH AREAS

- Destination Park Off-Leash Area
- Destination Trail Off-Leash Area

NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK OFF-LEASH AREAS







- Neighbourhood Park Off-Leash Area
- Neighbourhood Urban Off-Leash Area
- Neighbourhood Dog Run Off-Leash Area

DESTINATION PARK OFF-LEASH AREAS

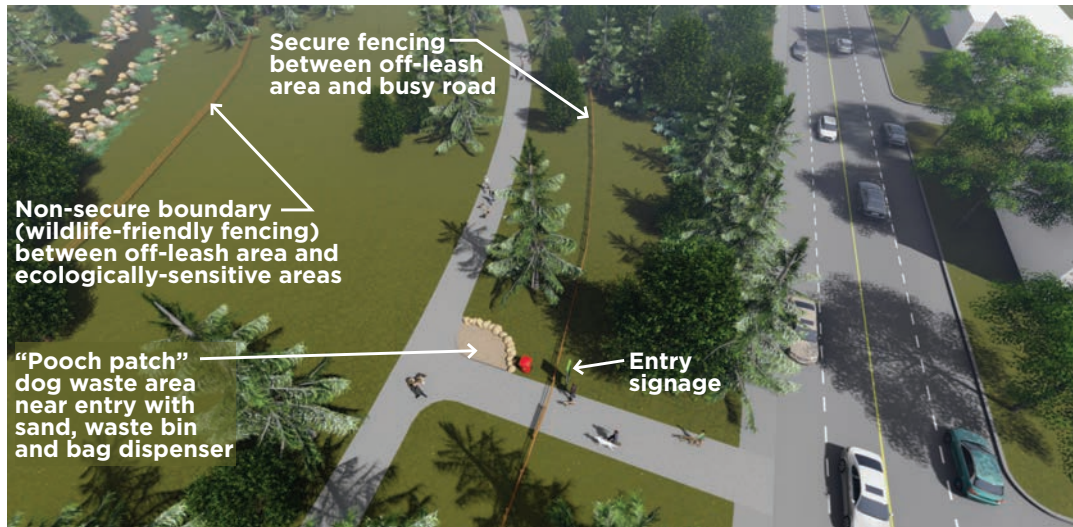
Here is an illustration and description of proposed features of the two different types of proposed Destination Park Off-Leash Areas.







DESTINATION Park Off-Leash Area



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
|  Size: larger than 1.2 ha (>3 acres) |  Boundaries: fencing (secure / non-secure), bollards, vegetation |  Circulation: Separated off-leash looping paths |
|  Surfacing: Grass and fine crushed gravel |  Adjacencies: Flexible |  Standard amenities and special amenities such as washrooms, water access, drinking water, and parking |

DESTINATION Trail Off-Leash Area

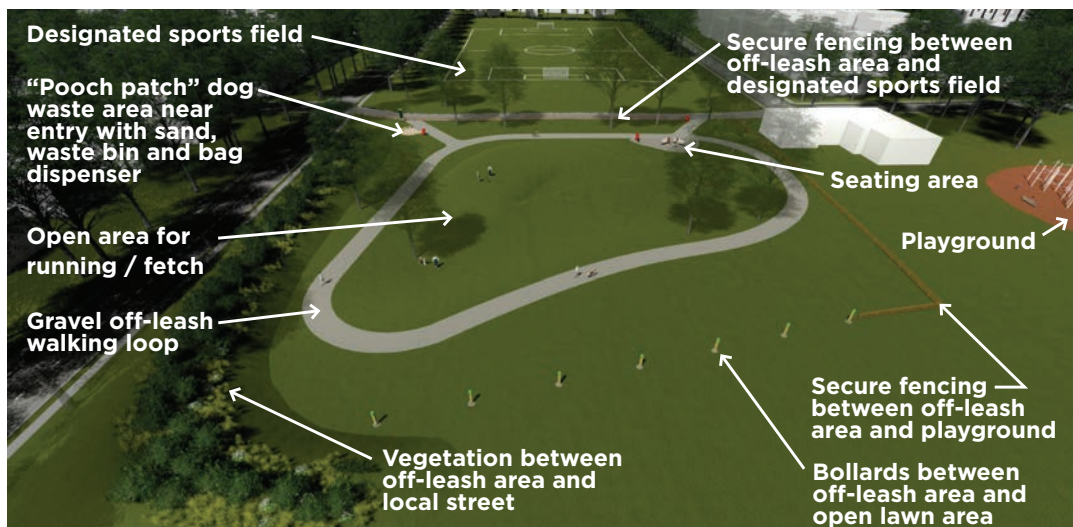








-  Size: No size target
-  Boundaries: fencing (secure / non-secure), bollards, vegetation
-  Circulation: Off-leash path
-  Surfacing: Gravel or wood chip path, planting
-  Adjacencies: Flexible
-  Standard amenities: waste bins, open space, shade, bag dispensers, seating.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK OFF-LEASH AREAS

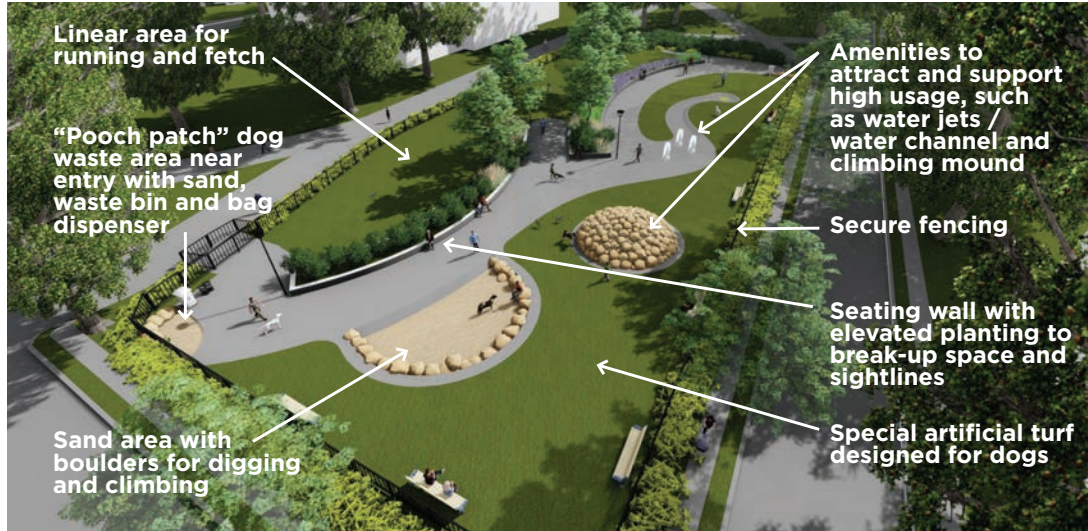
Here is an illustration and description of proposed features of the three different types of proposed Neighbourhood Park Off-Leash Areas.







NEIGHBOURHOOD Park Off-Leash Area



-  Size: From 0.4 to 1.2 ha (1-3 acres)
-  Boundaries: fencing (secure / non-secure), bollards, vegetation
-  Circulation: Separated off-leash looping path
-  Surfacing: Grass and fine crushed gravel
-  Adjacencies: More compatible adjacencies
-  Standard amenities: waste bins, open space, shade, bag dispensers, seating. Special amenities on case-by-case basis.







NEIGHBOURHOOD Urban Off-Leash Area



- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  | Size: From 0.04 to 0.4 ha (0.1 to 1 acre) |  | Boundaries: secure, high quality fencing |  | Circulation: Designed to reduce congestion |
|  | Surfacing: Durable, specialty surfacing |  | Adjacencies: More compatible adjacencies |  | Standard and special amenities to attract and support high use, such as water play and agility features |

NEIGHBOURHOOD Dog Run Off-Leash Area



- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
|  | Size: From 0.04 to 0.4 ha (0.1 to 1 acre) |  | Boundaries: secure, standard fencing (e.g. chain link) |  | Circulation: Designed to reduce congestion |
|  | Surfacing: Durable standard surfacing, such as fine crushed gravel |  | Adjacencies: More compatible |  | Standard amenities: waste bins, open space, shade, bag dispensers, seating. Special amenities on case-by-case basis. |

Q4

DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH EACH OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED DESTINATION AND NEIGHBOURHOOD OFF-LEASH AREAS?

DESTINATION	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Surfacing options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Size target	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amenity options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
NEIGHBOURHOOD	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Surfacing options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Size target	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amenity options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE RECOMMENDED TYPES OF DESTINATION AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK OFF-LEASH AREAS?

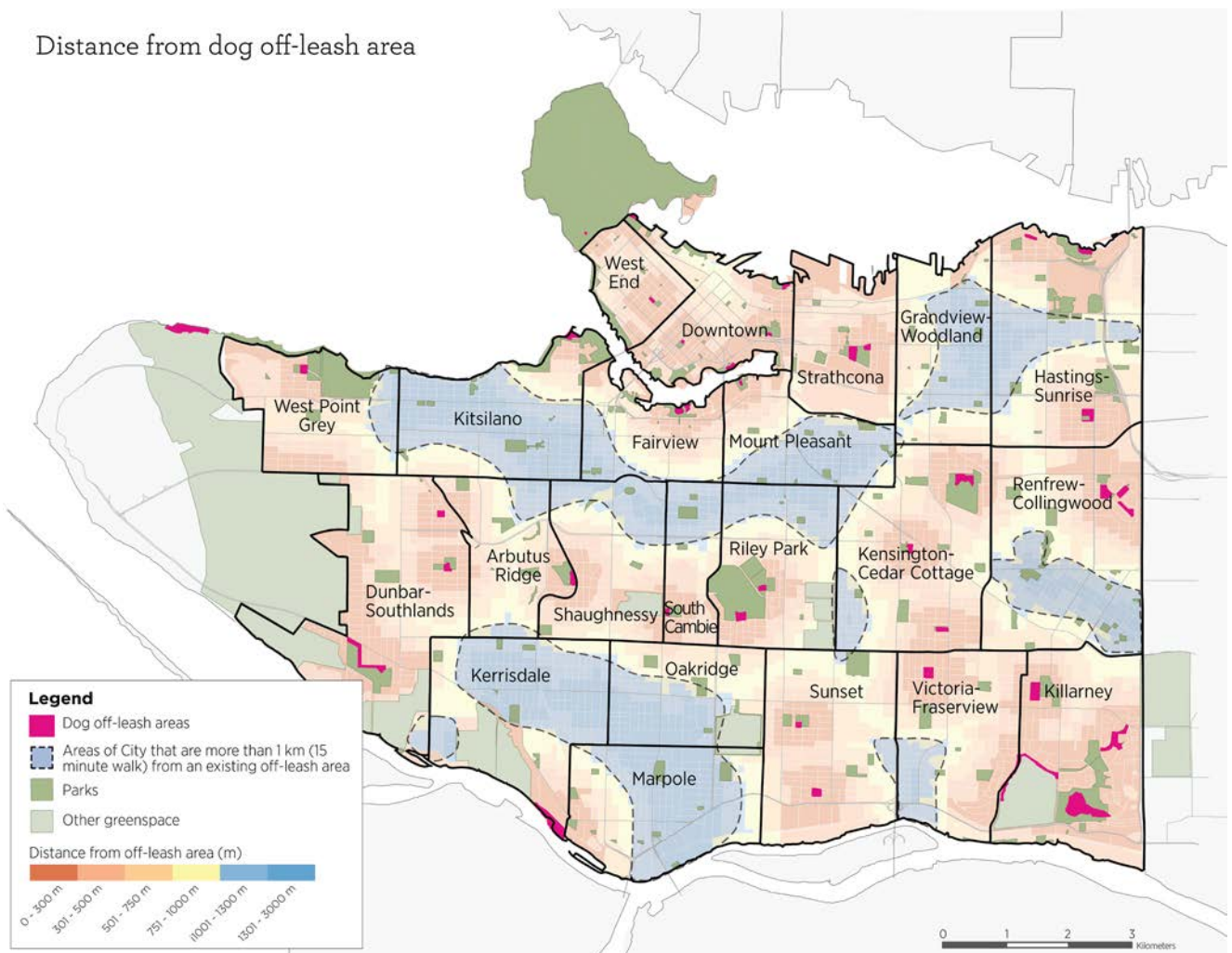
D. ACCESS: IMPROVE ACCESS TO DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

We know that people prefer conveniently located dog off-leash areas. We also know that, right now, off-leash areas are not evenly distributed around Vancouver, and that rules about off-leash area hours of use are often not followed. These challenges contribute to off-leash activity outside of off-leash areas, which can make sharing parks more challenging.

Key recommendations:

- Vancouver residents can access Neighbourhood Off-Leash Areas within a 15-minute walk (1 km) and can access Destination Off-Leash Areas within a 35-minute walk or a short drive
- Prioritize adding new off-leash areas to underserved and densely populated neighbourhoods
- Improve the hours for off-leash areas, to increase access to off-leash areas across the city
- Introduce a morning-only off-leash hours pilot project in selected downtown parks

Distance from dog off-leash area



Q5

DISTRIBUTION OF OFF-LEASH AREAS: We know from the feedback we received during round 1 of public consultation that most people are willing to walk approximately 15 minutes (travel 1 km) to a Neighbourhood Off-Leash Area. Mapping the 1 km distance from existing dog off-leash areas (shown on the previous page) identifies underserved communities.

SHOULD THE FOLLOWING UNDERSERVED AND DENSELY POPULATED COMMUNITIES BE THE PRIORITY FOR NEW OFF-LEASH AREAS?

	Yes	No
West End	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Downtown	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kitsilano	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fairview	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mount Pleasant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grandview-Woodland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other _____ _____		

Q6

HOURS OF OFF-LEASE USE: About half of Vancouver’s 36 off-leash areas are only accessible in morning and evening hours (6 – 10 a.m. and 6 – 10 p.m.), either during part or all of the year.

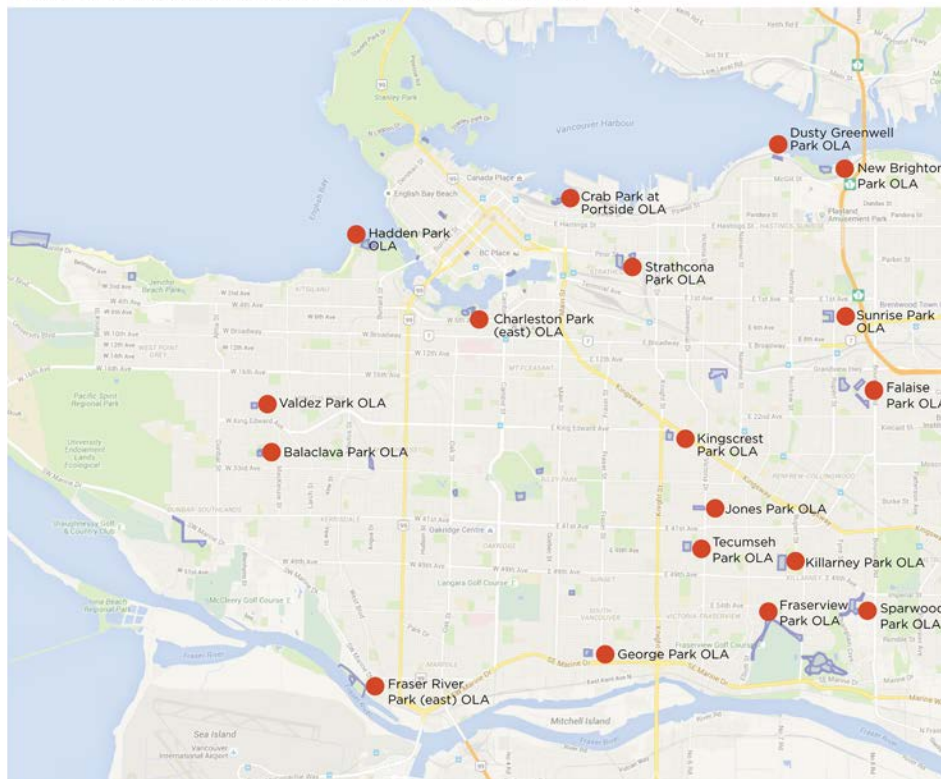
We are recommending removing time-of-use restrictions from the majority of existing sites to improve the availability of off-leash areas throughout the city. If approved, off-leash activity will be allowed from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. year-round. This change may require modifying the size of some off-leash areas; for example where the time limited off-leash area occupies the entire park, the Park Board would redesign the shared space to designate a portion of the park as a full-time dog off-leash area, in consultation with the surrounding community.

DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE RECOMMENDED REMOVAL OF CURRENT TIME-OF-USE RESTRICTIONS FROM OFF-LEASE AREAS?

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you have any comments about the recommended removal of current time-of-use restrictions? Please note under Question 10.

OFF-LEASE AREAS WITH CURRENT TIME-OF-USE RESTRICTIONS



Q7

PROPOSED PILOT PROJECT FOR DOWNTOWN PARKS: In Vancouver’s dense downtown core, off-leash space is at a premium, contributing to off-leash activity in parks where it is not allowed. We are recommending a one-year pilot project to increase off-leash access by adding off-leash hours from 6 to 9 a.m. in selected downtown parks (sites to be determined) where off-leash activity is not currently allowed (e.g. George Wainborn Park).

a PLEASE INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF AGREEMENT WITH THIS PROPOSED ONE-YEAR PILOT PROJECT TO ADD OFF-LEASH HOURS IN SELECTED DOWNTOWN PARKS (SITES TO BE DETERMINED).

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

b PLEASE PROVIDE REASONS FOR YOUR LEVEL OF AGREEMENT OR DISAGREEMENT REGARDING THIS PILOT PROJECT:

- This pilot project will make it easier for me to access an off-leash area in the morning
 - This pilot project would encourage me to limit off-leash activity with my dog to designated areas and times
 - More off-leash activity may increase the amount of noise in my neighbourhood
 - More off-leash activity may increase the amount of dog waste in my local park
 - The proposed pilot project will encourage off-leash dog activity outside the designated hours
 - Other sites that should be considered: _____
-

E. STEWARDSHIP: FORMALIZE RESIDENTS' ROLE IN OFF-LEASH AREA STEWARDSHIP

It is clear that Vancouverites using dog off-leash areas are interested in ensuring the long-term success of those spaces. We also know that off-leash areas can play an important role in fostering a sense of community in neighbourhoods, and there is currently a lot of informal sharing of information and resources among off-leash area users.

There is an opportunity to formally recognize this valuable role played by residents by establishing Ambassador Groups for off-leash areas.

Key recommendations:

- Establish Off-Leash Area Ambassador Groups in formal partnership with the Park Board to steward Vancouver's dog off-leash areas
- Provide opportunities to engage volunteers in education, special events, monitoring, reporting and fundraising for off-leash areas
- Engage local residents in establishing, changing or eliminating off-leash areas



ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS: We recommend establishing Ambassador Groups to help steward Vancouver’s off-leash areas. In a formal partnership with the Park Board, Off-Leash Area Ambassador Groups would coordinate volunteer activity at individual off-leash areas. Volunteer responsibilities could include:

- Peer education on topics such as code of conduct, understanding dog behaviour, and responsible dog ownership
- Monitoring and reporting on conditions at off-leash areas (e.g. damage, maintenance)
- Monitoring and reporting on activity in off-leash areas (e.g. people not following the code of conduct)
- Fundraising for special amenities at off-leash areas
- Light maintenance work, such as picking up dog waste and filling in holes dug by dogs

HOW IMPORTANT DO YOU THINK EACH OF THESE VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES IS FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF VANCOUVER’S OFF-LEASH AREAS?

Please rank them from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important).

- _____ Peer education on topics such as code of conduct, understanding dog behaviour, and responsible dog ownership
- _____ Monitoring and reporting on conditions at off-leash areas (e.g. damage, maintenance)
- _____ Monitoring and reporting on activity in off-leash areas (e.g. people not following the code of conduct)
- _____ Fundraising for special amenities at off-leash areas
- _____ Light maintenance work, such as picking up dog waste and filling in holes dug by dogs

Q9

ESTABLISHING, CHANGING, OR ELIMINATING OFF-LEASH AREAS: To involve communities in off-leash area planning, we are recommending that establishing, changing, or eliminating off-leash areas would follow a standard process that engages local residents. The Park Board would make changes to off-leash areas on a pilot project basis, with success monitored and evaluated after one year. Sites could be eliminated at the end of the year if they do not pass set evaluation criteria (for example, adherence to the code of conduct, impact to other park users).

DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE RECOMMENDED PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING, CHANGING OR ELIMINATING OFF-LEASH AREAS:

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

DEMOGRAPHICS

It's extremely important to us that we hear from a diversity of people and perspectives. The following questions help us to determine how the feedback we receive represents the community. Please note that individual responses are treated as anonymous and demographic information is always kept separate from personal identifiers.

Do you identify as...

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- None of the above.
I identify as _____
- Prefer not to say

Which age group do you belong to?

- 19 years and younger
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-69
- 70+

What is your home postal code? _____

Are you a dog owner or handler?

- Yes
- No

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

Optional: To receive updates on the *People, Parks & Dogs* strategy, including notification of upcoming consultation, please complete the following information. You may opt out at any time.

Name: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____



Thank you for participating!
Please submit your feedback by March 10, 2017

