

MEMORANDUM

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TO: Town Council and Town Administrator

THROUGH: Ken Cohen, Assistant Town Administrator

FROM: Dennis Andresky, Parks and Recreation Director

DATE: 2/7/05

SUBJECT: Dog Park Presentation Information

The following Town sites have potential for the addition of a dog park area:

1. Silver Lakes Park – 1.25 acres of area at the northeast corner of the property. One acre would be used by large dogs and one-quarter acre for small dogs. Parking and restroom facilities are already planned and budgeted for the site. Projected development cost is \$80,000. Projected annual maintenance is \$13,000.
2. Lange Park – 1.25 acres of area at the west side of the property. One acre would be used for large dogs and one quarter acre for small dogs. Parking exits at the site and a port-o-let is used as a restroom facility. Drainage improvements are needed and included in the projected development cost of \$90,000. Projected annual maintenance is \$10,000.
3. Robbins Lodge Park – 1.5 acres of land to the east and south of the dumpster area. One acre would be used for large dogs and one half acre for small dogs. Parking and restroom facilities are present at the site. Use of this park was recommended for consideration by the Open Space Advisory Committee at its 1/11/05 meeting. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board had considered this site but did not recommend it for use due to the intended and now established equestrian and agricultural uses at the site. Projected development cost is \$95,000. Projected annual maintenance is \$4,000.
4. Flamingo Road & 14th Street Parcel – 2 acres of land along 14th Street. One acre would be used for large dogs; one half acre for small dogs and one half acre for parking. Projected development cost including parking is \$115,000. Projected annual maintenance is \$16,000.

The following additional project data includes historical background information, further development cost figures, user guidelines and comparison facility data.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Suggested Sites: The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board reviewed all of the Towns existing park sites and recommended the following for consideration: Wolf Lake Park, Sunny Lakes Site and the Van Kirk Site. After further review, these sites were eliminated from consideration due to: established use patterns (Wolf Lake Park equestrian use); lack of space (Sunny Lakes Site) and Grant Funding Use Limitations (Van Kirk Site). Silver Lakes Park was also discussed as a possible site but not recommended because of planned development as a passive/nature park however since actual use patterns have not become established, staff suggests reconsideration of this site. The site is leased by the Town from the Florida Department of Transportation and use of the area for a dog park would require FDOT approval. Aside from the possible use of existing Town property, we are considering a major Open Space Land Acquisition Bond and would include 1.5 acres of any purchase for a dog park.

Expressed Need: Staff began receiving public requests for a dog park approximately three years ago. Within the past year, public demand has increased and consideration was given to either providing funding for the proposed Broward County Dog Park to be located at Markham Park or having the Town develop its own such park. The Town did not provide funding to the County project and is now discussing development of a dog park

Typical Use Rules and Regulations:

1. Dogs must be on a leash when outside of the designated Dog Friendly Area. Dog owners must carry a leash for each dog in their care while in the DFA.
2. Dogs that are in heat, are sick or have internal or external parasites (fleas, ticks or worms) are not allowed in the park.
3. All dogs must have current rabies shots and a current rabies tag displayed on a collar or harness.
4. Puppies under four months old are not permitted in the park.
5. Please keep the park gates closed at all times. When entering or exiting the DFA through the double gate system, always be sure that at least one of the gates is closed and latched.
6. Owners must remain in the DFA with their dogs. Unattended dogs are not permitted and are subject to removal by Animal Control.
7. Owners are responsible to clean up after their dogs. Facilities have been provided around the park, please use them.
8. If your dog digs, you are responsible to stop that behavior and fill the hole.
9. If your dog becomes aggressive, it must be removed from the park immediately.
10. Dogs and their owners that violate these rules are subject to removal and possible suspension from the park. Please monitor your dogs behavior at all times.

Potential Revenue: Revenue sources include the selling of advertising, naming rights and user fees

Projected Minimum Costs: The projected minimum costs for site acquisition, development and annual maintenance are as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Park Size | <i>2 acres</i> | |
| Small Dog Area | <i>1/2 acre</i> | Less than 25 lbs. |
| Large Dog Area | <i>1 acre</i> | 25 lbs. and larger |
| Fencing | <i>24,000</i> | |
| Grass/Landscaping | <i>21,000</i> | |
| Obstacles | <i>2,000</i> | |
| Benches | <i>2,000</i> | |
| Water Area | <i>2,500</i> | |
| Signs | <i>1,000</i> | |
| Parking Spaces (6) | <i>15,000</i> | |
| Concrete Paths | <i>10,000</i> | |
| Shade Canopies (2) | <i>20,000</i> | |
| Clean Up Dispensers (4) | <i>1,000</i> | |
| Trash Receptacles (4) | <i>1,500</i> | |
| Irrigation | <u><i>15,000</i></u> | Irrigation & electric drop. |
| Cost for Listed Improvements | <i>115,000</i> | |
| Land Cost | <i>500,000</i> | @ \$250,000/acre |
| Restroom Facility Cost | <u><i>60,000</i></u> | |
| Total Development Cost | <i>675,000</i> | |
| Annual Maintenance Costs: | | |
| Mowing | <i>3,000</i> | |
| Flea/Tick Control/Clean up bags | <i>4,000</i> | |
| Staff | <u><i>9,000</i></u> | 1.5 hr/day open/close/cleanup |
| Total Annual Maintenance Costs | <i>16,000</i> | |
| Operational Hours | <i>Daily 9 am to Dusk</i> | |

Dog Park Specifications/Survey: A minimum of two to three acres of space is needed. The cost and extent of amenities can vary greatly from creating a fenced in grassy area with in house fabricated dog obstacles at an existing park site to the acquisition of land and the use of premium site improvements such as rubberized surfacing and themed manufacturer supplied dog exercise and play equipment. The following comparison data provides information for several municipal and county dog parks within Broward County.

Comparison Dog Park Data

| Location | Coral Springs | Pembroke Pines | Plantation | Markham Park |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Size of Dog Park | 2 acres | 1 acre | 5 acres | 3 acres |
| Small Dog Area | 1/2 acre | 1/4 acre | 1/4 acre | 1/2 acre |
| Large Dog Area | 1.5 acre | 3/4 acre | 2 acres | 2.5 acre |
| Training Area | | | 3/4 acre | |
| K-9 Area | | | 1 acre | |
| Land Cost | | | | |
| Construction Cost | not available | \$30,000 to \$60,000 | \$500,000 | \$400,000 |
| Features | | | | |
| - obstacles | by volunteers | contractor | by staff | contractor |
| - cost | \$17,000 | | | |
| - shade | | | | canopies/trees |
| - paved walkways | | | | yes |
| - ada accessible | | | | yes |
| Surface | grass | grass | grass | bermudagrass |
| Hours of Use | dawn to dusk | dawn to dusk | 7 am to dusk | |
| On Site Staff | no | no | no | |
| Rules/Regulations | posted guidelines use at own risk | posted guidelines leash as needed | posted guidelines | posted guidelines |
| Flea/Tick Control | contractual service | cost not available | In house staff | In house staff |
| Maintenance Costs | | | | not available |
| - mowing | \$2,500/yr | | | |
| - regrass | | as needed | | |
| - clean up bags | | | \$3000/yr | |
| Revenue | \$18,000/5yr naming rights Dr. Pauls Pet Care Center | no | no | no |

Please advise at your convenience if clarification or additional information is needed.