

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE _____

Sponsors: Councilor Paul,
Burlington City Arts
Public Hearing Dates: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-One

An Ordinance in Relation to

B.C.O. – OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
Percent for Public Art
Sections 21-120 through 21-123

First reading: _____
Referred to: _____
Rules suspended and placed in all
stages of passage: _____
Second reading: _____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____
Published: _____
Effective: _____

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 21, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by adding a new article, Article X, Percent for Public Art, thereto to read as follows:

ARTICLE X. PERCENT FOR PUBLIC ART

21-120 Purpose.

(a) Name. This Ordinance shall be known as the Percent for Public Art Ordinance.

(b) Purposes. The purpose of this Article is to provide funding for public art in capital projects funded wholly or in part by the City of Burlington. Public art strengthens public places and enhances and promotes Burlington's identity as a livable, creative city and a desirable place to live, work and visit. The purpose of the Percent for Public Art Ordinance is to provide funding to involve artists in the design, implementation and integration of art in public projects, to support administration of the public art process, and to establish funds for maintenance of the City's public art collection.

21-121 Definitions. For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "The Art in Public Places Guidelines and Policies" (the Guidelines) shall mean a policy adopted by the Board of Advisors of Burlington City Arts and approved by the City Council that will guide the development of the City's Art in Public Places program and that will be funded in part through the Percent for Public Art Fund established by this ordinance.

(b) "Capital project" shall mean any project that is funded wholly or in part by the City of Burlington and that involves the construction, renovation, or remodeling of buildings, structures, or parking facilities; street improvements; streetscape improvements; or park or recreational area construction or remodeling. It does not mean any project or any portion of a project that is solely for repair or maintenance.

(c) “Eligible budget” shall mean that portion of the total budget for the capital project that is related to construction or rebuilding, but not debt issuance costs, permits, fees, maintenance, or other costs as may be excluded by the Guidelines.

(d) “Public art” means a work of visual art or an artistically designed feature created by an individual who is professionally engaged in the production of creative and original artwork that is owned by the City of Burlington. The work shall be intended to be permanent or longstanding, not temporary or transitory, so as to qualify for capital funding.

(e) “The Percent for Public Art Fund” shall mean one or more reserve funds of the City created for the purpose of housing the funds set aside pursuant to this ordinance and shall be carried over from year to year until expended.

(f) “The Public Art Administrator” shall mean the employee of Burlington City Arts responsible for administration of the City’s public art collection and Art in Public Places program.

(g) “The Public Art Committee” shall mean a committee created by the Board of Advisors of Burlington City Arts that includes City planning staff and may include individuals who are not members of the Board. A majority of the committee shall be residents or taxpayers of the City of Burlington. The Board may appoint specific members to serve on the Public Art Committee for any specific public art or capital project.

21-122 Eligible Projects.

(a) One Percent Set Aside. Any capital project, except as provided below, shall set aside at least 1% of its eligible budget for public art.

(b) Set Aside Not Required. A capital project is not required to set aside funds for public art if:

- (1) the ability to set aside project funds is limited by law, regulation, bond covenant, grant terms, or funding agency rules;
- (2) the project is funded by a bond for which the voters did not authorize the use of funds for public art; or
- (3) the City Council specifically determines that a particular project will not fund the 1% for public art.

(c) Public Art or Set Aside Funds. The 1% set aside shall either be used to incorporate public art into the project or be contributed to the Percent for Public Art Fund, as determined by the Public Art Committee in consultation with the project’s managers, except that for any capital project resulting in a set aside of \$10,000 or less, the set aside will be contributed to the Percent for Public Art Fund.

(d) Determination of Eligible Capital Projects. For each capital project of the City within the City’s capital budgets, the Chief Administrative Officer and the Executive Director will consult with the responsible department head and project manager to determine whether the project is a capital project within the meaning of this ordinance. The mayor will resolve any dispute about the eligibility of a capital project.

(e) Additional Contributions. The City may encourage other projects that are not capital projects to contribute to the Percent for Public Art Fund, as appropriate.

21-123 The Percent for Public Art Fund.

(a) Eligible Costs. Monies reserved in the Percent for Public Art Fund are dedicated to the creation, management and maintenance of public art. They may be used, with respect to public art, for any of the following capital expenses:

- (1) design, selection, acquisition, purchase, or commissioning,
- (2) display, installation, or transport,
- (3) conservation, cleaning, repair, maintenance, or restoration,
- (4) insuring,
- (5) decommissioning or sale, or
- (6) administration of the Art in Public Places program.

(b) Ineligible Costs. Monies from the Percent for Public Art Fund may not be used for:

- (1) mass-produced, standard design objects or visual works;
- (2) decorative, color, textural, or functional elements of a project designed by an architect, rather than as an integrated art work by an artist;
- (3) landscape architecture or gardening except if an artist has included them as integral parts of a work of art;
- (4) directional signage except as an integral part of an artist's design, or
- (5) other ineligible costs identified in the Guidelines.

(c) Percent for Public Art Fund Budget. The Executive Director of Burlington City Arts, with the approval of the Public Art Committee, will annually prepare a budget for the Percent for Public Art Fund that includes maintenance of the City's public art and administration of the City's Art in Public Places program to be included in the annual Mayor's Recommended Budget for City Council approval.

(d) Committee Authorization. The Executive Director may authorize the acquisition of any public art using the Percent for Public Art Fund, consistent with the approved budget and the Guidelines.

21-124 Public Art Project Guidelines and Policies

(a) Establishment of Guidelines. The Board of Advisors of Burlington City Arts will create and oversee the Guidelines related to the selection, management, and maintenance of public art and the related use of the Percent for Public Art Fund, subject to approval of the Guidelines by the City Council.

(b) Content of Guidelines. The Guidelines shall include:

- (1) criteria for the selection and placement of the City's public art, including standards for public solicitation of artists;
- (2) requirements to ensure that the City's public art reflects the cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity of the City, including methods to ensure representation by artists who reflect that cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity;

(3) standards to ensure sufficient funding for the continuing conservation, maintenance, repair, and restoration of the City's public art;

(4) procedures for acquiring and de-accessioning the City's public art;

(5) a process for public input and selection of members to serve on artist-selection juries.

(c) City Ownership. The City of Burlington shall own all public art funded pursuant to this ordinance unless formally deaccessioned.

**CITY OF BURLINGTON
PARKS, ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE**

**Councilor Joan Shannon, Chair, South District
Councilor Ali Dieng, Ward 7
Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6**

Staff: Holli Bushnell, Office Assistant
Lakeview Cemetery
hbushnell@burlingtonvt.gov

AGENDA

**Parks, Arts and Culture Committee Meeting
645 Pine St Front Conference Room
Wednesday, July 7, 2021 5pm to 7pm**

MEETING CONDUCTED IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

645 Pine St Front Conference Room

OR

When: Jul 7, 2021 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: PACC Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86593572082>

Or One tap mobile :

US: +19292056099,,86593572082# or +13017158592,,86593572082#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 865 9357 2082

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86593572082>

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the draft minutes from May 13, 2020

Public Forum – Members of the public may address the committee

Agenda Items –

1. Dog Task Force (Ben Traverse and Cindi Wight – 45 minutes)
2. North End Studios venue space replacement update (Doreen Kraft and Cindi Wight – 15 minutes)
3. 1% for Public Art (Doreen Kraft 10 minutes)

Schedule next meeting

Adjournment

Non-Discrimination: The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status or genetic information. The City is also committed to providing proper access to services, facilities, and employment opportunities. For accessibility information or alternative formats, please contact Human Resources Department at 865-7145

Resolution Relating to

**TASKING THE PARKS, ARTS and CULTURE
COMMITTEE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT
CREATION OF DOG TASK FORCE**

RESOLUTION 5.0

Sponsor(s): Dieng, Barlow, Carpo
Shannon

Introduced: 05/10/21

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted

Date: 05/10/21

Signed by Mayor: 05/20/21

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-one

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, Burlington city ordinance defines a dog as follows “Dog shall include both male and
2 female of the canine species. Dog shall also mean any animal which is considered to be a wolf-hybrid as
3 defined in 20 V.S.A. § 3541(6); and

4 WHEREAS, dogs are considered an integral part of our society, playing different roles and providing
5 services in the daily lives of humans, such as for accessibility, companionship, exercise, security and more
6 and

7 WHEREAS, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a service animal is a dog that has been
8 individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability, including a physical,
9 sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability; and

10 WHEREAS, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA),
11 dog adoptions are up 700% nationally during the pandemic; and

12 WHEREAS, according to the City of Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront website, “The State
13 of Vermont has one of the highest rates of pet ownership around the nation; the City of Burlington has made
14 possible for community members to share their experiences in many different locations in the greater
15 Burlington Area;” and

16 WHEREAS, the City of Burlington issued 755 dog licenses and collected over \$23,000 in dog license
17 revenue for the 2020 fiscal year; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Burlington via the Department of Parks, Recreation and Waterfront has made
19 a substantial investment in the renovation of the Starr Farm Dog Park located in the New North End; and

20 WHEREAS, over the past few months, residents of the New North End alongside other residents of the
21 city have shared via social media (Front Porch Forum, Facebook) a growing number of incidents involving
22 dogs or dog owners. The incidents were reported by dog owners, former dog owners and people who do not
23 own dogs; and

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

.....
.....
.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

* * * * *

Resolution Relating to TASKING THE PARKS, ARTS and CULTURE COMMITTEE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT CREATION OF DOG TASK FORCE

24 WHEREAS, most of those incidents are similar in nature; some are unique incidents that resulted i
25 decreased quality of life and have caused tensions between neighbors. Those incidents include but are not
26 limited to the following:

- 27 • Off leash dogs in city parks, natural areas or beaches
- 28 • Dogs attacking people or other dogs
- 29 • Dog feces not being picked up
- 30 • Policies not being enforced
- 31 • Unlicensed dogs
- 32 • Dog barking contributing to noise pollution; and

33 WHEREAS, several other issues involving other types of pets in the city were also shared by
34 community members; and

35 WHEREAS, on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, the New North End City Councilors, Barlow, Carpenter
36 Dieng, hosted an informative and constructive community meeting alongside South End District City
37 Councilor Shannon and Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Director Wight in order to understand the pet iss
38 better beyond the complaints shared on social media; and

39 WHEREAS, the community meeting was well attended and received by the community. The
40 attendance ranged from people of the South End, Old North End and New North End. Most attendees were
41 dog owners or former dog owners as well as people who do not own dogs, nature lovers, dog park volunteers
42 and professionals working with pets; and

43 WHEREAS, residents who attended the community meeting brainstormed ideas and best practices
44 related to these issues and are willing to formally help the city in an ongoing way;

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council respectfully refers the issues raised
46 this Resolution, and possibly other related issues, to its Parks, Arts and Culture Committee (PACC) and
47 requests that the PACC make a recommendation to the Council regarding the creation of a Burlington Dog Tas
48 Force; and

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council respectfully requests that the PACC report bac
50 to the full City Council by its June 28 meeting.

51

52

53

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
has been sent to the following
department(s) on

Parks, Arts & Culture Committee

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

Tasking The Parks, Arts and Culture Committee to Make Recommendations About

Cratation of Dog Task Force

.....

Adopted by the City Council

May 10, 20 21

..... Clerk

Approved May 23, 20 24

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *



REPORT: BURLINGTON OFF-LEASH OPPORTUNITIES

Date: June 7, 2013

To: City Council

From: The Off-Leash Work Group (OLWG)

Community Representatives: Ed Pais, Chair, Betsy Allen-Pennebaker, Lynne Lieb, Becky Poitras, and Louise Stoll; Staff: Deryk Roach, Dan Cahill and Jen Francis

Re: Off-Leash Work Group Findings

I. Introduction & Background

MEETING BURLINGTON'S OFF-LEASH NEEDS

- Burlington's population is growing; continued increase projected
 - The CCRPC's ECOS Project predicts a population growth spurt in Chittenden County: 50,000 people over the next 25 years
- Off-Leash pilot program initiated in 1998
 - Five locations identified by the pilot program
 - Starr Farm Park
 - Waterfront Dog Park at the Urban Reserve
 - Intervale
 - Schmanska Park
 - Oakledge Park
 - Two of these locations remain operational today as fenced dog runs
 - Starr Farm Park
 - Waterfront Dog Park at the Urban Reserve
 - Need to revise and formalize this pilot program
- Build on past successes and lessons learned

TODAY'S OFF-LEASH ISSUES

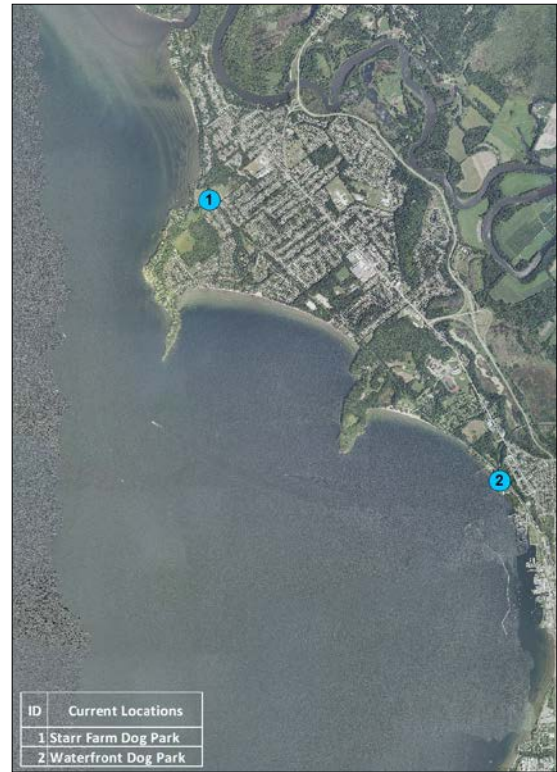
- Expressed community desire for more off-leash opportunities within the City of Burlington
- Need for improved compliance in licensing
 - ***1255 dogs were licensed in the City of Burlington in 2012; the Humane Society of Chittenden County estimates Burlington's dog population to be closer to 7,000***
- Need for dog owners to assume greater responsibility in stewardship practices
- Need for improved access
- Need for improved enforcement
- Need for additional funding to support maintenance, enforcement & expansion opportunities

- Protection of natural resources

Off-Leash Areas Identified by the 1998 Pilot Program



Five pilot off-leash areas as proposed in 1998



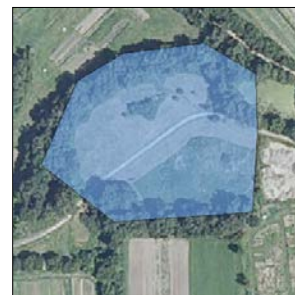
Two off-leash areas currently in operation



Starr Farm Park



Waterfront/Urban Reserve



Intervale

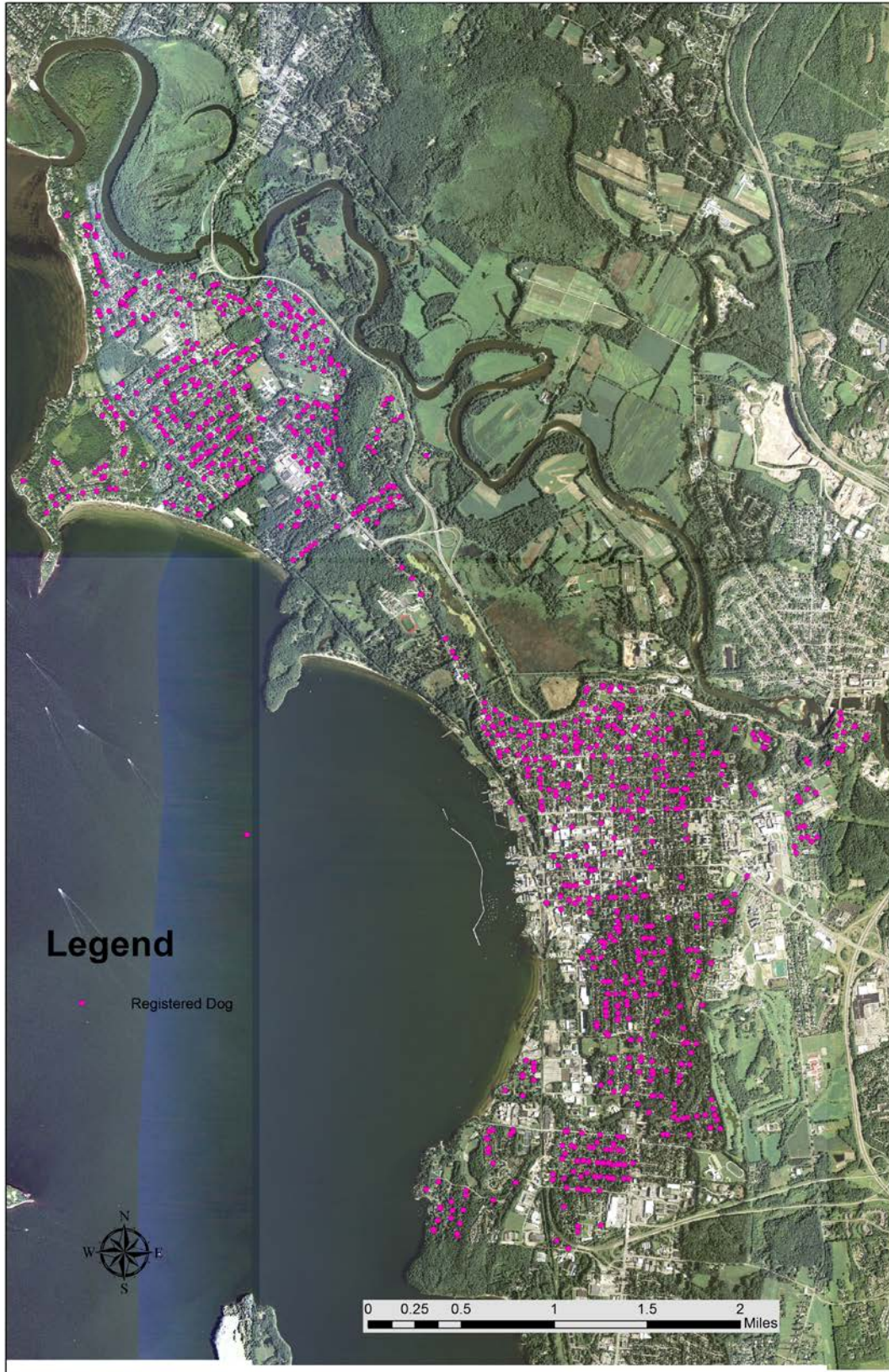


Schmanska Park



Oakledge Park

REGISTERED DOGS IN BURLINGTON - 2012



Date: 1/22/2012

Author: dcahill

COMMON PERCEPTIONS

Many emails were received and conversations held with residents and dog-park users during this process. These are among the common themes that emerged:

- If people think the **rules are unfair**, they are more likely to ignore them. This is the current state of dog areas in Burlington.
- Large open spaces that have **mixed opportunities are appealing**. These places offer an opportunity to be alone with your dog in a more private setting, which contrasts the more typical dog run.
- Current park users feel as though they have to break the rules in order to access park resources with their dogs because there are **not enough off-leash options available**. This is an uncomfortable position for dog owners.
- **Accessibility is important**... equal distribution of off-leash areas throughout city and seasons, for all ages and abilities, particularly for elderly community members.
- People are **more likely to follow fewer rules** than many.
- **Potential revenue opportunities** exist to hold special events in off-leash areas.
- **Inconsistent enforcement**... confusion with the “Parks Patrol” in yellow shirts; dogs must be vaccinated & registered, but there is a lack enforcement to ensure this is happening.

II. Development of the Off-Leash Work Group

FORMATION

- Formed per directive of the City Council in the fall of 2011
- Comprised of representation from each ward and park staff
- Ward representatives served as liaisons to neighbors and communities

TASKS

- Establish of off-leash goals & objectives
- Research successful off-leash programs
- Evaluate current off-leash areas & identify potential expansion opportunities
- Consider a strategic approach to improve and expand Burlington off-leash opportunities
 - Consider long-term funding sources, maintenance practices, partnerships
- Review and revise existing City dog/off-leash ordinance
- Review and revise Parks policy regarding off-leash areas
 - Consider hours of use, terms of etiquette, safety standards, stewardship
- Report findings to City Council & Ordinance Committee

CREATION OF GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Goals
 - Foster healthy relationships between dog owners, non-dog owners, and all park users
 - Improve off-leash opportunities to support all users in a healthy, sustainable environment

- Objectives
 - Identify off-leash opportunities & policy considerations
 - Evaluate current off-leash areas & consider future expansion locations
 - Consider opportunities & recommendations (site specific)
 - Identify performance metrics & enforcement opportunities
 - Identify opportunities for communication, community involvement & partnerships

III. Off-Leash Work Group Findings

OBJECTIVE 1: IDENTIFY OFF-LEASH OPPORTUNITIES & POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Several types of off-leash opportunities were identified by the work group:

Potential Types of Off-Leash Opportunity

TYPE	TERRAIN	EXAMPLES	CONSIDERATIONS
Fenced Dog Runs	Outdoor or indoor open area	Starr Farm	Typically fenced; could include: training areas, obstacle course equipment, small dog hours, puppy hours, senior hours, reservations & programmed training opportunities
Open Fields (non-fenced)	Varies		Typically unfenced
Mixed-use Areas	Combination of open fields, trails, woods and swim access	Niquette Bay State Park, Centennial Woods	Typically unfenced; some dogs and owners are intimidated by fenced in areas
Off-Leash Hours	Varies/specific locations	Central Park, NYC	Early morning, late evening, etc.
Seasonal Usage	Varies		Potential summer & winter hours
Recreation/Hiking Trails	Varies	Stowe, VT	Areas should be designated by clear signage
Designated Dog Beaches	Water	Chicago, San Diego	Fenced and unfenced areas can be successful
Unique Opportunities	Training areas, special hours for puppies/senior dogs, athletic court & field winter access, partnership with cemeteries, landfill reclamation, regional facilities, indoor dog runs	Albany, CA, Washington D.C. Congress. Cemetery	Seasonal dog parks, potential seasonal locations, potential conflict with historic preservation/significance, may requires coordination & participation between multiple entities

Considerations also included operations, program, and education policy:

Policy Type Considerations

OPERATIONS POLICY	
Time	<i>Clear identification of hours of operation for various venues</i>
	<i>Provide hourly and seasonal off-leash times in specific areas</i>
	<i>Set hours to meet multiple user's needs</i>
	<i>Recommended hours: early AM 5-9:00 a.m./early PM 6-9:00 p.m.</i>
Safety	<i>Minimize intimidation scenarios</i>
	<i>Lighting in specific off-leash areas to provide additional security</i>
	<i>Agreement that shelter is desirable, but not a necessity</i>
	<i>Agreement that access to emergency phones in parks is not a necessity</i>
	<i>Management of conflicting use</i>
PROGRAM POLICY	
Short List of Rules & Regs	Be a good neighbor
	Attend to dogs at all times
	License all dogs
	Limit of four (4) dogs per owner
	Bicycles, skateboards and skates are prohibited
	Food/treats prohibited unless otherwise indicated
	Control & limit barking
	Clean up after your dog
	Dogs must be under voice control
	Report all dog bites to animal control (provide phone number)
PUBLIC EDUCATION POLICY	
Off-Leash Vocabulary	Community development & education
Etiquette	For dog owners & non-dog owners everywhere (on- & off-leash areas)
	Build awareness within shared use areas: interaction with runner, bikers, etc.
	Improve activity identification signage
Environmental Protection	Owners responsible for picking up after their dogs at all times
	Shift from current City-supported plastic bags to community driven bag collection points

In addition, the work group felt that there was a need for clarity regarding the management and enforcement of off-leash areas:

- If users have a grounds or operations complaint, the Department of Parks & Recreation should be contacted
- If users need to report a bite or other incident, calls should be directed to the Police Department's Community Resource Officer
- Phone numbers for both Departments should be available and clear

Specific policy recommendations are included in the "Off-Leash Dog Policy" statement in the Appendix that detail Designation of Areas and Times of Operation, Rules for Commercial Use of Off-Leash Dog Areas, Signage, Operations, and Public Outreach & Enforcement.

OBJECTIVE 2: EVALUTATE CURRENT OFF-LEASH AREAS & CONSIDER FUTURE EXPANSION LOCATIONS

The Off-Leash Areas of Consideration Matrix & Map were developed as a tool to evaluate and rank existing & potential off-leash areas. While these documents are quantitative, staff recommendations as detailed in the Director's Memo are based on both the work group findings and Department qualitative data.

The Off-Leash Areas of Consideration Matrix includes:

- Consideration of forty potential sites
- Consideration of several other smaller-scale sites disqualified because of existing constraints
- All other park areas not addressed in this plan are recognized as on-leash areas only

Refer to matrix and map.

Protected Conservation Lands

Note that conservation lands may not be considered as potential off-leash areas because of existing management plans and policies that protect the significant natural features present at each respective property.

- Conservation lands have significant natural features (sensitive plant & animal species) and high values of contribution towards ecological processes.
- All of Burlington's conservation areas adhere to best management principles - the most relevant being the consideration of human & dog impact on the function of the land
- Parks & Open Spaces that have been set aside specifically for conservation are not conducive to off-leash programming because of existing management plans geared towards the preservation and protection of the natural environment.
- In Burlington these lands include: The Winooski Valley Park District, Urban Wilds, Mt. Calvary Wetland, Ethan Allen Park, Arms Grant Park, McKenzie Park, Rock Point, and Crescent Woods.

PROTECTED CONSERVATION LANDS



Date: 1/22/2012

Author: dcahill

OBJECTIVE 3: CONSIDER OPPORTUNITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS (SITE SPECIFIC)

Section A of Appendix B (Proposed Off-Leash Policy) details the proposed site-specific work group recommendations for off-leash opportunities within the City of Burlington. These areas are highlighted in green on the map below and include opportunities at Starr Farm Park, the Urban Reserve, Leddy Park, Oakledge Park, Calahan Park, Schmanska Park, Waterfront Park, and Roosevelt Park.

OFF-LEASH WORK GROUP PROPOSED OPPORTUNITIES



OBJECTIVE 4: IDENTIFY PERFORMANCE METRICS & ENFORCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Members of the work group conducted nation-wide research by interviewing staff from the following communities known to have successful off-leash programs: Central Park, New York, NY; Berkeley, CA; Albany, CA; Richmond, CA; Portland, ME; Chicago, IL; San Diego, CA; Missoula, MT; Eugene, OR; Santa Barbara, CA; and Shelburne, VT. Questions were proposed and the findings informed the development of the recommended performance metrics.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What are the MANAGEMENT RESOURCES needed to operate your model?

Do you have a DOG OFFICER, person or group to oversee the management of the program?

How do you enforce your RULES & REGULATIONS?

What is the annual cost of OFF-LEASH OPERATIONS?

What TYPES OF FACILITIES do you operate (dog runs, trails, seasonal use, fenced/unfenced)?

How many off-leash facilities does your park system offer?

Are dog FEES charged? How much of those fees are used to support dog amenities?

Are your off-leash areas open to NON-RESIDENTS?

Do off-leash opportunities promote tourism?

What is your city's human POPULATION? What is your city's dog population?

How many dog LICENSES are registered?

How do you GENERATE REVENUE for off-leash areas (programming, etc.?)

What are your PERFORMANCE METRICS?

Recommended Performance Metrics

- Preparation of a year-to -date budget review each fiscal quarter to determine and project fiscal stability and ability to meet the operational needs of off-leash opportunities
- Track weekly attendance record to build data for dog parks
 - Use sign-in sheets/on-site data collection including an annual survey through social media and NPA's to determine number of program participants
 - If possible, link this data collection to the registration process
 - Report on these numbers regularly
- Maintain volunteer capacity of greater than four (4) volunteers per fenced in dog run and two (2) for other off leash locations
 - Report on these numbers regularly and have detailed strategy to retain and recruit volunteers in the Off Leash Operational Plan
- Track number of complaints/requests for service
- Track number of complaints not serviceable
- Track number of days to complete service request

Recommended Enforcement Opportunities

- Detailed by Appendix B: Proposed Off-Leash Policy

OBJECTIVE 5: IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNICATION, INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIP

- Neighborhood Planning Associations (NPA's)
- Social media
- Front Porch Forum
- Improved signage/kiosks
- Public education
- Websites (Parks & Recreation, City, Partners)

In addition, the work group identified local, dog-friendly hotels. These include: the Hilton Burlington, Sheraton Burlington, Made Inn Vermont, and North Beach Campground. Potential partnership opportunities may serve to support and improve Burlington tourism.

IV. Work Group Recommendations

ORDINANCE REVISION

- See Appendix A: Proposed Off-Leash Ordinance Revisions

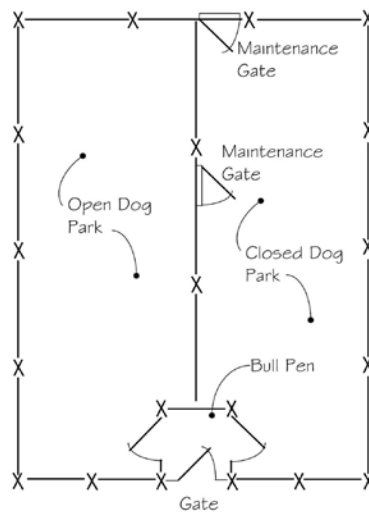
POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

- See Appendix B: Proposed Off-Leash Policy
 - Formalize proposed off-leash opportunities per Appendix B
 - Staff development of an operation plan to further define rules & regulations, hours of operation, location of amenities, seasonal enforcement, etc.

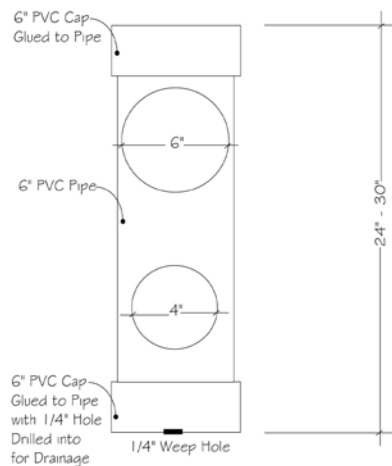
UPGRADES TO EXISTING FACILITIES

- Implementation of best management practices
 - Improved fencing, gates, and bull pens (entries)
 - Implementation of grounds "rest" areas within dog runs (benches, pavilions, shelters, picnic tables)
 - Improved signage/kiosks/public education materials
 - Implementation of community collection points for waste bags
- Amenities for consideration: improved access, shelter, seating, access to drinking water where possible, availability of waste bags/trash cans, notification/rules board, swim access, lighting, and emergency phones

Best Management Practices



Sample grounds "rest" plan



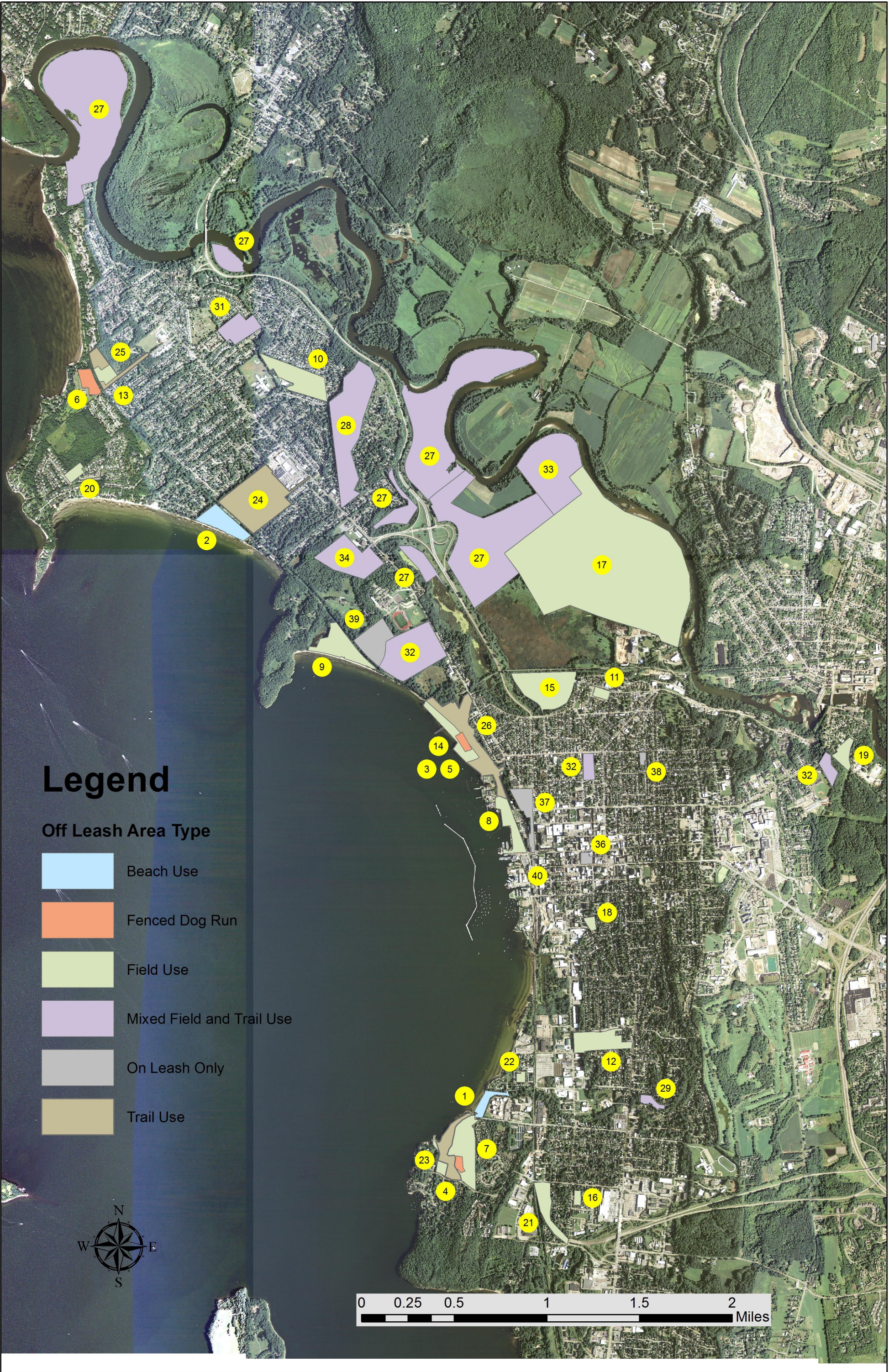
Community-supported waste bag collection system

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- See Appendix C: Additional Off-Leash Recommendations
 - o Creation of an Animal Welfare Board
 - o Review the structure of dog license fees
 - o Review dog licensing
 - o Promote the dog-friendliness of Burlington to visitors
 - o Develop programs to improve etiquette
 - o Provide public vehicular access to the Urban Reserve dog run
 - o Pursue public-private development partnership opportunities
 - o Establish Friends of Burlington Dog Parks Group

--END--

OFF-LEASH AREAS OF CONSIDERATION



Off-Leash Areas of Consideration

Rev. 1/22/13

OFF-LEASH AREA TYPE	AREA NO.	LOCATION NAME	SITE CLASSIFICATION	APPROX. PARK SIZE	POTENTIAL USE SCHEDULE	LOCATION DESCRIPTION	DISTRIB. SCORE (0-1)	POPULATION DENSITY (-1-1)	POTABLE WATER ACCESS (0-1)	SHELTER ACCESS (0-1)	RESTROOM ACCESS (0-1)	PARKING ACCESS (0:no-1:min-2:adq)	SITE AMENITIES (0:no-1:pot-2:exst)	DOG SWIM ACCESS (-1-1)	ADA ACCESS (0-1)	WAYFINDING (0-1)	CONFLICTING USES (-1-0)	POINT VALUE											
WATER USE	1	Oakledge Park (Blanchard Beach North)	Regional park	46 acres	Seasonal	South	1	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	Yes	1	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	-1	8	
	2	Leddy Park (South Beach)	Regional park	70.9 acres	Seasonal	North	0	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	2	No	0	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	-1	5	
	3	Waterfront Dog Park at Urban Reserve	Open space	22.41 acres	Seasonal	Center	1	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	0	3	
FENCED DOG RUN USE	4	Oakledge Park	Regional park	46 acres	Year-round	South	1	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	Yes	1	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	-1	8	
	5	Waterfront Park at Urban Reserve*	Regional park	11.3 acres	Year-round	Center	1	Low	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	1	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	-1	5	
	6	Starr Farm Park*	Neighborhood park	21.2 acres	Year-round	North	0	Medium	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Potential	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	-1	2	
FIELD USE	7	Oakledge Park	Regional park	46 acres	Year-round, hourly & seas.	South	1	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	Yes	1	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	-1	8	
	8	Waterfront Park (North End)	Event Grounds	3 acres	Seasonal	Center	1	High	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	2	Yes	1	No	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	8	
	9	North Beach	Regional park	38.7 acres	Seasonal	North	0	Low	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	No	0	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	6	
	10	Schifilliti Park	Playfield	9.1 acres	Seasonal & hourly	North	0	High	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	No	0	No	-1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	-1	5	
	11	Roosevelt Park	Playfield	3.3 acres	Year-round, hourly	Center	1	High	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	No	-1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	0	5	
	12	Calahan Park	Playfield	17.2 acres	Year-round, hourly & seas.	South	1	High	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	4	
	13	Starr Farm Park	Neighborhood park	21.2 acres	Year-round, seas., & hr.	North	0	Medium	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	Yes	2	Yes	1	Potential	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	4	
	14	Urban Reserve	Open space	22.41 acres	Year-round & seasonal	Center	1	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	0	3	
	15	Manhattan Project	Open space	35 acres	Seasonal	Center	1	Medium	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	3	
	16	Baird Park	Neighborhood park	1.78 acres	Hourly	South	1	High	1	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	2	
	17	The Intervale	Agricultural area	338 acres	Undetermined	Center	1	Low	-1	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	Potential	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	2	
	18	Smalley Park	Neighborhood park	2.14 acres	Year-round, hourly	South	1	High	1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	1	
	19	Schmanska Park	Neighborhood park	6.39 acres	Discretionary, hourly	Center	1	Low	-1	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	No	1	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	1	
	20	Appletree Park	Neighborhood park	3.5 acres	Year-round, hourly	North	0	Medium	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	0	1	
	21	South. Conn. & Woods	Open space	12.6 acres	Year-round	South	1	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	
	22	Lakeside Park	Neighborhood park	1.65 acres	Year-round, hourly	South	1	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	0	
	TRAIL USE	23	Oakledge Park	Regional park	46 acres	Year-round	South	1	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	Yes	1	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	9
		24	Leddy Park	Regional park	70.9 acres	Year-round	North	0	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	2	No	0	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	6
		25	Starr Farm Park	Neighborhood park	21.2 acres	Year-round, seasonal, hr.	North	0	Medium	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Potential	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	3
		26	Urban Reserve	Open space	22.41 acres	Year-round & seasonal	Center	1	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	0	3
	MIXED FIELD & TRAIL USE	27	WVPD	Partnership	146 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	Center	1	Low	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	5
		28	Ethan Allen Park	Urban Wild	80.3 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	North	0	Medium	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	2	Yes	1	No	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	4
29		Crescent Woods	Partnership	5 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	South	1	Medium	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	3	
30		Rock Point	Partnership	140 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	North	0	Low	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	2	No	0	Potential	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	3	
31		Mt. Calvary Wetland	Urban Wild	11.7 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	North	0	High	1	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	1	
32		Cemeteries (LV, GM, EW)	Partnership	11.3 acres	Undetermined	Variable	1	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	2	No	0	No	-1	Y/N	0	No	0	Yes	0	1	
33		McKenzie Park	Urban Wild	66 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	North	0	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	Potential	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	-1	
34		Arms Grant Park	Urban Wild	30.9 acres	Ineligible: dogs prohibited	North	0	Low	-1	No	0	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	-1	
ON-LEASH ONLY	35	Bike Path	Pathway	20 acres	Year-round & seasonal	Variable	1	Variable	1	Yes	1	Variable	1	Variable	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	9	
	36	City Hall Park	Urban Park	4 acres	Year-round	Center	1	High	1	Yes	1	No	0	Variable	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	7	
	37	Battery Park	Neighborhood park	9 acres	Year-round	Center	1	Medium	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	0	7	
	38	Pomeroy park	Neighborhood park	1.47 acres	Year-round	Center	1	High	1	Yes	1	No	0	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	No	-1	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	0	5	
	39	North Beach (unless in restricted area)	Regional park	38.7 acres	Seasonal/Ref. App. D (fallow)	North	0	Low	-1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	2	No	0	Potential	0	Yes	1	Yes	1	Yes	-1	5	
	40	Champlain St. Park	Pocket park	.12 acres	Year-round	South	1	High	1	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	-1	No	0	No	0	Yes	0	1	

* Currently functioning as Off-Leash Areas per the 2002 Ordinance.
The distribution score is based on population density in relation to available open space.



APPENDIX A: PROPOSED OFF-LEASH ORDINANCE REVISIONS

Date: June 6, 2013

To: City Council

From: The Off-Leash Work Group (OLWG)

Community Representatives: Ed Pais, Chair, Betsy Allen-Pennebaker, Lynne Lieb, Becky Poitras, and Louise Stoll; Staff: Deryk Roach, Dan Cahill and Jen Francis

Re: Off-Leash Work Group Findings

Proposed Revisions to the Municipal Ordinance...

Sec. 22-13. - Animals prohibited; exception

No domestic animals, except dogs, shall be permitted in any park. Dogs shall be held in leash by their owners unless in designated off-leash dog areas.

Sec. 7. - Off-leash dog opportunities

(A) *Off-Leash Dog Policy.* The Department of Parks and Recreation shall maintain an off-leash dog policy. The policy may be modified by the Director of Parks and Recreation with the approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Off-Leash Dog Policy (OLDP) shall govern, the establishment, operations, and enforcement of off-leash dog opportunities as enumerated in this ordinance.

(B) *Designation of Areas.* Areas shall be designated for the purpose of allowing dogs to be under control of the owner or another individual by means other than physical restraint. The Parks and Recreation department shall maintain year-round off-leash opportunities in the South End, Center, and North End of the city, defined below. A variety of opportunities shall be provided including: fenced dog runs, water access, field use, and trail use on an hourly, seasonal, or year-round basis within reasonable walking distance of neighborhoods. Opportunities, where possible, shall be dispersed across the city. Permanent fenced dog runs shall be established in the ordinance, whereas the other area types shall be established in the OLDP.

(1) *Sections of the City.* Defined as:

- (a) *South End.* All portions of the city south of Maple Street and a line extending from Maple Street extending to the eastern and western limits of the city.
- (b) *Center.* All portions of the city north of Maple Street and a line extending from Maple Street extending to the eastern and western limits of the city and south of Washington Street and a line extending from Washington Street to the eastern and western limits of the city.
- (c) *North End.* All portions of the city north of Washington Street and a line extending from Washington Street to the eastern and western limits of the city.

- (2) *Permanent Off-Leash Fenced Dog Runs shall be located at:*
 - (a) *Starr Farm Park.* That portion of Starr Farm Park that is bounded on the east by the Burlington Bikeway and bounded on the west by that part of Starr Farm Park which is set aside for community gardens.
- (3) *Temporary Off-Leash Fenced Dog Runs shall be located at:*
 - (a) *Urban Reserve.* That portion of the area designated as the Waterfront Urban Reserve that is bounded on the east by the Burlington Bikeway, bounded on the south by the land known as the Texaco Jetty – including so much land to the south of the Jetty as to allow for access to the beach directly adjacent to the Jetty, and bounded on the north by the northern boundary of the Urban Reserve.
- (4) *Off-leash dog areas prohibited.* At the following parks dogs shall be permitted on-leash only:
 - (a) *Bike path*
 - (b) *Battery Park*
 - (c) *City Hall Park*
 - (d) *Champlain Street Park*
- (5) *Public Information.* Department of Parks and Recreation shall be responsible for maintaining clear reference to off-leash opportunities, maps, hours, and rules & regulations.

(C) *Times of Operation.* The times of operations shall be as determined in the OLDLP.

(D) *General Rules for All Areas Designated as Off-Leash Dog Areas:*

- (1) A person taking a dog into an off-leash area shall have control of the dog by means of physical restraint (leash, cord, chain, etc.) when entering and leaving the off-leash area.
- (2) A person taking a dog into an off-leash area shall maintain voice, hand or other appropriate control over the dog at all times while the dog is in the off-leash area. Such person shall also have in their possession at all times a means of physical restraint.
- (3) A person taking a dog into an off-leash area may only do so during the times set forth by these rules.
- (4) All dogs present in an off-leash area shall be licensed and vaccinated and shall display valid license and vaccination tags attached to a dog collar.
- (5) A dog present in an off-leash area shall be the responsibility of a person who is present in the area with that dog. A person responsible for a dog in an off-leash area shall not leave the dog unattended in the off-leash area. A person responsible for a dog in an off-leash area shall be legally responsible for its actions.
- (6) A person shall not take a female dog in heat into an off-leash area.
- (7) A person taking a dog into an off-leash area is responsible for removing that dog's feces from the off-leash area. A person taking a dog into an off-leash area shall carry equipment for removing such feces and shall place feces deposited by such animal in an appropriate receptacle.
- (8) A person taking a dog into an off-leash area shall stop that dog from digging holes or destroying any parks property.

- (9) A person may not take more than three (3) dogs at a time into an off-leash dog area without a special permit given by the parks and recreation department. Professional dog trainers and organizations shall not use off-leash dog areas for their commercial activities except as allowed by this ordinance.
- (10) Vicious dogs as defined by Burlington Code of Ordinances section 5-13 are not allowed in an off-leash area.
- (11) There shall be no eating or smoking in the off-leash area.
- (12) Glass containers shall not be allowed in an off-leash area.
- (13) Any gate to an area shall be closed upon entry and exiting.
- (14) Person in control of a dog in an off-leash area shall not permit the dog to engage in excessive barking, howling, or other noise.
- (15) Persons under the age of twelve (12) years shall not be allowed in an off-leash area without the accompaniment of someone at least eighteen (18) years of age.

(E) *Enforcement:*

- (1) In addition to the penalties provided for by ordinance, a person or dog that violates off-leash rules and regulations is subject to ejection from the off-leash area.
- (2) In addition to the penalties provided for by ordinance, a duly authorized enforcement official may impound a dog for a violation of off-leash rules and regulations or for activities determined to be a nuisance.
- (3) In addition to the penalties provided for by ordinance, a person who violates the rules of this section on two (2) occasions within a twelve-month period may be barred from using the off-leash areas during the six (6) months after the second violation.

(F) *Administration:*

- (1) **Signage.** Signage depicting locations of off-leash dog areas, lists of essential rules, and other signage as necessary shall be installed in accordance with Parks and Recreation Department signage policy and the OLDP.
- (2) **Operations.** Standard operating procedures and amenities provided in the off-leash dog areas shall be defined in the OLDP.
- (3) **Commercial Usage of Parks.** The Department of Parks and Recreation may charge a fee to allow for commercial usage of the off-leash dog areas by professional trainers, and for-profit and not-for-profit animal organizations. Portions of the off-leash dog areas should allow for unencumbered usage by the public during these events. The fees charged for these events shall be used for the establishment, operations, or improvements of designated off-leash dog areas. Commercial use of off-leash dog areas without a permit shall result in a fine. Commercial Usage of off-leash dog areas may be further modified by the OLDP.

--END--



APPENDIX B: PROPOSED OFF-LEASH POLICY

Date: June 6, 2013

To: City Council

From: The Off-Leash Work Group (OLWG)

Community Representatives: Ed Pais, Chair, Betsy Allen-Pennebaker, Lynne Lieb, Becky Poitras, and Louise Stoll; Staff: Deryk Roach, Dan Cahill and Jen Francis

Re: Off-Leash Work Group Findings

Off-Leash Work Group proposed policy regarding:

- A. *Designation of Areas and Times of Operations*
- B. *Rules for Commercial Use of Off-Leash Dog Areas*
- C. *Signage*
- D. *Operations*
- E. *Public Outreach & Enforcement*

(A) *Designation of Areas and Times of Operations.*

The following areas, including those identified in the ordinance, are opportunities for off-leash areas:

(1) Dog Runs

- (a) *Starr Farm Park (year-round).* That portion of Starr Farm Park that is bounded on the east by the Burlington Bikeway and bounded on the west by that part of Starr Farm Park which is set aside for community gardens.

- (i) *Times.* The designated area may be used year round during the operating hours of the park.

- (b) *Urban Reserve (year-round).* That portion of the area designated as the Waterfront Urban Reserve Dog Run - bounded on the east by the Burlington Bikeway, the north by the land known as the Texaco Jetty – including so much land to the south of the Jetty as to allow for access to the beach directly adjacent to the dog run, and 280 yards north of the southern boundary of the Urban Reserve.

- (i) *Times.* The designated area may be used for off-leash use during operating hours.

(2) Mixed Opportunities (water, open field, trails)

- (a) *Leddy Park (year-round).* Leddy Park in its entirety excluding programmed areas including parking lots, athletic fields, public beaches, buildings, roads and walks, courts, playgrounds, etc.

- (i) *Times.* The designated area may be used park operating hours.

- (b) *Oakledge Park 1 (seasonal).* Oakledge Park in its entirety excluding programmed areas including athletic fields, playgrounds, courts, parking lots, roads and walks, buildings, public beaches, parking lots, etc.

(i) *Times.* The designated area may be used November 16 to May 14.

(3) *Water & Trail Opportunity*

(a) *Oakledge Park 2 (year-round).* That portion of Oakledge Park that is bounded on the west by the lake, bounded on the east by the bike path, on the south by the path to the cove, and bounded on the north by the field to the north of the tennis courts. Access to Lake Champlain shall be available for dogs and people in this area.

(i) *Times.* The designated area may be used during park operating hours.

(4) *Field*

(a) *Calahan Park (seasonal).* That portion of Calahan Park that is bounded on the east by Shelburne Road, north by Locust Street, west by Pine Street, and south by the park/neighborhood boundary excluding programmed areas such as courts, buildings, baseball fields, roads/walks, playgrounds, etc.

(i) *Times.* Summer: the designated area may be used at any time of the year from dawn to 10:00 a.m.

(ii) *Times.* Winter: the designated area may be used at from October 1 to April 1 from dawn to 10 am and 3:00 p.m. to dusk.

(b) *Schmanska Park (seasonal).* The multipurpose field portion of Schmanska Park extending from the basketball court to the tennis court.

(i) *Times.* Summer: the designated area may be used from April 16 to October 14 from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.

(ii) *Times:* Fall: the designated area may be used from October 15 to April 15 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. for off-leash activities permitted by these rules.

(c) *Waterfront Park (seasonal).* That portion of the park bounded on the north by Lake Street, bounded on the west by the bike path, bounded on the south by the path that crosses the railroad tracks and connects to Lake Street, and bounded on the east by the railroad tracks.

(i) *Times.* Winter: the designated area may be used at any time of the day from November 15 to March 31 for off-leash activities permitted by these rules.

(ii) Access to this area may be limited from November 15 to March 31, if any events permitted by the Parks and Recreation department need this designated area.

(d) *Roosevelt Park (seasonal).* That portion of the park bounded on the north by Oak Street, bounded on the west by Walnut Street, bounded on the south by Willow Street, and on the east by the walking path bisecting the park. Dogs are not allowed on the baseball infield.

(i) *Times.* The designated area may be used at any time of the year from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and from October 1 to April 1 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

(B) Rules for Commercial Use of Off-Leash Dog Areas.

(1) Commercial users will be responsible for creating any boundaries or temporary fencing that is required for their needs.

(2) Commercial users may use the off-leash dog areas a maximum of twelve days per year.

- (3) No more than one commercial user may use a single dog park concurrently.
- (4) Off-leash dogs will be able to utilize any areas of the off-leash area that are not separated by temporary or permanent fencing.
- (5) With the exception of extraordinary circumstances, no more than 33% of an off-leash dog area shall be permitted to be bounded off for commercial usage.
- (6) Commercial usage shall not interfere with standard entrances and exits from the off-leash dog area.
- (7) If any parks and recreation staff time is required for the event, the commercial users of the park will be responsible for covering all costs related to the staff time. Further, staff will only be made available with approval of the Director of Parks and Recreation approval.
- (8) Commercial users will be responsible for all costs related to set-up, operations, security, and cleanup for all events.
- (9) Standard Parks and Recreation Department requirements for reserving parks will apply.

(C) *Signage.*

- (1) Signs may be placed at the perimeter of non-fenced off-leash dog areas to indicate the limits of off-leash dog activity.
- (2) Signage shall be placed at entrances to off-leash dog areas indicating the essential rules.
 - (a) Essential rules will be defined for each opportunity by Park Department staff.

(D) *Operations.*

- (1) Parks & Recreation shall develop and keep current an operations plan that defines services and responsibilities to be delivered to areas identified in the policy.

(E) *Public Outreach & Enforcement.*

- (1) The Parks Department and the Police Department shall collaborate to educate and enforce the rules and regulations as outlined by the policy in off-leash areas.

--END--



APPENDIX C: ADDITIONAL OFF-LEASH RECOMMENDATIONS

Date: June 7, 2013

To: City Council

From: The Off-Leash Work Group (OLWG)

Community Representatives: Ed Pais, Chair, Betsy Allen-Pennebaker, Lynne Lieb, Becky Poitras, and Louise Stoll

Re: Off-Leash Work Group Findings

In addition to the off-leash ordinance revision and the implementation of off-leash policies, the community representatives of the Off-Leash Work Group recommend consideration of the following issues that fall outside of the scope of the work group's charge.

- Create an Animal Welfare board, commission, or committee to help coordinate efforts and address issues relating to animals that also involve a variety of City Departments. We believe that there should be a minimum of 5 members with the following makeup:
 - One member from the Parks & Recreation Commission
 - One member from the Police Commission
 - One member who is a professional working with animals (for example, a veterinarian or employee at the Humane Society)
 - Two at-large members
- Review the structure of dog license fees.
 - In the past dog license fees have been raised multiple times with the promise that the additional revenue would go to support dog parks. This has not happened.
 - The allocation of collected license fees should be disclosed in the annual report.
 - We recommend that the dog license fees in excess of the state statutory fees be used generally for the development of off-leash infrastructure, training and enforcement and included in the City's annual report.
 - 75% to development and support of off-leash opportunities
 - 25% for animal control purposes
- Review dog licensing. We believe that there are many dogs in the city that are not being registered, and that there are ways to increase the compliance of licensing.
 - Consider allowing 1 to 3 year licenses. The rabies vaccinations are valid for three years so allowing the licenses to expire when the rabies vaccination expires could potentially increase compliance and reduce staff work in issuing licenses. It may be necessary to have the licenses renew automatically each year to comply with state statute.

- Consider allowing veterinarians to license animals. We are not sure if veterinarians will be interested in this as they care for dogs in multiple communities. However, if people can get their dogs licensed at the vet it will likely increase the numbers of people getting their dog licensed.
 - Provide handouts on dog rules & regulations, as well as off-leash opportunities, to individuals getting their dog licenses. This could help with people knowing and following the regulations.
- Promote the dog-friendliness of Burlington to visitors. This can be used to increase tourism here as more people are travelling with their pets.
 - As part of our work, we gathered information on hotels that allow dogs. This was put on a Facebook group that we established. This was subsequently used by the information desk at the airport to give suggestions for hotels for travelers with dogs.
 - Develop & promote off-leash opportunities, and Burlington as a dog-friendly city, to partners in the tourism industry.
- Develop programs to improve etiquette between cyclists, pedestrians, and dog walkers.
- Provide public vehicular access to the Urban Reserve Dog Run.
- Pursue public-private development partnership opportunities.
- Establish a Friends of Burlington Dog Parks Group to:
 - Help raise funds for the dog parks
 - Help recruit volunteers for maintenance of dog parks
 - Assist in communications between dog owners, residents, businesses, and the Parks Department
 - Promote the dog-friendliness of Burlington
 - Consider development of a foundation in raising funds

--END--

OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

1998 – OFF LEASH PILOT

Off leash areas and fenced dog runs

- Still listed in ordinances
- Technically invalid

2011 – OFF LEASH TASK FORCE CREATED

- **Formed per directive of City Council**
 - Comprised of representation from each ward and park staff
 - Ward representatives served as liaisons to neighbors and communities
- **Tasks**
 - Establish off-leash goals and objectives
 - Research successful off-leash programs
 - Evaluation of current off-leash areas and identify potential expansion opportunities
 - Consider a strategic approach to improve and expand Burlington's off-leash opportunities
 - Review and revise existing City dog/off-leash ordinance
 - Review and revise Parks policy regarding off-leash areas
 - Report findings to City Council and Ordinance Committee

2013 - FINAL REPORT FROM TASK FORCE

ORDINANCE

- Approve off-leash areas to exist in Burlington
- Require BPRW to maintain an off-leash policy that is approved by Parks Commission
- Specify parks where off-leash is not permitted
- Establish official fenced dog parks at Waterfront and Starr Farm
- General rules of off-leash areas

POLICY

- Designation of areas and times of operations
- Rules for commercial use of off-leash dog parks
- Operations
- Public outreach
- Signage

2019/20 – NEXT STEPS

Policy

- BPRW staff work on final policy based on work of 2011-2013 Task Force
- Policy approved by Parks Commission

Ordinance

- PACC recommend to City Council that the off-leash ordinance be sent to Ordinance Committee for an update
- Ordinance committee review recommendations of 2011-2013 Task Force and 2019 minor modifications requested by staff
- Ordinance sent back to Council for approval

Beginning of the survey

In 2000, the City Council passed a resolution allowing off-leash areas in City Parks as a pilot. The pilot was extended in 2002 for an additional year due to its length to get the project off the ground. The pilot included the two fenced dog parks, Waterfront and Starr Farm, plus it had non-fenced areas in other parks.

In 2011, the City requested a task force be created to review the off-leash area rules, make amendments as needed, and formalize the off-leash area rules to no longer be a pilot. At the time, the Director formed a workgroup and worked extensively for two years researching best practices across the country and meeting with Burlington residents to determine what was best for Burlington.

In 2013, the workgroup created a final report, but due to other projects' timing, the recommendations did not make it to Council to be approved and formalized. Since the completion of the report has been seven years, we are surveying residents on the proposed actions to get input before formalizing through Council action.

For purposes of this survey, we will use the term "dog park" to define a space with a fence around it for dogs to be off-leash and "off-leash area" references all areas, including fenced where dogs are allowed to be off-leash.

To see the list of rules for off-leash areas, visit: [Appendix D](#)

Summer = April 2 to mid-Oct

Winter = mid-Oct to April 1

Demographics

Do you live in Burlington? [will use survey logic]

If yes, what Ward do you live in?

If you live outside Burlington, please list the name of your town/city

Age [use standard age brackets]

Do you currently own a dog?

Location preferences

Please indicate on the scale your preferences for the location of an off-leash area for each site.

[1 – not a good site 3 – neutral 5 – got to have it]

Starr Farm Dog Park (fenced)

Waterfront Dog Park (fenced)

Calahan Park open space (not athletic fields, courts or near playgrounds) – year-round (dawn – 10:00 a.m.) and winter (3:00 p.m. – dusk)

Leddy Park – year round (not athletic fields, courts or near playgrounds)

Leddy Beach – designated off-leash area (south beach entrance to south property line)

North Shore Natural Area – designated off leash area (south stairs to ramp access)

Oakledge Park open space – winter only

Roosevelt Park open space (not athletic fields, courts or in playground) – year-round (dawn – 10:00 a.m.) and winter (3:00 p.m. – dusk)

Schmanska Park open space (not athletic fields, courts or near playground) – year-round (dawn – 10:00 a.m.) and winter (3:00 p.m. – dusk)

Do you think it should be a priority to make available off leash areas for different areas in Burlington?

Open ended comments

Include comments here on the limited times and limited locations within a park that are specified for some parks.

Please use the box below to add in any additional comments regarding off-leash areas.

Staff: Holli Bushnell, Office Assistant
Lakeview Cemetery
hbushnell@burlingtonvt.gov

Minutes

Parks, Arts & Culture Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 7, 2021, 5:00 pm

MEETING CONDUCTED IN PERSON AT 645 PINE ST FRONT CONFERENCE ROOM AND VIA ZOOM

Attendance:

Committee Members: Chair Joan Shannon, Councilor Ali Dieng, Councilor Karen Paul

City Staff: Emer Feeney – Fletcher Free Library, Doreen Kraft – BCA, Cindi Wight – BPRW, Holli Bushnell – BPRW Staff

Public – Ben Traverse – Chair, Parks Commission

Meeting called to order at 5:09pm by Chair Shannon

Approval of agenda

Councilor Paul moved to approve the agenda. Councilor Dieng Seconded, all were in favor.

Approval of draft minutes from May 13th, 2021

Paul moved to approve the minutes. Dieng seconded. All were in favor

Public Forum

Public forum opened at 5:10pm. As there were no members of the public present the public forum was closed at 5:10pm

Agenda Items

1. Dog Task Force –

Cindi Wight provided the committee with a review of the work completed by the previous task force. The first off-leash pilot program was initiated in 1998 and lead to the creation of the Starr Farm and Waterfront dog parks. Initially this was an 18 month pilot and the organization committee was supposed to provide a report to the council at the end of the time period. There is no evidence that this report was generated or presented.

In 2011 Councilor Shannon requested that a task force revisit off leash areas and fenced dog runs. This task force spent 2 years working with the community and looking at off leash areas and fenced dog parks. The project lasted from 2011 to 2013 and the task force provided a final report with recommendations related to both areas. When masterplan for parks was started the project was temporarily shelved and did not return to discussions until 2019 when Wight

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pulled report and presented to PACC and Parks Commission. Both committees expressed concern that the 2013 report were outdated. Wight developed a new survey to gauge the needs and desires of the community.

Ben Traverse provided the committee with a perspective from the Parks Commission. The commission feels the previous task force did a great job and is confident that the information is still accurate and applicable. That said, parks have changed a lot in the last decade since that task force was initiated. The Commission would like to survey the public again to insure the information is as accurate as possible. He stated that, while his commission doesn't often have public commenters the comments they do get concern off leash dogs. The commission would be prepared to survey the public and look at ordinance/policy OR provide a representative to task force. They want to be part of discussion on this issue.

At this time the committee reviewed the resolution draft provided by Dieng. The resolution charges PACC with the creation of a new task force and details who the proposed members should be as well as the goals of the project. The main roll of PACC is to appoint members to the new task force. The composition of the task force was amended as follows to reflect that PACC will appoint 5 members to the task force based on an application that Wight will generate and post on the city website. Applicants will have from the date the resolution is approved by the city council until August 31, 2021 to submit applications for positions 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8. The clerk's office will collect the applications. Position 5 will be designated by the Chief of Police, position 6 will be designated by the BPRW director, and position 9 will be appointed by the Parks Commission Chair. BPRW will also provide a staff member to act as admin for the task force meetings. The task force will report to PACC quarterly and will provide a report to the full city council by April 29, 2022.

Dieng moved to recommend the resolution as discussed to council. Paul seconded. All were in favor.

2. North End Studios Update

Wight reports that BPRW has signed an agreement with Champlain Housing Trust to manage the recently vacated space at the Old North End Community Center starting 7/1/2021. They are now managing the downstairs space.

Doreen Kraft stated that she has been working with David Shein and others to find temporary spaces for those displaced by the NES closure this summer. She is also in the process of putting together a long term plan to develop a searchable database for performing arts use. They have

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started gathering information, but the project is much larger than anticipated. Kraft has asked Shein to contact former NES staffers to see if any of them might be able to assist in developing this database. BCA will coordinate with all culture groups in the city and the information will be available on both the city website and hello Burlington. At the moment the most pressing issue is a lack of staff availability to work on the project. Kraft hopes that things will slow down in August and she and her staff can pick the project back up in the fall. In the meantime, they have been able to answer a lot of need by finding alternative spaces with the assistance of Shein.

3. 1% for Public Art

The city council approved the 1% for Public Art ordinance. While Kraft wasn't available for the council meeting, City Attorney Eileen Blackwood was present and able to answer councilor's questions. There will be a lot of administrative work to set the program up as well as to see what projects will be eligible for the 1%. This was a project 20 years in the making and Kraft believes it will be hugely impactful moving forward. She specifically highlighted the upcoming large scale art project at the airport, stating that this large project and others like it will be better supported with the ordinance in place.

4. Schedule next meeting

The next PACC meeting will be held on September 9, 2021 at 5:30pm in the front conference room at 645 Pine St.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.