



Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Aldinger and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Richard Gill, Director of Parks and Recreation R. J.
 Idris J. Al-Oboudi, Recreation Services Manager
 Cameron Harding, Recreation Supervisor

DATE: April 1, 2008

SUBJECT: Three Month Progress Report for Bruce's Beach On-Leash Area for Dogs

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive and file the three month progress report for the Bruce's Beach on-leash dog area.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

Approximately \$1,500 was spent for signage, mutt mitt dispensers and suggestion boxes.

BACKGROUND:

During the September 18, 2007 City Council meeting, Council approved opening up approximately ½ of Bruce's Beach Park for dogs on leash for a six month trial period. Council directed staff to report back after three months with a progress report.

DISCUSSION:

Staff held a committee meeting to receive input as to which half of Bruce's Beach should be used for the on-leash trial period. Staff also received emails from the residents near Bruce's Beach recommending either the upper or lower half of the park. After several weeks, it was clear that the majority of residents near the park wanted to use the lower portion for the trial period.

Staff installed signs, mutt mitt dispensers and suggestion boxes and opened the lower area of Bruce's Beach to dogs on leash in mid December. Parks and Recreation and Police Department staff met prior to the opening to develop the attached inspection sheets and suggestion forms (attachments A & B). A plan was also developed to monitor the area using animal control, community service officers, the park ranger and recreation staff.

For the three month period ending March 17, 57 participant surveys have been received and 439 inspection reports by City staff were completed. To summarize the input, dog barking and dog bites/fighting have had no incidences reported. The question of self policing and dog waste left behind is not that clear. The staff inspection logs are finding minimal waste left behind. However,

of the 57 survey results in the suggestion box, almost 41% stated they reported seeing dog waste left behind.

Although there are no incidences of dogs off leash noted in the surveys or inspection reports, staff did receive three phone calls regarding the subject. One of the calls was received prior to the trial period and staff sent animal control to the park after receiving the other two calls. Animal control could not verify any dogs off leash in those two instances.

Staff believes there is no reason to stop the trial period at this time. Staff recommends continuing the trial period until mid June when a comprehensive report will be given to Council and the public will be noticed.

- Attachments: A. Narrative and Check List Form
B. User Survey Form

BRUCE'S BEACH ON LEASH DOG AREA STAFF INSPECTION



DATE:

NAME OF STAFF INSPECTING:

Time of inspection:

Comments:

Dogs-

Aggression: Y/N

Dog Waste: Y/N

Time of inspection:

Comments:

Dogs-

Aggression: Y/N

Dog Waste: Y/N

MAINTENANCE / OTHER ISSUES:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please return this form to Mr. Idris Jassim Al-Oboudi Recreation Services Manager max 2 Days after inspection. Please Contact Recreation Supervisor Mr. Cameron Harding 310-802-5420 charding@citymb.info and Mr. Idris Jassim Al-Oboudi Recreation Services Manager ialoboudi@citymb.info 310-802-5404 directly if there are issues needing immediate attention.

City of Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Department

Bruce's Beach Park on-leash dog access survey and suggestion form

Dear park user: Please note that the City of Manhattan Beach has approved the signed Walk-through and Lower-West grass areas of Bruce's Beach park for dog access on-leash. This area will be part of a three month trial / test to assess its success as a valued addition to the park.

Please use this survey and suggestion form to provide your input and suggestions on operational conditions at the park. Please insert the completed form in the suggestion drop box.

Date of visit to the park: _____ Time of visit to the park: _____
 Contact information: Name _____ Phone#: _____
 Email: _____ Address: _____

Safety concerns:

Did you observe dogs and children in the same area? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Did you observe any dog bites to children? Yes: _____ No _____
 Did you report the aggression? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Did you observe dogs off leash in the park? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Clean & Green:

Did you observe any dog leaving waste and the owner walking away without picking up?
 Yes: _____ No _____

Did you ask the owner to clean up? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Did you observe any "old" dog waste? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Did you pick it up? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Did you observe anybody else picking it up? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Do you think self-policing is working? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Did you observe an empty Mutt-Mitt dispenser? Yes: _____ No _____
 Comments: _____

Please contact the Parks and recreation department for further information at 310-802-5448 Or email us at charding@citymb.info . Thank you.