



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Cohen and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Geoff Dolan, City Manager

**FROM:** Richard Gill, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Idris Al-Oboudi, Recreation Services Manager

**DATE:** November 17, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of the Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation to Approve an Off-Leash Dog Area at Polliwog Park

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that City Council approve the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission to install an off-leash dog run area at Polliwog Park for general use by the public and dog obedience classes.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

The total cost for the dog run is \$18,200 (attachment A). This project can be implemented in one phase or the installation be completed over two years in two phases. The first phase costs \$11,700. The second phase is to be completed in FY 2010/2011. Funds have not been budgeted for this project. If approved, the only source for funding would be the City Council Contingency Fund. There is a balance of \$50,000 in the City Council's Contingency Fund.

Annual operational cost of the proposed off-leash dog run area at Polliwog Park are estimated to be \$4,000.

- A. \$2,200 in labor for annual removal and replenishment of woodchips
- B. \$800-Mutt Mitt replacements
- C. \$500-Electrical power.
- D. \$500-Drinking water.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In February 2005, the City opened an off-leash dog play area in Live Oak Park beyond the center field fence at Dorsey Field. The City Council made the off-leash area permanent in August of that year because of its great success. The dog run at Live Oak has had minimal problems and has become a social gathering place for many dog owners. When making Live Oak permanent, City Council directed staff to move the dog obedience classes from that site so more time would be available for the public. The Council also stated that if other locations are discovered for a dog run that don't impact the surrounding neighbors, that site should be brought forward for consideration. In December 2005, a site at Marine Avenue Park was brought forward to Council, considered and approved. In the three years since it was installed, there have been no problems related to the dog

run at Marine Avenue Park.

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff believes it has found an additional site that may also be suitable for an off-leash play area for dogs. The area is along the upper west walkway at Polliwog Park (see attachment B-site map). The area is rectangular in shape and would be comparable in size to the dog run at Live Oak Park.

Staff reviewed the area in Polliwog Park with the Dog Advisory Committee, who agreed to its suitability for an off-leash dog area. This site exists along a walkway that was approved for on-leash dog walkthrough access in September 2008.

A notice was sent to the neighborhoods surrounding Polliwog Park, inviting them to the October 26, 2009 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. On this notice was a map showing the approximate location of the proposed off-leash dog area.

On October 26, 2009, staff presented a proposal for the establishment of an off-leash dog area at Polliwog Park to the Parks and Recreation Commission. At this public meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission took public testimony that supported the proposal. Staff has received one email from a resident with operational concerns that have been addressed in design of the area and rules and regulations governing dogs in Polliwog Park in general and proposed dog run specifically.

If approved as an off-leash play area, the Polliwog site would be operated with rules and policies similar to the Live Oak and Marine Avenue dog run areas. The Superintendent of Public Works has confirmed with staff his ability to implement this project within two months from approval.

If the Polliwog Park site is approved as an off-leash area for dogs, staff will monitor the area and document any concerns. At the end of six months, staff would provide the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council with a status report.

If City Council approves the Parks and Recreation commission recommendation for the establishment of an off-leash dog area in the proposed location in Polliwog Park, staff will implement the project based on City Council direction.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A: Budget Phases
- B: Site Map

**Cost Estimate of Proposed Dog Run in Polliwog Park**

<b>Cost estimate of Proposed Dog Run area to the East of Begg in Polliwog park:</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>cost</b>
Landscaping – tearing out all plants, shrubs, and bushes in the proposed dog run area; while leaving all pine trees intact. <b>Phase # 1</b>	0
Fencing – Installing 9 gauge green fencing along the northern, southern, and eastern sides of the proposed dog run area. <b>Phase # 1</b>	2800
Wood Chips <b>Phase # 1</b>	3000
Installation of a water for Dogs. <b>Phase #2.</b> / <b>To run the Water for Dogs line in Phase#1 and get simple water Fountain in Phase #2 donated. This includes Reclaimed water line for watering down woodchips as needed. \$2000.00 Phase #1 and \$3000.00 Phase #2</b>	5000
Installing a reclaimed water bib for watering down and maintaining dog run. <b>Phase # 1</b>	300
12” wood border around the base of the dog run; to prevent wood chips from spilling out. <b>Phase # 1</b>	600
Green Screen along the portion of fencing where the dog run overlaps with Begg Pool. <b>Phase #2.</b>	1000
A bench in the proposed dog run area <b>Phase #1 We already have 2 benches at city yard</b>	300
Signage – One “etiquette” sign and one “hours of operation” sign.	<b>300</b>
Kiosk – the installation of an information kiosk. <b>Phase #2.</b>	2500
Lighting – the installation of security lighting for evening use. <b>Phase # 1</b>	2500
<b>Total Phase # 1</b>	<b>11,700</b>
<b>Total Phase #2</b>	<b>6,500</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>18,200</b>

Begg Field

Begg Pool  
Parking Lot

Proposed Dog  
Run Site

MB TRANSITION SCHOOL

POLLIWOG PAR

1402

Begg Pool

MB TRANSITION SCHOOL

POLLIWOG PAR

1402

Begg Pool