

To: Community Services Committee

From: Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
Community Services Department

Report Number: CS-18-54

Date of Report: June 15, 2018

Date of Meeting: June 21, 2018

Subject: South Oshawa Dog Park

File: F-6100

1.0 Purpose

This report is in response to CS-17-87, Request for Dog Park in South Oshawa that, required public consultation to provide input into the proposed off-leash dog area in South Oshawa.

2.0 Recommendation

That the Community Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That based on report CS-18-54, a location within Cordova Valley Park as per 'Attachment 1' be approved for an off-leash area in South Oshawa.
2. That City staff present the Cordova Valley Park Off-Leash Area project budget as part of the 2019 capital budget.
3. That consideration be given to upgrade other park facilities within Cordova Valley Park to comply with the recommendations set in the 2018 Oshawa Accessibility Advisory Committee Park Audit and to provide a project budget as part of the 2019 capital budget to implement these park facility upgrades.

3.0 Executive Summary

N/A

4.0 Input From Other Sources

- Corporate Communications
- Finance Services
- Public Consultation & Engagement
- Oshawa Durham Area Walkers Group (O.D.A.W.G.)

5.0 Analysis

5.1 Background

In September 2016, the City received correspondence CS-16-70 requesting the creation of an off-leash dog park in South Oshawa. To address this request, the City's Parks Development department undertook a phased approach to first, design guidelines for off-leash areas, which are located in report CS-17-87, Request for Dog Park in South Oshawa. Secondly, a communications plan was created with corporate communications that:

- Confirmed the level of interest through public consultation in an off-leash area in south Oshawa;
- Obtained public feedback on the proposed locations and off-leash area; and,
- Gained awareness from volunteers to participate in an Off-leash Ambassador Program

5.2 Community Consultation Results

Over the period of March 1, 2018 to May 24, 2018 Corporate Communications received survey feedback from the public on their preferred location for an off-leash area. 79.7% of the public surveyed voted they would visit a dog park in South Oshawa. The two options voted on were Cordova Valley Park and Stone Street Park.

58.7% of the surveyed voted for Cordova Valley Park as the preferred location because of its larger size, suitable parking area and its overall location as it is in a high-density area. 41.3% of the surveyed voted for Stone Street Park as the preferred location however, is not ideal due to its smaller size, proximity to residents and distance to parking.

In addition, 80.9% of those surveyed voted in favor for a separate enclosure for small dogs.

5.3 Off-Leash Volunteer Ambassador Program

Of the 172 survey submissions, 43 individuals have requested to receive more information on becoming a volunteer for the Off-Leash Ambassador Program for the second off-leash dog park located in Oshawa. Volunteers would work with City staff and serve as stewards of the off-leash area and would monitor park use and raise awareness on responsible dog ownership. In addition, O.D.A.W.G. has offered to assist with the set-up of an Ambassador Program and provide guidance where needed.

5.4 Design

The design guidelines for off-leash areas noted above contain key considerations when planning and designing an off-leash area. Based on these Guidelines, a concept has been drafted, shown in attachment 1 and outlines the following considerations:

Fencing/Gates: Galvanized chain link fencing 1200mm tall will be used to properly define the off-leash areas, as well as, a double-gated entry corral to allow pet owners to safely

leash and unleash their dog prior to entering and exiting the off-leash area. A separate smaller enclosure will be created for smaller dogs.

Accessibility/Parking: Accessible parking spaces and an asphalt path connecting the parking area to the off-leash area will be constructed to adhere to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (A.O.D.A.) and the City's Oshawa Accessible Design Standards (O.A.D.S.).

Naturalized Buffer Zones: Buffer vegetation will be planted adjacent the parking area to aid in site and noise reduction to adjacent properties. Vegetation will be planted outside of the fence to aid in the aesthetic quality of the site.

Shade/Seating: A mixture of mature trees will be planted to promote shade and a rest area will be constructed where shade is limited.

6.0 Financial Implications

There are no immediate financial implications to approve the location outlined in this report.

The 2019 Capital Budget would include a request for project funding to undertake the detail design and construction for the Cordova Valley Park Off-Leash Area at an approximate cost of \$340,000.

7.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

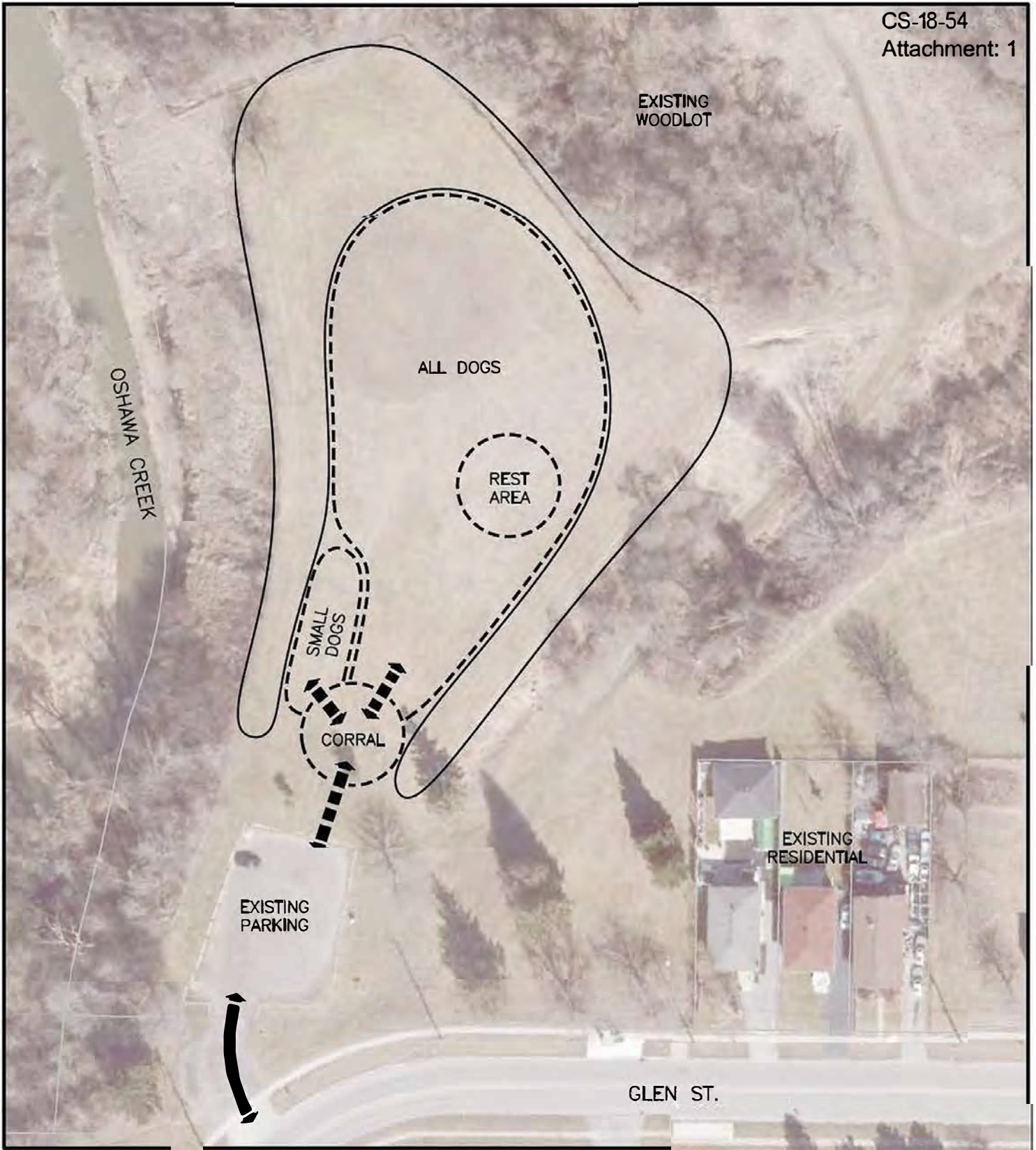
This report addresses the Oshawa Strategic Plan by responding to the goal of 'Accountable Leadership' through the theme of 'Deliberate Community Engagement'. The report also supports the goal of "Social Equity" through the theme of 'An Active, Healthy and Safe Community'.



Mike Saulnier, Acting Director,
Operations Services



Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
Community Services Department



**CORDOVA VALLEY DOG PARK
CITY OF OSHAWA
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**