

ATTACHMENT B

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MONTGOMERY VILLAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

10120 APPLE RIDGE ROAD
 MONTGOMERY VILLAGE, MARYLAND 20886-1000

(301) 948-0110 FAX (301) 990-7071 www.mvf.org



June 18, 2002

RECEIVED
 JUN 20 2002

Arthur Holmes, Jr., Chairman
 Montgomery County Planning Board
 8787 Georgia Avenue
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
 THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
 PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Holmes.

I am writing on behalf of the Montgomery Village Foundation Board of Directors to ask that Centerway Local Park be removed from the list of proposed dog exercise areas for Montgomery County parks. Our community of 35,000 needs more time to consider the impact implications on nearby neighborhoods within Montgomery Village.

We had been under the impression from Mr. Terry Brooks that he had received letters and calls from citizens of neighborhoods adjacent to Centerway Local Park stating opposition to the project. Mr. Brooks conveyed to us that he wanted to assure us that the county does not intend to take over the smaller neighborhood parks by forcing dog exercise areas on those parks. Mr. Brooks added that the list of proposed dog exercise areas would be expanded to include the larger regional parks, which seem better able to accommodate dog exercise areas.

We were surprised to learn that when the Planning Board considers and votes on the list of proposed dog exercise areas on June 27, Centerway Local Park will still be on the list. While Mr. Brooks did not specifically state that Centerway Local Park would be removed from the list, he left us with the impression that we did not need to pursue the issue.

There are some areas of concern with regard to installing dog exercise areas at Centerway Local Park that you may wish to consider: (1) Centerway Local Park already has an inadequate number of parking spaces to accommodate parking for the team sports events that take place there all day every Saturday for many months of the year. Parking at the park is in such short supply that cars even park on the berm and sometimes along the edge of Centerway Road. This creates a hazardous situation both for vehicular traffic on Centerway Road and for the children and their parents. During the week nights, when the teams have their practice sessions, parking at Centerway Local Park is at and sometimes above capacity because many parents bring their children to practice and stay to watch them. After each set of parents and children and cars leave, the next set of cars arrives, and so on. (2) Whetstone Elementary School is located directly next to Centerway Local Park, which could pose a potential liability issue for the county. (3) Residents who live on the east side of Goshen Road who wish to walk their dogs to Centerway Local Park would have a dangerous intersection to traverse, Centerway Road and Goshen Road. These are areas of concern that deserve your attention.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Richard N. Wright
 Richard N. Wright, President
 Board of Directors

cc: Catherine Matthews, Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board



MARYLAND PLACE HOMES CORPORATION

10120 APPLE RIDGE ROAD
MONTGOMERY VILLAGE, MARYLAND 20886-2130

(301) 948-0110 FAX (301) 990-7071

www.mvf.org

April 02, 2002

Mr. Arthur Holmes, Jr., Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Dog Exercise Area in Centerway Park

Dear Mr. Holmes:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Maryland Place Homes Corporation Board of Directors to inform you of our opposition to the Dog Exercise Area in Centerway Park. After reviewing the proposal, the Board unanimously agreed that the creation of the dog park would adversely impact our quiet residential community for the following reasons:

- Increased pedestrian and dog traffic through our community to access the dog park which will include:
 - additional dog feces along the way,
 - unleashed dogs,
 - confrontation with the Maryland Place residents and their pets.
- Potential for our community being used as a parking area to access the park due to lack of adequate parking facilities at the park. This would be especially true when the ball fields in the park are utilized on the weekends.
- The noise level would be unacceptable to our residents that are closest to the park. There are no trees to serve as a buffer.

We recognize the importance of providing a legal, safe, off-leash way for dogs to exercise. However, as the spokesperson for the Maryland Place Community, we are in opposition to the location at Centerway Park. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William Knight President
Maryland Place Homes Corporation

WK/dhm

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 1:15 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Celia Nachlas [mailto:cjn@rblcpa.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 10:50 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Parks

Hello,

I am representing Montgomery County Dog Owners Group (MC-DOG) which is actively pursuing the establishment of dog parks in Montgomery County. I have e-mailed your office as well as the other park commission offices twice previously, but have received no reply. Our group is meeting again next week and I would like to have something to report regarding my contact with the park commissions.

We had approximately 35 at our last meeting, with input from many others who were unable to attend. Our primary site focus is Wheaton Regional Park, with its many accesses as well as an unused camp site area off Kemp Mill Road near the maintenance facility. Other areas we are very interested in are the Bonifant Road site near the trolley car museum, the Parklawn site off Viers Mill Road, and an area in Rock Creek Park referred to as near "Candy Cane City" on Beach Drive near East West Highway. As liason to the park commissions, I have been asked to pursue the various groups for input and suggestions.

Please respond as soon as possible. You may reach me by e-mail at cjn@rblcpa.com, by phone (work 10 am - 6:30 pm) 301-654-9000 (home before 9 am) 301-879-8097, or by mail 14029 Cricket Lane, Silver Spring 20904.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Celia Nachlas, MC-DOG Representative

To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Celia Nachlas [mailto:cjn@rblcpa.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 10:50 AM
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I look forward to hearing from you soon. Celia Nachlas, MC-DOG Representative

Brooks, Terry

From: Celia Nachlas [cjin@rbicpa.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 5:54 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: RE: Dog Parks

Dear Terry:

Thank you so much for your response. MC-DOG has been formed, our web site is mc-dog.com (also mc-dog.org), we have formed committees and are meeting again on March 20th at the Bauer Rec Center. Now that you have provided me with some necessary information, I will be able to present this to our Group. If you have any suggestions or additional information, it will be greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to a positive and productive relationship with all of the park commissions. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Celia Nachlas

>>> "Brooks, Terry" <Terry.Brooks@mncppc-mc.org> 03/14/02 05:35PM >>>

Dear Ms. Nachlas:

On behalf of the Commission staff I am acknowledging your e-mail. Via this e-mail I am forwarding your comments to the affected park manager as well as several members of the staff task force assigned to this project initiative. We are currently reviewing all of the comments we received @ 180.

Our plan of action is the review all comments; address and/or modify the draft policy proposal to develop doge exercise areas; place the amended version on our web site (www.mc.mncppc.org) and present our finding and recommendations to the Planning Board in late Spring. A public hearing will be advertised in advance of this meeting. please stay tuned to our internet site for updates.

We are also working on developing an "off-web page chat room" for individuals like yourselves interested in forming DOG groups across the County.

Sincerely,

Terry Brooks, Special Projects Coordinator
Office of the Director of Parks

P.S

Please be aware of the fact that we stopped responding to e-mail comments received after our public comment period of February 29th. Because we had to establish a public comment cut-off date we chose not to respond until the next issue of the draft report. I hope you and your fellow dog exercise area supporters understand. We applaud your efforts. We may re-open a dialogue after we have had some time to study the many comments we have received (i.e.. 30-60 days). Please watch our web site.

-----Original Message-----

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 1:15 PM

Brooks, Terry

From: Johnson, Pamela
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2002 12:51 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Letter for Kerry Vinkler

Terry-- I hope this letter to that 4th-grader isn't too long. It needs an attachment from our report on the location criteria. I thought you'd rather have me e-mail this to you now so you could send it to Kerry.

Pam

Brooks, Terry

From: O'connor, Tom [TOM.O'CONNOR@hq.doe.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2002 4:11 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Cc: 'tkrbo@wans.net'
Subject: Dog parks

I appreciate the time and effort that went into developing the Dog Park Proposals. I am a resident of Waters Landing. I do not

want such a dog park at the Waters Landing Local Park for the following reasons - the location of the exercise area within the

park is too close to the existing town homes that border that edge of the park. Based on walks within the neighborhood, users of

the park can not be expected to pick up after their dogs. In this regard, the dog area is too far from the parking lot and would

result in even more dog waste in the park.

From a broader standpoint of view, construction and annual maintenance of any such parks within the county should be funded

entirely out of dog registration fees. Furthermore, fines for allowing unlicensed dogs using such parks should be \$200 per

infraction or more.

In my opinion, creation of these parks will only allow irresponsible dog owners one more place to be irresponsible.

TJO

Brooks, Terry

From: MAURINE.ATKINSON@CO.MO.MD.US
Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2002 10:30 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks

--- Received from DPWT-EGR.ATKINM 240-777-7238 02-04-02 11.30

-> terry.brooks@mncppc-mc.org

I think it is an excellent idea to build more dog parks in Montgomery County. There is certainly a need for it.

I would suggest, however, that rather than have one enclosure, you divide it into two parts. One part would be for big dogs and the other for smaller dogs.

I also do not think there should be a fee to use these parks. I already pay taxes in Montgomery County and those taxes should go towards creation and maintainance of the dog parks. True, not everyone in Montgomery County has dogs, but there are a lot of services in Montgomery County that I pay taxes for but do not or cannot use.

Thank you.

Maurine Atkinson

Brooks, Terry

From: Beth Anne H. Williams [bahutton@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2002 10:25 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Park - Germantown

I am a former resident of Germantown. My husband and I both work off Crystal Rock, he is employed with MC Dept. of Fire & Rescue. Recently we bought a house in Ijamsville, right over the County line in Frederick. If the proposed Dog Park is established in Germantown would a non-county resident be able to pay an annual fee to use the park? Currently we take our dog to Black Hill but we really miss using the Dog Park in Gaithersburg. I guess you guys haven't made it that far in the planning, but I would really like it to be considered.

Thank you!
Beth Williams

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Brooks, Terry

From: V & M [danceitup@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2002 9:41 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Gaithersburg Dog Park

Hi Terry,
We have taken our Bichon to the dog park here in Gaithersburg a few times but find that the large dogs get in a pack and surround our little dog and bite him, chase him and roll him around. I am really fearful for our dog's life while we are there! Of course no one comes forward to claim their large dog and my fiance does the best he can to settle them down, but they are like WILD animals in there. Can there not be a small separate area, for say, dogs 25 lbs. and under? Other people have made the same comment to us about it not being a pleasant time for them while there with their smaller dogs.

Thanks for your time,
Vicki Davis

Brooks, Terry

From: Todd Werner [twerner@k-swiss.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2002 7:40 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks

I support the establishment of a dog park in all of the areas listed and feel that concerns of other residents can be addressed by looking at how dog parks have worked out in other places. It is my understanding that they have helped reduce crime and also reduce the number of dog human interaction problems by providing places for dogs to be exercised and socialized properly so they do not develop behavior problems.

Brooks, Terry

From: Ken Briefel [kbriefel@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2002 10:54 PM
Cc: Brooks, Terry
Subject: dog park

I am a strong advocate for dog parks. As a long-time dog owner, I know that dogs who have the opportunity to interact with other dogs, off-leash, are better behaved and ultimately safer than unsocialized dogs. Obviously, the advantages of safe exercise for dog and owner is unquestioned.

I know that a large group of dog owners approached the county several years ago about establishing such a park on the Calverton Fairland park, prior to it's renovation, but was not encouraged at that time. I am pleased that one of the proposed sites is nearby, at the Layhill Road site. I hope to see this happen in my lifetime. I would be happy to assist.

Ken Briefel
15106 Fairlawn Ave.
Silver Spring, MD. 20905
301-236-9033

Brooks, Terry

From: B. J. Sadoff [bjsadoff@erols.com]
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 10:10 AM
To: COUNTY.A.EXECUTVE@CO.MO.MD.US; Brooks, Terry; Kreiter, Elizabeth
Subject: Montrose Parkway/Dog Park

Dear Mr. Duncan:

I would like to suggest that you compliment the county by building the community a dog park when you are constructing the Montrose Parkway. I am not sure of your exact plans for this roadway, but I believe it will cross a section of undeveloped park land (complete with creek) that is a northern part of the Tilden Woods Park between Tilden Lane and Montrose Road. This will give you your road and it will give the community something it obviously needs.

I sent you and other county representatives a one month follow up to the unleashed dog problem in Tilden Woods Park. Now, three months after my initial call to police about one individual, I have continued to be harassed by several people as they continue to walk their dogs off the leash in the park. They have sent me mail suggesting that I am abusing my dog by not letting him run. They have posted signs in the community with a likeness of my dog that say: "Free Molson" (yes, that is the name he came with when we adopted him from the Humane Society), and they have stood in the park next to my property yelling at me and suggesting that if I don't do as they do that I should move. This is only a sample of the abuse that my family and I have endured over the past three months and after reading Article 27, section 123, of the Maryland Code, there is no doubt in my mind that this constitutes harassment.

I do not think this mob enhanced, retaliatory behavior should be rewarded, but I do think the actions exemplify the needs of the community. These people need a place to let their dogs run and left without a convenient alternative they will ignore the law and abusively trample on the rights of other community members. You can give the people who live here a dog park along with giving the county and businesses what they need; and for those who value the few remaining green spaces in the lower county, it would show a concern for the environment - fragile park land between Tilden and Tuckerman that continues to be heavily trafficked by unleashed dogs. For those who place more value on their pets, it would show you are concerned for their needs as well.

I understand there are plans to build dog parks in the lower county. The one closest to our community would be on Viers Mill Road, but from my conversations with local dog owners that location is too far away and inconvenient. When faced with those options, they would continue to break the law.

As I have said before, summer is coming and Montgomery County Department of Recreation holds a summer camp in Tilden Woods. A dog park isn't going to be built in a month, but in planning for the future, lets not let a child suffer the potentially harmful consequences of unleashed dogs in the ballfield, playground, or in the woods. Let's address our problems and our differences with creative thinking and respect.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Keller
6804 Stonewood Terrace
Rockville, MD 20852

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2002 9:15 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Evans Park

-----Original Message-----

From: Jean-Jacques, Alex [mailto:alex.jean-jacques@talenttree.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2002 11:52 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Cc: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Evans Park

Good Morning,

I am a current resident in one of the neighborhoods surrounding Evans Park. My home is on Bucknell drive and like most residents the park is in walking distance. It has been brought to my attention that a proposal has been submitted to make Evans Park a Regional Park. As a resident of nearly 13 years I must say this does not seem appealing. The neighborhood is a VERY LOW TRAFFIC area, and most of the residents are well established and/or elderly. In the past 5-7 years we have had a younger generation of children now able to enjoy the park as we did. What also makes it extremely comfortable is many of the residents know each other, and their families. This brings the feeling of a safe community and community park. I can only see negative effects by making the park regional. Firstly, the amount of traffic brought into our neighborhoods. This for obvious reasons is a concern to parents. Unfamiliar visitors on a consistent basis. Not a stereotype, but simple fact. We increase the probability of issues to arise by having "outsiders", for lack of a better word, into our neighborhoods. Secondly, the park meets the needs of the amount of families that utilize it currently. It in no way can handle the amount of visitor flow expected to increase by making it a Regional Park. Parking would be a huge hurdle. We then have strangers making our neighborhood streets a parking lot. This is bound to cause concerns. Based on the numbers Gaithersburg Park receives, it is nearly impossible to consider that OUR park can meet these needs. Again, these are people that the children and families in our neighborhood do not know. Thirdly, from a business stand point. I can not imagine this helping the property value of the homes in our neighborhoods. The traffic and noise level to increase by this possibility effects those who may be in the market to sell their homes. Finally, it is a community park for our COMMUNITY. It has been and should remain. A regional park simply takes

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2002 9:15 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Terry Brooks: Evans Parkway Dog Park Support

-----Original Message-----

From: Ben Howard [mailto:bhoward@hmwks.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2002 3:16 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Terry Brooks: Evans Parkway Dog Park Support

I support the dog park proposal for Evans Parkway in Wheaton. In spite of some people's efforts to have MNCPPC leave things alone at Evans (I've heard a petition is going around) in my circumstance I can't let my dog run in an open area off leash. I am a greyhound owner, with a dog that can go 40+ miles an hour, I cannot let her run unless there is a completely enclosed fenced area. If she got off the grass and into the street, no driver would even see her coming. I'd like to see the piece of land used as an informal dog park at Evans Parkway officially recognized and maintained by the county (with our neighborhood's residents help) as a fully-fenced dog park.

At Evans Parkway, there will have to be considerations made for parking. As it stands, there is only road parking along two sides of the property, this may create traffic problems if a large number of cars show up looking for parking. I do suspect that the majority of dog park users will walk their dogs to the park and therefore there might not be as much of a parking problem.

Ben Howard - Director / Producer / Editor + office 301/649-6061
Howard Media Works, Inc. - www.hmwks.com + mobile 301/452-4494
DC Editor's Circle - www.dceditorscircle.org + efax 509/694-1839

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2002 9:39 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: For dog parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Colleen Mahoney [mailto:cmahone@american.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2002 10:01 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: For dog parks

I was at the meeting earlier this month and spoke in favor of dog parks. I said I would send additional comments which I am attaching as a word document.

Thanks for organizing the meeting. You all did a great job, the power point presentation was excellent.

Colleen Mahoney

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2002 9:32 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Aberdeen local park, proposed dog park

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Woodhouse [mailto:ew71k@nih.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2002 12:49 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Aberdeen local park, proposed dog park

Montgomery County Department of Park & Planning:

I am writing to express my concern for the proposed dog park at the local aberdeen park in North Potomac. We live in this neighborhood and feel a dog park would adversely affect our neighborhood.

The streets surrounding the proposed area are small residential streets where many children play outdoors and walk to the neighborhood elementary school. The increased traffic volume caused by a dog park would decrease the safety of the neighborhood.

Furthermore, the park has only a small parking lot which would not be able to accomodate a large number of visitors to the park. This could cause problems for the neighborhood and a point of conflict between homeowners and users of the dog park.

Sincerely,

Elisa Woodhouse
Resident, Potomac Chase
North Potomac

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2002 11:57 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: dog parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Tania Georgiou Tully [mailto:t.a.tully@usa.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 3:12 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: dog parks

Terry Brooks-

We are wiring with our support for dog parks in Montgomery County. Before moving to Maryland last year we were active users of a dog park in Taylorsville, Utah. While we have a fence for our dog, having an area off leash that is large enough for our dog to get a real run and play with other dogs is truly beneficial.

We hope the county can make this work.

Tania and Chris Tully
9303 Compton Street
Silver Spring
301-431-1357

February 26, 2002
13309 Cloverdale Place
Germantown, MD 20874

Dear Mr. Brooks, Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning Staff,
and Montgomery County Recreation Advisory Board,

I am a resident of the Waters Landing community and am concerned about the proposed dog exercise area in Waters Landing Park. I am not in favor of this proposal because the size of this small park appropriately supports its current use.

- There is a steady volume of people, especially youngsters, using the park for its recreational activities such as tennis, soccer, basketball, picnicing, playground, as well as lots of walking, biking, skating and skateboarding. The park is not underutilized as stated in the proposal.
- Parking is limited and already overburdened when there are soccer games at the field. This forces off-street parking which becomes hazardous to the many pedestrians on Waters Landing Drive, many of whom are out walking with their dogs.
- The large, attractive, grassy area being considered is currently used for volleyball, baseball, tag football, sledding, kite flying, frisbee and free play. Designating and developing this area as a dog park would eliminate the option for these activities.
- The expenses necessary to create a suitable site would require more than the proposal suggests. There is no shade on that field, so sizeable shade trees or a shelter would be necessary, not optional. There are two drinking fountains along the path, one of which rarely works. A fountain for the dogs would be necessary, not optional. The layout of the paths is such that no kind of path alteration or extension would be able to bypass the basketball court and playground without cutting through the soccer field.

Continued commercial and residential development along Crystal Rock Drive and the Germantown Center has recently consumed many open green spaces in our immediate area. Waters Landing Park is an important facility to our neighborhood families and children. I think this park should be preserved for free-play activities, rather than limiting its use as a fenced-in dog exercise area.

Respectfully,
Caryl K. Strauss

February 27, 2002

Terry Brooks
M-NCPPC, Parkside Headquarters
9500 Brunette Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Re: **Evans Park Dog Exercise Area Proposal
Neighborhood Petition**

Dear Mr. Brooks:

As you know, the Evans Park neighborhood was not well represented at the public forum February 12, 2002. Three neighborhood residents (Mike Heil, Jerome Charba, and myself) attended that meeting and have been very concerned that the lack of attendance at the forum might be interpreted by the Planning Board as a lack of neighborhood interest on the topic. Further, we worry that Evans Park may still be included as a recommended site in the report to the Planning Board.

Because we are a small community, the neighborhood has very strong views about Evans Park. However, we do not have a Neighborhood Association, so the three of us held a neighborhood meeting to give people the opportunity to voice their opinion. At the meeting it was stressed that this project is still in the very early stages, but that it is important to get comments to you by the deadline (February 28th). There were only three individuals from the neighborhood at the meeting who support the idea of an official dog exercise area. The (verbalized) reason they gave for their support is that complaints called in to the Park Police about the informal dog park (excessive barking, smell) has forced them to walk their dogs on leash (we do not know who called in the complaints).

The rest of the neighborhood is united in opposing the proposed county dog exercise area. Enclosed is a petition signed by neighborhood residents to request that Evans Park Neighborhood Park be permanently removed from any dog exercise area proposal. This list is not complete, as there are people in the neighborhood who were unable to attend the meeting and who are opposed to installing a dog exercise area. A large number of people who signed the petition are dog owners. These dog owners have fenced backyards, and the dogs are able to get adequate exercise with their owners.

Thank you again for the opportunity to give residents of the Evan Parkway Neighborhood a voice in the dog exercise proposal. We encourage you to visit the site personally, so you can see for yourself that it does not meet some of your minimum requirements for the proposed dog exercise areas. We support the idea of having dog exercise areas, but firmly believe that appropriate location is critical to their success. Evans Park Neighborhood Park is not an appropriate location. Please contact one of us should you wish to discuss this further or if you would like to meet us and review the location in person.

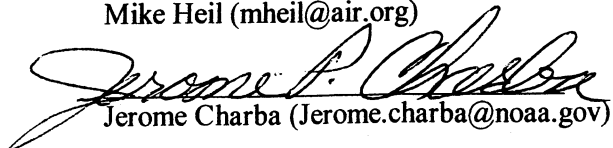
Sincerely,



Kim Julian (Kim Julian@hotmail.com)



Mike Heil (mheil@air.org)



Jerome Charba (Jerome.charba@noaa.gov)

Cc: Councilman Derick Berlage

(66)

February 26, 2002

Mr. Terry Brooks
M-NCPPC, Parkside Headquarters
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Dear Mr. Brooks,

The purpose of this letter is to tell you both my husband and I are opposed to the proposed Dog Exercise Area at the Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park.

This area is adjacent to a play area for little children. The swings and play sets attract many children from our neighborhood. We have no side walks in this area and there is a very little parking area. The increased traffic would put the children at risk for injuries. Please do not allow this to happen.

Sincerely,



Alfred A. Wigmore, III
Patricia D. Wigmore



FEB 1 - 2002

DIRECTOR OF PARKS

Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park Dog Exercise Area Petition

We, the undersigned residents of the Evans Park neighborhood, strongly oppose the Maryland National Capitol Park & Planning Commission's (MNCPPC) proposal to create a dog exercise area in Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park. We are very concerned about the negative impact the dog exercise area will have on both Evans Park and on neighboring residential properties. Our principal specific concerns are listed below:

Dog Park Commuters from other Neighborhoods. Since Evans Park is proposed as one of only seven Dog Parks in Montgomery County, it is inevitable it will attract commuters from other parts of the county. Because these Dog Park users have no investment in our neighborhood, they will have little motivation for overall care of the Park or concern for the neighborhood. Also, the infusion of a large number of non-residents into our neighborhood on a daily basis could increase crime in the neighborhood. Further, children using the playground would be exposed to a large number of strangers, which could put them at risk.

Non-existent Parking. Presently, there are only six paved parking places for entire Evans Park, none within safe "walking distance" to the proposed Dog Park. There are no sidewalks, and the playground is adjacent to the parking spaces, so the dogs would have to be walked next to an area small children play. Because adjoining streets are narrow and do not have parking curbs, commuters who presently use the dog park "informally" park on grass turf on the roadsides, destroying the turf and creating mudholes --a serious negative environmental impact for which informal complaints with park authorities have been made in the past. In other locations adjacent to the Dog Park area, parked commuter autos block private driveways. Most residents do not have off-street parking, so they would have to compete with dog park "commuters" for parking. MNCPPC's site requirements for this proposed Dog Park does not include provision for a paved parking area. The non-provision of suitable parking for the increased number of commuters to the proposed Dog Park alone is sufficient cause for cancellation of the proposed site. The alternative option of constructing a large paved parking area is also unacceptable because, lacking a suitable location, it would present a severe negative aesthetic impact on immediately adjacent residential properties.

Non-existent Buffer Zone. The proposed Dog Park is located in a section of Evans Park where there is no buffer zone on three sides to separate it from dense adjacent residential properties. Even if trees were planted to screen the 6 ft chain link fence that would surround the Dog Park, the noise and congestion from parked autos will not be "screened". In fact, the lack of a buffer zone around the proposed Dog Park represents a second violation of MNCPPC's own Dog Park criteria. While the site has been used "informally as an off-leash exercise area," this has already presented a serious parking concern to impacted residents, as noted above.

Safety. The narrow streets surrounding the proposed Dog Park do not have sidewalks. Thus, neighborhood pedestrian residents, especially children, who use the adjacent playground have no choice but to walk in or along-side the streets, and cross the streets. Clearly, increased auto traffic and parked cars along the street will pose an increased safety risk to these children. Also, because these pedestrian children and the parking commuters use the same areas along the street, a safety risk to the children will be presented by aggressive dogs.


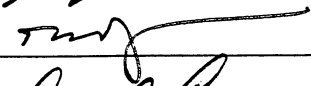

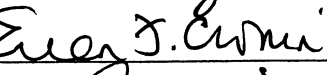
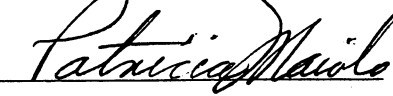
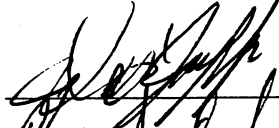


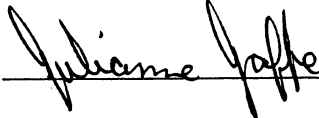
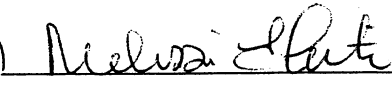
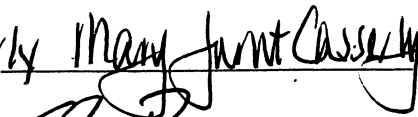

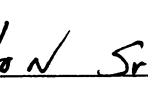

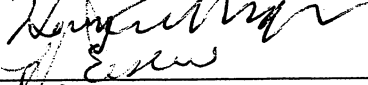

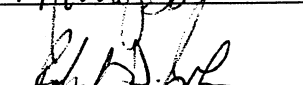
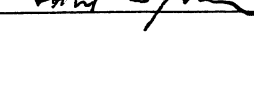
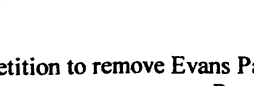
Destruction of Existing Park Usage. The specific site of the proposed Dog Exercise Area is already being used for various sports activities by neighborhood residents. These include soccer, golf practice, softball, frisbee, and jogging. The other side of the park does not have a field large enough to support these activities.

Aesthetic Detraction. Those of us who live in the immediate neighborhood of Evans Park are fortunate to have a view that looks out onto the beautiful park area. The proposed dog park will be surrounded by a 6-foot chain link fence, and it will include at least one large sign. MNCPPC has projected that as many as 200-300 dog owners a day could use this dog park since it would be one of only a few such parks. The increased noise and odor that would result from such a large number of dogs is unacceptable in this residential area. Further, dogs in the park could transmit Kennel Cough as well as fleas to dogs from the neighborhood.

General Adverse Neighborhood Impact. As its name implies Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park was designed for use by residents of the neighborhood. This is a quiet, peaceful community, where local residents are the primary users of a park nestled in a dense residential area. In the past, when a softball field was installed on the site, it was later removed, because the neighborhood could not support the increased traffic flow to their neighborhood park. The neighborhood and park were simply not designed to withstand a large number of commuters to the neighborhood. The projected huge increase of commuters into an official county Dog Park will undoubtedly be devastating to both because of a degradation in safety as well as increased traffic congestion, odor, noise, and a loss of park usage by local residents. Clearly, adjacent property values will decrease substantially. This is unfair to local property owners!

The concerns outlined above are only the principal reasons we oppose the conversion of Evans Park into a Dog Park. Evans Park does not meet at several of the minimum criteria outlined in the MNCPPC's proposal. The site of the proposed dog park contains no suitable parking. Also, it is bounded by two roadways and is surrounded by eight residences; therefore it meets neither the "safe distance from roadways" nor the "sufficient distance or buffered from residential areas" criteria. We believe that dog parks should be developed in non-residential areas. We the following seriously request that Evans Park be deleted from the MNCPPC's list of proposed dog parks:

<u>Printed name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Street Address</u>
CHERYL MOORE		1900 ETNA PLACE SILVER SPRING MD 20902
Pat Wignore		10510 Amherst Ave Silver Spring MD 20902
WILLIAM + LESLIE WETZINS		10410 AMHERST AVENUE SILVER SPRING, MD 20902
REFERENCE P. MOORE		1900 Etna Place Silver Spring, Md.
Jennifer Richards		10408 Clinton Ave. SS MD 20902
JERRY / CARTER		10602 Buckner II DR. SS md 20902
Virginia Farreault		2106 Cascade Rd
John Wignore		1908 Evans Pkwy SS md 20902
Robert Wignore		" " " "
Joe Allen		2002 Coscone ROSS md 20902
Michael Heil		10511 Bucknell Dr. SS, Md / 20902
Joseph Mandeville		2002 Evans Pkwy SS md 20902
Mr + Mrs Robert Jackson		10602 Dunkirk Dr. SS. Md 20902
Michael G Tozawa		2102 CASCADE RD 20902
Richard Coward		10516 Cascade Place 20902

<u>Printed name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Street Address</u>
Steve Velasquez		2006 EVANS PKWY
Tim McCully		10411 AMHERST AVE
Carol Cayo		2008 Dayton St.
Eileen Cronin		2109 Dayton Street
PATRICIA MAIOLA		10504 GRANDIN Rd. S.S. 20902
David Jaffe		10514 Bucknell Dr.
Kevin S. Curtis		10607 Amhurst Ave SS 20902
HILDA CONWARD		10516 Cascade Pl. SS 20902
Julianne Jaffe		10514 Bucknell Dr. SS 20902
Melissa Aitken		2101 CASCADE RD SS 20902
Mary-Janet Casserly		2103 DAYTON ST SS 20902
Steve & Susan Torre		1912 Evans Pl, SS 20902
James F. Shelton Sr.		10512 Cascade place pl 20902
Genevieve & Jeni Foster		10412 Clinton Ave., SS. 20902
Henrik Erstlev		10610 DUNKIRK DR. Wheaton MD 20902
Helen Erstlev		
MARIA SLOAT		2015 DAYTON ST. SS 20902
SCOTT SLOAT		
Robert A. Julian		10503 Cascade PL SS 20902

Printed name	Signature	Street Address
JONATHAN HARMANEN	<i>J. Harmanen</i>	2004 EVANS PKWY SS MD
JOAN GLAZE	<i>Joan Glaze</i>	13611 Dunkirk Dr SS MD 20902
KIM K. Richards	<i>Kim Richards</i>	10408 Clinton Ave SS MD 20902
Stephanie P. Noland	<i>Stephanie Noland</i>	10506 Glenhaven Dr. SS MD 20902
Bernard Holt	<i>Bernard Holt</i>	2109 Cascade Rd. S.S. MD 20902
Brenda & Jim Marshall	<i>Brenda & Jim Marshall</i>	2113 Cascade Rd SS MD 20902
Carol Pastore	<i>Carol Pastore</i>	10410 Clinton Ave. Carol Pastore, SS, MD 20902
Jerome P. Chanda	<i>Jerome P. Chanda</i>	1906 Enya Place SS MD 20902
Dario A. Pagliai	<i>Dario Pagliai</i>	10606 Dunkirk Dr. SS MD 20902
José M. Flores	<i>José María Flores</i>	10515 BUCKNELL DR. S.S. Spring MD. 20902
Maria Haydee Flores	<i>Maria H. Flores</i>	10515 BUCKNELL DR SS MD 20902
Rachel Riedner	<i>R. Riedner</i>	2006 Evans Parkway S.S.MD 20902
Linda Stantz	<i>Linda Stantz</i>	1801 Republic Rd. S.S. MD 20902
John T. Stantz	<i>John T. Stantz</i>	1801 Republic Rd. S.S., MD 20902
Ibn S. Trower	<i>Ibn S. Trower</i>	10510 Cascade Place SS MD 20902
Stacy Noland	<i>Stacy Noland</i>	10506 Glenhaven Dr SS MD 20902
Kim Julian	<i>Kim Julian</i>	10503 Cascade Place ^{silver} Spring MD 20902

Printed name

Signature

Street Address

SUSAN HEIL Susan Heil 10511 Bucknell Dr., SS, MD 20902

Maureen & Charlie Hathway Maureen Hathway 2104 Cascade Rd. SS, MD 20902

PATTI & KEN GIGLIO P. Giglio 1701 GRIDLEY LANE SS MD 20902

JAMES DERAMUS James P. Ramus 1803 DENNIS AVE SS MD 20902

Jane Cronin Jane E. Cronin 10412 Barrie Ave, SS, MD 20902

EDMUND GRAY Edmund J. Gray 10522 BUCKNELL DR. SS, MD 20902

BRIAN PATTERSON Brian Patterson 10414 AMHERST AVE SS MD 20902

Robert Cronin Robert Cronin 10412 Barrie Ave 20902

GREGORY MANGIAPANE Gregory Mangiapane 10610 GLENHAVEN DR. SS 20902

MARISOL RAMOS Marisol Ramos 10225 GREEN HOLLY TER SS 20902

Lelia McGill Lelia McGill 2019 Cascade Road SS 20902

Mr + Mrs Allan Beach 2017 Cascade Rd 20902

Mr + Mrs Murray Hillman 10514 Cascade Pl. 20902

Mr + Mrs Washington 10513 Cascade Place 20902

Clayton C. Dwyer Clayton C. Dwyer 10505 Cascade Pl. 20902

Fernando Vargas Fernando Vargas 10505 Cascade Pl. 20902

Mr & Mrs. Edw P. Van Dine Jr. 10501 Cascade Pl. 20902

Printed name

Signature

Street Address

ROGER CARTER

Roger Carter

10607 DUICK, R K WA

SUE HEIDER

Sue Heider

1803 Republic Rd. SS, MD 20902

RICHARD VALDIVIA

10507 CASCADE PL. S.S. MD. 2090

~~Rayna Starrels~~ ~~Rayna Starrels~~ 10612 Glenhaven ~~20902~~

George Starrels

George Starrels

10612 Glenhaven Dr. 20902

Margaret Clagett

M Clagett

10701 Glenhaven Dr. 20902

Robert Clagett

Robert Clagett

10701 Glenhaven Dr. 20902

Kelly Ketzenberger

Kelly Ketzenberger

1722 REPUBLIC ROAD 20902

MARGARET JULKA

Margaret Julka

1720 Republic Road 20902

ELLEN P. FENSTERMAKER

1715 REPUBLIC RD. 20902

Bernice Godbe

Bernice Godbe

10700 FRANCIS DR SS MD 20902

Joseph & Heather Nalls Weather Nalls

1712 Republic Rd. SS MD 20902

Barb Young

Barb Young

1707 Glenkay 20902

Kelly Naughton

10608 Glenhaven Dr. 20902

Robert J. Brown

10606 Glenhaven Dr 20902

Timnit Goltom

10604 Glenhaven Dr 20902

Sandra Jordan

Johny Gordon

10602 Glenhaven Drive 20902

Printed name

Signature

Street Address

Shanda Waters Shanda Waters 10601 Dunkirk Dr

HELEN DELEMARRE Helen Delemarre 10603 DUNKIRK DR

JEAN DORR Jean Dor 10605 DUNKIRK DR

Nancy Laurent Nancy Laurent 10604 Dunkirk Dr

Roger Torres Roger Torres 10608 Dunkirk DR.

Doris Torres Dora Torres 10608 Dunkirk DR.

Oscar Orellana maria Orellana 10608 Dunkirk DR.

STANLEY HAJKOWSKI Stanley Hajkowski 10613 DUNKIRK DR

Ruta Hajkowski Ruta Hajkowski 10613 Dunkirk Dr.

Jenny Maggiora Jenny Maggiora 10612 Dunkirk Dr.

[Signature] [Signature] 10614 DUNKIRK DR

ROBERT McLENNAN Robert McLeenan 10617 DUNKIRK DR.

Alberto Lequivon [Signature] 10615 Dunkirk Dr

Linette Allen [Signature] 10609 Dunkirk Drive

MICHELE S. CARLEY Michele S. Carley 1808 Republic Rd.

JAMES A. LAUGHTER James A. Laughter 1800 REPUBLIC RD

Sherry Kogok Sherry Kogok 10701 Jamaica Dr

Printed name

Signature

Street Address

Matt Hoefluy

[Signature]

1906 EVANS Pkwy, SS, MD 20902

Allison Hoefluy

[Signature]

1906 EVANS Pkwy, SS, MD 20902

Barbara Woodward

[Signature]

1904 EVANS Pkwy SS 20902

GORDON S. WOODWARD

[Signature]

1904 EVANS Pkwy SS 20902

CORINNA LATHAN

[Signature]

2112 Cascade Rd SS 20902

David Kubalak

[Signature]

2112 Cascade Rd SS 20902

Printed name

Signature

Street Address

Mikr ARBEH M ARBEH 10513 Bucknell Dr

Agnie Holland [Signature] 10609 Bucknell Dr

Betty J. Voith BETTY J. VOITH 2100 Plym Trail

HACHICHI Mahitar [Signature] 10604 Bucknell Drive

THOMAS P WHALEN [Signature] 10520 Bucknell DRIVE

PAUL CROSTY [Signature] 3110 CASCADE RD 55

ENA Riley [Signature] 2107 Cascade Rd. 55

Tanya Latino [Signature] 2115 Cascade Rd. 55

~~_____

_____~~

February 26, 2002
13309 Cloverdale Place
Germantown, MD 20874

Dear Mr. Brooks, Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning Staff,
and Montgomery County Recreation Advisory Board,

I am a resident of the Waters Landing community and am concerned about the proposed dog exercise area in Waters Landing Park. I am not in favor of this proposal because the size of this small park appropriately supports its current use.

- There is a steady volume of people, especially youngsters, using the park for its recreational activities such as tennis, soccer, basketball, picnicing, playground, as well as lots of walking, biking, skating and skateboarding. The park is not underutilized as stated in the proposal.
- Parking is limited and already overburdened when there are soccer games at the field. This forces off-street parking which becomes hazardous to the many pedestrians on Waters Landing Drive, many of whom are out walking with their dogs.
- The large, attractive, grassy area being considered is currently used for volleyball, baseball, tag football, sledding, kite flying, frisbee and free play. Designating and developing this area as a dog park would eliminate the option for these activities.
- The expenses necessary to create a suitable site would require more than the proposal suggests. There is no shade on that field, so sizeable shade trees or a shelter would be necessary, not optional. There are two drinking fountains along the path, one of which rarely works. A fountain for the dogs would be necessary, not optional. The layout of the paths is such that no kind of path alteration or extension would be able to bypass the basketball court and playground without cutting through the soccer field.

Continued commercial and residential development along Crystal Rock Drive and the Germantown Center has recently consumed many open green spaces in our immediate area. Waters Landing Park is an important facility to our neighborhood families and children. I think this park should be preserved for free-play activities, rather than limiting its use as a fenced-in dog exercise area.

Respectfully,
Caryl K. Strauss (77)

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 8:28 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise Areas in Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelley Naughten [mailto:khnaughten@mmcanby.com]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 10:56 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Exercise Areas in Parks

Dear Sir/Madam: It has come to my attention and to the attention of my community that Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park is a site being looked at as an Dog Exercise area. Yesterday, February 25, 2002 there was a community meeting at the park where a petition was signed against the dog park in the neighborhood. Apparently there was a public forum on Tuesday February 12 which the general majority was not aware. What can I do to voice my community's opinion against the park. There is not enough parking in the area, only 6 spaces, the playground is already over populated by those individuals coming from other parts of the county and we are not interested in having a dog exercise park. I am a dog owner but I am not interested in anything like this. Currently there are 12-15 dog owners who use our park as their "personal dog fields" wherein they allow their dogs to run free without leashes, deposit their feces and the owners do not clean up after them.

Please advise me on what, if anything, we can do to voice our opinion.
Thank you - Kelley Naughten

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 8:29 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Remove Evans Park From List of Proposed Dog Exercise Site

-----Original Message-----

From: Jsgordon15@aol.com [mailto:Jsgordon15@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 6:53 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Remove Evans Park From List of Proposed Dog Exercise Site

I am a resident of the neighborhood and have a young daughter. I feel that it is much more important for this neighborhood playground to be a safe haven for kids as opposed to an exercise area for dogs.

This proposal will bring additional persons from outside the neighborhood in and since the park has limited parking (only six), it will cause an increase of traffic through our neighborhood.

I feel that MNCPPC should consider large park as sites for test, not neighborhood parks.

Both my husband and I are against this proposed move.

Sandra & Johnny Gordon
10602 Glenhaven Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20902

February 26, 2002

Mr. Terry Brooks
M-NCPPC, Parkside Headquarters
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Dear Mr. Brooks,


The purpose of this letter is to tell you both my husband and I are opposed to the proposed Dog Exercise Area at the Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park.

This area is adjacent to a play area for little children. The swings and play sets attract many children from our neighborhood. We have no side walks in this area and there is a very little parking area. The increased traffic would put the children at risk for injuries. Please do not allow this to happen.

Sincerely,



Alfred A. Wigmore, III
Patricia D. Wigmore



FEB 1 - 2002

DIRECTOR OF PARKS

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:58 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Comment on dog parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Ned A. Spencer [mailto:n.spencer@ieee.org]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2002 10:38 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Comment on dog parks

Thanks very much for all the research and effort your team has devoted to exploring the establishment of dog parks in MC. I was in attendance at the February 12 meeting. After I recovered from disgust at the massive organization effort by a segment of the Aberdeen community, I realized that your team could do with some needed encouragement. Somehow that group should realize that massive invasion of traffic is just not in the cards--especially when soccer activity is involved (their concern). The ratio of dogs to the number of soccer players is minuscule--and very few dogs play soccer anyway.

More seriously, it was apparent that that group's needs were not met by a dog park. Fine, place the parks where they are needed. The reasonable suggestion was made to locate them nearer dense clusters of population. As only MNCPPC property is up for consideration, I would further suggest that you consider the great regional parks. For example, Cabin John Park is in a central location for a high density of people living in small-lot houses, apartment clusters, and high-rises. There is substantial land (Gaithersburg park is certainly adequate), and easy parking (Gaithersburg, again, demonstrates that not much is needed).

The ability to walk from one's home to the park is a nice idea in concept, but, in practice, fails to meet the needs of the density of population that is distributed in the centralized down-county regions. These needs may change--dog parks can change--but the initiative of Gaithersburg has shown that dog parks are practical, useful, and in demand.

To summarize, the regional park location offers the following benefits:

- Adequate parking
(relatively little is needed)
- Little change in traffic patterns
(visitors spread throughout the day)
(little conflict with major events)
- Noise is usually remote from housing
(a legitimate concern, but not when separated from adjacent homes)

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:57 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks/Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis

-----Original Message-----

From: Ktc63@aol.com [mailto:Ktc63@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2002 6:13 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Parks/Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis

I wholeheartedly support dog parks in Montgomery County! I am a long time responsible pet owner in the county and have long wished for a place where my dog can run off his leash and socialize with other dogs.

I have been fortunate to find just such a place in Annapolis at The Quiet Waters Park. In December the park opened the first Dog Park in Anne Arundel County and the response has been overwhelming. There is a vast area that is attractively enclosed with a black chain link fence. Half of the area is for big dogs and half is for small dogs. Children under three are not permitted in the enclosed areas for their safety and violators are asked to leave the park. There are dog "mitten" mail boxes on several walking trails and by the enclosed area and people are incredibly good about not only cleaning up after their pets but also restocking the mail boxes with plastic bags from home although the park does supply them as well.

In addition to the enclosed area where the dogs can get off their leashes, there is also a doggie beach a short hike down a path. This has been fantastic for the dogs who love to go play fetch out in the South River.

Clear signs with the park rules are posted and again people are so considerate of others and enjoy swapping dog tales (no pun intended) and dog tips. The dogs arrive at this park so eager and happy because they know that they will have two opportunities to be off their leashes. There are no fights amongst the dogs and any sign of aggression is policed by the owners. Of course the dogs are to be leashed on all the paths and there is a two dog minimum per person. I cannot tell you how wonderful this park is. There is also an outdoor ice skating rink, playgrounds and in the summer a pavilion for concerts. The dogs are made welcome all over the park on leashes of course.

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:57 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Park Proposal



signature

-----Original Message-----

From: Marie Smiley [mailto:masmiley@webtv.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2002 3:11 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Park Proposal

This is a wonderful, needed addition to our area. Although my husband and I currently walk Wheaton Regional Park trails with our yellow labrador (on leash), we would enjoy letting her run with other canines to socialize, yet be in a safe environment. We would like to vote FOR the Dog Park Proposal. Thank You,

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:55 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: LEGAL DOG PARKS PLEASE!

-----Original Message-----

From: SYZYGY Media [mailto:design@syzygymedia.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2002 2:55 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: LEGAL DOG PARKS PLEASE!

Dear Planning Commission,

I have yet to come across a park where I can LEGALLY allow my full sized dog, which scarcely breaks a sweat in our backyard to really run. What alternative do we dog owners have?

-WP

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:56 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Celia Nachlas [mailto:cjn@rblcpa.com]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2002 10:29 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Parks

I am a resident of the Colesville area. I am very strongly in favor of a dog park being opened off of Bonifant Road, at the Trolley Car Museum area. I also favor a site at Wheaton Regional Park. Wheaton Regional has many entrances off of Glen Allen, Georgia, Arcola and Kemp Mill Roads. There are many existing parking lots, which would mean no centralized traffic congestion if the dog park is located somewhere in the center of the Park area. Dog owners could walk to the dog park from any of the existing parking lots. In addition, I understand there is a camping area, near the maintenance facility off of Kemp Mill Road, that is no longer being utilized, or only partially utilized, for camping. This would be ideal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Celia Nachlas and Family

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:55 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Evans Parkway Park

-----Original Message-----

From: PSG Communications [mailto:psgcom@starpower.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2002 10:49 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Cc: Brooks, Terry; Jennifer G. Richards
Subject: Evans Parkway Park

Hello There:

I am a homeowner and resident in the Evans Parkway Park neighborhood. I strongly object to the proposal being considered that would turn our community park into a fenced dog run.

As perhaps you know, the space is already used very effectively by our community's dog owners and should remain in its natural state. I believe that your proposal would inevitably result in increased traffic and would also jeopardize the safety of my family and my neighbors. Many of us routinely walk or bike to the park along neighborhood streets that do not include sidewalks. Any increased traffic around our community park jeopardized safety.

Our community uses and enjoys this park in very large numbers. We have been advocating for improvements to Evans Parkway Park that include renovated basketball courts and other upgrades that would improve safety...not jeopardize it.

We are united and activist community and will be circulating a petition to ensure you hear the depth of our voice. Do not turn out community park into a dog exercise run that is unwanted and not needed. Instead, fund improvements and safety upgrades at Evans Parkway Park.

Sincerely,

Patti Giglio
1701 Gridley Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301/649-9618

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 8:56 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise area proposal

-----Original Message-----

From: centro familia [mailto:centrofamilia@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2002 11:00 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Exercise area proposal

I am writing to express our opposition to designate Evans Park as a dog Exercise area. I am a home owner (10604 Dunkirk Dr.) for 9 years, and feel that the proposal would adversely affect our neighborhood. It is a close knit area, that would not be able to withstand the high volume of persons and dogs wanting to utilize the park.

If you need further feedback feel free to contact me at (h) at (301) 649-5131, or at my work numbers below.

Sincerely,

Nancy Navarro-Laurent
Executive Co-Director
Centro Familia
6701 Democracy Blvd.
Bethesda MD, 201817
301-897-2777
301-897-1500 español
301-897-3100

cc. Terry Brooks

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2002 8:36 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: I Support the Dog Parks Proposal!

-----Original Message-----

From: Andy Kraus [mailto:sseekerr@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2002 9:52 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: I Support the Dog Parks Proposal!

Attn: Terry Brooks

"If you build 'em, we will come".

That includes, me, my wife, my kid, my laborador retriever.

For the record we live in a nice neighborhood, Manor Lake. There is no dog park in our neighborhood. I wish there were.

There is an abandoned(?) park near us near a lake where people let their dogs run, I assume illegally. I don't let mine, because I don't want to lose him; there are no fences there, and labs can RUN.

My dog and I have been through intermediate training at Dog Sense. He's obedient on a leash; I'm working him on my own property off leash; I'm getting a radio collar to work him on a longer "virtual leash". I'd love to be able to take him somewhere and let him RUN.

How can I help support the effort to build more dog parks?

Thanks.

Andy Kraus
Rockville, MD

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Yahoo! Sports - Coverage of the 2002 Olympic Games
<http://sports.yahoo.com>

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Parks
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2002 6:06 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: dog park

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Vogel [mailto:mvogel@erols.com]
Sent: February16,2002 8:43 AM
To: MCP-Parks
Subject: dog park

ATTN: Terry Brooks,

I am against putting dog parks in any neighborhood. They should be regional centers off major arteries or on large lots of unused land! Until there are many regional parks throughout the county, any neighborhood dog park would be a nuisance for the homeowners whose lawns would be parked on and children endangered. Aberdeen Park, in particular, is totally unsuitable for such a park and not needed or desired by the community. We have a major speeding and traffic problem in our neighborhood right near Quince Orchard HS as it is. It should be taken off your prospective list immediately so that we can relax and try to enjoy our park as best we can despite weekend soccer.

Sincerely,

Mark Vogel
12501 Shoemaker Way
North Potomac, Md. 20878
301-926-1663

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Parks
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2002 3:32 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

FYI
CDW

-----Original Message-----

From: MTemkin900@aol.com [mailto:MTemkin900@aol.com]
Sent: January31,2002 12:10 AM
To: MCP-Parks
Subject: Dog Parks

Dear Sir:

I write this email in support of creating additional dog parks in Montgomery County. I use the Gaithersburg facility, but would love to have one near my home in Rockville. I understand that the County is considering opening a dog park near Veirs Mill Road. This would be a very much appreciated amenity.

I thank the County for considering this issue.

Sincerely,

Ken Temkin
5903 Halpine Road
Rockville, MD. 20851

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Parks
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2002 4:07 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Park

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Matt Rosenstock [mailto:kinapic1999@yahoo.com]
Sent: February04,2002 2:33 PM
To: MCP-Parks
Subject: Dog Park

Hi- My name is Matthew Rosenstock and I live a block down from the Aberdeen Local Park in North Potomac. I would like to express my opinion and vote against the dog park in Aberdeen Park. As Aberdeen Park is in the middle of a residential neighborhood, I feel the noise level that would be produced by constantly barking dogs is not appropriate. I think a dog park is a great idea, but it should never be in a residential neighborhood where the community would have to listen to the barking dogs all afternoon. One reason for living in the community my wife and I chose, is for the quiet and pleasant neighborhood. Please do not ruin it with barking dogs.

Thank you,

Matthew Rosenstock

Do You Yahoo!?

Great stuff seeking new owners in Yahoo! Auctions!
<http://auctions.yahoo.com>

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Parks
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2002 5:48 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: For Terry Brooks

FYI
CDW

-----Original Message-----

From: Stevens, Sharon [mailto:SStevens@aspensys.com]
Sent: February06,2002 7:13 AM
To: MCP-Parks
Subject: For Terry Brooks

I have read the Proposal for creating a Dog Exercise Area that includes Aberdeen Local Park in North Potomac. My family has lived at 12512 Shoemaker Way since 1984 and we own a dog.

My chief concern about the Dog Exercise Area center around the traffic problems we currently endure.

Except for the coldest winter months, the park is utilized after school for soccer and baseball practice. On Saturdays, the park hosts the children's soccer and baseball games with teams from out of the area. On Sundays, the park is very crowded with semi-professional men's' soccer games. Traffic is congested, and the park does not afford enough parking spaces; therefore, Triple Crown Road is difficult to traverse because cars are parked on both sides of the street.

Additionally, last Fall, park visitors' cars began parking on Shoemaker Way (a cul de sac which backs up to the park), and visitors walked through neighborhood yards to reach the park. On one particular Sunday, I was unable to park in front of my own home, and our leashed dog is not happy about the visitors' intrusions into her yard.

As mentioned in the Proposal, we are a growing section of the County. More and more small children are trying to cross the neighborhood streets on their bikes and skates. The addition of a Dog Exercise Area will exacerbate the traffic/parking issue, and we must be concerned about the children's safety.

Sharon Stevens
Homeowner, North Potomac

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Parks
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2002 5:45 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise Areas

FYI
CDW

-----Original Message-----

From: DOUGLAS E LOHMEYER [mailto:feelingbetter@juno.com]
Sent: February05,2002 12:29 PM
To: MCP-Parks
Subject: Dog Exercise Areas

Mr. Brooks,

It is my opinion that there are many places where dog owners can go to exercise their animals, without the MNCP&PC spend money and resources on new designated parks. Assuming the fees assessed the users pay for the maintenance, it will take years to recoup the land and construction expense. The County is cutting back on services and the Executive is saying the State is not properly funding our schools. I have been paying and playing mens softball in the County for over 30 years and the maintenance of those fields get worse every year. The grass is not regularly cut, the batter's box is a six inch hole, and the infields are very rough. How can the parks department spend money on a Dog Exercise Area? NO, we do not need Dog Exercise Areas!!!

Doug Lohmeyer

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2002 8:56 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Debbie Carty [mailto:debcartyl@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2002 4:06 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Parks

I want to thank you for holding the public forum last week. I was one of the speakers in favor of the dog parks, and many of us are now organizing to form a Dog Owners Group to support this effort.

First, I'd like to say that after hearing all of the resident concerns, and thinking more about the large interest in the parks, we should probably look for park facilities with adequate parking and vehicle access. While we'd all love to walk to our dog park, with only 6 in the county, most people will drive.

Ideas include the area around Meadowbrook Stables/Candy Cane City/Temple at East-West Highway & Beach Drive -- lots of land and parking available. Also, what about places like Wheaton Regional Park, Cabin John Park, etc. where there is plenty of parking and land, and no homeowners in close proximity?

You know the parks better than we do, so I'll leave those ideas up to you, but thought I'd make the general suggestion.

Secondly, as I mentioned above, several of us are trying to get organized into a Dog Owners Group. We have established a listserv account with Yahoo Groups, and are working to compile members now. I am hopeful that when the next hearing is held in the Spring, we can be present with a good contingent of county residents ready to volunteer, raise funds, etc. to move this project forward. If you need to get informaton on our progress prior to that meeting, feel free to contact me. My name is Debbie Carty and I can be reached at 301-587-8860 or by e-mail at debcartyl@yahoo.com.

Thanks again for your interst in this matter. Let us know if there is anything more we can do to help in the planning process.

Debbie Carty
Kensington

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<http://sports.yahoo.com>

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2002 8:55 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise Areas - Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park

-----Original Message-----

From: MJCasserly914@aol.com [mailto:MJCasserly914@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2002 9:35 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Exercise Areas - Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park

Currently this open area is used by dogs and their owners. To my knowledge, none of the neighbors objects to this. HOWEVER, we would all have big problems with a fence going up here and destroying the sense of open space. Some means of encouraging owners to pick up their dogs feces would be greatly appreciated. This would be welcome as well on the common areas around the storm drain on Bucknell between Windham Lane and the park.

Thank you.

FEB 15 2002

PARK DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

19025 Threshing Place
Gaithersburg MD 20885
February 13, 2002

MCP Parkside Headquarters
Attn Terry Brooks
9500 Brunett Ave
Silver, Spring, MD 20901

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of Whetstone, Montgomery Village, I was very pleased to see that you are considering a dog park at Centerway Local Park. This is an EXCELLENT idea and location especially for the following reasons: ① the dogs ^{often} run loose there now because something is needed, and that area is not well trafficked. Without a defined area it is a problem (near school, golf course, playing fields. ② Now too many owners let their dogs loose around Lake Whetstone ~~area~~ (as well as on the paths in the MV neighborhoods) because nothing else is available - again loose dogs create problems for walkers, joggers, etc. and contamination for lake and picnic areas. ③ need to contain loose dogs because MV is ideal walking, jogging area for NON-Residents but dog owners let loose dogs (untrained, not under control) in Children's play areas, picnic and other recreation areas used by most others.

Do us all a favor and design something nice in Centerway Local Park (don't ^{please} obstruct the existing walking paths, though). Thanks!

Vicky Lynn Kaiser *Vicky Lynn Kaiser*

(96)

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2002 8:29 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Betsy M Bowser [mailto:Betsy.M.Bowser@lmco.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 5:01 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Exercise Parks

Last night I attended most of the public forum regarding the proposal for Dog Exercise Parks. I was disappointed that I had not contacted you about wanting to speak at the forum. Although I could not stay to hear all the public comments, from the few that I heard it was obvious that those in opposition to something are the ones more likely to show up to voice their opinions. We who think something is a good idea tend to just assume that everyone will agree with us so we are not as anxious to speak up.

I am very much in favor of additional dog exercise parks in Montgomery County and particularly the one at Centerway Park. I currently walk my dog there and would appreciate not having to keep an eye out for the park police who have been called out at 6:30 a.m. to ticket those who do not have their dogs on a leash.

I did not get a blue sheet with the names of the speakers, however, there was a woman who was one of the first 5 speakers. She spoke in opposition to the Centerway site. She had 2 'reasons' for not wanting this site. One was that it is a nice quiet area to relax. That is generally true except for the soccer and softball games, which I believe are noisier than what a dog park would be. Also, I frequently see broken glass bottles littering the pathway that I presume is caused by under age drinkers at night who may be very quiet, but I doubt it.

Her second point was that the water run off from the park would pollute the stream. I believe that the possibility of pollution from feces not picked up by dog owners is greater without the park. Although most of us are responsible and do clean up after our dogs, there are some who do not. If they are in a confined space, it would be easier for us to police them and their dogs. Plus, having the bags readily available would be a big help.

Thank you for considering my side of the issue. I will follow this issue and would like to become involved in the formation of the Centerway Dog Exercise Park.

Betsy M. Bowser
19317-103 Club House Road
Montgomery Village, MD 20886
301-897-6299

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 1:15 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Celia Nachlas [mailto:cjn@rblcpa.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 10:50 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Parks

Hello,

I am representing Montgomery County Dog Owners Group (MC-DOG) which is actively pursuing the establishment of dog parks in Montgomery County. I have e-mailed your office as well as the other park commission offices twice previously, but have received no reply. Our group is meeting again next week and I would like to have something to report regarding my contact with the park commissions.

We had approximately 35 at our last meeting, with input from many others who were unable to attend. Our primary site focus is Wheaton Regional Park, with its many accesses as well as an unused camp site area off Kemp Mill Road near the maintenance facility. Other areas we are very interested in are the Bonifant Road site near the trolley car museum, the Parklawn site off Viers Mill Road, and an area in Rock Creek Park referred to as near "Candy Cane City" on Beach Drive near East West Highway. As liason to the park commissions, I have been asked to pursue the various groups for input and suggestions.

Please respond as soon as possible. You may reach me by e-mail at cjn@rblcpa.com, by phone (work 10 am - 6:30 pm) 301-654-9000 (home before 9 am) 301-879-8097, or by mail 14029 Cricket Lane, Silver Spring 20904.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Celia Nachlas, MC-DOG Representative

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 1:41 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: dog parks

-----Original Message-----

From: jcarr@hivresearch.org [mailto:jcarr@hivresearch.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 12:10 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: dog parks

I was at the hearing last night and would like to volunteer to serve with others on a dog-owner committee. I live in Gaithersburg and so am really close to the existing dog park, but I want there to be more parks. I had a few suggestions for the existing park and for new ones:

About the existing park:

It is frustrating that you built a pavillion without getting input from the users. In the summer, there is shade and there are benches, but they are not in the same place. Ordinarily I would be happy to sit on the ground, but that is a little aversive in the park! The next time you want to improve the park, why not field several suggestions that you can afford and have people vote for which one they want?

You know how tennis courts often have those lights that you can drop \$0.25 into for a half hour of light? Why couldn't you do that at the dog park? That way, the park could be used on weekdays in the winter, when it virtually isn't used now. I'm sure it would pay for itself.

About new ones:

I suggest that you think about creating parks different in character at different locations rather than replicating the Gaithersburg dog park at different sites. Some ideas:

At a small down-county site: have a mini mountain made of concrete blocks or tree stumps that the dogs could scamper over, contact an agility equipment producer to provide and install permanent agility equipment, build a permanent toy chest on site and ask the dog-owner group or petco or petsmart to keep it stocked with toys.

At a large, wooded site: fence in a large area of the woods, drive all the wildlife out and let the dogs just roam free.

At a large, open site: make it large enough that us dog owners could jog around the site while our dogs played. Leave any trees there that are

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 1:41 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Attn: Terry Brooks



Card for Brigitte
Greenberg

-----Original Message-----

From: Brigitte Greenberg [mailto:bgreenberg@warren-news.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:41 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Attn: Terry Brooks

Re: Dog Parks

Dear Mr. Brooks,

I would like to express my support for the proposal to create fenced dog parks across Montgomery County, specifically the proposed park on Layhill Road. I have two dogs and usually have to drive into D.C. to go to Battery Kemble Park in order to give Bambi and Rudolph a safe, fenced-in experience with other dogs. For a time, I regularly went to the park in Gaithersburg but was later told by a neighbor that I couldn't attend without a Gaithersburg residence sticker. The one at Layhill would be closest to my home and I am very excited at the prospect of walking my dogs to the park, rather than driving all over the place.

I can say without a doubt that dog parks would certainly improve the quality of life in Montgomery County for many people and their pets. Thank you. Please let me know if I can provide more information.

Sincerely,

Brigitte Greenberg
14901-F Cleese Court
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-598-1490

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:06 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: ATTN: Terry Brooks Re: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave Schweikart [mailto:dschweikart@mindspring.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 10:13 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: ATTN: Terry Brooks Re: Dog Parks

I'm unable to attend the public forum on Tuesday, but I wanted to let you know that I very much support the idea of creating a dog park at the Waters Landing Park in Germantown. I've been down to the dog park in Gaithersburg, and very much would appreciate a dog park here in my community.

David W. Schweikart
20450 Summersong Lane
Germantown, MD 20874

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:06 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Terry Brooks (re: Dog parks in Montgomery Co.)

-----Original Message-----

From: Tom W. [mailto:ronintom@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 7:07 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: cc: Terry Brooks (re: Dog parks in Montgomery Co.)

Hello,

I would like to voice my wholehearted support for more dogparks in Montgomery County. We are already lagging behind many neighboring and national districts in this matter. My family and a lot of my friends feel exactly the same way. Thank you for your concern.

Tom Winstead

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:06 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise Area - Opposed to one in Aberdeen Local Park

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol_Hayes@freddiemac.com [mailto:Carol_Hayes@freddiemac.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 10:38 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Exercise Area - Opposed to one in Aberdeen Local Park

The purpose of this e-mail is to register my opposition to locating a dog exercise area in Aberdeen Local Park, 12231 Triple Crown Rd., North Potomac. As you may know, Aberdeen is a small park, located in the center of an established neighborhood. Currently, the park supports a range of activities such as walking, soccer, volleyball, tennis, and children's play. The availability of an open area is much appreciated by homeowners in the vicinity as well as individuals who drive to get to this park.

Adding a dog exercise area to Aberdeen Local Park would not only detract from the peaceful, relatively quiet activities that take place in the park every day, but it would also increase the vehicle traffic in a neighborhood that is already often used as a cut through to other locations. Homeowners in the area have yards in which their dogs can run. Please do not disrupt the nature of the park and the nature of the neighborhood by placing a dog exercise area where it is neither wanted nor needed.
Carol
703.903.2251

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:03 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Parks

-----Original Message-----

From: Al Zanner [mailto:alzan@starpower.net]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 1:54 PM
To: MCP-Feedback; Terry@starpower.net; Brooks@starpower.net
Subject: Dog Parks

We wish to add our enthusiastic support for the proposed dog parks which we read about in the Montgomery Weekly section of the Washington Post, Feb 7, 2002.

Barbara H. Zanner
Albert W. Zanner, Jr.

8 Montgomery Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Phone: 301-948-9165

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:01 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog Exercise Areas

-----Original Message-----

From: Devaull, Maria L [mailto:DEVAULLM@cder.fda.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 9:33 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog Exercise Areas

Hi,

I plan to attend the public forum next Tuesday, Feb. 12 and would like to stress how important it is to have dog exercise areas in Montgomery County.

The number #1 reason is that the dog waste problem would be reduced if it was contained in one area. However, those folks that refuse to pick up would have to realize that they would have to do so in the dog park.

Will these parks be similar to the one currently off of 370 in Rockville?

The second most important reason is the welfare and benefit to the dogs and their owners. All dogs, large or small, should be exercised on a daily basis (preferably off leash) in a safe place and unless you have a large yard and more than one dog, this is difficult to do unless you walk them in a state forest.

I made copies of your flyer and tried to post them as many at my workplace (FDA in Rockville) as I could. I hope that a lot of people are interested because there aren't a lot of good places to walk your dog.

Thank you for your time. Would it be possible to get directions from you?
I'll be coming from Germantown (Waters Landing area).

Maria L. De Vaull
Administrative Specialist
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Division of Pharmaceutical Evaluation III
Phone: 301-827-2007 Fax: 301-827-2579

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 1:40 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: dog park proposal

-----Original Message-----

From: Kimberly Julian [mailto:kimjulian@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 11:54 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: dog park proposal

cc: Terry Brooks

Thank you for the very informative forum last evening regarding the dog park proposals. It was clear that a lot of time and effort has been put into this project. As a Montgomery County resident, I appreciate that.

I am concerned because Aberdeen was the only neighborhood properly represented. Evans Park residents I have spoken with in the park have been expressing the same concerns as the Aberdeen group, along with some concerns that are more major to our location (NO buffer from residents, no parking, too much traffic).

It was evident to me when looking at the slides of the different parks that Evans Park is clearly not the type of space that should even be considered. It doesn't even meet the basic criteria. I think spaces like the slide that showed the area surrounded by trees would be much more appropriate than a park surrounded by residences with NO buffer area.

The 3 people who were at the meeting last evening who do not want Evans Park to be considered will be getting together the neighborhood in a formal way so you know we are not the only three in opposition to this location. We were disappointed and shocked that there were not any other people there from our neighborhood.

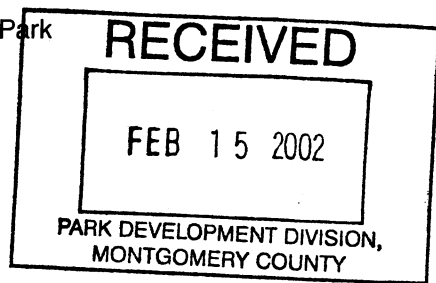
Dog parks are a great idea, but the locations must be supported by the neighborhoods they impact. Thanks again for the forum last night and the opportunity to get all the facts!

Kim Julian
Evans Park Homeowner (on the park)

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<http://www.hotmail.com>

Wilkins, James D.

From: Wilkins, James D.
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 8:56 AM
To: 'mcp feedback-Mr.Terry Brooks'
Subject: FW: Opposed to Dog Exercise Area in Centerway Local Park



Please see below.

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilkins, James D.
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2002 8:41 AM
To: 'mcp feedback-Mr.Terry Brooks'
Subject: Opposed to Dog Exercise Area in Centerway Local Park

Dear Mr. Brooks:

I am familiar with Centerway Local Park, Gaithersburg.

I am completely opposed to having a "Dog Exercise Area" there because of the location of the park right next to Whetstone Elementary School. Also the park and adjacent school grounds are where young children play and participate in baseball, soccer and other sports and go walking, running, and bike riding on the extensive bike paths in the park.

The park was in no way designed for animal exercising. It was designed for people. It is much too highly developed for dog exercising. With this in mind I believe having a steady stream of dogs exercising would not be safe to the users of the park. It would not be safe for children and families using the park in the way it has been designed to be used. I am sure large dangerous dogs will often get away from their keepers and attack persons engaged in sports or otherwise enjoying the park.

Sincerely,

James D. Wilkins
James D. Wilkins
Montgomery Village, MD



1614 Sherwood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20902
February 13, 2002

Mr. Terry Brooks
M-NCPPC, Parkside Headquarters
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Dear Mr. Brooks,

I attended the February 12, 2002, Public Forum Meeting on Dog Exercise Areas in Montgomery County Parks and would like to comment on the issue under consideration and the content and conduct of the meeting itself.

I found the presentation portion of the meeting interesting and informative, but the Public Comments section was excruciating! The fact that impassioned NIMBYs from the Aberdeen Park area were allowed to monopolize a meeting that was intended to be of countywide interest demonstrated the need for a different format for this type of meeting. For example, if each of the six areas in the proposal had been assigned a maximum of four pre-registered speakers with a sign up sheet or petition available for interested parties to indicate support or opposition, those of us from other areas of the county would not have been subjected to the seemingly endless repetitive verbal bludgeoning by the Aberdeen representatives, which essentially killed any substantive exchange of ideas among the attendees. If some of the six areas did not have the allotted four speakers pre-registered, it would simply have moved the meeting along and allowed time for those present to comment or submit questions. I support the Aberdeen Park area residents right to oppose a Dog Exercise Area, but not their right to monopolize a meeting that was, I believe, intended to be more inclusive.

I cannot resist commenting that some of the arguments made by the Aberdeen group were absurd. The "environmental concern" that a few overlooked dog droppings are going to foul the watershed, coming from an area where "we all have one-third to one-half acre yards" (undoubtedly treated regularly with fertilizers and pesticides), is ludicrous! It was also implied that dogs would be apt to escape the fenced area and savage small children!

Despite the lack of balance in the Public Comments, I believe that one conclusion is inescapable. Although Aberdeen Park may not be a suitable site, there is much need for Dog Exercise Areas in Montgomery County. The fear of over-use of any one facility is driven by recognition of that need. I would ask the Commission to consider additional sites as well as those which seem currently appropriate. More modest installations might allow enough locations to avoid overcrowding in any one area.

All that is really needed are one-quarter to one-half acre fenced spaces with trash cans. Volunteer Dog Owner Groups can supply re-cycled plastic bags and in most cases other amenities which the users of a given area may want. I am suggesting consideration of more numerous, but smaller areas to serve walkers (reducing traffic generated by the facilities and the need for additional parking). I have noticed that the many double tennis courts in neighborhood parks are often used as dog exercise areas (another indication of need), and they are considerably less than an acre in size. I would also point out that there are probably many more tax paying dog owners than tennis players in Montgomery County!

Regarding the proposed Evans Parkway site, which is a fifteen minute walk from my Forest Grove/Forest Estates neighborhood, I would like to make the following observations. First, this is an excellent choice for a Dog Exercise Area oriented toward walkers. It is central to a dense residential neighborhood, separated by vegetation and a drainage channel from the children's play area, and large enough to allow buffer zones from the nearest residences. Although it is well located for walkers, there is also what appears to be more than adequate parking for those who would drive to this facility. There seem to be no rational objections to using this site. Dog parks (unlike soccer fields, for example) are used intermittently, and unlikely to cause traffic and parking problems.

In conclusion, I would like to suggest that smaller, more informal fenced dog park areas might allow consideration of many other public parcels. One area which comes to mind in my own community is the Forest Glen-Dallas Avenue Neighborhood Park, which fronts on Forest Glen Road and backs up to the Beltway. The Forest Grove Park on Dameron Drive, or many areas of Sligo Creek Park also might be considered.

Sincerely,



Donna Diamante

tel.: 301-681-5317

e-mail: donnadiamante@aol.com

Dog Area in Parks Meeting, Tuesday February 12, 2002

Background/ Location: My name is Colleen Mahoney. I live at 7903 Chicago Avenue, Silver Spring, MD. I have lived in Montgomery County since 1964. I appreciate continuing efforts to create and maintain open spaces. We live in one of the most beautiful counties in the US. We have many available natural resources. I daily enjoy Rock Creek Park, Sligo Creek Park, and the little park in my East Silver Spring neighborhood – Silver Spring Park, and the Crescent Trail. I have heard that as a whole the State of Maryland does not allow dogs in their parks. There are exceptions to that rule. But you have to look for National Park land like the C& O canal to walk you dog. It seems sad that with all the resources more options are not made available to dog owners. According to a statistic listed on “dogpark.com” there are more domesticated dogs than children in the civilized world. So there are definitely a large number of domesticated dogs in Montgomery County. The D.C. metropolitan area is rated like 8th in the Alpo survey of ideal places for dogs to live. I think we could be #1.

Intrinsic Value/Quality of Life: A year and a half ago I purchased a dog to **increase my activity level**. Although I know about fitness theory I have found I am relationally motivated. My dog’s reminders that it is “time for the walk” get me out rain or shine. We go on daily walks and interact with other dogs in my neighborhood. I have gotten to know more of my neighbors in the last 20 months than I had in the 16 years I have lived in my current home. This has **strengthened my sense of community**. I have started attending the East Silver Spring Citizen’s Association meetings. My puppy benefited from **socialization** opportunities because my family with their dogs live in this area. Most in this transient community aren’t as lucky. There is a need to allow dog socialization.

Reasons to have dog parks:

I am **in favor of dedicated dog areas in the parks**. They will give dogs an opportunity to socialize and run in a fenced in, monitored, self policed (poop free) environment.

I have always felt that it is best to create an environment where it is easy to follow the rules. In Disney world they studied the # of steps people were willing to take to throw away trash. They place trash receptacles within easy range. They keep them clean, frequently emptied, and visually appealing. This sets a standard that becomes its own self-fulfilling prophecy.

You have to start “where people are”. People with dogs use parks. Separate dogs parks may in some cases help dog owners follow park rules (peer pressure to pick up poop, etc). I especially appreciate the caveat in the dog area plans that allow dogs & owners to use the parks **a full hour after dark**. Since I work Monday through Friday I often come home as the sun is setting in the winter months and this accommodation will better fit my reality.

Dog owners in the parks increase park safety. It provides a kind of neighborhood watch program.

Suggestions: Maybe the dog parks don’t have to be huge. You could fit a little 40 ft by 120-ft area in the far corner of even the smallest park. I also was wondering if it might be worth setting up temporary fencing (like that orange plastic mesh they use at construction sites only maybe in

dark green). Then you could try out different areas and see how it would work. I guess that wouldn't be practical for the big one acre but it would probably only cost a couple of hundred dollars instead of \$10,000.00.

There are some disadvantages to dedicated dog areas in the parks.

Disadvantages: Limited number—with only 6-7 dog parks planned for Montgomery County chances are they won't be in my immediate neighborhood. **Proximity** is important. Most people go out early in the day (before work) and at sunset (after work). They need something they don't have to drive to. I am worried that having a few dedicated dog parks will cause a tightening of the current lax rules in the remaining parks. Since I live inside the beltway none of the parks near me are big enough to support the large size (1 acre) you are proposing for dog parks.

They will **cost** something to create and maintain. Currently I share the use of the parks we frequent. Because we are covering a wide range there is **no overuse** of a grassy area. The maintenance can be shared with the regular park users. Having a dedicated dog exercise area — doesn't get me exercising. So I think dedicated dog park areas should be a part of a more comprehensive (multipronged) plan to promote the quality of life of all county residents and their dogs and children.

Segregation of use is not really a natural flow. By creating an environment where people walk with their dogs through out the parks and neighborhoods it extends neighborhood safety. Law abiding citizens out walking the streets provides an informal "neighborhood watch" program and an increased sense of safety. I have used a cell phone once to call the police about a robbery in progress

Dedicated areas in parks for dogs is the start of a solution.

Other ideas:

Put fences around tot lots. The most popular kiddy playground in D.C. is "turtle" park off Massachusetts Avenue. The reason all the parents love it is the 3 1/2 ft. fence that surrounds it. The parents can sit inside on a bench and watch their kids. Even though it is right next to the road on two sides they don't have to worry about the kids dashing out into the street.

I would like to put in a word for **mixed use**.

Ratio: Since you are only planning 6 additional dog parks to bring the county total to 7. I imagine I would have to drive to get to one of the proposed dog parks

Fenced tennis courts or off-season baseball/ soccer fields could be available when they aren't otherwise used for dog off leash activity (out of season or at sunset). These areas already exist complete with fencing and away from toddler lots or other areas where there would be an inherent incompatibility. (It is the salt in dog urine that causes grass to die. If you watered often to wash away the salts maybe the grass wouldn't die.)

I have found our neighborhood tennis court to be a valuable area to practice the obedience lessons with my dog. Rarely will a dog do it's "duty" on cement if it has been given a chance to have access to grass on the walk to the park. Tennis courts would be



ideal to share with dogs for that hour at dusk. With the growing emphasis on integrated **life** time fitness I would imagine that the people of Montgomery County spend proportionally more time walking their dogs than they do playing tennis.

I would also like to suggest that you put some **“teeth” in the pick up after your dog laws**. Chances are -a law enforcement officer will rarely, if ever, see a dog poop. Mine only goes once – maybe twice a day. I think you should require that people walking dogs on park property carry a baggy to pick up the poop. Then the officer can check to make sure the dog owners have baggies—just like the coast guard checks to make sure people have life preservers in their boats. If they don’t have a baggie – give them a warning. I have found that the dog owners who **NEVER** pick up after their dogs don’t carry baggies. When they are in a crowd with other dog owners and peer pressure kicks in they will say, “oh, I forgot my baggie” and we happily share one with them. Dog owners who don’t pick up – give the rest of us a bad reputation.

Off leash laws. (I have a friend who lives in Rockville. She is not interested in “dog parks” because her dog is certified by the City of Rockville to walk off leash. So she can walk in any park in her neighborhood and allow her dog to get exercise and socialize as appropriate.). I would like to see the City of Rockville’s **certification system extended to the whole county**. Maybe non-residents of Rockville could pay a fee to be certified through the current program and the park police through out the county could recognize the certification. I would think it might be easier to administer a program of this type if you asked or required the owners with pre-certified dogs to wear something like “red” collars. This would allow interested parties a quick way to visually scan a situation and have a hint at what is going on. I don’t think county residents should be discriminate/penalized because residents that don’t live within a “city” jurisdiction.

Brooks, Terry

From: Carol Henley [chenley@erols.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2002 7:24 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Proposed Dog Exercise area at Aberdeen Local Park

We received a postcard about Tuesday's public forum re dog exercise areas, including one at the Aberdeen Local Park. We are within the 1/4 mile radius of the park., but are not able to attend tonight's forum. We have two problems with this proposal. First, the criteria proposed in the report are too vague and subjective, and second, Aberdeen Park is not suitable for such a purpose under any reasonable criteria.

We have read the report on dog exercise areas posted on your website. In that document, criteria for choosing locations are proposed. The criteria should be more specific and measurable, i.e. what would make "a site compatible with existing uses in a park?" What is "a sufficient distance or buffered from residential areas?" The criteria don't even clearly address minimizing traffic impact on the surrounding area.

We do not believe that Aberdeen park meets even these vague criteria for the following reasons:

Aberdeen Park is used by local residents for play and exercise. Given the size of the park and possible locations for a dog exercise area, the dog area would be detrimental to existing uses of the park and discourage local residents from using the park.

Most residents within walking distance of Aberdeen have yards with adequate pet exercise areas, so it seems that this exercise area would be primarily for the use of dog owners from other areas who would have to drive to the facility. The access roads to Aberdeen are residential streets which already have significant traffic issues (note that speed bumps have been installed on Triple Crown Road and a development of at least 46 more homes has been approved at the end of Falconbridge Drive.)

In addition, since Aberdeen is a local park, it does not have extensive parking on site. Already on weekends, the parking lot is often overflowing due to the soccer field(s). Additional parking needs for dog exercisers will result in overflow onto

Brooks, Terry

From: lois winkel [hlwh@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 6:25 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: dog parks

I certainly endorse the establishment of dog exercise areas. I have long been envious of the folks in Virginia and their dogs who have access to such areas. It is a challenge to arrange play dates for pets -- yet they very much enjoy the social interaction -- at least mine does.

I will be willing to help w/ northbranch and/or parklawn as my schedule and responsibilities allow.

Lois Winkel Hines
hlwh@earthlink.net
2615 Woodedge Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Brooks, Terry

From: Scotthshaub@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 5:13 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Park in Aberdeen Park

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a homeowner on Keeneland Place in North Potomac, a street which is adjacent to the proposed Dog Park. I cannot express how adamantly OPPOSED I am to this proposal. I would like as much information as I can get to prevent this " Canine Toilet" and " Barking Nuisance" from being established in my back yard for the benefit of people who don't even live in my neighborhood.

Thank you!

Scott Shaub
12420 Keeneland Pl
N. Potomac, MD 20878
(301) 670-9794

Brooks, Terry

From: Langston, Joann Ms DUSA-OR [Joann.Langston@hqda.army.mil]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 4:01 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Tomorrow's hearing
Importance: Low

I would like to make an individual statement at the dog-park hearing tomorrow night at Wood Middle School. I can't find your phone number on the site; hence the e-mail. Thanks, Joann Langston

Brooks, Terry

From: John and Tracy Husted [thehusted@erols.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 3:47 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Cc: aekimball@aol.com; wkcarney5@aol.com; ptsman@aol.com; jhusted@hns.com
Subject: Dog Park at Aberdeen

Dear Mr. Brooks,

We are writing to express our concerns about the proposed dog exercise area at Aberdeen Local Park in North Potomac. While the idea of public dog exercise areas in Montgomery County may be worth consideration, we believe Aberdeen Park is ill-suited as a site for this type of use.

Aberdeen Park is located well within a quiet, residential neighborhood and already is highly utilized. The installation of a dog park will bring many additional cars driving through an area that currently has a great deal of difficulty with traffic safety, such as speeding and the use of Triple Crown Road as a pass-through between Quince Orchard Road and Jones Lane. We see concerns about increased traffic as a particular problem at this location, because the vast majority of users of the dog park will be driving in from other areas. This is because most homes within the neighborhood have fenced yards where dogs can run off-leash, meaning that local residents would be less likely to walk to the park with their pets in order to use the dog exercise area.

Difficulty with parking is another reason why Aberdeen Local Park is not a suitable site for a dog park. Parking at Aberdeen is woefully inadequate even for its current uses, such as league soccer games. There already is a problem with illegal parking because of the inadequate number of legal spaces at Aberdeen. Traffic safety and parking problems would be further exacerbated by adding a dog park at Aberdeen.

Having a dog park in Aberdeen may actually deter neighborhood residents from using the park, as many have expressed apprehension about having their children play so close to a potentially dangerous area. As we know, children are by nature curious, and a fence with an entrance gate certainly would not deter curious teenagers or pre-teens, many of whom currently play with friends at this now quite safe park, from attempting to enter the dog exercise area to play with the dogs. In addition, there are concerns about some dog owners who may allow their dogs to remain off-leash while walking to and from the exercise area, raising the potential for a dangerous situation to occur.

As owners of a wonderful dog ourselves, we understand the potential benefits of dog exercise areas in general. However, given all the concerns described above, we submit that there must be a more suitable location for a dog exercise area than Aberdeen Local Park, such as one that is more easily accessible by major arteries and further away from private homes and children's play areas. We implore you not to put the health and safety of our children at risk by installing this dog park smack in the middle of a quiet residential neighborhood which already struggles with traffic safety concerns and whose residents are not likely to be the ones making use of the facility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy & John Husted
12104 Triple Crown Road
N. Potomac, MD 20878
301-977-7422

Brooks, Terry

From: Gail Thorsen-Faucett [gailt@erols.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 2:34 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Cc: Carol Knoblach; Gail Thorsen-Faucett
Subject: Proposed Aberdeen Dog Park

I am a resident of the Mills Farm Development which houses the Aberdeen Park - for which the Park and Planning Commission has proposed be turned into a dog park.

I am shocked and saddened that OUR community park; for which soccer games and practices are held nightly throughout the warm seasons, infants and toddlers come to play in the woods and the playground with their parents, and residents go to walk, jog or just generally enjoy the solitude and serenity of such a beautiful space- could be turned into a DOG PARK!??

What is this all about? To have non-residents come into our community neighborhood to allow their dogs to get their exercise and secrete their waste in our community park? I'm at a loss - what are our government officials thinking when coming up with this idea. Although your proposal states that users of this park will pick up after their dogs - I know this fact to be Fallacy.....they won't - and we will be the harbinger of this waste. I am a dog owner - in fact the owner of 2 dogs and 3 cats....I love animals - but do not want our community park to turn into the local "waste pile" for animals of Montgomery County.

WAKE UP - WE - being the residents of this community, do not support nor will we ever support a dog park in our neighborhood.

If you require further comment - I can be reached at 301.258.2648.

Respectfully,
Gail Thorsen-Faucett

Brooks, Terry

From: TYOUNG [tyoung@jbs1.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 1:00 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Evans Parkway Dog Park

Thank you for the opportunity to express my view on the Evans Parkway Dog Park.

I moved to this area of Montgomery County last year and have been taking my dog to this park for the last 5 months. I have met many new people and my dog has the opportunity to socialize with other dogs and get much needed

exercise. It would be excellent if this became an official site with a fenced area. This would help contain the dogs and allow them to get more

exercise by being able to run freely off-leash. This in turn would protect the dogs from running into the streets and oncoming traffic, and also protect passersby from unwanted advances by the dogs.

The people and dogs we have met at this park are very responsible people and all the dogs are well-behaved and controllable. Our only fear is that people will bring a dog that is not controllable or socialized and disrupt the friendly play that exists now.

Also, parking seems to be a concern. Are there plans for additional parking? The streets are narrow and do not provide much parking. Most of us walk to the park so it doesn't seem to be an issue now, but if this is advertised as an official County sponsored dog park, we fear more people in cars will drive to the park and crowd the already narrow streets.

I will try to attend the meeting tomorrow evening, but I hope this can serve as an affirmative vote for the County Dog Park at the Evans Parkway site.

Thanks,
Terrie Young
2024 Flowering Tree Terrace
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-681-4161

Brooks, Terry

From: L. Rosenstock [lc_rosenstock@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 12:06 PM
To: Brooks, Terry

Dear Ms. Brooks,

I'd like to express my concern about opening a dog park in Aberdeen Park in North Potomac. Here are 3 points that may not have been considered in the selection of Aberdeen Park as a potential site for the dog park:

* There is already a littering problem along Horse Center Road, the main road into the community from Quince Orchard Road. Increasing the number of cars along this road, especially cars coming in from other neighborhoods, will make an already bad situation even worse. My home is on Triple Crown Road near Horse Center Road, and we often have to pick up beer cans and trash thrown onto our lawn from passing cars, especially after the weekends.

* Cars are constantly speeding around the corner from Horse Center Road onto Triple Crown Road. Increasing the number of cars at that intersection is going to cause a hazard.

* There is a sidewalk only on one side of the street on Horse Center Road and Triple Crown Road. The park is on the side of Triple Crown Road that does NOT have a sidewalk, which means that people have to walk in the street to enter the park. This will pose a risk to pedestrians if there are an increased number of cars entering the park. Our neighborhood is filled with children. Children on foot and riding bicycles, mothers with strollers, and anyone else walking to the park will have an increased risk by having to cross Triple Crown Road to enter the park.

I think that a dog park is a great idea - It gives dog owners a chance to meet while their dogs enjoy the outdoors! However, it would be more appropriate to have it in a park which is more easily accessible by bigger roads and further away from private homes. A dog park in Aberdeen Park would be a disturbance to the quiet neighborhood surrounding the park, and for that reason, it should not be considered.

Thank you,
Lori Rosenstock
North Potomac, Maryland

FEB 13 2002

PARK DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Forest Grove Citizens Association

John M. Diamante, Vice President
1614 Sherwood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20902

February 11, 2001

Mr. Terry Brooks
M-NCPPC, Parkside Headquarters
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Dear Mr. Brooks,

I am writing to you to express support for the draft proposal (012902) of the staff of the MNCPPC Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning to establish six new official dog exercise areas in Montgomery County. Our association consists of approximately 100 single family homes East of Georgia Avenue between Forest Glen and Sherwood Road, which includes many dog owning households. The proposed site within Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park would be a most convenient location for our community and adjacent communities. It also seems particularly well sited within the existing park and surrounding neighborhoods. However, the proposal for other such facilities should be supported, even if some of the proposed sites may subsequently be found to have particular problems.

The proposed dog parks would provide benefits for the wider community, beyond that segment that actually own dogs. While many, if not most, dog owners in our community are responsible and pick-up after their pets, some do not. Dog parks serve as a social focus for dog owners, bringing them together on a regular basis. In that context, peer pressure will tend to promote responsible behavior among the dog owners of the community.

The benefit to the pets is obvious. The proposed design and safety systems will allow dogs a free and safe place to exercise and socialize. There have been several incidents over the years within our own community where an exuberant pet being exercised on the street or open park areas by the owner manages to break free and encounter a passing automobile, with resultant critical injury or death to the pet, and trauma to both owner and driver.

I have talked with many dog owners from our association, as well as neighboring community associations, and found enthusiastic support for the concept of official dog parks. Some suggested that they would be available for volunteer work in connection with such facilities. Overall, there seem to be many positive benefits for the proposed concept for very little in the way of capital expenditure.

Sincerely,



John M. Diamante, Vice-President
Forest Grove Citizens Association

far as I know, there has been no neighborhood survey of our opinion
about
this proposed action.

My wife and I are against this proposed dog exercise area. We would like
your assistance in preventing this change from happening.

Sincerely,

Mike Heil
10511 Bucknell Dr.
Silver Spring, MD
home: 301-649-3528
work: 202-342-5122

Brooks, Terry

From: Heil, Michael [mheil@air.org]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 11:24 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Evans Parkway Park

Mr Brooks,

My name is Mike Heil and I live at 10511 Bucknell Drive in Silver Spring. My house is immediately adjacent to the proposed site of a dog park. I am very troubled by this proposal for a number of reasons. This park is used by a number of people for a variety of activities. For example, many people practice golf, play ball, exercise, etc at this park. It is not right to close this area off from these people. Community residents will no longer be able to enjoy this beautiful park without being subjected to dogs that are running loose in the fenced area.

I am an animal lover and have a dog of my own. However, I am very much against turning Evan Parkway Park into a dog park. I have observed that some residents take their dogs to the park in the evenings and let them run loose. For the post part, these dog owners ignore their dogs and make little attempt to keep them under control. My dog has been attacked by some of these dogs and the owners did nothing to try to help me rescue my dog. Consequently, I know longer take my dog to the park when the other people are around. On any given day I hear dogs getting into fights and the owners doing little to stop it. Also, my wife was almost attacked in our driveway by one dog. The owner, who was in the park, took his time in calling his dog off and then made excuses for his dog's behavior. We have had dogs run into our garage because they were not under their owner's control. These dog owners have repeatedly ignored our requests that the dogs be leashed. The dog owners are also not consistent in cleaning up after their dogs and sometimes leave plastic bags in tree branches. They allow the dogs to defecate in our front yard and don't clean up after them. I realize that a fenced in area will save some of these problems, however my point here is that the dog owners who frequent this park have been irresponsible in controlling their pets and have shown a complete lack of consideration toward others. They often park at the end of Bucknell Drive and block my driveway. It is not right to turn the park over to these people when others, who treat it with more respect, also want to enjoy the park.

Turning the park into a dog park will only make matter worse. I have no confidence that the park will be properly cleaned. Also, I should not be subjected to smelly refuse canisters next to my house. This park may sound like a good idea to those who don't live next to the park, but I think it is a terrible idea. Why should I be subjected to decreased property values?
As

Brooks, Terry

From: BDoran5836@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 11:22 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Park -Spend the \$\$ on fitness for children not dogs

First of all, I am a dog lover and have always had a dog. However, I disagree with the use of dog parks in children's play areas and family neighborhoods. Increased traffic, ticks, fleas, among some issues. It is unhealthy and unsafe. There are many nice large parks in the area for dogs and owners to walk and hike.

But more importantly, With the government recently releasing info that American children are obese, I think the county funds can be better put to use to add more exercise equipment and programs for children who have a 75 year life span to live, than for a dog with a 13 yr life span. While public schools are cutting PE classes, we are adding dog parks? Where are the priorities?

As a dog owner and tax payer I strongly disagree with the concept of a park for dogs.

Brooks, Terry

From: WKCarney5@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 11:08 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Park at Aberdeen

Dear Mr. Brooks,

My family (including a dog) and I live on Triple Crown Road, just up the road from Aberdeen Park. I am writing to *strongly oppose* the placement of a Dog Park there for traffic, safety, and aesthetic reasons.

According to the park and planning division of Montgomery County, Aberdeen Park is already a heavily used park, booked all day Saturday, Sunday and weekdays for organized sport practices. This is over and above the normal foot and car traffic that utilize the park on a daily basis. The traffic generated by this usage puts the park at a saturation point already, let alone if 200-300 more cars come to use the dog park during the week and weekends.

Overflow traffic parks outside the planned parking spaces already on the weekends, parking all along Triple Crown Road, and on War Admiral Way, which is prohibited. Both of these situations cause dangerous traffic situations for pedestrians, especially children, who use the park extensively. I have 4 children who use the park for many reasons all week long. You can imagine my anxiety for their safety with more cars and dogs in and around the park.

Aberdeen Park is surrounded by homes and has very little free space available. People use that free space for walking, frisbee, football, soccer and relaxing. It is a small, lovely park with little room for a 5 1/2 foot cyclone fence on 1 to 1.5 acres of land. The park is not easily accessible by major roads, as it is situated in the middle of a residential neighborhood. I strongly believe that the placement of a dog park would take away from the pleasant ambience of this park.

Please reconsider the placement of a dog park at Aberdeen Park.

Sincerely,
Katherine Carney
301-926-3364

Brooks, Terry

From: Marcia Nilson [nilson.directions@erols.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 10:19 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks - Northwest Branch

Ms. Brooks.

My property backs onto the above noted proposed dog park. I strongly support its construction. On my street alone there are 16 dogs owned by responsible neighbors who would appreciate the availability of such a facility.

Marcia Nilson
14524 Cutstone Way
Silver Spring MD 20905
Phone: 301.989.0454

Brooks, Terry

From: corrie_bovier@agilent.com
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 9:56 AM
To: Brooks, Terry

Dear Mr. Brooks,

I received notification of the MNCPPC plan to put dog parks in a variety of locations. I am writing to tell you that I absolutely support this plan. I would especially like to see dog parks put into the Bonifant Landfill site and Parklawn Group Camping Area. Thanks very much for pursuing expansion of these types of facilities.

Regards,

Corrine G Bovier
14528 Cutstone Way
Silver Spring, Md. 20905
301/879-8911

Brooks, Terry

From: Weiss Daniel A Civ 89OSS/OSOF [DANIEL.WEISS@ANDREWS.AF.MIL]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 8:43 AM
To: 'm.praisner@co.mo.md.us'
Cc: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks

We have been regular users of the Dog Park in Gaithersburg for over a year and were glad to see that Montgomery County is considering locations for several parks. However, the sites listed in a recent article did not include any in the "east" county. I was hopeful that one of the sites would include Fairland Regional Park. Unfortunately, I will be out of town and unable to attend the public forum this week.

Thanks for stopping by the Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department Awards banquet on Saturday night. We appreciate your support.

Dan Weiss
Phone: (301) 981-7819
Fax: (301) 967-0617

Brooks, Terry

From: Joshua Loucks [jpl20878@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 7:41 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Potential Dog Park in Potomac Chase

Dear Ms. Brooks,

I am very concerned about the potential Dog Park in my neighborhood. We already are seeing increased traffic in the Potmac Chase development and a MNCPPC Dog Park would only create more traffic and safety concerns.

As it is now, I am trying to get speed bumps put in for safety of the children in the neighborhood. My neighbors and I feel we must have the children only play in the back yards and this would only raise the level of concern for the safety of the young children in the neighborhood.

There area has sports teams which use the Aberdeen Park for practices and games. Athlectic fields are at a premium already. Placing a Dog Park at Aberdeen would only increase the problem of field use and reduce the areas for which children can practice and play.

As you are probably aware, pedestrian safety is a very visible issue in Montgomery County now. To place a County sponsored Dog Park in a neighborhood when there are alternative sites that would not only negatively impact a quiet neighborhood would be irresponsible.

There are other suitable locatons in this part of the county that would not impact home owners and the safety of the children. For example, there is a County park on Route 28 just west of Seneca Road. There is no neighborhood, no young children who live in the general vacicnity, no concern for additional (and dangerous) traffic issues and there is plenty of room.

One of the reasons I purchased my home here was because it is a quiet neighborhood with reduce traffic since it is off of the "beaten" path.

For me, a resident of Montgomery County since August of 1988, the choice is very clear. Are we to place a higher priorty on the people (e.g. tax payers and children of tax payers who are current and/or future tax payers) of Montgomery County or does Montgomery County place a higher priority on the animals of County and non-County resident's animals? The choice is clear to me, the priority should be on the current and future tax payers.

Please chose another location for the Dog Park. Don't place the added burden on this quiet community of added traffic and risk the safety of the residents and children of this neighborhood. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joshua P. Loucks

12637 Lloydminster Drive
North Potomac, MD 20878

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<http://greetings.yahoo.com>

J

Brooks, Terry

From: Richard Rodriguez [RicoMan@mail.arczip.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 7:28 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: New Dog Parks in MC

Hi,

I hope to make the meeting tomorrow night but wanted to say that I think additional dog parks is a GREAT idea. I have used the park in Gaithersburg for two years now and believe it is a great service to our community.

I live in Germantown and would love to have a park here. It's not so much the \$25 annual fee as the ability to "spread out" some of the dogs. Right now the large lower section of the park is closed and it can get pretty crowded. While most of the dogs that use the park are great, large crowds can sometimes create problems.

In any event, I really hope this happens, and I hope I can make the meeting tomorrow night.

Richard Rodriguez
17909 Wheatridge Dr.
Germantown, MD 20874
301-528-2484
Dog: Misha/Samoyed

Brooks, Terry

From: brian collins [101563.2162@compuserve.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2002 7:03 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Proposed Dog Park for Aberdeen Park

We read the article on the potential dog park proposal for Aberdeen Park in the 30 Jan edition of the Gazette Community News. As former dog owners, we are not opposed to the concept of the dog parks, but as residents of Fox Hills North and frequent users of Aberdeen Park, we are against any proposal to put a dog park in Aberdeen Park.

First of all, Aberdeen Parks layout is not conducive to a dog park. The proposed dog park area appears to be smaller than the recommend area your website requires and includes a beach volleyball court, which although not used for volleyball very frequently, is often used by small children as a sandbox, since there are no sand areas in the two tot lots. In addition, the fencing would run along the side of the basketball court, creating the illusion of a fenced-in area while simultaneously posing a problem for ball retrieval whenever a ball for whatever reason would end up in the dog park.

Children from grade school age and older use the basketball court, and retrieving a basketball from the dog park when dogs are running in it could be a daunting task for a youngster. Furthermore, many people use the path for walking, running, or walking their dogs. These activities would not be particularly pleasant if the dog park would abut on the walking path since the dogs inside may bark and run after the people on the path. Finally, people choosing to sit under the beautiful maples located in that section in order to picnic or to read while watching their children play, would no longer find this an option in Aberdeen Park since the proposed dog park would most likely enclose these wonderful shade trees. During soccer season when the soccer field is the exclusive domain of permitted soccer teams, neighborhood children play in the proposed dog park area either in the sand or tossing a football in the grassy area. Their options, too, would vanish.

Another critical issue concerns parking and traffic. During soccer season, many clubs train at Aberdeen Park during the week, and weekends are booked solid with various league games. This alone results in increased traffic in this quiet neighborhood as well as continual overflow of the small parking lot at Aberdeen Park onto the narrow, but main neighborhood artery of Triple Crown. Adding any additional vehicles, let alone the projected dog park visitors of 200 on weekdays and 300 on weekends, and the

situation
will be disastrous. Furthermore, the small parking lot is located
closer
to the soccer field and furthest from the proposed dog park. Most
certainly, visitors with their dogs will park in front of private homes
at
the ends of War Admiral and Carry Back Place rather than vie with soccer
fans for the few parking lot spots. This will only create ill will
among
potential dog park users and the neighborhood residents.

Finally, there is the problem with park hygiene. At present, it is
still
apparent that many who walk dogs through Aberdeen Park do not clean up
after their pets. This is mainly a concern near the path areas used by
joggers and walkers. Since all neighborhood residents, even those in
multi-family units, have sufficient green space in which to toss a ball
or
to throw a Frisbee for their dogs, it would appear that the dog park
would
be for the use of non-neighborhood residents. Most dogs currently seen
in
the park are not being run in any way similar to that of a dog park, but
are being walked from one part of this extensive neighborhood to another
as
exercise for both owners and pets. Aberdeen Park managers should
concentrate their efforts on stepping up hygiene controls for those
walking
pets through the park rather than proposing greater numbers of visitors
with pets, which would multiply the existing cleanliness problems. If
dog
park users were to park in the Aberdeen Park parking lot, they would
have
to walk a significant distance to get their animals to the park,
increasing
the risk of dog feces along the walkway, and if they were to park
illegally
near the proposed dog park, the amount of feces on the path would still
be
expected to rise exponentially along the walkways provide access to the
basketball and tennis courts as well as one of the tot lots. This will
pose sanitary problems for all the current park users. In addition, the
proximity to the basketball court is also a hygiene concern since
children
may need to retrieve balls from the proposed dog park area. Even if,
and
based on the current park situation, this is doubtful, the maintenance
of
the area were to be regular, entry into the dog park would most
certainly
increase the potential for children to come into contact with dog feces,
etc.

Finally, questions regarding safety must be raised. Six-foot high fences
are planned for the proposed dog park. Nevertheless, the fences are to
keep dogs in, not people out. Therefore, if children enter the proposed
dog park area to retrieve balls or for that matter to retrieve a
reluctant
pet, who/what will guarantee that other dogs loose in the area would not
attack these or other individuals?

County parks give us the wonderful opportunity to experience the wide
openness of nature even while we live in suburbia. The last thing we
need
to do is to fence in areas which provide us this gift so that dogs can
run
back and forth as a pack, while subsequently increasing traffic, noise

and
mess to the detriment of other park users and neighborhood residents.
If
there is a need for dog parks, potential sites for these parks should
not
include well-used residential area parks, where the noise, traffic,
fencing, and mess would penalize neighborhood park users.

Brian and Margie Collins
12517 Shoemaker Way
North Potomac MD 20878

Brooks, Terry

From: Barbara Abrams [mermat@erols.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2002 4:53 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Aberdeen Park Dog Park Site

We would love to see the dog park in Aberdeen Park. We have seen this work very well in other areas. For our neighbors who are complaining about an anticipated increase in traffic, we invite them to come out on any Saturday morning in Soccer season to see that the park can accomodate many visitors and their cars. Not everyone has a child who plays soccer and not everyone has a dog but there is no reason not to make full use of the park.

Ron and Barbara Abrams
12604 Native Dancer Place
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-977-9599

Brooks, Terry

From: Merf2@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2002 2:46 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: DOG PARK

**Hello,
I live in Maryland Place in Montgomery Village and I am very much in favor of the dog park off of Centerway. I am unable to attend the meeting on Tues, but if there is any way I can cast a vote I would definitely do so.**

I have used the dog park in Gaithersburg and had a positive experience. Dogs need to be social, they are pack animals. The dogs in the park ran and played together very well. Dog loving adults love to swap stories and information and getting together in the park is one great way to do this. This is a safe and fun way to exercise your dog. With dog parks there would be less impact on the environment and people would be forced to clean up after their animal. I am not sure, but I would think a dog park would be low maintenance for the Park Dep't.

**I would appreciate a summary of the meeting on Tues if that is at all possible. Thank you.
Aileen Murphy**

Brooks, Terry

From: Jansoslow@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2002 3:57 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog parks...

My husband and I hope that you will make dog exercise parks available.
Even though we cannot attend the meeting, we hope that our votes will count.
We are especially hopeful that there will be a dog exercise park between the Wheaton and Four Corners area or along Sligo Creek Parkway.

Thank you....

Janet and Irv Soslow

Brooks, Terry

From: Peter Lemkin [lemkin@ncifcrf.gov]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2002 4:18 PM
To: Brooks, Terry; lemkin@ncifcrf.gov
Subject: Re. siting a Dog Park in Aberdeen park

Peter Lemkin

14825 Keeneland Circle

North Potomac, MD 20878

Feb 9, 2002

Terry Brooks
MNCPPC

As a citizen of North potomac 1/2 block from the Aberdeen park, I was dismayed to hear that you are even considering creating more dog parks in the county - especially one adjacent to my home.

That is totally crazy! It is too dangerous as it is. There are too many dogs with owners who don't leash them when they take them for a walk in the park.

The park is currently ALL YEAR LONG. It is used by kids for unsupervised as well as supervised play. It is used by soccer teams during the sports season. It is used by adults who want to take a quiet walk in the park without having to deal with dogs.

Who will supervise the dog owners who tell a little kid as a large dog jumps on them that "he won't hurt you" and then takes a friendly bite? Not the MCPPC and not the police. It will decrease the safety in the park - especially for little kids. Do you want to be responsible for a little kid getting mauled?

What this bad use of the park will do is make it dangerous for all except dog owners to go to the park.

I am COMPLETELY AGAINST THIS CRAZY IDEA!

The so called "site advantages" on your web site list among others, "It is already used illegally as an 'off-leash' dog-exercise area." Instead of making it WORSE by declaring it a dog park, how about enforcing the leash laws! Many of us would MUCH rather you do that than create a major problem in the neighborhood.

Last years some of the neighbors put up signs and bags to dog owners to clean up after their dogs. They were ignored, vandalized and there was no change in the amount of do excrement all over the park. By making it a dog park - THIS WILL ONLY GET WORSE. You can post all the signs you want, but when people, especially those outside the community, come here to exercise their dogs, they are not motivated to clean up or control them - no matter WHAT you post on

Brooks, Terry

From: GuzeyHomes@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2002 10:56 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks

I moved to King Farm in Rockville in October. I understand they are planning a 28 acre park abutting the King Farm--between King Farm Blvd., Gaither Rd and 355. It would be GREAT to have a dog park located here. There are many dog owners in the area. How can we get this proposed?
Thanks,
Brenda Guzey

your signs.

There is no need to cater to a few dog owners at the expense of the rest of the community! They can always walk their dog on a leash as they do now and pick up after their dogs.

You can better spend my tax dollars enforcing the current leash laws and educating owners on their responsibilities in picking up their dogs litter.

Creating a dog park would decrease safety, add noise of barking dogs, and increase traffic. This is a VERY BAD IDEA. It should NOT be enacted!

Peter Lemkin

Brooks, Terry

From: Martin Frank [mfrank@erols.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2002 3:32 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks? NO!

Dear Mr. Brooks:

It has recently come to my attention that Montgomery County is considering putting a dog park into Aberdeen Park, our neighborhood park. I am writing to express my **STRONG OPPOSITION** to the proposal. Aberdeen is a small neighborhood park that does not adequately meet the needs of the community. Often times there are multiple groups of children playing in the park, running into each other's baseball or soccer games because of the need to overlap fields. To remove some of the park for the use of dogs is senseless.

Introduction of a dog run into this small neighborhood park would create a potential health and safety hazard resulting from the additional traffic and the presence of the dogs and their waste products. Aberdeen Park is also surrounded by private homes, the residents of which would have to contend with barking dogs early and late in the day.

While some might argue that a dog park should be built in a larger park, one with more available free space and closer to major arteries, I must admit to be opposed to even that proposal. The county **SHOULD NOT** be spending precious tax dollars on dogs when there are inadequate dollars being spent on children, on the elderly, and on the homeless in our county. Until these underserved groups are better served by Montgomery County, spending money on dogs is unacceptable and irrational.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Martin Frank
12609 Triple Crown Road
North Potomac, MD 20878

Brooks, Terry

From: Martin Frank [mfrank@erols.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2002 3:32 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
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Thank you for considering my comments.

Martin Frank
12609 Triple Crown Road
North Potomac, MD 20878

Brooks, Terry

From: Gregory Dudley [gwdudley@erols.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2002 7:18 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog park

Dear Ms.Brooks,

I would like to express my opposition to the proposed Dog Park at Aberdeen Park. I am a homeowner living near the park. We already have enough dogs in the neighborhood, many of which can be heard barking all day and evening, disturbing any sense of tranquility that you might have hoped to enjoy. A group of strange dogs gathered in a confined area will surely magnify this problem. The problem of sanitation and odor speak for themselves. The park is a small, but very heavily used facility already, hosting many soccer teams from spring to fall. There is limited parking, not always adequate for the current amount of use. Obviously, there is already increased traffic in the neighborhood to accommodate existing park uses. Only 20% of traffic obeys street signs in the neighborhood now.

Yes, I would have to say this is one of those "not in my backyard" issues. We have been subjected to enough out of control growth in this area; street widening, straightening so we can encourage more and faster driving in the area.

I would suggest you situate this dog run somewhere in Potomac. They seem not to gotten their share of improvements.

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Dudley

12430 Triple Crown Road
Gaithersburg

Brooks, Terry

From: Ranga Nathan [rnathan@home.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2002 7:36 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: No Dog Park in Aberdeen Park!

Hi!

Which genius thought of this idea? As it is, the Montgomery County is getting to be a place of town homes going down to condos. I am referring to the crowded areas day by day.

And, has anybody thought of the increased traffic in a quiet neighborhood as well as health and safety concerns to our children?

I say a resounding 'NO' to the Dog Park in Aberdeen Park. Mind you, I am a dog lover myself.

R Nathan

Brooks, Terry

From: BARB [bgaff@prodigy.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2002 9:30 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Park Proposal

We urge the country planning board to proceed with this initiative. It will be a very important addition to our community, a place for both animals and their owners to come together. This represents an important balance between the needs of homeowners other citizens who are threatened or annoyed by dog behaviors (and their sometimes inconsiderate or irresponsible owners) and dog owners who want to give their animals the opportunity to romp off lead and socialize with people and other animals. One or more dog exercise areas will certainly become hangouts for our household's persons and dogs. jcg

Brooks, Terry

From: Kapur, Janet J WRAMC-Wash DC [Janet.Kapur@NA.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 9:15 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Cc: Kapur, Janet J WRAMC-Wash DC
Subject: Aberdeen Dog Park

I do NOT want a dog park located in the Aberdeen park in North Potomac.
Janet J. Kapur, 12424 Keeneland Place

Brooks, Terry

From: Montanio, Richard (Rich), PROSH [rmontanio@att.com]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 3:19 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Park, Aberdeen Park, North Potomac

Ms. Terry Brooks
M-MCPPC Parkside Headquarters

Dear Ms. Brooks:

While reading the Gazette newspaper, we learned that a Dog Park is being considered for placement in Aberdeen Park. We are very concerned about physical limitations at Aberdeen Park that render it unsuitable for a dog park. The article projects hundreds of visitors per week to the facility, particularly on weekends. Aberdeen Park is currently over-scheduled with soccer practices and games which creates virtual gridlock in the limited parking lot. The parking situation is so over-taxed that we regularly see cars parked in the grass and in unauthorized areas. An additional flood of cars with no parking opportunities would certainly create a dangerous situation. The addition of a dog park would cause a dangerous increase in traffic, and make the park unusable for the neighborhood families with small children.

We are also concerned about the maintenance of the proposed Dog Park. How can we depend upon pet owners to clean up after their dogs? We understand that local dog clubs will sponsor the maintenance of the park. However, once the dog park has been constructed, there is no assurance that funding will be provided for maintenance and upkeep, or that any dog clubs will continue to voluntarily maintain the facilities.

It is clear that Aberdeen Park cannot meet the increased traffic and parking requirements that will be generated from the construction of a dog park. We request that Aberdeen Park be removed from consideration as a potential site for a dog park.

Please submit this E-mail as an "objection" at the February 12th debate.

Sincerely,

Rich and Marcia Montanio

Brooks, Terry

From: Sunkawi@cs.com
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 5:13 PM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: Dog Parks

I support the creation of these dog park/exercise areas for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that these parks, dedicated to canines and their responsible owners, will open up another very needed source of recreation for those of us who share our lives with these wonderful creatures. I moved here a year ago from Boulder, Colorado, where canine

friendly open spaces and dog parks are as much a part of life in that community as baseball/football/soccer fields and playgrounds. It adds to a community's desirability and it creates cleaner environments for non-dog-friendly recreational areas by offering dog owners an alternative place to run their dogs. Right now, parks and open spaces around this area are being used informally for this purpose anyway. Even school football

fields and play areas are being used, which I believe is inappropriate. I do

believe that if legally sanctioned, fully fenced areas were created, people will use them and illegal use of other areas will diminish. What was the line from the movie, "Field of Dreams"---"If you build it, they will come."

Well.....build it!

Thanks for listening. :)

D.L. Middlebrook, PhD
10427 Huntley Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20902

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 8:44 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: Dog park proposal

-----Original Message-----

From: Cline, Paul [mailto:ClineP@SEC.GOV]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 8:07 AM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: Dog park proposal

As a resident of Northbrook Estates, I am very concerned about the dog park proposed for the Evans Parkway location. My concerns primarily revolve around traffic, parking and the sheer size of the anticipated crowds. Numerous members of the neighborhood share similar concerns. Reading that the Gaithersburg dog park attracts 100-300 visitors a day is a huge concern for us.

Is it the County Board who will be considering this issue on the 18th? What is the purpose of the meeting? If interest exists, does the Board turn the project over to Parks and Recreation? If not, who would manage the project? My neighbors and I want to make sure we are involved in the step by step planning of a dog park if one is approved.

I appreciate your help!

Paul Cline
10702 Glenhaven Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20902

Brooks, Terry

From: MCP-Feedback
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2002 8:43 AM
To: Brooks, Terry
Subject: FW: dog Park

-----Original Message-----

From: Hathu31@aol.com [mailto:Hathu31@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2002 3:10 PM
To: MCP-Feedback
Subject: dog Park

We wholehearted support dog Parks.
Currently we live in Aspenhill area and Barney our Australian shepperd is very active and needs lots of excercise.
Our late Aussie, Sparkey loved palying frisbe; so he got enough excercise running after the disk, while we could be stationary.
But not Barney, he like to be socialized, we have to jog or walk him..
Recently, we found a good solution :taking him to play with a friend's dog.
After about one hour running and chasing each other in the back yard, both dogs would be happy and calm for many days.

We need more dog Parks in Montgomery County. All the dogs and people would be happier...

Thank you,
Ha Thu Singelsether

JUNGLE JIM

SOCCER FIELD

DRIVE WAY

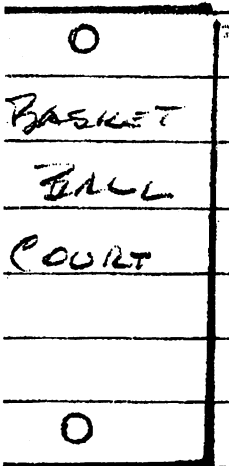
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Memo To Betty Sartor

Jan 15, 2001

From Bandit & Jamie



PEKINGESE

I'm proud I'm a Peke, so unique
with a tongue in my cheek!
Came here from China "First Class" on a liner
where I slept on a bed made of teak!
The trip from the palace was nice,
but I lost my fondness for rice.
Well once a day maybe?
Then again maybe twice?

HOLY CROSS REHABILITATION
AND NURSING CENTER
A Member of Trinity Continuing Care Services
3415 Greencastle Road
Burtonsville, Maryland 20866
