

From: Ellen DeChristopher <dechristopher11@aol.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 2:25 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Longview Park

Dear Joint Committee Members,

Thank you for providing an opportunity for feedback on your quest to remedy issues related to Longview Park. If I'm interpreting the supporting documents accurately, it appears your joint committee will be recommending that Longview no longer allow dogs to be off leash on the east end of the park. I hope to gain a better understanding of what brought this up for consideration at Monday night's meeting (7/18).

As background, I was a homeowner in the Meadows for 15 years (used as secondary residence), a Longview resident for the past 8 and recently moved to my property in the historical district. During this time, I have enjoyed Longview Park for a range of activities; walking, exercising my dog, walking with my elderly parents as part of their care routine, and most recently, bringing my grandchildren (now ages 1-3) to the playground.

As we are aware, there are inherent risks to any park. A child can fall off the gym equipment, a dog can cause harm to another dog, someone can fall and injure themselves on the concrete path. If my understanding is correct, your committee is addressing the risk of dogs causing injury to humans.

As a pet-owner, I am a regular at the east end of the park. I understand there are occasions where the dogs may seem overwhelming to someone who is new to the park and not accustomed to the set-up. These instances have been rare and I have not witnessed anyone being endangered because of the dogs. The regulars on the east end have socialized dogs who are friendly and approachable. Though they are off leash in this area, they are either lazing about within a couple feet of their owners, begging for treats or fully engaged in Chuck-It or frisbee.

As a grandmother, I have experienced the uneasiness of trying to watch the children on the gym equipment while keeping an eye on approaching dogs that are off leash. I often have my dog at the playground while I watch the kids. Others do as well. My dog is leashed which creates an issue if an unleashed dog approaches him. But I cannot say I've witnessed an incident that endangered anyone. If we, as dog owners, obeyed the current rules (clearly posted), there would not be a dog off leash on the west side of the park. But that begs the question, if a dog owner at the park doesn't obey the leash policy on the west side, why would that same person obey it on the east side?

Other solutions, fencing the playground or fencing the dog park area, are costly and interferes with an important aspect of the park's culture of openness and community. While there may be complaints when dogs and humans mix, are they so severe that they outweigh the benefit received by the majority of park users?

As a user of both areas, I support enforcing the current rules of leash on the west and off leash under the owner's control on the east. I understand there is a price tag to that as well, but my hope is those who do not leash on the west side (which includes myself on occasion) will see that it is the right thing to do to co-exist in a public park and preserve this incredible benefit we enjoy.

Lastly, I hope the joint committee takes into consideration the value that the park regulars represent. In addition to keeping a watchful eye on conditions and equipment, the dependable presence of these individuals keep Longview Park safe and inviting. That too has a price tag.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ellen DeChristopher
631 N Division Street
Carson City, NV 89703

From: Jean Chicoine <jchicoine_98@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 1:58 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Dog Regulations

Parks & Rec Dept.:

Please continue to support the posted signs which state that dogs may be on- or off-leash but under the control of the owner. People who have dogs exercise them to keep both dogs and themselves in shape. Both owners and dogs behave responsibly and are cognizant of the dogs' behaviors. Limiting activity on trails severely restricts the amount of exercise either dog or human can experience. Please note that the gathering of people and their dogs also is an extremely important social interaction for people.

Please do not take any action that limits range of activity for people and their pets.

Regards,

Jean L. Chicoine

"Trees are the earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven."

Rabindranath Tagore, Fireflies, 1928

From: Dana U. <danasign2017@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 1:40 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Long Ranch Park - Open Space

As a Carson City resident, I've taken my dog to the Long Ranch park where we enjoy the parks open space for dogs of all kinds come to romp & play. Specifically, the west end of the park, where there are shade trees, green grass, and a trickling stream nearby is a place for folks and their dogs enjoy time together . This area includes benches, tables as well as a water faucet for the dogs, trash cans and poop bags (set specifically for dogs' availability to water). In addition, the paved paths offer dogs the opportunity to "investigate" & "hunt" while we, their owners can enjoy walks in all kinds of weather.

Restricting Long Ranch Park to Leash Only would dramatically affect our residents, visitors, and dogs. I emphatically request that this new amendment be failed, not (**NOT**) allowed to pass. It is my opinion that Long Ranch Park remain under the same dog-leash laws that are currently in place.

Dana Thomas

From: john barrette <barrettejohn66@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 12:32 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: dog-leash-stuff

Carson City officials...

Leash and related issues shouldn't become fodder for confining ordinance language as dogs aren't the problem, owners are. If you want to increase fines or other penalties for the owners, that's fine; but confining dogs to a leash pretty much throughout the community isn't necessary or the way to go. Particularly in places where there are trails or in park areas such as Long Ranch, outside the children's playground area, requiring leashes on dogs is unnecessary and counterproductive. Please let the signs saying dogs must be on or off leash but be under control of the owner/dog walker be city policy. This makes more sense for all. Please understand that the leash idea as a solution is poor policy, as dogs can get more nervous when confined in such a manner and approached by other dogs or people, as they know they are unable to avoid potential problems. Leash the owners via tougher penalties. Dogs aren't vicious until owners raise them improperly and such owners, in reality, likely are vicious themselves. Police people; let dogs be free, as much as possible.

Thanks for your attention.

Yours...

John B. Barrette

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windowst

From: Dave Usinger <daveusinger@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 12:16 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Long Ranch Park Dog rules: Concern

I would like to voice my opinion that Long Ranch Park remain under the same dog-leash laws that are currently in place, with one change. I'll add that as a Carson Resident I have taken our dog to this park for the past 6 years with no adverse incidents, following the current rules.

Most residents I have noticed keep their dogs on leash at all times if they can't control their pet verbally. This should remain a rule as effectively dictated in your signage.

Here is a recommended change I believe would eliminate much of the concern:

One change I would propose is that residents who continue to allow their pets to be "Off-Leash" in the south-west Play Area should receive one written warning, with their name and dog documented. Upon being identified on a second occasion within a year's time, they should receive a ticket with a healthy fine and be placed on Leash Probation for a year's time.

(currently the Park Rangers just ask the resident to put their dog on-leash while in required areas. This policy has not been effective as continued abuse of the rule by the same violators has been noted)

Also If complaints are received about an animal being uncontrollable a letter should be sent to the animal owner with a warning, assuming this is not simply a complaint placed by an "dog-hater."

thank you for your consideration.

Dave Usinger

775-443-1486

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

From: Pam Quilici <twnlake@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 11:51 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Parks commission.

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Hi. I'm Jim Soumbeniotis. I live close to Longview park and walk my dogs daily. They remain on leash except where they are allowed to be off. It is set up great with areas they can be off but under control of owners. Dogs and people socialize at the grass area. What a shame to consider changing. Please leave everything as it is presently. Thank you. Jim Soumbeniotis

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Pam Quilici <twnlake@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 11:47 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Parks and Recs comments

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I am sad to hear that you are considering changing the dog policy at Longview ranch. As a resident of the area since 1996 and residing across the street I am disappointed by this. It is a great area!!! The area where the dogs can be off leash is used by responsible owners. The dogs love their time to socialize too. Please keep things as they are!!! We'll all be happy. Thank you. Pam Quilici.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Daryl Powell <dpski1234@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 10:19 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Dogs and leashes

My question for the commission is : Is there a major problem in the area with the dog laws as they are? If there have been isolated incidents, then punishing the respectful dog owners for the actions of a few is not the answer. Most of us do not have backyards large enough for a high energy dog to be able to run and exercise. I propose if you do this then the next time there is a car accident in the city the commission needs to ban automobiles in the city limits. Otherwise provide a fenced area with a large enough grass area for people to have their dogs off leash. Please do not pass an unnecessary law just to give the appearance that you are doing something.

Thank you

Daryl Powell

211 S Ormsby Blvd

Carson City NV 89703

From: Mac <paulejohnson@charter.net>
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 10:13 AM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>
Subject: Dogs in Parks Policy

Dear Open Space Advisory Committee,

RE: Draft: Dog Rules

I don't know where this idea came from, but I am not in favor of it.

The proposal to allow dogs in most Carson City parks is bad idea. Even though they are supposed to be on leash, there are going to be problems.

I am especially concerned about dogs in parks with small children. I am most familiar with Carriage Square Park and John Mankins Park. They both have play equipment for small children and to have dogs around is inviting a bite, a tripping accident or a collision. Interactions between small children and dogs can often end poorly. Someone will get hurt.

I don't object to dogs, I object to irresponsible dog owners. Owners who don't restrain their dogs even when on leash. Owners who let dogs bark for a prolonged period. Owners who don't pick up after their dogs. Owners with untrained dogs. With dog ownership comes responsibility. Owners need to pick up after their dogs. A short walk on the trails in Ash Canyon, Mexican Ditch, Prison Hill, etc. will show that that is not consistently practiced.

The requirement that dogs off leash be under "voice control" must be some kind of joke. My wife and I often walk in the hills on the west side behind the college and see dogs regularly. In 20 years we have never encountered a dog that was under voice command as defined in your definitions. Most dog owners do not have dogs that are well trained and respond readily to commands. The only dogs that I know of that meet your definition of under "voice command" are the Sheriff's K-9 units.

Dogs do not belong in parks and I think you are setting up a situation where there will be more conflicts between dogs and people. Someone will get hurt and it will probably be a small child.

Sincerely,
Paul Johnson
1119 Stagecoach Lane
Carson City, NV. 89703
775-450-5570

From: Chris T <msfit32@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 8:57 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Cc: Maurice White <mwhite@carson.org>

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT July 18 Parks Advisory Meeting

Good Morning:

We noticed some new regulations being proposed at the upcoming advisory meeting on July 18th.

After reading the proposals we were really sad about the tone and felt it was not in keeping with the relaxed spirit of Carson City and the positive live and let live vibe that many of us have worked so hard to maintain in our lifetime of living in this beautiful community.

We realize many new residents have moved here to enjoy our quality of life and that more conflicts of open space use exist, but feel that your proposals will only bring contention and unhappiness and lower the quality of life for many of us.

We participated in the survey about open space and trails use and suggested that alternate days be set for different uses so that all may enjoy the trails in the fashion that suits them best. This would satisfy quality of life for everyone instead of bringing in regulations that hinder some from enjoying the trails and open space and setting up people to bicker and 'tattle' and be angry with one another. We were supportive of leash requirements in most city 'parks' with grass and playground equipment and opposed such regulations on open space trails where many of us enjoy relaxed regulations every day with our dogs.

We have noticed the rock art work on the trails and find them innocuous. It is simple to simply turn them over if you find them harmful. The best solution for the painted rocks would be to designate an area or trail where they are allowed. Why frown upon the positive art work vibe that must bring so much happiness to those that create them? I would be concerned with trash or graffiti (both of which we clean up as we hike and bike with our dogs), not happy messaging.

The best solution for trail use conflict with dogs would be to designate certain days or hours for on-leash only and certain days or hours for off-leash allowed. Then folks could decide what they are comfortable with and plan their trail use around those days or times. Very simple. There are also some trails that would benefit from bike use only on certain days, such as Ash Canyon where bikes are flying down the single-track in the canyon way too fast for hiker safety on the trails. Mexican Dam might benefit from this as well or a new designated hiking only trail so bikes are not conflicting with the hikers.

We appreciate your time to carefully consider better solutions that would not cause contention and strife and the negative tone such as those currently proposed.

Thank you,

Jeff Tirey and

Carson City Household

From: joe cyphers <snafuman56@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 8:23 AM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>
Cc: Lisa Schuette <lschuette@carson.org>
Subject: DRAFT Dog Rules and Regulations Policy (item 5A)

Re: DRAFT Dog Rules and Regulations Policy (item 5A)

My only objection is your new rules is regarding the Kings Canyon Trail System. I have walked all of these trails numerous times without any issues from dogs, my own or other people's. However, I will make separate comments on the three separate trails involved.

#1 The Upper Waterfall Loop, the long trail, 4.5 miles, is not currently listed as prohibited to dogs. However, the first 1/2 mile approximately of this trail (the section following the old road from the parking lot to the intersection with the Lower Waterfall Trail), is concurrent with the Lower Waterfall Trail, and your policy is that dogs ARE prohibited on this trail. IF you intend to keep this policy as it is, it needs to be clear that the entire Upper Waterfall Loop is EXEMPTED from the prohibition on dogs, including this section that is concurrent with the Lower Waterfall Trail.

#2 You have listed the North Kings Loop, also know as the Lower Waterfall Loop (about 2 miles) as prohibited for dogs. In addition to the objection above, I would like to offer my opinion that there is no reason to prohibit dogs on this section of the trail. Again, the many times I have been on this trail I have never seen a problem between dogs or between people and dogs. This trail, while slightly more heavily used than the Upper Waterfall Trail, is still lightly used in comparison to the Waterfall Trail, and does not require these restrictions.

#3 The main Waterfall Trail (the short trail directly to the waterfall) is listed as prohibited for dogs. I will admit that this section of trail does receive very heavy use. Again, despite the heavy use, the many times I have been on this trail I personally have never seen a problem between dogs or between people and dogs. While I do not agree with the restrictions even for this section, I can understand why some people may feel that they are necessary. Again, I do not feel that they are necessary from my own experience. The vast majority of hikers on this trail have either been friendly with my dog or just ignore her. Generally, I only hike this section of trail after finishing the Lower Waterfall Loop, but I realize that most people using the trailhead only hike this short trail to the waterfall and back. I will make my suggestions for this trail below in order of preference.

3a First preference, no restrictions as before this recently policy change

3b Second preference, require dogs on the main Waterfall Trail to be leashed, from the parking lot to the waterfall and back, and from between the the intersection with North kings Loop and the parking lot (for hikers coming off the North Kings Loop, assuming you remove the restrictions on North Kings Loop)

3c If prohibition of dogs on the main Waterfall Trail is to be kept as policy, modify the policy to allow dogs on leash between the parking lot and the intersection with North kings Loop, and install signage (again, for hikers using the North Kings Loop, assuming you remove the restrictions on North Kings Loop)

I hope you will consider my suggestions. I have spoken with numerous people who are unhappy with your recent policy change. I am sending a copy of this to my supervisor Ward 4.

I hope you will reconsider your current policies.

Sincerely

Joe Cyphers

From: Elaine Werlinger <ewerlinger@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 9:31 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Dog rules

In reference to the upcoming meetings on "dog" rules.

Let us just say, not everyone appreciates dogs everywhere in today's world. Most especially on paths, in parks, in restaurants (disgusting), in stores, public events, every nook and cranny. It is way out of hand.

As far as rules, enforcement needs to be taken into hand in your referenced areas, well versed dog owners who do keep their animals on leashes have problems with those that do not. Baggies full of poop everywhere, including in trees, along walk ways (in town too), on stumps, or no baggy at all. It's disgusting.

We do, however, wish to say residential areas *most importantly* need more coverage in enforcement, rules clarified and rewritten, of dogs and dog owners who insist on walking without a leash, causing issues with peoples yards (even with signage), other peoples animals, chasing deer (which is also out of hand and should have a re-settlement of wild animals back into the wild, we are doing these animals a disservice, they are not and never should be a "cute" addition to this town).

Animal enforcement has become a huge joke here in Carson City, thank you for, at least, giving it a go...

E Werlinger

Carson City raised...

"Just Be Nice"

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

From: Carol Aalbers <cjaalbers@icloud.com>

Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 5:22 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Off leash area at Long Ranch Park

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

For many years now there has been a designated off leash area for dogs to play and exercise on the east end of Long Ranch Park. It recently came to my attention there is a move to make the entire park on leash only. We certainly hope this does not happen. For many years now people have been allowed to exercise and allow their dogs to play in this area. This is a very important place of socialization for the pets living in this area as well as pets and owners from around the city. Please do not take this away. It's a small portion of the park and the rest is on leash, so we see no reason to take this away from those of us who enjoy it and whose pets need a place to run and play under supervision.

This has been working well. We fail to see why the city feels the need to fix something that is not broken.

Doing so will deprive citizens of open space they have paid for with taxes and would make little or no difference to anyone else using the park.

Thank you for your consideration

Carol and Dave Aalbers

Sent from my iPhone

From: Erika A Laycox <elaycox@carson.k12.nv.us>

Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 7:48 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Dog regulations

Hello,

I am writing in concern with dog regulations that is being drafted by the city of Carson. Dogs should freely be allowed to enjoy our parks and our trails. There should be no reason to have rules in place that designate on leash and off leash regulations. It is the dog owners responsibility to clean up after our dogs and to maintain control of their behaviors. My dogs have been enjoying all of Carson parks and trails for many years and I have spent my time training them to be well behaved off leash dogs so they can freely enjoy the great outdoors as we have. We don't need different rules like on leash vs. off leash.

I believe these rules punish dogs and dog owners who have control of their dogs. In fact, leashes can create tension between other dogs and tend to lead to undesirable behaviors. This is because dogs can feel vulnerable in these situations where dogs greet them on leash. It would be disappointing to see these leash laws in places we have enjoyed for years and responsible dog owners would now be paying the price for the irresponsible dog owners.

I do not appreciate these laws and rules starting to be in place. I have lived in Nevada for over 20 years and love the freedom we have of our great outdoors with our dogs. It is unfortunate that we feel we need to change our beliefs with the changes in our population from people leaving the very places that have these regulations in place.

From: Laura Redmon <[junieb82@yahoo.com](mailto:junie82@yahoo.com)>

Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 6:03 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Public Meeting RE: Dogs

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the recent items related to dog use in our community. My purpose is to provide feedback as a dog owner and long-term, contributing member of our society who is heavily active in our community and utilizes the trails daily. I love our community and have lived and worked here for over 18 years. In those 18 years I have always had dogs and walk my dogs on our trail systems nearly every single day. That's roughly 6,300 off leash dog walks with my dogs. I'm proud of my community's laid back vibe and the freedom to walk my dogs on or off leash under my personal, competent discretion. I've always enjoyed meeting likeminded dog owners over the almost two decades I've been immersed in the dog-friendly community that is Carson City. In that time I have encountered thousands of dogs and dog owners. Whether the dog owners choose to let their dogs off leash or keep them on leash, I have witnessed and been involved in ZERO altercations. ZERO. In my abundant experience, the average dog owner is very responsible, respectful, and honestly just loves being out with their dog(s) without being told what they can and cannot do. Let's keep it that way Carson City.

People who are not responsible dog owners will not become more responsible with more regulations. All that does is punish the good people of the community. Making a trail on leash only will not decrease the amount of dog waste on the trail and it most certainly will not decrease incidents of dog aggression. As a matter of fact, it can increase it. Dog behaviorist, Cesar Milan states, "If we become tense or nervous and tighten up on the leash when we see another dog, then we're teaching our dogs to see other dogs as a threat". Those who do not put in the effort to socialize and train their dogs will not become better dog owners because of a policy change. And those who do not pick up after their dogs now, never will. Unfortunately you cannot simply increase rules, regulations, and policies in hopes of creating more responsible and respectful human beings. Those of us that work everyday to socialize and create balance within our dogs are the only ones that will be affected by these absurd policy changes.

How about for once let's not cater to the members of this community that do not contribute to the maintenance of our trail systems, who do not volunteer in our community, and who do not take the time to socialize and train their dogs. When people ask me where I'm from, I'm proud to say I'm from Carson City and I go on to tell them about how truly dog-friendly we are. With these proposed policy changes I will honestly be embarrassed and disappointed in the direction our community is going. I understand that the recent influx in population may have brought many that are not accustomed to our owner-discretion leash laws, but those that have stayed faithful and committed to this community do not want this change. Those of us that frequent the trail systems already practice responsible dog ownership.

Another situation that will surely increase dog-on-dog altercations is restricting dogs to only two parks in our community where they can be unrestrained. I personally choose to take my dogs to Longview Park because it is quieter and connected to beautiful walking trails. I do not take my dogs to

Sonoma because it is too crowded and those of us that are true dog owners know that dog parks tend to be overwhelming for most dogs. I do not go to the park to socialize my dog. We are there specifically to play with a ball. Why are we not allowed options? Your solution is for me to throw a ball for my dog while it's connected to my body by a leash or risk overwhelming my dog with crowds of dogs? Not all members of our community can play ball with their dogs in their backyards.

You asked for feedback from the community, and I'm about as LOCAL as it gets. I am a school teacher, avid hiker, and volunteer in the community. I've opened my home, heart, and wallet to the homeless pets in our community as a foster. I am responsible and respectful of our trails. I live here. I play here. I work here and I share ALL that with my dogs. We DO NOT need a policy change. What we need is to hold individuals accountable for not being responsible or respectful of the community we call home.

In summary, I do not and will not support these foolish policy changes. Shame on you for demeaning my knowledge of my dogs and my discretion to choose whether or not I feel comfortable having my dogs on or off leash. And shame on you for thinking you have the power to take away our freedom to enjoy the outdoors with our dogs. If people are uncomfortable with responsible dog owners having their dogs off leash then that is between them and their dog(s) and should not affect those of us that take our responsibilities seriously. There are plenty of already existing trails, areas, and parks where dogs are to be restrained and likeminded people can congregate. We do not need MORE restrictions and LESS freedoms to choose what is best for us. More rules and less freedoms do not result in higher quality of life. I truly hope my views and experiences do not fall on deaf ears and we can continue to enjoy the outdoors with our dogs in a manner that is natural to both human and dog.

Thank You,

Laura Gentine

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

From: Judy Welch <711welch@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 2:06 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Cc: Tom Mix <tmix@sbcglobal.net>; Stacey Giomi <rsgiomi@gmail.com>; Lisa Schuette <groovylgs@aol.com>;
Judy Welch <711welch@gmail.com>

Subject: Dog leash laws and Longview Park

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

We are strongly opposed to changing the current rules for off lease areas for dogs, especially in Longview Park. West Carson City doesn't have any other designated off leash dog park and this one is a lovely grass play area for the dogs and the neighbors to meet. Neighbors gather along with their dogs to enjoy the park and it has united the neighborhood with daily gatherings. It is also used by numerous people from all areas in Carson City. Because of the grass, trees and trails it is inviting for everyone.

The dog owners are very responsible and self manage dog interactions and for clean up. In fact, many dogs become more aggressive when on leash.

Not everyone can go to the mountain trails to let their dog run free. The waterfall area is now off limits. It would be foolish to take away this lovely gathering spot and destroy this community fellowship.

We will be unable to attend this Parks and Rec meeting because we are traveling out of country but feel this is an extremely important issue and want to provide input.

Sincerely
Judy and Alan Welch
Roxbury Way
Carson City

Sent from my iPhone

From: Starbuck McNab <starbuckmcnab@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 2:05 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Almost all Carson City neighborhood parks have a designated kid's play area. Only two have an off-leash area where dogs can play or chase a ball. The one dog park that is within the residential limits of Carson City is overcrowded and insufficient to meet current demands. According to recent statistics, many more households in America have dogs than children, yet dog owners are expected to drive across town to access a dog park outside of their neighborhood. Imagine if families with children had to drive across town to the one park that had a kid's play area. Parents would not be very happy. I would advocate investing in designated off-leash areas in all neighborhood parks where space allows. It's time for Carson City to adapt to the needs of modern households.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Smith

From: Hannah Carlson <hannah.sagehair@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 1:14 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Parks and Rex comments

RE: Long Ranch Park

Meeting Monday July 18th at 5:30

Parks and Rec Comments

Hannah Carlson

re: Lindsay Boyer

To whom it may also concern,

I've recently been told you're considering making the entire park at Long Ranch Park - an "on leash park." My parents' dog enjoys that nice patch of grass with her friends every day. In fact, twice a day. The afternoons they mostly just sit and hang under a tree. As much as I care about the joy of my family dog we grew up with, she's on her way out and still enjoying "her park". This is almost more upsetting to me for the mental health and physical well being of my dad. He has made amazing new friends there and they get together with twice a day. I'm unsure of the outcome for him and so many others without these meet ups and the joy they gain from watching their sweet dogs play, especially through Covid and all the other restrictions. Why this is even a concern is beyond me. I'm sure there is always that one dog, but there is always that one person too. Don't fix what isn't broken. Shouldn't even be up for thought when you have so many non-dog parks in town.

At first I was so taken back by the thought of this, thinking maybe there had been dog attacks at this EXACT park, nope! I understand the reasoning behind these changes and possible fencing but this exact park is located in a very kind loving community where there is no fence needed. I also understand consistency for less confusion but this is easy. This seems as though it's a lack of making some SIGNAGE or choosing this to be an issue when it's not. I'm sorry, but as an owner of many dogs. If my dog darts into a busy road aside the park... that's on me and my dog and where I choose to take him/her.

Can you imagine 7 plus people getting to hang inside a fenced dog park in their chairs and their dogs as well? Doesn't seem practical. I feel it would kill the vibe for these people and the dogs in what this beautiful park brings to them. Not to mention the other aspects of it becoming a place you create as a fenced dog park and the other communities it may bring that aren't as loving or understanding, or knowing when it's time to go if their dog is rough and not under the owners' control. This is a group of mostly elderly and disabled owners.

I believe those making this decision can't imagine the impact of this proposed change, so I felt the need to have you see the other side from some people that work hard to keep Carson City area a place to meet people and enjoy the outdoors and the beauty it brings. At this park particularly, I know of a wonderful group that was created during covid times, mostly somehow local to Carson, and they meet every day for their dogs to give these furry children a great day. They also meet for dinners now at all the local places. Giving nothing but good to Carson City. There is no need for change at this park. Please allow some normalcy in nature for these souls.

Not many things cause me to email. Thank you for reading,
Hannah Carlson

775-338-6393





danasign
Long Ranch Park



From: Laura Carlson <carlsonsaarem@me.com>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 12:25 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>
Subject: Parks and Rec Comments - July 18 Meeting

July 15, 2022

TO: Carson City Parks Department
publiccomment@carson.org

FROM: Laura A. Carlson

RE: Parks and Rec Comments

I am writing these comments in response to the email regarding Public Meeting Notice Re. DOS 7/18, and I thank you in advance for your consideration of some recommended changes to your proposal. I believe you are moving in the right direction, opening up more parks for dog use. However, I'm confident a few minor changes can improve your plan.

Our senior citizens depend greatly on their four-legged companions. This need was amplified these past few years during the pandemic, which continues today. Imagine being in your 70s and 80's, or having a disability, but needing to get your dog out every day for some exercise. Long Ranch Park provides an answer for many. The park's design allows for, and currently provides, an unleashed area far away from the children's playground. The area has shade and a large lawned area for the enjoyment of our senior citizens and those with mobility issues, and their four-legged friends. Every day you can swing by Long Ranch Park and sit and watch anywhere from 8-15 dogs rest and play with their owners right there in chairs under the shade tree. For younger dogs, there is room to throw a ball and provide some exercise.

It is nearly impossible, and most definitely unsafe, for one with mobility issues to go into a fenced dog park where so many large dogs rumble. The environment at Long Ranch Park is much safer. I have provided some pictures below so you can get a better idea of the socialization provided for both these elders and their four-legged friends. Please don't take this away.

I would imagine there is a simple fix to the Rules that state "except where posted for unleashed dog exercise and socialization." I'm unfamiliar with most of the Parks, but I would imagine there are several that can provide this same environment with safety in mind for all. As an example, John Mankins Park has a lawned area opposite the Oak Ridge Street side of the park, where the kids play equipment is far away. This area also provides some shade and a place to throw a ball. There is a small Park called Blackwell's Pond Park off Northridge, that could also provide the same environment. These large lawned areas with some shade, away from the playground equipment, provide ideal locations to allow for unleashed dogs under voice command. There is also plenty of room at Mills Park to allow for similar dog friendly uses.

With just a little effort, I believe you can make this work for everyone, and we can keep Carson City on the map as a dog friendly community.

Thank. You for your consideration. I am writing because this is a lifeline for my husband, our 14 year old dog, and so many others families.



From: Debby Hope <debbyhope@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 11:39 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Fw: Parks and Rec Comments - Photos

Please see attached photos of neighbors and dogs enjoying the off-leash area at Long Ranch park. Please don't change this!!!

Debby Hope

244 Sussex Pl, Carson City, N



V 89703















From: Debby Hope
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 10:16 PM
To: publiccomment@carson.org <publiccomment@carson.org>
Subject: Parks and Rec Comments

I am writing this email to strongly oppose the section of the proposed draft Dog Rules and Regulations Policy which will require dogs to be on leash in the Long Ranch Park and trails.

The Staff Report for the Open Space Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Commission dated July 18, 2022, states that the Board’s Strategic Goal is “Quality of Life”. However, the proposed Dog Rules and Regulations Policy will severely impact the quality of life for the large group of Kings Canyon residents and their dogs who visit the Long Ranch park on a regular basis. It is a beautiful place for neighbors to socialize with each other while our dogs run, play or just rest together. I have lived in the Kings Canyon Meadows for over 20 years and have made several close friends as a result of our time spent in the off-leash section of the park with our dogs. Especially in the summertime it is wonderful to have a dog-friendly park within walking distance of our homes where we can relax and visit while our dogs also enjoy the grass and shade. We all take the responsibility to pick up our dog waste very seriously, and the grass area where we meet (East side of the park along Thames St) stays very clean. Large and small dogs all play together happily in our park and don’t cause any problems for anyone. The dogs are all very friendly, obedient and well behaved, and I will be happy to provide photos and videos upon request.

Dogs need to be able to run and exercise, and for many senior, handicapped, or non-athletic dog owners who can’t run or ride a bike, the only way they can provide this exercise for their dogs is by letting them retrieve a ball or frisbee, or run with other dogs. Please don’t take this freedom away from us.

I also noticed that the text in the attachment needs to be corrected to say that the Long Ranch park trails are “Off-Leash” . There is currently a green square designating these trails as “Off-Leash” but the text says “On-Leash”. (see below)

Capital Corridor		
Bigelow Multi-Use Path		Off-Leash
Foothill Trail (leash required first 500 ft)		On-Leash
Fulstone Wetlands Trail		On-Leash
Lone Mountain Trail		Off-Leash
Long Ranch Park Trails		On-Leash
Moffat Multi-Use Pathway		Off-Leash
Moffat Trails		Off-Leash
Northridge Path		Off-Leash

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

Debby Hope

244 Sussex Pl, Carson City, NV 89703

From: sagebrush200@yahoo.com <sagebrush200@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 11:20 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Parks and Rec Comments

Re: Open Space Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Date: July 18, 2022 - Agenda Item: 5A Draft Dog Rules and Regulations Policy

I would ask the the committee consider allowing dogs off-leash on the south-east portion of Long Ranch Park. Long Ranch Park is a covers a relatively large area. The south-east section is an area where community residents and their dogs have traditionally gathered to socialize. As a senior with disabilities the hiking trails are not a good option for me, nor is driving across town. Our dogs are well supervised and as far as I'm aware there have never been any negative incidents.

Having this outlet for socializing with neighbors has always been important, but never more so than during the pandemic when there have been so few places to gather safely. Please don't take this away from us, it is part of what makes our community feel like home.

Keep Carson City friendly!

Sincerely,
Annie Marple

From: Julie Chapman <775chapman@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 10:55 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Joint PRC/OSAC MEETING July 18, 2022 re: Draft Dog Rules & Regulations Policy (item 5a)

Dear Joint Committee,

We are opposed to the draft rule and regulation requiring dogs be on leashes on all sections of the Long Ranch Park and the Long Ranch Trail System. The current practice of allowing dogs off-leash at the east end of Long Ranch Park adjacent to Thames Lane, as well as the Long Ranch Trail System, has worked well for years with minimal incidents and conflicts. We ask that the Committee not adopt this portion of the Draft Dog Rule and Regulation and leave the current off-leash area of Long View Park and the Long Ranch Trail System "as is."

We moved to the Kings Highlands Subdivision in 2016 and immediately recognized the wonderful community that it is today. Our two dogs enjoy running with all of the other dogs off-leash on the east end (along Thames Ln) of Long Ranch Park almost daily. Given the lack of proximity to other off-leash parks and the aging population in this area, this part of the park is enjoyed not only by the residents within the subdivision but by many residents who both live nearby and from all over Carson City and beyond.

Additionally, most dogs interact much better with other dogs, and humans too, when off-leash than on-leash. Many dogs become more-easily agitated and aggressive when tethered to a leash. Sure, there are some dogs that don't behave well around others either on or off leash. Those owners need to be responsible and keep their dogs on-leash and under control. The poor decisions and actions of the minority dog owners in the past should not affect the enjoyment of the majority of dog owners into the future.

Another alternative for the Committee's consideration would be to fence-in the entire grass area of the east end of Long Ranch Park adjacent to Thames Lane allowing for off-leash dog activity similar to that of Sonoma and Fuji Parks, both located on the east and south end of town. This would provide a similar facility on the north and west end of town and continue to allow the dogs equal opportunity to run, play and socialize. This alternative would leave the two parcels on the west end of the Long Ranch Park adjacent to Longview Way open to playground and park use for non-canine activity.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in writing. We are unavailable to attend this meeting in person to voice our concern to you.

Michael and Julie Chapman

2271 St. George Way

Carson City, NV 89703

775-721-2892

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

From: Kerry denise <munki18@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 10:26 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Park and Rec Comments

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

I really don't like the idea of having dogs on a leash mandatory in the Long Ranch Park and surrounding areas. I think the current leash policy at Long Ranch Park is appropriate and should not be changed because it appears to be working well. I know of several people who live outside of the area that drive to the park to exercise their pets and socialize with other pet owners. I would also like to point out that most pet owners know other pet's names before they can remember their owners name. Dogs on leashes tend to be aggressive and occasionally pull and sometimes bring their owners to the ground when they lunge at other dogs possibly causing serious injury. There are several gatherings at the park at different times during the day and I think it brings the community together by making life long friendships with the pets and their owners. Please do not initiate the leash policy!

Kerry Armanasco

Sent from my iPad

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

From: Rachel Ramey <rameyra@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 9:52 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Support of changes

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

Hello,

I received the newly proposed map for dogs on leash and wanted to express my support for having Long Ranch Park designated 'on leash'. I am assuming this is a change as there was an off leash area away from the playground, but as I responded in the survey sent out, there were many dogs coming from that area to the playground who were not on leash. As a mother with two small children, I appreciate having an area where I can take them and they can play without having unknown dogs approach.

Thank you,
Rachel Ramey

From: Christopher Gentine <cagentine@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 8:59 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Fwd: Leash regulations

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christopher Gentine** <cagentine@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 14, 2022, 7:13 PM

Subject: Leash regulations

To: <PublicComment@carson.org>

Dogs should be allowed at parks and on trails. We don't need different rules like on leash vs. off leash. Dog owners just need to clean up after and maintain control of their dogs. It's really quite simple. Why should people that can control their dogs ever have to put them on leash? Anyone that has spent time around dogs knows that leashes actually cause or exacerbate aggressive behavior. This is due to the dogs feeling more vulnerable when approached by other dogs. If the dog is not well socialized its fight or flight and with a leash flight is not an option. This is just another example of the responsible people paying the price for the irresponsible.

Thanks for your time,

Christopher Gentine

From: climberrn@me.com <climberrn@me.com>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 8:32 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Proposed dog park rules

As a homeowner that borders Long Ranch Park since 2006, I fully support the proposed changes.

Ever since the previous rule change several years ago allowing dogs off leash in our neighboring park, we have been having issues. Cars arriving before dawn, to late evening to run their dogs. Noise, poop, dogs running into our yard, up to our grandchildren playing in the park. I could go on and on. So much so, we have been considering selling our house.

Carson City is in a unique position with many acres and miles of surrounding open areas people can walk their dogs. A community park, in a residential area should not be one of them.

Please pass the dog leash rules as proposed, and I encourage the Ranger to start enforcing the rules.

Thank you,
Joel Allen

760-964-9240

From: Stefanie <chicdesigner@charter.net>

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 11:18 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Parks And Rec Comments

I am a 20 year resident of the Kings Canyon Highland homes and have walked the 4 dogs I've owned during this time off leash on the paths and in the Long Ranch Parks. My dogs have always been well trained as are the other residents dogs of this area. We enjoy sitting in our park daily and allowing our dogs to socialize. We actively participate in cleaning up our dog's waste and seek to keep our park area clean. Everyone is welcome here with their pets. And in fact, many people come here from outside our neighborhood BECAUSE IT IS AN OFF LEASH PARK WE ALL CAN ENJOY! We are not sure why all of a sudden this is a problem. As a tax paying citizen, in a coveted residential area, I am appalled that the City now thinks they need to control this area. I will be attending this meeting to voice my opposition to this ridiculous proposal. I didn't recommend this during the survey and I don't agree with the proposed change now. The Board of Supervisors should override the Mayors need to control Carson City's lovely freedoms.

Stefanie Humphrey

653 Chelsea Place

Carson City, NV 89803

From: Thomas A Mix <tmix@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 5:45 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>
Subject: "Parks and Rec Comments"

I am providing comments in **strong opposition** to the recommendation that Long Ranch Park (LRP) and the surrounding trails require that dogs be leashed. I have lived in the neighborhood surrounding LRP for 15 years. During this time, I have had 5 dogs that enjoyed Long Ranch Park and the surrounding areas. During that time, I have walked my dogs off-leash on the trails/sidewalks and the park without problems or incident for as many as 3-4 times each day, 365 days a year. For me, I get to meet existing and new neighbors and my dogs get to make a new friend.

Several years ago, Parks and Recreation divided the park into areas where the dogs needed to be leashed (generally, the area where children play) and the grass area east of the park where the dogs could be off leash for exercise and play with other dogs. Over the years, particularly in the afternoon, dog owners meet in this area. It's an area where strong and lasting friendships have been made while our dogs are allowed to play together and exercise. There is absolutely no reason to require now that this area require that our dogs be leashed. We cleanup after our dogs and we even pick up dog waste from leashed dogs whose owners don't bother to pick up after their dogs. We have gone out of our way to maintain the park, so we don't give Parks and Recreation an excuse to take back our current privileges as the department is seeking to do.

While walking on the trails/sidewalks over these many years, I have never encountered a situation when my dogs got into a fight with another dog or even witnessed other dogs that got into a fight. Even people simply walking on these trails have been happy to stop for a minute to talk and to pet my dogs. We all understand that if our dogs are aggressive, we would naturally put them on a leash without having these restrictions imposed upon us. This has been true at the east end of the park and the trails/sidewalks in the surrounding areas. There is absolutely NO JUSTIFICATION for restricting the freedoms that we and our pets enjoy, none whatsoever.

As an aside, over the past 15 years what I have observed are dogs that are leashed are aggressive and, in some instances, the owners have been pulled to the ground by their lunging leashed dog trying to get at another dog for no real reason.

If the area where children are occasionally at play is a concern to Parks and Recreation, I would suggest enclosing it with fencing.

If Parks and Recreation feels as though the east side of the park where dogs are currently allowed to exercise and play freely among other dogs wishes to proceed to make it an area where dogs need to be leashed, I suggest instead, that Parks and Recreation enclose the area and allow dogs to exercise and play without being leashed.

In closing, my viewpoint and that of many dog owners that I have spoken to feel that the city is searching for a problem that simply does not exist at Long Ranch Park. Further, these unfriendly and needless restrictive provisions the city is seeking to impose upon homeowners and their pets that live in the areas surrounding the park as well are entirely unwarranted and unwelcome.

Sincerely

Thomas A. Mix
728 Norfolk Drive
Carson City, NV 89703

From: mersea@sbcglobal.net <mersea@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 3:19 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Parks & Recreation Department: Re: Longview Ranch Park

Greetings.

We understand that the topic of pet dogs will be discussed at your next meeting.

We hear that you will be considering the use of leashes in Longview Park.

We have lived in the neighborhood of Longview Park for 20 years. A major reason to select this neighborhood was to use the park with our dogs.

During those twenty years, we had four dogs. We currently have two dogs.

We abide by the signage by keeping our dogs on leash at the west end of the park, and allowing them to run off leash at the east end of the park.

The west end of the park includes a playground.

Our dogs have do not have an issue on the east end of the park. All the dogs play together peacefully.

The east end of Longview park is very popular with owners that throw balls for the dogs to chase.

This includes owners that live in the neighborhood, and with others that drive to this park specifically to provide fun and exercise for their dogs.

When on leash, dogs will occasionally growl at our dogs, and our dogs will respond likewise. This is due to the phenomenon of leash aggression.

Dogs become more territorial when on leash.

On multiple occasions we have witnessed leashed dogs pull their owners to the ground.

We have not seen such injuries when the dogs were off leash.

We heard a rumor that the pending meeting is a result of complaints about dogs getting close to children at the playground on the west end of the park.

I do not know if this rumor is true.

During our 20 years of walking our dogs multiple times per day, we have not witnessed any such problems.

Perhaps it has occurred.

If this is the situation, a simple answer would be to put a small fence around the small playground.

Outside of the park, while walking on the neighborhood paths, we sometimes have our dogs on leash and sometimes they are off leash.

We think more dogs on leash will result in more leash aggression and more owners pulled to the ground.

We request that your Committee continue to allow dogs off leash on the paths and in the east end of Longview Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ellen Walls

Joe Walls

From: Mary Sanada <mcsanada@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 2:34 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: Dogs in the park system

I object to the designation of the trails in the Capital Corridor as off-leash. I use these trails regularly, and the dogs that are off leash often run towards me, which I find offensive and frightening. The owner's assurance that they will not hurt me is no comfort. The citizens of our city should be able to use these trails without unpleasant confrontations with dogs. I do not understand why it would be a burden for these dogs to be kept on a leash. These trails are in the middle of the city. Please re-consider this designation.

Mary Sanada

2832 Table Rock Dr.

From: Sarah Lenard <lenard.sarahjane@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 12:09 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: June 18 2022 Joint Agenda

To whom it may concern,

I am in support of approval for the agenda 5.A listed on the a Carson City, Nevada website as

5.A. For Possible Action: [Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors or staff regarding the draft Dog Rules and Regulations Policy. \(Lyndsey Boyer, lboyer@carson.org and Jennifer Budge, jbudge@carson.org\) LATE MATERIAL](#)

I have a dog that is well behaved and loves to go where we go. Our dog loves to hike, swim, and play. We are responsible owners that clean his droppings and never leave a miss behind even on trails without trash cans. We are in support of this possible action to allow dogs in more areas and to be off leash in dog areas (like enclosed parks). It is also important to our family that dogs be allowed in hiking trails because our dog loves to hike. We keep him on leash and as I said before, clean up after him. If there are other ways to support this agenda, please let me know.

Kind Regards,

Sarah Lenard

Carson City Resident