OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS MASTER PLAN

POP-UP EVENT

winnipeg.ca/OffLeashAreas
The City of Winnipeg is developing an **Off-Leash Dog Areas Master Plan** to address, and respond to, the growing interest and demand for off-leash dog areas (OLAs) in Winnipeg.

This plan will address the needs of all park users, and will develop a vision, site location criteria, and an implementation strategy for OLAs around Winnipeg.

**The plan will:**
- Define a vision, goals, and objectives for OLAs in Winnipeg.
- Confirm site sizing and location criteria as defined in the City’s existing *Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg (2012).*
- Develop additional OLA criteria pertaining to site selection, shared-use facilities, implementation, maintenance, etc.
- Identify policy constraints and make recommendations for change.

**History of OLAs in Winnipeg:**
In 2012, a *Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg* report was developed. In 2014, the Public Service recommended further research be conducted into OLAs, supported by a comprehensive public engagement process.

The plan will build on the City’s 2012 report, and incorporate additional research and recommendations informed by a comprehensive public engagement process.

**Project Timeline**

- **February 2017**: Project Initiation
- **February - April 2017**: Information Gathering
- **May 2017**: Community Workshops
- **Fall 2017**: Public Engagement: Information Booths and Online Survey and Mapping Tool
- **Fall / Winter 2017**: Develop Plan and Policies
- **Spring 2018**: Submit Final Plan
- **Early 2018**: Share Draft Plan and Policies

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### Types of Off-Leash Areas

The Guidelines for Off Leash Dog Parks in the City of Winnipeg report determined four types of OLAs:

#### Regional OLA:
- At least 8 ha in size
- 7.5 km catchment area (~20 min drive)
- On-site parking
- Site amenities should include, information booth, site furnishings, signage, potentially a water source
- Pathway extensions, trails, open grassed area

#### Community OLA:
- 2 to 8 ha in size, to be located where a ‘regional’ area is unfeasible
- 3.75 km catchment area (~10 min drive)
- On-site parking
- Site amenities should include signage, information booth, site furnishings, and waste receptacles
- Pathway extensions and/or open grassed area

#### Neighbourhood OLA:
- 0.5 to 1 ha in size
- 1 km catchment area (~5 min drive/20 min walk)
- Parking not a requirement
- Limited amenities such as site furnishings, signage and waste receptacles
- Open grassed area

#### Single Use Site OLA:
- 0.25 to 0.75 ha in size
- Frequented by pedestrian users
- Parking not a requirement
- Very few amenities: signage, waste receptacles
- Fenced in open area, much like a ‘dog run’
The City of Winnipeg currently operates 10 OLAs within the City of Winnipeg Parks system.

### Regional Facilities (>8 ha)
- Kilcona Park: 48.78 ha
- Maple Grove Park: 12.92 ha
- Charleswood Dog Park: 8.22 ha
- Little Mountain Park: 8.42 ha

### Community Facilities (1 – 8 ha)
- Mazenod Park: 6 ha
- King’s Park: 4.41 ha
- Sturgeon Road & Silver Avenue: 4.03 ha
- Westview Park: 4 ha
- Brenda Leipsic Park (Temporary Location): 17 ha

### Neighbourhood Facilities (< 1 ha)
- Woodsworth Park: 0.83 ha
- Bourkevale Park: 0.28 ha
- Bonnycastle Park: in development
- Devonshire Park: in development

The City’s 2012 report determines catchment areas for three types of OLAs that currently exist within Winnipeg. Currently there are no ‘single-use’ OLAs in Winnipeg.

### Catchment Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Facility</th>
<th>Radius</th>
<th>Drive Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Facilities</td>
<td>7.5 km</td>
<td>20 minute drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Facilities</td>
<td>3.75 km</td>
<td>10 minute drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbourhood Facilities</td>
<td>1 km</td>
<td>5 minute drive, 20 minute walk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

- Using a sticky note, please comment on the catchment areas of the City's current OLAs.
- Would you walk 20 minutes to a neighbourhood OLA?
- Would you drive 10 minutes to a community OLA and/or 20 minutes to a regional OLA?
- Do these catchment areas meet your expectations? Are they too large or too small?

Place sticky notes here.
Common issues that have been identified for OLAs include:

» Parks only accessible by car
» Nearby elementary/high schools
» Over-use
» Limited sightlines
» Conflicts with other park users, i.e. cyclists, sports
» Environmental issues, i.e.: standing water, contamination
» Noise
» Odour
» Traffic
» Proximity to athletic fields and playgrounds

The following are some best practices for OLAs from other cities:

**Calgary**

» OLAs should accommodate multi-use functions in public parks
» Include OLAs as a key consideration in park planning for established and new communities
» Must be at least 0.5 ha in size
» Location must be informed by a comprehensive public engagement strategy

**Denver**

» Must be a minimum of 100 ft. from a children’s playground/children’s facility
» No arterial streets within 200 ft. unless fully fenced

**Surrey**

» OLAs located to sites commonly adjacent to people engaged in sport/active recreational uses will be fully enclosed with a 1.2 m fence and double entry gates to minimize conflict
» ‘Neighborhood’ OLAs do not require parking

**Edmonton**

» Preferred adjacent land uses: commercial, municipal facilities, employment zones
» Preferred land use types: open space, transportation/infrastructure/utility ROWs
» Comprehensive public engagement undertaken for each new OLAs
» Winter OLA considerations
» The site cannot be a designated natural area or wildlife habitat

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Using a sticky note, please comment on the following question.

**What are some criteria or standards that you think are important to consider when locating OLAs?**