

EASTMORLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 14584 Madison, Wisconsin 53708

March 12, 2020

RE: Opposition to Dog Park in Eastmorland Park

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Eastmorland Community Association I am writing to express the ECA Board opposition to the creation of a dog park in Eastmorland Park.

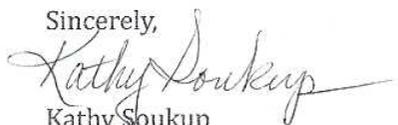
The neighbors living in proximity of Eastmorland Park here expressed various concerns with a potential dog park in Eastmorland Park and presented a strong petition signed by over 80 residents living on Dawes Street, Schenk Street and Buckingham Lane declaring their opposition to a dog park in Eastmorland Park as proposed by the Parks Department.

Concerns included:

- *The displacement of children and residents who regularly play and have activities in the park*
- *Lack of parking to accommodate dog park users and increased traffic*
- *Dysfunction for dogs currently living in homes along park who could no longer use their own yards and would spend their days barking and protecting their homes*
- *Urine poisoning of lawns,*
- *The destruction of the park grass turning into mud,*
- *The effect of regular flooding in the park that would cause dog waste to flow into yards and into the storm water cunette and thereby into Lake Monona*
- *The destruction of recently planted trees along the dog park fencing*
- *Smell, particularly after rainstorms and during spring melt*
- *Esthetics of park ruined by chain link fence*
- *Constant noise and inability of residents to enjoy the tranquility of their back yards*
- *Eastmorland Park is a neighborhood park designed for neighborhood use and access*
- *Decreased property values for those homes that border on park*

The Eastmorland Community Association made its decision based on the petition presented at the March 10th meeting. The ECA is interested in gaining more information from the residents around OB Sherry Park and whether a dog park is feasible in that park.

Sincerely,



Kathy Soukup
ECA President

EASTMORLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 14584 Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Approximate areas bound by :
Highway 30, Highway 51,
Cottage Grove Road, Atwood Avenue,
Lake Monona and Starkweather Creek

Tuesday, May 21, 2020

Re: Opposition to Dog Park at O.B. Sherry Park

To Whom it May Concern:

As you know, Eastmorland Community Association issued a letter on March 12th in opposition to a dog Park in Eastmorland Park. Today, ECA, after gathering input from our neighborhood residents living close to O.B. Sherry Park, ECA is also expressing opposition to the creation of a dog park in O.B. Sherry Park.

The neighbors living in proximity to O.B. Sherry Park have expressed valid concerns to a potential dog park in their neighborhood park and have presented a petition signed by 24 residents, who live around O.B. Sherry Park, declaring their opposition to a dog park in O.B. Sherry Park as proposed by the Parks Department. Much like the petition for Eastmorland Park, it was halted by the Stay At Home Order due to Covid-19. Residents are asking for time to continue collecting signatures once the Stay At Home order is lifted

Concerns included:

- . The displacement of children and residents who regularly play and have activities in the park (during this particular time of pandemic activity in our neighborhood parks has increased significantly).
- . Lack of parking to accommodate dog park users and increased traffic Dysfunction for dogs currently living in homes along the park who would no longer be able to use their own yards and would spend their days barking and trying to protect their homes.
- . The destruction of park grass turning into mud.
- . The effect of regular flooding in the park that would allow dog waste to flow into Starkweather Creek and thereby into Lake Monona.
- . The destruction of trees, recently planted, and at least one *Ash tree* which ECA has adopted and raised funds to saving along the the dog park fencing.
- . Smell, particularly after rainstorms and during spring melt.
- . Visual esthetics and activity in the park ruined by chainlink fencing in an open area of the park now used for varied activities of users choosing.
- . Constant noise and inability of residents to enjoy the tranquility of their front and back yards.
- . O.B. Sherry Park, just like Eastmorland Park, is a neighborhood park designed for neighborhood use and access which includes dog walking.
- . Decreased property values for those homes that border and face the park, which affects not only homeowners, but The city of Madison tax base also.

Our neighborhood association also had a lengthy discussion and agreed that I would not be equitable to hold a virtual meeting or a survey in lieu of a public meeting. The issue of a dog park is not an essential issue at this time and proper time should be given for a public meeting giving neighbors the opportunity to hear all voices and gather complete information around this issue.

Finally, under the July 13, 2016, the Parks Commission approved STATEMENT OF POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR OFF-LEASH DOG PARK SERVICE AREA STANDARDS WITHIN THE MADISON Park System, neither Eastmorland nor O.B. Sherry Park qualify, as a fenced-in dog park would interfere with the established and planned uses, parking is not available And the impacts on the visual character of the parks cannot be minimized, that is clear.

Sincerely,



Kathy Soukup

President of ECA