

Dept of Youth, Parks & Community Enrichment

William Land Park Dog Park

October 23, 2024 Drop-in Style Open House

OVERVIEW

Over 50 local residents attended an open house on October 23, 2024 to discuss two potential locations for a new dog park in William Land Park. The options included a site near 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd and another in the park's panhandle area. Attendees shared feedback on these locations, offered suggestions, and voted on their preferred site. Several key members of YPCE staff were on hand to answer questions, hear feedback and discuss next steps.

While support exists for both proposed dog park locations, feedback is divided with parking, community impacts, and site-specific benefits of particular locations driving a majority of the discussions and feedback. The voting on the two locations was almost evenly split between the two options but the 14th Ave & Freeport location edged out the panhandle location by a vote of 32 to 27.

KEY THEMES & SUGGESTIONS

General Support & Features: Many residents appreciated the initiative to add a dog park and suggested features like shade, spray stations, separate areas for small and large dogs, and fencing. Several comments highlighted the need for clear parking solutions due to existing challenges.

Parking and Noise: Both options faced concern about worsening parking issues, especially near residential areas and during events. Noise concerns were also mentioned, particularly near the 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd site.

Religious and Community Conflicts: Some worried about the impact on nearby Temple B'nai Israel and its services, and the panhandle's high use for family gatherings, events, and sports.

Alternative Sites: A few attendees suggested alternate sites, including the Petrovich basin and Del Rio Trail.

In Favor of Panhandle: Supporters noted ample parking, proximity to homes, and fewer conflicts with major events, which would limit disruptions. Concerns highlighted Freeport Blvd's congestion and impact on large-scale events.

In Favor of 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd: Advocates felt this area was less utilized, more accessible to nearby residents, and farther from residential homes. They noted the panhandle's high use by families and organizations, creating potential conflicts.

Oppose Any Dog Park in Land Park: Some residents opposed the concept of a dog park in William Land Park entirely, voicing concerns over maintenance, litigation risks, and potential for increased traffic and noise; some residents advocated for locations outside William Land Park, like Del Rio Trail.



The City sent social media content, imagery, the poll summary (Bark Report) and other information to following organizations/people who helped promote open houses:

- Fox 40
- Land Park Community Association
- South Land Park Community Association
- City Express (210,000 subscribers)
- Councilmember Jennings office social media/e-newsletter
- Citywide social media channels

Others that received the information:

- Pocket Greenhaven
- Sierra 2 Center
- Fairytale Town
- Hollywood Park Neighborhood Association

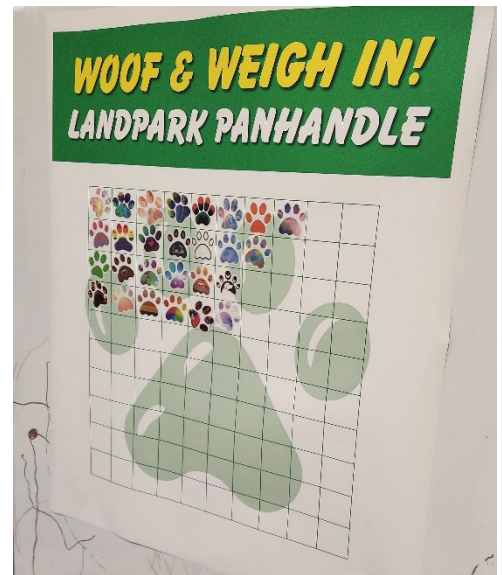
TRANSCRIPTION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

In Favor of Panhandle

- I oppose the 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd location due to the impact to many major Sacramento events.
- Although I voted for 14th and Freeport, I had forgotten about all those public events, fundraisers, runs (e.g. half marathons use that area to set up tents, booths, etc. Wondering if the planners considered the impact of how it affects those revenue generating activities.
- Panhandle pros: ample parking, won't close during large events, smaller, more efficient use of space and is closer to homes so less people need to drive. Freeport cons: is staging area for many large events, there's not enough parking, has time restricted parking and is more expensive to build.
- I believe that the park that would best serve the dogs/pets is the panhandle location; there's too much traffic and other events that would be affected at the Freeport Blvd option.
- Parking issues: the panhandle choice has a parking lot available and the panhandle is not as highly used for other purposes such as the golf course, Fairytale Town, family gatherings, etc. The golf course parking is generally full on weekends as are the on-street spots.

In Favor of 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd.

- The panhandle is totally used by groups already; the 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd. option is perfect for a dog park because there's nothing happening there.
- I love the 14th and Freeport option; it's so close to Curtis Park and Land Park residents.
- The panhandle is over utilized (temple, school, ballpark, BBQ, low riders, etc.).
- Panhandle is overused on weekends; expect conflict with the car community given members prefer Freeport Blvd on Friday and Saturday night but I prefer 14th and Freeport location of the two.
- Curtis Park lost its neighborhood dog park last year and the only site within walking distance for the Land Park dog park is the option at 14th Avenue and Freeport Blvd. If the choice is between that location and the panhandle area, the choice closest to Curtis Park (14th and Freeport) should be chosen.
- The panhandle is the smallest part of Land Park where many families, groups and organizations hold picnics here; it is close to the playground so children at picnics do not need to cross the street. It's also too close to homes on 13th Ave who already have a tough time parking as it is on weekends/holidays. There aren't any residents at 14th Ave and Freeport Blvd.



Don't Want any Dog Park in William Land Park

- Put dog park in Petrovich basin.
- No dog park in Land Park; Del Rio Trail is a better location.
- Put the dog park on Del Rio Trail; there's no parking in Curtis Park.
- I don't want a dog park in William Land Park.
- Don't put a dog park in William Land Park.
- No thank you—no dog park in Land Park (no city maintenance, no room, too much litigation from dog attacks).
- The panhandle is too near homes. It is a neighborhood with all the drawbacks of Curtis Park as a suitable site. It is a safe, quiet space for families. No to the panhandle.
- Dog park will make parking and traffic an issue with the area near Freeport Blvd.; the safety of dog owners and dogs will be at risk.
- Parking is a major issue, especially on weekends. Dog leash laws are not enforced currently so why would Land Park need a dog park when dogs are allowed to run around the park all day long? Noise would also be a huge issue with golfers at the 14th Ave location.
- Would rather have a dog park at Miller Park instead of Land Park.



Other Ideas and Notes

- Thank you for considering a dog park in Land Park. It's a beautiful, well-used park and a nice dog park would be one more great amenity.
- Might the small open space off Freeport Blvd be a good alternate location? It has as parking, is near Land Park, is fairly unused and is close to the coffee and sandwich shop.
- Add shade and spray stations.
- Have residents register to use the dog park to get the use metric.
- Have separate areas for small and large dogs.
- Have a bulletin board for people to sign up for cleaning.
- I would like the dog park to be fenced.
- Great plans! We appreciate including agility training for the pups. How has parking been accounted for in the options? Both are already challenging sites for parking and not everyone walks to the park.
- Has the City considered increasing the spacing between the big and small dog park on the 14th Ave option? As a herding dog owner, a shared fence can create increased stress and fixation which can be avoided with space.
- Strongly support agility equipment.
- I'm worried that placing the dog park near Temple B'nai Israel would make it too difficult for their members to get to services.
- Temple B'Nai Israel at 11th Ave and Riverside holds services on Jewish holidays and attendees park on 11th, 12th and 13th avenues.
- Too close to homes on 11th Ave. Parking is already an issue on weekends and holidays (picnics, low riders) and on Jewish holidays. Parking on 11th is also difficult on Sundays and holidays when you can only park on the south side/park side of the street.
- Panhandle and Zoo/Fairytale Town/Funderland are the busiest areas of the park on weekends and holidays year-round; baseball fields are busy during season).
- All dog parks must have fences and shade. (2 people said this)
- We lost Sierra 2 Center and except for the short soccer season, its completely unused. Now I have to drive miles for a park not nearly as good. I don't think the city has ever listened to us.