



# CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

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DEREK MELVILLE  
PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission  
FROM: Derek Melville, Parks & Recreation Director  
DATE: March 10, 2022  
RE: Dog Park Conceptual Plan

Action Requested: That the Parks and Recreation Commission provide feedback related to the conceptual location and layout of the community dog park, as described in this memo.

### Background:

The 2020 Community Parks and Recreation Master Plan input process included multiple opportunities for the East Grand Rapids community to share their requests for increased recreational opportunities in town. Of the feedback that we received, adding a dog park within the city was the second highest requested amenity following additional trails.

Due to the high demand for a dog park, City staff reviewed all City property for site suitability, including access to parking, access to restrooms and drinking water, proximity to walking trails, minimum space requirements, preferred buffer distance from residential areas and shade opportunities. The greenspace at Remington Park is the only underutilized City of East Grand Rapids property that meets all the best practice specifications for a community dog park.

The map below provides a conceptual representation of the proposed dog park. There is approximately ½ acre available to be fenced in to provide both a small dog area and a large dog area. The entire perimeter of the dog park will be fenced in to allow for safe off-leash play, with a fence separating the large and small dog areas as well. Each area will include an entrance corral for safety, and site amenities including benches and play equipment for the dogs to utilize while exercising. The entrance corral area will include signage outlining the general park rules and specific dog park rules.

The existing restroom facility will be available for park users during the non-winter months. Limited parking will be available at Remington Park, with additional parking being available a short walk away at Waterfront Park. A drinking fountain for park users and their pets is proposed to be installed in proximity to the restroom building as well. Depending on the shade provided by the existing trees, small shade structures will be considered for placement within the dog park areas.

The budget for the dog park was originally identified to be \$500,000, which anticipated land acquisition as part of the cost. Since the property that has been identified is already owned by the city, the overall budget for the dog park and improvements to the existing restroom will be closer to \$125,000 as outlined in the preliminary budget below.

At this time, we are investigating dog park rules and key fob systems that can allow the city to control access during certain times such as evenings or access can be limited to authorized users based on other criteria. Some communities restrict access to their dog park and require annual registration to ensure compliance with the rules of the park, and other communities allow for open access to anyone interested in using the dog park. As we move forward in the planning stage of this project we'll have additional opportunities to discuss the adoption of rules and policies surrounding the dog park area.

**Dog Park Preliminary Budget**

<b>Dog Park Updates</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Price Per</b>	<b>Total</b>
Fencing	1200	\$20.00	\$24,000.00
Concrete	600	\$7.00	\$4,200.00
Shade Shelters	2	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00
Play Amenities	6	\$2,000.00	\$12,000.00
Dog Waste Stations	2	\$250.00	\$500.00
Drinking Fountain	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Key fob System & Install	1	TBD	TBD
Benches	4	\$2,000.00	\$8,000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$73,700.00</b>

<b>Restroom Update Estimates</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Roof	\$ 25,000.00
Windows	\$ 5,000.00
New Faucet Fixtures	\$ 1,500.00
New Partitions	\$ 5,000.00
Hand Dryers	\$ 1,000.00
Floor refinish	\$ 5,000.00
Interior Paint	\$ 6,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 48,500.00</b>









Sample entrance corral area.



Sample park amenities.



Sample drinking fountain.



Sample shade structure.