

Date: April 24, 2006



TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Dogs Off Leash

RECOMMENDATION

- A) THAT the Board extend the off leash hours at Cooper's and Portside (Crab) parks to all day use;*
- B) THAT the Board refer the results of the public process for Stanley, Devonian and Creekside parks to the "Dog off leash task force" for review and recommendation.*

BACKGROUND

Proposals to extend off leash hours in two currently designated off leash parks and proposals to create three new off leash areas in Stanley Park, Devonian Park and Creekside Park were put out for consultation in January and February 2006. The results of that consultation are contained in attachment A.

These results were brought before the Board's Planning Committee and discussed on March 21, 2006. Extending hours at existing off leash sites did not appear to draw strong negative reaction. Hence the committee recommends this change to the Board.

The new sites elicited stronger and more positional responses, leading the Planning Committee to recommend further examination through the process that is under development to create a task force to review off leash dog issues in parks. The Planning Committee expressed concerns that the consultation did not overlap with high use seasons in the parks.

CONCLUSION

As the proposed task force is to review the public space / dogs issue on a city-wide basis and will hopefully develop overall draft policies, it is recommended that new dog-off-leash locations be considered.

Prepared by:

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