



Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

**UPDATE: Dog Off-Leash Areas
July 7, 2011**

Visit the Park Board web site at vancouverparks.ca

VISION FOR DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS IN VANCOUVER

Comprehensive network of off-leash areas that work for people and dogs and successfully co-exist with other park uses.

purpose

feedback on draft principles



guide future work



achieve vision

outline

➔ BACKGROUND

➔ DATA & RESEARCH

➔ DRAFT PRINCIPLES

➔ NEXT STEPS

outline

➔ BACKGROUND

➔ DATA & RESEARCH

➔ DRAFT PRINCIPLES

➔ NEXT STEPS

BACKGROUND



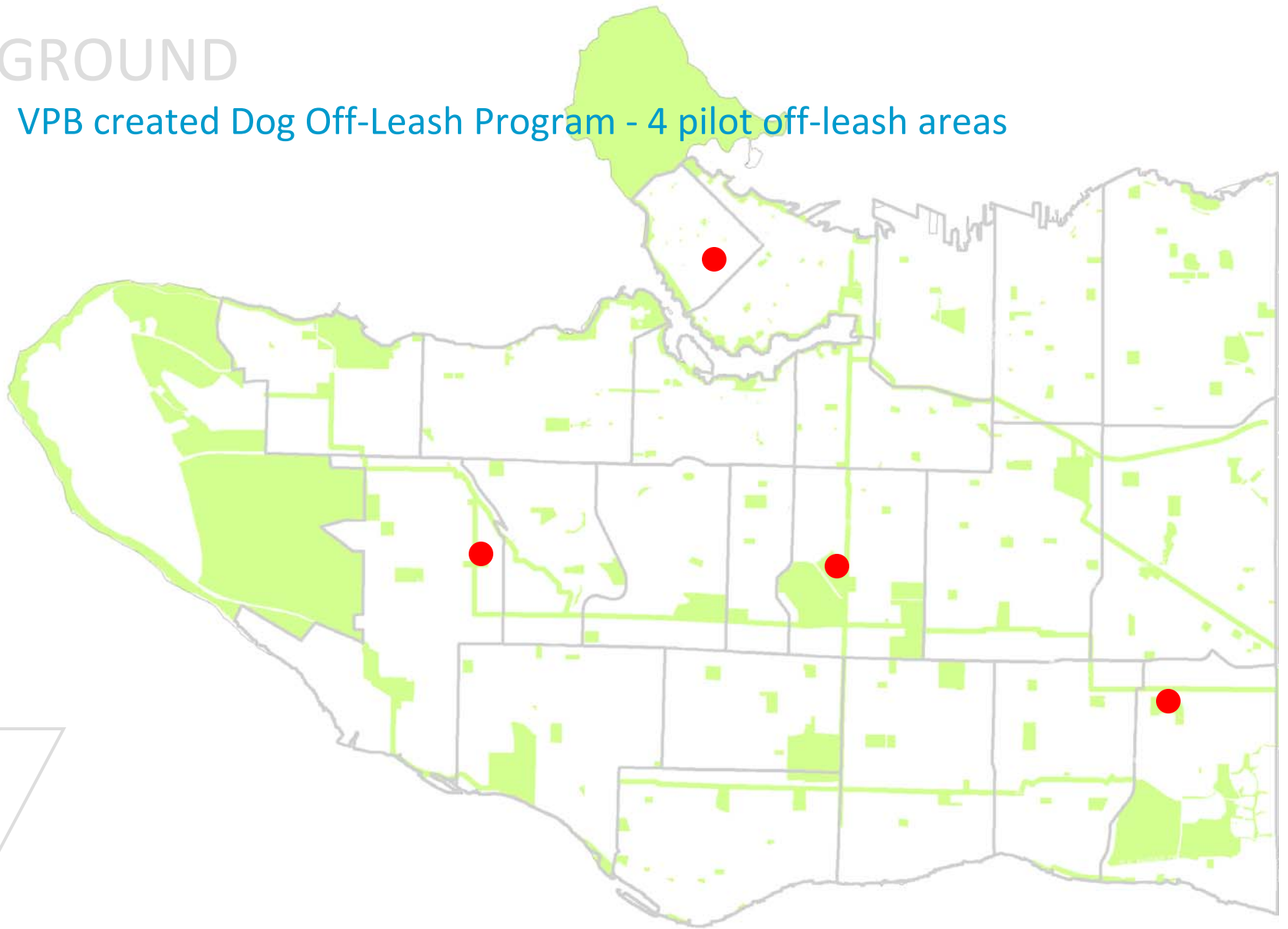
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BACKGROUND



BACKGROUND

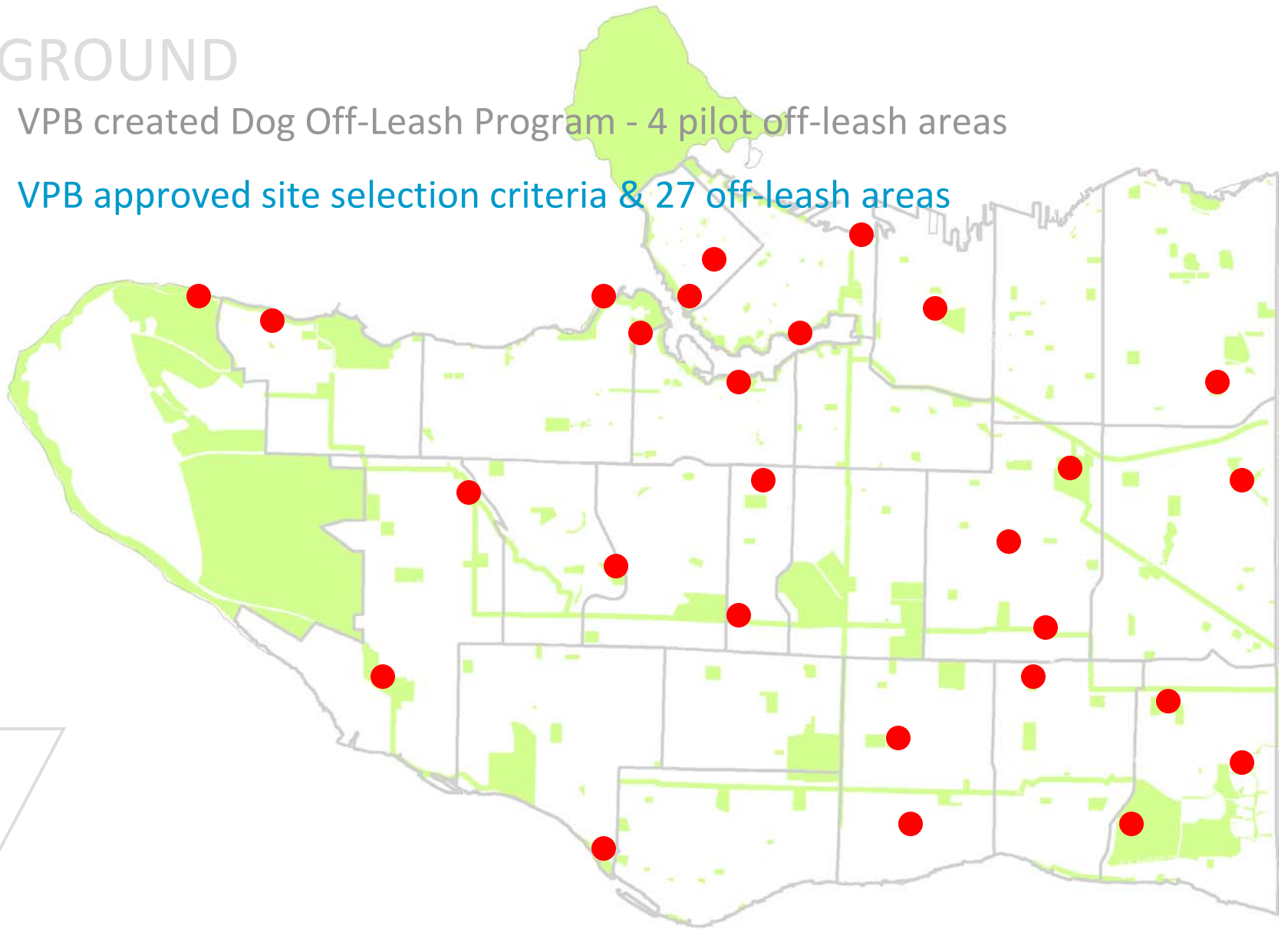
1997 VPB created Dog Off-Leash Program - 4 pilot off-leash areas



BACKGROUND

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1998 VPB approved site selection criteria & 27 off-leash areas

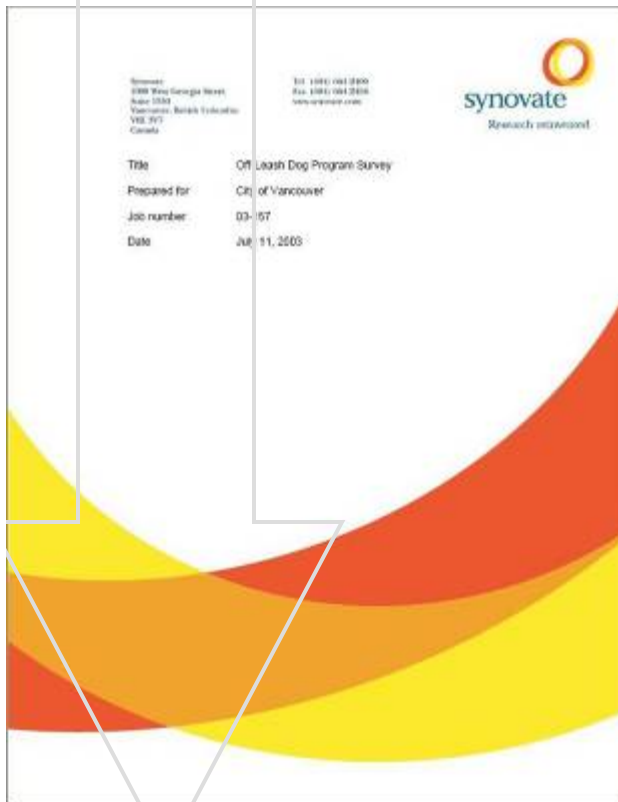


BACKGROUND

1997 VPB created Dog Off-Leash Program - 4 pilot off-leash areas

1998 VPB approved site selection criteria & 27 off-leash areas

2003 VPB approved funding for survey & research



major survey findings:

- 74% supported off-leash program
- 59% dog owners reported using off-leash areas
- 50% reported off-leash dogs in on-leash park areas
- 6 out of 10 reported problems with off-leash dogs:
 - owners not picking up after dogs
 - dogs scaring children and adults
 - dogs interfering with other park activities

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- 2005 VPB & Animal Control Services initiated Education & Enforcement

DOG OFF-LEASH LOCATIONS

1 NELSON PARK 3090 Howe Street	17 BALACLAVA PARK 4694 Balclava Drive	27 VALDEZ PARK 3810 West 88th Avenue
2 CHARLESON PARK 999 Charlson Drive	18 FRASER RIVER PARK 8706 Angus Drive	28 NAT BAILEY STADIUM 4601 Osage Street
3 COOPERS PARK 3060 Mitchell Crescent	19 GEORGE PARK 500 West 57th Avenue	29 QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK 4600 Cambie Street off 97th Avenue entrance
4 CRAB PARK AT PORTSIDE 101 East Waterfront Road	20 MUSQUEAM PARK 4000 Southwest Marine Drive, Marina Drive and Torres Street	30 NEW BRIGHTON PARK Waterfront Drive, Stoaks Drive and East Waterfront Road
5 SUNSET BEACH BAY behind Aquatic Centre at 1804 Beach Avenue	21 QUILCHENA EMBANKMENT 4890 Magnolia Street, 9702 Avenue and Pine Street	31 STANLEY PARK off/aboard courts area
6 KILLARNEY PARK 6008 Kerr Street	22 SPANISH BANK WEST 4801 Northwest Marine Drive, 500 metres west of building	32 EVERETT CROWLEY PARK 2600 Kerr Street and Dunbrack Marine Drive
7 DUSTY GREENWELL PARK 2799 Mill Street	23 SUNSET PARK 596 West 45th Avenue	33 DEVONIAN PARK 1929 West Georgia Street
8 SUNRISE PARK 1960 Wadsworth Street	24 HADDEN PARK 1906 Ogden Avenue	34 EMERY BARNES PARK Bithams and Davis Street
9 FALAISE PARK 7424 Falaise Avenue	25 OAK HEADOWS PARK Tux 9703 and Oak Street	35 HINGE PARK Dunbrack Falce Creek
10 FRASERVIEW GOLF COURSE peninsula, southwest corner, 8101 Kerr Street	26 LOCARNO PARK Northwest Marine Drive and Thurlow Street	
11 KINGSCREST PARK 4182 Craig Street		
12 SPARWOOD PARK 6998 Ardington Street		
13 STRATHCONA PARK 887 Malkin Avenue		
14 JOHN HENDRY (FRONT LAKE) PARK south side of lake, 8800 Victoria Drive		
15 JONES PARK 8880 Commercial Street, 87th Avenue and Victoria Drive		
16 TECUMSEH PARK 1763 East 46th Avenue		

DOG LICENCE

EXPIRY DATE	ZONE
September 30	1
October 31	2
November 30	3
March 31	4
April 30	5
May 31	6

DOG LICENCE STAGGERED EXPIRY

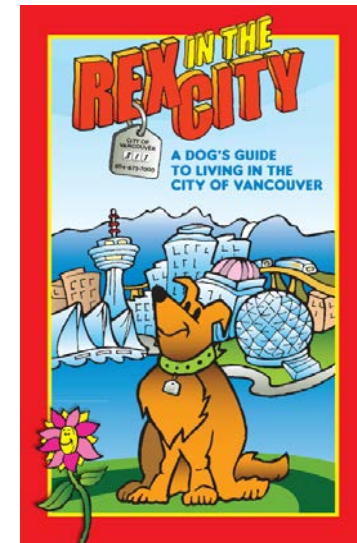
Dog licence renewals are staggered throughout the year according to where you live in Vancouver (see map).

For a listing of off-leash hours, or for more information visit vancouver.ca/parks or call 3-1-1.

Please respect the rights of other park users, especially those who don't appreciate dogs as much as you do. In Vancouver parks, dogs can run off-leash only in these locations during posted designated times. Off-leash hours vary from park to park - the hours are posted in each park and at vancouver.ca/parks.

Your pet is your responsibility and must be responsive to voice commands when off-leash. Remember that dogs are not permitted at any time on beaches except these three locations during designated times and only in the marked off-leash areas:

SUNSET BEACH BAY, location 5;
SPANISH BANK WEST, location 22; and
HADDEN PARK, location 24.



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- 2005 VPB & Animal Control Services initiated Education & Enforcement
- 2006** VPB approved creation of Dog Strategy Task Force

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- 2006 VPB approved creation of Dog Strategy Task Force
- 2007** Dog Strategy Task Force reported to VPB
 - INFRASTRUCTURE SUGGESTIONS – physical separation
 - EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT SUGGESTIONS
 - NO CONSENSUS, NO STRATEGIES ADOPTED

BACKGROUND

1997

1998

2003

2005

2006

2007

2008



2010



NELSON PARK

WestEndDogShow.com

BACKGROUND

1997

1998

2003

2005

2006

2007

2008



2010

HINGE PARK - SEFC

BACKGROUND

1997

1998

2003

2005

2006

2007

2008

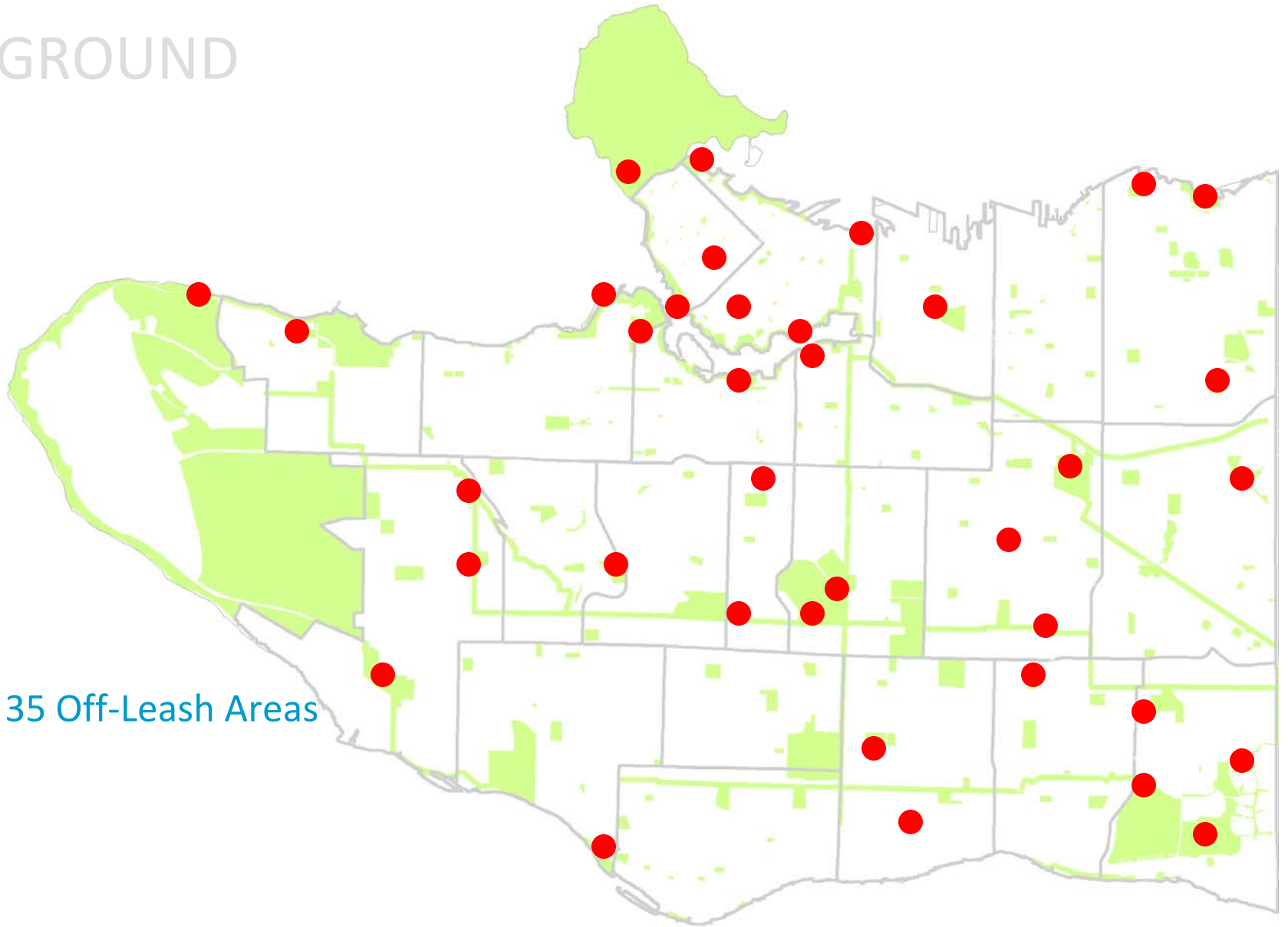


2010

EMERY BARNES

BACKGROUND

TODAY 35 Off-Leash Areas



outline

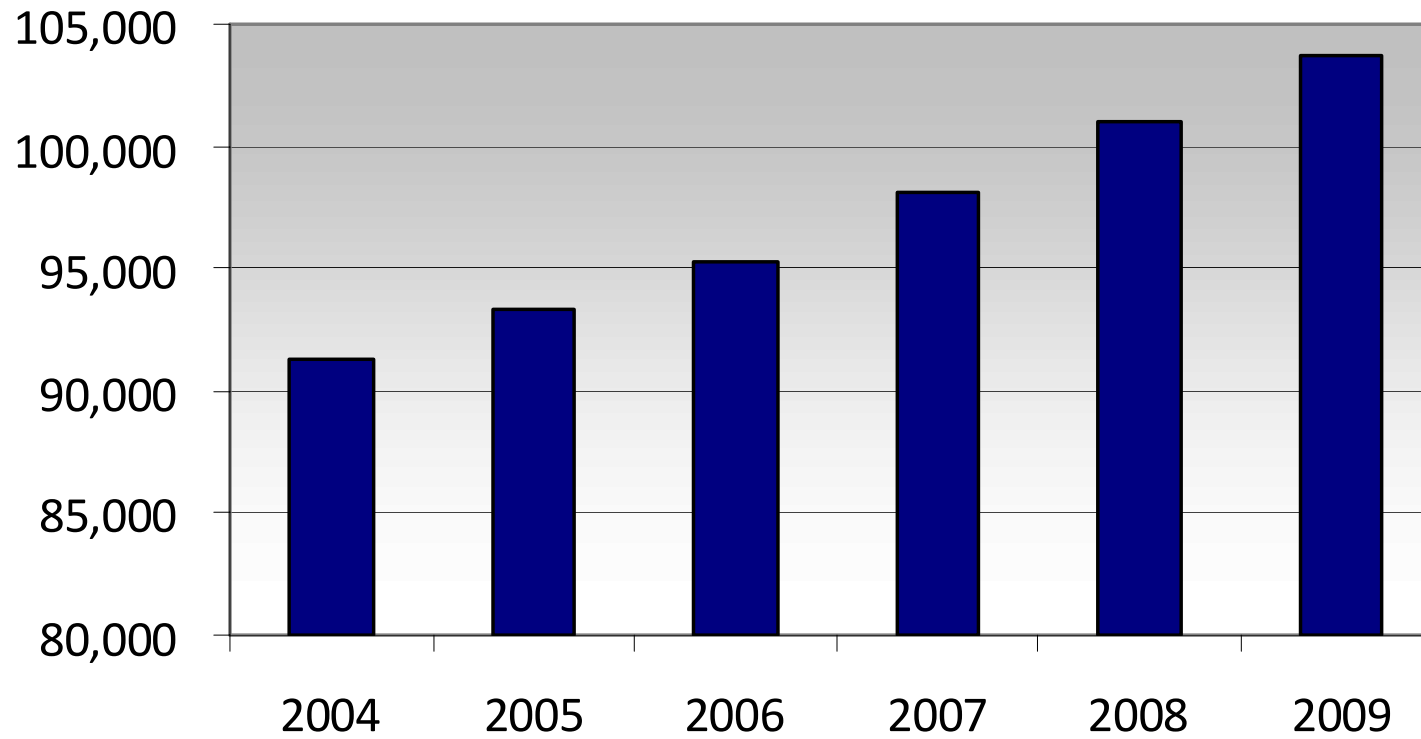
➔ BACKGROUND

➔ DATA & RESEARCH

➔ DRAFT PRINCIPLES

➔ NEXT STEPS

DATA & RESEARCH

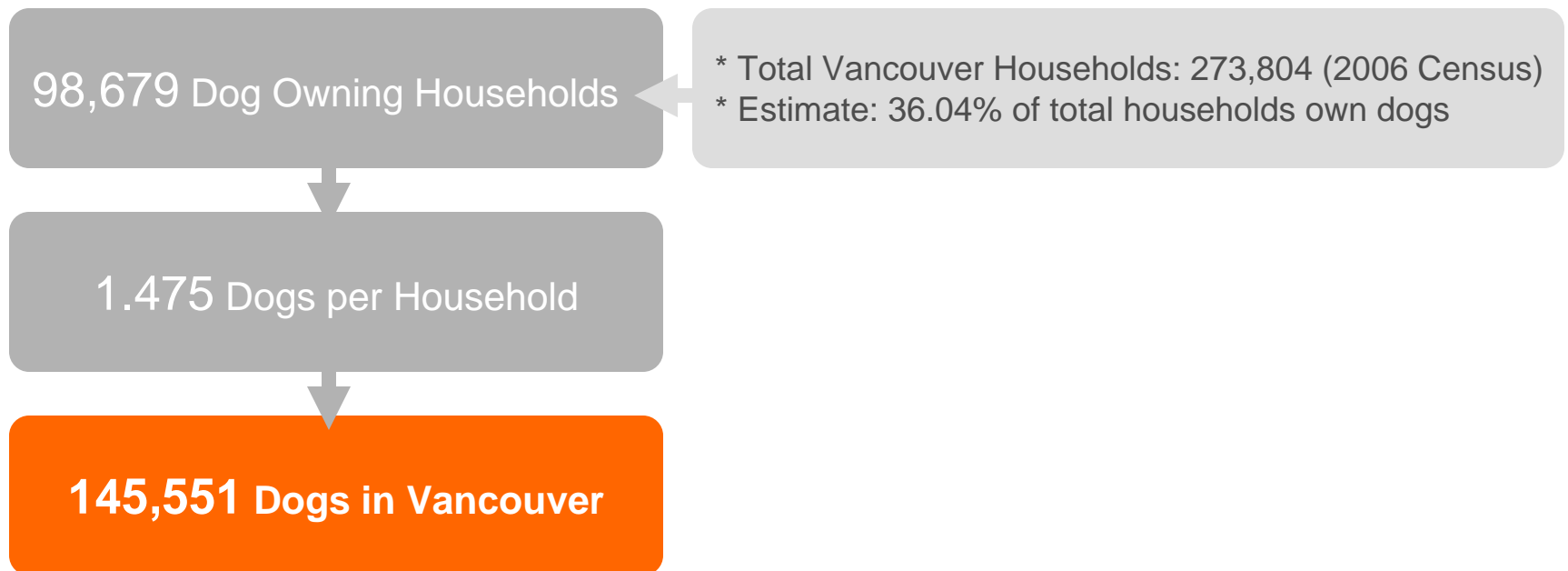


Estimated # of dogs in City of Vancouver (Animal Control Services Business Plan 2010)

DATA & RESEARCH

2008 Ipsos Reid Report

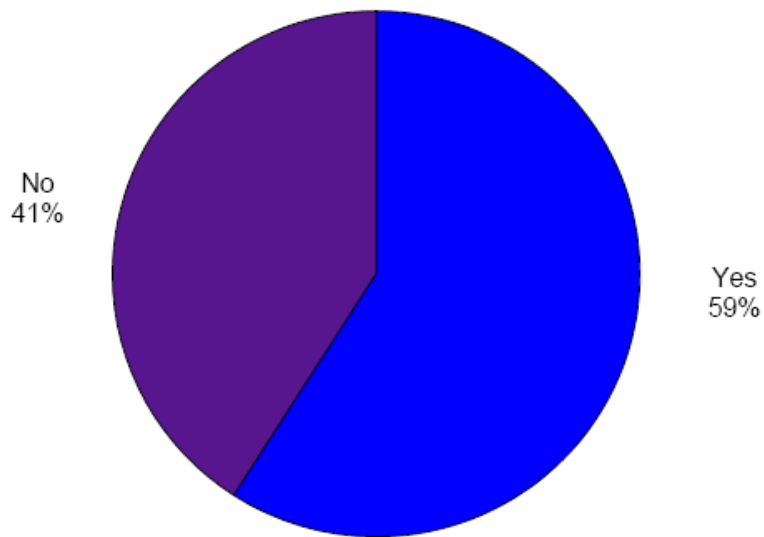
- estimate = **36%** of Vancouver **households** have 1 or more dogs
- estimate = **110,00 - 145,500 dogs** in Vancouver



DATA & RESEARCH

2003 Synovate Survey

- **59%** dog owners using OLA's
- dog owners significantly more likely to visit parks on a daily basis than non-dogowners



DATA & RESEARCH

1 OFF-LEASH AREA PER ___ PEOPLE

2007

City	Dog OLAs	Population	Ratio (1 OLA per ___ pp)
Calgary	116	988,000	8,517
Portland	31	514,000	16,581
Edmonton	40	730,000	18,250
Vancouver	31	578,000	18,645
San Francisco	28	719,000	25,679
Seattle	11	537,000	48,818
New York (Man)	27	1,537,000	56,926
Winnipeg	11	633,000	57,545
Toronto	32	2,503,000	78,219
Chicago	10	2,700,000	270,000

DATA & RESEARCH

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2010

Dog OLAs	Population	Ratio (1 OLA per ___ pp)
149	1,065,500	7,151
32	583,776	18,243
35	602,000	17,200
31	1,629,000	52,548

DATA & RESEARCH

1 OFF-LEASH AREA PER __ SQ. KM.

2007

City	Dog OLAs	Land area (km2)	Ratio(1 OLA per __km2)
New York - (Man)	27	61	2.3
Vancouver	31	115	3.7
San Francisco	28	121	4.3
Calgary	116	726	6.3
Portland	31	375	12
Edmonton	40	684	17
Toronto	32	630	20
Seattle	11	218	20
Winnipeg	11	464	42
Chicago	10	606	61

DATA & RESEARCH

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DATA & RESEARCH

1 OFF-LEASH AREA PER # DOGS

145,500 Dogs /

35 Off-Leash Areas

= 1 OLA per 4157 dogs

DATA & RESEARCH

"I would like more off-leash space closer to home."

"I am losing my parks to dogs."

"I am disturbed by off-leash dogs in playgrounds and sports fields."

"I would like to help make the off-leash program better."

"Dog waste is not being picked up by owners."

"Off-leash areas need fencing and separated small dog areas."

outline

➔ BACKGROUND

➔ DATA & RESEARCH

➔ DRAFT PRINCIPLES

➔ NEXT STEPS

DRAFT PRINCIPLES

- ❑ **DOG STRATEGY TASK FORCE**
- ❑ **PUBLIC & STAKEHOLDER INPUT**
- ❑ **VANCOUVER EXPERIENCE**
- ❑ **OTHER CITIES**



DRAFT PRINCIPLES

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Principle 1: Off-leash areas are an important part of our park system.

Principle 2: Off-leash areas need to work for all park users.

Principle 3: Physical separation can create off-leash areas that work for all.

Principle 4: Good design will create places that work for people and dogs.

Principle 5: Off-leash areas need to be carefully placed within parks.

Principle 6: Off-leash areas need to be strategically located across the city.

Principle 7: There is a meaningful role for education and enforcement.

Principle 8: Off-leash areas part of standard park planning processes.

DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 1:

Off-leash areas are an important part of our park system.

- important and frequent activity
- designated area

DRAFT PRINCIPLES

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Off-leash areas are an important part of our park system.

- important and frequent activity
- designated area
- eyes on the park
- social centres

DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 2:

Off-leash areas need to work for all park users.

- ensure all park users can enjoy our parks
- provide off-leash areas that work for dogs and dog owners



DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 3:

Physical separation can create off-leash areas that work for all.

- boundaries for dogs and dog owners

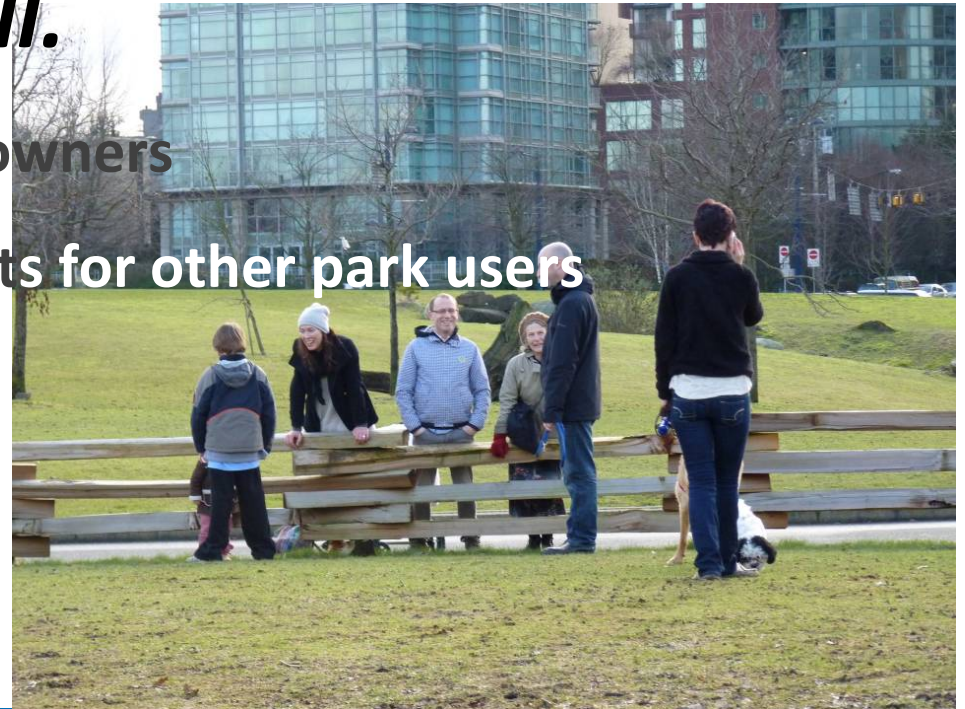


DRAFT PRINCIPLES

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- boundaries for dogs and dog owners
- comfortable observation points for other park users



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- boundaries for dogs and dog owners
- comfortable observation points for other park users
- respond to park context



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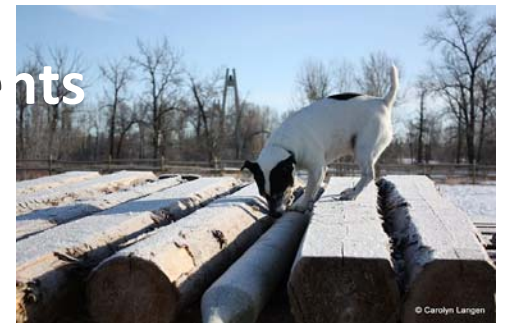
- boundaries for dogs and dog owners
- comfortable observation points for other park users
- respond to park context
- examples from other cities

DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 4:

Good design will create places that work for people and dogs.

- e.g. separate areas for small dogs, agility elements and durable surfacing



DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 4:

Good design will create places that work for people and dogs.

- e.g. separate areas for small dogs, agility elements and durable surfacing
- e.g. seating, shade, clear signage and social spaces



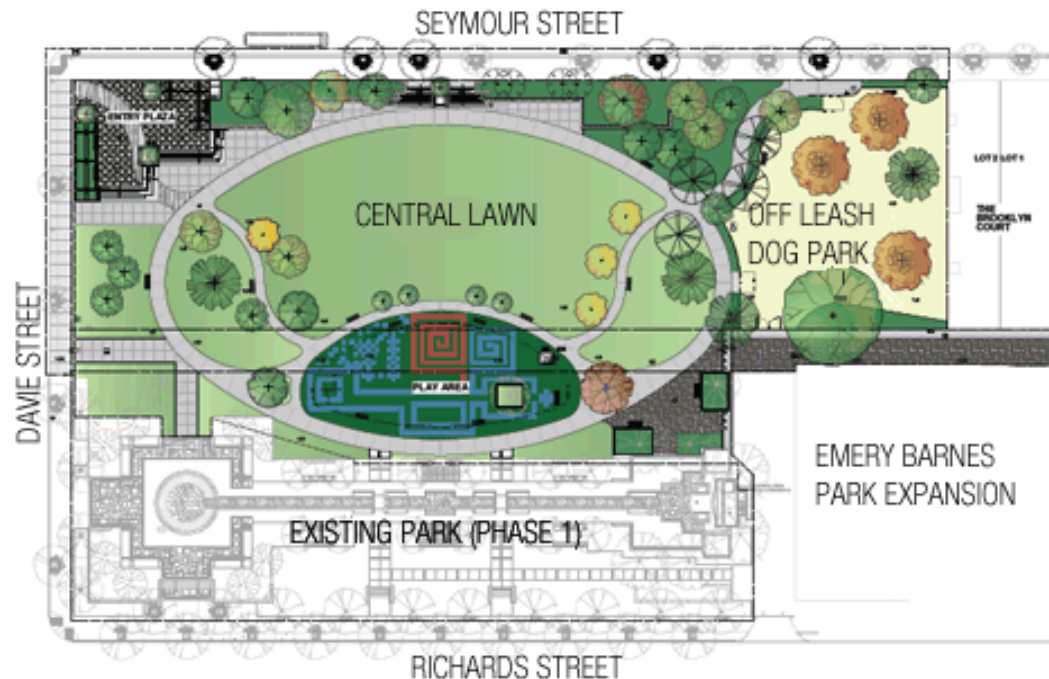
DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 5:

Off-leash areas need to be carefully placed within parks.

- careful park analysis

- e.g. Other park uses
 - Environmentally sensitive areas

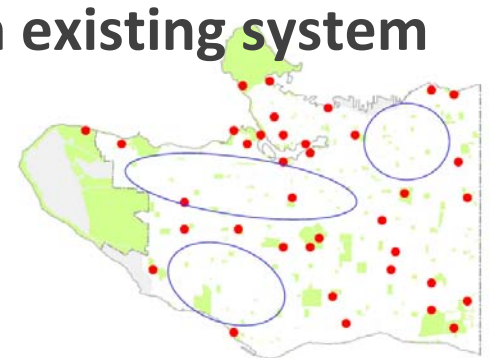
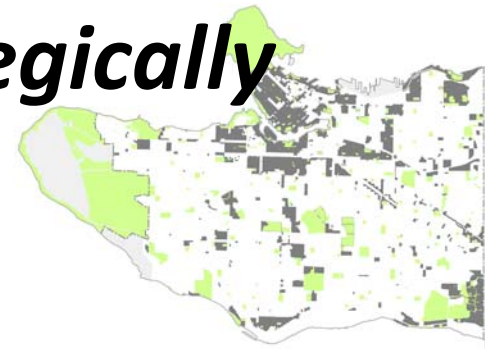
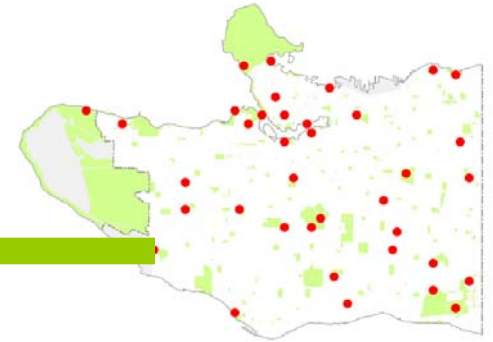


DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 6:

Off-leash areas need to be strategically located across the city.

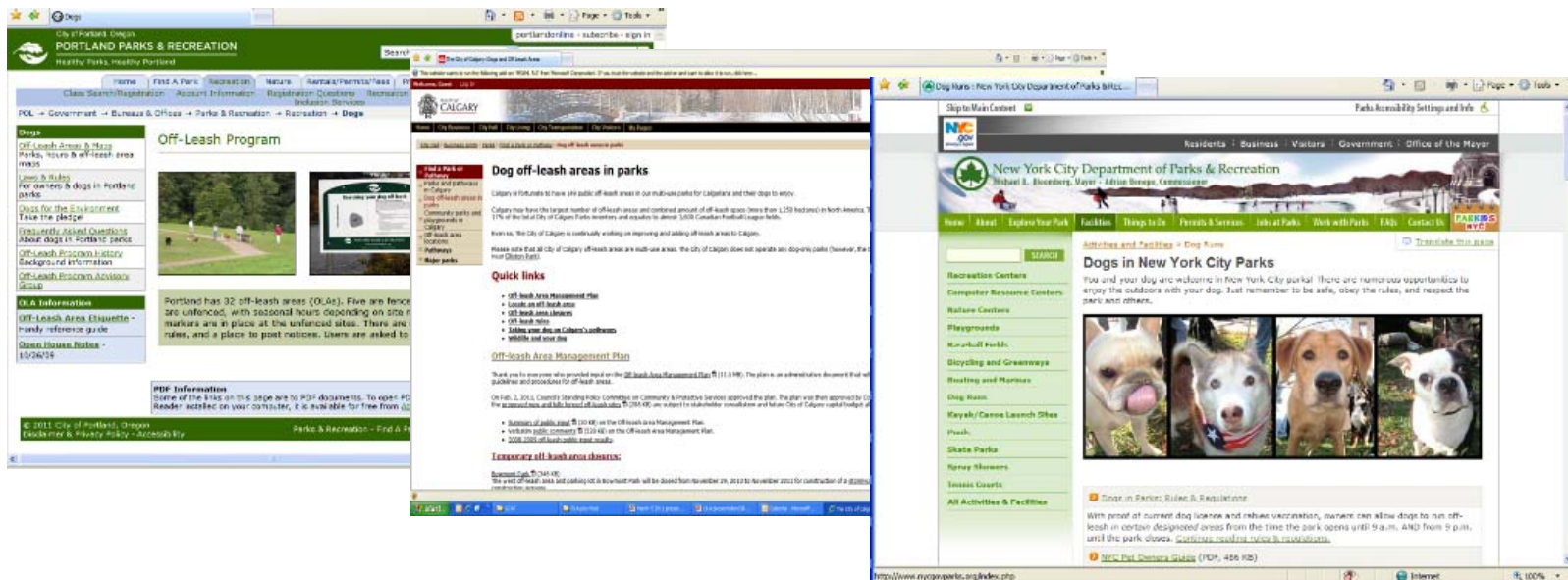
- consider the city-wide network as a whole
- consider demand, population density & gaps in existing system



DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 7:

There is a meaningful role for education & enforcement.

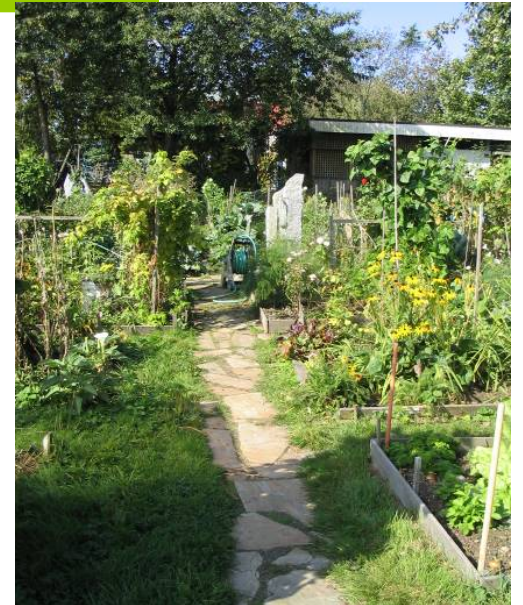


DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Principle 8:

Off-leash areas part of standard park planning processes.

Consider and evaluate off-leash areas alongside other potential park elements such as playgrounds and community gardens.



outline

➔ BACKGROUND

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➔ NEXT STEPS

NEXT STEPS

JULY 2011 **POST DRAFT PRINCIPLES ON WEBSITE FOR PUBLIC FEEDBACK**
INCLUDE FUNDING IN CAPITAL PLAN FOR OFF-LEASH AREAS

AUG 2011 **IDENTIFY PRIORITY OFF-LEASH AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT**
EXPLORE PARTNERSHIP POSSIBILITIES

EARLY 2012 **REPORT BACK TO BOARD**