2016 Worcester Dog Park Feasibility Study

TECHNICAL REPORT







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Introduction:

This Technical Report offers recommendations pertaining to the amending of a city ordinance that has prohibited dogs from public parks and open space properties. The report also identifies capital and operational changes that would be implemented in support of an amended ordinance.

Background:

In 1997, the City of Worcester enacted ordinances ("ORDINANCES FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS TO STATE LAW") that prohibited dogs from public parks and a small geographic area located within downtown Worcester surrounding Worcester Common. In recent years, city residents, primarily dog owners, have requested adjustment to this ordinance such that dogs are permitted within public parks in the accompaniment of their owners. There are 60 public parks in Worcester that are managed by the Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks with guidance from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

To advance this initiative, six public information meetings have been held. In total, approximately 150 city residents and several residents from adjacent towns have attended the sessions. Many residents attended multiple meetings. It is fair to state that not a single person spoke in favor of maintaining the status quo and, in general, all attendees support the modification of Worcester's Dog Ordinance to allow dogs in public parks with clearly articulated policies and conditions.

The following is a summary of the basic information that was presented and discussed at the public information meetings:

- Precedent ordinances from other communities, including cities that are comparable to Worcester
- Precedent dog park facilities and corresponding use policies from other communities, including cities that are comparable to Worcester
- Health related issues at dog parks
- General challenges in relation to allowing dogs in parks
- Mapping that identifies the geographic locations of licensed dogs within the City of Worcester
- Description of potential modifications to the Worcester dog ordinance
- Types of dog parks (general themes)
- Types of dog parks that might be suitable for incorporation into the Worcester Parks and Recreation system

It is also important to recognize that there is a certain part of every community's population (these residents were not represented at the public meetings) that can be described as uninterested, unreachable or unsupportive of a dog park initiative. Absent a specific geographic focus in the discussion residents did not see a dog park as a specific impact upon them and did not attend. There are likely many reasons for this including:

- A belief that some owners are unfit for the responsibility of caring for a dog
- Some dogs are untrained and behave poorly
- Some dogs can be unpredictable

- There are inconveniences associated with dog feces left behind by uncooperative and inconsiderate dog owners
- Some people are just uncomfortable with dogs, others possess an outright fear of dogs

Particularly due to these concerns, it is essential that the rolling out of new policies granting dog use privileges within the City's park and open space system are established with great care that includes the adoption of appropriate operational and management protocols. The entire initiative will then rely heavily on the good will of dog owners and a very high degree of "self-policing". Bad behavior can harm well-crafted dog park initiatives.

Based on our review of policies in dozens of other Massachusetts communities, we have observed that the Worcester ordinance seems overly restrictive. For this reason, we recommend that it be amended



and further recommend that the city adopt new approaches and policies as presented below.

Program Parameters:

Following is a summary of five key recommendations that will help to usher in a new era of park and open space accessibility for Worcester residents and their companion dogs.

- Ordinance Amendment- key to this entire initiative is the modification of the "ORDINANCES FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS TO STATE LAW". A copy of the ordinance is attached to the back of this Executive Summary. We have highlighted all suggested changes to this document. A summary of changes includes the following:
 - Under the amended ordinance, dogs are permitted within the majority of Worcester's 60 public park properties. There are conditions that define the safe and appropriate use of the park properties by dog owners and their dogs.
 - The ordinance has a sunset provision in that it will expire after two years if not reauthorized by the city council.
 - The city manager shall have the right to appoint a designee who is responsible for the provisions set forth in the amended ordinance.
 - The city manager shall have the right to set all rules and regulations for dogs in all parks and specific off-leash areas.
 - The city manager shall have the right to modify, manage and change locations as needed.
 - The licensing of dogs shall be adjusted such that owners are provided with the new ordinance and basic information about enforcement and also asked to acknowledge their understanding and agreement to provisions of the new ordinance.
 - The city shall adopt a dog license fee schedule to help offset the costs of managing and enforcing the new ordinance.
 - Dogs shall continue to be prohibited from public cemeteries, public memorials, athletic fields and courts, pools, playgrounds and spray parks, school properties, beaches between Memorial Day and Labor Day and specific properties that shall include City Hall/Worcester Common and other specific sites.

- Dogs shall be permitted to be off-leash only under tightly controlled conditions and only within a designated off-leash recreation area, dog park or dog run.
- The city shall designate and train staff to enforce the new dog park ordinance and to address issues related to the removal of dog generated waste.
- Users shall be responsible for having suitable dog bags to collect and remove waste at all times
 and at all locations, even though the city may choose to provide bag receptacles for
 convenience at certain locations.

As new policies are set forth and a dog park program is implemented it is important to build in flexibility such that the City Manager and his/her designee are allowed to make adjustments that maintain public safety and public enjoyment of all designated dog areas.

- 2. Establishment of New Policies and Operational Protocols in support of the Ordinance Amendment- in support of the ordinance change, the city, through the Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks, will be required to establish new operational and management protocols to ensure a successful integration of dogs and their owners into the public park landscape. In essence, this shall include:
 - Removal of signage that indicates that dogs are prohibited (see additional information under Recommendation 4 below).
 - Installation of new signage identifying the conditions under which access by owners and their dogs shall be permitted use of a particular public park (see additional information under Recommendation 4 below).
 - Training of park maintenance crews on proper dog waste removal and disposal. City to provide waste bags as a courtesy otherwise owners are responsible to provide their own waste bags.
 - Increased frequency of waste removal.
 - The funding of a new full-time position and two part-time seasonal staff (city employee or contractor), within the Department of Public Works & Parks, wherein the responsibility of the individuals hired will be the enforcement, oversight and management of the new ordinance and related program. The qualifications of the individuals will be established by the Department of Public Works in cooperation with other relevant city agencies.
 - Collaboration between the Town of Holden Animal Control, the Department of Public Works, the Worcester Police Department Animal Control Officers, and the Town of Paxton Police and its Animal Control enforcement, to address the implementation and enforcement of New Policies and Operational Protocols outside municipal limits.
 - Address the dog park use by non-residents as Worcester serves as a regional recreational hub
 AND one of the potential dog park sites is located outside municipal limits.
- 3. Establishment of a Friends of Worcester Dog Parks Committee- in order to ensure success of the ordinance change and the introduction of other key elements related to this initiative, we suggest that a Friends of Worcester Dog Parks be established. This group should have advocates, professionals (veterinarians, trainers, groomers) and park and open space advocates. This group shall be developed similar to other friends groups associated with Parks. All requests will use the Parks and Recreation Commission as the mechanism in supplying feedback and updates. In summary, the makeup of such a committee might include:
 - A representative from each of the five political districts within the city with backgrounds and credentials described above.

- At least one veterinarian, trainer or groomer.
- At least one open space advocate.

The responsibility of the committee would be to monitor use of public parks by dog owners and their pets to ensure compliance with the amended and new ordinance provisions. The committee would also respond to complaints and make recommendations for adjustments to the ordinance or to policies associated with the new ordinance in a way that helps to ensure the success of this initiative. Based on our review of similar roll-outs in other communities it is apparent that none have unfolded in a way that would be considered flawless. As with any



new program, problems have occurred and adjustments have had to be made. A committee that represents a cross section of the community is likely to be best positioned to address any challenges as they arise. In this way, potential criticism is directed at a group rather than an individual within the city administrative structure. The committee would report to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the commission in turn reports to the city manager. It is possible that the creation of this new committee will spawn the creation of individual "friends" groups associated with a particular park or future dog park facility and this should be encouraged as an additional measure to help create strong program results across the city.

- 4. **Adoption of the tagline "WooDog"-** this term has already been in use and creating a fun and catchy tagline will help to enroll residents in the launching of the ordinance change and corresponding dog park initiative.
- 5. Installation of New Park Elements to Support Access by Owners/Dogs- at present, signage at parks indicates that dogs are prohibited (see samples contained in the Appendix). These signs will have to be removed (except at the few properties where dogs will continue to be prohibited) and replaced with new signs that articulate the conditions of use by dog owners and their pets. In addition, parks, as funding is available shall



🕏 DOG PARK 💐

be outfitted with receptacles that contain plastic bags as owners will be required to pick up after their dogs. These receptacles will have to be replenished with regular frequency, also as funding is available. Notwithstanding the city providing plastic bags as a convenience, dog owners will be expected to carry their own dog waste bags with them at all times and dog owners would be required to take away the used bags. Additional trash receptacles may also need to be provided in certain park locations as this initiative is launched. The cost of installing these elements will have to be covered within the city's operational or capital budget.

Type A (lower cost) Dog Parks- as part of the feasibility study process we identified a number of locations where the implementation of a simple, enclosed space dedicated to a dog park function might be considered. In general, Type A Dog Parks will require lower capital funds compared to the Type B Dog Parks discussed further in this document. Basic elements could include:

- Enclosure (perhaps making use of existing fence lines that define courts or fields)
- Surfacing
- Gate system

- Signage
- Plastic bag receptacles
- Trash receptacles

Because the Type A Dog Park approach will be relatively minimalist in order to get facilities in place at a relatively low cost, it will be important to identify potential second phases of improvements in order to meet constituent expectations and incorporate additional amenities that might be expected.



At Logan Field, a dog park would be situated within an open area located adjacent to Airport Drive. Parking is available on the street and fencing at the street edge, baseball field and basketball court would form much of the perimeter. Basic dog park elements would be simple, low cost and fairly easy to procure using just fencing, signage and trash receptacles to create the facility.

Type B (higher cost) Dog Parks- it is anticipated that this type of dog park amenity would be more elaborate and expansive compared to Type A, and as a result this would require significantly more capital funds and a lengthier timeframe to achieve. A Type B Dog Park might include:

- All Type A Dog Park elements
- Specialized surfacing
- Higher end enclosures
- Shade (shelters or tree plantings) and seating for human companions
- Play elements (for the dogs)
- Water (where available)
- Other features



At Tacoma Street Playground there is ample room to develop a fairly sizable dog park amenity with parking to be located nearby and direct access from Tacoma Street. At present the area is open and unused. At this particular location, the facility might be developed as part of a larger park renovation initiative.

Potential Dog Park Locations

As part of this initiative, we have tentatively identified 15 potential properties where either a Type A or Type B Dog Park amenity could potentially be developed. In all cases there is an opportunity to construct a lower cost Type A facility as an interim step while the more time consuming endeavor involving the funding, design, bidding and construction of a Type B facility is pursued.

The listed sites share many physical characteristics. And in essence these are the characteristics that help to determine the suitability of a location for a dog park facility and this includes:

- Appropriate available space (in general an 1/8th of an acre is needed to support a small dog park footprint and larger dog parks may encompass between 1-2 acres)
- Access from nearby roadways and parking areas
- Proximity to residential neighborhoods (such that people might arrive on foot)
- Sufficient parking
- Limited impact to sensitive receptors (playgrounds, schoolyards, wetland resource areas, wildlife habitat and other eco-sensitive areas, etc.)
- Suitable terrain and at least a partly open (free of dense vegetation) setting
- Geographic location within the city (facilities that are well distributed)
- Partners the City can collaborate with to help maintain these sites
- Appropriate accessibility provisions for residents with physical challenges and seniors

The initial list of sites to be considered is identified in the chart below. It should be noted that all 60 Worcester Park and Open Space properties and numerous other properties that might be available for

such a use were considered. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive or final and it is very likely that other suitable locations in the city exist.

Open Space and Recreation Property	District	Type A (lower cost) Dog Park	Type B (higher cost) Dog Park
149 West Boylston Drive	1		Х
Tacoma Street Playground	1	Х	Х
Burncoat (North) Park	2	Х	
Crow Hill	2	Х	
Downtown	2	Х	
Green Hill Park (two possible locations)	2	X	Х
North Lake Avenue at Coal Mine Brook	2		Х
Lake Park	3	Х	
Vernon Hill Park	3	Х	
Crompton Park	4	Х	
University Park	4	Х	
Boynton Park	5*		Х
Logan Field	5	Х	
Beaver Brook Park	5	Х	Х

^{*}Not in District 5

There are tax title opportunities in District 4 for properties that could accommodate a small dog facility or serve as public open space.

Key Assumptions related to Success of the Initiative

The implementation of this new ordinance will create challenges and success will be achieved through the good faith efforts of residents in general and dog owners in particular who are willing to:

- Support annual city budgetary allocations for enforcement of the ordinance and for the capital and operational needs that are an outgrowth of the larger initiative.
- Be respectful of differing opinions and the fact that many people and many children are genuinely afraid of dogs
- Be patient as the initiative is launched and kinks are worked out
- Be self-policing
- Be diligent in keeping dogs in control at all times
- Be committed to calling out bad behavior and matters of public safety by speaking to offenders or by calling authorities
- Be vigilant in helping to keep dog park amenities and surrounding park areas clean and free of waste and trash
- Be respectful of park neighbors
- Be respectful of other surrounding uses including businesses, institutions, nursing homes, multifamily residential communities and land stewards who may have established and apply their own rules and regulations in regard to dogs/pets

In addition, the new ordinance must be flexible such that deficiencies can be quickly identified and adjustments made.

Threats:

It is important to realize that there will be bad behavior. While the vast majority of dog owners are law abiding and respectful, there will be certain dog owners, now emboldened by the right to have a dog within a park and open space property, who behave badly. That means not picking up after their dog, or allowing their dog to run free of restraint, or within an enclosed area that defines a field or a court complex or even a children's playground. It means creating conditions that are uncomfortable for others.

Doing nothing is also a threat. Based on our research, the current Worcester ordinance is overly restrictive. It is restrictive to the point that those who love pets might be discouraged from living in the city. In a day and age when people are incredibly mobile and able to live in many places, it seems that Worcester puts itself at a competitive disadvantage compared to nearly all other communities (near and far) who have less restrictive policies. It is restrictive to the point that those with pets might be convinced that completely ignoring the ordinance is an acceptable response. And finally, introducing just one or two dog park facilities and not five to ten facilities may also create problems as heavy potential use would be focused narrowly rather than dispersed throughout the city.

Cost Implications:

From an operational perspective, the city will need to dedicate seasonal and full time staff (as sites are developed) to manage the new ordinance and associated dog park initiative and to reduce threats associated with a poor launch. \$100,000 should be allocated for the salaries of two seasonal and one full time staff and \$25,000* should be allocated for materials (dog waste bags) and this will need to be adjusted annually to reflect the true cost of the program. *This is an estimate but will need to be adjusted depending on use and number of units installed.

From a capital planning standpoint, the city should plan to allocate funds in the following ranges to introduce this new dog park initiative.

Installation of New Park Elements to Support Access by Owners/Dogs \$100,000 - \$150,000 Installation of Type A (lower cost) Dog Parks per site \$50,000 - \$200,000 - \$500,000 - \$500,000 *(Not including parking lot installation)

Please note Type A and B Dog Parks are described under Recommendation 5.



Specific Dog Park Concept Plans

While on-leash dogs will be permitted throughout much of the Worcester park and open space system, off-leash dogs will only be permitted within specifically designed and designated dog park facilities. Fifteen such potential dog park facilities have been initially identified and these are distributed geographically throughout the city (refer to the chart listing the locations on Page 7 and the location map contained in the Appendix). For each particular facility we have included a photo representing the existing conditions that prevail at the site, a concept diagram and a conceptual cost estimate* (which is subject to significant adjustment based on a final agreed upon approach and scope of improvements and which has been calculated according to 2016 dollars. Additional site surveys will have to be performed and more refined schematic designs prepared in order to validate the initial costing guidance contained herein).







149 West Boylston Drive/ 39,400 SF/ 0.9 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Grading	LS	-	\$15,000	
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Clearing and Grubbing	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	1,185	\$60	\$71,100	
Double Gated Entry	1	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	71	\$100	\$7,100	
Concrete Walk (SY)	10.6	\$100	\$1,060	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	255	\$200	\$51,000	
Gravel Base	LS	-	\$30,000	
Trees	10	\$1200	\$12,000	
Loam & Seed (SF)	39,400	\$0.25	\$9,850	\$219,210
Contingency (25%)			\$54,803	
Subtotal			\$274,513	
Design/Permitting			\$50,000	
Total Cost			\$324,513	

Tacoma Street Playground (District 1)





Tacoma Street Playground / 27,700 SF /				
0.65 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	2	\$600	\$1,200	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	925	\$60	\$55,500	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	56	\$100	\$5,600	
Concrete Walk (SY)	167	\$100	\$16,700	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	\$150	-	
Trees	8	\$1,200	\$9,600	
Other Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	-	\$10,000	\$109,100
Contingency (25%)			\$27,275	
Subtotal			\$136,375	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$20,456	
Total Cost			\$156,831	

Burncoat Park (District 2)





Burncoat (North) Park / 14,500 SF/ 0.33 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	650	\$60	\$39,000	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	50	\$100	\$5,000	
Concrete Walk (SY)	8	\$100	\$800	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	216	\$150	\$32,400	
Trees	6	\$1,200	\$7,200	
Access Improvements	LS	-	\$10,000	
Misc. Site Improvements	LS	-	\$10,000	\$115,500
Contingency (25%)			\$28,875	
Subtotal			\$144,375	
Design/Permitting			\$30,000	
Total Cost			\$174,375	

Crow Hill (District 2)





Crow Hill / 26,250 SF/ 0.60 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	2	\$600	\$1,200	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	670	\$60	\$40,200	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	50	\$100	\$5,000	
Concrete Walk (SY)	233	\$100	\$23,300	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	\$150	-	
Trees	6	\$1,200	\$7,200	
Access Improvements	LS	-	-	
Misc. Site Improvements	LS	-	\$10,000	\$97,400
Contingency (25%)			\$24,350	
Subtotal			\$121,750	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$18,263	
Total Cost			\$140,013	

Downtown (District 2)





Downtown / 14,500 SF/ 0.33 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	1	\$750	\$750	
Ornamental Fence (LF)	200	\$125	\$25,000	
Double Gated Entry	1	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	25	\$100	\$2,500	
Concrete Walk (SY)	-	\$100	-	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	\$150	-	
Trees	-	\$1,200	-	
Misc. Site Improvements	-	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Contingency (25%)			\$12,213	\$48,850
Subtotal			\$61,063	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$9,160	
Total Cost			\$70,223	

Green Hill Park (Option 1 near former Parks Department Headquarters Building) (District 2)





Green Hill Park (Location 1) / 26,250 SF/				
0.60 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Grading	LS	-	\$15,000	
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Clearing and Grubbing	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	825	\$60	\$49,500	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	64	100	\$6,400	
Concrete Walk (SY)	21	\$100	\$2,100	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	219	\$200	\$43,800	
Trees	4	\$1,200	\$4,800	
Loam & Seed (SF)	26,250	\$0.50	\$13,125	
Misc. Site Improvements	LS	-	\$10,000	\$160,825
Contingency (25%)			\$40,206	
Subtotal			\$201,031	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$30,154	
Total Cost			\$231,185	

Green Hill Park (Option 2 between Belmont Street and Worcester Voke) (District 2)





Green Hill Park (Location 2) / 12,500 SF/ 0.29 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	550	\$60	\$33,000	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	43	\$100	\$4,300	
Concrete Walk (SY)	556	\$100	\$56,600	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	57	\$200	\$11,400	
Trees	10	\$1,200	\$12,000	
Parking Lot Modifications	-	-	\$20,000	\$143,400
Contingency (25%)			\$35,850	
Subtotal			\$179,250	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$26,888	
Total Cost	_		\$206,575	

North Lake Avenue Property (at Coal Mine Brook) (District 2)





North Lake Avenue at Coal Mine Brook / 30,150 SF/ 0.70 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Grading	LS	-	\$15,000	
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Clearing and Grubbing	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	4	\$750	\$3,000	
Fence (LF)	1,130	\$60	\$67,800	
Double Gated Entry	4	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	111	\$100	\$11,100	
Concrete Walk (SY)	22	\$100	\$2,200	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	252	\$200	\$50,400	Paths/Pkg. Lot
Gravel Base	LS	-	\$16,000	
Trees	10	\$1,200	\$12,000	\$192,100
Contingency (25%)			\$48,025	
Subtotal			\$240,125	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$36,018	
Total Cost	·		\$276,143	

Lake Park (District 3)





Lake Park / 16,800 SF/ 0.40 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Clearing and Grubbing	LS	-	\$15,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	3	\$750	\$2,250	
Fence (LF)	945	\$60	\$56,700	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	84	\$100	\$8,400	
Concrete Walk (SY)	334	\$100	\$33,400	
Gravel Surfacing	LS	-	\$16,000	
Trees	4	\$1,200	\$4,800	
Loam & Seed (SF)	16,800	\$0.50	\$8,400	\$149,950
Contingency (25%)			\$37,387	
Subtotal			\$187,338	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$28,100	
Total Cost			\$215,468	

Vernon Hill Park (District 3)





Vernon Hill Park / 17,400 SF/ 0.40 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	1	\$750	\$750	
Fence (LF)	655	\$60	\$39,300	
Double Gated Entry	1	\$2,000	\$2,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	28	\$100	\$2,800	
Concrete Walk (SY)	20	\$100	\$2,000	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	-	-	
Trees	10	\$1,200	\$12,000	
Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	-	\$10,000	\$69,450
Contingency (25%)			\$17,362	
Subtotal			\$86,812	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$13,021	
Total Cost			\$99,833	

Crompton Park (District 4)

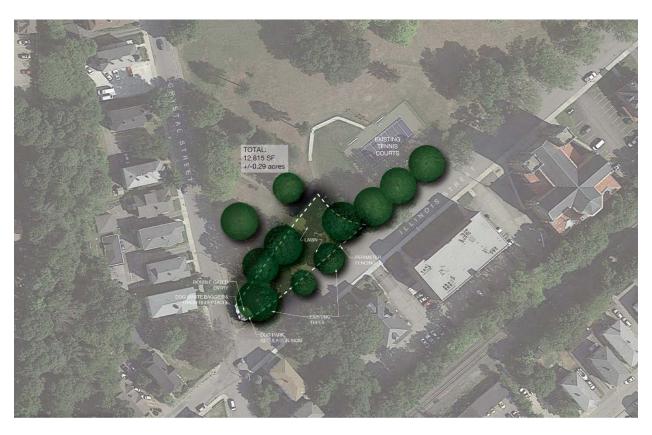




Crompton Park / 8,750 SF/ 0.20 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	513	\$60	\$30,780	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	61	\$100	\$6,100	
Concrete Walk (SY)	-	-	-	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	-	-	
Trees	10	1200	\$12,000	
Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	-	\$12,000	\$66,980
Contingency (25%)			\$16,745	
Subtotal			\$83,725	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$12,558	
Total Cost			\$96,283	

University Park (District 4)





University Park / 12,815 SF/ 0.29 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	1	\$750	\$750	
Fence (LF)	475	\$60	\$28,500	
Double Gated Entry	1	\$2,000	\$2,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	40	\$100	\$4,000	
Concrete Walk (SY)	-	-	-	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	-	-	
Trees	-	-	-	
Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$45,850
Contingency (25%)			\$11,463	
Subtotal			\$57,313	
Design/Permitting (20%)			\$11,463	
Total Cost			\$68,776	

Boynton Park (District 5)





Boynton Park / 84,500 SF/ 2 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Grading	LS	-	\$15,000	
Site Preparation	LS	-	\$5,000	
Clearing and Grubbing	LS	-	\$5,000	
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	1,439	\$60	\$86,340	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	72	\$100	\$7,200	
Concrete Walk (SY)	106	\$100	\$10,600	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	76	\$200	\$15,200	
Trees	20	\$1,200	\$24,000	
Shade Structure	2	\$30,000	\$60,000	
Loam & Seed (SF)	84,500	\$0.25	\$21,125	
Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	-	\$40,000	\$295,565
Contingency (25%)			\$73,891	
Subtotal			\$369,456	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$55,418	
Total Cost			\$424,874	

Logan Field (District 5)





Logan Field / 14,400 SF/ 0.33 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Dog Park Regulation Sign	1	\$600	\$600	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	1	\$750	\$750	
Fence (LF)	200	\$60	\$12,000	
Double Gated Entry	1	\$2,000	\$2,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	28	\$100	\$2,800	
Concrete Walk (SY)	17	\$100	\$1,700	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	-	-	
Trees	3	\$1,200	\$3,600	
Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	-	\$12,000	\$35,450
Contingency (25%)			\$8,862	
Subtotal			\$44,312	
Design/Permitting (20%)			\$8,862	
Total Cost			\$53,174	







Beaver Brook Park /17,500 SF/ 0.40 Acres				
Item/Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Notes
Dog Park Regulation Sign	2	\$600	\$1,200	
Trash Receptacle w/ Baggies	2	\$750	\$1,500	
Fence (LF)	1,470	\$60	\$88,200	
Double Gated Entry	2	\$2,000	\$4,000	
Concrete Pad (SY)	64	\$100	\$6,400	
Concrete Walk (SY)	183	\$100	\$18,300	
Asphalt Paving (TON)	-	-	-	
Trees	6	\$1,200	\$7,200	
Miscellaneous Site Improvements	LS	-	\$20,000	\$146,800
Contingency (25%)			\$36,700	
Subtotal			\$183,500	
Design/Permitting (15%)			\$27,525	
Total Cost			\$211,025	







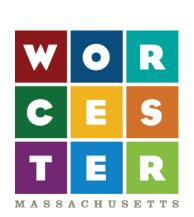
APPENDIX

PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG





DOGS MUST BE LEASHED AT ALL TIMES



WooDog

Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks



ALL PARK PATRONS WITH DOGS MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CITY OF WORCESTER ORDINANCE FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATIONS OF DOGS...STATE LAW

- 1. NO DOGS WITHOUT PEOPLE. NO PEOPLE WITHOUT DOGS. MAXIMUM OF 2 DOGS PER ADULT/OWNER.
- 2. WATCH YOUR DOGS AT ALL TIMES. DISCOURAGE BARKING AND DIGGING. IF YOUR DOG DIGS A HOLE, FILL IT IN.
- 3. NO SPIKE, PRONG OR PINCH COLLARS. YOUR DOG MUST WEAR A COLLAR OR HARNESS IN THE DOG PARK AT ALL TIMES.
- 4. CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG.
- NO AGGRESSIVE DOGS. DO NOT LET YOUR DOG PESTER OR MOUNT OTHER DOGS. WATCH FOR SIGNS OF AGGRESSION.
- NO DOGS IN HEAT. CLOSELY MONITOR UN-NEUTERED MALES.
- 7. IF YOUR DOG GETS IN A FIGHT, EXCHANGE CONTACT INFORMATION AND LEAVE THE DOG PARK. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURY CAUSED BY YOUR DOG.
- 8. DOGS MUST HAVE A CITY OF WORCESTER LICENSE AND BE IMMUNIZED.
- 9. CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.
- 10. NO GLASS CONTAINERS. USE CAUTION AND JUDGMENT WHEN BRINGING FOOD INTO THE DOG PARK.

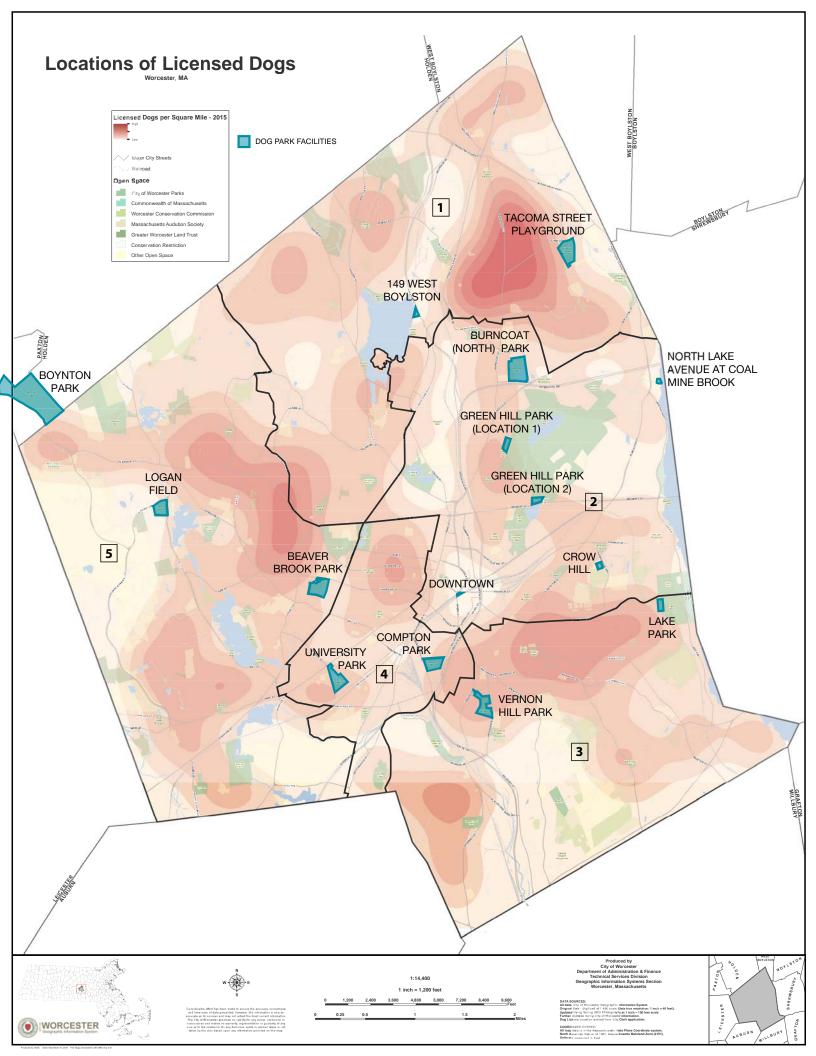
PLEASE BE COURTEOUS AND RESPECTFUL AND REMEMBER THAT MANY RESIDENTS POSSESS AN INHERENT FEAR OF DOGS. THE SUCCESS OF THE WORCESTER DOG PARK INITIATIVE DEPENDS ON THE GOOD BEHAVIOR OF ALL PARTICIPANTS.



WooDog

Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks

www.worcesterma.gov/dpw



AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF 2008 RELATIVE TO DOG LICENSING FEES AND DUTIES OF DOG OWNERS TO ALLOW ON-LEASH DOG USE IN CERTAIN CITY PARKS

Be it ordained by the city council of the city of Worcester, as follows:

- **Section 1.** Section 13(a)(7) of Chapter 8 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 is hereby amended by deleting Section 13(a)(7) in its entirety and inserting a new Section 13(a)(7) as follows:
 - (7) allow any dog, except a registered service dog, to be in any city park, public cemetery or playground, excepting only such city park as may be designated by the parks and recreation commission as being open to on-leash dog use.
- **Section 2.** Section 13(a)(8) of Chapter 8 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 is hereby amended by deleting Section 13(a)(8) in its entirety and inserting a new Section 13(a)(8) as follows:
 - (8) allow any dog, except a registered service dog, to be in or on any place open to the public within that area of the city surrounded by and including both sides of Irving, Linden and Harvard Streets to the west, Madison Street to the south, Route I-290 to the east and Concord Street to the north, unless the dog is licensed at an address within said area; except that nothing herein shall prohibit any dog from participating in, being transported to or from, or being exercised or board in connection with, any dog show, act or event for which an entertainment license has been issued by the city under G.L. c. 140, or for which a permit has been issued pursuant to division of public health regulations for the keeping or exhibition of animals, which is conducted by any corporation organized primarily for the promotion of dogs, so long as any such dog is secured in a cage or by a leash which does not exceed six feet in length while on any street open to the public, and so long as, at no time shall any such dog be taken into the Worcester Common or any city park, playground or schoolyard, expecting only such city parks designated as being open to on-leash dog use in accordance with subsection (7) herein.

Section 3. Chapter 8 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 is hereby amended by replacing the schedule of fees in section 11(d) with the following schedule:

Females:	\$30.00
Males:	\$30.00
Spayed females:	\$25.00
Neutered males:	\$25.00

In City Council

September 13, 2016

Passed to be Ordained by a yea and nay vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays

A Copy. Attest:

Susan M. Ledoux City Clerk

Sugan M. Ledoux

City of Worcester

ORDINANCES FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS TO STATE LAW

§ 10. Dog Regulation & Licensing To Be Governed By State Law

- (a) The city shall implement to the fullest extent possible the provisions of sections 136A through 174D of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as may be amended from time to time, as concerns the licensing and regulation of dogs and dog kennels, and, where applicable, cats and ferrets. The provisions of this ordinance shall be interpreted in accordance with 1) said sections of chapter 140 of the General Laws, including the defined terms contained therein, and, 2) the city charter. In the event of any conflict between any part of this ordinance and any provision in sections 136A through 174D of chapter 140 of the General Laws, the provisions of the General Laws shall prevail.
- (b) For purposes of implementing sections 136A through 174D of chapter 140 of the General Laws, the "hearing authority" as stated in the General Laws shall be a "hearing officer" designated by the city manager, such hearing officer may be an animal control officer or any other officer or employee of the city in any department under the jurisdiction of the city manager.
- (c) All fees, funds, fines and penalties collected pursuant to both this ordinance and sections 136A through 174D of chapter 140 of the General Laws shall be deposited with the city treasurer who shall credit them to the general fund of the city. The city treasurer shall keep an accurate and separate account of all money received and expended by the treasurer under this chapter and under chapter 140 of the General Laws relating to animals.

§ 11. Additional Requirements

Pursuant to section 173 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, the city hereby makes the following additional requirements concerning the licensing and regulation of dogs, kennels, cats and ferrets:

- (a) Dog and kennel licenses shall be valid from April first through March thirty-first each year and shall be renewed annually only during the month of March.
- (b) The city clerk shall furnish with every license issued hereunder, tags containing the words "city of Worcester" and the license number and the year issued. The owner or keeper of every dog shall cause it to wear around its neck or body a collar or harness of leather of other suitable material, to which such tag shall be securely fastened.
- (c) The city clerk shall not issue any dog or kennel license to any person under the age of eighteen, nor issue more than two dog licenses for any single dwelling unit, nor issue any kennel license for any multi-family dwelling or on the premises thereof, or any location which does not comply with the zoning ordinances of the city with respect to kennels. Each license shall be issued upon the condition that the owner or keeper shall comply with the provisions of this ordinance and any law, rule or regulation relating to the ownership and control of dogs.
- (d) Under authority of section 139(a) of chapter 140 of the General Laws, the fee for every license, except as otherwise provided in subsections (h) and (i) herein, shall be as follows:

Females: \$20.00 Males: \$20.00 Spayed females: \$17.00 Neutered males: \$17.00

- (e) Any person who fails to obtain an annual dog license on or before May 31st shall be charged when applying for a license, in addition to the license fee, a late fee of fifteen (\$15.00) dollars.
- (f) No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog specially trained to lead or serve a blind person; provided, that the Massachusetts commission for the blind certifies that such dog is so trained and is actually in the service of a blind person. No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog professionally trained in the hearing dog business to serve a deaf or audibly impaired person; provided, that the director of the office of deafness certifies that such dog is so trained and is actually in the service of a deaf or audibly impaired person. For purposes of this section an "audibly impaired person" shall be any individual unable to hear air conduction thresholds at an average of forty decibels. Any license issued to a blind, deaf or audibly impaired person shall bear a special designation indicating that such dog is a "registered service dog".
 - (g) No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog owned by a person aged 70 years or over.
- (h) No license fee or portion thereof shall be refunded because of the subsequent death, loss, spaying or removal from the commonwealth or other disposal of the dog, nor shall a license fee or portion thereof paid by mistake be paid or recovered after it has been paid over to the city under this section.
- (i) The city clerk, commissioner of inspectional services, or their designee, or any police officer or animal control officer, may at any time inspect or cause to be inspected any kennel licensed under this section and if, in his or her judgment, the kennel is not being maintained in a sanitary or humane manner, or if records are not properly kept as required by this ordinance or other applicable law, or is in violation of any provision of this ordinance, the city clerk shall by order revoke or suspend, and in the case of suspension may reinstate, such license.
- (j) The city clerk, chief of police and commissioner of inspectional services shall have the authority to make operational regulations appropriate for the implementation and enforcement of this ordinance.

§ 12. Dangerous & Nuisance Dogs, Hearings, Appeals

- (a) In addition to any member of the public, the chief of police, any animal control officer, the commissioner of inspectional services or any inspector under his or her supervision, or any other city officer or employee as may be designated by the city manager may initiate the complaint and hearing procedures of section 157(d) of chapter 140 of the General Laws relative to declaring dogs nuisance dogs or dangerous dogs.
- (b) Pending any appeal filed in the district court by an owner or keeper, the hearing officer may, with the representation of the law department, file a petition in the court to request an order of impoundment at a facility the city uses to shelter animals for a dog complained of as being a dangerous dog and may likewise take any and all appropriate actions to defend the order and advance the interests of this ordinance in court.

§ 13. Duties of Dog Owners

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to:
 - (1) keep or harbor any dog without the license required by law; or violate any requirement imposed as a condition to the issuance of a license by law; or

- (2) permit any dog he or she owns or keeps to run or roam at large off the premises of the owner or keeper without either being secured by a leash which does not exceed six feet in length or secured in an enclosed animal transportation cage;
- (3) fail to cause any dog to be vaccinated as required by law;
- (4) maintain a kennel in violation of the zoning ordinance or in any multi family dwelling or on the premises thereof;
- (5) use any license for a dog other than for the dog for which it was issued; or
- (6) withhold or falsify any information on an application for a dog or kennel license;
- (7) allow any dog, except a registered service dog, to be in any city park, public cemetery or playground;
- (8) allow any dog, except a registered service dog, to be in or on any place open to the public within that area of the city surrounded by and including both sides of Irving, Linden and Harvard Streets to the west, Madison Street to the south, Route I-290 to the east and Concord Street to the north, unless the dog is licensed at an address within said area; except that nothing herein shall prohibit any dog from participating in, being transported to or from, or being exercised or board in connection with, any dog show, act or event for which an entertainment license has been issued by the city under G.L. c. 140, or for which a permit has been issued pursuant to division of public health regulations for the keeping or exhibition of animals, which is conducted by any corporation organized primarily for the promotion of dogs, so long as any such dog is secured in a cage or by a leash which does not exceed six feet in length while on any street open to the public, and so long as, at no time shall any such dog be taken into the Worcester Common or any city park, playground or schoolyard;
- (9) permit any dog he or she owns or keeps to deposit any excreta on any property, whether public or privately owned, which is open to the public, without immediately removing such excreta for disposition in a sanitary manner;
- (10) permit dog excreta to accumulate on his/her property;
- (11) cause or permit any dog, whether leashed or unleashed, to hang from or otherwise damage any tree, whether public or private;
- (12) subject any animal to abuse, inhumane care, or unsafe or unsanitary conditions; or
- (13) chain or tether a dog to a stationary object including, but not limited to, a structure, dog house, pole or tree for longer than 24 consecutive hours.
- (b) The owner or keeper of a domestic animal shall properly dispose of the animal within seventy-two hours of its death.

§ 14. Enforcement

- (a) The city manager, acting through the chief of police, police officers, animal control officers, or any officer or employee of the city under the jurisdiction of the city manager, shall have authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter and shall have all the powers and duties afforded by chapter 140 of the General Laws as it relates to the regulation of dogs, dog kennels and dog, cat and ferret owners, including, but not limited to: the filing of an action of forfeiture and relinquishment of ownership under section 139A of chapter 140, and may exercise such powers and duties to the fullest extent possible to secure compliance with this ordinance and said General Laws.
- (b) This ordinance may be enforced by civil process, criminal process, or by non-criminal disposition as provided in General Laws, chapter 40, §21D. Each day on which a violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense and any person in violation of this chapter shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars for each offense. Any person who is punished under this chapter for three or more violations in any two year period shall immediately forfeit any license issued under sections ten

through sixteen of this chapter and shall be ineligible to hold any dog or kennel license for one year from the date of the third conviction or imposition of a civil penalty.

SECTION 2. The provisions of this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and shall, to the extent permitted by law, be retroactive to November 1, 2012.

Dog Park Master Plan Public Hearing # 1

Green Hill Park, 50 Skyline Drive - October 08, 2015 @ 6:00 PM Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner



Name	Address	Phone No.	Affiliation/Resident	
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-akiesha Sciarra	284 South border Street Auborn, MA	774-251-7033	Street Asborn, MA 774-251-7033 Prof. Pet Groomer	LEGE TO
cŏ	85 BOUCE ST. AUBUSH MA	352-216-1775	352-216-1775 DESKTOPDING @excite.cm	س کوسرا
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8	33 marrie Ave Worreste	508-556-0656	Resident/Bizonner	18.2
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Dog Park Master Plan Public Hearing # 2

City Hall Council Chambers, 455 Main St. - October 22, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner

	Name	Address	Phone No.	Affiliation/Resident
1	Koren Bullis	336 Sureusbury St. Holden HA	508 221 8306	office of
2	J.11/190 134/1/5	<i>\(\)</i>	Same	Massichutells ACOAM
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4	September 1	ST CLOUKSA WONCHA	870501H 605	
5	Tim Kockly Dim	167 Mouses St. (Doc. MA)	508-253-3020 Resident	Resident Westingsiam
9	Janiee Mushbare	83 Andrews Ave work mA	617-966-5964	sesident
7	CHERYL CHAMPAGNE	79 ANDREWS AVE, WORC MA	508-853-3474	ResiDenT
∞	My A COBS	1050 Main St U.	7774204149	1)
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=	Elligh Mosin	8B Stoull Ave, ware it, MA	339 225 5171	
12	ANN MINICHICCE	264 BENKAM STWORCMA	114239 9980	RESIDENT DOSOWNER.
13	Caco L Johns Ton	14 ORANST WORKETEN MA 01605 508-853-9664	508-853-9664	Resident Dec Owner
14		29 Blithewood Rue Wonc. MA Olbox 508-769-7483	508-769-7483	Resident Day Owner.
15		29 SI-KEWOOD AVE WORCINA OLLOH DIS-769-7851	1285-769-2851	leadent Der Owen
16	Jean Brenden bach	199 water ford Dr., were ones	Dr., War 0160 508-1-52-13	Rosident Day owner
17	223	196 Rowoka Rd Wore	774-314-016	Resident Ry Orent
18	LOIS BOURGET	62 Mount Ave Workerster Olled 508 963 7243	508963 7243	Resident Dog Owner
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Dog Park Master Plan Public Hearing #3

Green Hill Park, 50 Skyline Drive - November 16, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner

	Name	Address	Phone No.	Affiliation/Resident
-	Michael Magnas	37 Lawox St., Worc. 01602	774-262-6253	(45
2	Suspe Voger	43 REECHINGST WORC.	508-757-427	xes.
6	Delle O Vale		508 962-884	Res
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Dog Park Master Plan Public Hearing #4

City Hall Council Chambers, 455 Main St. - December 21, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner

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	Grant Sarber @ amail.com	1508-981-5974 Woreester	mester
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DPW & Parks - Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division

Dog Park Master Plan Public Hearing # 5

City Hall Cauncil Chambers, 455 Main St. - Septemberr 15, 2016 @ 5:30 PM

Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner

	Name	Address	Phone No.	Affiliation/Resident
_	Christina Movee	1020 W. Byloto st #2R	(617) 462-0433	Resident
7	Todd Williams	47 Merryfield St	557-3334525	18
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13	Karen Bullis	336 Shrewshirm St. Holden MA	308 ree 305	ACO Employed In WER
14	Helena Taca	10 Staddard Tyr Worrester	(08 355 7211	Resident.
15	My my Of Olen	37 Grandy Rg. WOLL	G08-796-355	Kes, very
16	Joe Hart	H111 0	174-641-0991	GWLT
17	Venni Destaches	32 Marge AJ 4012	(914)4005482	Bizoned Mtount
∞	1, 4,	550 Chandlerst	508769-6816	508769-6816 Tatriuck resident
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P&RC Meeting, Green Hill Park, 50 Skyline Drive - September 29, 2016 @ 6:30 PM Dog Park Master Plan Public Hearing # 6 Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner

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Feasibility Study Approved by Worcester Parks Commission November 17, 2016

Feasibility Study Approved by Worcester City Council
October 10, 2017

City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks

