

N'Kwala Dog Park Public Consultation

What we Heard Report



**REGIONAL DISTRICT
NORTH OKANAGAN**
One Region, One Future

About this Report

The RDNO is considering adding a fenced, off-leash dog area to a portion of N'Kwala Park that is undeveloped and largely unused. N'Kwala Park is part of the Electoral Areas B and C Local Parks Service. Since N'Kwala Park is in a residential area, the RDNO identified the primary audience as the residents that live nearby and, therefore, focused its engagement approach on reaching this group. Information and opportunities to share input were also available to the wider community.

This report summarizes the feedback received, highlights key themes, and provides insights into the community's perspectives. The insights gained from the engagement activities will inform the project's next steps.

Consultation Process

Survey

The RDNO launched a survey on July 30 both on the RDNO's website and by mailing paper copies to adjacent properties. The survey sought to get an idea of support for the proposed dog park, how it could affect current park users and whether it would attract new park users. The survey also invited participants to share their comments or concerns in an open-text format. The RDNO received 239 survey responses.

Pop-up Open House

RDNO staff held an on-site open house to talk with the community about the proposed park and get their feedback face-to-face. The open house drew approximately 50 people throughout the two hours and provided valuable insight into trends

Advertising

The RDNO advertised through:

- **Mailed Packages** - RDNO sent a letter and the survey directly to adjacent property owners
- **Website** - Capital projects page, features on the homepage, side bar card feature
- **Social Media** - Posted three times on the RDNO's Facebook page resulting in the following:
 - Impressions: 9,193
 - Reach: 8,587
 - Engagement: 678

Community Insights

Overall, participants expressed a mix of support and concerns regarding the dog park. Themes that emerged both through the survey and open house include:

Minimal Disruption to existing park uses - Both people in support and against the dog park shared the importance of minimizing the impacts of the proposed dog area on existing park uses. Participants shared ideas for how to reduce disruptions:

- Fencing higher than 4 feet - since there is a playground, basketball court and sports fields adjacent to the proposed dog park, multiple people felt that the fence should be higher than the RDNO's standard 4-foot fence since there are more distractions than other dog parks and many dogs can jump over a 4 foot fence.
- Walking path around the dog park to allow other park users to walk through the park without barrier.
- Signage in the parking lot on MacDonald Road indicating that access to the dog park is through the parking lot off of Alain Road.
- Continue to not allow dogs in other parts of the park.
- Current park users shared that many people already bring their dogs to the park, so having a designated area would help keep dogs out of the parts of the park they are not allowed.

Park Amenities - Those who supported the dog park shared features they felt were important to the enjoyment of patrons. Among the most popular features were shade trees, drinking water for dogs, washrooms, benches, walking path, garbage cans with regular emptying.

Road and parking

- Concerns were raised about the potential for added traffic to Alain and Spartan Roads.
- Some people felt the proposed parking area was too small while others felt it was too big.

Opportunity for unique features - Multiple people shared their ideas for unique design elements for the park, such as:

- Agility training equipment/structures within the park.
- Spaces designated for reactive dogs to be exercised away from other dogs with a booking system.
- Space for children to play with their dogs away from the general user groups.
- Banning dog toys.

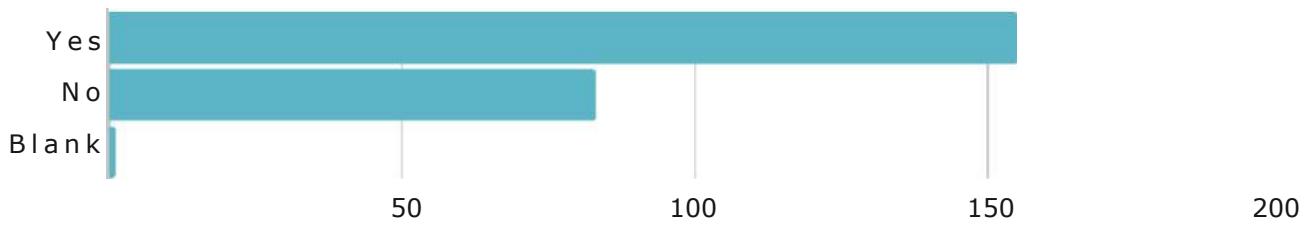
Enforcement

- Suggestions for educational signage and programming to promote responsible dog ownership.
- Regular patrols by RDNO Dog Control officers to encourage compliance.

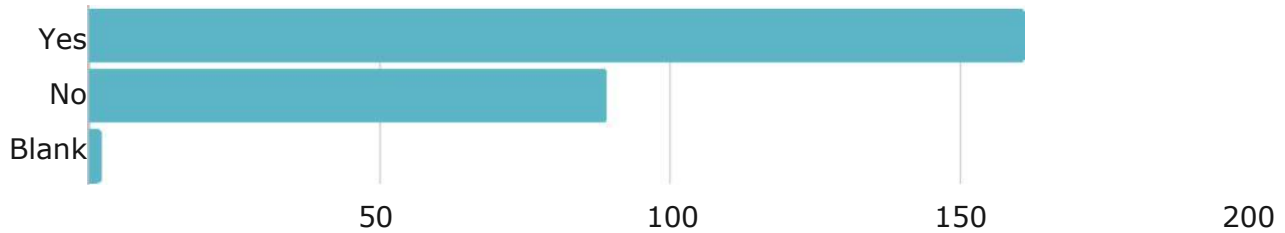
Impact to Neighbourhood - There was a mix of enthusiastic support and strong opposition from people that live near the park. Those in support of the dog park stated that they would like to have a dog park closer to their homes and not have to drive to Mutrie and BX Dog Parks. Those against the dog park shared concerns about noise, smell, and added traffic.

Survey Results

1. Do you support the addition of an off-leash dog area in N'Kwala Park?

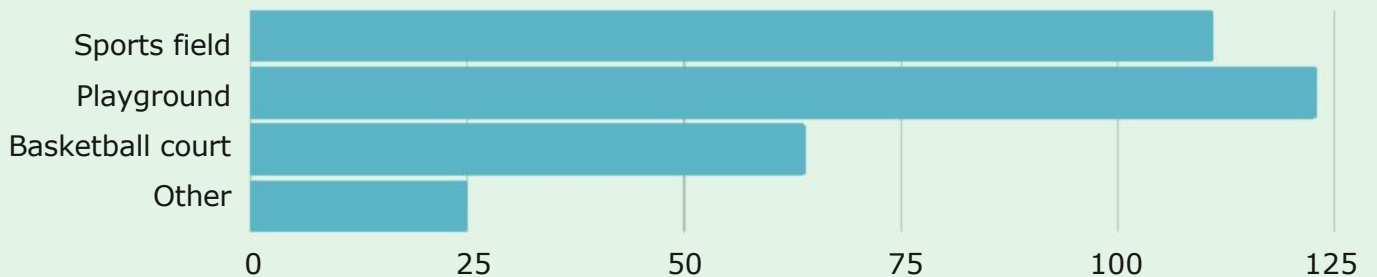


2. In the past 12 months, have you visited N'Kwala Park?



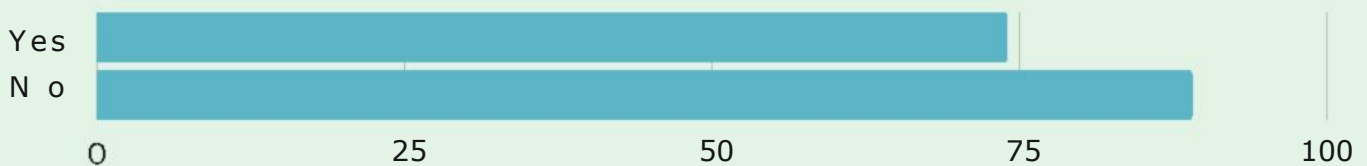
Those that answered Yes were then asked the following two questions.

2a. Which area(s) of N'Kwala Park did you use? Select all that apply.



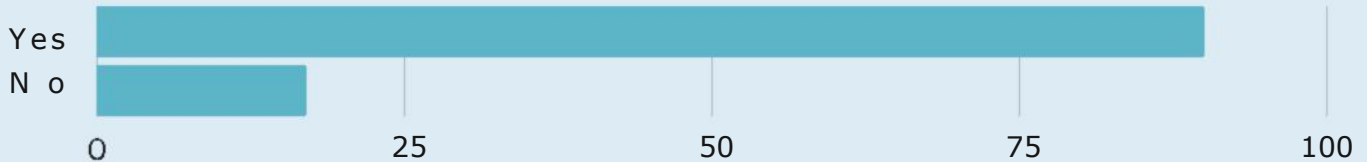
Those that answered "Other" included uses like walking the perimeter of the park, picnicking, walking their dog, and walking through the park to get from Alain Road to Spartan Road.

2b. Would the addition of a fenced off-leash dog area deter you from continuing to visit N'Kwala Park?



Those that answered **No** to question 2 were asked the following question.

2.c If there was an off-leash dog area would you visit N'Kwala Park?



3. Please share any concerns or comments about the addition of an off-leash dog area in N'Kwala Park.

These are the unedited comments.

We believe the locals need a place to let their dogs run.

I think it's a fantastic idea. I would like to see a separate small dog section, as big dogs can be intimidating to smaller breeds.

- 1) We live on Spartan Rd and if the dog park proves interesting, and popular, it will mean increased traffic, which would degrade our terrible pot-holed road pavement even more than it is.
- 2) If it is not too big and interesting, then we envision only neighborhood residents will use it, and maybe that is actually best, given the capacity of our road.
- 3) If it comes to be that there is no dog park at all, then it would be beneficial to at least have dogs allowed on-leash in the park. This would allow people to have dogs with them while they watch their kids in the playground or the playing field, or just go for a walk around the field. Thank you

Two dead end roads are close to this park. People bought on dead end roads for less traffic and noise. Now people from all over will be coming to these roads along with their barking dogs. Please don't do this.

Would like to see a small dog and a big dog area

Increased traffic, increased noise. An awful leash dog park makes the area less appealing for children on the playground and totally unusable for those with reactive dogs. Would be in favor of allowing dogs on leash in the park.

There's already a problem with unleashed dogs with poor recall in the area. As an owner of a reactive dog, this area is one of the few areas where it's mostly safe to walk our dogs due to the legal expectation that all other dogs will be on leash. Unless enforcement is strict and the parking area is fenced in, having an off-leash dog park is an invitation to have off-leash dogs roaming the surrounding area as well as they unload and load. Given the proximity of the BX dog park and even Mutrie, this is not only unneeded, but wasteful.

I currently live nearby, but we never use this park only because we can't bring our dog, although I do see people walking through with leashed dogs sometimes. I would use it probably 5 times a week if there was a place to let my poochie run free. We currently drive daily to either Mutrie or BX. Would be so much nicer to not have to use the car.

Yes please, a fenced in off-leash dog park would be awesome at the park!

Can you please consider a dirt jump, biking area in the park? Perfect spot, much needed. Thank you. Lots of kids in the area would be a great spot for them to learn and hang out.

Perhaps some trees might be added as well for shade? We visit almost all of the off leash dog parks in town.

This idea is great because it will encourage pet owners to keep their dogs on a leash in the on-leash areas of the park. This makes it safer and more enjoyable for everyone, particularly those nervous of off-leash pets!

I have been - but not for a while. Hidden gem of a park.

I think its a great idea. Maybe plant some trees for shade in this area.

Have a double entryway to keep the dogs safe

Have very clear signage so everyone clearly knows it is an off leash area with rules

Plant some trees for shade. This will be excruciating in the summer.

Some water would also be good.

Nkwala Park is a great community family friendly park where residents of the area enjoy a very pleasant kid friendly park area. The park is well used by community members and has an ever growing youth and senior population taking advantage of its wide open space without conflict. Jamming an oversized dog park into this space and bringing the population of vernon with their dogs into a great community space will negatively all of the tax paying residents of the NKwala area. There already is a dog park on Bx creek that supports off leash dogs in a low residential density area so why spoil a quality rec area used by heavily by residents. Jamming an oversized dog park into this neighborhood without adequate public consultation (this is extremely not okay giving 1 summer month as consultation when people are away and trying to sneak it through) is extremely inconsiderate of the regional district taxpayers. The proposed road and parking lot will just be another problem for residents as the regional district already doesn't deal with the many folks camping in their vehicles along the parking lots around the park. This is a terrible idea planned without consideration for the homeowners and users around and of the park. I have spoken with my neighbors who are all dog owners and they don't want this monstrosity in our neighborhood. Please rethink this bad plan.

I would love to have additional parking

Alain Road is a narrow residential no thru road and is not capable of handling the increase volume of traffic. During soccer season Alain Road turns into a speedway which is very dangerous as we do have young families with small children living on Alain Road. I would suggest a park in the Foothills that would better accommodate the residents of the Foothills and area.

It would be a great addition for the local area who use that park but can't bring their dogs currently. As a dog owner I would be thrilled to have that option close to home

It is a place I would like to use with my dog, and an off leash fence is a way that all user groups can enjoy the park.

I am opposed to the increased vehicle traffic down Alain Road and the the noise and disruption that dog parks stimulate especially in the early mornings and evenings . Ours is a quiet neighbourhood and I would prefer it to remain that way. Thank you,

Why on earth would you put a dog park in a residential area, have you no concern for residents. Other dog parks are not in residential areas. Expand the park play area into the area proposed for the dog park. The dog owners around our neighborhood are responsible with their dogs and use the area to a small degree. Who uses it are the kids in the neighborhood. This seems like a dusty smelly noisy unnecessary addition to a great park used by our neighbors not some transformation so pet owners in Vernon can impact residents in the regional district. I don't want this near our play area nor do I want any new roads and parking bringing folks not from the regional district here.

Because I live on Pearson Road, I am happy to see that the parking access will be from Alain road.

No concerns, think it's a great idea!

Just that it would be great to have an accessible, fenced-in dog beach. Most Okanagan Communities have them, except here.

I would love to see an off leash area at N'kwala!

Dog population is increasing so the more the merrier. Also, hoping the new BX water area fence stays up bc it will be gross standing water most of the year. If that fence comes down we won't go there anymore. We don't go to Marshal Fields for same reason.

If there was a dog park you could book that had a few separate sections that had spaces between them for exercising reactive dogs that would be a HUGE benefit for our community. I'm a local dog trainer, and there are a ton of studies that suggest proper exercise minimizes certain reactive and aggressive behaviour in dogs. I've seen the positive affects of proper mental and physical outlets in dogs personally many times. Reactive dogs need a safe place to get exercise, and the on-leash trails aren't supervised enough for spotting off leash dogs; dog owners who avoid random off-leash dogs don't go to these areas even though they should be able to use them safely. Without the risk of running into an off-leash dog. This is how many dogs who weren't reactive before start to show signs of fear/insecure reactivity. They're stuck on a leash and a random dog runs into their face.

A dog park with multiple sections and an online (or hand written at the park) sign-up time slots would be great. Dog owners could share their time slots with friends/family/dogs their pups know. But if they wanted a private slot they can also book an hour or so time slot.

This is a safety issue the city could help address. Along with training, this could help save many dogs' lives and many avoidable bites.

A lot of dogs are only reactive due to not having proper outlets and proper mental and physical exercise. They get frustrated, bored, and act out/lash out, and it genuinely isn't their fault when they act out. Especially in this type of circumstance. They don't understand why they're acting out, they don't understand it's preventable.

So important for our community.

I would love to see the addition of a dog play area for kids. Our son has a service dog, is small in stature and we have not had positive experiences with including our under 12 kids in the dog park activity. Having a smaller area that is dedicated to kids playing with their dogs (with adult supervision) would be amazing!

Everyone seems to take their dogs there now anyway. It would be amazing to have a fenced off area. Close to my home. At least with this I can take our pup for a walk and let kids play. No one in family gets left out. Win win. Althou if we park up front on mcdonald road can we still walk dog thru other field to get to dog park area???

This would be a wonderful addition to this lovely park

I have no concerns. I think it's a great idea. Families have dogs, having more dog friendly spaces means more families can enjoy them

Love the idea of a dog park here. I visit dog parks all around Vernon for variety so this would be an added bonus to have another.

Sounds great !!!!!

We desperately need more safe cooling stations for the kiddos, I love dogs and dog parks but please put in a splash park. We need more water especially on this end of town

How big is it going to be? Shade? Fountain or water nearby? Great idea, we would always use more dogparks.

Please stop making dogs a priority and provide more recreational space for children. Humans before pets.

We wouldn't want it to cut into the field/play space. We love the park and use it VERY regularly especially with friends and big groups of homeschool kids. But I do think it would be great for dog owners (we are not) to have a space close by to take their pups to run. My kids love to see dogs at the park so it is not a deterrent to us unless it cuts into all the field space. It sounds like it will mainly be the often overgrown area behind the playground though which makes sense.

We don't use this park, as it's currently designated 'no dogs', and we respect that, we pass this park every day (for the past 5 years we've lived in Vernon) to get to the BX or Mutrie (twice a day) and there's literally never anyone there, ever, I've honestly never seen anyone in the park. Your idea to accommodate an area for responsible dog owners is really exciting, thank you.

GREAT IDEA!! Please provide a shaded area and water source.

there is currently a huge lack of dog bylaw enforcement both in and out of dog parks. Numerous irresponsible dog owners fail to comply with leash bylaws, poop & scoop, etc and this proposed park, given the very small size would likely be abused and would not stop those entitled owners that currently have their loose dog in the park due to the lack of enforcement. Suspect it would also encourage those coming from the park entrance off McDonald to have walk across the sports fields where no dogs are permitted. Also have families that take their kids and dogs to the playground area and unlikely they would stop doing that either so i don't see much benefit to this proposal. Would prefer to see the money directed to increasing dog bylaw enforcement in the area and other existing dog parks.

When discussing changes to this park I'd like to see some sort of reference to it's namesake - at first I figured it was an Indigenous word for something found in nature, but I found out it's named after a 19th century Chief. It would be nice to have something erected to give his story and give better tribute to his legacy in these parts :)

We would be very happy to have a fully fenced dog park. Garbage cans and a few trees for shade would be nice.

Should have this be a small dog only park with proper fencing

Off-leash parks are wonderful, and it's nice to have the choice of which park you would like to visit that day. A dog calming area at the entrance is a good idea, a sign outlining dog park etiquette (for both the dog and the owner/walker) a washroom & water station would be great. Thanks for the opportunity to contribute!

The fence and gate area needs to be low enough to the ground so small dogs can't wiggle under it. A smaller off leash area for small or young dogs would be great, as big dogs get too rambunctious. Garbage cans, water, poop bags, a few benches, shade for seniors, bathroom, really informative signs indicating rules and expectations for owners.

There is not enough parking to support this idea. Parking on McDonald Rd will cause issues as it's not wide enough to support off road parking. I have seen similar issues on Murtrie Rd dog park. Expanded parking is a must. Parking on Spartan could cause issues with the homeowner access. The fenced dog area is fine but infrastructure doesn't support it.

Will there be regular garbage pick up (for dog poop bags)?

Looks like a great spot and opportunity for an off leash park. Some shade would be great, but any new dog park is appreciated.

For many dogs, dog parks need to be FULLY 100% fenced. A partial fence doesn't meet their needs, and there are only currently 2 parks in Vernon that meet that requirement (Murtrie & Vi Morphet Meadows)

Yes! Great idea!

Will there be an available water source.

Parking availability and shade. Water would be a wonderful addition.

Another off-leash area would be welcome.

I would like to see an additional double gate at the south west corner for people walking their dogs to the park instead of driving.

I think it would be good to have a path on the outside of the west side fence so people with reactive dogs can still get through from Spartan to Alain with their dogs on leash.

Please, please, please make one dog park a ball free one. We have to keep our dog on a leash at the off leash parks and then she can't play if someone is throwing a ball around. it triggers her instinct to fetch it and then never give it back. My parents dog was killed years ago because he was running for his ball and it triggered another dog to attack. It would be nice to just have a fun, socializing park for the dogs to run and play without worrying about ball issues.

No one that lives close wants this the people who lives blocks away should have no say in this this is a quiet neighborhood we do not want a noisy smelly dog park right on our front door step or people parking right outside our yards and in our driveways

A small dog section would be appreciated

right in front of multiple houses

I would like to see a foot path kept so one could still cross the park directly without going through the dog park.

A fenced, off leash, dog park that has shade trees, water, poop bag dispenser, garbage can. For humans, toilet facility with very clearly stated, highly visible rules of conduct when entering dog park. Really like the idea floated about re having a volunteer group of dog park ambassadors who would facilitate positive use of all dog parks in the area (RDNO, Vernon, Coldstream)

We have a dog and we still do not support this it will smell and decrease the value of our home and the ones around us as well as the noise from people and their dogs that is unwanted in our quiet neighborhood there are always kids playing basket ball with dogs right beside it it would be chaos

Great idea as it gives people a chance to let their dogs run.

I would visit the park more frequently instead of dropping and picking up my children if I could bring our dog. Which would also lower my carbon foot print. 100% in support!

We need more multi use parks in Vernon. When I visit Kelowna most parks also have areas specific for dogs.

We need more accessible off-leash dog parks. This would be another great area, especially with Marshall Fields losing flat land for owners with mobility issues. It's a shame, as lots of older dog owners access this park.

There are no off leash dog parks north of BC to service the Hillside and Swan Lake communities. This leads to many dogs being walked off leash in on leash parks. This would be a welcome addition. Another area to consider is the large Grey Canal open field on the west side of Star Road.

This is a beautiful area that rarely has people in it. My friend and I walk the perimeter while the kids play.

Thank you for thinking about this!

What an excellent idea!! We have a 17 month old Whoodle and he loves to run, but we really need to take him to a fenced area because he likes to run away!! We would 100% support your idea of having a fenced off leash park!

The area will need some trees for shade, like Mutrie has added. A bathroom (for humans) and a watering station would be useful additions, though not a deal-breaker for us.

Hopefully this will happen

Not in favor of dual area parks: I think more parks that give way to social interaction or playgrounds or benches. I come in from Armstrong frequently to do my errands and visit multiple parks. Tired of dogs and owners who are not responsible to keep them leashed in public areas.

The surplus of space at N'Kwala would be much better used by the kids in the neighbourhood and all of Vernon. There are not enough outdoor spaces for kids in Vernon! Other suggestions are a bike/scooter park, splash pad, expansion of the playground, etc. Please consider!!

Water access for dogs and people for hot days would be appreciated and some washroom facilities - as were recently added at the BX dog park

I try to use the various parks throughout the year. Dogs like going to new areas and it is great for us as well. Parks are looking great for sure with all the upgrades.

I think you should make the dog park bigger. Do people actually use the park?

So the city has to move less, plant with lawn alternatives like micro clover. Talk to Okanagan Xeriscape association for more direction on this. Lawn alternatives can be less work, fertilize the soil naturally and less water

More dog designated areas are need around Vernon.

I think we can do better. I wouldn't take my dog to an off leash park, but a lot of people are open to that risk. Those people would enjoy this immensely. I would prefer a splash park and hockey rink.

Dog owners could use a off leash park in this area.

People with dogs are making it hard to play safely at playgrounds because the dogs run over to the children. This has happened at many parks, to my children who are now afraid of dogs. Dog owners cannot handle the privileges they are being given. Don't ruin another park with irresponsible dog owners!

I think this is a great place for a dog park.

We are completely in favour of this off-leash dog park area as proposed. (We are assuming that the proposed parking will only be accessible from Alain Rd, not Spartan Rd, and this is good.)

I think it would be great to add an off leash dog park in my neighborhood too just beside the tennis court on the 8300 block of lakeview drive in Coldstream

my concern is that if we create a dog space it would just be a matter of time before the dog owners would ask for the whole park designated as a dog park. specifically attracting dog owners will change the beautiful green space to the detriment of attracting other groups. there used to be soccer matches, there still are soccer practices. there used to be Ultimate matches, volleyball practices, inflatable body bubble/ bumper ball games and walkers. hot air balloons and powered paragliders have landed in the park at 1 time or another too. i do not want the nature of the park to change or it being taken over by any 1 group

No concerns, this is an excellent idea. Off leash dog parks are not only great for dogs but provide a place of community and belonging for many people. Great social atmosphere.

People not understanding what an off leash dog park is and making demands to change it and take away portions of the park, like Marshal Field

No concerns, the world is so anti dog and there's hardly anywhere they are aloud. The more parks the better!

I believe there is enough dog parks in Vernon, plus there is not adequate to support a dog park and sporting events, also the smell of dog urine would be an annoyance to Neigh-boring properties, also there will be issues with dog owners as there is at ever dog park.

100% DO NOT support this, Vernon has enough dog parks.

I believe there is enough dog parks in Vernon, the city just need to do a better job of informing the public where they all are.

The noise, traffic and smell of a dog park is unwelcome. We use our neighbourhood park frequently as a family and feel the proposed dog area would ruin the peaceful and quiet atmosphere of this special park. The residents of this area all have yards that are plenty big to allow their dogs to play. Please donâ€™t spoil this special space.

Concerns are parking, additional noise for neighbours, would rather have the park open to leashed dogs rather than a fenced area as owners that donâ€™t have good recall let their dogs loose and think itâ€™s a free for all. Area is not big enough.

There isnâ€™t any parking. The area is too residential for a dog park. Noise concern for nearby houses. Would negatively impact basketball court use.

The proposed dog park is too close to Vernon City border - it should be more in the middle of the BX area - say at Rugg road. Why would anyone drive to the proposed park when there is a far bigger and better dog park on BX road?

That area of the park is mostly unused at, I feel that would be a great use of the space.

This is an amazing idea. So many dogs in the immediate area that would benefit from this. My kids and i would have an area to walk the dog more as there isn't really anywhere for us to do so on the roads around the area!

Impacts to residential homes this backs into. Should be much smaller and closer to basketball area, away from homes back yards. Barking dogs. No parking. No trees or shade. First start with a on leash park or smaller off leash area located in the middle by basketball court and play area off the road where people tend to congregate. Survey in middle of summer with one on site when many people in vacation NOT respectful consideration. Could not make July 12 as on vacation.

Location impacts to homes. Parking on other side of sports field which is no dogs? If a must should only be by basketball area. Start smaller. No shade trees? Barking and security to properties with many people. We use Bx and Murtry. Good examples and Jess impacts and good parking. Don't ruin this green space.

We need more off leash parks so people without dogs can enjoy on leash parks without dogs running around.

If more off leash options are available to dog owners, it will, hopefully, lower the issues at on leash parks!

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It would be nice to have another option rather than just Bx dog park on this part of town! More dog friendly areas moves us in a positive direction for tourism!

There are enough off leash parks already and too many dog owners are irresponsible. We don't believe it is needed

No concerns. Dog owners at off leash parks are usually very conscientious about their dogs' behavior and waste. I take my dog to one every day.

Too many dog-owners are NOT responsible! Concerns about dogs "running off leash" out of fenced area. Fenced area is NOT large enough to accommodate good area of "running" for dogs.

Parks are for families and our dogs are a big part of our families. I definitely support the addition of an off leash dog area to N'kwala Park.

Disappointed the July 12 date was when I was out of town - hard to have consultation in the summer? Choice of timeframe for this project is interesting. We border the park off on Alain Road and are active users. As the majority of the users have large properties for their pets the off leash park would not necessarily benefit the residents so it would be respectful if the immediate residents concerns were addressed prior to constructing a dog park. I am concerned with taking a dead-end quiet road and increasing traffic to dog park access and parking. We have had many issues when the church at the end of the road opened their gate with people speeding through the neighbourhood. Alain Road is substandard road at best and only has had band aided repairs - it is not wide and has no designated walking lane. When you develop like a community you need to start providing amenities like a community. Also interested in why this is being brought forward - has there been a study or requests from the residents? Is there a lack of dog parks in the area? We frequent BX park because of the shade and the access to water. DUST is a real concern as we already experience lots from the dry fields in the summer - and adjacent orchards. Will to new 'access to parking area be paved to reduce the already dusty area? In Summer it is very dry and that portion of field is not irrigated, so its dirty and cracks and vegetation dies or goes dormant. Imagine if dogs are running on it, it will end up a dirt field with no irrigation and increased dust. The conceptual plan area is very large. Consider a smaller footprint and keep in in the basketball area - less impact to the 3/4 properties to the south. Many residents utilize this park when there are games on the fields and the southern portion would be gone for that access. Also in the winter, residents create a trail system for walking, snow shoeing and cross country skiing - that space would be impacted. Real concern with no trees, or sun protection and lack of water and washroom facilities. The Park is a wonderful asset - lacks a free space area with picnic tables and places for users to congregate - hard to set up a picnic on the sports fields. I could support a design that included these elements, a dog park that was smaller in size and placed in an area of less impact to residents - beside basketball area. Take southern area and create a green space for public gatherings, picnic tables, shade shelters, etc. which would be well used by spectators to the sports events, and playground area. Perhaps a more detailed consultation is required to plan an inclusive park that can have all the amenities that are lacking. Interesting that you show parking lot on MacDonald Road when that could not be utilized for dog park as the sports field does not allow dogs. I am hoping that the results of the survey will be a public document as we would like to know how many responses are received and what the residents and public have to say.

Another off leash dog park would be awesome. My dogs love to sniff and explore...

I'm glad to see the addition of new dog parks being considered in Vernon. Please consider amenities across all of our dog parks to make them more inviting for users in their dogs shade benches access to water are all very important in making these awfully spaces, enjoyable and accessible.

Too many irresponsible owners; BX park is close by

This is not a well used area for dog walkers, it's the few locals that walk their dogs in the area and don't require a park. If we do, BX is less than 3 minute drive.

Great idea

Good idea

Love this idea!

6 foot fence would be preferable

I think it's a very good and smart idea to have a fenced off-leash dog area for people to take their dogs to at the park. I see many people taking their dogs to the park now and treating a 'no dog park' as though it is a dog park and not cleaning up after their dog. A fenced area should solve that problem so I wouldn't have to be cleaning my shoes when I return home.

I have respectfully walked my dog on leash on the upper weed area of N'Kwala Park passing through

Owners of dogs must 'clean up'

Proposal looks fantastic. There are many dog owners in the area that would use this. Please consider planting a few shade trees. (need a 3 m diameter wire fence around each tree and irrigation) Also, a seasonal water source for the dogs would be great. Very much in support!

Yes please!

I'm a former dog control guy for RDNO. Coincidentally, I used to patrol N'Kwala. There is no way to stop people from going off-leash in N'Kwala. So giving them a generous fenced area = correct move. Alex

I would encourage: small dog only portioned area, dual entrances into park to avoid congestion at gates, double gates entries to park to keep pups safe from running into parking lot, traffic calming suggested speed for neighbourhood? Park speed 30 km/h?

I think it's great!

I think this would be a great addition to the park!

No concerns

No concerns, it's very exciting to know this might happen!

Please also consider some benches or a gazebo in the dog park area and some benches in/around the main park. Please also add/improve the walking path from Alain Rd to Spartan Rd West and North of the proposed road.

It would not affect our going to N'Kwala but we would recommend to make the proposed "off-leash" dog area a bit smaller. We walk with young children, strollers, etc. from our homes and use the back entrance to enter the park. Also, having the "off-leash" dog park run along the basketball court would not be good - dogs barking + chasing along the court, basketballs ending up in the dog area, etc. I think it would deter some children from playing on the basketball court.

This will cause a lot of extra traffic on our street, that have a lot of kids playing and walking on the road. The street will not be safe.

Map Drawing: IF THIS IS GOING AHEAD, PLEASE CONSIDER REDUCING THE SIZE AWAY FROM THE PLAYGROUND AREAS. Comments: I don't like it. The park will be filled with dog poo. Our nice park will get over run with irresponsible dog owners. N'Kwala was a big draw for us to move here now you are doing this. Please don't do this here.

My grandpa has lived across from the park for 40+ years. It's a quiet place with lots of kids who use the parks. It is selfish for people who don't even live in the close proximity to request something like this, when it has no impact. My friends and I use the park and the field all the time. Who's going to want to enjoy a picnic or a sunny day at the park with constant dog barking and everything smelling like dog crap all the time. Add some benches, or tables, or here's an idea, maybe a bathroom (a human one, not a huge dog one). Please consider the people this will actually affect as opposed to people who live blocks away and support it because IT WILL NOT AFFECT THEM. IT AFFECTS US THE people who actually use the park and don't want to be harrassed by dogs when we go for walks or have to smell them every morning when we sit out on the deck.

My grandpa and I live at 5322 which is one of the properties DIRECTLY across from the proposed dog park. The survey going to hundreds of people is ridiculous. It should be given to the people who will actually be affected. To the 40-30 some people who actually have to live beside the constant smell of feces and urine, have to listen to barking dogs all day in a previously QUIET neighborhood and all the seniors who's property value will be decreased. It's easy to support something like this when it's not on your doorstep or right outside your backyard. Not to mention no one wants to search for their basketball in a field of waste and potentially aggressive dogs. No one who lives close to this area wants a dog park right outside.

Need enforcement of bylaws at existing parks and city areas. Appropriate signage for no little kids, no dog toys, etc.?

Should not be near residential, should not be near the playground, playgrounds should be expanded, this is not the location for a large scale dog park, this area is used appropriately as it is.

Noise, smell, dust, decrease in property value. This area is quiet and peaceful. Strongly oppose dog park in residential area.

We do not want an off-leash dog park. It will significantly impact the neighborhood where we have lived for the past 40 years. We already have people illegally parking in our driveway to get to the park. This is a quiet neighborhood with a lot of seniors. Please consider somewhere else or a trail with on leash only as people do this already.

Loss of quiet community and road (Alain), Loss of area to walk safely, Will (they) public use spartain or alain Rd more, Looks like in picture it will be Alain with parking at the end of it! Not to my liking!!! Spend money we don't have!! Raise the taxes what the heck!!! Good Job!!

Thank you for this opportunity to share our concerns regarding this proposal. The current N'Kwala Park has proven to be a real blessing for families, and children with the upgrade to the basketball court, the soccer fields, and the children's playground. We feel a dog park of this size does not belong here. This park has great potential for family activities and gatherings and an off leash dog park simply is not compatible! We believe it would be better to expand the park for the use of families. In the proposal it appears the dog park would be 4 times the size of the playground area and the addition of the two double gate entrances will certainly increase traffic volume, especially the proposed one at the north end with access off Spartan Road. We suggest that should this proposal move forward, that the size be reduced by having only one entrance at the proposed parking lot and the fence running east-west from there. This would save the area to the north for a possible picnic area and shelter for family events. A planting of some additional trees would also be a great improvement. Furthermore, the return of the portable toilet would be appreciated. We have observed a great influx of children and families in the last 2 - 3 years using the park and the increase of traffic and parking at Spartan Road would put children and people at greater risk. Thank you for taking our concerns seriously. H Jurgen + Doris Goebert (5360 Spartan Road)

Lack of enforcement at existing parks. Non-residents of the area abusing this park. Existing non-compliance with leash laws by residents will continue and will get worse.

I feel the placement of the dog park behind the basketball court is not deal. There also is not enough parking. My kids go to that park daily to play basketball and this scares me with the dogs right there. Please think of kids who are afraid of dogs and the super limited parking. This park deserves to be for people. I have a dog and I am more than fine going to bx or mutrie and I live across the street from N'Kwala.

Would make our quiet neighbourhood busier. Many dog parks already in the city and most have issues / complaints. Vernon has yet to have a nice outdoor pool or spray park.... Or maybe add tennis / pickleball court or keep it as is. Or, walking trail through park. Also note that the majority of homes near this location already have large lots / yards for pets.

I feel that given BX Dog Park isn't that far away, people can drive there to use a dog park. This is too close to the play ground area of the park. I feel a lot of the properties in the area already have large pieces of land for their dogs to roam, so there is no need for another dog park!

Do we really need another dog park? Look at how off-leash dog owners pick up after their animals at Marshall Field, Mutrie Road, BX Ranch, Grey Canal, or do we have to hire by-law people to enforce the rules at our expense?!

Plan is lunacy. There are other parks with already have dog areas!

1. The cost of fence, maintenance gate? 2. The small and noise. 3. Money can be spend - put children before dogs! Tables for picnics, skating rink in winter, summer day camp for kids. 4. Our mean view from our living room window. Enjoy seeing kids on swings, soccer games, basketball although no picnic tables. Families having picnics in shade of the trees near the swings. 5. It would devalue the price of our property at the moment "location" is a large part of it. Dog park would lower the price if not wanting to buy our property at all. 6. If fence at other dog park costs \$45,000, would the overall cost mean \$60,000 or \$70,000 with parking, paved road, etc.? 7. I am 100% against this. Evelyn Jenks (5316 Spartan Road) It is 1:10pm Wednesday, July 20, I want to go to N'Kwala Park to protest but I am almost 79 years old and quite upset so shall not be going. I'll watch from home. Hope there's a large crowd there.

Concerned about increased traffic on our road. As well as we have four young children. The proposed dog park goes right to the sports court and playground, too close for our comfort. As dog owners ourselves, we don't find any benefit to off-leash dog parks, statistically, they have the highest occurrence of dog fights and create reactive dogs and for us, it's a NO.

Traffic, parkings, noise, garbage, small area, two off leash dog parks within 5 mins of this park, too close to the kids playground for off leash dogs to have access to. No need for this park to be turned into an insurance liability.

I do not want the additional traffic on our small quiet street of the noise and presence of more dogs. In the early mornings/evenings that dog parks stimulate Ours is a very peaceful neighbourhood and I want to keep it that way. Thank you.

It would be great addition to the neighborhood!

This dog park would attract traffic and noise to our quiet neighborhood. Please don't do this.

Not in favour, lots of seniors live in close proximity and are against an off leash park.

Can it be made any bigger? There is so much space that goes unused most of time.

I think it would increase use of the park - which I think would be good for the community.

I think dog parks unite communities and are relatively low cost. An obstacle course for dogs would be great. Like the Osoyoos

Support any new dog parks! We use more than one.

No concerns

We have no concerns with a fenced dog park in the proposed area. This area is underutilized as it is. Fencing it will keep dogs away from the playground area + keep them from areas of play where we want to avoid stepping on "things" or burnt playing areas

MacDonald street is a quiet neighbourhood full of healthcare shift workers. Absolutely do not want a dog park due to noise. This neighbourhood is unique in that it is a very quiet neighbourhood. You can not go forward with this as it will upset everyone in the area due to the noise.

Additional traffic in the area would be a problem. Also the noise, increase of crime, and loss of green space and quiet of the park and area.