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STAFF REPORT

PARK COMMISSION MEETING DATE: January 6, 2015

DATE: December 31, 2014
TO: Open Space and Regional Park Commission
FROM: Colleen Wallace Barnum, District Park Manager
THROUGH: Jennifer Budge, Park Operations Superintendent
SUBJECT: Update and discussion on proposed off-leash pet area at Hidden Valley Regional Park and possible recommendation to staff on the management of certain area(s) within Hidden Valley Regional Park.

SUMMARY

This item is for review, update, and discussion of citizens' request for a designated off-leash pet area within Hidden Valley Regional Park.

BACKGROUND

Currently, Washoe County has two designated off leash areas within the park system, the Link Piazza Dog Park at Hidden Valley Regional Park and the off leash area (pasture) at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park. According to Washoe County Code Chapter 95, dogs must remain on a leash at all times within a County park, unless otherwise designated by the Director.

During a meeting of the Hidden Valley Homeowner's Association in April of 2014, a large contingent of citizens expressed a desire to designate an off leash pet area within Hidden Valley Regional Park. In response to this request, a public meeting was advertised and held on August 28, 2014 at Hidden Valley Regional Park to allow for public input and comment on the proposal. 27 people attended the public input meeting.

In addition to the meeting, a public survey was created to capture responses from the general community that could not attend the public meeting. The survey was open until September 15 and there were 72 respondents (survey results attached).

A park staff working group consisting of Park District Managers and Park Rangers reviewed the survey results and the four proposed areas recommended by citizens at the public meeting for potential off leash use. (see attached maps). The four areas considered comprised of the following:

1. Inner Loop
2. East of Fence (Perimeter into hills)
3. North and East
4. All Undeveloped Areas of the Park



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In considering all options, natural resource damage, citizen health and safety, and potential repercussions on all other regional parks with open space areas are significant concerns. Since natural resource damage may increase with off leash activity, some fenced off control areas similar to range management studies (where there would be no access by dogs and their owners) to determine impacts may need to be considered.

Inner Loop (Map #1)

- It will be difficult to confine dogs within the loop trail because there is no fencing around the loop.
- It is flat and has ease of access for parking and entering from the north.
- If there was fencing, it could work well.
- With current infrastructure and no budget for a fence, it would be the most difficult to manage.
- Fencing cost is estimated at more than \$60,000 for this particular option.

East of Fence (Perimeter Loop into hills) (Map #2)

- It could have an effect on the wildlife in the park, particularly the wild horse population. The current fence installed in 1997 was to assist in managing the wild horse population impacts to the park.
- There is no eastern boundary line – we may want to provide signage regarding private property to the east.
- It will protect the developed areas better.
- There is less flat terrain access for the users that desired it.
- This area would provide no conflict with vehicles.
- It will be easier to manage based on the visual fence and 5 access gates.
- Could prove difficult to manage dog walkers getting from their vehicles to the off-leash area east of the fence. This is an issue at Rancho San Rafael already where people do not leash their dogs on the way to or from the off-leash area.

North and East (Map #3)

- It could have an effect on the wildlife in the park, particularly the wild horse population.
- It would be extremely difficult to manage an on-leash requirement in the developed areas because most of the developed areas are surrounded by undeveloped.
- It could be very unsafe for dogs and motorists as the main roads cross undeveloped areas of the park.
- It would provide some flat terrain that some of the users desired.
- It would provide ease of access from the adjoining neighborhoods (Sleepy Hollow and Parkway).

All Undeveloped Areas (Map #4)

- It could have an effect on the wildlife in the park. Birds, coyotes, rabbits, and wild horses just to name a few.



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- It would be extremely difficult to manage any on-leash requirements in the developed areas because most of the developed areas are surrounded by undeveloped.
- It could be very unsafe for dogs and motorists as the main roads cross undeveloped areas of the park.

Park staff also collected information on the management of dog parks and off-leash dog areas throughout the nation. Staff was able to make contact with 12 different agencies, all of whom have off-leash dog areas and/or dog parks.

There are varying practices throughout the nation. Some of the findings and key points for discussion included:

- Voice & Sight control tag program (Boulder, CO)
- Off-leash advisory council (Portland, OR)
- Citizen groups managing all off-leash areas with volunteers (Seattle, WA and San Diego, CA)
- Master Plan in Salt Lake City (2007) included Best Practices research – of the 10 communities researched, more than 50% of the respondents stated that regulation and policy enforcement was very problematic.
- Park Rangers with citation authority are necessary to effectively manage leash laws and customer driven complaints – Ossining, New York (all agencies that had Park Rangers managing leash requirements had citation authority)



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City/State - Agency	Management Plan	Management Responsibility	Comments
Oakland, CA	yes	Park Rangers	more public asking for leashed areas
East Bay Regional Parks			
Farmington, New Mexico	no	Park Rangers	issues with wildlife, particularly birds
Farmington Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs			
Ft. Worth, TX		Citizen group	
City of Fort Worth Parks and Community Services			
Rockford, Illinois	no		forest preserves with off-leash user conflicts
Forest Preserves of Winnebago County			
Charlotte, North Carolina	yes		loose boundaries are difficult to manage
Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation			
Ossining, New York			Park Rangers need citation authority
Alberta, CANADA	in process	Animal Control & Park Rangers	user conflicts required a master plan
City of Edmonton Parks & Recreation			
Portland, OR	yes, advisory council	Park Rangers	control, education, and enforcement
City of Portland Parks & Recreation			
Seattle, WA	yes, pilot program	COLA (Citizens for Off Leash Areas)	
Seattle Parks & Recreation			
Denver, CO	yes	Park Rangers	
Denver Parks & Recreation			
Boulder, CO	yes	Park Rangers	Voice & Sight control tag program
City of Boulder - Open Space and Mountain Parks			
Austin, TX		Park Police	Scoop the Poop campaign
Austin Parks & Recreation			
Kansas City, MO	yes		
Kansas City Parks & Recreation			
Salt Lake City, UT	yes		
Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation			
San Diego, CA	no	Citizen group	citizen groups are responsible for all
San Diego Park and Recreation Department			



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While staff recognizes the need for additional off-leash locations throughout the region, a thoughtful approach is imperative to address the potential impacts of this activity (wildlife, natural resources, dog waste not being removed, cost, user conflicts, displaced users, etc.) and is consistent with best management practices.

Staff recommends the creation of an off-leash management plan for Hidden Valley Regional Park. It is anticipated that the Hidden Valley plan should be developed with an understanding that it may be used as a model or "pilot" for a broader off-leash management plan for all Washoe County parks and open spaces. To facilitate this process, a citizen stakeholder group is critical and necessary to developing a thoughtful plan. . The stakeholder group may include interested community members, park staff, an Open Space and Regional Park Commissioner, a representative from Regional Animal Services, and technical experts (professional dog trainers, veterinarians, natural resource experts etc.). The regional plan could possibly be a joint effort in conjunction with the Cities of Reno and Sparks and will be a topic of discussion at the joint Park Commission meeting tentatively scheduled for March 2015. Additional efforts to update Washoe County Code Chapter 95 should also be considered as part of this effort to ensure staff has the appropriate authority to enforce the recommendations of the plan as well.

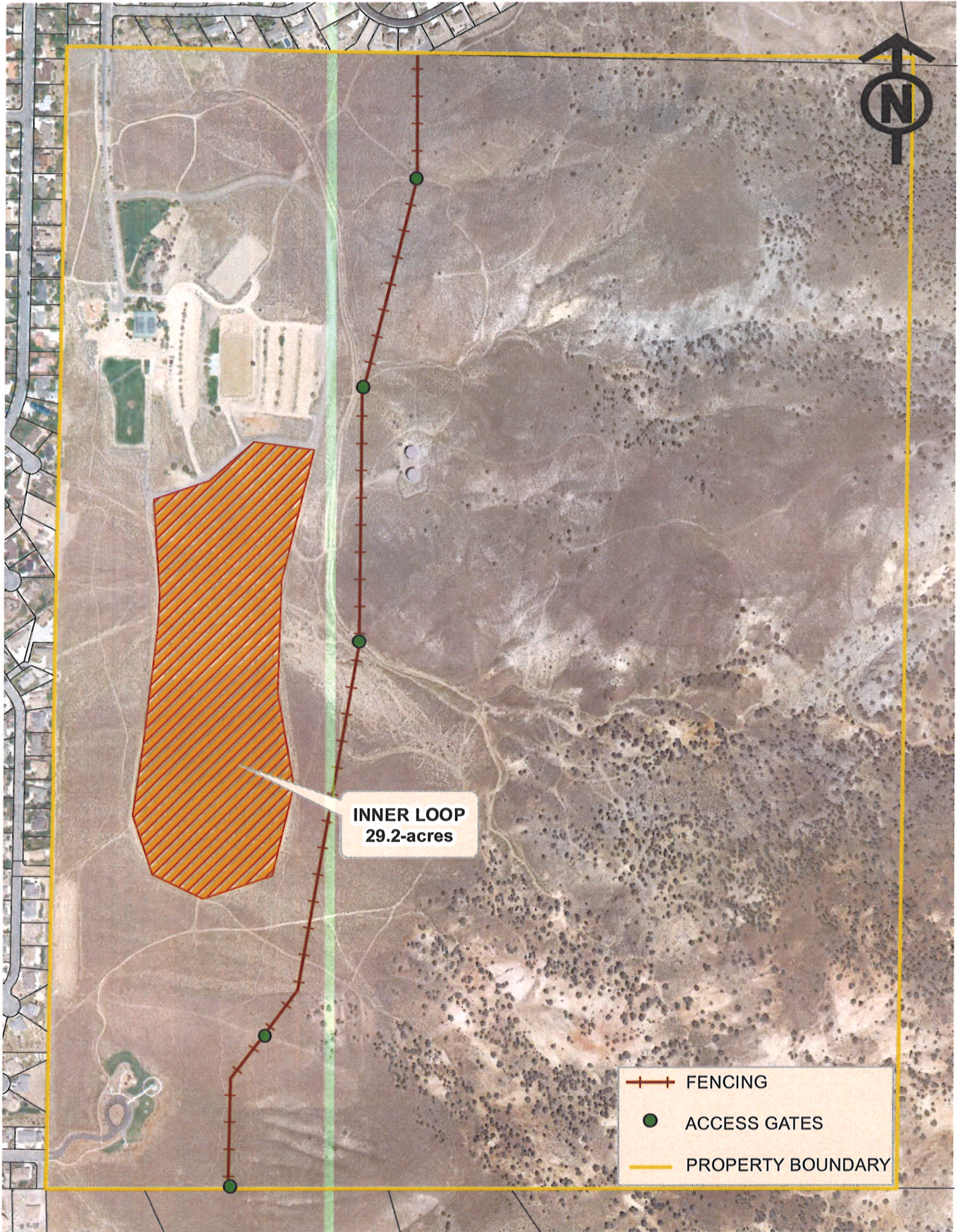
RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Open Space and Regional Park Commission recommend Park Staff create a citizen stakeholder group as outlined in the staff report to develop an off-leash management plan for Hidden Valley Regional Park.

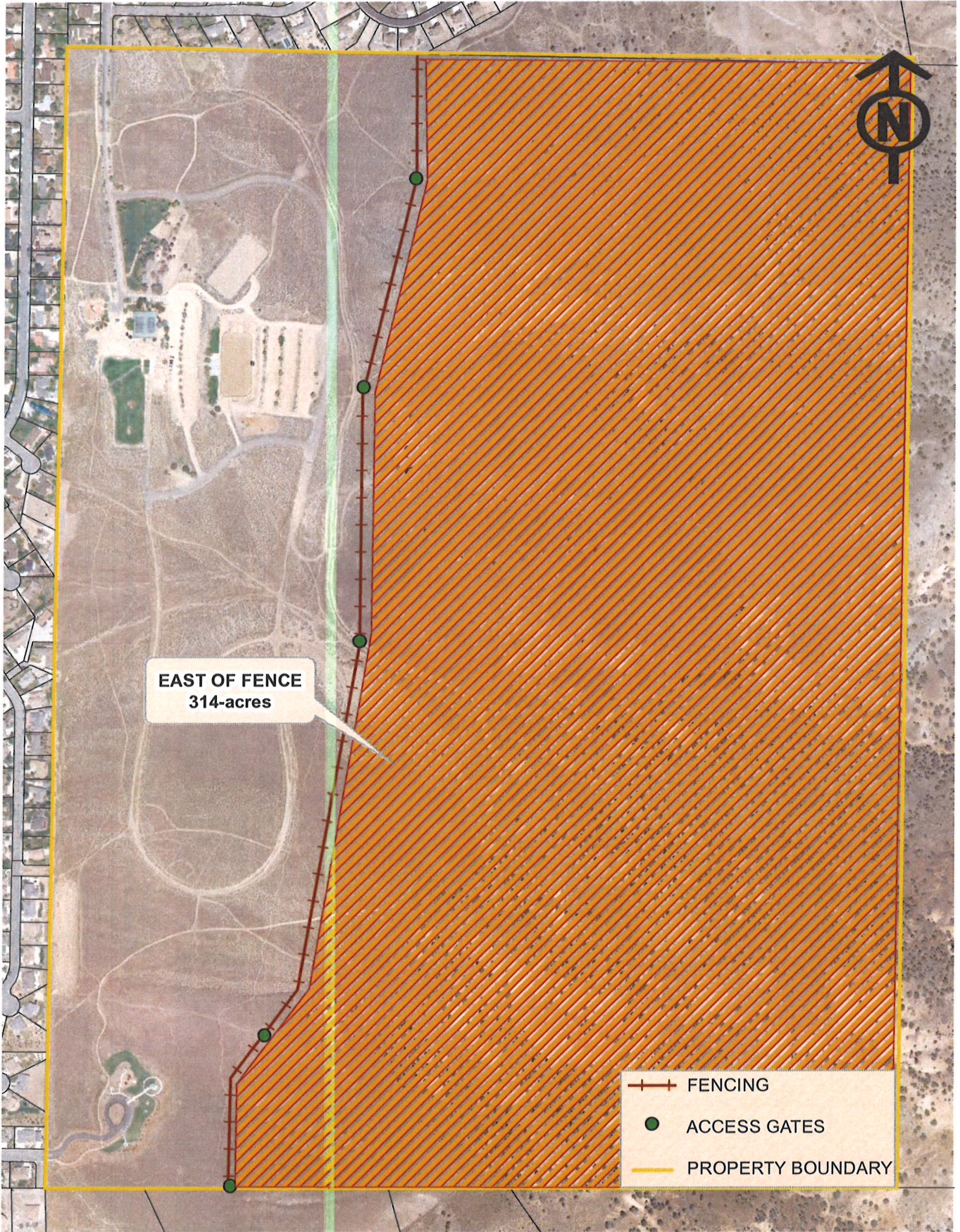
POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Commission agree with the staff recommendation, a possible motion would be:

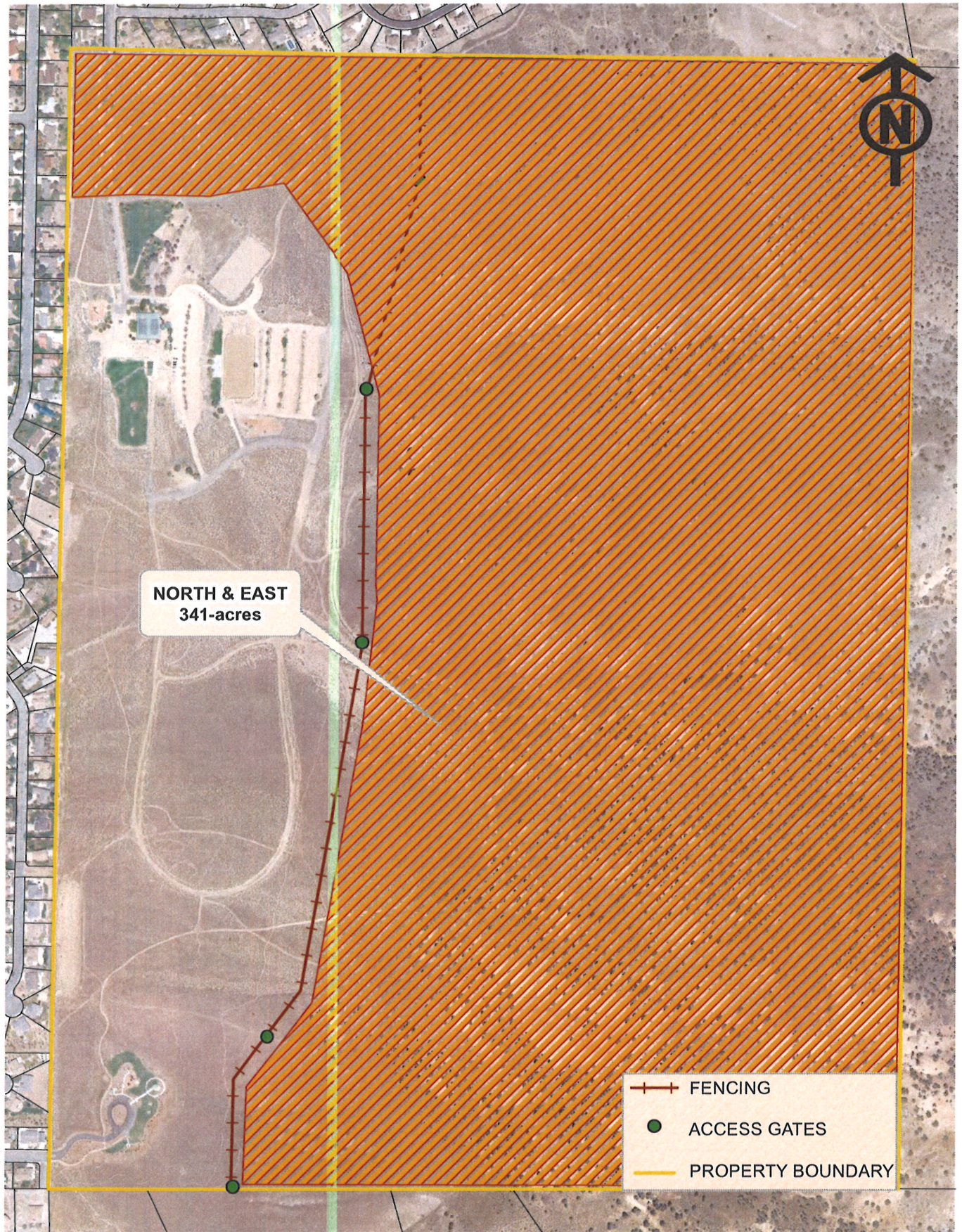
"Move to recommend Park Staff create a citizen stakeholder group as outlined in the staff report to develop an off-leash management plan for Hidden Valley Regional Park."



**HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK
INNER LOOP (MAP #1)**



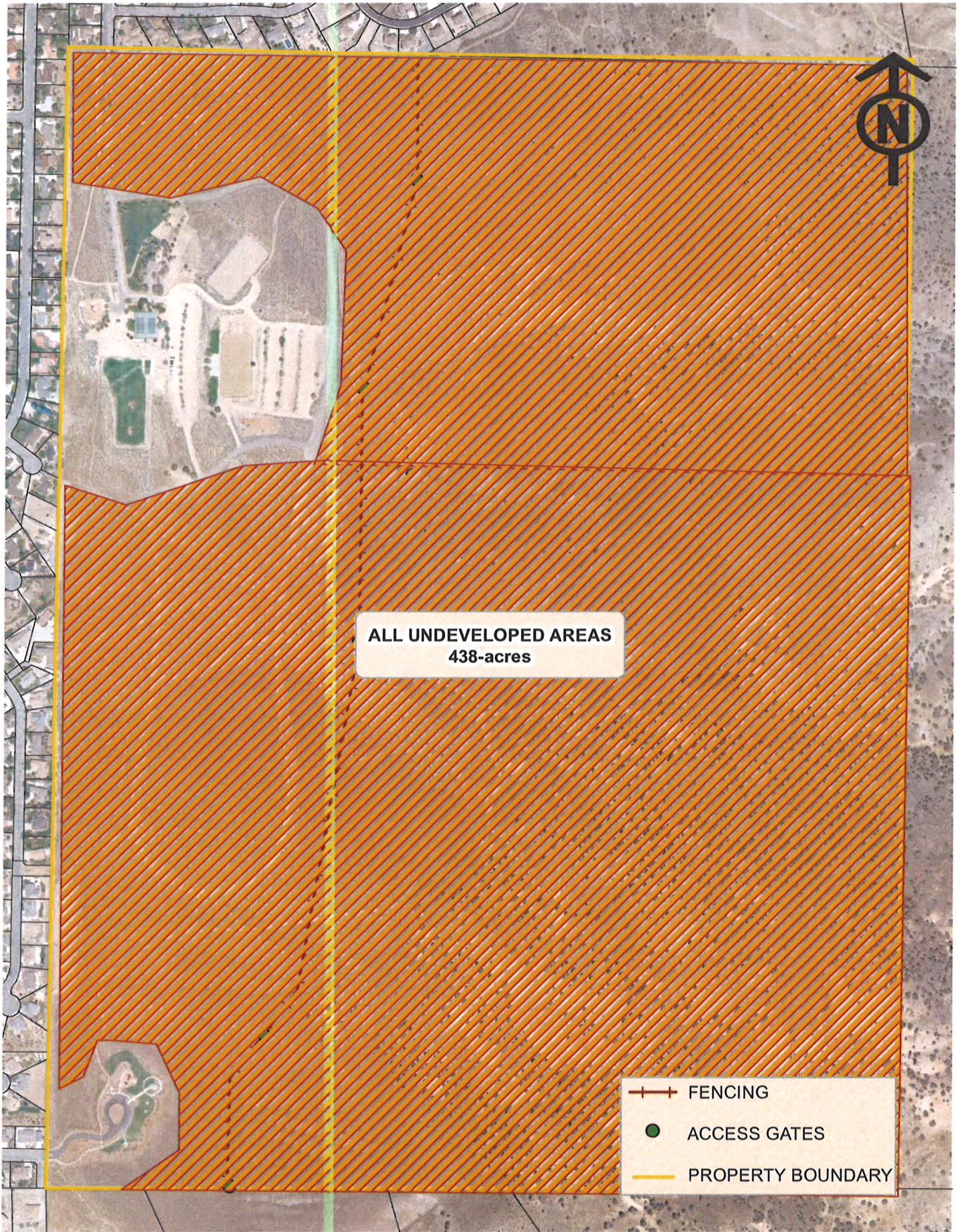
**HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK
EAST OF FENCE (MAP #2)**



**NORTH & EAST
341-acres**

- +— FENCING
- ACCESS GATES
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY

**HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK
NORTH & EAST (MAP #3)**



**HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK
ALL UNDEVELOPED AREAS (MAP #4)**

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

1. What activities do you participate in at Hidden Valley Regional Park?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Walking/Hiking (without dog)	33.8%	24
Walking/Hiking (with dog)	83.1%	59
Mountain Biking	18.3%	13
Equestrian Trail Use	4.2%	3
Link Piazza Dog Park	47.9%	34
Pickle Ball	1.4%	1
Horse Arena	1.4%	1
Playground	14.1%	10
Picnic Areas	25.4%	18
Other (please specify)	9.9%	7
	<i>answered question</i>	71
	<i>skipped question</i>	1

2. Would you like to see a designated off leash dog area in Hidden Valley Regional Park (in addition to the existing Link Piazza Dog Park)?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
YES	83.3%	60
NO	16.7%	12
	<i>answered question</i>	72
	<i>skipped question</i>	0

3. If you answered yes to question #2, please explain why you would like to see an additional designated off leash dog area in Hidden

Answer Options	Response Count
	61
<i>answered question</i>	61
<i>skipped question</i>	11

4. If you answered no to question #2, please explain why you wouldn't like to see an additional designated off leash dog area in Hidden

Answer Options	Response Count
	13
<i>answered question</i>	13
<i>skipped question</i>	59

5. Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?

Answer Options	Response Count
	39
<i>answered question</i>	39
<i>skipped question</i>	33

6. Would you like to receive more information about this project and upcoming public participation opportunities? If yes, please share your contact information below:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Name:	95.0%	38
Address:	85.0%	34
City/Town:	92.5%	37
State:	90.0%	36
ZIP:	87.5%	35
Email Address:	85.0%	34
Phone Number:	77.5%	31
	<i>answered question</i>	40
	<i>skipped question</i>	32

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

Q3 If you answered yes to question #2, please explain why you would like to see an additional designated off leash dog area in Hidden Valley Regional Park. If you answered no to question #3, please skip to question #4.

Answered: 61 Skipped: 11

#	Responses	Date
1	I believe that all the non-developed part of the park should be designated as off leash. Dogs need large areas to enjoy, and very little of the Washoe County park system is designated for this purpose. Being so close to open areas is one of the great things about living here.	9/8/2014 2:58 PM
2	Dogs have been walking here forever off leash, just leave it be! You must have better things to do with our taxpayer monies??	9/8/2014 1:33 PM
3	Beautiful area with enough trails for some to be dog-friendly, low risk of negative interactions	9/3/2014 5:12 PM
4	There are not many off-leash areas in Reno within the parks system that are large and not included as a dog park. We would very much enjoy hiking with our dog off-leash in the Hidden Valley Park.	9/3/2014 5:08 PM
5	I have enjoyed walking/hiking in the area for over 35 years.	9/3/2014 9:43 AM
6	With the current amount of off leash dogs in the park I have stopped walking there. Also the amount of dog waste is awful.	9/2/2014 4:31 PM
7	Dogs get more exercise off leash in open area	9/2/2014 10:11 AM
8	My 2 dogs get far more exercise by running free in a large open area. They love going up and down the areas surrounding the park - the dirt road on the south side of the park.	9/2/2014 9:53 AM
9	It would be nice to let the dog run off the leash in a designated area	9/2/2014 9:48 AM
10	Natural trails to hike with dog off leash including some mountains	9/2/2014 9:40 AM
11	I walk 1 or 2 miles everyday with my dog	9/2/2014 9:38 AM
12	So we can both get our exercise	9/2/2014 9:38 AM
13	I walk everyday with friendly large dog and want off leash	9/2/2014 9:31 AM
14	To allow my dogs to run	9/2/2014 9:29 AM
15	There are many places dogs can walk on leash but few without leash	9/2/2014 9:28 AM
16	Trails are narrow as you go up and on leash is not reasonable. Often you walk your dog and you are the only one here.	9/2/2014 9:26 AM
17	Continued freedom to walk dogs east of perimeter loop	9/2/2014 9:23 AM
18	Sometimes the dog park is closed or it gets crowded and it's nice to be able to leave and go for a walk in the open area. It's silly to have to put your dog on a leash out there.	9/1/2014 8:05 AM
19	Most dog owners enjoy the combination of having a relatively easy area to stretch their own legs, but not being forced to climb up into the hills, and letting their dogs run so they can get their exercise as well.	8/31/2014 3:22 PM
20	Walking my dog for 2+ miles gives me exercise that I would not do without the dog. It is more enjoyable when the dog can get additional exercise off leash. They get 2X as much exercise as I do. The mountain trails are difficult to walk with a dog on leash because fo the difficult terrain, narrow paths.	8/30/2014 8:20 PM
21	This is a trick Question. I wish to see modification of an existing area or OPEN SPACE, to include not only biking, hiking, multiple use area to include animals OFF LEASH	8/30/2014 7:21 PM

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

22	I think people should be able to walk with their animals, without a leash, on the surrounding trails that are there.	8/28/2014 9:49 PM
23	I think it is important for dogs to have some freedom. But I think the places they should be allowed off leash would be up high beyond the fences	8/28/2014 8:45 PM
24	It would give the dogs additional places to run around in, especially if the park is busy.	8/28/2014 6:46 PM
25	.	8/28/2014 5:16 PM
26	On the trails and hills between the 2 playgrounds	8/27/2014 11:46 AM
27	I like to hike up the hills with the dogs but they are encumbered being on a leash.	8/27/2014 10:57 AM
28	The trails in the hills provide awesome exercise for my dogs and I enjoy being able to hike way up to get a great city/mountain view without worrying about my dogs on a leash. There is more room for them to run and we all get better exercise outside of the Link Piazza park.	8/26/2014 12:07 PM
29	More room for dogs to run.	8/26/2014 8:53 AM
30	Area used for off leash allowing dogs to really stretch out. Also allows for more usage by public	8/26/2014 8:07 AM
31	Most of the people who use the area have dogs, myself included. Never have had a problem.	8/25/2014 10:36 AM
32	It is a convenient area for me and my dog to exercise. In my opinion, there are not enough off leash dog areas in the Reno-Sparks area.	8/24/2014 9:44 PM
33	BECAUSE DOGS NEED AND DESERVE A NATURAL PLACE TO RUN FREE IN SIGHT OF THEIR OWNER.	8/24/2014 3:29 PM
34	Because dogs need a natural place to run in the open in order to experience the freedom of open space.	8/24/2014 3:19 PM
35	Have walked dog in park off leash for 10 yrs - happy dogs, happy people - it has been great. Would hate to see it change.	8/23/2014 8:34 AM
36	The Reno/Sparks area has lots of dog owners and amazing weather for being out an about with your dog most of the year. Unfortunately, there are very few places to legally take your dog off leash. Even though my dog is very small, he loves being able to run off leash and I can imagine even more so for large dogs. Also, several of the (few) designated "dog parks" are little more than dirt pits and not desirable places to go. As a result, I've noticed a lot of people let their dogs off leash anywhere- despite signs stating that leashes are required. My hope is that would be reduced if there were more options.	8/22/2014 3:10 PM
37	It would be nice to walk/hike with my dog, without his having to be on a leash.	8/22/2014 11:23 AM
38	This is the perfect location for an off-leash dog area since the hills east of the horse arena are far from busy streets and traffic and really, pretty far from most residences too.	8/22/2014 11:10 AM
39	Because me & my dog would like the freedom to roam the hills without pulling at one another - freedom!	8/22/2014 9:34 AM
40	Keeping a dog on a leash in a small park with a lot of other pedestrians, wildlife, and other dogs, and in close proximity to the street with the risk of being hit by cars, makes sense. At Hidden Valley, however, there is a ton of open space and limited other people or animals. Leashes get tangled in sagebrush and sometimes the trails are too narrow or hilly for my dogs to be limited by leashes. There is plenty of time to see another dog coming and call my dogs to heel, if needed, but generally people only bring their well-behaved, friendly dogs. City regulations require dogs to be on the leash. But does a remote park in the remote suburb of Hidden Valley really meet the same criteria as a city park? Please allow the dogs to enjoy the wild park as they would the hiking trails in the national parks further out in the mountains.	8/22/2014 8:55 AM
41	Many elderly men are not able to walk a dog as much as needed on a leash. Space to let them run is	8/22/2014 6:19 AM
42	Keeping your dog on a leash in that entire park is unnecessary.	8/22/2014 6:10 AM
43	A dog park designated for small dogs only would be great.	8/21/2014 6:21 PM
44	Enjoy walking my dog off leash.	8/21/2014 5:54 PM
45	Most people who walk their dogs on the trails have them off leash, and I've never had any problems with the dogs or the people walking them. It's a good area for the dogs to be off leash so they can sniff and do their thing and not have to drag their owner with them.	8/21/2014 5:42 PM
46	Because the current park is too small and results in dog fights and owner problems. I walk my dogs along the loop inside the park and avoid the conflict in the dog park.	8/21/2014 4:54 PM
47	Great for walking the dogs which need more exercise then they can get on leash	8/21/2014 1:35 PM

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

48	It seems only logical that if there is a leash free area at Rancho San Rafael park there should be a leash free area at Hidden Valley Park. I believe the area outside the fenced area above the horse arena should be leash free.	8/21/2014 12:24 PM
49	The current dog park is great! But it would be nice to have an additional one that is large with natural sagebrush - many dogs like to explore the "wilderness" rather than play with others.	8/21/2014 11:00 AM
50	dogs need more places to go	8/21/2014 10:27 AM
51	Our dog is great off leash, but the enclosed dog park is not the ideal setting for her	8/21/2014 10:13 AM
52	Hiking trails are away from the majority of the public, are not frequently used by non-dog walkers, and dogs should be allowed off-leash for better exercise.	8/21/2014 9:55 AM
53	South Reno has many large parks and is in desperate need of more open dog spaces. Adding a second off leash area to Hidden Valley Park is a good first step, and I feel the community would benefit from additional off-leash areas at Bartley Ranch park and Manzanita park, both of which also have the space.	8/21/2014 9:47 AM
54	VARIETY.....I'd like to be able to walk with my dog off leash around the park in areas other than the existing area	8/21/2014 9:35 AM
55	So my dog has more places to run and explore	8/21/2014 9:21 AM
56	I live in Hidden Valley and abide by the Washoe county leash laws 100% of the time. Over the past 2 years there has been an influx of dog owners who allow their dogs off-leash outside of the Dog Park. As a result, I stopped walking/hiking my dog in the Hidden Valley Regional Park area because of too many encounters with dogs off-leash. Another dog park may potentially reduce the number of these incidents for those who respect the leash laws.	8/21/2014 9:19 AM
57	Dog park is used by lots of people and is full most of the time. It would be great to be able to walk and hike with my dogs. they are trained and socialized and do not bother others.	8/21/2014 9:15 AM
58	take pressure off of existing area	8/21/2014 9:03 AM
59	Sometimes the dog park gets really full and it would be nice to hike with my dog off leash - as long as all dogs respond to voice command.	8/21/2014 8:57 AM
60	Not enough room for running.	8/21/2014 8:56 AM
61	It is a safe area to exercise our dog, meet neighbors and most importantly get our exercise!	8/21/2014 8:44 AM

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

Q4 If you answered no to question #2, please explain why you wouldn't like to see an additional designated off leash dog area in Hidden Valley Regional Park.

Answered: 13 Skipped: 59

#	Responses	Date
1	Dog pop is already found all over the park and trails. I feel that if another areas are opened to dogs that the mess will become worse	9/12/2014 3:21 PM
2	Lack of control of dogs	9/2/2014 9:33 AM
3	Hikers,joggers, and bikers do not mix with dogs off leash.	8/29/2014 8:55 PM
4	I was actually bitten by dogs when riding my bike. So I am really torn on this issue. If people would be responsible and keep their dogs on leash when around other dogs or people then they could be off leash when alone. But given the fact that they don't seem to be responsible I guess we should have a rule that they be on leash, at least in the lower part of the park	8/28/2014 8:45 PM
5	Although I have had a dog in the past and always enjoyed walking him in the area south of the dog park and in the hills, I always put him on leash when approaching people and other dogs, as a courtesy. I know how passionate dog owners are (some of them being my neighbors), about having the ability to let their dogs run off leash. However, not all dogs are friendly with other people or other dogs, but yet the owners refuse to recognize that. A number of owners also refuse to recognize that their breed of dog can make people uncomfortable, ie, pit bull, german shepherd, rottweiler, dobermans, etc. If they would only have the courtesy to put their dog on a leash while in contact with another person or dog, that would help. There is also the problem of a number of people who have more than 2 dogs when walking. They certainly don't have control and that makes the situation a pack of dogs against one, which never works out well.	8/28/2014 5:16 PM
6	I feel like the dog park allows enough area for off leash dogs. The two sections seem to be efficient. In my opinion attention should be kept on improving what we have before starting new projects, as listed in section five...	8/27/2014 11:14 PM
7	there is a dog park that is already an off leash area	8/27/2014 3:54 PM
8	It seems like there is already one.	8/22/2014 9:03 PM
9	The undeveloped area of the Hidden Valley Regional Park should be available to all folks regardless of their recreational needs. Dog walkers should have as much freedom as bike riders and hikers....all should take reasonable precautions so as not to harm others who are recreating.	8/22/2014 1:34 PM
10	ONE IS ENOUGH	8/21/2014 10:55 AM
11	I used to bring my two small boys to the park in the afternoon or evening for walks on the trails, and occasionally we would play on the playground. We tried bringing our dog to the park with us, but often we would encounter other people, sometimes with more than one dog, that would let their dog run up to our dog, who was always on a leash. My dog would sometimes become aggressive, and more than once I have had to break up a fight between my leashed dog and someone else's unleashed dog. That is extremely difficult to do while trying to keep two small children out of harms way. The owners of the other dogs do not seem to care that thier dog would run loose and cause problems with other people or dogs. I would point out to them that there is a prefectly good dog park where they can let thier dogs run loose, and that there is a leash law in the park, but often I am ignored or told to mind my own business. I have complained to animal control, but I have not seen them do anything to stop the problem, which seems to be getting worse. I do not visit the park as often, even though it is close to my home, and when I do, I leave my dog at home and keep my boys on the playground. I do not think that allowing people to let thier dogs run freely will solve the problem. I have seen the same thing happen to others who would like to enjoy the park's trails without having to worry about someone else's dog bothering them. How many dog parks they need?	8/21/2014 10:21 AM
12	They already have a designated area that they use.	8/21/2014 9:09 AM
13	Off leash dogs harass hikers and wildlife. Dog waste is rarely picked up by owners when dogs run free. That waste is harmful to people, wildlife and the environment. It is a common carrier of heartworms, whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, parvovirus, giardia, salmonella & e.coli.	8/20/2014 11:38 AM

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

Q5 Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 33

#	Responses	Date
1	It is already to a point that people do not follow the rules giving them more to mess up and destroy will only create a MUCH BIGGER problem	9/12/2014 3:21 PM
2	I believe that dogs should at least be able to roam wherever the wild horses roam at a minimum. Otherwise, any limitations on dogs would be just silly. I understand that some people have problems with dogs (on or off leash), and they should be aware that there are many other places for them to enjoy being outdoors, but there is very little area for dogs to be off leash. Warning signs could be posted so that no one is surprised by an off-leash dog. Also, park boundaries should be clearly marked which they are not now. People can not hike outside the park if they do not know where the park boundary is.	9/8/2014 2:58 PM
3	You can't let a small group of complainers, bikers, runners, equestrians to control and subdivide the open space. You already brought Spanish springs pickle ball people here to ruin the tennis courts. Be careful of unintended consequences!!8	9/8/2014 1:33 PM
4	The real issue with Hidden Valley dog walkers arose with an over zealous Park Ranger who started harassing dog walkers who have used the park for years! Ninety nine percent of dog walkers are courteous, there will always be the one percent who are not. Hope you will weigh the complaints received at just Hidden Valley Park (not including the Link Piazza dog area) to what will more than likely double if the park is designated off leash and advertised as such. More people, more problems! This park has benefited considerably from dog walkers who go out of their way to help maintain and watch over the park!	9/3/2014 9:43 AM
5	The problem with dogs off leash is when they approach and the owner is not in control of the dog you never can be sure of the dogs disposition.	9/2/2014 4:31 PM
6	I have walked my dogs in the areas south of the fenced Link Piazza Park for almost 12 years now and have never had any negative incidents with other dogs, other people, bikers, hikers and so on. Everyone has always been friendly and considerate, even bikers and joggers. I always keep my dogs away from bikers and joggers and so do other dog walkers. I feel certain everyone can coexist in a wide open off-leash area (and I also get more exercise by walking the dogs for a mile to a mile and a half).	9/2/2014 9:53 AM
7	It's hard for me to walk on steep areas. I would prefer the (?) loop!	9/2/2014 9:48 AM
8	I have walked the area with my dog for 30+ years	9/2/2014 9:38 AM
9	Lack of respect - not picking up dog waste	9/2/2014 9:33 AM
10	I appreciate your consideration in this matter and also your efforts	9/2/2014 9:31 AM
11	Please allow the far east hill area for off lead	9/2/2014 9:29 AM
12	Concern about increased use of park	9/2/2014 9:23 AM
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14	I would like to see an organized poop patrol to clean the trails. Off trail poop is not a big deal in my opinion.	8/30/2014 8:20 PM
15	The terminology "designated off leash dog area" should not be used in this survey as this is a multiple use park and is for all to share. When the term designated is used, That would be indicative of keeping other users out of a proposed area. A better solution would be to modify chapter 95 ruling for individual parks. To advertise and to place in your web site that the park is open for dogs to roam at large is to open a can of worms and create a larger problem for both users and the park dept.	8/30/2014 7:21 PM
16	How will one keep a dog off leash inside the proposed imaginary blue line. A fence would be prohibitively expensive. East of the existing fence would solve this problem.	8/29/2014 8:55 PM

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

17	I would be concerned about the enforcement of picking after your animal. Sometimes the dog park gets overwhelmed with dog feces. I would hate to see the same thing happening on the trails.	8/28/2014 9:49 PM
18	I also think it would be hard to enforce this rule....especially up high in the park. Not sure there is really anything that can be done	8/28/2014 8:45 PM
19	I love the dog park, but there is time when you dogs and puppies are not necessarily welcome in the small dog side due to their energy level. Additional park could help with that problem.	8/28/2014 6:46 PM
20	I feel I have the right to walk and feel safe. If people were more considerate and responsible, we wouldn't have to have this conversation. Thank you for attempting to solve this difficult situation.	8/28/2014 5:16 PM
21	Horse arena area needs some work. Updates can be made in sport areas. Bathrooms at smaller park off Mia Vista Dr. More trees in dog park.	8/27/2014 11:14 PM
22	I have been walking dogs out in the brush for years, without them being on leash with NO problems. ALL the regular walkers are good friends and greet each other, and the dogs.	8/27/2014 11:46 AM
23	Most dog owners keep their dogs controlled even when they are not on a leash. I have lived and walked dogs in this neighborhood for over 15 years and have had very very few instances with aggressive dogs. Having dogs off leash is not a problem. The rangers should be more concerned with keeping the trees along the road cut back.	8/27/2014 10:57 AM
24	It has been this way for 20 years there is no reason it should change, many HV residence have dogs and this is an important part of HV.	8/24/2014 3:29 PM
25	People and dogs can co-habituate in the area under question without a problem, this space has been used as an off-lease area for many years.	8/24/2014 3:19 PM
26	Probably 98% of people in undeveloped area of park are walking dogs off leash. Many of us pick up trash and take care of the park.	8/23/2014 8:34 AM
27	no	8/22/2014 9:03 PM
28	Please make sure that water is available at the park. We had a few months with no water, and although we bring our own, we have run out after long hikes.	8/22/2014 11:23 AM
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31	You need to read state law concerning private property a joining open range	8/22/2014 6:19 AM
32	Thank you for allowing the people to vote on this issue.	8/22/2014 6:10 AM
33	The large majority of dog owners are extremely responsible at Hidden Valley with their pets. Those who are not are quickly reprimanded by the others. We are responsible enough to police ourselves.	8/21/2014 9:55 AM
34	I feel the community would benefit from additional off-leash areas at Bartley Ranch park and Manzanita park, both of which also have the space.	8/21/2014 9:47 AM
35	although an additional off leash area would be fun, it isn't a high priority.....the current dog park is working adequately.	8/21/2014 9:35 AM
36	Whether or not another off-leash dog park is opened in the Hidden Valley area the leash laws of Washoe county should be enforced. It is a concern for the dog walkers in that area and has gone unchecked for some time.	8/21/2014 9:19 AM
37	need more dog parks - there are not enough for the number of dogs in the area.	8/21/2014 9:15 AM
38	The Ling Plaza Dog Park is wonderful. I am very grateful for this park..and so are my 2 doggies :)	8/21/2014 8:57 AM
39	WC doesn't have enough dog areas where dogs can be off leash...	8/21/2014 8:56 AM

PROPOSED HIDDEN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK OFF LEASH AREA

Q5 Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 33

#	Responses	Date
1	It is already to a point that people do not follow the rules giving them more to mess up and destroy will only create a MUCH BIGGER problem	9/12/2014 3:21 PM
2	I believe that dogs should at least be able to roam wherever the wild horses roam at a minimum. Otherwise, any limitations on dogs would be just silly. I understand that some people have problems with dogs (on or off leash), and they should be aware that there are many other places for them to enjoy being outdoors, but there is very little area for dogs to be off leash. Warning signs could be posted so that no one is surprised by an off-leash dog. Also, park boundaries should be clearly marked which they are not now. People can not hike outside the park if they do not know where the park boundary is.	9/8/2014 2:58 PM
3	You can't let a small group of complainers, bikers, runners, equestrians to control and subdivide the open space. You already brought Spanish springs pickle ball people here to ruin the tennis courts. Be careful of unintended consequences!!8	9/8/2014 1:33 PM
4	The real issue with Hidden Valley dog walkers arose with an over zealous Park Ranger who started harassing dog walkers who have used the park for years! Ninety nine percent of dog walkers are courteous, there will always be the one percent who are not. Hope you will weigh the complaints received at just Hidden Valley Park (not including the Link Piazza dog area) to what will more than likely double if the park is designated off leash and advertised as such. More people, more problems! This park has benefited considerably from dog walkers who go out of their way to help maintain and watch over the park!	9/3/2014 9:43 AM
5	The problem with dogs off leash is when they approach and the owner is not in control of the dog you never can be sure of the dogs disposition.	9/2/2014 4:31 PM
6	I have walked my dogs in the areas south of the fenced Link Piazza Park for almost 12 years now and have never had any negative incidents with other dogs, other people, bikers, hikers and so on. Everyone has always been friendly and considerate, even bikers and joggers. I always keep my dogs away from bikers and joggers and so do other dog walkers. I feel certain everyone can coexist in a wide open off-leash area (and I also get more exercise by walking the dogs for a mile to a mile and a half).	9/2/2014 9:53 AM
7	It's hard for me to walk on steep areas. I would prefer the (?) loop!	9/2/2014 9:48 AM
8	I have walked the area with my dog for 30+ years	9/2/2014 9:38 AM
9	Lack of respect - not picking up dog waste	9/2/2014 9:33 AM
10	I appreciate your consideration in this matter and also your efforts	9/2/2014 9:31 AM
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