



DOG PARK EXPLORATION

Presented
September 8, 2025

DOG PARK CONTEXT

BACKGROUND

PEC Topic in Previous Years
Including 2014, 2022 and 2024

Identified as an amenity of interest at Parks Summit,
March 2025



Dog park ideas include:

- Use of existing park space
- Use of non-city owned parcels
- "Pocket" Dog Parks



WHY HASN'T THE DOG PARK BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN THE PAST?

BACKGROUND

Space Availability	Saint Anthony Village is fully-developed (built out)
Geographic Boundaries	Small City – 2.5 Sq. Miles
Cost	Projects of this scope impact budget
Staffing	Maintenance and Labor Costs



BEST PRACTICES SUMMARY

Size	Recommended minimum size for dog parks varies considerably among cities but is generally between $\frac{1}{2}$ acre and one acre.
Buffer from Residential	A few cities provide definitive distances from residences, varying from 50 feet to 200 feet.
Parking	All strive to minimize conflicts and include guidelines: making sure noise and activity levels are no more than other park uses, importance of screening or visual buffers, and having minimal impact on residences.
Conflict Avoidance	Recommendations include: parking should be readily accessible and near site, sufficient/adequate size and convenient. There were no standards for size but stress importance of parking when locating a dog park.



STAFFING

Daily / Every Other Day Tasks*

5-6 hours/ week

- Pet waste pickup and bag refill
- Trash and waste disposal monitoring/emptying
- Visual inspection of fence, gates, latches, park cleanliness
- Walking the park for spot-cleaning and other issues

Monthly Tasks

8-12 hours/month

- Fence and latch repairs
- Minor grading, filling of worn paths and holes
- Park condition reporting and documentation

Seasonal / Quarterly Tasks

20-30+ hours/quarter

- Hauling in and spreading mulch
- Repairs to trail or damage from hauling equipment
- Odor management/additional waste clean-up in warmer months
- Snow removal from access paths and gates (if open year-round)

**Possibly 10-15 hours a week during peak season or after weather events*



POTENTIAL OPTIONS

Location	Size	Residential Buffer	Parking	Conflict Avoidance
Central Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Largest park in city.• Would need to displace another service in order to consider.	Doesn't meet residential buffer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Existing on-site parking.• Parking competes with existing uses of park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High use area.• Low conflict avoidance.
Emerald Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smallest park in city.• Area is not configured to accommodate a city-wide use.	Doesn't meet residential buffer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On-street parking only.• Would not meet demand.	Medium conflict avoidance.
Silver Point Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medium sized park.• Would need to displace another service to consider.• Possible dog park size: approximately 0. 5 – 1.15 acres	Doesn't meet residential buffer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Existing on-site parking.• Parking over-utilized based on current uses.	Medium conflict avoidance.



LOCATION CONSIDERATIONS: Overall

OTHER LOCATIONS

Several alternative locations for green space outside of the City's three main parks have been suggested in the past.

Why this alternative is not feasible

- Site incompatibility (site not owned by city, site does not provide level ground for a dog park)
- Noise considerations due to close proximity with neighbors
- City wide vs neighborhood park
- Staff maintenance demand would be even greater with an additional site



LOCATION CONSIDERATIONS: Best Practices

NO IDEAL LOCATION

No location in the City has ideal conditions to reflect dog park best practices

Silver Point Park could have the least adverse impacts with strategic modifications

- Staff do not recommend adding a dog park to Silver Point as is
- Would need to modify existing services in order to accommodate



SILVER POINT PARK: Existing Amenities

EXISTING AMENITIES

Full accessible playground added in 2024

Half basketball court repaved in 2024

Sidewalk and trail repairs made in 2024

Ice rinks (hockey and pleasure rinks)

Two Ballfields

SILVER POINT PARK



All Accessible Play Equipment



SILVER POINT PARK: Dog Park Challenges

CURRENT SITUATION

Two Ball Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Result in high volumes of parking and trafficParking lot and neighborhood is not designed to accommodate
Ball Field #2 Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Silver Point Park was designed as a retention pondOften not able to be used
Ice Rinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion of sustainability with warmer winters
Modification Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Could replace either the ball field #2 or the ice rinks with a dog park



SILVER POINT PARK: Dog Park Opportunities

	Ball Field #2	Ice Rink
Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduces ball field activities and associated parking and traffic congestionReduces ball field maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduces the quantity of ice rinks maintained by the city
Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Area will experience wash outs from heavy rain eventsProximity to accessible playgroundTrail/path infrastructure needed to access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proximity to residential back yardsIce rink is popular amenity for neighborhood



CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE

PRELIMINARY

A preliminary estimate for anticipated construction costs of a dog park is just over \$192k.*

Not currently in CIP for Parks

Competing priorities for city budget

**For preliminary purposes only and does not account for any specific location.*



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

1. Should we move forward with pursuing a Dog Park?
2. Recommendation to City Council: If we consider a dog park, which location?



THANK YOU