



Skagway Dog Park Discussion

We request that the Skagway Parks & Rec committee add Skagway Dog Park as an item to their next meeting agenda and that the idea be included in the upcoming discussions of our 2030 Comprehensive plan.

As many Skagway residents have expressed a need for a dog park in Skagway, on Sunday, February 10th, a community discussion was held at the Skagway Public Library to explore the idea. It was an informal citizens discussion, not hosted by any group or government organization. During the discussion, several potential properties were identified as possible locations for a dog park. The consensus of the discussion was to move forward with the possibility of developing a dog park and to bring the idea into the public forum.

In attendance on February 10, 2019:

Wendy Anderson, Deb Boettcher, Katherine Selmer Moseley, Karen Boyce, Skipper Stovell, Kari Rain, Jesse Baker, Sherry Corrington, Andrew Cremata, Orion Hanson

Written comments shared by Samantha Welch

Dog Parks

- Encourage responsible pet ownership
- Provide seniors and the disabled community members with an accessible place to exercise their pets
- Foster community building through socialization & information sharing
- Customarily aid in reducing barking and other problem behaviors
- Give dogs a safe place to exercise and play

Potential Sites discussed

1. Favored sites

a. Old Paintball Site - State of Alaska/MOS

- i. Positives:
 - 1. few current conflicting uses/users
 - 2. Largest available space for outdoor recreation
- ii. Negatives:
 - 1. Distance for people without cars
 - 2. Access by tracks/developing parking
 - 3. Assembly members wish to use area for high density housing¹

b. Field on Broadway between Pullen Creek & WP&YR Depot

- i. Positives:
 - 1. Nearby parking areas
 - 2. Good Winter location
- ii. Negatives:
 - 1. Train and passenger congestion in the area will increase dramatically in 2019 as visitor numbers grow and WP&YR is increasing train departures from 2 daily to 8 daily departures.²
 - 2. Must cross busy roads from parking areas, increasing the danger of dog/vehicle/visitor conflicts

c. Seventh Pastures old Brush Pile Area - State of Alaska

- i. Positives:
 - 1. Good year round location
 - 2. Heavily used recreation area
- ii. Negatives:
 - 1. Heavily used recreation area
 - 2. Safety concerns of people dropping dogs off while using ballfield or disc golf course

¹ 2/7/2019. Dave Brena, Assembly Meeting Audio

² <https://wpyr.com/excursions/product/summit-excursion/>

3.

2. Other sites discussed

a. North of School

- i. Site not an option due to school track plans

b. Alaska Dike Area

- i. Conflicting current uses by ATV users, walkers, runners, bicycles
- ii. Army Corp of Engineers has restrictions on use

c. Skagway Recreation Center Field

- i. Conflicting current uses by after school program & multiple summer uses.
- ii. Potential Rec Center expansion
- iii. Dog owners expressed concern about being on State Street

Funding

1. Funding Goals: Raise all building funds through community donations

a. Establish where funds will be held

- 1. MOS
- 2. Paws & Claws
- 3. SDC

b. Work with local builder to see if they will do project at discount or cost.

c. Individual Donations

- i. Donation recognition sign at entrance or on fence sections
 - 1. Could be family sponsorship/remembrance plaques
 - 2. Fund a fence section fundraiser
 - 3. Large donation solicitations/fund shelter and benches:
 - a. ATIA
 - b. Local area businesses

Project Checklist

If development of a Skagway Dog Park receives public support, we have identified the following development stages.

I. Project Stages

- Identify potential site.
- Public Meetings - general/library, civic affairs, Parks & Rec
- Receive permissions. MOS or State
- Negotiate installation price with construction company
- Build the park:
 - Separate small & large dog areas
 - Double gates at entry points.
 - Large gate for maintenance vehicle entry.
 - dog poop bag station,
 - rules signage by all gates
- Parking area: disabled parking signs, rocks around fence for protection
- Landscaping: Spruce trees at north end, lay sod?
- Wind Shelter
- Benches
- Dog tunnel/Hill climb

