

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 12:00 PM
To: PARKS_ParksAndRecreation <ParksAndRecreation@smcgov.org>
Subject: Expand the access for dogs & dogowners

Hi,

We've had our dog, Scamper, for 13 years. We got her as a one-year-old from the San Jose shelter. Our children grew up with Scamper. We lived in the East Bay and enjoyed the Regional Parks where we could bike while the dog ran alongside. We discovered the wonderful off leash dog parks, Point Isabel and Fort Funston. We never went to State Parks because they don't allow dogs. Now our dog is old, the kids are in college and we live in El Granada.

There are some wonderful spots here too, but we have found San Mateo County to be much more restrictive. Whatever the regulation the common practice here is to allow your dog off leash at places like Surfers' Beach, Pillar Point and Quarry Park. It is lovely!

When 40% of households have a dog it doesn't feel fair that there is so few places for dogs, especially off leash locations. Our dog was totally unsocialized when she came from the pound. I put in a lot of work to have her get used to other dogs, our cats, horses, cows etc. I think the ability to have a dog off leash is very important to make them relaxed and able to relate to other dogs without aggression.

Please make San Mateo County more dog friendly. Most people love dogs, and for kids to grow up with a dog is a wonderful thing. If we can't bring the dog, we won't go, and to keep 40% of the population out of 95% of recreational areas just doesn't seem fair.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Dogs in freedom behave better!

March 4, 2019

San Mateo County Parks
Dog Access Meeting
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA.

Hello, my name is [REDACTED], I'm a resident of Moss Beach and I'd like to highlight a couple of statistics that are useful to our discussions.

- The most recent census statistics for San Mateo County (2010) reflected total households of ~ 258,000, a number which has undoubtedly increased since that time.
- The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates that 40% of households in the United States own one or more dogs.
- Interpolating these numbers means that at least 103,000 households in San Mateo County own one or more dogs.

These animals are family members to us and we deserve to have space to roam and play with them on our public lands. In fact, most dog owners would not even consider accessing our county parks without our dogs.

Our county parks belong to us all and it is government's obligation to find compromise solutions pertaining to access. Thousands of people have signed a petition asking for Fair Dog Walking Access in San Mateo County Parks and we are here today to ask that you do the right thing and open our parks to Fair Access for all.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
Moss Beach



WRITTEN COMMENT TO THE DOG PILOT WORKGROUP

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND HAND IT TO STAFF

DATE: 3/04/19

IF WRITING ON BEHALF OF AN ORGANIZATION, PLEASE IDENTIFY:

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR COMMENTS:

On-leash dog walking should be allowed in all county parks (with exception of the Marine Fitzgerald Reserve). It is appalling, outright discrimination, and completely unfair that County Parks has excluded on-leash dog walking in most of the county parks!

This dog pilot program should be to provide off-leash sites on the coast and on the peninsula. On the coast, people, such as myself, have been walking Pillar Point Bluff and Quarry Park off-leash for decades.

Your comments will be distributed to the Work Group.

It is not a criminal act to throw a ball for your dog to run and play catch!

It is not a criminal act to allow our dogs a chance to be dogs — to run, play and socialize with other dogs.

And we should not be harassed and ticketed for doing so!

We should not be punished for the county's unfair policies!

Dog owners pay taxes to the county too!



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The county parks belong to the people of San Mateo. As we know, about 40% of these people are dog owners. It is a safe assumption that these people would like to walk their dogs on these trails. Many of the citizens of this county need dog access in the parks most accessible to their homes so that they can enjoy them without having to drive their cars to a dog friendly area.

People with dogs have every right to use the parks as long as they follow simple rules to keep everyone safe and minimize trail impact.

Your comments will be distributed to the Work Group.

This should not be difficult to achieve and certainly doesn't require that dog owners be shut out from our rights to use these parks for exercise and recreation as is their right as citizens of San Mateo county. of course, in order to have a say in this matter, people need to have knowledge about these meetings where dog access is discussed. I would not know anything about these meetings if it weren't the efforts of Christine Corwin of Coastside Dogging.