

TO: James L. App, City Manager

FROM: Julie Dahlen, Director, Library and Recreation Services

SUBJECT: Change in Venue for Approved Dog Park

DATE: November 1, 2011

Needs: For the City Council to consider a change of venue for the development and operation of an off-leash dog park.

Facts:

1. On March 2, 2010, the City Council authorized development of a proposal that included identifying property for a potential dog park and negotiating a lease agreement with San Luis Obispo Parks, Open Space & Trails Foundation (SLOPOST) through their project committee Parks 4 Pups for the development and operation of the park.
2. On October 19, 2010, the City Council authorized:
 - i. The open space area adjacent to Larry Moore Park as a suitable location for a future dog park.
 - ii. An Option to Lease and a lease between the City and SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups.
3. Subsequent to Council's approval of the Larry Moore Park location, extreme concern was expressed by the residents of the Riverbank neighborhood about the location of a dog park in a residential area.
4. City staff and Parks 4 Pups explored other City sites which were less residential in nature. Parks 4 Pups now favors the undeveloped parcel immediately east of the Paso Robles Senior Center on Scott Street as the site of a temporary dog park.
5. The Scott Street property has been identified in the Sherwood Master Plan as the future site of a major tennis court complex; Parks 4 Pups has expressed a willingness to lease the property temporarily, until the City has the funding to begin that phase of the Sherwood Park Master Plan.
6. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee voted 4-1 in favor of this temporary use of the Sherwood property.
7. Other community stakeholders expressed mixed opinions:
 - i. Members of the Senior Advisory Committee agree that a temporary dog park adjacent to the Senior Center will provide a complementary amenity to the Center.
 - ii. Minor concern regarding dog park visitors parking in the Senior Center parking lot are tempered by the expectation that peak use of the dog park will be after 5:00 p.m. and on weekends when the Senior Center is closed. Additionally, the City is designing street improvements, which will include 11 angled parking spaces on Scott Street in front of the area

under consideration. CDBG Funds will fund these improvements, tentatively slated for mid-2012.

- iii. The Sherwood Master Plan calls for the construction of restrooms on this parcel, but the proposed dog park does not. Senior Advisory Committee members did not object to the possibility that the restrooms at the Senior Center will be utilized by dog park visitors during the open hours at the Center. Veteran's Center participants were invited to provide input but declined.
- iv. Input from local tennis players regarding a temporary deviation from the Sherwood Master Plan has fallen on both sides of the issue: some members of the North County Women's Tennis Club feel that construction of a dog park on this property may delay the construction of much-needed tennis courts in Paso Robles, others support this temporary use.

Analysis and

Conclusion: SLOPOST, through their project committee Parks 4 Pups, offered to develop and operate an off-leash dog park at no cost to the City. In March, 2010, City Council directed staff to find a suitable location and to negotiate a lease with SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups, and in October 2010, City Council approved the property adjacent to Larry Moore Park for the development and operation of the dog park as well as an Option to Lease and a lease. Neighborhood opposition to the Larry Moore site prompted City staff to identify another suitable site which is less residential in nature. The undeveloped parcel adjacent to the Paso Robles Senior Center on Scott Street is now favored by Parks 4 Pups as a site for a temporary dog park.

Policy

Reference:

- March 2, 2010 Council direction to negotiate a non-profit lease with SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups
- October 19, 2010 Council approval of an Option to Lease and lease with SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups
- Sherwood Park Master Plan
- General Plan, Parks & Recreation element
- City Council Goals – Live within our means

Fiscal

Impact: No direct costs. Lease income is \$1 per year.

Options:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 11-xxx approving change of venue from the property adjacent to Larry Moore Park in the Riverbank neighborhood to the property adjacent to the Paso Robles Senior Center on Scott Street for the construction of a temporary dog park and authorize City staff to move forward on a Conditional Use Permit filed by SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups.
- b. Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

Attachments: Map of proposed dog park area within the Sherwood Master Plan
Concept drawing for temporary dog park
Letters for and against the Sherwood venue
Resolution

Preliminary Master Plan
Sherwood Park
City of El Paso de Robles

Proposed site for
temporary dog park



AS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON SEPT. 2, 2003

SHERWOOD DOG PARK

PROPOSED ELEMENTS

1. ENTRANCE AREAS
2. DONATION POSTS
3. SPONSOR ADVERTISING PANEL
4. PARK SIGNAGE
5. TRASH CANS + DOG BAG DISPENSER
6. ROLL-OUT TRASH BINS
7. ARBOR (24'x40')
8. WATER PADS
9. SHELTERS
10. TOOL SHED
11. 14' DRIVE-THRU GATES
12. DECOMPOSED GRANITE PATHS
13. ACCESS PATH
14. PERIMETER + INTERIOR FENCING
15. IRRIGATION CONNECTION
16. PVC PRESSURE LINE
17. VALVES FOR DRIP IRRIGATION

EXISTING ELEMENTS

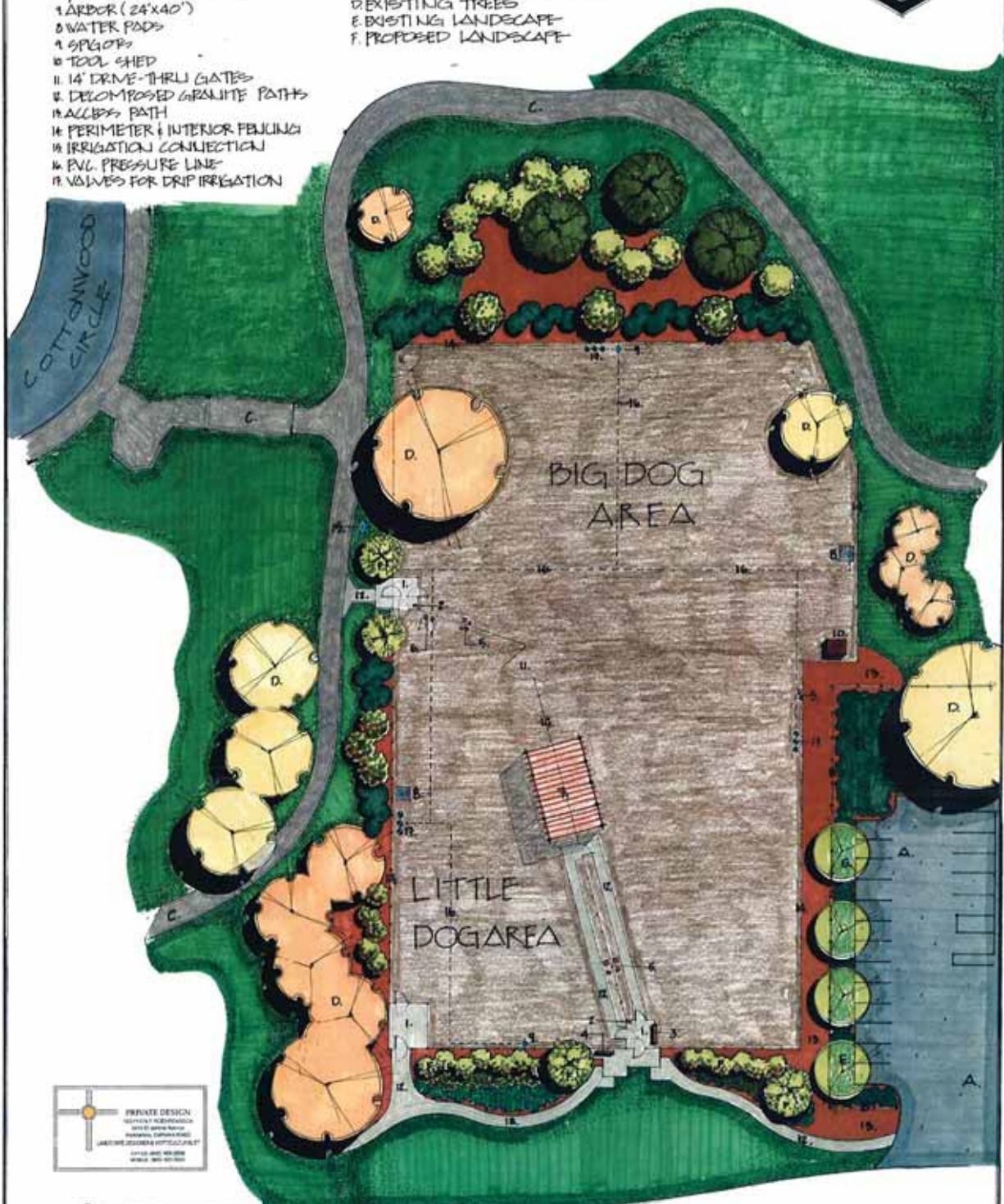
- A. SENIOR CENTER PARKING
- B. WROUGHT IRON FENCING
- C. EXISTING PATHWAYS + PAVED AREAS

LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

- D. EXISTING TREES
- E. EXISTING LANDSCAPE
- F. PROPOSED LANDSCAPE

SCALE: 1" = 20'

North



SCOTT STREET

Paso Robles Parks and Recreation
Centennial Park
Paso Robles, Ca 93446

Re: proposed dog park location

To: Committee to chose Dog Park Site

We, of the North County Women's Tennis Club, were informed by a representative of the Dog Park Committee with a proposed concept to build a special park for dogs. This idea is wonderful. However, the site they are choosing is the future proposed area for tennis courts. We are not in favor of losing the potential site to another group. It is our understanding that there are five other sites that could be chosen for their park.

We want the proposed site for tennis expansion. Once the possible tennis courts site is used for another group, it is difficult to move or replace them. Obviously Sherwood Park courts are heavily used and need to be replaced so keeping the proposed site is sacrosanct to us. We hope they can find one of the other five sites to build to their satisfaction.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eileen Panter".

Eileen Panter, President
North County Women's Tennis Club

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

City of Paso Robles, Library, Parks and Recreation Staff

To Everyone concerned:

The North County Women's Tennis Club has taken no official position on the proposal to build a temporary dog park upon the site of tennis courts included in the master plan for the Sherwood Park area. The issue has not been considered by our executive committee, nor has it been voted upon by our general membership.

Recently, you received a letter from our president, Eileen Panter, stating the Club's opposition to the siting of the dog park. This does not represent the club or its membership. It does represent her opposition and that of several members.

I have talked with many of our members. It is a mixed bag, some in opposition, some in favor, some really non-committal until they have more information. There is no clear consensus.

I personally support the dog park on the proposed site, knowing that the park can move; if, and when, the city is ever able to build more tennis courts. I believe we need many types of recreational facilities and a dog park will be an excellent recreational opportunity for many citizens. Yes, I play tennis, and I am a member of Parks 4 Pups.

Sincerely,

Louise M. French, President NCHTC

Louise "Letty" French, 14140 Chimney Rock Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446. 805-239-7338

August 10, 2011

RESOLUTION NO. 11-xxx

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
APPROVING A CHANGE OF VENUE FOR APPROVED DOG PARK**

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2010, the City Council authorized development of a proposal that included identifying property for a potential dog park and negotiating a lease agreement with San Luis Obispo Parks, Open Space & Trails Foundation (SLOPOST) through their project committee Parks 4 Pups for the development and operation of the park; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2010, the City Council authorized the open space area adjacent to Larry Moore Park as a suitable location for a future dog park and approved an Option to Lease and a lease between the City and SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups; and

WHEREAS, concern was expressed by the residents of the Riverbank neighborhood about the location of a dog park in a residential area; and

WHEREAS, City staff and Parks 4 Pups explored other City sites which were less residential in nature, identifying the undeveloped parcel immediately east of the Paso Robles Senior Center on Scott Street as a potentially suitable site for a temporary dog park; and

WHEREAS, the Scott Street property has been identified in the Sherwood Master Plan as the future site of a major tennis court complex, prompting Parks 4 Pups to lease the property temporarily, until the City has the funding to begin that phase of the Sherwood Park Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee voted 4-1 in favor of this temporary use of the Sherwood property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of El Paso De Robles (City) hereby approves a change of venue from the property adjacent to Larry Moore Park in the Riverbank neighborhood to the property adjacent to the Paso Robles Senior Center on Scott Street for the construction of a temporary dog park and authorizes City staff to move forward on a Conditional Use Permit filed by SLOPOST/Parks 4 Pups.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso De Robles this 1st day of November 2011.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of El Paso De Robles by the following roll call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Duane Picanco, Mayor

Caryn Jackson, Deputy City Clerk