Introduction

This report culminates a study of the Dog Friendly Parks (Off-Leash) Pilot Program which was launched last spring (2019) with the intent to determine a path forward for Logan City. Under consideration as a result of the Pilot Program is whether the program should end and resort back to no dogs allowed in City parks, convert the Pilot Program into a permanent program, or modify the Pilot Program and continue moving forward.

As part of the Pilot Program, eight locations were selected including Jens Johansen Park, 850 East 100 North; Jones Neighborhood Park, 400 West 625 North; Kilowatt Park, 331 South 300 West; Logan Meadows Park, 350 South 600 West; Pioneer Parkway, 165 East Poplar; Ray Hugie Hydro Park, Northside of US 89 at Canyon Road; and the Logan Service Center East Lawn Area, 810 West 600 North. At the onset of the Pilot Program, volunteers participated in dog dropping clean-up efforts at various City parks. In March of 2020, another clean-up effort was scheduled, but later curtailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Report

This report focuses on the eight Pilot Program sites as mentioned. Other City park sites that were not in the Pilot Program will be addressed separately at a later time.

During the 12-month program, City staff received public feedback, a public survey was conducted between January 6 and March 31, 2020, and observations made by Parks and Recreation Department staff. Additionally, Logan City Police furnished a report with data collected during the Pilot Program. A brief summary is provided below:

Public Feedback

With one exception, comments regarding the Pilot Program locations indicate the program is working as intended. However, configuration of the Logan Meadows Park has caused problems. The park is surrounded by homes which have backyards directly connected to the park, and many neighbors submitted feedback with concerns including dogs entering open backyards, fear of dogs approaching persons unsolicited, dog droppings, concern for children, and dogs not under owner’s control.

Survey Input

From the Logan Parks and Recreation Department Citizen Satisfactory Survey:

Question No. 4: Should the City of Logan continue to offer dog friendly off-leash park sites? 851 respondents. Methods for collecting input included face-to-face at various gatherings and online.
Yes: 82.49%
No: 12.93%
Unsure: 4.58%

Citizen Satisfaction Survey – Question No. 4 attached.

Logan City Police Department Report

Logan City Police Department provided a report taken between April 2019 and April 2020 that targeted parks where dogs were not permitted off leash. Animal Control officers issued 22 citations and gave 107 warnings. The report indicates that most persons contacted were warned. Citations were a response to individuals who had previously been warned for allowing a dog off leash in a prohibited area. Logan Police Department Report attached.

Staff Observations

Department staff observations: there is still a problem with dogs both on and off leash in City parks not in the Pilot Program, dog droppings along trail shoulders and in parks, dog droppings in bags not placed in provided trash cans, one report of a dog chasing jogger and a bicyclist at Ray Hugie Hydro Park; however, we also observed dogs under owner control in Pilot Program parks, and picking up after their dog; requests for refilling dispensers with bags; and suggestions for biodegradable dog bags. We have had many emails of appreciation from responsible dog owners who are very happy to have some legal parks to play in with their dogs off leash.

Staff Recommendation

Based on the information received and the observations made, the Parks and Recreation Department recommends we make the Pilot Program permanent in seven of eight Pilot locations, excluding Logan Meadows Park. The Department recommendation moving forward includes continued monitoring and public awareness campaigns for picking up after one’s dog and disposing bagged dog droppings in designated Park trash cans, using only designated off leash parks.

Dogs are prohibited in all other City parks, unless leashed dogs are with owners on a designated City trail (sidewalk/shared use path) which passes through the park. All City trails do allow leashed dogs as well.

The parks recommended to be permanent Dog Friendly Parks area:

Jens Johnansen Park, 850 East 100 North
Jones Neighborhood Park, 400 West 625 North
Kilowatt Park, 331 South 300 West
Pioneer Parkway, 165 East Poplar Avenue
Ray Hugie Hydro Park, Northside of US 89 at Canyon Road
Logan Service Center East Lawn Area, 810 West 600 North
To: Debbie Harvey
From: Sgt Ryan Blau (LCPD)

RE: Dogs in parks.

This is the data I was able to collect ranging from April 2019 to April 2020. During this time, our AC officers were tasked with specifically targeting the parks where dogs were not allowed off leash.

Citations issued from April 2019 to April 2020 22

Warnings issued from April 2019 to April 2020 107

We tasked the AC Officers with this in coordination with the pilot program and focused solely on it for a couple months. The officers then spent time on their own after to follow up. The majority of individuals contacted were initially warned due to the new law. The citations were a response to individuals who had previously been warned for allowing a dog off leash in a prohibited area.

If there is any other information you need, I would be happy to try and get that to you.

Thank you

Sincerely

Sgt Ryan Blau
Logan City Police
Administration Sergeant.
Q4 Should the City of Logan continue to offer dog friendly off-leash park sites? (Jens Johansen Park, Jones Neighborhood Park, Kilowatt Park, Logan Meadows Park, Pioneer Parkway, Ray Hugie Hydro Park, Logan Service Center East Lawn)

Answered: 851 Skipped: 0

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<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>82.49%</td>
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