LAUDERDALE PILOT PROJECT
PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND SURVEY

WHAT WE HEARD

FEBRUARY - MARCH, 2017
To accommodate the growing demand for residents and dogs in public spaces, the City is carefully considering the way it addresses the unique needs of dog off-leash sites. The Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy looks at how dog off-leash areas are planned, designed and managed, and will guide the Lauderdale pilot program, which is looking at urgent needs identified in the park.

The pilot’s goal is to align Lauderdale off-leash area with the Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy and address community need by adding amenities to the site, like waste bins, waste bag dispensers, signage, trees, shrubs and barriers. The City will identify the financial impacts of adding amenities, and input from park users and local residents will determine how the budget will be distributed.

Dog safety at off-leash parks is a top priority. Lauderdale was chosen as the site for the pilot project in part because it presented an opportunity to address community concerns regarding dog safety. While the pilot is underway, the City will be evaluating all existing 40+ dog off-leash areas to identify the priorities and needs of other areas.

**Background**

edmonton.ca/lauderdalepilotproject

**Key Points**

Safety and security at the park were top concerns. There were three recurring requests related to safety and security:

1. Fencing along the perimeter, especially along 127 Avenue and 113A Street, to prevent dogs from running onto the road.

2. Lighting to make the site safer and more accessible, especially during the winter months.

3. A separate small dog area to keep small or shy dogs safe and secure.

Based on the feedback gathered from the public consultation, 88% of comments supported some form of fencing at the park, and 26% of those comments supported full fencing. In the online survey, 50% of comments supported fully fencing the site.

Many respondents also noted the need for more trees and shrubs to beautify the park and provide windbreaks. There was also interest in expanding and/or upgrading the site parking lot.
**Communication**

- 5,154 Mailed Flyers
- 3 Roadside Signs
- 13 Community Leagues
- Posters at 7 off-leash parks
- 1 Public Service Announcement
- 100+ Event Cards
- 1 Project Webpage
- Posters and Reference cards at PetExpo
- 67K Facebook Page Likes
- 172K Twitter Followers
- Information Shared via 311

**Engagement Statistics**

- 550 people viewed the project website. Metro Edmonton, CBC and Global covered the consultation.
- 62 online surveys were completed.
- About 90 people attended the public consultation.
Results of Public Consultation

Safety and Security

[116 comments] 35% of all comments

70% addressed barrier installation. Of these comments:

- 29% requested partial fencing
- 26% requested full fencing
- 22% requested that fencing be used, not soft barriers
- 6% requested that there be no fence installation
- 5% recommended a mix between soft barriers and fencing
- 5% requested the addition of soft barriers
- 5% requested gates be included in fencing
- 1% requested for there to be no barriers
- 1% requested fencing only at the parking lot

88% of comments on barriers requested some form of fencing

21% addressed traffic as a major safety concern

8% requested additional enforcement and education on-site

1% identified wildlife as a potential safety issue
Amenities

- Parking lot enhancements: 18%
- Improved trails: 17%
- Washrooms: 11%
- Water features: 12%
- Small Dog Area: 11%
- Lighting within the off-leash area: 14%
- More waste bag dispensers: 7%
- Agility features: 2%
- More waste containers or an increase in servicing for waste: 8%

(133 comments) 40% of all comments
Landscaping and Beautification

[35 comments] 10% of all comments

- 10% requested that the west hill remain
- 7% requested the removal of weeds
- 6% requested no changes to trees or shrubs
- 29% requested general landscaping changes
- 3% requested the integration of open space
- 5% requested the removal of certain aspects of the current landscaping
- 40% requested an addition of trees and shrubs
Site Location and Context

(33 comments) 10% of all comments

75% addressed entry and exit locations. Of these comments:

- 48% identified the parking lot as entry/exit point
- 24% identified the NW corner as an entry/exit point
- 16% identified the NE corner as an entry/exit point
- 12% identified the SW as an entry/exit point
- 15% identified a gathering spot near the parking lot
- 10% identified a gathering spot as the center, trees or kiosk

Natural Features and Site Conditions

(17 comments) 5% of all comments said:

- 5% Water pools in the north west corner of the park
- 12% Issues with vehicles parking on grass
- 12% Water pools in the center of the park
- 29% Water pools in the parking lot and surrounding grass
- 18% Water pools on the west side near the hill and tree stand
- 24% Water pools near the service road that access the parking lot from the south
Online Survey Results

An online survey was open on the project website from February 16 to March 2.

62 responses were received.
How often do you visit Lauderdale off-leash area?

- Daily: 29%
- Weekly: 21%
- Monthly: 10%
- Yearly: 11%
- Never: 29%
Are enhancements to vegetation and landscaping needed at Lauderdale off-leash area?

40% of respondents identified a need for landscape enhancements and vegetation.

39% of respondents did not feel there was a need for landscape enhancements and vegetation.

21% of respondents don’t know.

Respondent Demographics

- 37% 25 - 34 Years Old
- 21% 35 - 44 Years Old
- 16% 45 - 54 Years Old
- 3% 55 - 64 Years Old
- 3% 18 - 24 Years Old
- 3% 65 Or Older
- 20% 25 - 34 Years Old
- 16% 45 - 54 Years Old
- 3% 55 - 64 Years Old
- 3% 18 - 24 Years Old
- 3% 65 Or Older
- 20% 25 - 34 Years Old
- 16% 45 - 54 Years Old
- 3% 55 - 64 Years Old
- 3% 18 - 24 Years Old
- 3% 65 Or Older
Respondent Neighbourhoods

10-11%
Kensington | 11%

7-9%
Rosslyn | 8%

4-6%
Athlone | 6%
Baturyn | 5%
Lauderdale | 6%

2-3%
Albany | 2%
Alberta Avenue | 2%
Anthony Henday | 2%
Avonmore | 2%
Belle Rive | 3%
Caernarvon | 3%
Calder | 3%
Callingwood South | 2%
Capilano | 2%
Carlisle | 2%
Carlton | 3%
Cloverdale | 2%
Dettion | 2%
Duggan | 2%
Dunluce | 2%
Glengarry | 2%
Griesbach | 2%
Hollick-Kenyon | 3%
Hudson | 2%
Lorelei | 2%
McLeod | 2%
Newton | 2%
Northmount | 2%
Oliver | 2%
Pleasantview | 2%
Ritchie | 2%
Summerside | 2%
Sweet Grass | 2%
Wellington | 2%
Westmount | 2%
Westwood | 3%
Other | 3%
The following maps include feedback from online survey participants.

A darker colour indicates a greater response.
Access Routes

Lauderdale Off-Leash Area

Legend

- Grand Trunk Park Boundary
- Dog Off Leash Area
High Risk Areas

Lauderdale Off-Leash Area
Recommended Locations for Fencing/Barriers

Lauderdale Off-Leash Area

Legend
- Grand Trunk Park Boundary
- Dog Off Leash Area