



Downtown Off-Leash Area Study

What We Heard

October 2019

Project overview

In July 2019, O2 Planning + Design was retained to conduct a Downtown Off-leash Area Study for The City of Calgary. Building upon the direction of [The City's Off-leash Area Management Plan](#), the intent of the study is to analyze the existing and projected use of off-leash areas in downtown, review best practices for downtown off-leash areas in other municipalities, and provide recommendations to guide the development of future off-leash areas in the city's core. The study included engagement with the public and stakeholders to get a better understanding of how residents of downtown access and use existing downtown off-leash areas and what features they would like to see in future off-leash areas. This feedback will inform the recommendations of the study.

Engagement overview

An online public survey was hosted on The City's Engage website from October 3 to October 21, 2019. Any member of the public could fill out the survey, although the survey was targeted for people who use downtown off-leash areas. The intent of the survey questions was to collect dog owner's experiences in travelling to, and using existing downtown off-leash areas and what could be improved in the renovation or design of new off-leash areas.

What we asked

In the online survey, participants were asked about their experiences using existing downtown off-leash areas. This included how they travel to off-leash areas, what amenities they would like to see at off-leash areas, and how the off-leash areas are currently meeting or not meeting their needs. The questions were specifically designed to determine:

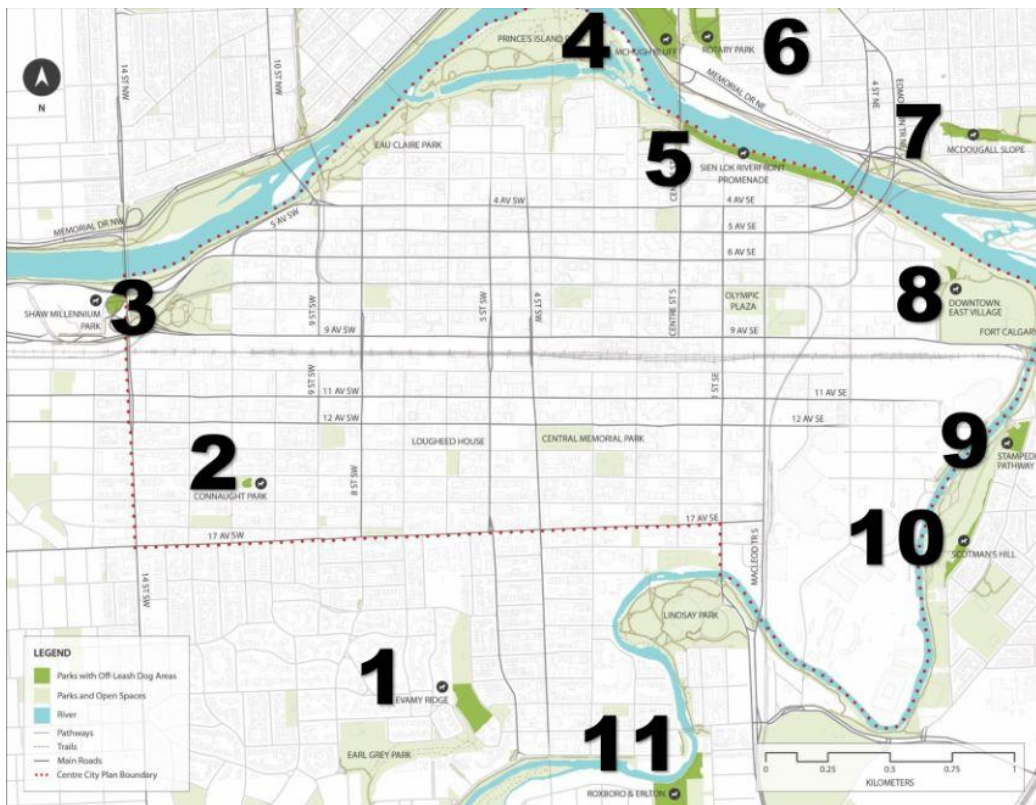
- How citizens get to off-leash areas and how far they are willing to travel to one;
- Which off-leash areas they use most frequently;
- How off-leash areas should be designed;
- Which amenities or features citizens would like The City to provide in off-leash areas;
- What is currently working or not working in downtown off-leash areas; and
- If new off-leash areas should be fenced.

The following questions were asked in the online survey:

Q1: How frequently do you visit an off-leash area? (Please select one)

- Never
- Rarely
- Occasionally
- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly

Q2: Which off-leash areas do you visit regularly?



Map Legend:

1. Evamy Ridge (Cliff Bungalow)	7. McDougall Slope (Bridgeland)
2. Connaught Park (Beltline)	8. Downtown East Village
3. Shaw Millennium Park (Sunalta)	9. Stampede Pathway (Ramsay)
4. McHugh Bluff (Sunnyside)	10. Scotman's Hill
5. Sien Lok Riverfront Promenade (Chinatown)	11. Roxboro & Erlton
6. Rotary Park (Crescent Heights)	



Downtown Off-Leash Area Study

What We Heard

October 2019

Q3: How do you typically travel to an off-leash area? (Please select one)

- Walk
- Bike
- Public transit
- Private vehicle
- Other (please specify)

Q4: How far would you travel to reach an off-leash area? (Please select one)

- Less than 5 minutes
- 5 – 10 minutes
- 10 – 20 minutes
- More than 20 minutes

Q5: Would you travel further to reach a larger off-leash area? (Please select one)

- Yes
- No

Q6: Do the off-leash areas within the downtown fulfill the needs of you and your dog? (Please select one)

- Yes
- No

Please tell us why?

Q7: What features would you like to see at downtown off-leash areas? (ranking) Please drag and drop the items from the left column to the right column from most important to least important.

- Seating for people
- Shade
- Drinking fountain
- Dog waste bag dispenser
- Dog agility equipment (e.g.) bridges and tunnels)
- Community notice and information board
- Dog cleaning station (e.g. hose and paved surface)



Q8: Off-leash dog areas in the downtown should be fenced (Please select one)

- Strongly disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Neutral
- Somewhat agree
- Strongly agree

What we heard

The City received 805 responses to the online survey. Overall, participants indicated that there is a need for more fenced off-leash areas in convenient locations within walking distance of residents. Many people commented on the importance of off-leash areas and the benefits they provide to both dogs and their owners.

Generally, participants felt that existing downtown off-leash areas are becoming overcrowded and overused. Many participants felt that the existing spaces were too small, particularly for larger dogs, and for the number of dogs using them at peak times. Participants suggested adding many more off-leash areas to address the demand. Some also recommended providing separate areas for small and large dogs, while others suggested limiting the number of dogs that could use the off-leash area at a time.

Convenience is the primary factor for participants choosing to use downtown off-leash areas. The survey respondents who use downtown off-leash areas primarily walk to them. Those who could not walk to them said that they used them less frequently and would likely drive to a larger park elsewhere. Many participants requested additional off-leash areas in more central locations within downtown, including throughout the Beltline community.

Most participants felt that all new off-leash areas should be fenced. Fenced off-leash areas were seen as safer because they help to minimize conflict between dogs and other surrounding uses and transportation routes (e.g. roads and pathways). Many people would not trust their dogs off-leash in an urban area without it being fully fenced.

There were mixed opinions on how off-leash areas should be designed. Many participants specifically talked about the terrain/ground of off-leash areas. Some wanted to see more off-leash areas with artificial turf, while others felt that the synthetic turf gets too slippery and unsafe when wet. Many wanted to see more naturalized spaces with grass and other vegetation. Several people commented on how they did not like the gravel surfacing of the Connaught off-leash area as it gets muddy when wet and can harm dogs' paws. The top features people wanted to see provided in off-leash areas were water fountains and dog waste bag dispensers. Additional suggestions included more lighting and pathways.

- For a detailed summary of the input that was provided, please see the [Summary of Input](#) section.



Downtown Off-Leash Area Study

What We Heard

October 2019

- For a verbatim listing of all the input that was provided, please see the [Verbatim Responses](#) section.

Next steps

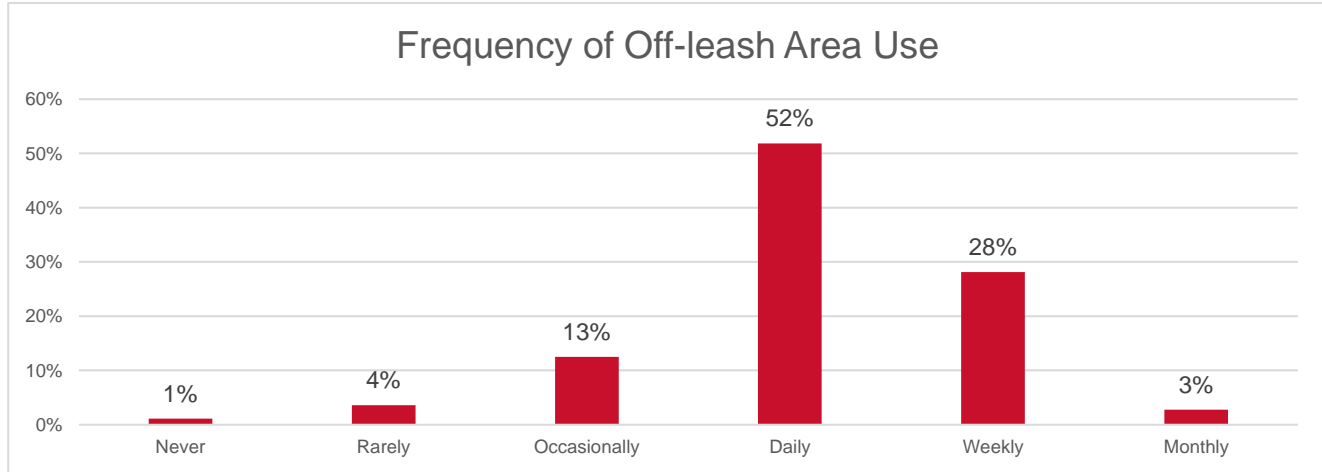
Feedback from this online survey will be used to shape recommendations on the future siting and design of downtown off-leash areas. All of the feedback collected from the engagement process will be included as an attachment to the final Downtown Off-leash Area Study, which will be completed later in 2019.

Summary of Input

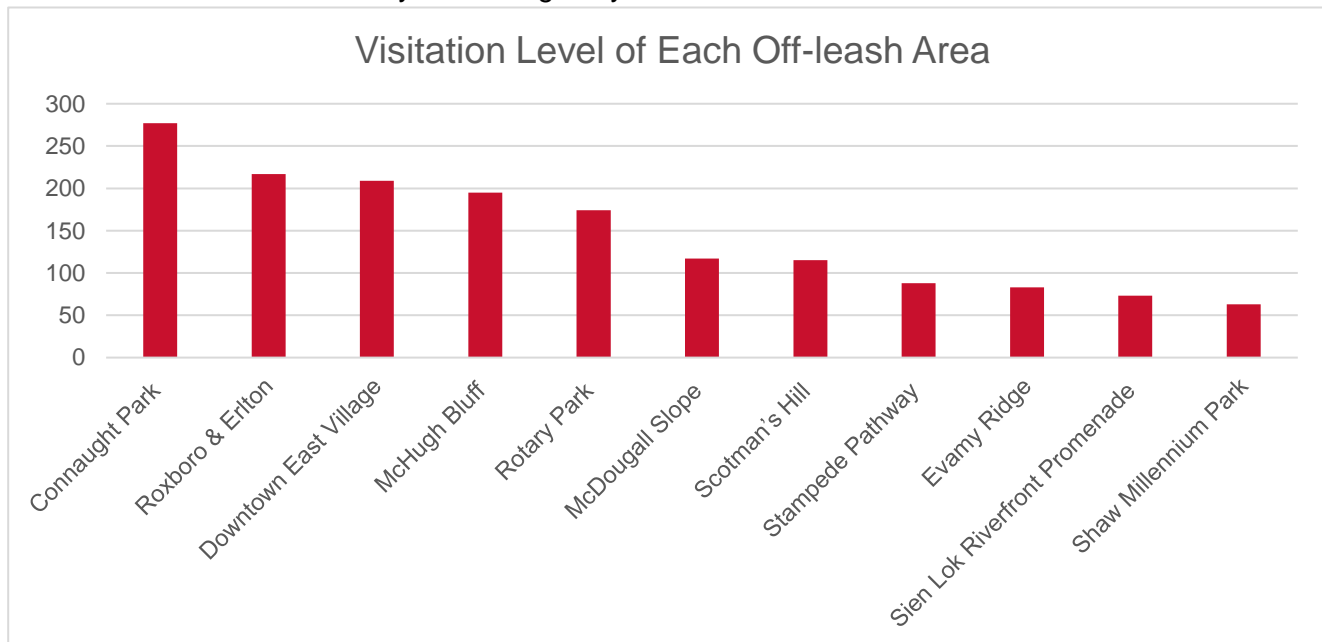
Please note that any proportions or percentages presented in this document are representative only of those who participated in this online survey and not Calgarians opinions as a whole. As the group of participants was self-selected and not identified through a scientific random sampling process, attempting to generalize these proportions or percentages to the whole city or any other population would not be appropriate.

Online Survey Results

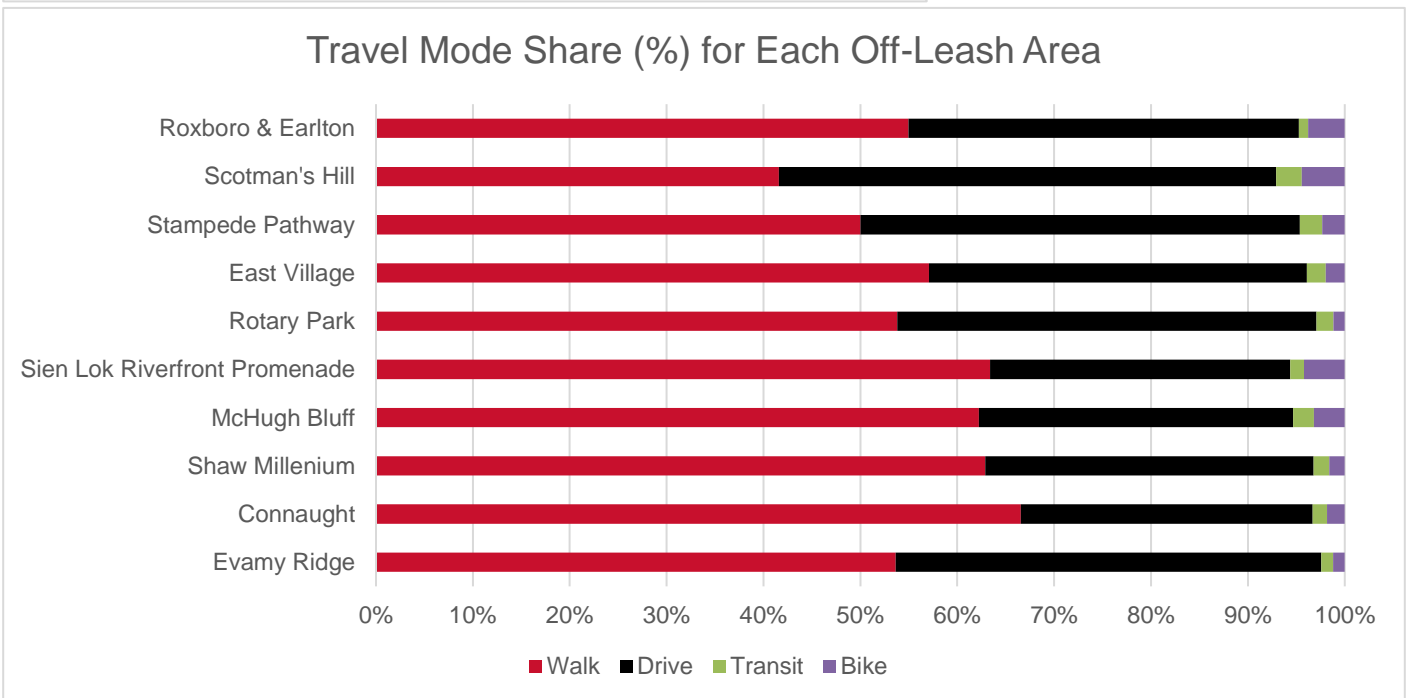
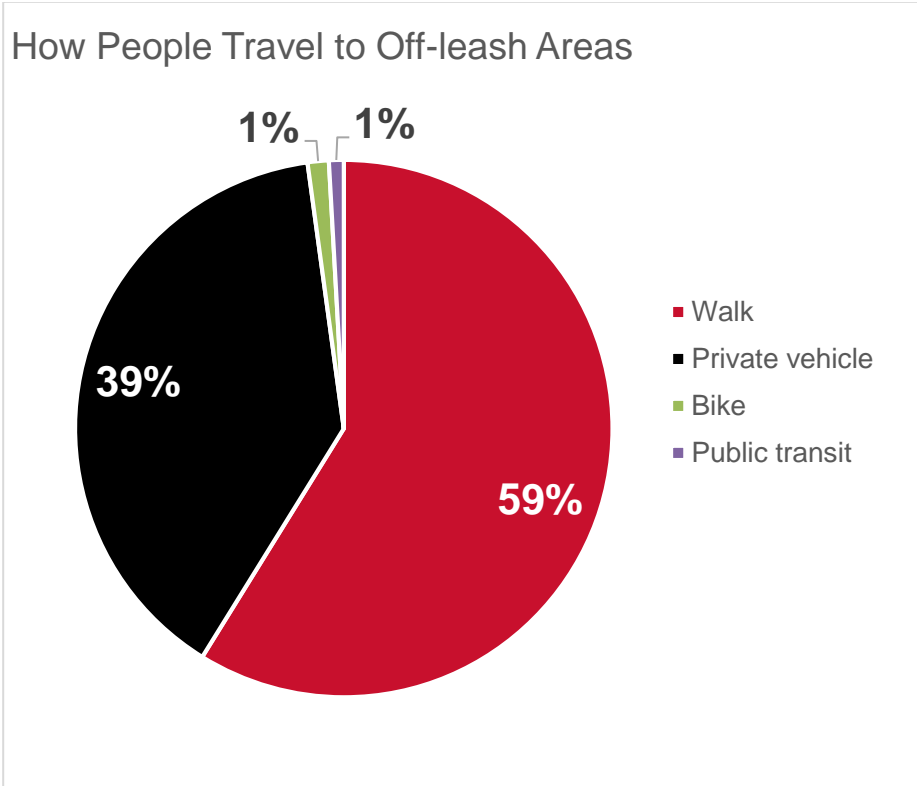
Q1: How frequently do you visit an off-leash area?



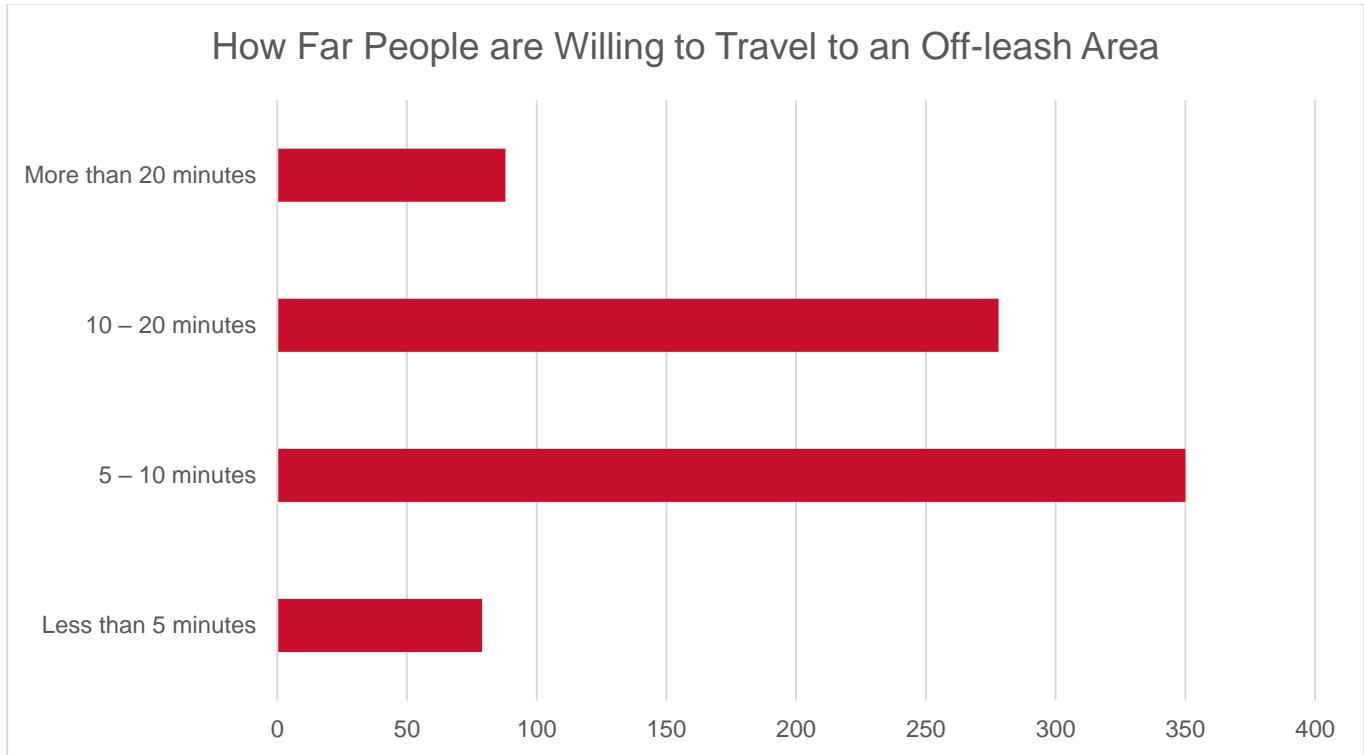
Q2: Which off-leash areas do you visit regularly?



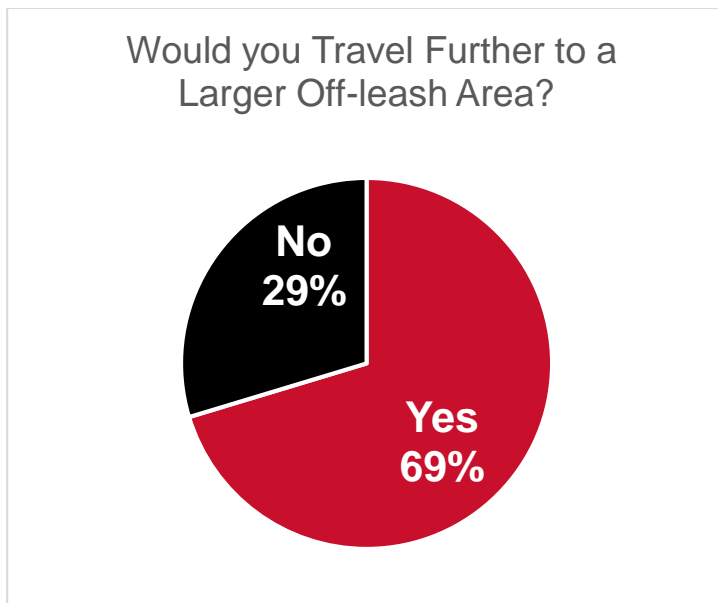
Q3: How do you typically travel to an off-leash area?



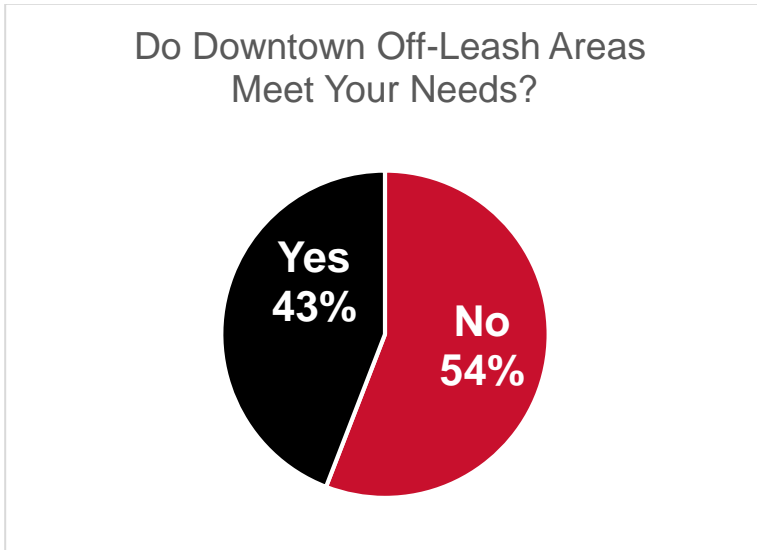
Q4: How far would you travel to reach an off-leash area?



Q5: Would you travel further to reach a larger off-leash area?



Q6: Do the off-leash areas within the downtown fulfill the needs of you and your dog?



Please tell us why?

Theme	Summary	Example Comments
Size of Off-leash areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many people felt that the existing off-leash areas in downtown are too small, particularly for large dogs to run. They felt that the spaces are overused and overcrowded because of this. 	<p><i>They are too crowded and small with owners not controlling their dogs.</i></p> <p><i>Not large enough</i></p> <p><i>Not enough space for the amount of dogs. Some dogs need their space away from other dogs.</i></p>
Fencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most people wanted off-leash areas to be fenced, particularly where off-leash areas are adjacent to roadways or busy pathways. 	<p><i>Many of these parks are not appropriately fenced, meaning there is nothing preventing dogs from running into the street.</i></p> <p><i>Would prefer that they are all fenced due to proximity to higher vehicular and bike/pedestrian traffic</i></p> <p><i>I wish more areas were fenced in, my dog can be too adventurous...</i></p>



<p>Location (Convenience and Walkability) of Off-Leash Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenience and walkability were important factors that people living close to off-leash areas used them. • Many people who indicated that downtown off-leash areas did not meet their needs said it was because they were too far away or inconvenient to access. 	<p><i>The one near my house is convenient we use it daily sometimes twice a day.</i></p> <p><i>I want to walk to a dog park and there's only one within walking distance (that's fenced)</i></p> <p><i>They are often too small and there are not a lot of options close by, in walking distance.</i></p>
<p>Number of Downtown Off-Leash Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people requested more dog-off leash areas in more central areas of downtown, particularly in the Beltline community. • Some people felt that needs could be met by having several small off-leash areas in walkable locations, while others felt that there should be a few larger areas. • Some people thought that underutilized space parks in downtown should be converted to off-leash areas. 	<p><i>It would be great to have more fenced, well-maintained parks in more areas of downtown (smallish parks that, if there are a lot of them, won't be too busy).</i></p> <p><i>I'd love to see a larger fenced in off leash park</i></p> <p><i>There are very few off leash options in the central part of the city but a higher density of residents, many of whom don't have yards for their dogs. More off leash space would be great</i></p>
<p>Terrain/Surface of Off-Leash Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were mixed opinions on what type of terrain should be used for dog parks. • Some people really liked the artificial turf at the East Village Dog Park, while others felt it was too dangerous/slippery when wet. • Several people said that Connaught Dog Park was too rocky/unsafe and gets muddy when wet. • Several people wanted to see more grass/naturalized spaces. • Some people commented on safety issues in off-leash areas when there is snow or ice. • Several people commented that McDougall Hill in Bridgeland is too steep and overgrown to be functional as an off-leash area. 	<p><i>I wish there were larger grassy areas for off-leash activities</i></p> <p><i>The East Village location is a nice size and being that it is surfaced with artificial grass, helps keep my dog's paws clean of dirt, making it easier to transport them home.</i></p> <p><i>Connaught Park's ground is stones and I have seen many dogs getting hurt. I have myself had to take my dog to the vet multiple times due to bleeding paws or the whole paw pad coming off.</i></p>



		<p><i>I really like the fake grass and fenced in set up of the stampeded location. I have a small dog and it is very safe and clean.</i></p>
<p>Types of Activities/ Programming for Dogs in Off-Leash Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The top reasons people liked off-leash areas was the ability for dogs to socialize with other dogs and for them to get exercise. • Some people wanted to see more play/agility equipment or interesting features to provide interest and activity for dogs. • There were mixed opinions on whether toys should be allowed in off-leash areas. Some liked having the ability to play fetch with their dog, while others were concerned about issues with “toy reactive” dogs. 	<p><i>Dogs enjoy a variety of exposures, most of the areas are sterile and uninteresting for them. Long grassy areas, trees or forested spots are lacking.</i></p> <p><i>There are toys and my dog is toy reactive. They are very small and this has the potential for dog fights.</i></p> <p><i>Missing agility apparatuses to stimulate/entertain the dogs while in the park...</i></p>
<p>Water and Shade in Off-Leash Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people wanted to see an off-leash area on the river, so that dogs could play in the water. • Several people wanted to see water fountains provided at more off-leash areas. • Several people wanted to see more shaded areas and shaded seating areas. 	<p><i>Access to the river in an off leas[h] space would be amazing and meet our needs better.</i></p> <p><i>We are adjacent to a river and don't have access. The bylaws are restrictive and make no sense around a river...</i></p> <p><i>More space and lack functioning water fountains</i></p> <p><i>If water fountain is provided near the park would be awesome.</i></p> <p><i>Needs better sitting areas with shade</i></p>

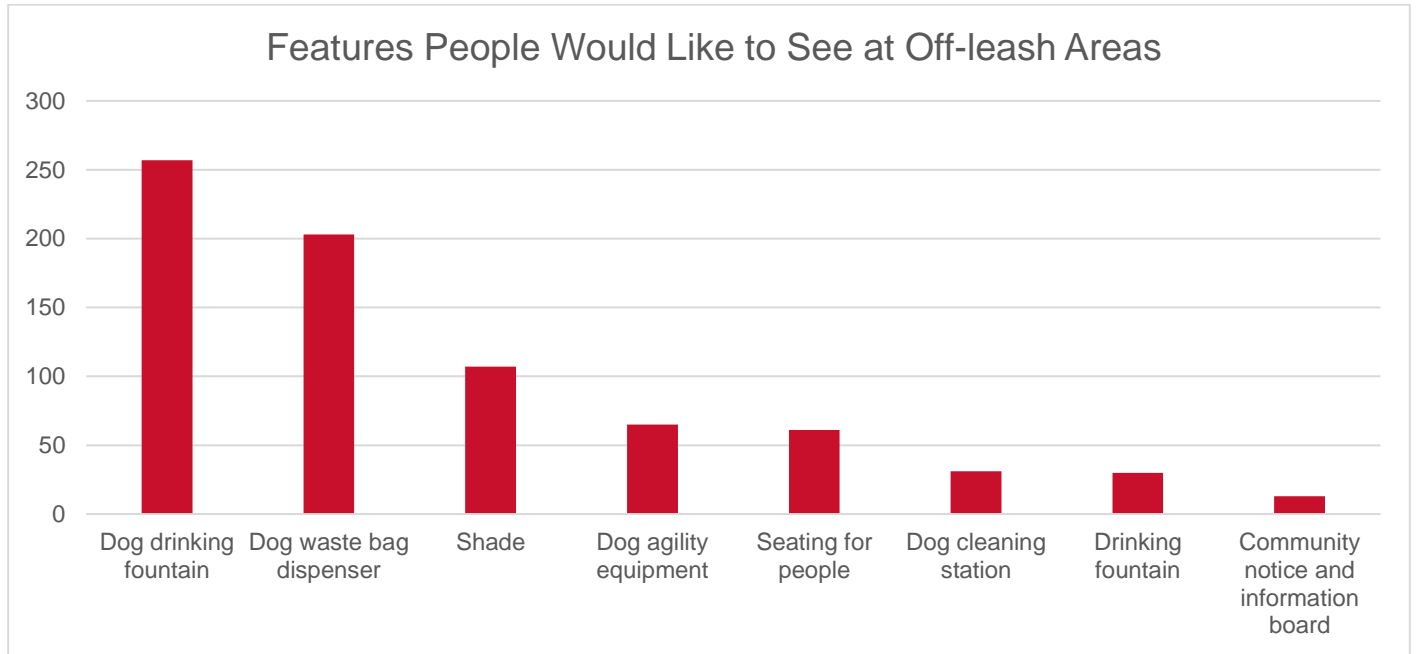


<p>Safety and Use Conflicts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several people felt there should be better lighting at night in off-leash areas. • Many felt that unfenced off-leash areas near roadways and cycle paths were unsafe. • Some people mentioned concerns about aggressive dogs. Others wanted to ban specific breeds in off-leash areas. • Some people mentioned conflicts between kids play areas and daycares near off-leash areas. • Some people mentioned safety issues with wildlife, including coyotes and rabbits. • Several people were concerned about conflicts between small and large dogs. Some wanted to see more separate off-leash areas for small dogs. • Some people felt that off-leash areas should be better maintained, and garbage emptied more frequently. 	<p><i>We go to Roxboro most and it's great. Only thing I would like changed there is a light (small lamp post) near the benches. In the winter it's so dark when you go after work and I would feel safer.</i></p> <p><i>I don't have a dog, we travel to or through off leash areas with our young children and would like to see these areas fenced in.</i></p> <p><i>Bikes and runners seem surprised when the dogs follow or bark at them while going through. Bikes frequently almost hit the dogs. The kids playground on the end of it should have a fence. Parents get upset when dogs run through it.</i></p> <p><i>The separate area for smaller dogs is perfect for our dog. Gives her a space to run (we live in a condo) without the stress of too many other dogs in her space (she's a rescue and has issue with too many new dogs around her).</i></p> <p><i>I think having a small dog off leash park would be great. I do not go to off leash areas anymore due to ag[g]ressive larger breeds.</i></p>
---------------------------------	--	--

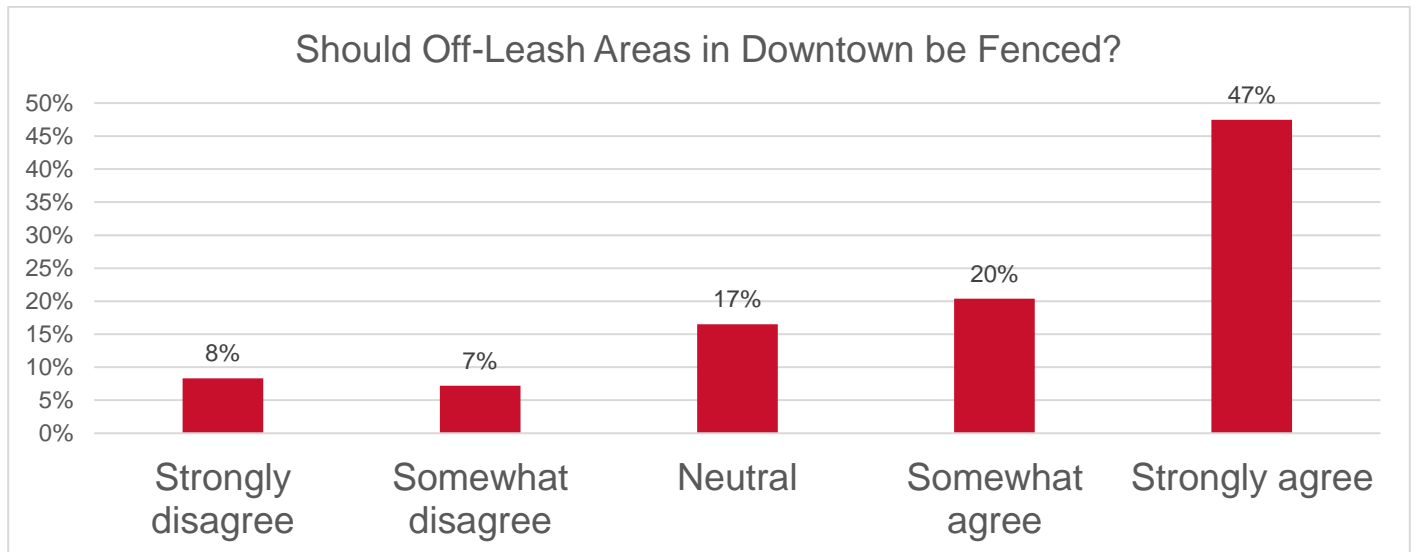


<p>Off-leash Area Etiquette</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people mentioned issues with owners not controlling or supervising their pets. Some attributed this to the provision of seating (because it discourages people from following their dog around the area). • A few people suggested banning dogs that are not spayed or neutered from off-leash areas. 	<p><i>My dogs love the off leash and I consider myself to be a responsible owner, however there are lots of people who aren't. People don't watch their dogs, they aren't in control of them or just open their car door and don't come into the park with them.</i></p> <p><i>Many owners don't pay attention to their dogs and just looking at their phone. Also many of them need to have a better control of their dog. Lots of safety issues like a dog attacking another dog and there's no regulation regarding this</i></p> <p><i>Too small for the amount of dogs that use them. Also seating and fenced in areas tends to welcome trouble with uneducated owners and disobedient dogs</i></p>
---------------------------------	---	---

Q7: What features would you like to see at downtown off-leash areas? (ranking) Please drag and drop the items from the left column to the right column from most important to least important.



Q8: Off-leash dog areas in the downtown should be fenced (level of agreement).





Verbatim Comments

All the comments below are verbatim as received. The comments are divided into questions asked. They are unedited, including spelling, grammar, use of contractions, etc.

Q6: Do the off-leash areas within the downtown fulfill the needs of you and your dog? Please Explain:

YES

- Social interaction with other dog owners where I live is an important way I feel connected to my community. Less isolated. Small/no yards associated with downtown housing makes off-leash areas vital for well-exercised, well-socialized, well-behaved dogs.
- McHugh Bluff is gorgeous and conveniently located for anyone who lives in Hillhurst, Sunnyside, Crescent Heights or Eau Claire.
- It helps make my dog a better pet to have in a building. A tired puppy is a happy puppy!
- More should be done to ensure family parks are not used as offleash / dog parks example: Thompson Park
- I have a small dog, I need small off leash area where the big dogs are limited
- I Absolutely love the one in East Village clean lit Astroturf and garbage containers. I did not see that on the selection above
- Roxboro & Erlton is a fantastic off-leash area - varied terrain and safe for pets
- Not enough and the off leash portion of Cliff Bungalow is hardly a park at all.
- It's walking distance, beautiful, has an adjacent playground for the kids.
- The one near my house is convenient we use it daily sometimes twice a day.
- I always go there, the dog likes it and he's used to it. It's part of his routine.
- Living in Hillhurst provides a variety of off leash options, however a fenced in option would be preferred.
- Rotary park is the best off leash ever for smaller dogs. It would be nice to have one in Vic park
- I can walk to the park or ride my bike
- I am in Bankview and we have a fairly large dog park within walking distance.
- The only thing lacking is fencing, would love to see the Scotsman's Hill park get a low chain link fence to replace the current poles and wires. The adjacent road is busy and it would be great to have a better barrier to keep the dogs in.
- I have a young baby and having an off leash dog park within walking distance has been hugely helpful with 2 active dogs.
- There are sufficient "take your dogs for a quick run and offloading of organic brown stuff" dog parks, but I really enjoy the concept of "play parks" for the dogs to run around in like the fenced area in East Village. They are much smaller, but great!
- I live right by McHugh Bluff. The off-leash area was one of the reasons we bought our house here.
- Lots of different types of parks near by house, always a fun outing with my dog!



- We specifically moved to a neighborhood where we could walk to an off leash area. It was a significant factor in our choice of crescent heights.
- Because I live in mt Royal I don't use the ones you are asking about. But the dogs are increasing and people seem to get out more so it would not hurt to plan ahead. Fencing depends on where the off lease area is.
- walking distance from home!
- So far
- We have a small dog who needs greenspace to socialize and exercise and the Roxboro Park is sufficient.
- Dogs are people's children. Off leash parks are imperative. Children and families in parks need to allow dogs too. Mental health reasons, bonding reasons.
- It is convenient to have an off leash park in the area you live in. Living inner city should have the same recreational opportunities as the suburbs. This includes off leash parks of a fair size.
- I wish there were a few more off leash options in sunnyside. We have the one hillside park but it would be nice to have somewhere flatter to throw a ball around. Also, the unmanicured vegetation on the bluff often fills the dog's fur with burrs.
- My dog is 18 but when she was younger we went to Riverpark as she liked to walk and sniff for 30-45 minutes a day. I expect my next dog will require the same exercise and want to explore a large park. Not all dogs enjoy playing with other dogs.
- Bit of both actually. We are loosing part of our off leash park in Ramsay to accommodate a children's park, which I have mixed feelings on. Also, more signs in the downtown parks for human behaviour. For example, picnics not recommended sign.
- The Connaught dog park has separate areas for big and large dogs, which is really great? It's also close to out home.
- Larger areas are always appreciated!
- Because I live close they fulfill needs. If I need to move there may not be one close to me.
- Enough space to walk dog and close to my home (10 min walk)
- Close by and well kept. Specifically Roxboro is a great park
- Good for dog socialization, promoting good dog behaviour, exercise. Need to ban dogs that are not speyed/neutered..
- A completely fenced in area.
- Close proximity and low level of use
- Having a place where my dog can get a good run in while socializing with others keeps my dog healthy both mentally and physically.
- It is conveniently near to where I live, work and explore
- McHugh Bluff and Rotary Park are within walking distance from my house. Better signage would help - it's often hard to tell what area is on or off least. Access to the river in an off least space would be amazing and meet our needs better.
- The erlton park is large enough to let my dog run, and is used by lots of people so my dog has company. The east village park is too small though.



- We do not live in this area but our dog really enjoys visiting the downtown off leash areas. We do frequent River Park most days but on occasion we like to change things up
- Nice to be able to plan a long walk and connect to off leash areas en route. This is how I use off leash, as part of a longer walk with pup, so having many large and small off leash is a good thing
- The East Village location is a nice size and being that it is surfaced with artificial grass, helps keep my dog's paws clean of dirt, making it easier to transport them home.
- I have a small dog and the park is in my neighbourhood.
- Close enough to our home with ample space.
- Yes
- Especially on bad weather the artificial turf parks are fantastic- otherwise the dogs are cakes in mud. We have good access to large and small off leash areas. Both are important at different times in a dog's development.
- My dog is an extremely social dog so he needs to be able to run around with other dogs
- Because I live in the same block. If I lived anywhere else in the centre city area, the number/ amount would not be enough.
- I visit the Connaught park and love all the varied areas...long grass areas and water fountain +parking make this space very appreciated
- Easy to get to parking not really a problem.
- Bigger is better. Sue Higgins is awesome!
- Yes, they have a ton of trail systems surrounding it. There could be more garbage cans though.
- McHugh Bluff is amazing. Not only does my dog love it but I get a workout and I get to enjoy the view.
- McHugh Bluff is close. I've met many friends walking my dog there.
- East Village Dog Park is a small enclosed dog park that we use weekly for socialization purposes. We are on-leash in McHugh Bluffs as we still have a puppy, but eventually would love to go off-leash.
- We like that a few of them are fenced. There are lots of garbage cans which is very important
- Yes, however would love to see more off leash dog parks in the immediate downtown core as the existing ones are kind of on the edges of the downtown core.
- They are large enough and my dogs have a chance to meet other dogs for play
- They're very convenient. I just wish that they were a little bigger to give room for larger dogs to run around. The downtown parks are small and get crowded.
- My dog does not need too much space as she's fine with the downtown parks but will go to larger ones with my friend's dog who needs more space.
- I would travel further for an increased park size for me and my dog to get exercise
- Close to our home and not too busy.
- When I go downtown, it would be handy to have one there.
- I'm inner city but not downtown
- Small breed dogs that don't run a ton and stay close.



- We frequent the East Village dog park. Central location, good amount of dogs there frequently, love the completely fenced in park with double gates.
- My puppy is 7 months old and so the smaller fenced off leash area downtown work great for now. When she grows up they likely will be a bit small. We might commute to the sue higgins off leash area
- They're all very small and I have a very small dog
- I like the smaller section for smaller dogd
- For a nice socializing time I take my dog to the EV off leash, not for a big run, I take her to the park off Peigan trail near the Inglewood Golf Course
- A block from my house, excellent for regular use. Willing to drive further when meeting friends who don't live downtown.
- I also frequent Riverdale off leash and the large off leash on 14Street SW, not sure of the names of the parks. I use them daily and so important for safety and large enough area for a good run.
- They have been a wonderful source of pleasure and a safe place for dogs to run and play and be socialized with other dogs
- The one thing that could make it better is a breed ban of pitbulls
- My dog has an opportunity to interact with other dogs and to burn energy in a positive way.
- They're clean and quiet.
- Because it is close enough to us and has a great design.
- Perfect size, well organized. Love it for my pet and community.
- Great safe place for dogs to socialize and burn off some energy
- They are placed well
- Yes, but we travel to River Park Off- leash every weekend because it meets the dual needs for our dog and for more satisfying long walks and hikes also variety is the spice of life.
- For the size of my dog (35 lbs), yes. It's a great place for him to socialize and I feel owners have more control over their pets because of the small and contained space.
- Close to home, convenient, and super clean
- Close to home, welcoming parks. More fenced areas by the river with water access would be nice
- The separate area for smaller dogs is perfect for our dog. Gives her a space to run (we live in a condo) without the stress of too many other dogs in her space (she's a rescue and has issue with too many new dogs around her).
- The bluff is big and open and awesome with excellent people and dogs
- I live in the beltline and can access a number of parks either in foot or an east drive.
- They are well sized and maintained.
- The connaught park is very close but definitely run down a bit... would look nicer if there was turf.
- I live close to east village and stampede park
- Great space for my small dog. Usually lots of other small friendly dogs around also.
- Yes- but many are quite small, if they could be expanded that would be great. More garbages would also be appreciated.



- My dog loves to sprint around in a big area so the smaller parks aren't good for him but he loves being able to engage with other dogs
- It's convenient and close by. No need to deal with traffic as we live close by.
- the new off leash area two blocks from my house (20th Ave and 6th street) is perfect and works well for our needs and people there are great. and the bluffs are great to walk around so it's also perfect.
- Most have fences which is needed for a shiba
- Lots of trails, great view and scenery.
- Convenient, big enough that i can throw a ball
- Synthetic grass makes it look nice all year and not too muddy
- For socialization
- I have a small dog so she doesn't need large, open spaces to run. We mostly go to Rotary Park which is lovely as I also visit with my neighbours. For longer walks, we go to McHugh Bluff where we both get a good, long walk in. Both are gorgeous!
- Convenient and large enough
- Having a fully fenced dog park is the best feature I think
- We live very close to Rotary park so it's convenient for us.
- We daily use rotary park as it is close to our house and the best park near downtown for off leash - on weekends we travel further to sue Higgins
- We have been using Rotary Park and McHugh bluff for 25 years and find them to be absolutley wonderful for us inner city dwellers. We feel very lucky to have these areas.
- Space to play fetch with my dog with the river near by and doggie waste bags
- A long running area, lots of trees.
- Well, I don't have a dog, but I love walking in the off-leash parks. The dogs and their owners bring a sense of community and companionship. I love how active and well-used the parks are because they are so appealing to people and animals
- We have a lot of great off leash such as McHugh Bluff and Rotary Park.
- Relatively easy to get to and my dog can run around. I would prefer if the Connaught park was bigger because so many dogs (many big dogs) use it.
- It's close to where we live and lets them run around freely.
- We take our dogs every day and they love it. The parks as-is fulfill our needs.
- They have free range areas.
- I go to the off leash every day with my dogs and it really adds value to where I live. I have made lots of connections and feel a real community because of the off leash park in my area (Rotary Park).
- As long as my dog can run to fetch a ball, we are both happy.
- Wonderful. Safety is my major concern as I visit early in the am when still dark and often in evening when dark. Sometimes there are homeless people w camps and sometimes people who make me feel afraid. There are no lights along the path and do police pat
- Their close and convenient. My dog had to be put down recently but I still quite enjoy the parks and everyone is so friendly



- The 11 St SW one is fenced in, and it's hard for our 2 small dogs to wriggle under to escape. But once in awhile we go to the fenced in one near bowness. The gaps under the fence is too large in some areas, and there's no geographical interest.
- They offer a large open space. As great of an open space for dogs, they are catered for pedestrians with walkways and scenery.
- McHugh bluff is large enough for the 100 pound dog. The smaller fenced in ones that are smaller than a city block just don't cut it for non-apartment dogs.
- The dog park in the east village desperately needs shade and a drinking fountain for dogs and their humans.
- Small dog great for her
- The park we go to is clean, and everyone takes care of it. I also feel safe at the park.
- Good size, well populated, easy to access
- River park and Roboro dog park are both very close to where we live (mission). However, we have a vehicle which makes accessing river park much easier. It is the preferred park due to size, water fountain and lighting at night.
- My dogs love the off leash and I consider myself to be a responsible owner, however there are lots of people who aren't. People don't watch their dogs, they aren't in control of them or just open their car door and don't come into the park with them.
- I wish we could have a dog park like the one in East Village in Inglewood where I Live.
- Yes, beautiful opportunity, but weaknesses include sharing space with daycare and urban commuters, and lack of fencing in key parts that border the road and a local children's park.
- Close proximity.
- They have the basics I'm looking for in a park: a fenced area for dogs to run around
- Its convenient!
- It's a perfect area for the dogs to run and blow off some steam. Especially when the weather isn't ideal.
- Beltline Connaught park is big enough and attend our needs
- East village one is nice
- Big enough for a good amount of running and exploring, and a good walk for pet parents. Could only be made better if permitted were fenced.
- Caveat: There is often a daycare at McHugh that leaves garbage and discourages dogs from going off leash.
- I am a dog trainer and behaviouralist. I am comfortable walking my dog anywhere .
- They are conveniently located. They allow me to walk my dog and enjoy the beauty of the city at the same time.
- It's relatively close and has a large enough area to run around and chase balls.
- Close to home, lots of space to run, clean and well maintained.
- We live close to McHugh Bluff and love its mix of interesting pathways cutting along the slope with trees and other features where my pup can throughly tire himself out.



- Green space along the rivers are helpful.
- Yes, but only because she's getting old and has limited exercise requirements now.
- We go to Roxboro most and it's great. Only thing I would like changed there is a light (small lamp post) near the benches. In the winter it's so dark when you go after work and I would feel safer.
- As a full time worker, part time grad student, and someone with a chronic illness, there are evenings where I don't have an hour to give my dog proposer exercise. Dog parks allow a space for my dog to socialize, and burn more energy in a shorter time.
- I have little dogs, so they don't require a massive amount of space- HOWEVER, Connaught NEEDS grass. The gravel is too hard on their paws.
- I live
- lots of space (good circulation of dogs)
- I feel Rotary park and the Mcbluff park is well maintained, people who use it are responsible dog owners. I like being able to walk as well instead of standing in a fenced in area.
- Plenty to choose from, though I wish they were larger and facilities geared more towards owners. I would also love to see signs about body language (by Lili Chin for example) and cautions or banning dangerous collars such as choke chains, shock and prong.

NO

- I don't live downtown & its too far away
- Twice in the last 5 years I have watched a pitbull maul to death another dog in a Calgary off leash area. Please consider either not allowing pitbulls in off leash areas or banning them all together in Calgary.
- They are to crowded and small with owners not controlling their dogs.
- If water fountain is provided near the park would be awesome.
- More shade!
- I wish there were more
- as seen in the map there is a large area of downtown with no dog park nearby
- Not enough proper fencing. One one fenced in park that I know of and in places of high traffic there should be increased security for the users and the animals.
- Most off-leash areas are not fenced. Fences = peace of mind.
- Space is too small, I want to be active with my dog not just have her be active. Having trails for running and biking would be amazing.
- Too small for the amount of dogs that use them. Also seating and fenced in areas tends to welcome trouble with uneducated owners and disobedient dogs
- Prefer a park closer to my apartment building to make workweek mornings easier and more time spent at the dog park instead of commuting to the park.
- East Village fenced area is too small



- Many of the dog parks are on the outskirts of downtown, it would be nice to have one in the midst of all the buildings. For example downtown west end has many people walk dogs, so why not have one there? Turn one of the green patches into a fenced park.
- Need a dog park in the beltline. The park on 11th is all rocks and the dog can't play.
- small and large dogs mingling. poor dog owner etiquette.
- I have two small dogs. I would love to have a dog section for those breeds. I don't want my little guys around some of these massive dogs.
- Not large enough
- We are adjacent to a river and don't have access. The bylaws are restrictive and make no sense around a river. Our dogs take off on their own to the river. We also are adjacent to a road with no fence. We want a 30 km/h zone, for the safety of everyone.
- I live in Hillhurst and would like a fenced in off-leash that I can reach on foot.
- Off leash area for small dogs is very small.
- They are often too small and there are not a lot of options close by, in walking distance.
- Larger off leash areas are better. The closest large area is McHugh Bluff, which is not always convenient. The Connaught dog park is too small for the amount of dogs and our older dog doesn't enjoy it.
- Inadequate fenced dog park options. Connaught poorly maintained.
- Not enough space for the amount of dogs. Some dogs need their space away from other dogs
- They are small and overused. There is too much concrete
- More space to run is needed
- I generally go to the Connaught park because it's closer - but it's ridiculously small for larger dogs. Especially when there's a large, new, revitalized Thomson family park which is always empty. The city should have switched the two parks.
- Many of these parks are not appropriately fenced, meaning there is nothing preventing dogs from running into the street.
- I don't have a dog, we travel to or through off leash areas with our young children and would like to see these areas fenced in.
- I would love better fences on the current off leash parks. So I don't have to worry about my dogs running across the street
- Ideally they need to be fully fenced.
- My dog requires a fenced in dog park with lots of room. When I care for others dogs downtown dog parks are excellent
- Most of them are not fully fenced, and the ones that are, are small.
- Wish there was one in lower Mount Royal
- I don't have a dog, but I'm exhausted by uncontrolled dogs throughout the city, zero enforcement and dog owners who leave their dog feces (both bagged and unbagged) all over these areas
- I didn't know there were so many off leash dog parks downtown. Some of them are so close to my work where I am able to take my dog with me.



- It would be great to have more fenced, well-maintained parks in more areas of downtown (smallish parks that, if there are a lot of them, won't be too busy).
- A section of Riley Park in morning between 7-9 am and early evening 4 till 6 pm would be helpful in a part of the park when park is relatively empty, when pool is empty
- I'd love to see a larger fenced in off leash park
- limited size, un fenced
- I want to walk to a dog park and there's only one within walking distance (that's fenced)
- There is no grass in the larger area
- Larger parks on the edge of downtown are more useful
- None close enough in walking distance
- All parks should be off leash
- There should be more space. Everytime we go to a gated off leash areas there are many big dogs and not enough space for my dog to be away from the big dogs.
- Only one fenced park. And it's very muddy
- Desire a larger area with pathways that allow for wandering. My dog doesn't love to get chased by other dogs, so the smaller parks are less desirable.
- There is a lack of fenced off-leash parks in the downtown area
- need more space, grass
- Don't have a dog, but many people without dogs use these areas too. They are open to all.
- I have a smaller dog and inner city parks have signs of coyote warnings
- There are very few off leash options in the central part of the city but a higher density of residents, many of whom don't have yards for their dogs. More off leash space would be great
- I would love them to turn a portion of the sunalta/Scarborough park into an off leash area. Most people let their dogs off leash here anyways and it works well because there is so much space
- They are not fenced but I am not sure if they all should be as they would hamper the view like at Scotsman hill
- Not Natural and big enough - even for a Yorkie!
- I travel 10 min by car to reach off leash areas. I would like to be able to walk to off leash areas more quickly. There is a lot of lightly used green space that can be converted. I am a busy professional with limited dog walking time.
- Too small. Too few.
- They are further away then I would like.
- There needs to be more off leash areas within the inner city, especially downtown and the beltline area.
- I can't always take the extra time I need to walk to one, so I end up walking to a shared use park with dogs on their leads instead. The off-leash areas are only for special occasions when I have the time to take extra-long walks.
- It is not fenced so not safe
- Not large enough



- Need larger spaces
- I live in the suburbs, but I think downtown area off leash areas are a fantastic idea
- They are too busy, more are needed to meet the demand
- The roxboro ertlon dog park is adjacent to a playground and sports court. People using the dog park and not considerate of children or others in the area. They allow dogs to run freely through the playground. User speed through to get to the dog park
- This survey should include non dog owners since we are also affected by these areas. OFTEN in the Sandy Beach dog park the dogs are off leash when they are not in the dog park, like in Sandy Beach is a real problem. I live downtown.
- There should be green waste bins at all off-leash parks for composting dog waste, and biodegradable bags available to encourage people to use them
- I think having a small dog off leash park would be great. I do not go to off leash areas anymore due to aggressive larger breeds.
- Most spaces aren't big enough, and the ones that are aren't fully fenced. Parking downtown can also be difficult
- I would like another park within the beltline area
- Not enough fenced off leash areas
- Wish there were more fenced off
- We live in Inglewood, there is only a half block area next to traffic. We need more a larger space.
- I would like to see larger spaces that are fenced in.
- They are small and not fully fenced in. I live in Sunalta yet drive to sue Higgins very often
- Not big enough for dogs walk
- Too small! Not enough running space.
- Need more areas near west end
- Some of these suggestions are crazy. Seating for people means unsupervised dogs, agility equipment can be a source of competition. A dog drinking fountain is a great way to spread disease. Just provide bag dispensers, garbage bins and some enforcement!
- The only ones big enough are river park, nose hill, and sue Higgins which are all quite far. I would like to see more fenced in parks, fully gated.
- Too small
- Too small for the dog to run, and Roxboro overrun with rabbits on the hillside.
- Some of them has no water fountain (like East Village for example) and others does not have grass (like Connaught park) making it terrible after rain, snow melted or become too icy and dangerous
- Some are small, unfenced & next to bike paths or busy roads. Those that are fenced are inappropriate for large dogs
- Not large enough so other dog owners stand in the middle and visit, which is counter productive for dogs. To get full advantage owners need to be constantly moving so dogs are constantly moving
- Not large enough or contained enough (e.g. fences) or maintained enough (e.g. Bridgeland has off leash slope that was so overgrown with weeds, unusable)



- I live in Bankview and typically travel around to different parks for variety, and because the downtown parks are sad and ugly. Too small, some don't have green space, and they're not very busy for these reasons
- The Connaught needs to be bigger as it's very crowded. The Sunalta is within a off ramp, has no fence and is extremely dangerous for wandering dogs.
- Connaught is fenced which is amazing for puppies or dogs learning to socialize or dogs who are flight risks or dogs who are "game' chasers. It would be nice to have more walking accessible fenced locations
- Not many downtown
- I don't live downtown, and they're smaller, so why on earth would I want to use downtown offleash areas? That said, I would use them more often if there were programmed dog + people activities.
- In the morning/afternoon dark of winter, rotary park is dangerously dark, especially given the dangerous people who frequent bushes. Better park lighting would make me feel safer.
- I would like leash and off leash parks to be safer
- Would prefer that they are all fenced due to proximity to higher vehicular and bike/pedestrian traffic
- The downtown areas aren't fenced.
- Not well maintained
- More small dog only areas (
- Need more fenced parks! I only go to the ones with secure fencing and a double gate (Only 2 have these).
- The Ramsay ones are ok, but would be much better if fenced.
- More space and lack functioning water fountains
- I start work at 7:30 am, the park now opens at 7 vs the old time of 6 am.
- Beltline one has no grass, very small.
- Speaking only for the Connaught one, it is way too small for the number of dogs who regularly go there. I'm not sure what you could do about this, set a capacity perhaps?
- Not enough space. Not interesting for the dog.
- Would appreciate fenced in area. This may exist as I haven't been to many of the areas
- The fenced ones do. However they are quite small.
- I will often go to a larger park when I can, I am lucky to live by one of the larger downtown parks but often the others are too small for my dog to really get an exercise.
- Love being able to take my dog to the river
- There is no downtown off leash area in the west end.
- Larger area for dog to run without the worry of traffic (fenced off).
- Larger and with more grass
- A dog park for smaller dogs would be great as big dogs are often rough. And one that is fenced in is the biggest thing I want that I rarely find! The new park going into 5th ave SW will NEED to be fenced, and I'm unsure if they are planning on doing that
- Fully fenced in areas are needed



- Too many bikers and scooters using same space
- The closest one to me is covered in gravel and dirt and becomes muddy, so I travel by car to The EV Park. It is great, but no fountain get water for my dog. I wish more areas were fenced in, my dog can be too adventurous.
- River access and full fenced areas are best if there is road access
- Too small. Have seen bad situations develop because of small confines in fenced parks.
- They are small spaces and Roxboro is full of domestic rabbits so I keep my dog on the leash. Please make Park Hill Ridge off leash. Please make behind the Glencoe club off leash. Walking from off leash to off leash with the dog having time on and off
- A smaller gated one would be nice. The off leash areas in walking distance are exposed to the road or heavily trafficked bike paths that make it unsafe for our dog to run free
- Too small and am finding the dog owners do not watch their dogs carefully as our dog got attacked. Smaller offleash makes people to comfortable so they don't keep close watch.
- Not enough of them so there is overcrowding
- Too small and/ lack of fencing
- Too small, not enough dogs, no access to water in summer
- I have large dogs and many of the parks in downtown are too small for them to fully run in.
- Would like one closer to west eau claire/Kensington
- The closest one is half an hour walk away, and there is very little parking there
- Yes and no. NEEDS a water fountain! AstroTurf is nice and clean when people do their part and pick up after their dog. No real parking for the really cold days. Would be nice to have free 30 min. parking. The seating always has dog pee on it.
- The one closest to us is very small and has no grass. I didn't realize there were others downtown so we'll explore those ones now too!
- Cliff Bungalow is heavily treed and full of homeless. Roxboro is great but limited, until recently not enough garbage cans
- I always go to Connaught because it is secured and fenced off with double gates. Other dog parks are a little intimidating due to no fences and double gates, a lot of puppies are escape artists and this is extra scary especially with the downtown traffic.
- It needs to be enclosed
- Too small. Terrible landscape
- They are not large enough and are often extremely overcrowded which causes my dog anxiety. Also all parks should have a hosebib so dogs can be watered.
- It's really far to travel to well maintained off leash area in downtown
- There are tons of green spaces like Haultain Park downtown that already have the perfect space and ability to be fenced for an off leash park. We currently have to walk almost 15 minutes to our current off leash. Please add more! Grass is super important
- Too few and way overcrowded in the inner city.



- None truly inner-city or close to Mission. If Central Memorial or Lindsay Park were offleash, we'd be there all the time.
- Many not big enough. Ones that are, are next to very busy streets with no fencing. Not safe for dogs or drivers. The one by Shaw Millennium Park is just the centre of a clover leaf with no fence. No dog owner would ever use that.
- They're too small
- Recently the Connaught park had a sign with shorter hours on it and I think that's really inconvenient.
- Too small mainly built for smaller dogs. The larger dogs can't even get a good full sprint.
- Mostly on the outskirts of town. Wish the Connaught one was bigger and had more grass. Would be nice to have an area by the river.
- I wish there were larger grassy areas for off-leash activities
- Connaught dog park is in need of maintenance. Too dirty and it stinks. A small area in memorial park & other parks in downtown could be fenced for dogs specially for people who don't drive. Need more access to dog parks.
- I have a chihuahua, my off leash includes a path that is used by bikers not adhering to the speed limits, my dog has been hit twice. I wouldn't like enforcement of biking speed limits.
- Eveny ridge: closest park but unusable. Bylaw has been writing tickets for dogs off leash(in off leash park) due to complaints from Montessori school
- They aren't big enough to really run in. I often drive to Edworthy Dog Park. Also, it's not an option below, but I LOVE that the EV dog park has AstroTurf.
- Depends which one, but they are largely overused and just dirt, or too small to let your dog off (Chinatown) with a lot of traffic nearby or commuters (sunnyside) that zoom by and run into your dog
- My dog requires a fully fenced park, so I typically drive to Sue Higgins or Killarney. River view is so nice but so many cars and bikes and no fences to ensure dogs are safe from traffic.
- Having an off leash area closer to downtown where I live would be extremely useful. Having to go to the outskirts of downtown is inconvenient.
- To have access to larger parks we need to drive, it would be fantastic to have a larger parks in walking distance. Tho the small parks are nice they feel limiting to the space for dogs to actually run and play and explore.
- This Connaught park is terrible. Its poorly maintained gravel, there hasn't been grass there in years. It also should be capped for dog size given how small the space is. I've never been there without a dog fight happening from Medium+ size dogs.
- It is too small. Not enough space for a good run.
- I like the small contained area with the double gates. It would be nice to have some sort of water source for the dogs though. Love the poop bags that are available, it really helps.
- There are some small stones on the floor that always come into my dog's paw.
- I am not a dog owner. I am grandparent who avoids the Rotary Park playground because of irresponsible dog owners who do not respect other park users and don't follow the rules. Many small children in the area have been traumatized by unruly dogs. have been



- Not large enough
- McDougall Slopes is an inaccessible and weed filled steep slope unused by dogs. Instead the soccer field is used (inappropriate). Need a fenced area for small dogs at St Matthew Park. Need frequent removal of dog poo garbage containers as they STINK!
- I wish there were more fenced in dog areas!
- Coyotes and bobcats an issue. Signs should be posted when sightings occur.
- Too small of areas. The dogs can be aggressive if kept in small areas so we choose to avoid some if busy. Not enough Beltline and downtown.
- Most downtown dog parks are small and sad. A dog park should involve walking not sitting or standing in small areas.
- Too few
- The one closet to my home (Connaught Park) is quite small and doesn't allow my enough space to run. I find myself driving to River Park almost daily.
- There is not enough safely fenced areas for younger dogs
- Secured fenced area would be ideal with plenty of green space, trees
- I think the parks need to be bigger for the number of dogs using them. Also, more bylaw enforcement to ensure that dogs are under the owners control. We often walk across the road from the parks, and have had numerous dogs cross the road charging us.
- Most of them are too small to give my dog any exercise, or in the case of sunalta, I can't find it.
- Should be additional areas in downtown. Large number of dogs in the area that are frequently confined to small condos and only allowed out on a leash.
- Most of the off-leash areas in Calgary are a joke. I live less than a block from McDougal Slope and never use it because it's honestly dangerous. It's literally a slope! Calgary designates useless areas "dog parks" so they can claim a high portions.
- The park is small and sometimes gets packed with dogs. The park hours are restrictive! The park closes at 9pm when the sun sets at 11pm in the summer, I think that's ridiculous especially given the need for dog friendly spaces downtown
- They are not big enough
- More off leash areas with full fences are needed and not just tiny ones, a few more larger ones than the ones available currently. This would allow my pooch to visit more as I feel safer knowing he can't run into traffic
- the connaugh one is the closest one for downtown core residents other than east village, this park is not turfed so i have to travel out out of my way to east village. please make the downtown west one turfed or grass! dogs get too dirty otherwise!
- I'd like a space down town I can take my dogs as I am a dog walker, some do not have the best recall and I'd like the ability to help teach owners and there dogs in a fenced in area without there being restrictions as such have now.
- The one near us is small and overcrowded - it's used by many out of neighbourhood people and dogs who drive.



- East village is too small for the population. The grass is astrotrurf and fake grass and very slippery in rain and snow and detrimental to safety of animal in rain or snow.
- They are not good for walking because they are very small and there are no fences.
- Too busy
- More is better!
- Fenced in would be nice, too many cars driving around even with a well trained dog it can be scary sometimes
- I would like a off leash section in haultain park as I have to walk quite a way for a dog park
- I'd like an enclosed area where I would feel my small dogs would be safe.
- River Park is quite ideal. It's large enough to get a proper walk in for both people and dogs. Roxboro is small and unless you venture into other non designated off leash areas, you're stuck playing fetch (which can be hard on older dogs' joints).
- I would like more
- Need lights.
- Could be larger.
- I need a larger dog park for my dog to run around in. This is important for large dog owners.
- Too small an area for my dog to run
- There isn't a lot of room to run/walk. River park is the best, but it's a bit far, so we don't go as often
- Having an area with tall fences would be extraordinary - my dog is a flight risk and I cannot bring him to these parks as he can easily jump the short fences.
- Connaught dog park has a very terrible surface and it is too dusty. That is all we have in the Beltline :(
- I often go to River Park because it is busier and larger. More dog interaction is guaranteed than at roxboro
- The one closest to me is very tiny and very few small dogs go there. It's just not my favorite compared to a large, open dog park.
- This size of downtown off-leash areas is ridiculously small for active dogs like my border collie. We drive to better off-leash parks daily... BTW - wish there was room to comment on questions 7 & 8. The choices are limited, and not my concerns!
- The dog park we visit needs a water fountain for the dogs.
- Fenced parks within a short walk or drive from Sunalta would be ideal
- Some are poorly maintained in the winter time, hard to use some off leash areas due to excessive snow and ice build up. Also most off leash parks are lacking in access to water for dogs on hot summer days.
- most are not within walking distance. Beltline is too small an area
- not enough space for designated offleash while the dog population is increasing; too many drug addicts & seelrs populate all our parks
- I don't live downtown. I use River park



- All of the OLAs are further than a 15 minute walk away. When we are in a rush it is difficult to make it there without driving.
- Would like small one between Underwood and tennis courts Victoria park area
- There isn't one close to our home in the downtown west end.
- Larger breed dog that needs bigger space. When the dog park is full it is VERY crowded and not a nice experience for owner or pet
- Small, gravel, dirty, too many benches for people to sit or stand causing all the dogs to stay there
- too small
- To small and too few
- Connaught Park's ground is stones and I have seen many dogs getting hurt. I have myself had to take my dog to the vet multiple times due to bleeding paws or the whole paw pad coming off.
- They are too small, they allow cyclists and scooters which make them unsafe for small dogs off leash.
- I would like to see more larger dog parks that are large and have trees/bushes but still fully fenced for new puppies or rescue dogs that aren't smart around cars :)
- They love grass... if we go to Connaught we do our stuff and meet some friends.
- Inconvenient Locations
- The closest one is Connaught but there is a lot of gravel and it hurts my dogs feet so she can't really run there. The other is unfenced so I don't fully trust her as she is a rescue from Mexico.
- not big enough or not fully fenced
- Ones downtown are too small and not fenced a lot of the time which is not ideal given downtown is busy
- I drive mostly , so downtown is inconvenient and expensive
- There are none in my area. Would like one to be designated. Everyone close by keeps letting their dogs off anyway and all say closest one is too far if you don't drive
- I live on 6th avenue and 10th Street. There is space for off leash areas but they built a green space. There are many dogs in these condos and no where to play. It doesn't need to be big. Just fenced so they can play without getting run over
- The hours of the Connaught park were changed, I preferred the earlier time. Also the parks are quite small
- Water access would be great
- They are too far from home. The park behind The Underwood would be the perfect size and space.
- I don't live near there... like by and use Britannia daily and occasionally go to Southland
- not big enough
- Need more in beltline
- The closest one to where we live is about a 30 minute walk away. Plus, it has yucky fake grass that doesn't absorb urine or snow or rain so the dogs slide around in the liquid. The gravel around the edge is dusty and gross too. Dirt and grass better.r.



- They could be bigger and it would be nice if they were grass instead of gravel/dirt/dust. The water fountain at Connaught is often turned off also so owners bring water for the dogs.
- Too small of an area. Larger, fenced in places would be better. With more than one garbage..
- More of them! And bigger!
- One of the two that we regularly visit is extra small. It gets very busy and crowded at times. The other one is further but has plenty of space. Walking there takes a long time and parking you have to pay.
- I live down town west end. The closest park off leash is Shaw Mil (Sunalta). That park is tiny and extremely dangerous since there are cars going by really fast all the time. There is another big Shaw Millenium park closer by but it's not off leash.
- Too small, unfenced near busy roads,
- Too small, not fenced
- There are no off leash areas with lights which means that we cannot go during weekdays come winter.
- fully fenced off leash parks are the only ones I can use. A few of these get really muddy since the grass is worn.
- They aren't very big so we try and go for a big walk to the larger parks like river park very few days. In the summer it's also nice to go to places where they can swim in the river to cool down.
- Dogs enjoy a variety of exposures, most of the areas are sterile and uninteresting for them. Long grassy areas, trees or forested spots are lacking.
- Space is limited and very close to roadways.
- Not large enough and not as close as we'd like. Would be very limited if we didn't have a vehicle.
- There are toys and my dog is toy reactive. They are very small and this has the potential for dog fights.
- The one we go to is small and muddy.
- I would like bigger off-leash area in downtown
- Not close enough
- It's a 20-minute walk to the nearest fenced dog park.
- Would love to have an off-leash park closer to my downtown residence
- They aren't big enough
- I would appreciate an off-leash dog park centralized in the southwest of the downtown core. Currently, I have to walk a fair distance, which will get more difficult to as temperatures drop.
- Would love to see an off leash dog park in more eastern beltline of downtown - Haultain Park area etc. Currently we drive to the River park as it larger but would be great to have one closer for cold days within walking distance.
- It's a bit too far in cold weather.
- Wish they were bigger!
- There needs to be more off lease parks more central. The Haultain Park is essentially already being used as an offleash park due to the condo activity surrounding that area.



- There could be a closer one, more walkable.
- Most off leash areas are too small
- More central dog parks would be appreciated, like near Haultain park.
- They are very small and can become very overcrowded. Also most are open to roads and bike paths which can be a hazard. Would be nice to have fencing along the road at least.
- Very small and rocky on my dogs feet. Always crowded.
- While the offleash dog parks are great. Having one centralized in the SW of the downtown core would be ideal during the cold winter months.
- Downtown offleash are very small and not fenced in. I do not like that there are commonly bike paths going through them as it is dangerous to bikers and dogs.
- My favourite off-leash park is Sue Higgins because it's an adventure for my dog. No matter how busy, there's always space for all dogs and humans. The small leash-free zones encourage poor behaviour. A good walk is better for my dog.
- Would like more off leash areas for the downtown community.
- Bikes and runners seem surprised when the dogs follow or bark at them while going through. Bikes frequently almost hit the dogs. The kids playground on the end of it should have a fence. Parents get upset when dogs run through it.
- Living in Victoria Park area there are no off leash areas within a reasonable walking distance yet there are a number of park areas that could be converted to off leash parks
- The downtown offleash parks are nice but are quite small and not all fenced. The ones that are fenced are quite short.
- Could use more areas
- Dog parks with definitive walking areas are best - not necessary paved pathways, but foot paths that do loops around an enclosed area keep people & dogs moving. Fully fenced is 100% better for everyone in the area.
- There just isn't enough space downtown to have a full sized off leash park. I go to river park (altadore) for proper off leash walks.
- McDougall slope is too small and steep for dog to play.
- All Off-leash parks should be fenced in. These parks are great however do not fullfil dog park needs without fences as it can be unsafe for dogs/cars/pedestrians/ etc. if dogs leave the "off leash" areas.
- Could be bigger
- They're not the most convenient to get to and they are always very very busy.
- Not big enough/ varied enough/ need more grass
- Too small, overcrowding, not enough greenery within the park, i.e. trees, bushes etc.
- Some of them in the downtown area are a tad small. For higher energy dogs, there just isn't enough room.
- Because they are fenced, people who do not have well trained dogs go there and therefore there are a lot of fights. I dont want my dog to be put in those situations.
- I live downtown but usually drive to River Park or Nose Hill Park to let my dogs run



- Too small of an area with too many dogs. Very congested and difficult.
- We need more of them! They bring joy and life and nature to a city. Please create an offleash with some of the space in Lindsay Park (and a fence is not needed here!)
- We also use other neighbourhoods. We are seeing a lot of erosion. Suggest that dog parks as offleash be rotated seasonally to allow vegetation to reestablish.
- Over crowded and filthy
- Too small and far from where I live
- They're not big enough and they are full of poop that hasn't been poked up and not very polite dogs or owners
- Fenced would be preferential especially as we have a lot of rabbits and most dogs cannot resist that kind of temptation :)
- It is very crowded, and small.
- Some of them run along road ways and it would be nice to have some fencing.
- Need more parking, and need to be bigger.
- Too small. Not fenced.
- I don't have a dog. But I like going to the parks and watching them.
- All parks in the beltline and downtown are very small, at peak times they get overcrowded and can be overwhelming or hazardous to the dogs and humans.
- More fully fenced parks. BETTER COYOTE CONTROL
- Too busy with cyclists who don't slow down around dogs off leash
- W
- I like the Roxboro dog park, however sometimes leave downtown to go to bigger dog parks such as River Park as I find the downtown ones aren't always big enough to provide my dog with the exercise and stimulation he needs.
- Missing agility apparatuses to stimulate/entertain the dogs while in the park. Needs better sitting areas with shade
- Not big enough
- There is limited access in Victoria Park/East Village and its not ideal to load the dogs in the car to drive to a park. As dogs age, the older ones can't make the long walk to the closest parks.
- Off leash areas such as Edworthy Dog Park are great because it is large and natural however there is no fence so I have to go elsewhere
- Too far. The beltline is missing a proper off leash park
- Too small and over crowded.
- Their sooo small so they cause anxiety in dogs if there are more than like 5 medium to large dogs there which cause fights and aggressive behaviours. Places like sandy beach, edworthy park and sue Higgins at least allow dogs to actually get space
- There are numerous grass areas barely used during the day and always empty in evenings that are not off-leash or restrict access to dogs. What a waste of space.
- They are pretty good but more would be appreciated!



- We live in bankview - it would be nice to have one closer to us. Gated off leash parks downtown are often packed.
- I don't like the very small, fenced areas, which become a mecca for badly behaved dogs and owners. I want to walk around a natural feeling area.
- They are too small and have too many larger dogs who are intimidating many smaller dogs like mine - the tiny areas for smaller dogs don't give them adequate running around room - small dogs need space too!
- They aren't big enough for my dog to really run around
- They are too small. I have a 25 pound dog and I prefer larger parks so I can bypass the out of control, larger dogs that scare my dog.
- I don't live downtown
- It would be great to have larger fenced off leash areas
- they aren't large enough for runs
- It's in the shade most of the day and in our climate nice for a very short period of the year.
- There aren't sufficient dog parks downtown.
- My dog needs more room... I go to the park at Southland
- Not fenced in, which I need for my dog and we need more dog parks with obstacle courses
- I think we should have more fenced areas, because I have a dog who loves to run and not having a fenced area, I don't feel safe to unleash her.
- No swimming areas
- the fake grass is slippery and a safety hazard as are the concrete pillars which are a huge safety hazard for young hyper dogs running. Read the globe and mail article about the dog that broke its back.
- As a resident of the east end of the Beltline it is a 20min walk to Connaught or Roxboro. I'd like a closer area in Victoria Park Haultain area. Also a grass area. Connaught is either muddy or hard on dogs feet.
- We do not live downtown.
- The areas provided are too small for the type of exercise my dogs needs. He likes to run and most of the inner city off leash parks are both too small and crowded.
- Many owners don't pay attention to their dogs and just looking at their phone. Also many of them need to have a better control of their dog. Lots of safety issues like a dog attacking another dog and there's no regulation regarding this
- They Connaught one I avoid if I can because it's just a big pile of dirt
- I really like the fake grass and fenced in set up of the stamped location. I have a small dog and it is very safe and clean.
- We don't live downtown
- Needs to be fenced in on all sides
- Would like a bigger off lease park in an urban setting
- Not large enough, safe from traffic, available parking



- They're pretty small. You can't even walk on the Evany Ridge one, is full of vegetation and I feel it shouldn't count as an off-leash area
- There aren't any offleash park close in the west side of Downtown
- Too far. Too small.
- It is very cramped with only one entrance. Dogs swarm each other when they enter as opposed to a gradual entrance
- Lindsay would be ideal proximity if they built on there.
- John Laurie is the best offleash park in the city
- The Cliff Bungalow offleash area has no clear signage that it is offleash despite being offleash on City of Calgary website. Also, it could use some maintenance to encourage dogs to visit - lots of dogs in the area that use it!
- Not big enough and also the Cliff bungalow dog park needs signs because many people do not even know it is off leash
- Sometimes she just wants to go off into the woods and sniff so we go to St Patrick's Island. Sometimes I keep her on leash but if it's not busy I let her off leash. She's 12 so not much a risk of her running away.
- I work with dogs . The city should follow the example of many states in the south and prohibit the usage of toys and balls as well as intact males and females in heat.yes it happens . I walk 3 hours a day in three different parks everyday.
- Would like one closer to home
- Not all are completely fenced, or large enough
- not enough areas
- She needs a larger fenced off area
- I feel they're too much of a risk because not all owners are in control if their dogs
- We need more, as there can be too many people and dogs that people don't train properly in the current parks.
- The Connaught off leash area is right under our apartment which we thought would be great. However with the over crowding as well as the new hours being restrictive, we haven't gone there in over 4 months. We drive to Roxboro, River Park, and Nosehill.
- I need more fences in ones, and bigger.
- We prefer sue Higgins park. It has fences and close proximity to rivers and multiple pathways.
- I use the off leash beside Winston golf course daily because it is a 5 min walk from my house and I love the large secluded area that allows you to feel like you are out of the city. I will drive to parks downtown for a change but prefer the Winston.
- With all the distractions of downtown it would be nice to have more fully fenced and secured off leash areas
- Rotary park is quite small so we often drive to Bridegland to the Tom Campbell Hill. Rotary park needs a fence out around the kids park as the dogs enter the playground as it is located in the off leash area.
- Parks are too small, no room for dogs to run

- The big dogs area at Connaught park has no grass.
- They are too small. I did not know there was off leah in Riley Park
- Live by Cannought Park. Too small causing my dog to be uncomfortable. Have seen a few fights as well. I walk you Riverpark, much bigger. About a 10km walk, which my dog enjoys.
- No grass, when dry all good, I have a big dog and have to bath him when we get home, it's a mid pit when wet.
- Not big enough
- Not big enough
- I'm usually at the Southland Dog park or sometimes we drive out to Canmore. It's a nice drive!
- I don't believe off leash parks should be downtown
- We would like to see the West side of downtown get the dog park it desperately needs, 10th street & 5th Ave. They started developing it then just stopped, and it needs a fence. There are so many dog owners in the area and our needs are not being met!
- I'm in Elbow Valley now. But will be moving and need options
- More of them would be great
- Too small. Grass destroyed and not replaced so it's very muddy and dirty. Need to consider artificial turf for small parks
- Ad dog park at 10th street west end
- Please add dog park on west end at 10th street
- They need to have a fence and a gate. If they don't they're not safe for dogs.
- I use the near by Tom Campbells hill more often . this is the only not fenced I can use. Other that I need full fenced. Because I want to relax, too!
- Too small and too populated. Fights can happen I. These smaller areas. I choose to drive out for safe spaces
- Connaught Park - 1) Over crowded 2) lack of maintenance 3) Mostly muddy or too dry with gravel Rotary park n East Village park - Bigger commute but they are well maintained compare to Connaught park.
- Too small &/or not fully fenced
- Small area, not fenced in other near by areas. Sunalta millennium park is not a safe area to have offlease dogs.
- They are not large enough/fully fenced
- Because I DO NOT LIVE IN DOWNTOWN. I live in Somerset and unlike people in downtown we do not have off-leash parks close to our neighbourhood and our councillor does not care. I think it's not good to care about downtown that has a lot of parks. parks
- No, there is not enough.
- There is not enough, they're not big enough.
- Too crowded, not enough options.
- Would love to have a larger, fenced area within walking distance. Lots of off leash unfenced within a 15 minute walk, but nothing good and fenced.

- Most of them aren't fenced, as well as owners don't always have control of their dogs.
- I work downtown, like to get away from of it end of day
- Would prefer more fencing
- I have a small dog. We need cleared pathways in winter and short grass. We need big space to run and fences to keep him off the roads. Dogs can't tell were roads start in winter when everything is snow covered and will run in traffic.
- Would love one at 5th Ave and 10th Street SW
- I wish they were fenced and more people would adhere to the rules
- Another dog park is required at 10th St and 5 Ave to service the multiple apartment buildings in that area as currently there isn't a viable option in that part of town.