

**City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: <u>02/09/09</u>		Item Number: <u>A-2</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Subchapter 9.10.600 of the Culver City Municipal Code to Allow Dogs on Leashes on Designated Dog Paths within Culver City Park for Dog Park Users.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Patrick Reynolds, Parks Manager		Phone Number: (310) 253-6471	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master E-mail Notification List (02/04/09); Advance Courtesy Email Notification to the City's Master Email Notification List and PRCS Department Distribution Lists (01/29/09); PRCS Public Notification Signs in Culver City Parks (01/30/09 through 02/09/09); Publication of Notice in the Culver City News (01/29/09); Postcard mailing to residents and businesses within a 500 ft. radius and to the end of the block of all eleven Culver City Parks, two Parkettes and two Playgrounds (01/08/09); Postcard mailing to those in the Culver City Dog License database not included in 01/08/09 mailing (01/14/09).			
Department Approval: Bill La Pointe, (01/29/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (02/03/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (02/04/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (02/04/09)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council introduce an Ordinance amending Subchapter 9.10.600 of the Culver City Municipal Code (CCMC) to allow dogs on leashes on designated dog paths within Culver City Park for Dog Park users (Attachment 1). <u>BACKGROUND:</u> In 2005, at the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (formerly the Parks and Recreation) Commission's request, staff brought a proposed pilot program to allow dogs on leashes in Culver West (Alexander) Park for a period of ninety days before the City Council at their July 25 meeting. During the public comment portion of the meeting, Culver West (Alexander) Park neighborhood residents expressed their concerns about having to go out of their way and walk long distances in order to get to the streets and roadways on the other side of the park. They had to take a long, outlying circuitous route in order to avoid crossing the Park while walking their dogs, since to do so would violate the City's Ordinance prohibiting dogs running at large (CCMC Section 9.01.360). In response to citizens' concerns, an alternative motion was passed by Council directing staff to come back with a plan to allow dogs to pass through Culver West (Alexander) Park when leashed and under the control of a responsible party, so long			

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as the dogs remained on concrete walks and not in the grass. Please note that the Agenda Item report and approved meeting minutes of the July 25, 2005 City Council meeting are provided as an Attachment to the "Consideration of Allowing Dogs in Parks" Agenda Item report on this evening's meeting Agenda.

At the August 14, 2006 City Council meeting, City Council introduced Ordinance No. 2006-008, amending Section 9.01.055 (A) and adding Subchapter 9.10.600, of the Culver City Municipal Code relating to allowing dogs on leashes on designated dog paths in certain City Parks. The Agenda Item report and meeting minutes of the August 14, 2006 City Council meeting are provided as Attachment 2.

DISCUSSION:

It has come to staff's attention that, with the popularity and use of the Dog Park in Culver City Park, the need for dog owners to be able to walk to and through certain areas of Culver City Park to the Dog Park as well as to be able to walk from the Dog Park to the Recreation Hut restrooms has arisen.

Currently the only means by which a dog owner with dog(s) can reach the Dog Park without being in violation of CCMC Section 9.01.360 is by transporting their dog(s) to and from the Dog Park in a vehicle. In keeping with the City's environment-friendly policies, designated dog paths in Culver City Park would encourage and allow dog owners and their dogs to access the Dog Park by walking to and through a portion of the Park.

In addition, once at the Park, some using the Dog Park find they need to use the Recreation Hut restroom facilities. However, they cannot leave their dog(s) unattended in the Dog Park and currently they are not able to walk their dog(s) through the Park to the restroom facility. A designated dog path from the Dog Park to the Recreation Hut restroom facility would allow this convenience.

At the December 2, 2008 Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission meeting, the Commission considered making a recommendation to City Council to approve and authorize designated dog paths within Culver City Park on sidewalks along Duquesne Avenue from Jefferson Boulevard to Leash Lane and the Dog Park, and continuing up the hill towards the baseball/soccer fields, terminating at the gated entry of the upper area of the Park; and also paths branching off from the Duquesne Avenue sidewalk (within Culver City Park) to the Recreation Hut restrooms (illustrated in Attachment 3). The Commission took action to make such recommendation to the City Council (moved by Commissioner Cooper; seconded by Vice Chair Daly Redholtz; passed 4 to 1 with Commissioner Hudson dissenting; Attachment 4).

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Public Notification

Extensive public notification was done with regard to this Agenda Item. It was noticed along with two other important PRCS City Council Agenda Items scheduled to appear on this evening's Agenda: Allowing Dogs in Culver City Parks and Supervising and Charging Fees at the Culver City Skate Park. To avoid redundancy, the details and costs associated with the noticing of this item are listed in the Agenda Item report relating to Council consideration of Allowing Dogs in Culver City Parks.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the City Council takes action to designate dog paths in Culver City Park, costs associated with marking the route as a "Pooch Path" are expected to be approximately \$500 for signage; paint and stencils. Funds for this expenditure are available in PRCS Parks Division Account 10133100.514100 – Departmental Special Supplies. Staff time devoted to the project will be approximately twenty (20) hours and will be included in the PRCS Parks Division Account 10133100.411100 – Regular Salaries.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Ordinance
2. August 14, 2006 City Council Agenda Item A-2: *(1) Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Sections 9.01.360 and 9.10.055(A), and Adding Subchapter 9.10.600, of the Culver City Municipal Code Relating to Allowing Dogs on Leashes on Designated Dog Paths in Certain City Parks; and, (2) Adoption of a Resolution Designating Certain Pathways or Walkways of Certain Public Parks as "Pooch Path"* and related approved meeting minutes
3. Possible location of designated dog paths within Culver City Park
4. Approved minutes of the December 2, 2008 Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission meeting

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Introduce an Ordinance amending Subchapter 9.10.600 of the Culver City Municipal Code to allow dogs on leashes on designated dog paths within Culver City Park for Dog Park users;

and

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2. Approve the designated dog paths in Culver City Park as illustrated in Attachment 3;

or

3. Provide staff with alternate direction.