

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

Meeting Date: 07/14/14		Item Number: <u>A-3</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: (1) Consideration of a Recommendation from the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission Related to the Establishment of Dog Paths; (2) (If Desired) Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Culver City Municipal Code Section 9.10.600 Regarding the Definition and Establishment, by Resolution, of Designated Dog Paths within Culver City Parks; and (3) (If Desired) Adoption of a Resolution Establishing Certain Designated Dog Paths in City Parks, Including the Existing Designated Dog Paths in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park and Two Proposed Designated Dog Paths in Veterans' Memorial Park.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Dan Hernandez, PRCS Director		Phone Number: (310) 253-6655	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☒ No ☐ Date: <u>June 17, 2014</u> <u>Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission</u>			
Public Notification: (Email) Meetings and Agendas – City Council (07/09/14); (Email) Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission (07/09/14).			
Department Approval: Dan Hernandez (07/03/14)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (07/07/14)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (07/08/14)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (07/08/14)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council (1) consider a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission related to the establishment of dog paths; (2) (if desired) introduce an ordinance amending Culver City Municipal Code Section 9.10.600 regarding the Definition and Establishment, by Resolution, of Designated Dog Paths within Culver City Parks; and (3) (if desired) adopt a resolution establishing certain Designated Dog Paths in City Parks, including the existing Designated Dog Paths in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park and two proposed Designated Dog Paths in Veterans' Memorial Park (#1 and #2) with the stipulation of a six-month review of Path #2 by the Commission. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> Currently, the Culver City Municipal Code (CCMC) must be amended to add the name of each Designated Dog Path (aka "Pooch Path") upon approval by the City Council. At the June 17, 2014 Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Commission meeting, the Commission approved a recommendation to the City Council that the CCMC be amended to allow for the establishment of Designated Dog Paths by resolution of the City Council.			

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As proposed by the Commission, this change will streamline the administrative process of establishing Designated Dog Paths without altering the current review and/or approval process. The PRCS Commission's central role in the process of designating dog paths will continue, including conducting public outreach, compiling and reviewing public comment, considering and discussing such items at noticed public meeting(s), and the submitting a formal recommendation to City Council.

The PRCS Commission's Role in the Development of Designated Dog Paths

In its role as an advisory body on matters pertaining to parks, the PRCS Commission has previously made recommendations to the City Council on both the topic of allowing dogs in Culver City parks and on the establishment of the Designated Dog Paths within Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park. At the February 9, 2009 meeting, the following action was taken by the City Council:

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL CONTINUE THE EXISTING LAW AND PRACTICES THAT DO NOT ALLOW DOGS IN PARKS, EXCEPT IN THE CULVER CITY DOG PARK OR WHERE THERE IS A DESIGNATED DOG PATH, AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL FOR DESIGNATED DOG PATHS IN OTHER PARKS WHEN A NEED IS IDENTIFIED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMISSION.

PRCS Commission Discussions and Actions Regarding Recommending Designating Certain Sidewalks/Walkways within Veterans' Memorial Park as Dog Paths

At the June 17, 2014 meeting, the Commission approved a recommendation to the City Council to (1) amend the Culver City Municipal Code to allow for the establishment of Designated Dog Paths by resolution of the City Council; (2) designate "Pooch Path #1" within Veterans' Memorial Park as a Designated Dog Path; and, (3) designate "Pooch Path #2" within Veterans' Memorial Park as a Designated Dog Path with the stipulation of a six-month review by the Commission.

Proposed Veterans' Memorial Designated Dog Path #1 (Vets' Pooch Path #1) is the sidewalk running along the south side of the Veterans' Memorial Park parking lot adjacent to Culver Boulevard (Culver Boulevard Parking Lot). Proposed Veterans' Memorial Park Designated Dog Path #2 (Vets' Pooch Path #2) is the sidewalk/walkway within Veterans' Memorial Park that connects the Culver Boulevard Parking Lot to Barman Avenue (to the west of the Park buildings).

The recommendation for Vets' Pooch Path #1 had previously been made at the August 6, 2013 Commission meeting. At that time, the Commission heard public comment on both of the proposed Veterans' Memorial Park Designated Dog Paths but deferred action on Vets' Pooch Path #2 until after the review of the Culver West Alexander Park Pooch Path Extension.

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At the January 7, 2014 meeting, the Commission conducted the nine-month review of the Culver West Alexander Park Pooch Path extension. Staff reported that Park Patrol reports of dogs in unauthorized areas of CWA Park had decreased since the designation of the walking/jogging trail as a Pooch Path and that there did not appear to be any notable negative consequences related to the extension of the Pooch Path. Subsequently, at the March 4, 2014 meeting, the recommendation to the City Council of the establishment of Vets' Pooch Path #2 with the stipulation of a six-month review by the PRCS Commission was approved.

PRCS Commission Discussions – Public Notification and Comments

	August 6, 2013 PRCS Commission Meeting	March 4, 2014 PRCS Commission Meeting
Post Card Mailing	734 postcards	1,091 postcards
*Email Notifications	3,305 subscribers	3,522 subscribers
Website Highlights Posted	Two weeks prior	Two weeks prior
Culver City TV Slide	One week prior	Two weeks prior
Notices Posted at Vets' Park	One week prior	One week prior
<i>Comments in Support</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>**Conditional Support</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Comments in Opposition</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Conditional Opposition</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

****Email Notifications:*** *Two email blasts were done for each meeting.*

*****Conditional Support:*** *August 6, 2013 – (1) Yes, if rules & regulations are strictly enforced (e.g., dog feces must be picked-up); (2) Yes, for all sidewalks facing the streets, even those separated by a parking lot. March 4, 2014 – (1) Yes, as long as measures are taken to ensure that the dogs are not on the private property of the homes in the VMP neighborhood.*

DISCUSSION:

Aerial views of the existing Designated Dog Paths in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park, and the proposed Designated Dog Paths #1 and #2 within

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Veterans' Memorial Park as recommended by the PRCS Commission, are provided as exhibits to the proposed resolution.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Costs associated with marking the routes in Veterans' Memorial Park as a "Pooch Paths" are expected to be approximately \$1,500.00 for signage, paint, and stencils. It should be noted that "paw prints" marking the dog paths will only be stenciled at the beginning, end, and at random intervals within the designated sidewalks (as opposed to along the entire route).

There are sufficient funds in the City Council Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 for the Parks Division in 10130300.514100 (Parks Division / Departmental Special Supplies) for the signage, paint, and stencils and in 10130300.411100 (Parks Division / Regular Salaries) for approximately twenty (20) hours of staff time for the project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Ordinance
2. Proposed Resolution

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Consider a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission related to the establishment of Dog Paths; and,
2. (If desired) Introduce an ordinance amending Culver City Municipal Code Section 9.10.600 regarding the Definition and Establishment, by Resolution, of Designated Dog Paths within Culver City Parks; and,
3. (If desired) Adopt a resolution establishing certain Designated Dog Paths in City Parks, including the existing Designated Dog Paths in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park and two proposed Designated Dog Paths in Veterans' Memorial Park (#1 and #2) with the stipulation of a six-month review of Path #2 by the Commission.