

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

Meeting Date: <u>12/04/12</u>		Item Number: <u>A-1</u>	
PRCS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: Discussion of a Recommendation to the City Council to Extend the Pooch Path at Culver West Alexander Park to include the Walking/Jogging Trail Located within the 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: ☒	
Public Notification: (Postcard Mailing) Owners, Occupants and Businesses in the Culver West Neighborhood in the area bordered on the North by the south side of Washington Blvd., on the East and West by the City limits; that is, the east side of Moore St. and the west side of Neosho St., respectively, and on the South by a segment of Short Ave. (622 postcards; 11/07/12); (Email) Subscribers of Culver City News and Events, Parks, Recreation & Community Service Department Updates, Meetings and Agendas – Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission, Senior Citizens (11/21/12 and 11/29/12); (Cable Slide) Channel 35/37 (11/26/12 through 12/04/12); (Posted Notices) Culver West Alexander Park (11/27/12 through 12/04/12).			
Department Approval: Dan Hernandez (11/27/12).		City Attorney Approval: N/A	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: N/A		City Manager Approval: N/A	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission discuss making a recommendation to the City Council to extend the Pooch Path at Culver West Alexander Park to include the walking/jogging trail located within the Park and take action on the matter if a need is identified. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> At the July 3, 2012 PRCS Commission meeting, Chair Stuart reported being contacted by a resident about the possibility of extending the Pooch Path at Culver West Alexander Park to include the walking/jogging trail in order to enable people to take their dogs with them on the trail. At the September 4, 2012 Commission meeting, the Commission unanimously approved investigating the feasibility of extending the Pooch Path and set December 4, 2012 as the meeting date to receive and review public input on the issue. 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 creation of designated Pooch			

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Paths within the parks. At the February 9, 2009 meeting, the following action was taken by the City Council (moved by Councilmember O'Leary; seconded by Mayor Malsin; passed 4 – 1; Councilmember Silbiger dissenting):

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.

For reference, the following is an excerpt of the Culver City Municipal Code relating to the prohibition of dogs within Culver City Parks:

§ 9.10.055 PROHIBITIONS

Within the limits of any public park it shall be unlawful for any person:

- A. Having charge, care, custody or control of any dog, except as permitted by § 9.10.400 or § 9.10.600, or other animal, fowl, or reptile to cause, permit or allow the same to be within the limits of any public park within the City, unless such person shall have obtained a special permit from the City Council to conduct an entertainment or exhibition in which an animal is a participant.

§ 9.10.400 relates to the Culver City Dog Park within Culver City Park; § 9.10.600 relates to the designated Pooch Paths within Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park. § 9.10.600 is excerpted below:

§ 9.10.600 DESIGNATED DOG PATHS.

- A. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Code, a person may have charge, care, custody or control of any dog upon the designated dog paths in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park; provided such dog is at all times restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length, in the control of a competent person.

- B. For purposes of this Section, **DESIGNATED DOG PATHS** shall mean the pathways in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park that are identified by conspicuously displayed signs indicating that they are **DESIGNATED DOG PATHS**, and where the pathways themselves are marked with pictures of paw prints.

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C. Nothing in this Section shall permit or allow any person having charge, care, custody or control of any dog to permit or allow that dog to be in any portion of any public park, except as permitted by § [9.10.400](#), other than on the designated dog paths in Culver West Alexander Park and Culver City Park.

DISCUSSION:

As noted in the Public Notification section of this report, extensive public outreach was done to notice this evening's discussion; a map detailing the postcard mailing area is provided as Attachment A. An aerial view of the proposed Pooch Path Extension at Culver West Alexander Park is provided as Attachment B. All public comment received by staff by 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 regarding the issue of extending the Pooch Path at Culver West Alexander Park is provided as Attachment C. Any public comment on the issue received since that time will be placed on the dais for the Commissioners and/or be read into the record at this evening's meeting.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Expenses for the public notification for this item were nominal and are typically considered as regular operating expenses, as follows:

NOTIFICATION METHOD	DEPARTMENT(S)	EXPENSE
Postcard mailing to owners, occupants and businesses (622 postcards).	• PRCS Administration • IT Graphic Services	Staff Time / \$218.00 for mailing
Printed notices posted at the Park.	• PRCS Administration • PRCS Parks	Staff Time / Materials
Email notifications, website postings and a public notification slide on Channel 35/37.	• PRCS Administration • City Manager's Office	Staff Time

Should the PRCS Commission make a recommendation to the City Council that the Pooch Path at Culver West Alexander Park be extended to include the walking/jogging trail and if the City Council approves such action, costs will be incurred for supplies and materials for signage and/or additional trail markings in an amount estimated not-to-exceed \$15,000. There are currently sufficient funds available in Account Number 42080000.730100.PZ835 (Capital Improvements/ Culver West Alexander Park Rehab) for this expenditure.

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ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Map detailing Public Notification postcard mailing area.
- B. Aerial view of the proposed Pooch Path Extension at Culver West Alexander Park.
- C. Public comment regarding the Culver West Alexander Park Pooch Path Extension received by 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2012.

MOTIONS:

That the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission:

- 1. Make a recommendation to the City Council to extend the Pooch Path at Culver West Alexander Park to include the walking/jogging trail located within the Park;

OR

- 2. Take no action regarding the issue at this time;

OR

- 3. Provide staff with alternate suggestions.