



Sunnyvale

Study Issue Form

The Study Issues process is designed to assist City Council with setting priorities for the coming calendar year. Board and commission members have two roles in this process:

1. To advise Council regarding the identification of policy issues to study, within their relevant area of authority;
2. To advise Council on those issues Council has decided to study.

The study issues process should focus on considering a new or revised ordinance, new or expanded service delivery program, changes to existing Council Policy, or amendments to the General Plan. The Study Issues Form is designed to focus board and commissioner members' ideas on potential policy study issues, and provide the opportunity for staff feedback and guidance in a transparent process. *Board members or commissioners may only fill out a form for study issue ideas within their purview.*

Date Submitted to Staff Liaison: 9/17/2019

Board/ Commission: Parks and Recreation Commission



Workplan Year: 2020



Submitted by: Prakash Giri

Study Issue Working Title: Evaluate feasibility of dog off-leash hours in select Sunnyvale park(s)

1. What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated this study?

There has been an increased community interest in establishing off-leash hours in a designated areas of public parks conveniently located within city limits so that residents and their well-behaved canine companions can exercise & play in a clean, safe environment.

Creating a pet-friendly, well-maintained space would allow all dog lovers a place to bring their four-legged friends (who would be willing to uphold the rules and restrictions of the area, such as picking up after their dogs and maintaining up-to-date vaccinations) during hours when parks are not being used for other activities.

Request staff to study the feasibility of off-leash dogs hour in select areas of select park(s) and potential impacts on other recreation uses, health, safety, environment, funding and maintenance. If necessary, create an off-leash pilot program in a select neighborhood park to understand the impacts in detail and also look into the study results from trials in neighboring cities.

2. Staff Summary of Scope and/or Comments: [Staff Use Only]

The purpose of the Feasibility Study (Study) is to provide the City a guide for establishing off leash dog hours at City Parks.

The Study will determine the options and opportunities for creating off leash dog park areas at select areas of select park(s) and specified times during the day. It will also consider the potential impacts on other recreational uses. Consideration will also be given to concerns such as public health and safety, the environment, capital costs as well as any increase in maintenance costs.

The study should also consider creating a pilot program in a select City park to better understand the impacts in detail. In addition, similar study issues that may be available from other similar Cities should be reviewed.