



Entrance

Entrance

Google

Paved Area

SAN ANTONIO PARK





Age friendly - dog exercises the elderly

"Parks have a real role in the socialization of a city. Off-leash areas really expand upon that. We also recognize that dog guardians and their pets create an atmosphere of safety in our public parks."

"People say, 'I never knew my neighbors until I went to the dog park.' You meet all these wonderful people and the only thing that you have in common is that you have a dog and that you love dogs - you wouldn't meet these people anywhere else."

"Off-leash parks are community centers for people just as much as for canines."

"Dogs facilitate friendly interactions among people, <sup>and dogs</sup> as they so actively solicit play and offer greetings. Establishing a dog park creates a community center of activity where friends and neighbors gather to relax. Users of dog parks are self-policing so as to maintain the appealing environment. Creating dog parks is a method for more efficiently educating dog guardians and facilitating them in assuring excellent behavior with their dogs."

Seattle "Designating an area where dog guardians can allow their animals to run off-leash successfully remedies this problem in parks where the concept has been introduced. Violations of the leash law and subsequent public complaints have decreased; and dog guardians have a place to legally exercise their pets. Off-leash areas allow dog guardians to be law-abiding, easing the burden of enforcement on animal control officers and freeing them to do more important work, such as animal rescue and control of dangerous animals."

### Cooper Park

Chesley Avenue & Yorkton Drive

Amenities include: Basketball court, children's playground, soccer/football field, passive areas, picnic area, softball field, tennis courts and restrooms.

Celebration  
- newborn babies

70th Birthday parties

- memorial service for dog

- support network for family of deceased friend & dog owner

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## **Council OKs plan to allow dogs in parks**

by Daniel DeBolt / Mountain View Voice

*City Council members decided to let dogs go off-leash in numerous city parks Tuesday, legalizing something that many residents at Tuesday's council meeting confessed that they were already doing.*

*"I've been studying this issue for about eight years and I have found that it works very well," said council member John McAlister, who said he used to bring his dog to Cooper Park every morning where a group of residents said they haven't had any conflicts or issues with letting their dogs off-leash during a regular time every morning, from 8:30 a.m. to about 10 a.m., despite the fact it wasn't legal. "I used to be part of the group but my dog passed away last Wednesday," McAlister said, his voice breaking up. "I can no longer enjoy the crowd but I see great benefit in this."*

*The council ended up voting 5-2 to allow dogs off leash at several parks for a one year trial: at Cooper, Bubb, McKelvey and Eagle parks Monday through Friday from 6 a.m to 10 a.m.; at Whisman park seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to a half an hour past sunset; at the Cuesta "dog training area" seven days a week from sunrise to sunset; and at the Cuesta Annex seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.*

*Council members Chris Clark and Ronit Bryant opposed the plan, proposed by McAlister, because of the inclusion of the Cuesta Annex. It's a place where Bryant noted that a rare great Blue Heron hunts, and that she'd prefer if the city consulted with wildlife preservationists before allowing off-leash dogs there. A representative of the Audubon Society said there wouldn't likely be an issue, but declined to go on record about it.*

*Council members said that having posted times for dogs to run off-leash could prevent conflict with residents who would like to avoid dogs.*



"I'm also a dog owner and I have the cutest dog imaginable but not everyone likes him," Bryant said. "We do need to respect that fact that not everyone" wants to be around dogs. Dogs do bite, members said.

70,000  
Council members rejected a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission to build two new fenced parks, one at a parcel along Shoreline Boulevard near Eagle Park (costing up to \$40,000), and another at Rengstorff Park costing \$30,000. Both would have been simple, fenced-in areas with a water fountain. Council members balked at the cost and at using up more space at Rengstorff, and residents complained that it wasn't a good idea to have dogs along busy Shoreline Boulevard.

The Parks and Recreation Commission recommended only two new off-leash areas, one at Whisman Park and another at Cuesta Park. A resident complained that many more parks were originally proposed for off-leash areas, such as Thaddeus Park in the Monta Loma neighborhood, but the commission removed them from the proposed trial program. All but two of the approved parks (Whisman and Eagle) are south of El Camino Real.

One resident used expletives to describe the city's only official dog park, far removed from residences at the north end of Shoreline Boulevard, saying that the crushed granite surface hurts dogs paws.

The city also has a new dog park at the Merlone Geier's "Village at San Antonio" development on San Antonio Road, which is open to the public. National statistics indicate that Mountain View should have two dog parks, while a survey of 30 Bay Area cities found that most cities have "at least one dog park, and the vast majority are fenced," said parks and open space manager Bruce Hurlburt. Menlo Park, San Carlos and Foster City all have off-leash dog programs in city parks.

Council members asked if the new time limits would be enforced and City Manager Dan Rich said that, like most things, it would be on complaint basis. "We don't have the resources to be out there every day," he said.



## OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

*The City allows dogs to be off-leash in designated areas of selected local parks and hours. The City of Mountain View asks that you be respectful of other park users and that you comply with all rules and ordinances (SEC. 5.61. Dogs in posted off-leash areas).*

- *Keep your dog on leash unless in the designated off-leash area.*
- *Respect other park users. Stop bothersome behavior immediately.*
  - *Keep your dog under voice control.*
  - *Use the plastic bags to clean up after your dog.*
- *Report dog bites/incidents immediately to the **Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority***

**(408) 764-0344**

*Questions/Complaints/Compliments:*

***Parks Division (650) 903-6326 or [parks@mountainview.gov](mailto:parks@mountainview.gov)***

**MONDAY – FRIDAY 6 AM – 10 AM**

*BUBB PARK, 680 Barbara Ave.*

*COOPER PARK, 500 Chesley Ave.*

*EAGLE PARK, 650 Franklin Ave.*

*MCKELVEY PARK, 930 Miramonte Ave.*

## **MONDAY - SUNDAY**

WHISMAN PARK, 310 Easy St.

(6 AM – 10 AM)

(5 PM – sunset)

CUESTA PARK, 685 Cuesta Dr.

(6 AM – sunset)

CUESTA ANNEX, Grant Rd/Miramonte

(6 AM – 10 AM)

RENGSTORFF PARK, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave.

(6 AM – sunset)

201 S. Rengstorff Ave.

### ***Dog Training***

*Dog owners may train a dog without a leash in designated areas of specific city parks, if they have obtained a permit. The permit is valid only for dog training and does not apply to dog exercising or off-leash play, and may only be used in certain areas of Cuesta, Rengstorff and Whisman Park. It is not valid in any other City park or Shoreline at Mountain View.*

### ***How to Obtain a Permit***

Complete the Off-Leash Dog Training Application\* (PDF—5K) and submit it, along with the most current copies of the following (a .25 cent fee will be charged for each copy made by Community Services staff):

- Dog License\*
- Proof of vaccinations - hepatitis, distemper, parvo, para influenza, and rabies.
- Permit Fee Payment: Mountain View Residents - \$10 per permit;  
Non-Residents - \$13 per permit

**Submit Application and Payment to:**

City of Mountain View

Community Services Department—Recreation Division

201 S. Rengstorff Avenue

P.O. Box 7540

Mountain View, CA 94039

The copies of the license and vaccinations will remain on file and will not be returned to you. Once you have received your permit, please be sure to carry it with you whenever you are using Cuesta, Rengstorff or Whisman Parks to train your dog. If the permit is in the car or anywhere other than on your person, you may be cited.