

memorandum

DATE:

SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

TO:

HONOURABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM:

JASON SCHMIDT-SHOUKRI, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

PLANNING AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

RE:

DEPUTATION 3, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

REQUESTING AN OFF-LEASH DOG PARK IN MAPLE

<u>Purpose</u>

To provide an update on the Local Off Leash Dog Area Strategy.

Analysis

Commencing in October 2019 through to March 2020, Parks Planning staff will be holding public consultation sessions and focus group meetings across the City to determine suitable locations for smaller Off-Leash Dog areas. The development of specific criteria, and where there is a demonstrated demand from the community, sites will be identified. Staff will report back to Council with the findings and a proposed approach for implementing these smaller local off leash dog areas.

The study consultant has commenced the planning and research portion of the local off leash study, with a start up meeting held on September 4, 2019. Through the study process, existing communities and new urban growth/areas of intensification will be reviewed and considered as possible locations. The project consultant team will plan to reach out to members of the community across the City to participate in public consultations.

Conclusion

Parks planning staff have so far collected requests from approximately 100 residents, along with their respective network of dog owners, that will be included in a distribution list to be notified of future public consultation open house meetings. Traditional and online distribution channels in collaboration with Corporate and Strategic Communications will be used to solicit feedback and facilitate input from participants of this study.

Respectfully submitted.

Jason Schmidt-Shoukri

Deputy City Manager, Planning and Growth Management

Prepared by:

Michael Habib, Interim Manager, Parks and Open Space Planning

Martin Tavares, Interim Director, Parks Planning