

C14
Communication
CW (WS) – June 2, 2021
Item(s) # - 3

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: Bellisario, Adelina
Subject: FW: [External] Proposed Sports Village Dog Park
Date: May-31-21 8:27:22 AM

From: Susanna BLASETTI [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, May 29, 2021 8:38 PM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca; southmapleratepayers@gmail.com
Subject: [External] Proposed Sports Village Dog Park

Hi,

My name is Susanna Blasetti and I am a Maple resident in very close proximity to Vaughan Sports Village. It has come to my attention that the City of Vaughan is proposing an off-leash dog park in this area. While I am an animal lover and I understand the importance of dogs having an area where they can run free, I don't feel this is an appropriate location for the following reasons:

NOISE

This proposed location is very close to a residential area - there are houses just across the street. The sounds of barking dogs are going to be a nuisance to residents. I pay very high property taxes and I should be able to enjoy my property but now the sound of barking dogs is going to be a constant disruption, affecting my outdoor peace and quiet and my ability to sleep.

INCREASED DOG TRAFFIC

Having this dog park is going to cause an increase in the number of dogs in the park. This proposed location is unique to the other locations in that it is close to Villa Giardino. We have MANY seniors who use this park regularly and now they are going to have to contend with all these extra dogs in the area. Many seniors have a fear of dogs and it's not fair for them to be fearful every time they decide to take a stroll through the park.

MAINTENANCE

Who is going to maintain this area? The dog owners? The City? Pardon me if I don't have faith in either of them. My son and I walk through this area nightly and the amount of excrement we see is ridiculous and it's there night after night - no one ever cleans it up unless it gets washed away by the rain. I've even had to throw out a pair of shoes after inadvertently stepping in some that was literally on one of the park paths. This is not only disgusting and unsightly, it's unhygienic.....feces can contain bacteria such as E. coli and salmonella as well as parasites—roundworms, hookworms, and tapeworms.

Not to mention the deteriorated shape Sports Village is currently in.....eroded parking lot, overgrown trees and shrubs, ill maintained pathways. Not a very good attestation to possible future maintenance.

SAFETY ISSUES

For people: this location is right next to a baseball diamond, close to a school (Everest Academy), a rock climbing wall....all heavily frequented by children. What if a dog should get free? I shudder to think what could happen. While most dog owners are very responsible, some are not and it just takes one dog to get free for a disastrous consequence. There is too much activity / traffic for this to be a safe location.

For the dogs: this area is too close to a baseball diamond - what if a ball makes it's way into the dog area? This could possibly harm a dog.

Not to mention the proximity to a police station with loud sirens and Wonderland with their seasonal fireworks....all sounds which cause dogs anxiety. Who knows what damage an anxious, off-leash dog could inflict on other dogs?

In conclusion, while I like the idea of having an area for dogs to be free of their leashes and run wild with their friends, I don't feel this is an appropriate location.