

City of Richmond

**Report to Committee** 

To: From:	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee Dave Semple Director of Parks and Public Works Operations
Re:	Public Consultation on Dogs in Parks Task Force Report

That the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy included as attachment 1 in the report "Public Consultation on Dogs in Parks Task Force Report" from the Director of Parks and Public Works Operations be endorsed.

**Staff Recommendation:** 

Dave Semple Director of Parks and Public Works Operations (604-233-3350) Att. 8

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Community Bylaws	YND	lileactile	
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES NO	REVIEWED BY CAO YES NO	

#### Staff Report

### Origin

At the April 28, 2008 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting staff presented the "Dogs in Parks Task Force Report" (Attachment 2) to committee members. The report was compiled after a series of meetings between staff and key stakeholders in the community who met to discuss issues related to dogs in Richmond parks.

Richmond City Council endorsed the vision and strategic directions identified by the Dogs in Parks Task Force, and made the following referral to staff regarding the specific report recommendations:

"that a public consultation process regarding the recommendations of the 2008 Dogs in Parks Task Force be undertaken throughout the fall of 2008 and report back to Committee in early 2009."

This report responds to the referral above and provides recommendations for improved dog management in Richmond parks.

#### Analysis

#### Background

The Dogs in Parks Task Force met regularly over a five month period in late 2007 and early 2008. Membership on the Task Force included two RRDOG (Richmond Responsible Dog Owners Group) directors, a professional dog walker, a professional dog trainer and a citizen at large. The Task Force was supported by staff from Parks Programs and Community Bylaws.

The Task Force defined four strategic directions to address the issues of design, education, partnerships and enforcement related to dogs in parks:

- 1. Opportunities for accessible, off-leash use of open spaces for Richmond dog owners;
- 2. Effective communications regarding dogs in Richmond;
- 3. Effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of services and support for issues which affect dogs in the community; and
- 4. Enforcement of dog related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair and adequately funded.

The Task Force supported each strategic direction with specific recommendations (Attachment 3) and highlighted three areas needing further discussion:

- 1. Dogs at Garry Point Park;
- 2. Dedicated (primary use) off-leash areas; and,
- 3. Issues related to persons with disabilities and dogs.

The public consultation focused on the three issues above as well as other recommendations in the report which were not already implemented.

The Public Consultation Process consisted of:

- a) Information boards placed at City Hall and Community Centres. (Attachment 4)
- b) A website. (Attachment 5)
- c) A survey which asked questions regarding the recommendations by the Dogs in Parks Task Force. This survey was available online, at City Hall and at local community centres. (Attachment 6)
- d) A press release issued and distributed to the local media. (Attachment 7)
- e) Ads placed in the local paper which briefly described the process and listed the web link for the survey. (Attachment 8)
- f) Focus groups with identified stakeholders, including professional dog walkers in Richmond and the Richmond Centre for Disability.

The public responses on the subject included:

- 601 surveys submitted.
- At least two articles in the local papers and one editorial letter.
- Multiple phone calls from the public.
- Four emails to Mayor and Council on the issue.
- Surveys, letters, emails and phone calls including opinions reflecting many points of view.

#### Public Consultation Feedback Results on The Dogs in Parks Task Force Recommendations

The public consultation process indicated that the majority of the recommendations in the task force report have support, particularly the recommendation for more off-leash areas in Richmond.

The consultation also indicated mixed views on locating off-leash areas at Garry Point Park, the Railway Avenue Right of Way and the Bath Slough Trail; as a result these areas will not be included as additional off-leash areas.

The proposed exemptions to the Animal Control Bylaw that would allow professional dog walkers permission to have more dogs off-leash than non professionals also resulted in mixed support. Focus group sessions with the professional dog walkers in Richmond indicated that dog walking is an increasingly popular service (licensed dog walkers walk an average of 40 dogs per week) and the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy proposes a conservative plan for addressing this issue.

The Richmond Centre for Disability (RCD) was another group which volunteered their time to participate in a focus group session. RCD strongly disagreed with the Task Force suggestion to amend bylaws such as leashing requirements for persons living with disabilities. It was RCD's position that persons with disabilities should be subject to the same bylaw requirements as the rest of the community.

### **Options for Future Dog Management in Parks**

There are two options for consideration following the completion of the public consultation process:

	Option:	Recommendation	Cost
1.	Maintain the Status Quo	Not recommended	None
2.	Implementation of the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy	Recommended	Initial cost of \$7300 plus staff time (funded by existing departmental resources) – future costs to be evaluated in future capital budgets or absorbed by appropriate departmental resources.

### **Option 1: Maintain the Status Quo (not recommended)**

Under this option the information from the task force report is received for information and no changes are implemented regarding dogs in parks at this time. This option is not recommended because the high level of participation and the results of our public consultation process indicate that Richmond park users want to see improvements to dog management in parks.

### Option 2: Implementation of the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy (recommended)

Under this option the City acknowledges that changes to the current system can be made in order to improve the park experience for all users and implements the attached Dogs in Parks Management Strategy Report dated June, 2009. The Dogs in Parks Management Strategy includes support for the majority (29 out of 34) of the recommendations put forward by the Dogs in Parks Task Force Report.

	tegic Direction - Opportunities for accessible cash use of open space for Richmond Dog ters	Comment
1.	Ensure no net loss of space for designated off-	There will be no reduction in current off-leash
	leash areas.	areas.
2.	Clear paths at existing McDonald Beach off- leash area to improve accessibility to site.	Future capital budgets.
3.	Plan for a future designated off- leash area in City Centre.	This will be considered in future capital budgets and development.
4.	Consider adding fenced/naturally bounded designated off-leash areas within off-leashed areas.	This will be considered in future capital budgets and development.
5.	Implement a public process to determine the appropriateness of and possible location at Garry Point Park.	The public process was implemented and resulted in mixed opinions.

6.	Begin a dialogue with School District 38 to	The potential school ground locations will be
	discuss and address uses related to off-leash	neighbourhood areas where the school site acts as
	dogs on school grounds.	a neighbourhood park.
7.	Begin a dialogue with YVR to discuss greater	The Miller Road field is currently being used for
	use of Sea Island for designated off-leash areas	dog training and expansion to designating this as
	including the Miller Road field and the area to	an off-leash will be explored.
	the east of McDonald Beach.	
8.	Consider the concept of time-sensitive	Time sensitive designated off-leash areas will be
	designated off-leash areas in parks across the	evaluated following the implementation of the
	City.	other dog management strategies listed in this
		report.
9.	Consider the concept of dedicated off-leash	This report proposes trial designated off-leash
	areas in locations around the City.	areas at Parklane Park and Steveston Park.

1 S	tegic Direction - Effective Communication rding dogs in Richmond	Comment
1.	Update all signage at designated off-leash	Signage will be updated as new signs are required.
2.	areas to include references to current bylaws. Update all signage at designated off-leash areas to include a responsible dog ownership message.	Signage at all designated off-leash areas will be updated immediately.
3.	Collaborate with the media (both English and other language) to share the message of the benefits of a dog inclusive culture.	An effective communication plan will be developed in 2010.
4.	Collaborate with dog producers (pet stores, breeder, etc) and media to share the message of responsible dog ownership.	This report recommends that educational material be created, this material can be distributed or made available at participating pet stores.
5.	Explore opportunities with schools, community associations and cultural organizations teaching the message of responsible dog ownership.	Additional collaboration opportunities will be evaluated following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report.
6.	Consider the establishment of a comprehensive public dog education program with distinct roles for the City and for community partners.	This report recommends that educational material be created by City Staff in consultation with community partners such as the Richmond Animal Protection Society.

sust	tegic Direction - Effective, efficient and a support for a swhich affect dogs in the community.	Comment
1.	Reprioritize and refocus the "Adopt-a-Dog-	This will be included in the 2010 work plan for
	Bag Dispenser program.	Parks Programs Staff.
2.	Ensure Bags in dog bag dispensers are	Dog bags switched to biodegradable after the
	biodegradable.	Dogs in Parks Task Force report was presented in
		2008.
3.	Explore alternative avenues for disposing of	This will be included in the 2010 work plan for
	dog waste materials.	Parks Programs Staff.
4.	Provide recognition for exemplary dogs.	This will be considered in future work plans
		following the implementation of the other dog

		management strategies listed in this report.
5.	Create an advisory board for dog control issues.	Ad hoc advisory boards will be created to respond to issues as they arise.
- 6.	Maintain the financial incentive for licensing spayed or neutered dogs.	The City will continue to support a reduced cost for licensing spayed and neutered dogs.
7.	Consider a dialogue with disabilities groups regarding their unique concerns and needs.	Staff have met with the Richmond Centre for Disability and have committed to continuing a dialogue as dog issues arise which affect their members.

Strategic Direction - Enforcement of dog related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair and adequately funded.	Comment
1. Plan an annual outreach licensing effort.	Staff in the Community Bylaws Division have included licensing outreach in their annual operations, and have a budgeted amount for seasonal auxiliary staff to visit neighbourhoods and identify unlicensed dogs.
<ol> <li>Provide a more streamlined method of licensing dogs.</li> </ol>	Staff in the Community Bylaws Division department have improved licensing methods, including an annual mail out invoice for dog license renewal.
3. Ensure random checks of dog licenses, behaviour and 'poop and scoop" are conducted on a regular basis.	Community Bylaws and Richmond Animal Protection Society staff are currently conducting random checks.
4. Consider a new type of animal control officer which has an education role first and peace officer capabilities second.	Animal control officers currently issue fines only when necessary – their primary role is to educate.
<ol> <li>Update Animal Control Bylaw 7932 to eliminate conflicting provisions.</li> </ol>	Community Bylaws and Parks Programs staff have confirmed there are no conflicting provisions in the Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7932.
<ol> <li>Consider updating Dog Licensing Bylaw No. 7138 to include service as well as assistance dogs.</li> </ol>	Staff will consider defining service and assistance dogs as well as considering a lower rate for licensing in future amendments to the Dog Licensing Bylaw No. 7138.
<ol> <li>Explore exceptions to section 2.3.5.2 of the Animal Control Bylaw 7932 for professional dog walkers with a Richmond business license and a proposed dog-walking permit.</li> </ol>	A licensing program for professional dog walkers is recommended in this report and a future report to Council will outline the specifics of the program.

Five of the 34 recommendations in the Dogs in Parks Task Force Report are not supported as part of the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy. The reasons for rejection of these five recommendations are either that the public consultation results did not indicate support, or there were practicality issues identified by staff. The table which follows outlines each of the five rejected recommendations:

1.	<b>Dogs In Parks Recommendation</b> Consider designating a portion of the Railway Right of Way as a designated off- leash area.	Rationale for Rejection Public consultation results indicate a lack of support from area residents.
2.	Consider designating the Bath Slough Trail as a designated off-leash area.	Public consultation indicates highest need for off-leash areas is in Steveston and West Richmond. The Bath Slough Trail may be looked at for off-leash potential in the future.
	Consider designating the space at the west side of Minoru Park which currently contains the fitness circuit as a fenced designated off-leash area.	The circuit area is currently being used by park visitors. Future park development over two acres in the City Centre area will be included for consideration for off-leash areas.
4.	Seek to enact a bylaw to ban the sale of dogs from storefront locations.	Staff is not considering any increased regulation on the sale of dogs at this time.
5.	Support a reduction in the fine for the return of an impounded dog if the dog is spayed or neutered.	The animal shelter operates as a not for profit and funds received help recover operating costs.

#### **Financial Impact**

The total cost for the initial implementation of the recommended initiatives is approximately \$7300 is broken down as follows:

- \$2500 for new signage at existing dog parks to come out of Parks General Development account.
- \$1400 for production of 10,000 brochures to come out of the existing Parks Operational account.
- \$3400 for six (6) months of temporary fencing to come out of the Parks General Development account.

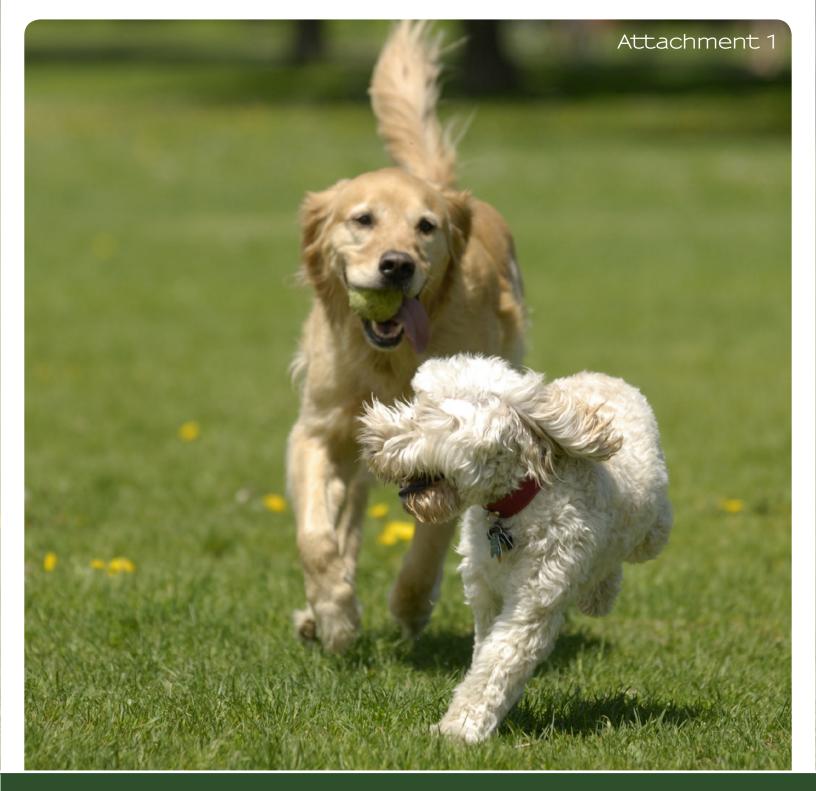
In addition, staff time will be required to implement the projects listed previously; this time is funded by existing departmental resources. Initiatives beyond those implemented initially will be funded by future departmental budgets.

#### Conclusion

Dogs are an important part of life for many Richmond residents and visitors. The Dogs in Parks Management Strategy balances the needs of both dog owners and non dog owners to improve the overall experience for both users in Richmond parks.

Jodie Shebib

Acting Manager, Parks Programs (604-244-1275)



# DOGS IN PARKS Management Strategy | June 2009



## Introduction

In July of 2007, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee of Council recommended the development of a dog management strategy to address the following issues:

- Dog ownership and licensing
- Education of dog owners
- Enforcement of dog-related rules and regulations
- Infrastructure required for accommodating dogs, including signage, dog bag dispensers and design features
- Proposed enhancements to Richmond's current off-leash program
- Identification of stakeholders and potential partnerships

In October 2007, the Richmond Dogs in Parks Task Force was formed to look at dog-related issues and provide recommendations for a comprehensive dog management strategy. The mandate of this Task Force was to address the issues while keeping forefront the following objectives:

- A balanced compromise between restraint and freedom for dogs
- A safe and exciting parks and recreation experience for all
- A sharing of public spaces within specified practices, rules, and regulations
- A fair representation of all views
- The identification of baseline data and key success factors
- The identification of realistic and cost-effective solutions

The outcome of the Task Force's work was a series of strategic directions and recommendations that related to dog management in Richmond. These were presented to Richmond City Council in the Spring of 2008.

Council adopted the four strategic directions which were in the Dogs in Parks Task Force Report:

- 1. Opportunities for accessible, off-leash use of open spaces for Richmond Dog owners;
- 2. Effective communications regarding dogs in Richmond;
- 3. Effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of services and support for issues which affect dogs in the community; and
- 4. Enforcement of dog related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair and adequately funded.

The report also included specific recommendations which each fell under the umbrella of one of the strategic directions. A public consultation process was undertaken in the Spring of 2009 to determine which Task Force recommendations should be implemented as part of the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy.





Accessible off-leash areas

### Dogs in Parks Management Strategy

The public consultation process highlighted support for the majority of the proposed recommendations in the Dogs in Parks Task Force report. The Dogs in Parks Management Strategy endorses implementation of these recommendations as budget and staff resources permit.

The following section is a summary of all recommendations put forward by the Dogs in Parks Task Force report which are endorsed in this strategy:

Strategic Direction 1 Opportunities for accessible off-leash use of open space for Richmond Dog Owners	Comment
1. Ensure no net loss of space for designated off-leash areas.	There will be no reduction in current off-leash areas.
2. Clear paths at existing McDonald Beach off-leash area to improve accessibility to site.	Future capital budgets.
3. Plan for a future designated off- leash area in City Centre.	This will be considered in future capital budgets and development.
4. Consider adding fenced/naturally bounded designated off-leash areas within off-leashed areas.	This will be considered in future capital budgets and development.
5. Implement a public process to determine the appropriateness of and possible location at Garry Point Park.	The public process was implemented and resulted in mixed opinions.
6. Begin a dialogue with School District 38 to discuss and address uses related to off-leash dogs on school grounds.	The potential school ground locations will be neighbourhood areas where the school site acts as a neighbourhood park.
7. Begin a dialogue with YVR to discuss greater use of Sea Island for designated off-leash areas including the Miller Road field and the area to the east of McDonald Beach.	The Miller Road field is currently being used for dog training and expansion to designating this as an off-leash will be explored.
8. Consider the concept of time- sensitive designated off-leash areas in parks across the City.	Time sensitive designated off-leash areas will be evaluated following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report.
9. Consider the concept of dedicated off-leash areas in locations around the City.	This report proposes trial designated off-leash areas at Parklane Park and Steveston Park.

Strategic Direction 2 Effective Communication regarding dogs in Richmond	Comment
<ol> <li>Update all signage at designated off-leash areas to include references to current bylaws.</li> </ol>	Signage will be updated as new signs are required.
2. Update all signage at designated off- leash areas to include a responsible dog ownership message.	Signage at all designated off-leash areas will be updated immediately.
3. Collaborate with the media (both English and other language) to share the message of the benefits of a dog inclusive culture.	An effective communication plan will be developed in 2010.
4. Collaborate with dog producers (pet stores, breeder, etc) and media to share the message of responsible dog ownership.	This report recommends that educational material be created, this material can be distributed or made available at participating pet stores.
5. Explore opportunities with schools, community associations and cultural organizations teaching the message of responsible dog ownership.	Additional collaboration opportunities will be evaluated following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report.
6. Consider the establishment of a comprehensive public dog education program with distinct roles for the City and for community partners.	This report recommends that educational material be created by City Staff in consultation with community partners such as the Richmond Animal Protection Society.

Strategic Direction 3 Effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of services and support for issues which affect dogs in the community.	Comment
1. Reprioritize and refocus the "Adopt- a-Dog-Bag Dispenser program.	This will be included in the 2010 work plan for Parks Programs Staff.
2. Ensure Bags in dog bag dispensers are biodegradable.	Dog bags switched to biodegradable after the Dogs in Parks Task Force report was presented in 2008.
3. Explore alternative avenues for disposing of dog waste materials.	This will be included in the 2010 work plan for Parks Programs Staff.
4. Provide recognition for exemplary dogs.	This will be considered in future work plans following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report.
5. Create an advisory board for dog control issues.	Ad hoc advisory boards will be created to respond to issues as they arise.
6. Maintain the financial incentive for licensing spayed or neutered dogs.	The City will continue to support a reduced cost for licensing spayed and neutered dogs.
7. Consider a dialogue with disabilities groups regarding their unique concerns and needs.	Staff have met with the Richmond Centre for Disability and have committed to continuing a dialogue as dog issues arise which affect their members.



Trail and park signage



South Dyke Trail



Dispenser locations and signage



Assistance dog



Bylaw Officer and enforcement

Strategic Direction Enforcement of dog related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair and adequately funded.	Comment
1. Plan an annual outreach licensing effort.	Staff in the Community Bylaws department have included licensing outreach in their annual operations, and have have a budgeted amount for seasonal auxiliary staff to visit neighbourhoods and identify unlicensed dogs.
2. Provide a more streamlined method of licensing dogs.	Staff in the Community Bylaws Division have improved licensing methods, including an annual mail out invoice for dog license renewal.
3. Ensure random checks of dog licenses, behaviour and 'poop and scoop" are conducted on a regular basis.	Community Bylaws and Richmond Animal Protection Society staff are currently conducting random checks.
4. Consider a new type of animal control officer which has an education role first and peace officer capabilities second.	Animal control officers currently issue fines only when necessary – their primary role is to educate.
5. Update Animal Control Bylaw 7932 to eliminate conflicting provisions.	Community Bylaws and Parks Programs staff have confirmed there are no conflicting provisions in the Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7932.
6. Consider updating Dog Licensing Bylaw No. 7138 to include service as well as assistance dogs.	Staff will consider defining service and assistance dogs as well as introducing a lower rate for licensing in future amendments to the Dog Licensing Bylaw No. 7138
7. Explore exceptions to section 2.3.5.2 of the Animal Control Bylaw 7932 for professional dog walkers with a Richmond business license and a proposed dog-walking permit.	A licensing program for professional dog walkers is recommended in this report and a future report to Council will outline the specifics of the program.

### Implementation of the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy:

The purpose of the Dogs in Parks Management Strategy is to formalise a framework for improvement of the overall park experience as it relates to dogs. As mentioned, the strategy will be phased in as staffing and monetary resources permit.

The following section outlines six specific recommendations which can begin implementation immediately.

### Strategic Direction No. 1:

Opportunities for accessible, off-leash use of open spaces for Richmond Dog owners.

Recommendation (1a): Ensure that dog off-leash areas are considered in future park development or redevelopment in parks over two acres in size.

- Currently there are five (5) designated off-leash areas in the City of Richmond (Attachment 1) most of which are not in neighbourhood or community parks. This means that the majority of people wishing to walk their dogs off-leash must drive to a designated off-leash park.
- In order to make off-leash dog parks more accessible future park development and redevelopment should include consideration for designated dog off-leash areas. Staff recognize that designated off-leash areas are not always practical, however, if the park size, budget, clientele and design can accommodate an off-leash area this should be considered along with other park priorities.

Recommendation (1b): Explore the feasibility of time sensitive designated offleash areas on school grounds with the Richmond School Board.

 Over 70% of people responding to the survey agreed that additional designated off-leash areas are necessary in Richmond. However, it is difficult to create additional designated off-leash areas on current park sites due to the amount of demand from other parks users. School sites account for approximately 25% of open space in Richmond, and the Richmond School Board should be approached to review the feasibility of time sensitive (outside of school program hours) designated off-leash areas on their property.

Recommendation (1c): Creation of two new trial designated off-leash areas in the West Richmond and Steveston areas at Parklane Park (Attachment 2) and Steveston Park (Attachment 3).

- The majority (61%) of people who responded to the Dogs in Parks Survey live in Steveston or West Richmond, which are also the areas where the majority (54%) of dogs licensed by the City reside. Currently the closest designated off-leash areas would be the Dyke Trail at the foot of No 3 Road or the Cambie field, north of Cambie Road, neither of which are in West Richmond or Steveston. The creation of designated off-leash areas at Parklane and Steveston Park would allow local area residents a more convenient location for walking their dogs off-leash.
- Residents near Parklane Park approached the City and requested that the park be considered as an off-leash area. The Steveston Community Society has submitted a written request for an off-leash area in Steveston Park which further demonstrates support for this location.
- Both off-leash areas would be for an initial trial period of six months after which time Staff would determine if the locations should remain permanently. The Parklane Park designated off-leash area will be created by the summer of 2009, and the Steveston Park off-leash are will be created in the Fall of 2009.



New park locations



Time sensitive area on school grounds



Etiquette and regulatory signage

#### Strategic Direction No. 2: Effective communications regarding dogs in Richmond.

#### Recommendation (2a): Improved park signage relating to dogs.

• In order for education and enforcement initiatives (strategic direction number three) to be successful communication must be enhanced between the City and Park users. Current park signage is out of date and difficult for non English speakers to interpret. New signage should be designed and installed in a way that is easy to understand, friendly in tone and includes graphics so that people who do not read English can understand. The park signage at designated off-leash areas will be replaced as soon as possible, and signage in other parks will be updated as replacement is necessary.

#### Recommendation (2b): Creation of an interactive web site.

• 70 % of survey responses indicated favour towards the City using the web site to gather public input on dog issues. Staff should design an interactive web page which educates and informs the public, but also allows for feedback to be submitted and communication between the City and public to be enhanced.

### Recommendation (2c): Implementation of a new more streamlined phone number to reach animal control officers.

• There are some challenges with the phone numbers in place to reach animal control officers (there are different numbers depending on the time of day). Community Bylaws staff are currently working on development of a single, streamlined phone number that can be used throughout the day. This number will be easy to remember and be included on the web site and in educational literature.

### Strategic Direction No 3:

Effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of services and support for issues which affect dogs in the community

Recommendation (3a): Implementation of a comprehensive licensing program for professional dog walkers operating in Richmond Parks, including changes to the Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7132 to allow for up to four (4) off-leash dogs per licensed professional dog walker in designated off-leash areas in the City.

- Professional dog walkers are key stakeholders in Richmond parks, particularly the designated off-leash areas. There are currently seven (7) professional dog walkers with business licenses from the City of Richmond who each walk an average of 40 dogs per week. The volume of dogs they are walking makes them highly visible to the public, and can also be cause for complaints to the Community Bylaws Department. While some complaints are legitimate concerns regarding bylaw infractions, others are related to the volume of dogs being handled by the walker.
- A licensing program will create additional accountability and visibility for professional dog walkers. The license will require adherence to all related bylaws, with the revocation of license a possible consequence of repeat infractions. Vests, sashes or other identifiable clothing would be worn by professional dog walkers, and could include the name of their company. This will:
  - reassure members of the public that this is a licensed professional; and,
  - identify the specific company using the park in case of concerns by parks users.



Licensing program for dog walkers

### Strategic Direction No 3 cont'd...

- The professional dog walkers in the research focus group for this report have indicated their support for a more comprehensive licensing program. They have also agreed to be a part of the implementation process by working with staff to develop guidelines and rules as conditions of the license. The dog walkers licensed by the City are professionals in their field and have a vested interest in ensuring that their professional image is maintained in the public eye.
- The professional dog walkers have repeatedly requested exemptions to the off-leash rules to allow them to have more than three (3) dogs off-leash at a time. Staff tried to balance these requests with the concerns expressed by the public. Consequently, staff proposes an initial exemption of four (4) dogs off-leash for professionals licensed by this program. This is less that the amount requested, however it balances the concerns by Community Bylaws staff and other park users. This limit can be re-evaluated at a later date.
- The logistics of the licensing process would be worked out at a later date, with Community Bylaws and Parks Programs staff taking the lead to develop and administer the program. The reasoning behind these staff groups taking the lead instead of the Business License group is logistical; Business License Inspectors do not regularly patrol Richmond parks. The professional dog walker licensing program will be presented to Council as part of a future report which will outline the program specifics and any applicable bylaw amendments.
- The license would be a bylaw requirement in order for professional dog walkers to operate in Richmond parks. Enforcement options for non-compliance could include fines or other legal action in extreme cases, however this would be a last resort.



Dog exercising in off-leash area

### Strategic Direction No. 4:

Enforcement of dog related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair and adequately funded.

Recommendation (4a): Enhance current enforcement initiatives with a public education program designed to improve bylaw compliance.

- The survey results indicated that 85% of those polled believe that Bylaw Enforcement Officers should be conducting random checks to determine whether dog owners are picking up after their dogs. The results also indicate that half of responses favoured increased enforcement to check for dog licenses and to determine if dogs are off-leash in on leash areas. The enforcement challenges for these sorts of infractions is that the Bylaw Enforcement Officer must witness the event which is extremely difficult.
- Rather than increasing enforcement resources, educational initiatives should be increased to in order to improve bylaw compliance and reduce the number of conflicts in parks amongst users. Parks Programs and Community Bylaws staff can collaborate to develop a program targeting both dog owners and non dog owners. This program would include explanations of why bylaw compliance is important and other relevant information to improve the park experience for all users.
- Educational brochures with references to current City bylaws and maps of off-leash locations should be developed and include both graphics and print. The brochures can be distributed as follows:
  - for pick up at the Richmond animal shelter, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services offices and at City Hall;
  - for distribution by Animal Control Officers while on patrols; and
  - included in each dog license purchase and renewal package.



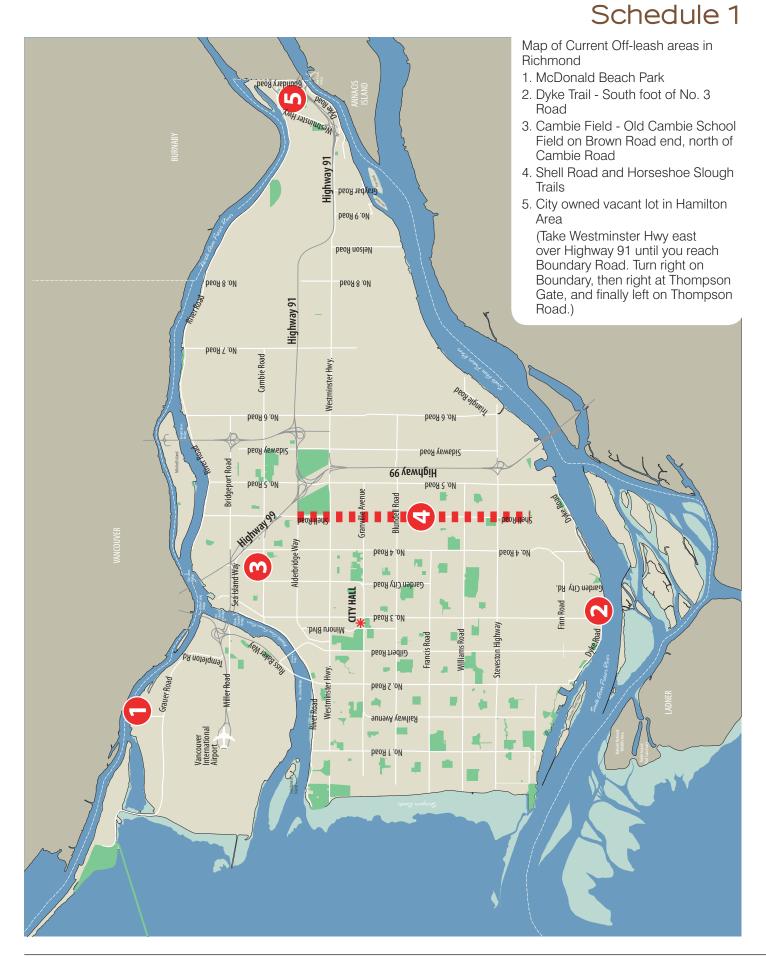
Education to improve compliance

### Conclusion

The Dogs in Parks Management Strategy is the result of input from various stakeholders in the community including professionals in the dog industry, dog owners, non dog owners and City staff.

The City of Richmond's vision is to be the most appealing, liveable and well managed community in Canada. Effective dog management in Richmond parks is an important component of ensuring that Parks are user friendly for both dog owners and non-dog owners, and improves the overall liveability of the City.





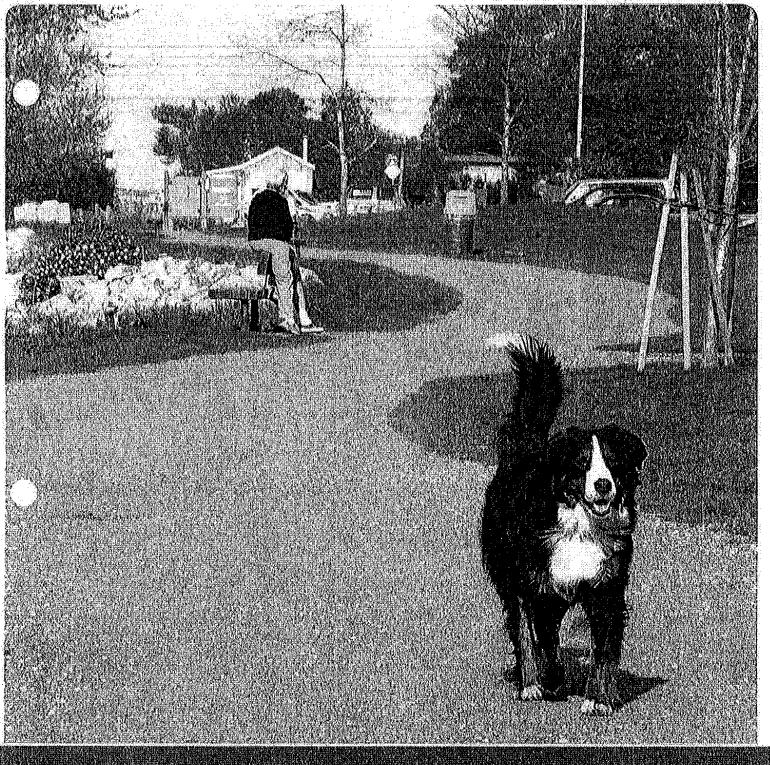
### Schedule 2 Aerial view of Parklane Park



### Schedule 3 Aerial view of Steveston Park



### Attachment 2



PRCS-40

## DOGS IN PARKS Task Force Report - April 2008

RICHMOND

### Introduction

July of 2007, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee of Jouncil recommended the development of a dog management strategy to address the following issues:

- Dog ownership and licensing
- Education of dog owners.
- Enforcement of dog-related rules and regulations
- Infrastructure required for accommodating dogs, including signage, dog bag dispensers, and design features
- Proposed enhancements to Richmond's current off-leash program
- Identification of stakeholders and potential partnerships

In October 2007, the Richmond Dogs in Parks Task Force was formed to look at dog-related issues and provide recommendations for a comprehensive dog management strategy. The mandate of this Task Force was to address the issues while keeping forefront the following objectives:

- A balanced compromise between restraint and freedom for dogs
- · A safe and exciting parks and recreation experience for all
- A sharing of public spaces within specified practices, rules, and regulations
- A fair representation of all views
- The identification of baseline data and key success factors
- The identification of realistic and cost-effective solutions

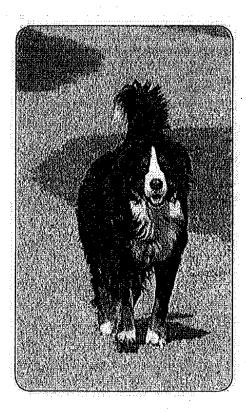
### Membership

The Richmond Dogs in Parks Task Force was comprised of six members:

- Jack Buchan, Richmond Responsible Dog Owners Group (RRDOG)
   member
- Julie Halfnights, Thompson Community Association board member
- Judi Hutchison, City of Richmond staff member and dog trainer
- Ryan Lake, Richmond Responsible Dog Owners Group (RRDOG)
   Director
- Carol Reichert, Richmond Animal Protection Society (RAPS) Executive Director
- Shelley Smith, Professional dog walker and dog trainer

The Task Force was provided support and resources from the following City staff:

- Dave Semple, Director of Parks and Public Works Operations
- Serena Lusk, Manager of Parks Programs
- Mike Redpath, Manager, Parks Planning & Design
- Wayne Mercer, Manager, Community Bylaws
- Paul Brar, Coordinator, Parks Programs



The Task Force met regularly between October 2007 and March 2008 to perform the following activities related to the development of a dog management strategy for Richmond:

- 1. Review of Current Reality
- 2. Identification of Stakeholders
- 3. Situational Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats)
- 4. Identification of Strategic Issues (design, education, partnerships, enforcement)
- 5. Development of Recommendations

The outcome of the Task Force's work includes a series of strategic directions and recommendations that relate to dog management in Richmond. These recommendations form the basis of this report.

### Current Reality

### Infrastructure:

Richmond currently has six designated off-leash areas (attachment 1). These areas include:

- McDonald Beach Park
- · South Dyke Trail (south end of No. 3 Road & Woodwards Slough)
- Camble Field Neighbourhood Park
- Shell Road Trail
- Horseshoe Slough Trail
- Hamilton Highway Park

These off-leash areas have multiple uses. There are no dedicated off-leash areas in the City's parks and open space inventory.

Signage at these locations informs users of these areas of the following conditions:

- Dogs must be kept under control by their owners at all times
- Stoop and scoop, clean up after your dog
- Dog owners must carry a leash at all times
- All dogs must be currently and visibly leashed
- Dog owners must maintain effective verbal control of their dogs and always be able to see their dog when off-leash
- Any dog exhibiting aggressive behaviour must be leashed immediately

, he City's designated off-leash areas are defined in Animal Control Bylaw 7932 (attachment 2) and the rules associated with them in section 2.3.5 of the same bylaw.

Community members, non-profit organisations, volunteer groups, and businesses have the opportunity to partner with the City through the adoption or sponsorship of dog bag dispensers. Adopted dog bag dispensers are located in four locations in the City:

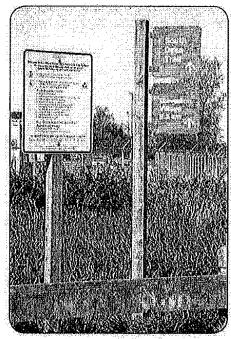
- McDonald Beach
- West Dyke Trail at Blundell Road
- Imperial Landing
- Britannia Heritage Shipyard
- South Dyke Trail at No. 3 Road

Herringer's Meats, Richmond Animal Hospital, and Steveston Rotary Club are currently supporting this program as sponsors. In addition to these adopted clispensers, the City supplies and maintains a dog bag dispenser at Garry Point Park. The dog waste bags that are currently used in these dispensers are made of low density poly ethylene (LDPE), which is not a biodegradable material.

In addition to designated off-leash areas, there are parks and open spaces where dogs are specifically not permitted. These areas include:

- Richmond Nature Park West and East
- Terra Nova Rural Park
- Artificial Turf Fields

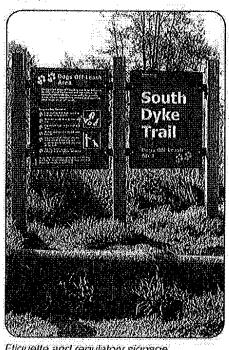
South Dyke Trail



Trall and park signage



Dispenser locations and signage



Eliquette and regulatory signage

#### Enforcement:

In accordance with Dog Licensing Bylaw 7138, the total number of dog licenses that have been issued or invoiced for 2008 is 6,138 (attachment 3). Total revenue from these licenses is approximately \$134,500. The greatest concentration of these licenses are issued to Richmond residents living in the southwest corner of the City (attachment 4). In regards to unlicensed dogs in the City, the Community Bylaws Division notes relatively high levels of compliance and estimates the number of unlicensed dogs to be 15%.

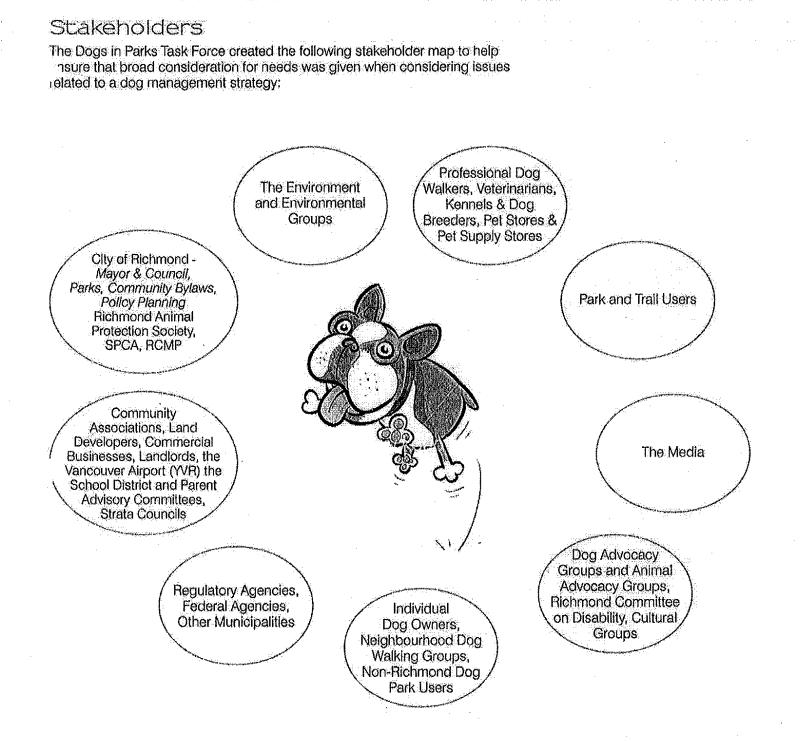
Animal control and the operation of the animal shelter is currently contracted to the Richmond Animal Protection Society (RAPS). RAPS has one animal control officer active seven days a week from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The Community Bylaws Division supports animal control outside of these hours.

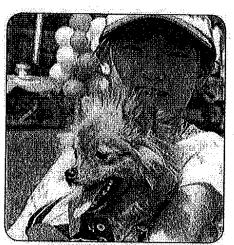
### Education:

Education regarding designated off-leash areas, dog licensing, and enforcement is promoted primarily through the City of Richmond website and brochures. The City website provides information on how to report problems and contact information on dog-related programs and services. Brochures are distributed with licensing invoices and are available at the animal shelter, City Hall, community centres, and the Parks Office.

Education on responsible pet quardianship and animal wellness is further promoted through the Richmond Animal Wellness Expo, put on by Bylaws and Parks in mid-summer at Garry Point Park. This event features participation by over 40 local and regional advocacy groups, volunteer organisations, rescue societies, trainers, and pet oriented businesses. The Richmond Animal Wellness Expo is now into its fourth year and attracts over 500 spectators annually.

Education of dog owners is also done on an ad-hoc basis as issues arise though the media or directly to dog owners from animal control officers or RAPS staff.





Animal Wellness Pet Expo



No enclosed area for exercising dogs

### Situational Analysis:

The Dogs in Parks Task Force identified that there are many strengths of Richmond's current dog management strategy. These **strengths** include the following:

- Established off-leash program (it's a great start & services many dog owners)
- On-leash areas
- Dyke access Richmond has waterfront
- Dispenser bags provided at some locations
- Network of trails for dogs and owners
- Accommodations for dog walkers
- Licenses all relatively inexpensive
- Passionate advocates in the community the Issue has a voice
- Swimming spots for dogs
- Established advocacy group RRDOG.
- RAPS is doing a great job with shelter with resources they have
- Motivated City Council
- Staff dedicated to the issues
- Signage at dog parks
- Comprehensive bylaws (Animal Control & Dog Licensing)
- Education channels (e.g. Animal Wellness Expo and Pet Page)
- Brochures available to the public advising them where they can legally go with their dogs.

The Task Force also identified many weaknesses in the current situation:

- Difficulty in enforcing bylaws
- Conflicting Bylaws
- No fenced in off-leash areas
- More dogs off-leash than on leash in many areas
- Not enough areas on or off-leash
- Off-leash areas are not readily accessible (not enough of them, have to drive to get there)
- Signage is too small, outdated or difficult to follow
- Insufficient educational programs
- More enforcement for "dangerous dogs"
- "Off-leash dog in parks" is misnomer
- Limited separation of dogs and park users
- Increase in licensing fees for dangerous dogs has driven them underground
- RAPS is underfunded and does not have capacity to respond effectively
- No environmentally friendly disposal of dog waste
- Too much poop not enough scoop
- Language regulations and signs need to be communicated in languages other than English that are in high use by community members
- Residents who blatantly disregard established Bylaws
- Off-leash brochure needs to be updated
- More information, education for dog owners.
- No enclosed areas for exercising, socializing untrained dogs & pups

- Lack of adequate, affordable, community centred obedience and etiquette training.
- Lots of untrained dogs and owners
- Lack of dog bag dispensers in high-use locations
- Dog bag sponsorship can be marketed better
- Dyke is de facto off-leash (deters families, leashed dogs)
- No exemption for disabled persons with obedience trained dogs
- Absence of positive motivation to encourage culture of compliance
- Overpopulation: conflicts among users
- · Public perception that there is little or no enforcement of rules
- Lack of initiative to train (no reward for trained dogs. ex: greater use privileges

A number of **opportunities** to improve the current situation were identified by the Task Force:

- Large amounts of potential space for designated/separate areas for dogs
- Working with local breeders (recreational training)
- Working with local and other language media education
- Better resources for education of owners and dogs
- Public consultation for dog issues
- Technology for bags and disposable of waster
- Lots of open space in Richmond
- Dog waste composting
- Partnership with RRDOG
- Motivated bylaw enforcement officers
- More, better enforcement
- Biodegradable bags
- Oval and surrounding areas new ideas can be tried
- Continuing stakeholders communication
- Population who are motivated to use outdoor space and thus resolve issues related to dogs
- Motivated council
- Grants/funds available or programs supporting sustainability
- · Capitalizing of the city's commitment to a triple bottom line approach
- Partnering with media to give dog issues positive attention and profile
- All dog "sellers" can be involved in education
- Vibrant business community source of funds
- Cultural diversity and open society
- Number of qualified trainers that are residents of Richmond
- Lulu island sewage plant (methane)
- · Desire for more education regarding dogs bylaw enforcement staff
- · Progress is being made in dog waste composting
- City Centre Area Planning process
- The funding structure and enforcement structure of the animal shelter can be reviewed and re-assessed prior to next bidding process

Untrained docs and owners

7



Competition for space.

In addition, some potential external **threats** to success for a dog management strategy were identified as existing:

- Cultural phobias
- Urban concentration
- Too few park spaces and too many users leads to competition for the same space
- Media attention to bad dog incidents
- Anti dog groups
- Costs
- Lack of responsible dog owners
- Untrained dogs at large
- Overpopulation and densification has diminished open space
- There has been a hesitation by some schools and community centre to offer space for dog training or education programs
- Too many stakeholders
- Perceptions of some breeds as "bad"
- Lack of clarity (for the public) around rules
- Conflicting interests: elected officials, staff, public
- Environmentalist/wildlife/advocates (SICA etc)
- Unlicensed dogs (invisible and no \$)
- Untrained dogs at large
- Lack of education
- Public's lack of understanding of dogs behaviour and motivations
- Language challenges
- People vote with their FEET
- No precedent for allocating resources to dog issues
- School parks may be problematic (PACs, school board)
- Many dog suppliers operate outside of the City but impact Richmond
- Professional dog walkers from outside the community using facilities without paying fees.

### Vision

A thorough understanding of the current reality, the stakeholders involved, and ne situational realities of dog management concerns in Richmond led the Task r-orce to the following vision:

That Richmond is a dog-inclusive community which meets the needs of its residents through safe, clean and accessible open spaces, fair and effective enforcement, and comprehensive and collaborative education promoting responsible dog ownership.

### Strategic Directions

As an outcome of the vision, the Task Force proposes the following strategic directions to address the issues of design, education, partnerships, and enforcement:

- 1. Opportunities for accessible, off-leash use of open spaces for Richmond dog owners.
- 2. Effective communications regarding dogs in Richmond.
- 3. Effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of services and support for issues which affect dogs in the community.
- 4. Enforcement of dog-related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair and adequately funded.

Each of these strategic directions is supported by a number of desired outcomes and specific recommendations as outlined in the following pages.

### Issue 1: Infrastructure and Design

### issue Discussion

The Task Force acknowledged that off-leash spaces provide opportunities for dog owners to train their dogs, exercise them effectively, and socialize them with other dogs and people. Dogs, like people, come in different shapes and sizes and have differing needs. Larger dogs tend to need more space, and some breeds require more opportunities to socialize with people and other dogs. In order to meet the needs of all dogs, it is important for the City to have a broad range of off-leash spaces in its open space inventory. These can include the addition of dedicated off-leash areas and time-sensitive off-leash areas.

An area that is dedicated for dog off-leash use would specify the only use of that space is for off-leash use. There are currently conflicts in the areas designated for off-leash use but with multiple other uses. The analogy of a soccer game was used as a parallel. In a soccer game, confusion and conflict would arise if someone was to bicycle through or if dogs were allowed to run off-leash. The same could be said for an off-leash area. Dedicated off-leash areas can be enclosed or fenced with natural or manmade barriers to clearly define these zones within a park.

There was also discussion on time sensitive programming of certain areas. An off-leash area can be designated as such at different periods of the day. The times would have to be communicated clearly and enforced consistently to avoid conflict or confusion.

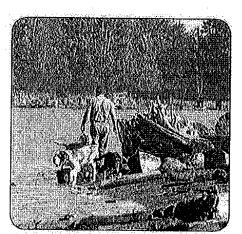
The dog licensing demographic chart indicates that there are heavier oncentrations of dog owners in the southwest corner of the City and in and around Garden City Road (attachment 4). There is a need to have off-leash spaces that are readily accessible to all Richmond residents, including those in these areas.



Being a dog inclusive community



Natural or man-made barriers



McDonald Beach oll-leash area

On Saturday, December 8th, 2007, the Dogs in Parks Task Force toured existing and potential off-leash areas. The tour included the following locations:

- Miller Road Field (Sea Island)
- McDonald Beach
- Cambie Field Neighbourhood Park
- Bath Slough Trail and BC Hydro Right of Way (ROW)
- Minoru Park (northwest corner)
- South Dyke Off-Leash Area
- Railway Right-of-Way (ROW)
- Steveston Community Park Ball Diamond

The need for a public process at Garry Point Park and the Dyke Trail was discussed. A survey conducted by RRDOG last year at the Animal Wellness Expo provides indication that issues such as an enclosed off-leash area and time sensitive off-leash privileges are important and controversial ones at Garry Point. It was acknowledged that both these park areas are considered "citywide" and that the public process should be open to the community at large, not just residents of the immediate neighbourhood.

In regards to creating new off-leash areas, pilot projects can be an effective way of implementing change on a trial basis. At the end of the period, the success of the pilot can be reviewed before committing to permanent changes or additions with a park.

### Strategic Direction No 1:

Opportunities for accessible, off-leash use of open spaces for Richmond dog owners.

Desired	Outcomes: • Well-defined and designed dog off-leash areas.						
	Dog off-leash areas located in areas where demand is greatest,						
	<ul> <li>Dog off-leash areas located in areas where entitlement is lowest.</li> </ul>						
	<ul> <li>Safe open spaces for both dog owners and other Richmond residents</li> </ul>						
Recomm	endations						
1	Ensure no net loss of space for designated off-leash areas,						
2	Clear paths at existing McDonald beach dog off-leash area to improve accessibility to site.						
3							
4							
5.	Consider designating the Bath Slough Trail as a designated off-leash area.						
6	Plan for future designated off-leash areas in the City Centre parks to meet the needs of the growing population.						
7.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
8.	Implement a public process to determine the appropriateness of and possible location for off-leash activity at Garry Point Park.						
9.	Begin a dialogue with School District 38 to discuss and address uses related to off-leash dogs on school grounds.						
10.	Begin a dialogue with YVR to discuss greater use of Sea Island for designated off-leash areas including the Mill Road Field and the area to the east of McDonald Beach.						
11.	Consider the concept of time-sensitive designated off-leash areas in parks across the City.						
12.	Consider the concept of dedicated off-leash areas in locations around the City.						

### Issue 2: Education

### Issue Discussion

, he Task Force discussed the need to raise awareness on issues such as spay/ neutering, licensing, and "poop-and-scooping." Education and raising public awareness were seen as critical factors in a successful dog management strategy. Significant and sustained effort must be made to promote awareness of the social and environmental concerns in parks and educate the public about responsible dog ownership and etiquette.

Opportunities to educate the community about dogs and dog ownership through the schools, community centres, and non-profit community organisations should be explored. There may also be cultural phobias to dogs from new immigrants. It is important to work with cultural groups to increase levels of comfort with dogs and promote educational opportunities.

There was discussion as to the need to appropriately support a comprehensive education program. Support must include funding, The City should provide an adequate level of funding for dog programs in the community regardless of the number of licensed dogs. Without a commitment by the City to provide this funding, problems will be inherent in its dog management program. Task Force members felt that a positive correlation existed between increased levels of public education and increased levels of bylaw compliance.



Education through messaging

### Strategic Direction No 2:

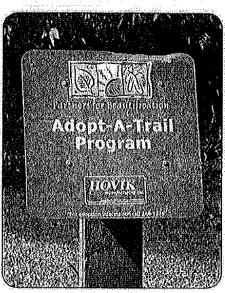
Effective communications regarding dogs in Richmond.

Desired Outcomes:
A dog-Inclusive culture.
Awareness of the responsibilities associated with dog ownership including spaying and neutering.

Minimized conflicts between dog owners and non-dog owners.

Recommend	dations								
1.	Update all s	ignage a	t designat	ed off-leash	areas to inc	ude references	to current	bylaws.	

- 2. Update all signage at designated off-leash areas to include a responsible dog ownership message.
- 3. Collaborate with the media (both English and other language) to share the message of the benefits of a dog inclusive culture.
- 4. Collaborate with dog producers (pet stores, breeders, etc) and media to share the message of responsible dog ownership.
- 5. Explore opportunities with schools, community associations and cultural organizations to teach a message of responsible dog ownership and safety around dogs.
- 6. Consider the establishment of a comprehensive public dog education program with distinct roles for the City and for community partners.



Partnerships

### Issue 3: Partnerships

### Issue Discussion

As the City has limited resources, partnerships are an important pillar in an effective dog management strategy.

There are a number of agencies and societies in the community which can assist with the dog-related programs, particularly in the realm of education. The Richmond Animal Protection Society (RAPS), Richmond Responsible Dog Owners Group (RRDOG), Society for the Prevention for Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) are just a few of the groups that are available as resources. Community Centres and the Richmond School District are potential partners and important stakeholder who need to be approached to help solve dog-related problems in the community.

There was discussion on the need to enact regulations restricting or prohibiting the sale of dogs from pet stores. Many dogs that end up at the Richmond Animal Shelter are "impulse buys" from local pet stores, which provide inadequate information on what is required for the proper care of animals. As these stores have a "no return" policy, they end up abandoned at the Animal Shelter. Furthermore, dogs sold in pet stores often derive from puppy mills, a method of producing dogs which is receiving international attention for its cruel breeding practices. Many cities in Australia and the United States are enacting regulations that prohibit or restrict the sale of dogs in pet stores, making them available only through animal shelters, breeders, or adoption centres. There are currently three pet stores in Richmond.

### Strategic Direction No 3:

Effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of services and support for issues which affect dogs in the community.

Desired Outcomes:	<ul> <li>Collaboration among all stakeholders in the delivery of services to dog owners.</li> <li>Increased funding for dog-related issues in Richmond.</li> </ul>				
missississis sissister international	Environmentally responsible methods of dog waste disposal.				
Recommendations					
1. Reprioritize	and refocus the "Adopt-a-Dog Bag Dispenser" program.				
2. Ensure bag	is in dog bag dispensers are biodegradable.				
3. Explore alte	ernative avenues for disposing of dog waste materials.				
4. Provide rec	ognition for 'exemplary' dogs.				
5. Create an a	Create an advisory board for dog control issues.				
6. Seek to ena	Seek to enact a bylaw to ban the sale of dogs from storefront locations.				
	eduction in the fine for the return of an impounded dog if the dog is spayed or neutered.				

- 8. Maintain the financial incentive for licensing spayed or neutered dogs.
- 9. Consider a dialogue with disabilities groups regarding their unique concerns and needs.

# Issue 4: Enforcement

## 'ssue Discussion

The Task Force focused on gaining a greater understanding of the roles, responsibilities and current mandate of the Richmond Animal Protection Society (RAPS), under contract to provide animal control services to the City of Richmond. It was reported that RAPS is currently short approximately \$10,000/ month in operating its programs.

It was felt that the contractor for the animal shelter requires more resources to provide effective enforcement. Adequate levels of funding need to be identified and established as a baseline for the contract, regardless of the amount of revenue received back to the City through the issuing of dog licenses or fines. Without this commitment to adequate funding, the public perception that enforcement is coordinated, consistent, fair, and effective will be challenged.

In regards to dog licensing, the City could look at having more locations for dog licensing to take place. Currently, dog licenses can only be obtained at City Hall. The only time a dog can be licensed at the Richmond Animal Shelter is if it has been impounded. Additional locations for licensing can include the Richmond Animal Shelter on a regular basis or community centres. An outreach program should also be initiated to promote higher levels of compliance.

The Task Force discussed the concerns of dog walkers and the challenges they face in operating a business under the stipulations of the Animal Control Bylaw, which restricts the number of dogs allowable off-leash to three. In regards to an exception for professional dog walkers with a Richmond business licence, it was felt that six dogs would be a more appropriate number for dog walkers to effectively manage their dogs and still operate a viable business.

"Ichmond is also facing challenges with dog walkers from neighbouring cities using Richmond's facilities. In particular, McDonald Beach is used quite heavily by Vancouver dog walkers. Metro Vancouver has a user pay system in place for commercial dog walkers which helps to regulate the facilities and provide revenue for its maintenance. The adoption of a user pay model similar to that implemented by Metro Vancouver may help regulate the overuse of McDonald Beach and promote conformity to City bylaws.

Enforcement and resources

There was also a discussion of whether or not special exemptions for exemplary dogs can be made for dog handlers with disabilities. This exemption would have to involve some kind of certification or special license.

## Strategic Direction No 4:

Enforcement of dog-related bylaws is coordinated, consistent, fair, and adequately funded.

<ul> <li>Desired Outcomes:</li> <li>A strong enforcement presence exists in parks and open spaces.</li> <li>Enforcement is supported by public education.</li> <li>More licensed dogs in Richmond.Public perception that enforcement is fair and effective.</li> </ul>		
Recomme	ndations	
1.	Plan an annual outreach licensing effort.	
2.	Provide a more streamlined method of licensing dogs.	
3.	Ensure random checks of dog licenses, behaviour and 'poop and scoop' are conducted on a regular basis.	
4.	Consider a new type of animal control officer which has an education role first and peace officer capabilities second.	
5.	Update Animal Control Bylaw 7932 to eliminate conflicting provisions.	
6.	Consider updating Dog Licensing Bylaw 7138 to include service as well as assistance dogs.	
7.	Explore exceptions to section 2.3.5.2 of the Animal Control Bylaw 7932 for professional dog walkers with a Richmond business license and a proposed dog-walking permit.	

# Definition of Terms

The following definition is taken from the Animal Control Bylaw 7932, section nine:

 Designated dog off-leash area -- means an area posted by sign, which defines the geographic area and/or time period that dogs can be off-leash

The Task Force felt that it was important to have the following definitions accompany the strategic directions and recommendations

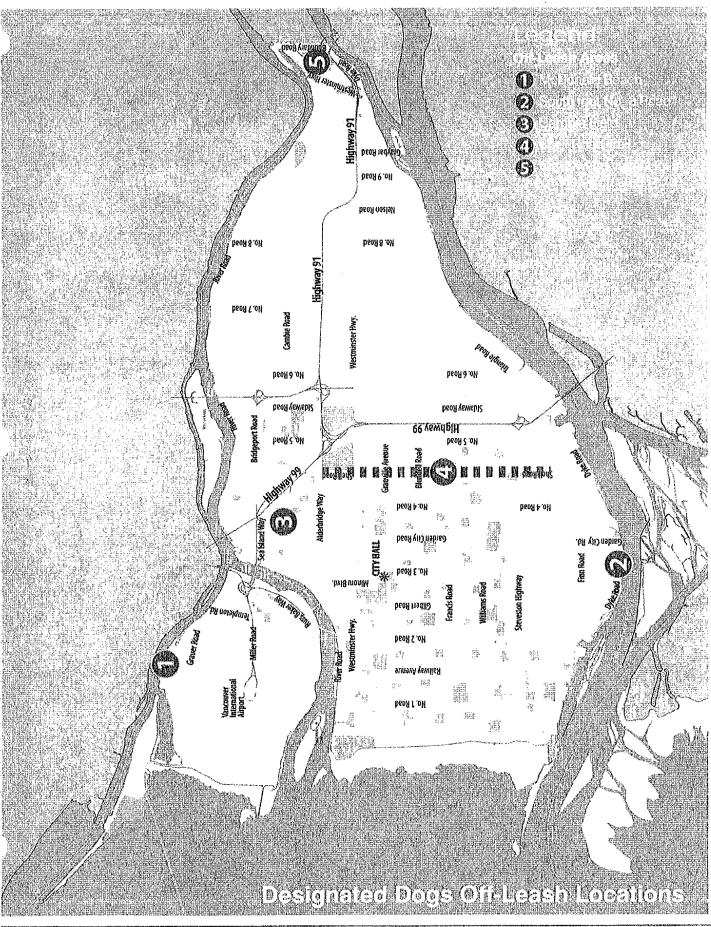
- Enclosed designated dog off-leash area means an area posted by sign and defined geographically through natural or man-made barriers, where dogs can be off-leash
- Accessible accessibility of location including transportation and walking options; accessibility for people with disabilities
- Dedicated dog off-leash area means an area posted by sign which is used solely for the purpose of dogs off-leash

## Next Steps

Pending Council approval of the vision, strategic directions, and recommendations set forth in this report, the next steps in the process of forming a dog management strategy would involve the creation of an implementation plan and public consultation.

Dogs In Parks Task Force Report | April 2008

Attachment No. 1



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# Attachment No. 2

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# DOG LICENCING

### **BYLAW NO. 7138**

#### EFFECTIVE DATE – JULY 24, 2000

#### CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY

This is a consolidation of the bylaws below. The amendment bylaws have been combined with the original bylaw for convenience only. This consolidation is not a legal document. Certified copies of the original bylaws should be consulted for all interpretations and applications of the bylaws on this subject.

### AMENDMENT BYLAW

Bylaw 7165 Bylaw 7165 (Schedule A) Bylaw 7933 Bylaw 7965 (Schedule A)

### EFFECTIVE DATE

October 23, 2000 January 1, 2001 June 13, 2005 July 11, 2005

## **DOG LICENCING**

# **BYLAW NO. 7138**

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# CITY OF RICHMOND DOG LICENCING BYLAW NO. 7138

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

### PART ONE: DOG LICENCING REQUIREMENTS

#### 1.1 Requirement to Possess a Dog Licence

- 1.1.1 Every person who keeps or has in his or her possession, any **dog** over the age of 8 weeks, must:
  - (a) (i) obtain a **dog licence** for such **dog** in accordance with this bylaw; or
    - (ii) obtain a **dog licence (Dangerous Dog)** for such **dog** in accordance with this bylaw;
  - (b) attach such dog licence to a suitable collar on the dog; and
  - (c) (i) produce such **dog licence** at the request of an **Animal Control Officer**; or
    - (ii) produce such **dog licence (Dangerous Dog)** at the request of an **Animal Control Officer**.

### 1.2 Authority to Issue Dog Licences and Receive Fees

- 1.2.1 A Licence Inspector or an Animal Control Officer, has the authority to:
  - (a) receive dog licence fees, and
  - (b) issue dog licences and replacement dog licences

on behalf of the City.

#### 1.3 Neutered and Spayed Dogs

1.3.1 Every person applying for a **dog licence** for a neutered or spayed **dog** must present written certification from a licenced veterinarian, that such **dog** has been neutered or spayed.

## PART TWO: DOG LICENCES AND FEES

### 2.1 Annual Licence Fees

- 2.1.1 An annual, non-refundable **dog licence** fee, as shown in Schedule A, which is attached and forms a part of this bylaw, is payable for each dog over the age of 8 weeks.
- 2.1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 2.1.1, every **dog licence** fee paid by an **owner** who is aged 65 or older, will be reduced by 50% of the amount shown in Schedule A, upon production of proof, satisfactory to the **City**, of such **owner's** age provided that:
  - (a) (i) for **dogs** licenced in the previous calendar year, the **dog licence** is purchased prior to March 1 of the current licence year, or
    - (ii) for **dogs** acquired during the current licence year, the **dog licence** is purchased within 30 days of acquiring the **dog**; and
  - (b) the dog is spayed or neutered.
- 2.1.3 The provisions of subsection 2.1.2 do not apply to a replacement **dog licence** issued in accordance with section 2.3.

### 2.2 Dog Licence Period

2.2.1 Every **dog licence** expires on the thirty-first day of December, following the date on which such **dog licence** takes effect.

### 2.3 Replacement Dog Licence

- 2.3.1 A replacement dog licence may be issued upon payment of the fee shown in Section 3 of Schedule A when:
  - (a) the original **dog licence** has been lost or stolen, or
  - (b) a valid and current **dog licence** for the **dog** in question has been issued by another **jurisdiction**.

### 2.4 Change of Ownership

2.4.1 In case of a change of ownership of a licenced **dog** during the calendar year for which such **dog** is licenced, the original **owner** of the **dog** must notify a **Licence Inspector** or an **Animal Control Officer** of such change of ownership.

### 2.5 Exemptions from Licencing

2.5.1 The provisions of this bylaw do not apply to any dog:

2.

- (a) **owned** by, and harboured at, Commercial or Hobby Dog Kennels for which a business licence has been issued by the **City**;
- (b) whose **owner** has obtained a **dog licence** for such **dog**:
  - (i) under the provisions of the *Livestock Protection Act*, or
  - (ii) pursuant to a bylaw of another jurisdiction,

for the unexpired portion of the licencing period.

2.5.2 A dog licence will be provided at no charge, for an assistance dog or assistance dog in training, which has been certified by a training facility acceptable to either the Licence Inspector or an Animal Control Officer, provided that appropriate proof of such certification is provided to either the Licence Inspector or the Animal Control Officer.

#### 2.6 Authority To Enter Onto Property

2.6.1 The Licence Inspector or an Animal Control Officer are authorized to enter, at all reasonable times, onto any property within the City, to determine whether the provisions of this bylaw are being complied with.

### PART THREE: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

- **3.1** Any person who:
  - (a) violates or who causes or allows any of the provisions of this bylaw to be violated; or
  - (b) fails to comply with any of the provisions of this, or any other bylaw or applicable statute; or
  - (c) neglects or refrains from doing anything required under the provisions of this bylaw; or
  - (d) makes any false or misleading statement,

is deemed to have committed an infraction of, or an offence against, this bylaw and is liable on summary conviction, to the penalties provided for in the *Offence Act*, and each day that such violation is caused, or allowed to continue, constitutes a separate offence.

## PART FOUR: INTERPRETATION

4.1 In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

means:

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

- (a) a person appointed by **Council** as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer; or
- (b) a person employed by the Contractor to undertake animal control services.

4.

ANIMAL SHELTER	means any facility designated by <b>Council</b> as an Animal Pound, as provided for in the <i>Municipal Act</i> .
ASSISTANCE DOG	means a <b>dog</b> specifically trained to assist a person with disabilities in the performance of daily activities.
ĊITY	means the City of Richmond.
CONTRACTOR	means the person, firm or society with whom the <b>City</b> has entered into an agreement for (i) the operation of an <b>animal shelter</b> ; (ii) the provision of animal control services; (iii) the provision and supplying of <b>Animal</b> <b>Control Officers</b> ; (iv) the licencing of <b>dogs</b> ; and (v) the issuing of tickets under the provisions of the Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw.
COUNCIL	means the Council of the <b>Citv</b> .

DANGEROUS DOG

means:

- (a) any dog that has killed or injured:
  - (i) a person, or
  - (ii) a companion animal or domestic animal while running at large; or
- (b) any dog that an Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe is likely to kill or seriously injure a person;
- (c) any dog that aggressively harasses or pursues a person companion animal or domestic animal while or running at large: or
- (d) any dog owned, primarily or in part, for the purpose of dog fighting or that is trained for dog fighting;
- (e) a Pit Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, Pit Bull, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, or any dog of mixed breeding which includes any of these breeds; or any dog which has the appearance and physical characteristics predominantly conforming to the standards for any of the above breeds; or
- (f) any dog that, according to the records of the SPCA, RCMP or other municipality, or to the knowledge of the owner, has killed, injured, or aggressively harassed or pursued a person or animal.

means a household pet of the canine species.

means a tag issued by the City, on which is stamped the dog licence number and calendar year for which such dog licence is valid.

means a domesticated animal normally kept:

DOG

DOG LICENCE

HOUSEHOLD PET

Bylaw No. 7138

(a) in a one-family dwelling or a multiple-family dwelling: and

means a person appointed by Council as Licence

Inspector for the City, and includes Bylaw Enforcement

(b) for pleasure rather than utility.

means any municipality in British Columbia.

Officers and the Chief Licence Inspector.

JURISDICTION

LICENCE INSPECTOR

MULTIPLE-FAMILY DWELLING

means a building containing two or more dwelling units, and includes any property on which such multiple-family dwelling unit is located.

**ONE-FAMILY DWELLING** means a detached building used exclusively for residential purposes, containing one dwelling unit only, and includes the property on which such one-family dwelling unit is located.

includes possessor, harbourer, or keeper, and "owned" OWN/OWNER/OWNED includes possessed, harboured, or kept.

RUNNING AT LARGE

- means: (a) being elsewhere than confined on the premises of the owner, while not on a leash and in the immediate and effective control of a competent person; and/or
  - (b) being on any property without the consent of the owner or occupier of that property; and/or
  - (c) being in an off-leash area, where permitted, but not under the effective control of the owner; or
  - (d) with respect to a dangerous dog, means any dangerous dog which is not kept in compliance with the requirements of subsection 2.2.4.

### PART FIVE: PREVIOUS BYLAW REPEAL

Dog Licencing and Pound Establishment Bylaw No. 4323 (adopted May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1984), 5.1 and the following amendment bylaws, are repealed:

AMENDMENT BYLAW	EFFECTIVE DATE
5578	September 24, 1990
5641	December 10, 1990
5716	May 27, 1991
5809	December 9, 1991
5793	June 1, 1992
6281	June 13, 1994
7099	March 27, 2000

# PART SIX: SEVERABILITY & CITATION

6.1 If any part, section, sub-section, clause, or sub-clause of this bylaw is, for any reason, held to be invalid by the decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

6.2 This bylaw is cited as "Dog Licencing Bylaw No. 7138".

# SCHEDULE A to BYLAW NO. 7138

### SCHEDULE OF FEES

Licencing Fees	Prior to January 1, 2006	Effective January 1, 2006
<ol> <li>Dog - Not neutered or spayed Prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year for which the application is made</li> </ol>	\$ 50.00	\$ 70.00 \$ 50.00
<ol> <li>Dog - Neutered or Spayed Prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year for which the application is made</li> </ol>	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00 \$ 20.00
<ol> <li>Dangerous Dog - Not neutered or spayed Prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year for which the application is made</li> </ol>		\$ 250.00 \$ 200.00
<ol> <li>Dangerous Dog - Neutered or Spayed Prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year for which the application is made</li> </ol>		\$ 200.00 \$ 150.00
<ul> <li>Replacement tag for each dog tag lost or stolen or;</li> <li>for each dog licence to replace a valid dog licence from another jurisdiction.</li> </ul>	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

6.

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# Attachment No. 3



# ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATION

**BYLAW NO. 7932** 

EFFECTIVE DATE - JUNE 13, 2005

# ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATION

# **BYLAW NO. 7932**

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Bylaw No. 7932

# CITY OF RICHMOND

# ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATION

# **BYLAW NO. 7932**

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**City of Richmond** 

# ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATION BYLAW NO. 7932

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

# PART ONE: ANIMALS AND BIRDS - GENERAL

### 1.1 General Prohibition – All Animals and Birds

- 1.1.1 A person must not cause any **animal** or bird:
  - (a) to be hitched, tied or fastened to a fixed object, where a choke collar or chain forms part of the securing apparatus; or
  - (b) to be confined in an enclosed space, including a vehicle, without adequate ventilation.
- 1.1.2 Every owner of an animal, must ensure that the animal does not:
  - (a) kill or injure a person or animal; or
  - (b) aggressively pursue or harass a person or **animal** without provocation.

### 1.2 Basic Animal and Bird Care Requirements

- 1.2.1 In addition to the requirements of section 1.1, a person must not keep an **animal** or bird unless such **animal** or bird is provided with:
  - (a) clean potable drinking water at all times and suitable food of sufficient quantity and quality to allow for normal growth and the maintenance of normal body weight;
  - (b) food and water receptacles which are kept clean and disinfected, and located so as to avoid contamination by excreta;
  - (c) the opportunity for periodic exercise sufficient to maintain good health, including the opportunity to be unfettered from a fixed area and exercised regularly under appropriate control; and
  - (d) necessary veterinary medical care when such animal or bird exhibits signs of pain or suffering.

#### **1.3** Keeping of Outdoor Animals and Birds

- 1.3.1 A person must not keep an **animal** or bird which normally resides outdoors, or which is kept outdoors for extended periods of time, unless such **animal** or bird is provided with an outdoor shelter:
  - (a) which ensures protection from heat, cold and dampness that is appropriate to the weight and type of protective outer coat of such animal;
  - (b) which provides sufficient shade to protect the **animal** from the direct rays of the sun at all times; and
  - (c) which is cleaned and sanitized not less than daily, of all excrement.

#### 1.4 Authority to Enter Onto Property

1.4.1 An Animal Control Officer or a Police Officer is authorized to enter, at all reasonable times, onto any property within the City to determine whether the provisions of this bylaw are being complied with.

#### 1.5 Animals or Birds in Custody

1.5.1 A person must not rescue, or attempt to rescue any animal or bird lawfully in the custody of an Animal Control Officer or any Police Officer.

### PART TWO: HOUSEHOLD PETS

### 2.1 Maximum Number of Household Pets

- 2.1.1 Subject to the maximums per species in this Part and to any strata bylaw passed pursuant to the *Strata Property Act* respecting the number of **household pets** permitted in a strata unit, a person may keep:
  - (a) a maximum of five (5) household pets in a one-family dwelling or two-family dwelling; or
  - (b) a maximum of three (3) household pets in a multiple-family dwelling;
- 2.1.2 The limits prescribed in subsection 2.1.1 do not include any litter of **puppies** or **kittens**.
- 2.2 Cats
  - 2.2.1 Owner Obligations
    - 2.2.1.1 Every owner of a cat must:

- (a) ensure that such **cat** bears sufficient identification to enable any person finding the **cat** to contact the **owner**;
- (b) where such cat is actually or apparently over six months of age, ensure that such cat has been spayed or neutered, as applicable, by a veterinarian, unless the owner holds a valid cat breeding permit for the cat; and
- (c) ensure that where such **cat** is not spayed or neutered, such **cat** is not permitted to be **running at large**.
- 2.2.1.2 The identification required under clause (a) of subsection 2.2.1.1 may take the form of, but is not limited to, a collar and tag, tattoo, or microchip implant.
- 2.2.2 Cat Breeding Permits
  - 2.2.2.1 Every **owner** of an un-spayed **cat** who offers to sell, give away, or otherwise transfer ownership or dispose of the offspring of such **cat** must:
    - (a) obtain a **cat** breeding permit in accordance with the provisions of subsection 2.2.2.2; and
    - (b) include the number of such **cat** breeding permit in any advertisement regarding the offspring.
  - 2.2.2.2 The **Contractor** may:
    - (a) prescribe the form of application required by any person who wishes to obtain a **cat** breeding permit; and
    - (b) upon receiving an appropriate application form and the fees for a cat breeding permit specified in Schedule A, issue a cat breeding permit, valid for a period of three years from the date of issuance.
  - 2.2.2.3 The penalty for violating clause (c) of subsection 2.2.1.1 may be waived by the **Contractor**, upon having been provided proof, within 30 days after the date the citation was issued, that the **cat** has been spayed or neutered.
- 2.3 Dogs
  - 2.3.1 General Prohibition
    - 2.3.1.1 A person in a **one-family dwelling** or a **two-family dwelling** must not permit more than three **dogs** to be kept in such dwelling at any time.
    - 2.3.1.2 A person in a unit of a **multiple-family dwelling** must not permit more than two **dogs** to be kept in such unit at any time.

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- 2.3.1.3 The provisions of subsections 2.3.1.1 and 2.3.1.2, do not apply to the housing and training of **assistance dogs**.
- 2.3.2 Owner Obligations Leashing
  - 2.3.2.1 (a) Except as provided for in subsection 2.3.5 every **owner** of a **dog** must keep such dog on a **leash** at all times while on any street or in any public place.
    - (b) Except as provided for by subsection 2.3.5 no **owner** may permit their **dog** to **run at large**.
- 2.3.3 Owner Obligations Cleaning Up
  - 2.3.3.1 Every **owner** of a **dog** must ensure that any excrement deposited on any **parcel**, other than the **parcel** of the **owner**, is cleaned up immediately.
  - 2.3.3.2 The provisions of subsection 2.3.3.1 apply to an **owner** regardless of whether or not the **dog** is under such **owner's** care and control at the time of a breach of the provisions of that subsection.
  - 2.3.3.3 The provisions of subsections 2.3.3.1 and 2.3.3.2 do not apply to the **owner** of an **assistance dog**.
- 2.3.4 Owner Obligations Confinement
  - 2.3.4.1 Every **owner** of a **dog** must ensure that such **dog**, while on the premises **owned** or controlled by the **owner**, is securely confined to the premises.
  - 2.3.4.2 Every owner of a dangerous dog must:
    - (a) ensure that such dog is not allowed on any street or in any public place, or any other place that is not owned or controlled by that person, unless such dog is:
      - (i) on a leash; and
      - (ii) muzzled; and
      - (iii) under the care and control of an owner; and
    - (b) keep such **dog** securely confined at all times, either indoors, or in an **enclosure**, while the **dog** is on the premises **owned** or controlled by such person.

#### 2.3.5 **Designated Dog Off-Leash Areas**

- 2.3.5.1 An owner may allow their dog to be off-leash in a designated dog off-leash area providing the owner:
  - (a) carries a leash;

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- (b) keeps the **dog** in view at all times; and
- (c) maintains effective control of the **dog** so that the **dog** immediately returns when signalled.
- 2.3.5.2 As exceptions to subsection 2.3.5.1:
  - (a) No owner may have more than three (3) dogs off-leash at any one time; and
  - (b) No owner may permit a **dog**, defined as dangerous under this bylaw, to be off-leash in a **designated off-leash area**.
- 2.3.5.3 Every owner of a dog must immediately leash a dog when the dog exhibits aggressive behaviour.

#### 2.4 Rabbits

- 2.4.1 General Requirements
  - 2.4.1.1 Every person keeping **rabbits** in a **one-family dwelling**, a **two-family dwelling** or a **multiple-family dwelling** must ensure that:
    - (a) such **rabbits** do not create a nuisance; and
    - (b) all lands and premises where such rabbits are kept, are maintained in a sanitary condition at all times, and that excrement is not permitted to accumulate and cause, in the opinion of the Medical Health Officer, an objectionable odour or nuisance.
  - 2.4.1.2 A person may keep a maximum of two (2) rabbits in a one-family dwelling, two-family dwelling, or a multiple-family dwelling.

### 2.5 Birds

2.5.1 General Provisions – All Birds

- 2.5.1.1 A person must not build, construct, reconstruct or maintain an **aviary** until the design and location of such **aviary** has been approved by the **City** with respect to building permit requirements.
- 2.5.1.2 A person must not feed **pigeons** or other birds in such a manner as to constitute a nuisance or disturb or interfere with the quiet, peace, or enjoyment of another person's property.

#### 2.5.2 Pigeons

- 2.5.2.1 An **owner** of racing or homing pigeons, fancy pigeons, or a person on whose property such birds are kept, must not allow such pigeons to perch, roost, or nest on the land or buildings of any person in the **City**, or to stray, feed, or roost on any highway or public place, except:
  - (a) on the property of which the holder is the **owner** or lessee;
  - (b) for the purpose of exercising or racing, and only when such pigeons are under the control of the owner.
- 2.5.2.2 Every person keeping racing, homing, or fancy pigeons, must maintain the land and premises where such pigeons are kept in a sanitary condition at all times, and pigeon droppings must be disposed of in a manner that will not create a nuisance or health hazard.
- 2.5.2.3 A person may keep a maximum of five (5) pigeons in a onefamily dwelling or two-family dwelling.
- 2.5.2.4 A person must not keep pigeons in a multiple-family dwelling.
- 2.5.2.5 An aviary must be located at least two (2) metres from any property line.
- 2.5.3 Exotic Birds
  - 2.5.3.1 The provisions of subsection 2.5.2 with regard to **pigeons**, apply also to **exotic birds**.

### PART THREE: POULTRY

- 3.1 General Prohibition
  - 3.1.1 A person must not keep poultry:
    - (a) on a parcel with an area of less than 2,000 square metres (21,529 square feet); or
    - (b) in, upon, or under any structure used for human habitation.
  - 3.1.2 Every person keeping **poultry** must ensure that:
    - (a) such **poultry** does not create a nuisance; and
    - (b) all lands and premises where such **poultry** is kept, are maintained in a sanitary condition at all times, and that excrement is not permitted to accumulate and cause, in the opinion of the **Medical Health Officer**, an objectionable odour or nuisance.

# PART FOUR: WILD ANIMALS

### 4.1 General Prohibition

4.1.1 A person must not keep any **wild animal** in captivity on a **parcel** unless, in the opinion of the **Animal Control Officer**, adequate provision is made to ensure that such **wild animal** is securely contained on such **parcel** and poses no risk to public safety.

## PART FIVE: DOMESTIC FARM ANIMALS

### 5.1 General Requirements

- 5.1.1 Every person keeping a **domestic farm animal** must ensure that:
  - (a) flies and other insects are kept under control by good manure management and by the use of approved insecticides approved by the Pesticide Branch of the Ministry of Environment Province of British Columbia;
  - (b) both the inside and outside of any building, pen, stable, shed or structure housing a **domestic farm animal** is kept clean;
  - (c) manure does not accumulate on any **parcel** except in a properly contained manner so that that runoff to public watercourses or onto adjacent properties does not occur;
  - (d) any manure resulting from the keeping of domestic farm animals, that has not been suitably treated by dehydration or composting to stabilize the organic matter, must be incorporated into the soil within eight (8) hours; and
  - (e) any person allowing a **domestic farm animal** access to an outdoor area must ensure that dust caused by such **domestic** farm animal is minimized.

### 5.2 General Prohibition

- 5.2.1 A person must not keep a **domestic farm animal** in a **one-family dwelling**, **two-family dwelling**, or a **multiple-family dwelling**.
- 5.2.2 A person must not keep a **domestic farm animal**:
  - (a) on a **parcel** with an area of less than 2,000 square metres (21,529 square feet); or
  - (b) on a **parcel** where the ratio of **domestic farm animals** to **parcel** area exceeds one (1) **domestic farm animal** for each 2,000 square metres (21,529 square feet).

### PART SIX: BEEKEEPING

#### 6.1 General Requirements

- 6.1.1 Every person keeping **bees**, and the person on whose property **bees** are kept must ensure that such **bees** are:
  - (a) maintained in a condition so as to reasonably prevent undue swarming or aggressive behaviour; and
  - (b) requeened if such **bees** are subject to undue swarming, or show signs of aggressive behaviour.

#### 6.2 General Prohibitions

- 6.2.1 A person must not locate a beehive:
  - (a) on any **parcel** containing a **one-family dwelling**, **two-family dwelling**, or **multiple-family dwelling**; or
  - (b) within 23 metres (75 feet) of the property line of a parcel containing a one-family dwelling, two-family dwelling, or multiple-family dwelling.
- 6.2.2 A person must not keep more than four (4) colonies of bees on a **parcel** having an area of less than 929 square metres (10,000 square feet).

### PART SEVEN: FURBEARING ANIMALS

### 7.1 General Prohibition

7.1.1 A person must not keep a **furbearing animal** in a **one-family dwelling**, **two-family dwelling**, or a **multiple-family dwelling**.

### PART EIGHT: ANIMAL SHELTER

- 8.1 Establishment of Animal Shelter
  - 8.1.1 An **animal shelter** is hereby established, and **Council** may enter into an agreement with a **Contractor** to operate such **animal shelter**.

### 8.2 Duties and Obligations of the Contractor

- 8.2.1 The agreement specified in subsection 8.1.1 may establish the duties of the **Contractor** with regard to:
  - (a) the operation of an animal shelter, including but not limited to,
    - (i) hours of operation,
    - (ii) building maintenance and operating costs;

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- (iii) payment of utilities, including electricity, natural gas and telephone services;
- (iv) an automated telephone answering system for emergency messages;
- (v) cleanliness and sanitation; and
- (vi) the care and feeding of, and the provision of veterinary care, where necessary, for all impounded animals and birds;
- (b) the provision of animal control services, including but not limited to,
  - (i) the provision of equipment, including vehicles and communication systems;
  - (ii) the impoundment of **animals** and birds;
  - (iii) the undertaking of patrols;
  - (iv) the keeping of records of impoundment, finances and animal disposal;
  - (v) the disposal by sale, or by humane destruction, of impounded animals and birds;
  - (vi) the removal and disposal of dead animals;
  - (vii) dealing with public complaints about animals; and
  - (viii) attending to, and transporting, animals running at large;
- (c) the provision and supplying of an adequate number of trained Animal Control Officers;
- (d) the licencing of **dogs**; and
- (e) the issuing of tickets under the provisions of the Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw, including court attendance as and when necessary.

### 8.3 Authority of Animal Control Officer – Dogs

- 8.3.1 An **Animal Control Officer** or any **Police Officer**, may seize and impound any **dog** found **running at large**, for up to 96 hours, unless such **dog** is reclaimed within that time.
- 8.3.2 If an **impounded dog** is not reclaimed within 7 days of impoundment, such **dog** may be disposed of by an **Animal Control Officer**, by destruction, private sale or gift, or sale by auction.
- 8.3.3 An Animal Control Officer, upon apprehending any female dog in season found running at large in contravention of this bylaw, must impound such dog for a period of not less than 10 days, and the owner of such dog must pay the cost of boarding such dog during its impoundment.
- 8.3.4 Any dangerous dog running at large:
  - (a) may be **impounded** by an **Animal Control Officer**;

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- (b) must, upon request, be immediately delivered to the **animal shelter** or to an **Animal Control Officer**, by the **owner**; and
- (c) must be kept quarantined at the **animal shelter** for a period of 14 days at the **owner's** expense, including the **maintenance fees** shown in Section 1 of Schedule A, which is attached and forms a part of this bylaw.
- 8.3.5 Before exercising the power under subsection 8.3.4, in the case of a **dog** that has acted as described in clause (a)(i) or (a)(ii) of the definition of **dangerous dog**, the **Animal Control Officer** must consider whether the **dog** was acting while in the course of
  - (a) attempting to prevent a person from committing an unlawful act, or
  - (b) performing law enforcement work.
- 8.3.6 Subject to the provisions of this Part, an Animal Control Officer may seize a dog if the officer believes on reasonable grounds that the dog is a dangerous dog.
- 8.3.7 Subject to subsection 8.3.10, an Animal Control Officer may enter a place to impound a dangerous dog
  - (a) with the consent of the owner, or
  - (b) in accordance with a warrant issued under subsection 8.3.8 or 8.3.9, or
  - (c) in accordance with subsection 8.3.10.
- 8.3.8 A justice who is satisfied by evidence given under oath or affirmation that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is in a place a **dog** that
  - (a) has killed or seriously injured a person,
  - (b) is likely to kill or seriously injure a person, or
  - (c) has killed or seriously injured a companion animal or domestic animal,

may issue a warrant authorizing an Animal Control Officer to enter and search the place and to seize the dog.

- 8.3.9 If it is impracticable for an **Animal Control Officer** to appear personally before a justice to apply for a warrant in accordance with subsection 8.3.8, the **Animal Control Officer** may apply for a warrant in accordance with section 22 of the *Offence Act*.
- 8.3.10 Subject to subsection 8.3.11, an Animal Control Officer may, without a warrant, enter and search any place except a dwelling house and seize a dog if the Animal Control Officer believes on reasonable grounds that:

- (a) the **dog** is a **dangerous dog**,
- (b) the **dog** presents an imminent danger to the public, and
- (c) the purpose of seizing the **dog** cannot reasonably be accomplished if the **Animal Control Officer** is required to obtain a warrant.
- 8.3.11 For the purposes of subsection 8.3.10, an **Animal Control Officer** who is not a **police officer** or special provincial constable appointed under the *Police Act* must be accompanied by a **police officer**.
- 8.3.12 In addition to the authority under the Community Charter or section 8 of the Livestock Protection Act, an **animal control officer** may apply to the Provincial Court for an order that a **dog** that the officer has reasonable ground to believe is a **dangerous dog** be destroyed in the manner specified in the order.
- 8.3.13 A **dangerous dog** seized pursuant to this bylaw may not be **impounded** for more than 21 days unless proceedings under subsection 8.3.12 of this bylaw or under the authority of the *Community Charter* or section 8 of the *Livestock Protection Act* are commenced within that time.

#### 8.4 Reclaiming an Impounded Dog

- 8.4.1 The owner of any dog impounded under this Part, may reclaim such dog on application to an Animal Control Officer, by:
  - (a) providing proof of ownership; and
  - (b) paying the applicable impoundment fees and maintenance fees specified in Sections 1 and 2 of Schedule A.
- 8.4.2 Where the **owner** of an **impounded dog** is known, such **owner** must pay the **maintenance fees** specified in Section 2 of Schedule A, even if the **owner** fails or neglects to reclaim the **impounded dog**.
- 8.4.3 The charging of impoundment fees under clause (b) of subsection 8.4.1 in no way affects, derogates from or takes away from the ability to exercise the authority provided in subsection 8.3.12 to apply for an order that a **dog** be destroyed.

### 8.5 Authority of Animal Control Officer – Other Animals

- 8.5.1 An Animal Control Officer or any Police Officer may seize and impound any domestic farm animal or poultry found running at large.
- 8.5.2 An Animal Control Officer may sell any animal impounded under this Part, which have not been reclaimed, and after deducting the impounding fees and maintenance fees accruing in respect of such animal, and if applicable, the cost of advertising the sale, must pay any surplus within 30 days, to the General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services.

- 8.5.3 Where the owner of any impounded animal is known, the General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services must pay any surplus funds of sale, to such owner.
- 8.5.4 Where, after 3 months from the date of the sale, such **owner** is unknown, any surplus funds of sale not claimed during that time are forfeited to the **City**.

#### 8.6 Reclaiming of Other Animals

- 8.6.1 Any **impounded animal** other than a **dog**, a cat or **poultry**, may be reclaimed by the **owner** prior to the date of the advertised sale, upon proof of ownership, and payment to an **Animal Control Officer**, of the applicable impoundment fees and **maintenance fees** shown in Sections 1 and 2 of Schedule A.
- 8.6.2 Any **impounded poultry** may be reclaimed by the **owner** prior to the date of disposal of such **poultry**, upon proof of ownership, and payment to an **Animal Control Officer**, of the applicable impoundment fees and **maintenance fees** shown in Sections 1 and 2 of Schedule A.

### PART NINE: INTERPRETATION

9.1 In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

AGGRESSIVEmeans snarling, growling or pursuing another animal orBEHAVIOURa person.

ANIMAL

means:

means:

- (a) furbearing animal;
- (b) household pet;
- (c) poultry; and
- (d) wild animal,

and includes companion animal and domestic animal.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

- (a) a person appointed by **Council** as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer; or
- (b) a person employed by the **Contractor** to undertake animal control services.

ANIMAL SHELTER

means any facility designated by **Council** as an Animal Pound, as provided for in the *Local Government* Act.

ASSISTANCE DOG means a dog specifically trained to assist a person with disabilities in the performance of daily activities.

AVIARY means a building, cage or structure for the breeding or keeping of birds, other than poultry.

means the insect Apis mellifera.

BEE

Bylaw No. 7932

· · · · ·	
BUILDING	means a <b>structure</b> having a roof supported by columns or walls <b>used</b> for the shelter or accommodation of persons, animals or chattels.
BUILDING INSPECTOR	means the Manager, Building Approvals Department or those positions or persons designated by Council to act under this Bylaw in the place of the Manager.
CAT	means a <b>household pet</b> of the feline species and includes a <b>kitten</b> .
CITY	means the City of Richmond.
COMPANION ANIMAL	means an animal kept as a pet or as a guide animal.
CONTRACTOR	means the person, firm or society with whom the <b>City</b> has entered into an agreement for (i) the operation of an <b>animal shelter;</b> (ii) the provision of animal control services; (iii) the provision and supplying of <b>Animal</b> <b>Control Officers;</b> (iv) the licencing of <b>dogs</b> ; and (v) the issuing of tickets under the provisions of the Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw.
COUNCIL	means the current Council of the City.
DANGEROUS DOG	means:
	<ul> <li>(a) any dog that has killed or injured:</li> <li>(i) a person, or</li> <li>(ii) a companion animal or domestic animal while running at large; or</li> <li>(b) any dog that an Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe is likely to kill or seriously injure a</li> </ul>

- person;
  (c) any dog that aggressively harasses or pursues a person or companion animal or domestic farm animal while
- running at large; or(d) any dog owned, primarily or in part, for the purpose of dog fighting or that is trained for dog fighting;
- (e) a Pit Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, Pit Bull, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, or any dog of mixed breeding which includes any of these breeds; or any dog which has the appearance and physical characteristics predominantly conforming to the standards for any of the above breeds; or
- (f) any **dog** that, according to the records of the SPCA, RCMP or other municipality, or to the knowledge of the **owner**, has killed, injured, or aggressively harassed or pursued a person or **animal**.

DESIGNATED DOG OFF-LEASH AREA	means an area posted by sign, which defines the geographic area and/or time period that <b>dogs</b> can be off-leash.
DOG	means any member of the canine species which is six (6) or more months of age.
DOMESTIC ANIMAL	means an animal that is:
	<ul> <li>(a) tame or kept, or that has been or is being sufficiently tamed or kept, to serve some purpose for the use of people, and</li> <li>(b) designated by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to be a domestic animal,</li> <li>(as defined in the <i>Livestock Protection Act</i>)</li> </ul>
DOMESTIC FARM ANIMAL	means a horse, mule, donkey, emu, hinny, llama, ostrich, pot belly pig, swine, sheep, goat or cow, or other animal of the bovine species, but excludes a <b>household pet</b> .
DWELLING UNIT	means a suite of one or more rooms designed for or occupies by one family only as a single housekeeping unit providing cooking, sanitary and sleeping facilities.
ENCLOSURE	means a securely enclosed and locked structure having a concrete, asphalt or wooden floor and a wire or steel mesh sides and roof, which is sufficient to prevent the entry of unauthorized persons or the escape of the <b>dog</b> .
EXOTIC BIRD	means those avian species which are not normally native to the Province of British Columbia.
FURBEARING ANIMAL	means any fox, beaver, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, racoon, skunk, chinchilla, fisher, or other like <b>animal</b> , other than a <b>household pet</b> .
GENERAL MANAGER, FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES	means the person appointed by <b>Council</b> to the position of General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services, or an alternate.
HOUSEHOLD PET	means a domesticated animal or bird normally kept:
	<ul> <li>(a) in a one-family dwelling, a two-family dwelling or a multiple-family dwelling; and</li> <li>(b) for pleasure rather than utility.</li> </ul>
IMPOUNDED	means seized, delivered, received or taken into the animal shelter, or into the custody of the Animal Control Officer.
KITTEN	means a member of the feline species which is less than six (6) months of age.

LEASH or LEASHED means a device, or use of a device, of leather, metal, nylon or other similar strong material no more than three (3) meters in length and of sufficient strength and design to restrain the size and strength of animal for which it will be (or is being) used. One end must remain securely affixed to a collar or harness securely attached to the animal with the other end held by a person capable of controlling the animal at all times. LICENCE INSPECTOR means a person appointed by Council as Licence Inspector for the City, and includes Bylaw Enforcement Officers and the Chief Licence Inspector. MAINTENANCE FEES means the fees specified in Schedule A which are charged, for each day that an animal or bird is impounded, commencing the day after impoundment. MEDICAL HEALTH means the Medical Health Officer appointed under the OFFICER Health Act, to act within the limits of the jurisdiction of any local board, or within any health district. MULTIPLE-FAMILY means a building containing two or more dwelling units. DWELLING MUZZLED means a humane fastening or covering device of adequate strength placed over the mouth of a dog designed to prevent the dog from biting or injuring any person or another animal. **ONE-FAMILY DWELLING** means a detached building used exclusively for residential purposes, containing one dwelling unit only. **OWN/OWNER/OWNED** includes possessor, harbourer, or keeper and "owned" includes possessed, harboured, or kept. PARCEL means a lot, block, or other area in which land is held or into which land is legally subdivided. PIGEON means a bird of the family columbidae. POLICE OFFICER means a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. POULTRY means a chicken, rooster, turkey, goose, duck, fowl, or other bird normally kept for human consumption, excluding exotic birds and registered homing pigeons used for hobby or show purposes or racing. PUPPY means a member of the canine species which is less than six (6) months of age. RABBIT means any of various burrowing gregarious plant-eating mammals of the hare family.

· · · ·	
RESIDENTIAL	means a <b>use</b> which pertains clearly to the accommodation and home life of a family, and includes a group home with a maximum of 10 residents, but specifically excludes any facility operated under the jurisdiction of the <i>Correction Act</i> .
RUNNING AT LARGE (CAT)	means being elsewhere than on the premises of the <b>owner</b> while not under the control of the <b>owner</b> by leash, cord, chain, or other similar means of physical restraint that is not more than eight feet in length.
RUNNING AT LARGE (DOG)	<ul> <li>means any one of the following:</li> <li>(a) being elsewhere than confined on the premises of the owner, while not on a leash and in the immediate and effective control of a competent person;</li> <li>(b) being on any property without the consent of the owner or occupier of that property;</li> <li>(c) being in an off-leash area, where permitted, but not under the effective control of the owner; or</li> <li>(d) with respect to a dangerous dog, means any dangerous dog which is not kept in compliance with the requirements of subsection 2.3.4.</li> </ul>
STOREY	means a space situated between the top of any floor and the top of the floor next above it, that space between the top of such floor and the ceiling above it.
STRUCTURE	means a construction of any kind whether fixed to, supported by, or sunk into land or water.
TWO-FAMILY DWELLING	means a detached <b>building used</b> exclusively for residential purposes containing two <b>dwelling units</b> only, which <b>building</b> is not readily convertible into additional <b>dwelling units</b> and the plans for which have been filed with the <b>Building inspector</b> showing all areas of the building finished, the design of the <b>building</b> conforming to one of the following classifications:
	<ul> <li>(a) Each dwelling unit consisting of one storey only, not set upon another storey or upon a basement; or</li> <li>(b) Each dwelling unit consisting of two storeys only, the upper storey not containing a kitchen; not set upon another storey or upon a basement; or</li> <li>(c) Each dwelling unit consisting of a split level arrangement of two storeys only, the upper storey not containing a kitchen; not set upon another storey or upon a basement.</li> </ul>

For the purposes of this definition, "basement" means a **storey** located beneath the first full **storey** of the **building**, such first full **storey** having a floor level of not more than 2 m (6.562 ft.) above grade.

UNLICENCED DOG	means any <b>dog</b> for which the licence for the current year as required in the current Dog Licencing Bylaw of the <b>City</b> , has not been obtained.
USED	means used or arranged, designed or intended to be used.
WILD ANIMAL	means an <b>animal</b> not ordinarily tame or domesticated, and includes an exotic animal.

### PART TEN: OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- **10.1** Any person who:
  - (a) violates or who causes or allows any of the provisions of this bylaw to be violated; or
  - (b) fails to comply with any of the provisions of this or any other bylaw or applicable statute; or
  - (c) neglects or refrains from doing anything required under the provisions of this bylaw,

is deemed to have committed an infraction of, or an offence against this bylaw is liable on summary conviction, to the penalties provided for in the *Offence Act*, and each day that such violation is caused, or allowed to continue, constitutes a separate offence.

DATE OF ADOPTION

## PART ELEVEN: PREVIOUS BYLAW REPEAL

**BYLAW** 

11.1 Animal, Bird & Beekeeping Regulation Bylaw No. 7137 (adopted July 24, 2000) and the following Amendment Bylaws are hereby repealed:

No. 7164October 23, 2000No. 7211April 23, 2001No. 7424October 15, 2002No. 7692May 25, 2004

## PART TWELVE: SEVERABILITY & CITATION

- 12.1 If any part, section, sub-section, clause, or sub-clause of this bylaw is, for any reason, held to be invalid by the decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.
- 12.2 This bylaw is cited as "Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7932".

Bylaw No. 7932

FIRST READING SECOND READING THIRD READING ADOPTED

<b></b>			 	 CITY OF RICHMOND
		<u> </u>	 	APPROVED för content by originating dept.
<u></u>				 APPROVED for legality by Solicitor
	<u></u>		 	

18.

MAYOR

## CORPORATE OFFICER

Bylaw No. 7932

### SCHEDULE A to BYLAW NO. 7932

Page 1 of 2

## 1. IMPOUNDMENT FEES

a. Dogs

<ol> <li>FIRST impoundment in any calendar year</li> </ol>	i)	T impoundment in any calendar year:
--	----	-------------------------------------

Neutered Male or Spayed Female \$ 40 Non-Neutered or Unspayed \$120 (ii) SECOND impoundment in any calendar year: Neutered Male or Spayed Female \$ 80 Non-Neutered or Unspayed \$250 THIRD and subsequent impoundments in any calendar year: (iii) Neutered Male or Spaved Female \$250 Non-Neutered or Unspayed \$500

### b. Dangerous Dogs\*\*

- (i) FIRST impoundment in any calendar year: \$500\*\*
- (ii) SECOND and subsequent impoundments in any calendar year:

\*\*Subject always to the power set out in section 8.3.12 to apply for an order that a dog be destroyed.

#### c. Unlicenced Dogs

In addition to the fees payable under sections 1 and 2 (if applicable), a licence fee will be charged, where a dog is not currently licenced.

d. Birds

Per bird

\$5.00

\$1,000\*\*

e. Other Animals

Per animal

\$30 plus transportation costs

# SCHEDULE A to BYLAW NO. 7932

# Page 2 of 2

\$35

	f.	Domestic Farm Animal	
		Per Domestic Farm Animal	\$60 plus transportation costs
2.	MAI	NTENANCE FEES	
	For	each day or portion of the day, per animal	
	a. I	Dogs	\$12
	b. (	Cats	\$12
	c. I	Birds	\$ 2
	d. (	Other Animals	\$10
	e. I	Domestic Farm Animal	\$30
3.	Cat	Breeding Permit Fee	

Permit for three years

. 20.

Attac

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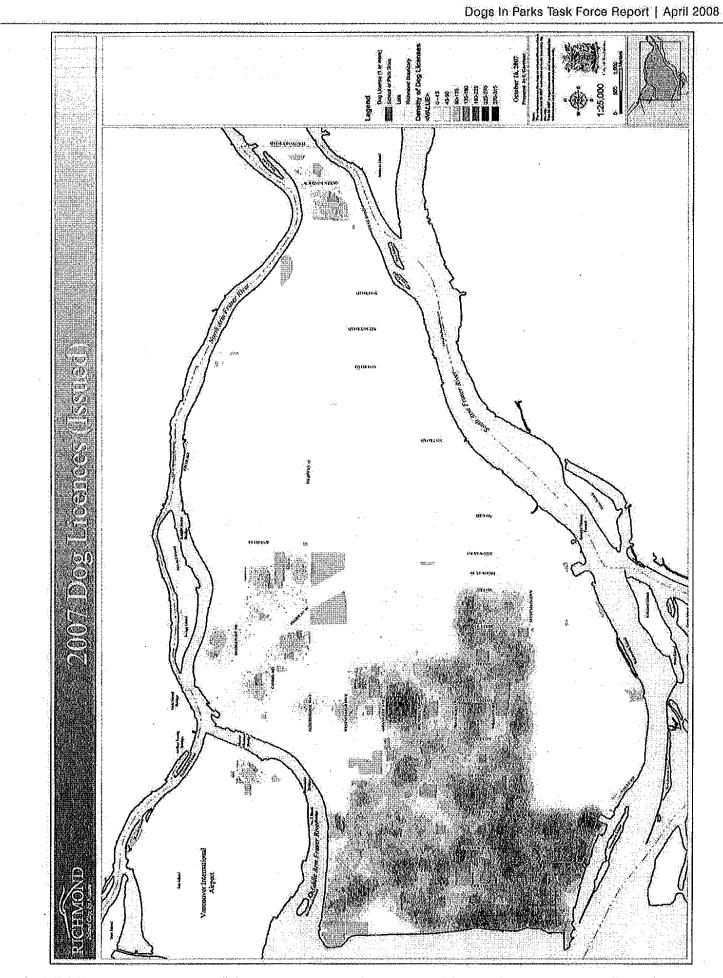
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# Attachment No. 4

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# CITY OF RICHMOND



## **Attachment 3**

# Table of Dogs in Parks Task Force Recommendations

acce Rich	tegic Direction - Opportunities for ssible off leash use of open space for mond Dog Owners	Support	Reject	Comment
1.	Ensure no net loss of space for designated off-leash areas.	x		There will be no reduction in current off-leash areas.
	Clear paths at existing McDonald Beach off-leash area to improve accessibility to site.	x		This will be included in future capital budgets.
:	Consider designating a portion of the Railway Right of Way as a designated off- leash area.	. *	x	Public consultation results indicate a lack of support from area residents.
4.	Consider designating the space at the west side of Minoru Park which currently contains the fitness circuit as a fenced designated off-leash area.		x	The circuit area is currently being used by park visitors. Future park development over two acres in the City Centre area will be included for consideration for off-leash areas.
5.	Consider designating the Bath Slough Trail as a designated off-leash area.		x	Public consultation indicates highest need for off-leash areas is in Steveston and West Richmond. The Bath Slough Trail may be looked at for off- leash potential in the future.
6.	Plan for a future designated off- leash area in City Centre.	x		This will be considered in future capital budgets and development.
7.	Consider adding fenced/naturally bounded designated off-leash areas within off-leashed areas.	x		This will be considered in future capital budgets and development.
. 8.	Implement a public process to determine the appropriateness of and possible location at Garry Point Park.	x		The public process was implemented and resulted in mixed opinions.
9.	Begin a dialogue with School District 38 to discuss and address uses related to off-leash dogs on school grounds.	X		The potential school ground locations will be neighbourhood areas where the school site acts as a
10.	Begin a dialogue with YVR to discuss greater use of Sea Island for designated off- leash areas including the Miller Road Field and the area to the east of McDonald Beach.	x		neighbourhood park. The Miller Road field is currently being used for dog training and expansion to designating this as an off-leash will be explored.

Strategic Direction - Opportunities for	Support	Reject	Comment
accessible off leash use of open space for Richmond Dog Owners (continued)			
<ol> <li>Consider the concept of time-sensitive designated off-leash areas in parks across the City.</li> </ol>	X	· · · · ·	Time sensitive designated off- leash areas will be evaluated following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report.
<ol> <li>Consider the concept of dedicated off-leash areas in locations around the City.</li> </ol>	x		This report proposes trial designated off-leash areas at Parklane Park and Steveston Park.

	ntegic Direction - Effective Inmunication regarding dogs in Richmond	Support	Reject	Comment
1.	Update all signage at designated off-leash areas to include references to current bylaws.	X		Signage will be updated as new signs are required.
2.	Update all signage at designated off-leash areas to include a responsible dog ownership message.	X		Signage at all designated off- leash areas will be updated immediately.
	Collaborate with the media (both English and other language) to share the message of the benefits of a dog inclusive culture.	x		An effective communication plan will be developed in 2010.
4.	Collaborate with dog producers (pet stores, breeder, etc) and media to share the message of responsible dog ownership.	X		This report recommends that educational material be created, this material can be distributed or made available at participating pet stores.
5.	Explore opportunities with schools, community associations and cultural organizations teaching the message of responsible dog ownership.	X		Additional collaboration opportunities will be evaluated following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report.
6.	Consider the establishment of a comprehensive public dog education program with distinct roles for the City and for community partners.	X		This report recommends that educational material be created by City Staff in consultation with community partners such as the Richmond Animal Protection Society.

	tegic Direction - Effective, efficient and	Support	Reject	Comment
for i	ainable delivery of services and support ssues which affect dogs in the community.			
1.	Reprioritize and refocus the "Adopt-a-Dog- Bag Dispenser program.	x		This will be included in the 2010 work plan for Parks Programs Staff.
2.	Ensure Bags in dog bag dispensers are biodegradable.	x		Dog bags switched to biodegradable after the Dogs in Parks Task Force report was presented in 2008.
3.	Explore alternative avenues for disposing of dog waste materials.	x		This will be included in the 2010 work plan for Parks Programs Staff.
	Provide recognition for exemplary dogs.	X		This will be considered in future work plans following the implementation of the other dog management strategies listed in this report
5.	Create an advisory board for dog control issues.	x		Ad hoc advisory boards will be created to respond to issues as they arise.
6.	Seek to enact a bylaw to ban the sale of dogs from storefront locations.		X .	There is demand for the types of dogs sold in stores; rather than prohibit the sale, further investigation into increased regulations around these sales is being conducted by staff.
7.	Support a reduction in the fine for the return of an impounded dog if the dog is spayed or neutered.		x	The animal shelter operates as a not for profit and funds received help recover operating costs.
8.	Maintain the financial incentive for licensing spayed or neutered dogs.	x		The City will continue to support a reduced cost for licensing spayed and neutered dogs.
9.	Consider a dialogue with disabilities groups regarding their unique concerns and needs.	X.		Staff have met with the Richmond Centre for Disability and have committed to continuing a dialogue as dog issues arise which affect their members.

rela fair	tegic Direction - Enforcement of dog ted bylaws is coordinated, consistent, and adequately funded.	Support	Reject	Comment
1.	Plan an annual outreach licensing effort.	X		Staff in the Community Bylaws department have included increased licensing outreach in their work- plans.
2.	Provide a more streamlined method of licensing dogs.	х		Staff in the Community Bylaws department have improved licensing methods, including an annual mail out invoice for dog license renewal.
	Ensure random checks of dog licenses, behaviour and 'poop and scoop" are conducted on a regular basis.	x		Community Bylaws and Richmond Animal Protection Society staff are currently conducting random checks.
4.	Consider a new type of animal control officer which has an education role first and peace officer capabilities second.	x		Animal control officers currently issue fines only when necessary – their primary role is to educate.
5.	Update Animal Control Bylaw 7932 to eliminate conflicting provisions.	x		Community Bylaws Staff have amendments to the Animal Control Bylaw in their current work plan.
6.	Consider updating Dog Licensing Bylaw 7138 to include service as well as assistance dogs.	x		This will be considered in future amendments to the Dog Licensing Bylaw No. 7138.
7.	Explore exceptions to section 2.3.5.2 of the Animal Control Bylaw 7932 for professional dog walkers with a Richmond business license and a proposed dog-walking permit.	X		A licensing program for professional dog walkers is recommended in this report.

Image of boards placed at Community Centre's, City Hall and posters at dog parks

# We want your opinion... About dogs in Richmond parks

Dog owners and other park users are invited to comment on a series of recommendations made in the "Dogs in Parks Task Force Report".

> The report includes a number of recommendations including increased dogs-off leash areas in parks, enforcement and education initiatives.

Please respond by April 12, 2009 in one of two ways:

- Visit www.richmond.ca/dogsinparks where you will find more information, the full "Dogs in Parks Task Force Report" and a link to the online survey.
- Complete a printed version of the survey, available at any of the following locations:

City Hall Cambie Community Centre Richmond Cultural Centre Hamilton Community Centre South Arm Community Centre Steveston Community Centre Thompson Community Centre West Richmond Community Centre.

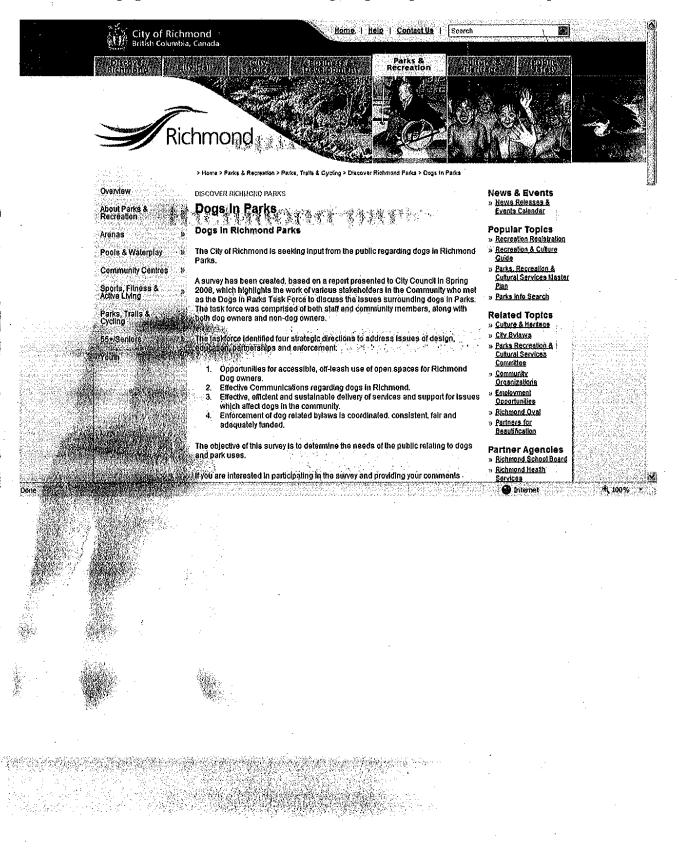
For more information about this process, please call Jodie Shebib, *Acting Manager, Parks Programs* at 604-244-1275.

**PRCS - 100** 

Thank you for your time and participation.

Richmond ks, recreation & cultural services

### First page of web site created for dogs in parks public consultation process



# **PRCS - 101**

# Dogs in Parks Survey \*surveys printed on 8 ½ by 11 inch letter paper and tri-folded

Survey Questions:		· ,
I live in the following geographic area of Richmond (see map).     Sealstand    South Ann     Drompson    City Ceptre     West Richmond    East Richmond     Stareston    Hamilton     I do not are in Richmond (place specify which City you live in):	<ul> <li>5. Learry my own dog waste disposal bags.</li> <li>6 5 4 3 2 1 0</li> <li>Stronge Agest Somethal Somethal Concerns Somethal Agest Agest Dispose Dispose Dispose Agest Agest Agest Dispose Dispose Dispose Agest Agest</li></ul>	8. I think that the following groups should be responsible for traveling the public about responsible dog ownership' and safely around dogs (choose all that apply);     * Responsible dog ownership refer to a number of issues including proper dog ownership refer to a number of issues including proper dog ownership refer to a number of issues including proper dog ownership refer to a number of issues including space dog ownership refer to a number of issues including space dog ownership refer to a number of issues including space dog ownership refer to a number of issues including space dog ownership refer to a number of issues in the following downership refer to a space of the issues of the issues of the issues space is a number of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issues of the issue o
	Agree     Agree     Disagree     Exception     Disagree       7. The Dogs In Parks Task Forum identified several specific areas throughout the City which would be considered for off leash areas that are listed befow. Using the 0-5 scale, I agree with these areas being turned into off leash zomes.       Interstanding to the considered for off leash areas that are listed befow. Using the 0-5 scale, I agree with these areas being turned into off leash zomes.       Interstanding to the considered for off leash areas that are listed befow. Using the 0-5 scale, I agree with these areas being turned into off leash zomes.       Interstanding turned to the considered for zomes.       Interstanding turned to the considered for zomes.       Strength: Agree       Strength: Agree       Strength: Agree       Disagree	<ul> <li>Name of the above</li> <li>9. I think that licensed dags should be subject to lower prices for by law infractions, shelter impoundment fees and license remextal bass.</li> <li>5 5 4 3 2 1 0</li> <li>Should Agree Superior System Decayse Strongly Agree Agree Superior Decayse Decays Agree 10. I think the City of Richmond should provide the following incentives for people to take their dogs to accuratified backing the head by a constant of the head by a consta</li></ul>
2. I frequent City of Richmond parks and open spaces:      Less than once a month      Once a week     Several times a week     Perry day  3. I currently use the off leash dog areas.     6     5     4     3     2     1     0	The west side of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libres circuit)       6     5     4     2     1       Shore of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libres circuit)       Shore of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libres circuit)       Shore of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libres circuit)       Shore of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libres circuit)       Shore of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libre circuit)       Shore of Minory Park (the area where there is conently a libre circuit)       Shore of Minory Park (the area where the area wher	Bedrose Litense Fees     Festophilon into longel some based collar prother item that the dog     conversal with thous the base based through baining.     Diber form of recognition     (blaces specify)     No incentives should given 11. I think that any pr all of following methods should be     used to gather public input on the entimal issues' in the
Strongly         Agree         Someator         Someator         Disagles         Disagles <thdisagles< th=""> <thdis< th=""> <thdis< t<="" td=""><td>A yet to be determined area in Gary Point Park           6         5         4         3         2         1         0           Strongly         Agree         Somethod Econential         Disagree         Strongly         Dr           Agree         Somethod Econential         Disagree         Disagree         Disagree         Disagree           Another area of the City (please specify):        </td><td>City: Animal issues covid polentially include items such as bytay charges, task designs, drogatives drog concerns, animal steller operations, exhanced inducement groupanes and public education interactions. Public Surveys an Arkistopy Recoil (a) board which would consist of animal experts and Dir Stell providing input in drog issues) Eity web page which is kept up to dride with current animal issues</td></thdis<></thdis<></thdisagles<>	A yet to be determined area in Gary Point Park           6         5         4         3         2         1         0           Strongly         Agree         Somethod Econential         Disagree         Strongly         Dr           Agree         Somethod Econential         Disagree         Disagree         Disagree         Disagree           Another area of the City (please specify):	City: Animal issues covid polentially include items such as bytay charges, task designs, drogatives drog concerns, animal steller operations, exhanced inducement groupanes and public education interactions. Public Surveys an Arkistopy Recoil (a) board which would consist of animal experts and Dir Stell providing input in drog issues) Eity web page which is kept up to dride with current animal issues
		Miter (plause specify):

4444

# **PRCS - 102**

<ul> <li>12. Ethink Gily By low Enforcement Officers slavelik conduct random checks in parks to the following bylaw issues:</li> <li>Corps allowin</li> <li>Corps allowin</li> <li>Corps allowin</li> <li>Corps allowing bylav parts the object</li> <li>Corps allowing bylav parts the object</li> <li>Corps allowing subparts parts</li> <li>Corps allowing subparts parts</li> <li>Corps allowing parts</li> </ul>	Dogs in Richmond Parks Survey for Richmond Residents
1.3. I think professional day walkets the different an exemption within the Animal Control Regulation Bytwe which permits these individuals to yeak more than three degis within the designable off-bach acco. (Summit;	lrichtekliser: The Sity of Richmand is seeking input from the public regioning dage in Richmand Parks.
the maximum minister of alogs off terrshim all excitating the maximum minister of alogs off terrshim all teach areas is 3 per person). <u>5</u> 5 4 3 2 1 0 <u>28 1000</u> Some fearward sum-star may be appendix to the alogs a	The survey below is chosed on a report presented to Dity Council in spring 2000 which highlighted the work of earlies statebooklers in the sommunity who met us the Bogs in Parks. Task Force to discuss the issues surrounding stops in Parks. The task force was somplised of tash stiff and sommity members, along with both slog overess and non-tasy assues.
Comments if channel	The backbose identified four strategic directions to orderess fiscues of elasticat, exclusion, partnerships and encoursent:
	<ol> <li>Opportunities for oxeessible, off-bash use of open spaces for Biolumond Dagreeners.</li> <li>Effective Communications regarding alogs in Richmand.</li> <li>Effective, officient databases and support for issues which affectively in the community.</li> <li>Enforcement of rights have in associated, consistent, foir and adequated.</li> </ol>
<u>Canalusion</u>	
14. Plable use the space below for any athilliprol optimists:	Beites April 5, 2000 pieces take a few minutes to most ond onswer the questions below. There may be some questions which do not apply to you, if that is the same places sharese "not applicable" as gouransee.
	The survey should take no more than 15 minutes.
	- - -
	Richmond Parks, recreation & cultural services
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# PRCS - 103

Attachment 7

### Press Release issued for dogs in parks public consultation



City of Richmond 6911 No. 3 Road Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

**News Release** 

March 24, 2009

For Immediate Release

# **Richmond seeks public comment on dogs in parks**

**Richmond, BC** – Richmond residents are invited to complete a survey that will help form dog use strategies for Richmond parks. The City aims to incorporate the public's feedback about topics such as increased off-leash park areas, and dog enforcement and education initiatives into its ongoing park strategies.

The public survey is based on a series of recommendations brought forward by the Dogs in Parks Task Force Group. The task force is a group of public stakeholders and staff liaisons that met bi-monthly last year to discuss the issues surrounding dogs in parks.

The public is invited to visit <u>www.richmond.ca/dogsinparks</u> for more information and to complete the survey.

Survey results will form part of a report to be presented to Richmond City Council later this year, and will also be used for future park planning initiatives including potential additional off-leash areas.

The City currently has five off-leash dog areas, including: McDonald Beach, the south foot of No. 3 Road, Cambie Field, Shell Toad Trail and the City owned vacant lot in the Hamilton area.

The off-leash areas are safe and secure places in the City where dogs are legally permitted to run free on public property. For the safety and security of pets and for the comfort of all residents, dog owners are required to have their dogs on a leash at all other times. To report a dog running at large call the Richmond Animal Protection Society at 604-275-2036.

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## Wording for City Board ads

Dog owners and other park users are invited to comment on a series of recommendations made in the "Dogs in Parks Task Force Report".

The report includes a number of recommendations including increased dog off-leash areas in parks, enforcement and education initiatives.

### Please respond by April 12, 2009 in two ways:

- 1. Visit **www.richmond.ca/dogsinparks** where you will find more information, the full "Dogs in Parks Task Force Report" and a link to the survey.
- 2. Complete the printed version of the survey available at City Hall, Steveston Community Centre, the Richmond Cultural Centre, Hamilton Community Centre, South Arm Community Centre, Thompson Community Centre, West Richmond Community Centre and Cambie Community Centre.

For more information about this process, please contact Jodie Shebib, Acting Manager, Parks Programs at 604-244-1275.