

FIRST, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME THIS EVENING. MY NAME IS BONNIE MORLEY AND MY FRIENDS AND I ARE HERE TONIGHT TO ASK THE COUCIL TO REVISIT ITS DECISION TO REMOVE THE FENCE DOG AREA FROM DOVER PARK , THIS PAST JULY 16,2014.

IN 2012 AS RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERS WE APPROACHED THE CITY AND ASKED FOR AN OFF LEASH AREA TO BE PUT IN AN ON LEASH PARK.WE WERE, GRANTED A NINE MONTH PILOT PROJECT. (WHICH DID NOT HAVE A POSTED END DATE) UNFORTUNALELY THE FENCED AREA WAS NOT PUT IN THE LOCATION DISCUSSED AND IN THE SHAPE DECIDED UPON. WE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT IT BE PUT PARALLELL TO THE TENNIS COURTS, IN A REQTANGULAR SHAPE BEHIND THE TREES FOR SHELTER AND TO CUT NOISE. INSTEAD IT WAS PLACED DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE ONLY PET FREE BUILDING AROUND THE PARK AND IN AN UNSLIGHTLY LARGE CIRCLE.

WE ARE AWARE THAT A GROUP PEOPLE WERE UNHAPPY WITH THE PARK FOR VARIOUS REASONS. WE WERE TOLD RECENTLY (THIS PAST MONDAY BY THE PARKS BOARD) THAT NOISE, TRAFFIC AND ASTHETICS WERE THE MAIN ISSUES. THE PARKS BOARD LISTENED TO THEIR CONCERNS, BROUGHT THEM TO CITY COUNCIL AND THE PARK WAS THEN REMOVED.

WE FEEL THAT AN IMPORTANT STEP WAS MISSED. AT NO TIME DID THE PARKS BOARD TRY TO OPEN A DIALOGUE BETWEEN DOG OWNERS AND THE NIEGHBOURHOOD. THERE WAS NO

CONSULTATION TO SEE IF WE AS COMMUNITY COULD COME TOGETHER AND ADDRESS THEIR CONCERNS AND WORK IT OUT. AT NO TIME DID THE PARKS BOARD COME IN TO THE PARK TO TALK TO US OR POST ANYTHING THAT WOULD MAKE US AWARE OF THE ISSUES BEING RAISED.

NO PUBLIC FORUM WAS PROVIDED FOR THE SUPPORTS OF THE PARK TO DEFEND THE FENCED AREA AND SPEAK OF ITS MERITS. WE FEEL THAT THIS WAS NOT HANDLED IN A DIPLOMATIC FASHION AND THE COUNCIL HAS MADE AN ARBITRARY DECISION.

WE ARE A MALABLE GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO WERE AND ARE WILLING TO WORK TOGETHER FOR EVERYONES HAPPINESS. WE WOULD HAVE AND STILL WILL TRY TO ADDRESS THEIR CONCERNS AND FIND SOLUTIONS THAT SUIT EVERYONES NEEDS.

WE HAVE COLLECTED OVERTHREE HUNDRED SIGNATURES OF SUPPORT FOR THE PARK, SOME ARE FROM DOG OWNERS SOME ARE NOT. SOME LIVE AROUND THE PARK OTHERS COME FROM THE SURROUNDING AREA TO USE THE PARK.

WE ARE ASKING THE CITY TO CONSIDER AN ADDITIONAL THREE MONTH TRIAL FOR A SMALLER FENCED AREA LOCATED WHERE IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN. AND IF AT THE END OF THREE MONTHS IT STILL FACES OPPISITION THEN WE WILL CONCEDE. WE FEEL THAT WE DESERVE TO BE HEARD AS WELL AS A SECOND CHANCE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE WE HAVE NOW.

IN CLOSING WE HAVE LEARNED THAT THE CURRENT PILOT PROJECT LOCATED AT MACALLUM IS THE SECOND OF ITS KIND. THE FIRST PROJECT WAS REMOVED 10 YEARS EARLIER. WE ARE ASKING THAT DOVER PARK RECEIVE THE SAME SECOND CHANCE TO RUN PARALLEL TO THE MACALLUM. DOG OWNERS USE DOVER PARK MULTIPLE TIMES A DAY 365 A YEAR. THANK YOU.