

Parks/Recreation Committee

Regular Meeting Notice and Agenda

Village of Cross Plains

Rosemary Garfoot Public Library

2017 Julius Street

Cross Plains, WI 53528

(608) 798-3241

Monday, June 20, 2016

6:00 pm

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Public Comment – This is an opportunity for anyone to address the Committee on any issue NOT on the current agenda. *Please observe the time limit of 3 minutes.* While the Committee encourages input from residents, it may not discuss or act on any issue that is not duly noticed on the agenda.
- III. Reports
 1. Committee Chairperson
 2. Committee Members
 3. Parks and Recreation Director
- IV. Committee Discussion
 1. Discussion and action to approve the minutes from the regular meetings held May 16, 2016.
 2. Presentation by Village Staff regarding the concept of a Dog Park within the existing Village Park System.
 3. Public Input regarding the concept of a Dog Park within the existing Village Park System – *This is an opportunity for anyone to address the Committee solely on this issue. **Please observe the time limit of 3 minutes per commenter.** Signup sheets are available at the door for those who wish to speak and should be turned into the Clerk prior to the agenda item.*
 4. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the concept of a Dog Park within the existing Village Park System.
- V. Adjournment

This meeting notice constitutes an official meeting of the above referenced group and was posted in accordance with all applicable laws related Open Meetings Law. It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals. For additional information or to request this service, contact the Village Hall at (608) 798-3241 or matt@cross-plains.wi.us.



Michael Axon
Director

Director Report

To: Parks and Recreation Committee
From: Michael Axon, Director
Date: May 31, 2016
Re: May Monthly Report

Administration

Start of Pool Season: The start of the 2016 pool season began with the filling of the pool vessel on Monday, May 23rd. Yearly tasks completed include: painting of the lifeguard chairs/stands/diving board platform, painting of the wading pool, powerwashing the bathhouse. A new platform/stairs/water line installed was installed this year for the pool slide along with new sand for our filtration system. We are currently experiencing a high degree of vibration in the maintenance room. The main concern from staff includes cavitation in the lines due to a bad impellar. After consulting with Carrico Aquatics and Badger Swim Pools, they too feel the impellar/pump/motor could all be the issue. Staff is working with Badger Swimming Pools to get a proposal to have them replaced.



Opening of the Pool Slide: As mentioned above, the 2016 season will include the opening of the slide at the Cross Plains Pool. The slide was taken out of use in 2014 due to excessive rust and deterioration. Staff worked with Springfield Welding, Inc. to fabricate a new platform and stairs with new material then working with Fabrick to add a coating to the system. Once installed, water became out newest issue so adding a water line to the slide was then constructed. Instead of tearing up the pool deck, staff added PEX Piping along the fence line and into the pool slide. We've received a number of praises for the opening of the slide as its seen a large number of users.



Staff Training: The 2016 Pool Staff Training took place on Saturday, May 28th conducted by Aquatic Examiner Jason Krapfl. Staff was tested in CPR, Rescues, Spinal Injury Management, and reviewing the Cross Plains Emergency Action Plan. The training began at 7:00 am ending with scenarios at 12:00 pm. Feedback from staff and management was very positive as they all feel ready for the 2016 season.

Dog Park Survey Summary: A survey was conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department Staff into the need and placement of a dog park within our village boundaries. The survey was sent out via email and facebook while also being placed on the village website. The survey summary and findings can be found on the village website.



Life Community Garden: The Life Community Garden was tilled and ready for the season on May 16th. Two rows were tilled totaling 22 garden plots for families throughout Cross Plains. The foundation received a great response from the community with the addition of the gardens being constructed once again. We look forward to continuing to help with this project as time and the season permits.





Recreation

One Stop Body Shop: We welcome back instructor Liz Bakken to our team of instructors. Liz joined the team in 2015 and took a hiatus to finish her studies at UW-L. We congratulate Liz on her recent graduation and are thankful to have her back with the department. Liz will be teaching one stop body shop, a fitness class that shapes and tones as participants focus on flexibility, strength, agility, and endurance. Exercises are easy to follow with low to moderate intensity levels. The program is held on Monday evenings from 5:45 pm to 6:45 pm at Glacier Creek Middle School Cafetorium.

Hydro Burn: Liz Bakken is back for the Summer and will be instructing our Hydro Burn class on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 pm-5:45 pm at the Cross Plains Pool. This class offers resistance training and conditioning with the assistance of water. We currently have 7 participants as many more show up as the summer months continue with the use of the fitness pass.

Youth Dance: Ms. Michele Dresen and Ms. Samantha Dresen once again out due themselves with a record number of participants. 2015 brought a new record number of 223 dancers; 2016 records are once again broken with 245 participants! The dance program offers ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, and poms to children ages 3 and up. The program runs 6 weeks on Monday and Tuesdays with a recital set for July 21st at 6:00 pm at the Performing Arts Center in Middleton. Ms. Michele started with the department in 2008 and has done a wonderful job growing the program. Ms. Samantha started helping with the program in 2012 expanding the program offerings, including hip hop and poms.



Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes May 16, 2016

I. **Meeting called to order** at 6:00 pm By Committee Chair Brosius

Roll Call – Present: Kevin Thusius, Dale Buechner, Jim Billmeyer, Bill Brosius, and Frank Durham.

Also Present: Paul Pritchard, Renee Estabrook, Michael Cliff, Ron Rentowski, Lisa Schell, Bob Schell, Bob Ward, Joe Zeimentz, Joe Sommers, Tamara Sutor, Mark Strasser, Patrick Dazan, and Mike Axon.

II. **Public comment** – None

III. **Reports**

1. Committee Chairperson – No Report
2. Committee Members – No Report
3. Park and Recreation Director – Mike thanked Frank Durham for showing people how pickle ball works at the activity night. The Life Community Garden is ready to go.

IV. **Committee Discussion**

- 1) **Discussion and action to approve the minutes from the regular meetings held March 14, 2016 and April 11, 2016.** March 14th minutes approved. April 11th minutes approved
- 2) **Discussion and update on the dog park.** The Ripp family are not willing to sell or donate any land for a dog park. We have not looked at Buechner land because we are not ready as a village to discuss that yet. Glacial Valley conservancy property is great but access to that property is poor. We briefly talked about the Survey Monkey questionnaire that was recently sent out, Mike will have a summary of the questionnaire at the next meeting. Chairman Brosius asked the committee members if they wanted to have a meeting at Raspberry Park prior to the next meeting. The members chose not to have a meeting at Raspberry Park prior to the next PRC meeting. Several village residence that live in the area of Raspberry Park came out to voice opposition changing the current park to a specific Dog Park. It is noted that some of these residence have been to the last few PRC meetings and some residence this was their first PRC meeting attending for this issue. The next PRC meeting in June (June 20th, 2016 at 6:00pm in the Library) the PRC committee will have a discussion and action in regards to this issue.
- 3) **Discussion regarding the use of bicycles within Village owned conservancy lands.** A group called the Capital Off Road Pathfinders came to discuss the use of pedal bicycles on trails in Cross Plains. There were several people in attendance that are village residence and others that live in the area. They would like to build and use existing trails in three areas: Glacial Valley, Cedar Hill and Cedar Glen. Phase 1 would be Glacial Valley and Phase 2 would be Cedar Hill and Cedar Glen Phase 3 would be to incorporate an easier flow into those trail. They also talked about the benefits to our community. The committee talked about getting the word out earlier to residence in the areas where the trails are being proposed and that the Pathfinders group talk with Dale at the Ice Age Trail office to see if accommodations or compromise could be achieved. Mike was going to be a part of those meetings if they are to occur. The committee also wanted to look at easements (restrictions) and current ordinances in the village.

V. **Adjourned at 7:41 pm**

Respectfully Submitted June 5, 2016 by:
Bill Brosius, Committee Chairman

2016 Community Dog Park Survey

June 10, 2016



Prepared By:
Cross Plains Parks and
Recreation Department
www.cross-plains.wi.us

Contents

Executive Summary	2
Methodology	3
Insights Summary	4
Conclusions.....	5
Survey Results (Full)	6
Written Responses	12

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Village of Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Department manages parks, natural areas, and the Cross Plains Pool while also provides recreational services for Village residents. Understanding residents' opinions of and needs for park amenities, recreation and aquatic programs is an integral part to the success of their department and community. Recent population growth and ensuing recreational shifts in and around our Village, among other reasons, may cause changes in what residents need and want from the department.



One ensuing trend that the Village has sought for a number of years is whether or not a dog park should be established within Village boundaries. Over the last few years national, state, county, and local trends have escalated in the addition of dog parks, or active recreational areas for dogs to run off leash.

To answer this question, the Parks and Recreation Committee asked the Parks and Recreation Department to look into the establishment of such park within one of the 17 already developed parks and or open space areas. Criteria used for the search included: **1-5 acres of land; allow for 5-6 foot of fencing; access to water; central and well-lit; ADA accessibility; allow for a parking lot; buffer zone between residents.** Once a few parks and or open space areas were established as “possible locations”, the committee asked for a survey to be sent out to village residents asking a number of questions highlighted in this document.

At this time this survey should be used as a tool to reflect on the makeup of a dog park within the Village boundaries. With only 10% of the village weighing in on the survey and a large number of residents showing up to oppose the park being placed in Raspberry Park, staff feels the Parks and Recreation Committee should use this survey to help with the placement of the dog park in a new development or working with Dane County Parks as time and space permit. The following report synthesizes these results and provides insights gained from the survey.

Methodology

Survey Instrument

The Village of Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Department staff members designed the survey instrument. The survey was designed and implemented online through a service website, [surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com). Questions were written by staff and reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Committee members prior to being submitted to village residents for input.



Sampling

The defined population for the survey was decided to be all residents who live within the village limits. To gather feedback, the survey was sent out via email and social media with information also posted on our community website. It is estimated that the survey was sent out to a total of 2000 emails, while also receiving a minimum of 231 views from the Cross Plains Rec and Village of Cross Plains Facebook pages. We were unable to validate resident versus non-resident sampling for this survey. We were able to ask if the respondent was a village resident in the survey, but the margin of error could be higher, due to the inability to verify resident versus non-resident IP addresses. It should also be noted that the survey was not mailed out to village residents, therefore people who may be for or against the dog park may have not weighed in on the discussion.

Analysis

The survey was construed May 10, 2016 through June 2, 2016 for a total of 24 days. Of the estimated 2000 surveys sent out via email, we received 203 responses. Of the 632 people who viewed the survey via social media, we received 22 shares and a total of 231 responses, for a response total of 434.

A total of 355 people clicked “yes” as Village Residents. We currently have 3,538 people living in the Village of Cross Plains, (2010 Census) for a final response rate of 10%.

Insights Summary

In this section, the Parks and Recreation Department provides a summary of top-level findings based on more detailed survey results presented later in this report.

- **Residents seem to think that the Village of Cross Plains could benefit from the addition of a dog park.** The survey revealed that 261 (74 %) of the responses believed the Village could benefit from an area where dogs could play safely off leash. 51 (14 %) didn't think the community would benefit while 40 (11%) didn't know if the Village would benefit from the addition. 3 people skipped the question.
- **Residents seem to most often use three areas to currently exercise and socialize their dogs.** We received 268 written responses: walk them on the streets around town, take them to Zander Park (Off-leash), or walk them in local conservancy areas. Other answers included using their own lawns, Middleton Dog Parks, and Indian Lake Dog Park. 87 people chose to skip the question.
- **A number of concerns were addressed in the survey with Location, Maintenance, and Safety being of most concern.** Maintenance of the park received 179 (52%) of the vote, while safety was next with 125 (36%) of the votes. Responses for this question were allowed to give us all of their concerns, and not just their highest. We should point out that the "location" of the park may be the highest concern but was not part of the question in the survey. A number of written responses discussed this as the highest priority when implementing the dog park. 11 people decided to skip the question.
- **When asked if they'd be willing to pay a fee to help support the dog park, an annual registration fee received 145 (43%) votes.** 119 (35%) of the people were not willing to pay a fee to use the park. 24 people decided to skip the question.
- **After analyzing the results from the survey and listening to village residents via email, phone calls, and open meetings it's certain that residents do not want a dog park near current residential property and especially Raspberry Park.** We received 92 additional comments mostly stating the desire to not have the park near a residential neighborhood.

Conclusions

This survey had a number of goals which staff believes were only partially achieved. Staff feels we achieved the goal of understanding the need for a dog park within our community. We feel the Parks and Recreation Committee have a few options moving forward after viewing the survey.

- **Option 1:** Although contentious and with what seems to be little support, the Parks and Recreation Committee could plan and construct the park at one of the already established parks and/or open space areas.

- **Option 2:** Look at all future development proposals for feasible options. The criteria used to select current established parks and open spaces should be used to look at future developments. (Size, Space, Fencing, Accessibility) Due to the complex and contentious use of such park, staff would recommend the dog park be established in phase 1 of the development process prior to any homes breaking ground.

- **Option 3:** Although this option doesn't place the park inside the village boundaries, it may be a feasible option moving forward. As Dane County Park begins its planning phase for their upcoming Parks and Open Space Plan, staff recommends discussing the possibility of adding such use in a neighboring county park. Information will be sought from Dane County residents over the next year, making this a great opportunity for village residents, committee members, and staff to submit their input. In the counties 2012-2017 Parks and Open Space Plan, dog exercise areas continued to be a very popular use in Dane County Parklands. (Increased from 4218 permits sold to 4558)

All in all, the Parks and Recreation Committee has received both quantitative and qualitative feedback from the community in regards to establishing a dog park in our community. Although sometimes contentious, the process has brought together neighbors along with new faces to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Staff recommends working with these constituents to decide which option is most viable moving forward.

Survey Results (Full)

Dog Park in Cross Plains

1)

Are you a Village of Cross Plains Resident?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100.0%	355
No	0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>		355
<i>skipped question</i>		0

2)

How many dogs do you own?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
None	28.2%	100
One	52.0%	184
Two	18.1%	64
Three or more	1.7%	6
<i>answered question</i>		354
<i>skipped question</i>		1

3)

Where do you currently take your dog(s) to walk, socialize, exercise?	
Answer Options	Response Count
	268
<i>answered question</i>	268
<i>skipped question</i>	87

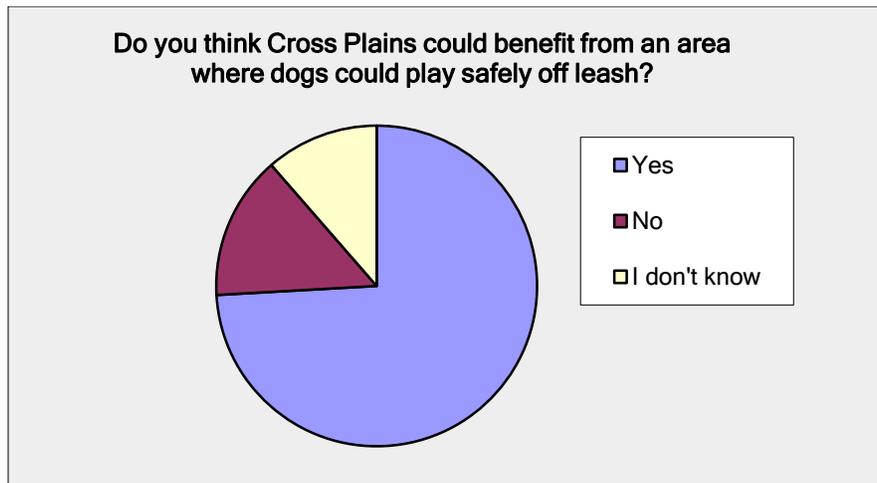
(Specific responses can be found on pages 12-17)

4)

When you are out with your dog in the above area, do you keep your dog(s) leashed? Your honesty is appreciated.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Always	38.7%	129
Most of the time	21.0%	70
Hardly ever	14.7%	49
I never keep my dog on a leash	4.2%	14
I do not own a dog	21.3%	71
<i>answered question</i>		333
<i>skipped question</i>		22

5)

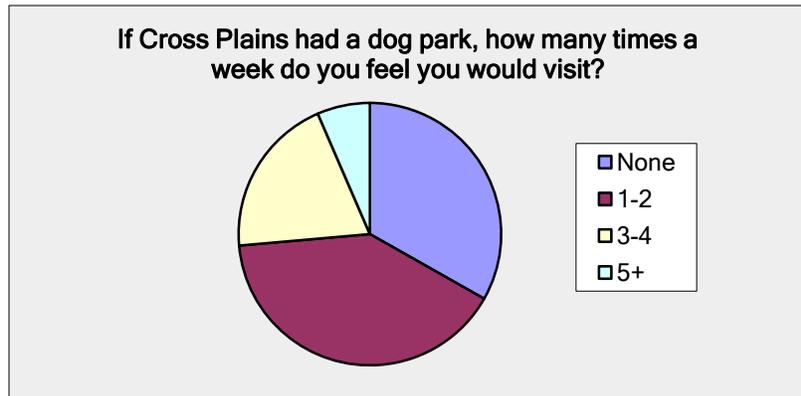
Do you think Cross Plains could benefit from an area where dogs could play safely off leash?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	74.1%	261
No	14.5%	51
I don't know	11.4%	40
<i>answered question</i>		352
<i>skipped question</i>		3



6)

If Cross Plains had a dog park, how many times a week do you feel you would visit?

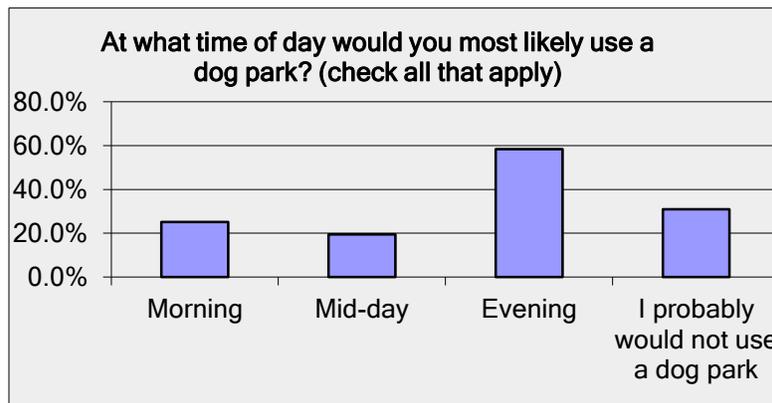
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
None	33.2%	112
1-2	40.4%	136
3-4	19.9%	67
5+	6.5%	22
<i>answered question</i>		337
<i>skipped question</i>		18



7)

At what time of day would you most likely use a dog park? (check all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Morning	25.2%	83
Mid-day	19.5%	64
Evening	58.4%	192
I probably would not use a dog park	31.0%	102
<i>answered question</i>		329
<i>skipped question</i>		26



8)

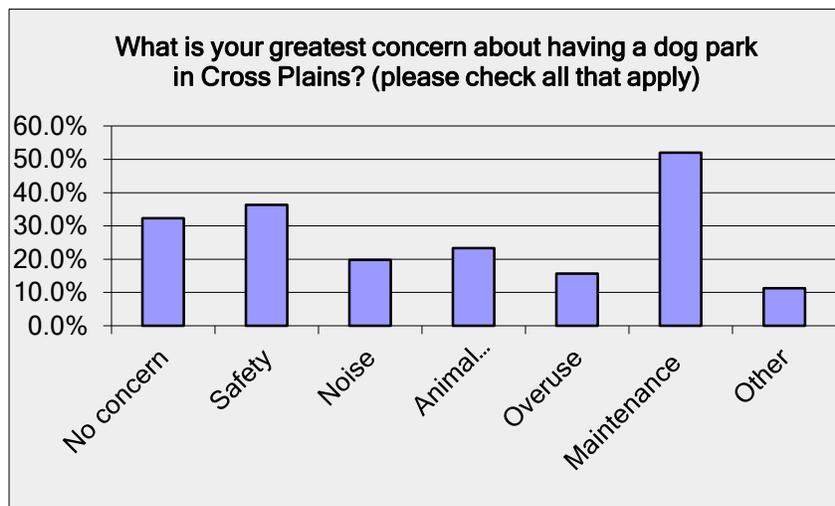
Would you like to see a dog park at one of the following areas? (#1 being your most preferred) NOTE: these are only proposed areas at this time. Even if you are not in favor of the dog park, please tell us which location you would prefer if one were created.

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	Rating Average	Response Count
Raspberry Park (baseball diamond side)	118	70	26	36	1.92	250
Glacial Valley Conservancy	111	99	29	8	1.73	247
Other	42	50	64	4	2.19	160
I would not support any location	39	4	18	48	2.69	109
<i>answered question</i>						316
<i>skipped question</i>						39

9)

What is your greatest concern about having a dog park in Cross Plains? (please check all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
No concern	32.3%	111
Safety	36.3%	125
Noise	19.8%	68
Animal Vaccinations	23.3%	80
Overuse	15.7%	54
Maintenance	52.0%	179
Other	11.3%	39
<i>answered question</i>		344
<i>skipped question</i>		11



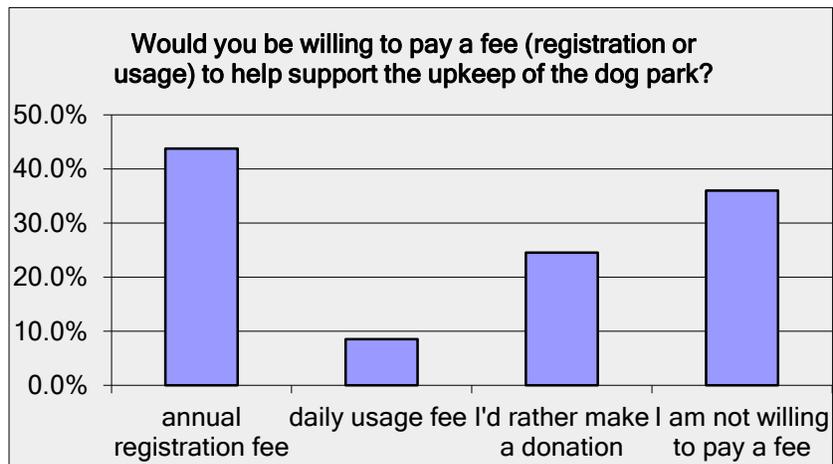
10)

Do you currently use an existing dog park? If so, which is your favorite to visit and what features/amenities do you enjoy most?	
Answer Options	Response Count
	168
<i>answered question</i>	168
<i>skipped question</i>	187

(Specific Responses can be found on pages 17-21)

11)

Would you be willing to pay a fee (registration or usage) to help support the upkeep of the dog park?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
annual registration fee	43.8%	145
daily usage fee	8.5%	28
I'd rather make a donation	24.5%	81
I am not willing to pay a fee	36.0%	119
<i>answered question</i>		331
<i>skipped question</i>		24



12)

If you would like to be informed about further development of a dog park in Cross Plains (i.e. meetings, progress, resource) please include your contact info below:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Name:	98.9%	87
Email:	98.9%	87
Phone number (optional):	30.7%	27
	<i>answered question</i>	88
	<i>skipped question</i>	267

13) (Responses on Pages 21-29)

Additional comments and/or concerns:	
Answer Options	Response Count
	92
	<i>answered question</i> 92
	<i>skipped question</i> 263

Date



Written Responses

Question Number 3

- 1 In the street
- 2 walk around the neighborhood
- 3 Around the block - neighborhood
- 4 I walk him in my neighborhood.
- 5 Yes
- 6 My yard
- 7 Mainly on the street, since there are few sidewalks.
- 8 sidewalks along gils way
- 9 In our yard. On walks.
- 10 walks
- 11 Street
- 12 Laufenberg Ave, my parents farm
- 13 On walks, not to dog parks.
- 14 Indian lake or private land.
- 15 n/a
- 16 Just walks around the block. Play inside.
- 17 Our yard, for walks around town, in our neighborhood.
- 18 Zander Park
- 19 Around our neighborhood
- 20 Planning to get a dog soon and plan to walk him/her
- 21 around my street
- 22 no where, they have the whole yard
- 23 On public streets and IPO training (IPO stands for Internationale Prüfungs-Ordnung)
- 24 We run/walk her around the neighborhood. We also hike in various locations.
- 25 Around the neighborhood/backyard.
- 26 we walk the dog in our neighborhood
- 27 Roadways
- 28 Down our street, to local park/soccer field
- 29 Walks around the neighborhood
- 30 Neighborhood
- 31 Around town to walk, bluffs in cross plains
- 32 In my neighbor hood and up the bluff in cedar glen development
- 33 Daycare and walk around town
- 34 NA
- 35 walk around the block, Indian Lake
- 36 Street, neighbors
- 37 No where - Currently
- 38 trails, conservancy areas, street
- 39 Walk in our neighborhood
- 40 Park by Black Earth Creek
- 41 Walks
- 42 Ice age trail and Zander park
- 43 Dog parks, Waunakee and Middleton
- 44 the park

- 45 In my neighborhood
46 Verona
47 Walk
48 Indian Lake, on the streets and other places
49 Back lawn, leash walks on the street
50 Folfelder park, Ice age trail
51 N/A
52 Around town
53 Our yard and neighborhood
54 Daycare, Waunakee Dog Park
55 Middleton
56 Yard and short walks in development
57 My neighborhood
58 Street
59 To raspberry park
60 Around town, Sauk prairie dog park
61 around town
62 I have a fenced in yard and I walk him
63 Family land outside of town.
64 hickory hill, ice age trail
65 Street, dog parks in area
66 I walk them on the street.
67 Dog Parks
68 Side walks, Zander Park
69 Middleton dog park
70 Around the neighborhood, or Middleton dog park
71 Middleton
72 Cross Plains village streets
73 Backyard
74 I walk my daughters 2 dogs along the streets, within a 1 or 2 miles radius
75 Waunakee
76 Na
77 In the neighborhood, Middleton dog park
78 No dog
79 sidewalks, up by the water tower, Ice Age Trail
80 Other fenced in dog parks in the area.
- 81 Around the block and private property in the Town of Middleton
82 walk on the streets & Zander Park
83 Around town or Indian Lake
84 farm but when in Cross PLains, Yes leash land between B. farm and Glacier Creek Middle School....
85 Around the block, back yard, Walking Iron Park Mazo
86 Neighborhood walks, Airport Rd. dog park, Waunakee dog park, Indian Lake
87 Indian lake
88 Through neighborhoods
89 Around the neighborhood
90 Around the block
91 Park by creek
92 Around the neighborhood

- 93 Streets of CP
- 94 None
- 95 Our yard.
- 96 Just on the road or side walk if there is any in town
- 97 by the creek
- 98 streets and ice age trail
- 99 She walks on a leash around town. And runs around free in our yard occasionally
- 100 Streets, Zander Park, and Hickery Hill
- 101 Middleton dog parks, neighborhood walks
- 102 Walk around town
- 103 Neighborhood
- 104 Middleton dog park, Indian lake, state lands, county lands
- 105 Walks around village.
- 106 In the village and public lands.
- 107 Indian lake, around the neighborhood
- 108 Through Rasberry park to private land.
- 109 Streets
- 110 on a walk or to a park in madison or waunakee
- 111 New trails by Black earth creek
- 112 Down in the park by the Hardware store where everyone else takes their dogs
- 113 N/A
- 114 ice age trails, hunting grounds
- 115 Salmo Pond, Indian Lake
- 116 Trails and Middleton
- 117 Leashed walks, Middleton Dog Park (Airport Road)
- 118 My yard, public streets
- 119 Middleton dog park by airport or walks in our neighborhood
- 120 Wauanakee/Verona dog parks
- 121 Around the village on streets and sidewalks.
- 122 Around town and near the creek
- 123 fenced in back yard
- 124 streets or conservancy trail behind our house
- 125 Neighborhood and our yard
- 126 waunakee
- 127 Road or Creek
- 128 Street, woods, ice age trail
- 129 bike trail, Ice Age Trail, streets
- 130 Middleton, Waunakee
- 131 For walks around the neighborhood.
- 132 Walk in neighborhood
- 133 Streets
- 134 Neighborhood
- 135 Around town
- 136 Indian Lake, Middleton dog park
- 137 Walks on streets in town
- 138 Walk in street
- 139 neighborhood
- 140 Ice Age Trail
- 141 Around Cross Plains

- 142 Around town, Salmo area
 143 Walks around the blovk.
 144 Indian Lake, Ice Age Trail, around my neighborhood, Zander Park
 145 Either walk around town or up on the conservancy trails in CP.
 146 Pheasant Branch, around our neighborhood
 147 neighborhood walks
 148 Street, yard, Zander park, ice age trail
 149 walk the streets in the area
 150 On the streets...since we don't have many sidewalks. :)
 151 Walk on the road
 152 Walks in neighborhood, my back yard, and/or dog parks in the area
 153 Sidewalk, streets, nature paths
 154 Our yard for exercise, we do walks throughout the village & really like Zander Park
 155 On the street we live
 156 Streets where I live
 157 home
 158 N/a
 159 Zander park way (behind lagoon street), roads/streets, parks in surrounding communities, ice age trail.
 160 Neighborhood
 161 around the neighborhood
 162 We walk throughout Cross Plains and up on the trails. To socialize we go to the dog park on Hwy Q
 163 walk around the village (Lieashed) and also to private property (not leashed) where they run
 164 Middleton dog park, Indian lake
 165 Around Town. When I go for a walk I take the dog. Zander Park.
 166 Middleton or Verona Dog Parks or Indian Lake
 167 Walks, Verona dog park
 168 residential neighborhoods....or if we want to have real fun we go to Baer Park off the leash
 169 on the street
 170 Yard - street - private land
 171 Middleton
 172 state parks, walk the village streets (with dog poop bags in hand:)) and on Hickory Hill (also pick up poop at all times).
 173 On the street
 174 On the streets/walk
 175 Indian Lake or walking through town
 176 Around the block near Acker st. Iloop
 177 Zander Park, Ice Age Trails, Village Trails, Swamplovers
 178 Roads
 179 Conservancy
 180 We stay in town and walk
 181 Use to have a dog, just walked on street
 182 yard, middleton dog park, trails

- 183 street
- 184 We take neighbors dogs to walk in the neighborhoods and on the trails
- 185 On walks in the neighborhood
- 186 Walk in the neighborhood by St Francis and Raspberry Park
- 187 Around the bill for walks
- 188 walks around the neighborhoods, dog parks near by, friends houses
- 189 Middleton
- 190 Walk them around the neighborhood
- 191 NA
- 192 Around the neighborhood walking on the street
- 193 I run with them off our lot and we have an electric fence when on our lot (home). :)
- 194 by the Black Earth Creek
- 195 Street walk
- 196 Just walks around the village
- 197 Just walks through town. No parks
- 198 We walk on existing roadways. park trail systems and our yard
- 199 Ice Age Trail, Indian Lake
- 200 Neighborhood
- 201 Pheasant Branch or Devils Lake
- 202 Indian lake
- 203 around the neighborhood and village
- 204 back yard and along the busy street
- 205 On walks in the Laufenburg Blvd neighborhood
- 206 Area trails
- 207 Walk around town
- 208 Walks (leashed) and surrounding dog parks (unleashed) at Yahara and Indian Lake.
- 209 Community, waunakee dog park
- 210 ice age trail, zander park, streets
- 211 Middleton
- 212 Around town
- 213 town streets, other dog parks, backyard
- 214 Indian lake.
- 215 My yard or the horse farm where I have my horses
- 216 Verona or Middleton dog park
- 217 Dogtopia, walks around the block
- 218 Walk on the street or other dog parks in the area
- 219 Indian Lake
- 220 Airport Road dog park
- 221 our backyard, mostly (so question #4 not as relevant)
- 222 Around town, hiking trails, farmland
- 223 parks
- 224 Streets
- 225 Around the neighborhood on walks.
- 226 For walks to Zander park
- 227 Yard
- 228 DNR land, Blackhawk ski resort,

- 229 around the neighborhood
- 230 Just for a walk around the neighborhood
- 231 Yard
- 232 Bluffs, street walk, ice age trail, dog park in Middleton and/or Waunakee
- 233 NPS ice age trail on old Sauk road
- 234 We walk around the neighborhoods/town with our dog on a leash
- 235 Neighborhood walks, waunakee dog park
- 236 Walks around neighborhood.
- 237 Fenced Back Yard, Leash walk on street
- 238 Hickory Hill
- 239 N.A.
- 240 Zander Park
- 241 Neighborhood
- 242 Our backyard, our neighborhood
- 243 Around town
- 244 Middleton dog parks
- 245 The neighborhood.
- 246 In our neighborhood
- 247 Walks on Street
- 248 My back yard
- 249 Sidewalks
- 250 Along Black Earth Creek
- 251 Middleton
- 252 Zander Park, ICE Age trail
- 253 Farm field road
- 254 My apartment parking lot
- 255 daycare, walk/run
- 256 Through the neighborhood
- 257 Village sidewalks - for walks, socialize in the neighborhood with neighbor's dogs
- 258 Baer Park, Indian Lake
- 259 Waunakee
- 260 Streets near home
- 261 Village Streets, sometimes conservancy
- 262 Village streets
- 263 just walk on leash around town or to family farm to run free off leash
- 264 Through our neighborhood
- 265 neighborhood walks, dog parks
- 266 My yard
- 267 There are 3 dog parks w/in 15 minutes of CP, Indian Lake, Airport Rd in N CTH Q, in Middleton. In CP, we take our dog up in the bluffs on top of hill and it works great too. We don't usually leash her.
- 268 back yard, next door park

Question Number 10

Number	Response Text
1	no
2	I do not use a dog park.
3	Middleton's of Q. Favorite feature is that it's expansive and not near any homes.
4	Indian Lake
5	no
6	Indian lake, varied terrain and vegetation for my dog to explore. Only mowed area are trails.
7	n/a
8	Indian Lake
9	No
10	Not yet but know there is one in airport road
11	no
12	no
13	No
14	We've used many dog parks over 30 years, but none of them has ever been in a neighborhood or close to other houses. I would want it to be out away from everything, like the park on Q in Middleton.
15	No
16	Hiking trails, space to play catch
17	No
18	trails for walking is nice, I really like to visit the one in Verona
19	Middleton and Olin road. Like the fenced in area so he can run around
20	NA
21	No - Have used Middleton's in the past
22	no, too far away
23	No, we don't use one right now
24	Middleton airport. A dog park needs good drainage. No mud puddles that stay around.
25	Verona. Lots of trails
26	Waunakee open area, flat, good for playing catch
27	Reedsburg and Waunakee
28	n/a
29	Verona
30	Indian Lake. Big, nice trails
31	No
32	No
33	Waunakee Dog Park
34	Used to.
35	No
36	Sauk prairie
37	sauk city dog park. water area
38	I do not take my dog to dog parks.

- 39 No
- 40 Middleton highway Q
- 41 Indian Lake. Size, nice trails, water

- 42 After 5k of emergency vet bills from my dog being bitten by a dog at a dog park we have not been back.
- 43 restrooms, water fountain, park benches
- 44 No
- 45 Hwy Q Middleton
- 46 Middleton, large size.

- 47 Prairie Moraine County Park, Long, wooded paths I can hike along without my dog on a leash.
- 48 no
- 49 No
- 50 Fenced in
- 51 Yes. Middleton. Agility equipment.
- 52 NO
- 53 MRD Exercise Area, completely fenced
- 54 Indian Lake- walking path is nice
- 55 no

- 56 Walking Iron in Mazo which is not a dog park. I love it because I can get away with being off leash and there is NO ONE there.
- 57 See above
- 58 Airport Road
- 59 No
- 60 No
- 61 No
- 62 None
- 63 No
- 64 The one on the way to M.A.T.C
- 65 no
- 66 no
- 67 N/A
- 68 Hwy q in Middleton
- 69 Chairs for owners
- 70 Middleton
- 71 No
- 72 Airport road open space .
- 73 Indian lake
- 74 no
- 75 Indian Lake
- 76 N/A
- 77 Indian Lake--amount of dedicated land
- 78 Open field

- 79 Middleton (Airport Road), large area, no "obstacles" to run into, cleanliness, walking path (although could be paved or better maintained)
- 80 No

- 81 Middleton - I like the free dog bags and clear walking trails
- 82 Waunakee/Verona. Just being able to let the dog off leash in a safe area to run.
- 83 No
- 84 No
- 85 N/A
- 86 -
- 87 Waunakee & Middleton just being able to have my dog run free
- 88 Middleton dog park on airport road
- 89 No
- 90 Wauakee
- 91 Sometimes the Middleton one. Would enjoy obstacles do dogs to climb on and maneuver.
- 92 No
- 93 Waunakee
- 94 have used Indian lake and Sauk Prairie kennel area
- 95 Indian Lake, fenced in, not completely flat - has trees and benches in it
- 96 Sometimes we go to Waunakee. I love the double entrance gate for safety. I like the provide trash cans for poop bag disposal.
- 97 I use the dog park at Indian Lake because it's not very busy, there are good walking trails, and it's not fenced so it's mostly people who's dogs have training that use it.
- 98 No
- 99 the middleton dog park
- 100 we prefer smaller dog parks with walking path and fenced in.
- 101 Middleton by airport. It is long and is split by tall grass so dogs don't always see other dogs. Best parks have split between large and small dogs or shy versus social dogs.
- 102 No
- 103 Verona off PB and M. Love the mix of woods and fields. Also like dog parks with water access but not muddy access like Indian Lake.
- 104 Water fountains / benches / water disposables
- 105 We use HWY Q dog park because it has a nice obstacle course for dogs, available drinking water for dogs, port a potty for people and it's big with a big path to walk around
- 106 No
- 107 Verona, both parks rock
- 108 Don't use.
- 109 Prairie Moraine in Verona because it is very large and includes many trails through wooded areas. To be honest any dog park that is fenced in an has room to run is great.

- 110 Verona
111 I dont have a car so we dont get to go to one.
112 No
113 Verona
114 do not use
115 No
116 Indian Lake
117 No
118 Large open spaces with trails to walk while the dogs roam within the fenced area.
119 do not use
120 No
121 No, too far away would love a close option
122 Yes. Ripp in Waunakee, I like that it's fenced in
123 Don't use
124 no
125 Prairie Moraine Park (I think) - Off leash walking trail
126 no
127 Indian Lake. Water. Maintained pathways. Poop bags.
128 One off Airport Road
129 Water
130 We have occasionally gone gone to the one off of Airport Rd in Middleton but don't really like having to drive to go to the dog park.
131 Oregon has a large dog side and a small dog side separated
132 Indian Lake because it's beautiful and my dog can run freely (yet confine proximity)
133 Waunakee, enjoy that is small enough you don't have to chase the dog but big enough for them to run.
134 no
135 Verona off of pd - very open, trails, clean
136 Indian lake, off leash trail
137 Don't use one because I can't afford the fees
138 Verona, mowed lawn to prevent ticks
139 Don't use dog parks currently
140 Two areas. One for smaller dogs that has agility obstacles and one for bigger dogs.
141 Indian lake
142 Airport Road. It's about an acre or two with a small pond
143 no current dog park use
144 No
145 indian lake
146 No

- 147 Dog parks are not always a good thing. Our dog had been attacked 3 times by dogs with irresponsible owners. I also would have major concerns with one so close to a children's park. Could lead to some very dangerous scenarios.
- 148 None are very convenient
- 149 Verona- love the long trails to walk/run
- 150 Waunakee on highway 19
- 151 Yes, waunakee dog park. I like that it's just a big open area where I can see my dogs at all times. The dog park off of PB in Verona is beautiful but I don't like that my dogs can take off and I can't see them.
- 152 No.
- 153 no
- 154 Waunakee, wide open but fenced
- 155 No
- 156 The Middleton one off of Hwy Q
- 157 No
- 158 Indian Lake. Enjoy the hiking trails and legally being allowed to have dogs off-leash.
- 159 Middleton
- 160 Yahara, the water is nice
- 161 No
- 162 NA
- 163 Indian Lake, off leash and nice trails
- 164 I visit several-I like the one's best that don't get muddy
- 165 No
- 166 yes, indian lake, large space and lake access
- 167 Indian Lake, Airport Rd and CTH Q, both in Middleton
- 168 No

Question Number 13

Number	Response Text
1	The proposed location of Raspberry Park is a horrible place for a dog park. It should not be in a residential area.
2	I've seen a lot of voicing from residents of the Raspberry Park neighborhood against this park in their neighborhood and I think they make good points. If a dog park is to be added to the community it should be in a non-residential neighborhood. I've always seen them situated outside of neighborhoods when I've seen them in other communities.

- 3 We have been long-time dog owners until our elderly dog recently passed. A dog park is a great idea, but costs and location are my biggest issue. On the outskirts of town, away from neighborhoods is best, I'd say.
- 4 Dog parks do not belong in a residential area. It isn't a safe location for children or dogs. Dog parks should be big enough where large numbers of dogs aren't crowded together and have room to run. Small areas are conducive to dog fights.
- 5 Dog parks DO NOT belong in residential neighborhoods. Not at Raspberry park. Don't take away park space for a dog park. Make the park space nicer and use it! We value our quiet, safe neighborhood and the kids use these areas. Build where no one lives or in new development area where it exists before people move in!
- 6
- 7 Site needs adequate parking.
- 8 Significant concerns with the raspberry park option. The increase in traffic will create safety issues for kids in the neighborhood. It would also be disruptive to the residents around the park. There are resident on both sides of the proposed location. Kids also use this park for baseball and it would be disappointing for them to lose that.
- 9 Horrible idea. Why are you waisting time on this, move on and fix the roads. Nobody wants a dog park there.
- 10 I'm not sure where glacial valley is, but the park needs to be far from residential areas.
- 11 Let's invest in road construction and the major pot holes in the town of cross plains and not a dog park
- 12 I would like to see a dog park in a location that does not involve children's recreation.
- 13 I do not think any potential dog park should be located in an existing neighborhood.
- 14 Thank you for putting together this survey.
Thanks for including us in the process.

- 15 I live 2 houses down from the proposed park across from Raspberry park and my husband has attended the meetings along with neighbors. We are NOT for putting a dog park in middle of a neighborhood! It will decrease our home values and increase traffic which scares me because of all the children in the area and people already drive carelessly. You won't put an option for the dog park to be in new Veridian development because Veridian said no one would buy lots next to it... So why would you place it next to our houses???? Dog parks do NOT belong in residential areas. It will be noisy, traffic concerns and an eyesore. We just built our house 2 years ago and had we known that a dog park might be put in that close to us we would NOT have built on that lot. Do NOT put a dog park in a residential neighborhood. I work Monday's so I cannot attend the meetings but my husband will attend again. And what happened to the other options? Why isn't this email going to everyone in the neighborhoods that will be effected? Poor judgment and planning and I speak for many in the neighborhood by raspberry park that we are angry and not about to let this go.

16 I've shared my concerns in two committee meetings and in writing to Mike Axon with a document dated March 14, 2016 in which my wife and I have outlined several specific concerns with locating a dog park at Raspberry Park.

17 We do not currently have a dog, but have had one for many years and will be getting one soon. The above is a leading question as everyone would want a safe place for dogs to play. Also, I don't know why other locations discussed at Village Park and Rec meetings are not on this survey. I feel like this survey is leading people toward an end result. Also, please consider the devaluation in property values if this were to occur. At the Park & Rec meeting in April it was stated by a Park & Rec Committee member that a dog park could not be added to Buechner Farms Veridian neighborhood because Veridian may pull out as Veridian does not believe they would be able to sell lots then near the dog park. From that statement by a Committee member it is very clear that a dog park will lower the property value of surrounding homes. Please listen to your residents and do not place a dog park around any homes. It is completely unfair to property owners around the park as we would not have purchased the land and built our home there had we known a dog park was going to be created near it.

18 Would support location adjacent to Village waste water treatment plant or other out of town option. I would be against any of the proposed in town options.

19 I have had a dog in the past and will have one in the future. A dog park is a great addition to the community. I live in the St. Francis addition and think that area of Raspberry is perfect - bordered by the creek, ball field and farmland.

20 Only concern would be that people pick up after their dogs.

21 Good drainage. Place for proper waste disposal. Easy entry and exit.

22 I would be willing to help with this project.

23 Nothing to do with dog park, but I think the bike trail is an awful idea. Ron Knutowksi should not be rewarded a bike trail. He already rides the Ice Age trail and thinks it is funny. He has already made his own trails around the Capital Sand and Gravel Quarry area and other illegal trails in the cross plains area. I don't think his blatant disrespect to the area just for his own enjoyment should be rewarded with a bike trail.

24 You can build a dog park, but people will still use the streets in CP to walk their dogs. So why bother.

25 If there is a need for a dog park, I would prefer that the location be in a nonresidential area.

26 thanks

27 Spend the 30k you are planning on spending on fixing the roads and failing water mains!!!!

28 A dog park is a great idea! Would love to see a larger size one though.

29 I watched my daughters dogs on days she works a full day and had no problem until a couple years ago. I was out for our daily walk, my dogs on their leashes, when a loose dog came up and picked up one my dogs in it's mouth. when I walk them now, I purposely change my route to avoid all dogs. I've even changed the time of day I walk the dogs to avoid owners that were coming home around lunch time to walk their dogs. So I'm skeptical if I would even utilize a dog park.

30 Thanks for doing this, I am not a dog owner but feel that there needs to be a good/safe place for people to go so they stop using other privately owned spaces or parks where dogs are not allowed.

31 We feel if tax money is used, there are other places it could be used more wisely. Maybe raise the money for this project through donation or something.

32 An area that we had looked at previous was the area above the Hellenbrand development.

33 if I help maintain or keep up the park could I get a discount or free pass

34 If it was a nice, quiet park with lots of room and not TOO many dogs I would go there. But I am mostly fond of my own dogs and nature, and don't want to be part of a pack of dogs. I also honestly don't want it in my back yard.

35 The dog park will or will not be somehow in our taxes
36 is "glacial valley" same as the ice age trail?

37 Our dog does not socialize well with other dogs, so we avoid dog parks. If she did get along with others we would very likely use a dog park.

38 Many people with dogs already do not pick up their crap on others lawns during walks, Also, some owners don't care that their yippee, barking dogs are annoying. People will always go on the side of lazy and cheap when maintaining paying for a park. Should not be a burden for non-dog tax payers.

39 The village needs a dog park .

40 If the problem is dog waste, levy a stiff fine. Any other problems?

41 My children are both afraid of dogs. I am concerned that this would encourage people to be less stringent about using a leash, which I know sounds wrong, but I worry people will think if the dog gets along in the park, maybe they don't need to leash it.

42 Question #4 - no leash when in yard, always leash when walking on streets, sometimes leash when walking in zander park

43 I don't know where these parks are.

44 Even though I do not have a dog at this time, I am fond of dogs and a lot of my friends are owners. I believe a dedicated area for dogs would be an asset to the village.

45 A dog park would be nice, but maybe a park like Glacial Valley that would not have a leash requirement. Sometimes I'd like to just do some retrieves with my dog without having to worry about not being compliant. There are many responsible dog owners who pick up after their dogs and can control them off leash that don't really have any place to go. I have a bird dog that I would like to train in the off-season without the commotion that some dog parks can bring.

- 46 A dog park would be awesome! :)
- 47 none to much liability for the Village if a person or a dog is attacked.
- 48 I think a dog park would be a great addition to our village. It would be a great way to get more people out socializing, dogs properly socialized and our residents more active.

- 49 Dog parks should NOT ever be considered for existing developments. Residents bought their property knowing what was surrounding the area. More traffic will be brought into residential neighborhoods, noise from barking is not fair to property owners. Not all dog owners are considerate and pay attention to their animals, and I'm concerned that there will not be enough resources to patrol the area. Dog parks are wonderful and I'm not opposed to them, but they should be placed outside the city limits so they do not infringe on property owners. I hope that you will take into consideration property owners when making this decision. I'm sure this survey will be favorable for a dog park within the Village, but you also need to consider those that are tax paying residents and a right to their peace, privacy, and safety. I would like to be made aware of any public hearings on the dog park, especially if considering the Raspberry Park neighborhood.
- 50 Zander Community Nature Park is more central, has room, and is a place where dogs are walked regularly.
- 51 Thank you so much for putting in a dog park. It is very much appreciated.
I own Dogs and Families Training and I would be happy to give a free public talk on dog park manners.

To that point these are the reasons I don't use dog parks on a more regular basis:

- 52
- 1) Owners ignore their dogs
 - 2) Dogs are allowed to ignore their owners
 - 3) There is no way to enforce rules
 - 4) People don't understand the difference between appropriate interactions and inappropriate/unsafe actions.

If the park becomes busy and there is no way to enforce rules, then I will not take my dogs, nor my client dogs, there. I'm all for dogs getting exercise and being able to be dogs, but not at the cost of my dogs' safety.

- 53 Would love a local fenced in area, Raspberry park is often used as a dog park, might increase the safety of the kids using the park if there is a fence. I do not think it would increase traffic to the point that soccer games or baseball games can. I know a lot of neighbors are concerned and do not want it in their back yard, but that area of the park seems far enough off the beaten path that it would not affect the current use of the park or the neighbor's property values. Thanks so much for working to put in a dog park but for also listening to residents who are both for and against the dog park!
- 54 Some good parks have trees, grasses not just wide open grass. Fresh water station for owners and dogs--double water fountain, shelter and benches for owners, bags and good non smelling dumpster important. Gate should be double set so dogs don't run out when someone comes in or they forget to close securely on gate. All I've got for a wish list and of those good dog parks I see.
- 55 Thanks for your time. I simply don't want to see a dog park squeezed into a residential neighborhood.
- 56 I don't think it should be along the Black Earth stream park in the village, simply because it's a nice peaceful area to stroll and enjoy nature (although it was a LOT nicer before it was redone). I'd rather see the barking dogs added to a park that's already a little on the noisy side instead of losing a somewhat quiet space.
- 57 I have two children and would like to see existing playgrounds and sidewalks to them improved before focusing on a dog park. The sidewalk near Baer park on church street is terrible, and there aren't enough sidewalks in the village in general. I don't feel safe taking my kids for a walk here because of the busy roads and lack of sidewalks. It's a huge negative and doesn't make the village family friendly. When we lived in verona and middleton, it was wonderful to take daily walks to the neighborhood park, using the sidewalks. Please focus on this before a dog park.
- 58 Great idea!!! Would love to see this in our community.
- 59 This is long overdue. We are the only community in daner country without a park that dogs can run in. Our park laws our outdated and archaic
- 60 On the fees, Just increase the current dog license fee, so part of those funds can go towards dog park maintenance. Not sure where Glacier Valley conservancy is. Would go for Zander Park.
- 61 This is a fabulous idea!! My dog is active and loves to run off the leash, but she rarely gets to. She is so happy when she is able to, and we would appreciate CP even more than we already do.
- 62 Baseball side of Raspberry park is perfect
- 63 I do not see this as a priority. Also, putting a dog park in the midst of a residential area is likely not a good idea. dog parks like the one in Waunakee, intersection of M and Hwy. 113 by the marina, etc. are examples of parks outside residential areas that can facilitate parking, be large enough to be worth the effort, etc.
- 64 I like Indian Lake on the weekends but a park in town for during the week would be great. Having water available at the site for the dogs to drink would be nice too.

65 I am not necessarily opposed to a dog park, but I also do not believe that this is a need for the community. We have many local resources where you can exercise your animals.

66 Will it be fenced in?

67 Maybe something tied to dog licenses?

68 I would LOVE to see a fenced in dog park in the village.

69 The park by skipper buds that we went to with our other dog gave the option of annual which we did or daily fee. Our new dog hates the car so she gets walked on leash on the road and we do let her off leash in wide open spaces.

70 The reason I would not use the dog park is that my dogs are very small and would have a concern about their safety with large dogs being free.

I chose Raspberry Park for the possibility of some river access. While animal vaccinations are important, I think the biggest concern is safety. While visiting a dog park, I've seen young children (1 to 3 years old) with parents, but unsupervised, pull a dog's tail and get bitten. I've also seen another child get trampled by dogs playing (neither instances involved my dogs because I tend to watch them better than some parents watch their children). I think it's important that everyone entering the area understand that it is a dog area and not a fenced in area for containing small children. :)

71 What excites me the most would be some kind of educational signage about the habits and socialization of dogs and interacting with them. For example, one of my dogs is just under 90 pounds and a big lover, but mouthy. Whenever anyone comes over, I explain to them before they meet her that dogs don't have hands. When dogs want to touch or feel something, they have to use their mouth. So if you touch her to pet her, sometimes she will want to touch and pet you back and she does this with her mouth.

My biggest fear with any animal/human interaction is a misunderstanding that may result in having to put the animal down. But after explaining it, people are more comfortable around the dogs which makes the dogs more comfortable around people. I think this would be one of the biggest benefits of having a dog park.

Finally, the reason I suggested the donation, a daily and annual usage fee would have to be policed and would cost even more money.

Overall, I think it would be a great place to meet other people in the community.

72 There also needs to be more visible signs at the parks where dogs are not allowed such as the legion

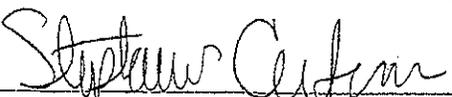
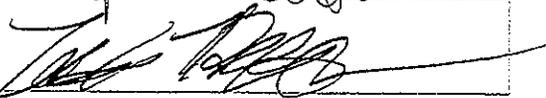
73 I believe as a dog owner it is not the responsibility of taxpayer to fund this sort of opportunity.

- 74 One of the reasons I don't go to dog parks is because there are the select few people who ruin it by not picking up their dog's poop. I would probably confront someone who didn't pick it up and that is awkward. So there would definitely need to be a good system with bags and somewhere to throw it out to discourage those who feel they don't have to pick it up. I am not sure I would use a dog park unless I was going with friends and it was a slow time of day like morning or mid morning during the week.
- 75 Parking will be an issue.
- 76 My dog passed away recently but answered the questions as though she was still around. My only concern about creating a dog park that's close to shared rec space (Raspberry) is that dog owners will allow their pets to roam outside of the defined dog park. That could be a problem for non dog owners.
- 77 I did not comment on the location because I don't know where Raspberry Park or the conservancy mentioned are located. In general, a more central location would be preferable so that there doesn't need to be a large parking area for cars.
- 78 I would like to make sure that dogs that are allowed to enter are current on their vaccinations. I would also like to see some sort of statement that if a dog is naughty in any way shape or form that they can be asked to not be allowed back in the facility, without a refund. Dog poo removal.
- 79 There prob. Should be some sort of fee or registration. This could be when they show whatever vaccines will be required.
- 80 I would also like to point out that if it were to be located at Raspberry Park there is a new family building on the connecting lot with 5 children. As a parent I would be very upset to move into a new house with a major safety hazard and nuisance. I also would live very close and the parking situation alone would make getting in and out of our driveway impossible (already awful when soccer or tball is in session). Not to mention the concern for my children with the already abundant dogs that are walked off leash, adding a nearby dog park would only exacerbate the problem.
- 81 An area with shade would be ideal for the dogs.
- 82 I think an area on the outskirts of town would be best-neighborhoods don't want increased traffic
- 83 PLease enclose 2 areas. One area would be for dogs that aren't good around other dogs but still need to run off leash. The other area would be for dogs that are good with other dogs

- 84 I am very concerned about a proposed dog park close to residential areas. I am concerned about Raspberry Park with waste runoff into the watershed area and Creek. I am concerned about noise (almost all residents who view Raspberry Park have dogs, which bark EVERY time a dog is back there, and it is noisy). I am concerned about safety with so many small children living in the Raspberry Park neighborhood. I don't know why the dog park was EVER contemplated for existing residential areas, I am concerned about property values and inverse condemnation actions by those affected residents. I am surprised that the Village would consider allocating substantial funds (I believe I read around \$45-50,000) when there appear to be many other areas the money could be wisely spent.
- 85 I think dog parks are an accident waiting to happen. There are many liability issues which could open the villag to lawsuits.
- 86 I think putting It in town is a bad idea outside of town would be fine! Know one wants to live next to that it would kill resale of your home .
- 87 I think this would be a great addition to Cross Plains but the location needs to be beneficial for everyone. Adjacent to a busy park or area with lots of kids is not ideal.
- 88 Make it happen!
- 89 I'd rather see a splash park for kids.
- 90 I do not know where Raspberry Park or Glacial Valley Conservancy are located.
- 91 registration or usage should be included in the dane county parks permit. would like to see a very large space for dogs to run, comparable to indian lake dog area
- 92 We don't need a dog park in the Village. Please don't try and fit a dog park into and existing neighborhood. All dog parks are out in the middle of open spaces w/little to know houses around.

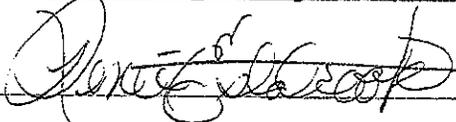
We oppose a dog park in Raspberry Park, Cross Plains

We, the undersigned, call on you to take Raspberry Park off the list as a potential dog park site in the Village of Cross Plains, and stand with concerned neighbors and taxpayers in opposition to a dog park being built in this location.

Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Stephanie Gutzmer	403 Saint Francis Ct. Cross Plains, WI 53528	608-558-6009	sgutzmer@yahoo.com	
Lucas Roberson	405 St. Francis Ct. Cross Plains, WI 53528	608-712-6905	lfroberson@gmail.com	
Kim Roberson	405 St. Francis Ct Cross Plains, 53528	608-798-0888	robersonsk@yahoo.com	
Chris Roelke	3031 Allies Lane Cross plains, WI	608-798-3750	chrisroelke@gmail.com	
Paulina Luskeus	3028 Allies Lane Cross Plains WI	608-798-3522	paub_koca@hotmail.com	
Jeff Willink	7014 Lawfenberg Blvd CP	608-798-2203	jwillink@ycma.com	
Sean Prust	4013 St Francis St Cross Plains, WI	608-438-4122	prusts@gmail.com	

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
JOE ZEIMENTZ	4010 ST FRANCIS ST. CROSS PLAINS	303-909-4107	jzeimentz@gmail.com	
Joe Sommers	4012 St. Francis St. Cross Plains	608 413 0020	sommej2@yahoo.com	
XXXXXXXX Stacey Sanders	7002 Laufenberg Blvd, Cross Plains	608 798 2254	bluesteme@mailbag.com	Stacy L. Sanders
XXXXXXXX Trent Estabrook	7027 Laufenberg Cross Plains	(608) 798-0793	trent.estabrook@gmail.com	
XXXXXXXX Carolin Estabrook	7027 Laufenberg Blvd Cross Plains	(608) 798-0793	estabrook.c@gmail.com	Carolin Estabrook
XXXXXXXX Renee Estabrook	7004 Laufenberg Blvd Cross Plains, WI	608-413-0064	renee-719@hotmail.com	
XXXXXXXX Paul W. Pritchard	7008 Laufenberg Blvd C.P. WI 53528	413-0791	paul@raterlaw.com	Paul W. Pritchard

We oppose a dog park in Raspberry Park, Cross Plains

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Amber Zimmerman	4014 St. Francis St.	608-413-0006	amberzimmerman@gmail.com	Amber Zimmerman
Chris Flad	402 St. Francis Ct.	608-798-5053	CS Flad @ phoster .net	CS Flad
Becky Flad	402 St. Francis Ct.	608-798-5053	CS Flad @ phoster .net	Becky Flad
GARRICK VEIDEL	484 ST FRANCIS CT	608 798-0173	G.VEIDEL@TDS.NET	G. Veidel
Marcia Yochum	406 St Francis Ct	608 798-4602		Marcia E. Yochum
EDDIE ROBERSON	405 ST FRANCIS CT	608-798-0288		Eddie Roberson
JUSTIN GUTMER	403 ST FRANCIS CT	608-558-6009		Justin Gutmer

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Lynn Ward	7006 Laufenberg Blvd	212-8225		Lynn M Ward
Joe Ackes	3004 Allies Ln	220-744		Joe Ackes
Kati Neuser	3006 Allies Lane	234-7110		Kati Neuser
Adeline Haller	3008 Allies Ln	413-0075		Adeline Haller
Tim Van Pelt	3016 Allies Ln	577-9877		Tim Van Pelt
* Ron H. [unclear]	3016 Allies Ln	798-1326		Ron H. [unclear]
Carrie Roeser	3018 ALLIES Ln	798-1402		Carrie Roeser

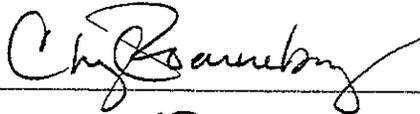
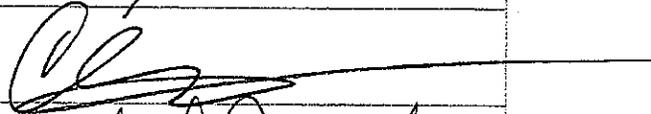
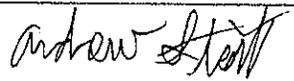
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Brian Badges	5000 Laufenberg	798-3012		Brian Badges
Margaret Mott	7010 Laufenberg	798-1871		Margaret Mott
Gary Mott	7010 Laufenberg	798-1871		Gary Mott
Angela Woz	7014 Laufenberg Blvd	798-2203	angawink@crossplains.org	Angela Woz
Greg Valaskey	7016 Laufenberg Blvd	798-3413		Greg Valaskey
Renee Valaskey	7016 Laufenberg Blvd	712-9636		Renee Valaskey
Tamara Sutor	7020 Laufenberg Blvd.	798-0931		Tamara Sutor

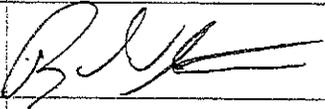
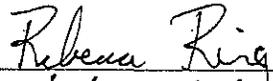
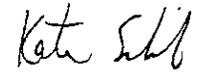
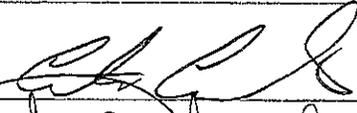
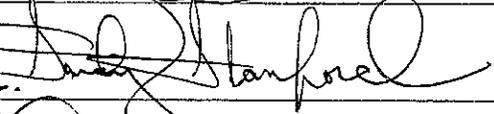
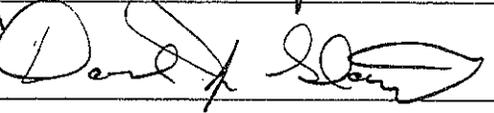
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Cheryl Poennichburg	600 Dale Ct.	608-886-2654	catroenne@TDS.net	
Emily Smith	601 Dale Ct	608-206-1594	shmemmie@yahoo.com	
Andy Smith	601 Dale Ct	605-212-0959	smiths@clara.us	
CHRIS ZIMMERMAN	4014 SAINT FRANCIS ST	515-710-6844	chriszim10@gmail.com	
Mike Padgett	4004 Saint Francis	608-798-4252		
Joann Slaby	3080 St Francis	608-798-1982	dan.klaby@tds.net	
Andrew Stott	3080 St. Francis	608-798-1982		

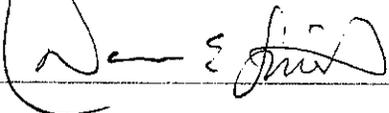
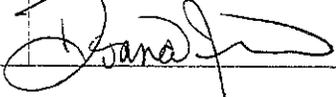
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Brian White	3092 St. Francis St	(608) - 692 - 8889	polaris 876 @gmail.com	
Rebecca Ring	3070 St Francis St	608-798-1011		
Kyle Schicker	3075 St. Francis St.	920-220-1149		
Katie Schicker	3075 St. Francis St.	608-220-3915		
Curtis Edwards	3051 St. Francis St.	608-220-4392		
SANDY STANFORD	4003 ST FRANCIS ST CROSS PLAINS	608-219-0071	STANFORDS 2011 @GMAIL. com	
DAW STANFORD	4003 ST FRANCIS CROSS PLAINS	608-279-5126		

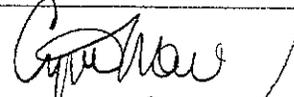
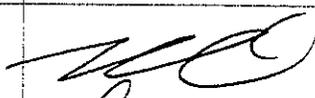
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Cally Dwyer	3094 Saint Francis St Cross Plains, WI 53528	262-623-0193		
Joe Dwyer	" "	608-216-6805		
Tyson Blumie	6002 Lautenberg Blvd Cross Plains WI 53528	(608) 954-2000		
Colin Otker	6000 Lautenberg Blvd Cross Plains WI 53528	(608) 807-7713		
Donna Smith	5014 Lautenberg Blvd Cross Plains WI 53528	608 843-8646		
Cynthia Koerber	5010 Laufenberg Blvd Cross Plains, WI	608-798-5038		
Donna Juno	5008 Lautenberg Blvd Cross Plains, WI 53528	608-798-1377		

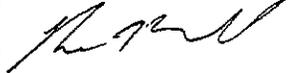
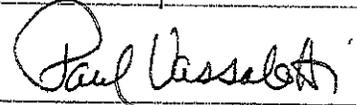
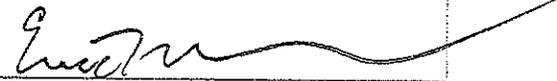
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Cyndi Mair	7031 Lawfonkers Blvd	608-413-0000	Malise charter.net	
Jim Mair	7031 Lawfonkers Blvd	608-413-0000		
Jeff Grim	602 Dale Ct	608-413-0200		
Ansil Grim	602 Dale Ct	608-413-0200		
Timon Zander	7013 Landenberg	608-798-2280	Timon.Zander @dds.NET	
Jerome Tischer	501 Donovan Ct	(608)695-6188		
Jennifer Dederig	4005 Creekside Way	262-391-1448		

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
NOB WARD	7006 LAWRENCE BLVD	608 212-8225	ISWARD@ RLW-WORKS.	
JOSH BARTLETT	3022 ALLIES LN	608-798-2482	jgmsbartlett@ gmail.com	
Rachel Peters	3024 Allies Ln.	608-438-2629	Rachel.Peters@ yahoo.com	
Tara Sommers	4012 Saint Francis St	608-413-0020	tarasommers @hotmail.com	
Mary Vassalotti	4002 Saint Francis	608 299-0703	mvass@ charter.net	
Paul Vassalotti	4002 Saint Francis	608 370-9946	pvass@ charter.net	
ERIC THOMPSON	4100 SAINT FRANCIS	608-628-1918	elt123@ CHARTER-NET	

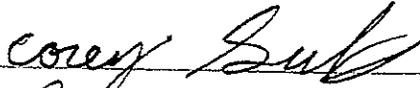
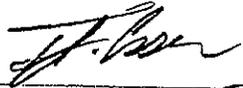
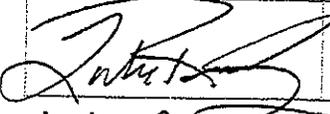
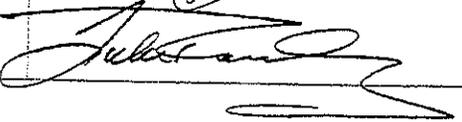
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Ron Kurth	603 Dale Ct. 7018	798 1168 608-	theKurthfam@gmail.com	Ronald J Kurth
Deborah Miller	7018 Laufenberg Blvd	633-6757 608-	jwdmiller@outlook.com	Deborah Miller
Jeffrey Miller	7018 Laufenberg Blvd	370-9155 608-	jwdmiller@outlook.com	Jeffrey Miller
Michelle Mueller	7023 Laufenberg Blvd	314 706-0542 608-852-0857	muelmmmk4@aol.com	Michelle Mueller
Kimberly Mueller	7023 Laufenberg Blvd	608-852-0857	kmuller_14@hotmail.com	Kimberly Mueller
Nick Chacos	7023 LAUFENBERG BLVD	603-521-4916	NCHACOS@GMAIL.COM	Nick Chacos
William Nahabedian	7025 Laufenberg Blvd	608-334 1315	bnaha@yahoo.com	William Nahabedian

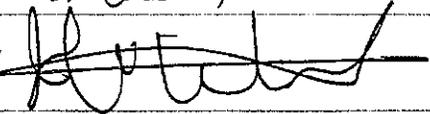
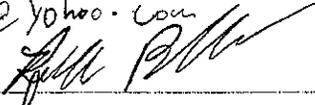
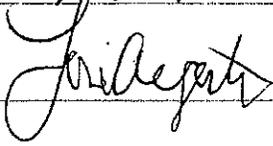
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
COREY SUTOR	7020 Lawfenberg Blvd			
JENNIFER DUNN	7022 LAWFENBERG BLVD	608- 798-1136		
MAUREEN DUNN	7022 LAWFENBERG BLVD	608- 798-1136		
T.J. Esser	2021 Lawfenberg Blvd	608- 798-3643		
Michele Esser	7021 Lawfenberg BLVD	608- 798-3043		
 LUKE ROENBERG	600 DALE CT.	608-798-1463		

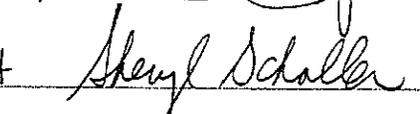
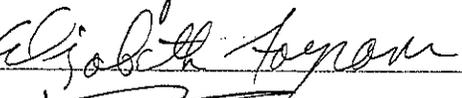
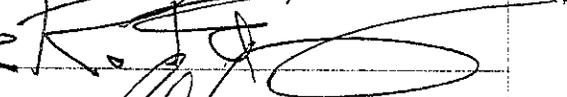
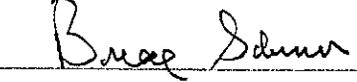
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Anton Tchikida	3000 Allies Ln Cross Plains, WI 53528	608 215 7049	2157049@ gmail.com	
Jost Whitford	3002 Allies Ln Cross Plains, WI 53528	608 798 0398	jjwhitford@ tds.net	
Ying GAO	3003 Allies Lane Cross plains WI	608-798-0259	Enhaixie @gmail.com	
Chris Kurtz	3005 Allies Ln	608-575- 9247		
	3007 Allies Ln	608 413 0161	frader randy67@yaho.com	
Lori Aegerter	3009 Allies Ln	608-577- 6343	loriaegerter @hotmail.com	

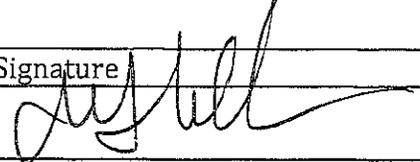
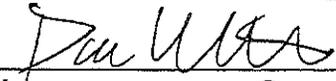
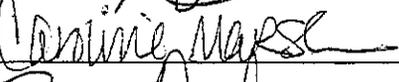
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Patrick Duzan	4001 Creekside way	413-0137	Pbduzan@charter.net	
Sheryl Schaller	3097 Creekside	206-3522	Sheryl5@charter.net	
Elizabeth Fayram	3095 CREEKSIDE WAY	413-0081	efayram@charter.net	
Elizabeth Fayram			efayram@charter.net	
Bob Green	3094 Creekside	798-4351		
Bruce Schum	4003 Creekside way	798-4664		

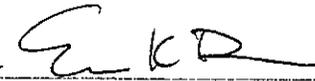
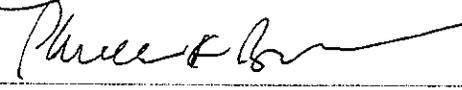
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Mike Wollmer	7029 Laufenberg	212-5465	mgwdafarm@yahoo.com	
David Wirth	7072 Laufenberg	217-5999	dawirth@grain.com	
Mary Roessler	503 Donovan Ct	209-7009	mroessler@charter.net	
Greg Dorn	5005 Laufenberg Blvd	798-0709	gdorn1@yahoo.com	
Caroline Marsh	4006 St. Francis St	212-6865	cmrmarsh@gmail.com	
Brett Marsh	4006 St. Francis St.	212-5453	11	

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Erin Dom	5005 Laufenberg Blvd	798-0709	edorn143@ yahoo.com	
Tim Ksil	5007 Laufenberg Blvd	798-1548	mzemo1420@ gmail.com	
Michael Brunner	5013 LAUFENBERG	798-0155	brunner29 @hotmail.com	
Paula Brunner	6004 Laufenberg	798 0577	pkbrunne TDS.net	

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Janeen Reeson	3629 Allies lane cross plains	608-413-0071	jmreeson@gmail.com	Janeen Reeson
Dustin Reeson	3029 Allies lane cross plains	608-413-0071	dustreeson@hotmail.com	Dustin Reeson
Mary Jane Topper	6006 Laufenberg Blvd. Cross Plains	608-998-3060		Mary Jane Topper
Ellen Zidettler	6006 Laufenberg Blvd.	798-3060		Ellen Zidettler

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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
Cari Anderson	3017 Allies Ln CP			
Glen Spaeth	3015 Allies Ln CP		GJS1275@gmail.com	

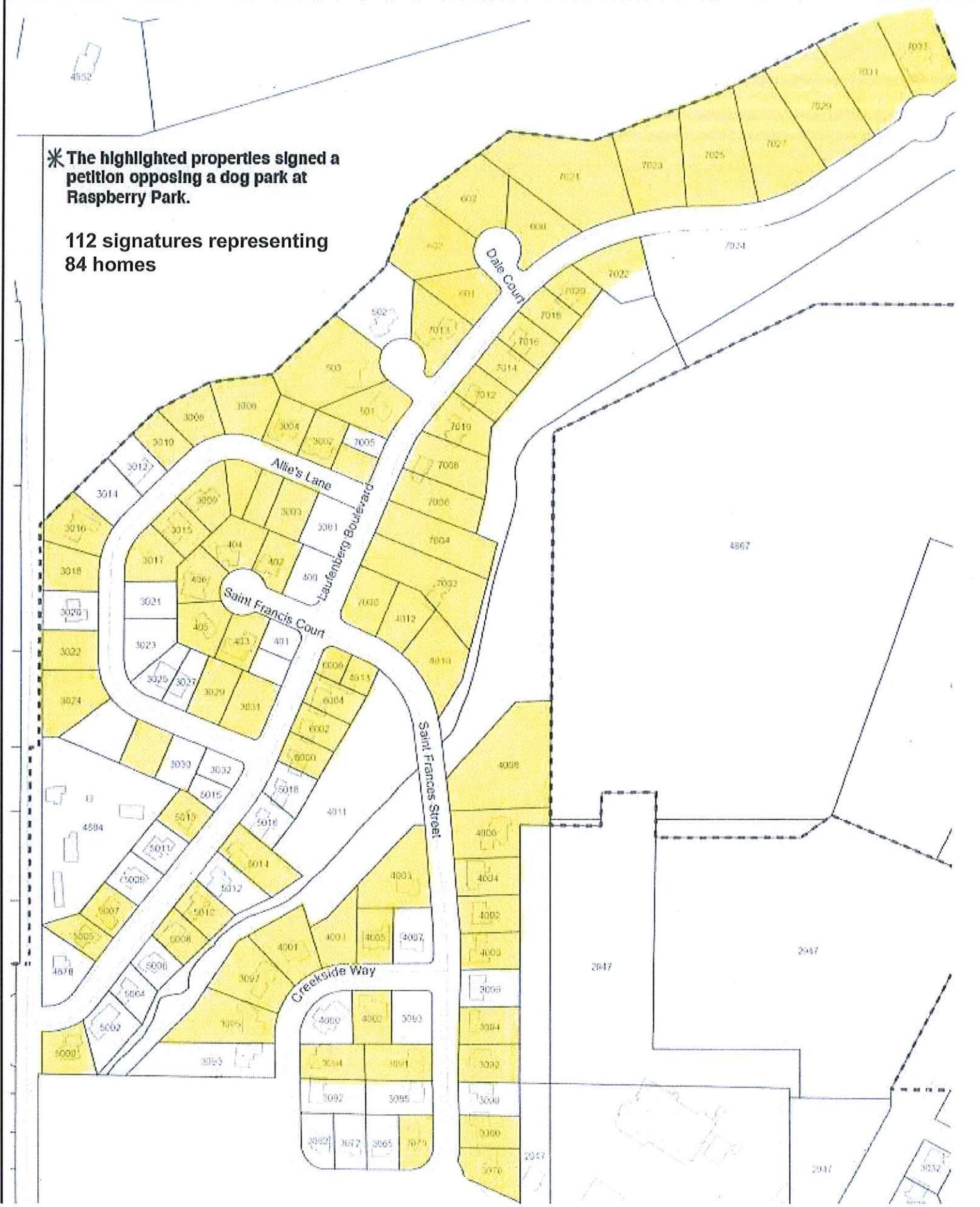
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Name	Address	Phone	Email	Signature
LARRY OLSON	2703 WESTVIEW CT.		MHOREY19@GMAIL	

* The highlighted properties signed a petition opposing a dog park at Raspberry Park.

112 signatures representing 84 homes



To: Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Committee

From: Joe and Heidi Zeimentz, 4010 Saint Francis Street

March 14, 2016 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share our thoughts and concerns with you tonight.

I'm Joe Zeimentz, and I own 4010 Saint Francis St., the yellow house next to the creek and the proposed dog park site. My wife, Heidi is here as well, and we have three children and a golden retriever. We had two goldens, and just recently lost our Bodi. We are long time dog lovers and have been to many dog parks over the years, including those off Airport Road and Hwy Q in Middleton, the one in Verona and many others in Wisconsin and different states. We're not opposed to dog parks, although they aren't our preferred place to go based on what we've seen happen over the years, but we are strongly opposed to a dog park in this location and any location that would be in the heart of a neighborhood like this. In all the dog parks we've been to over the last 25 years, we've never seen one in a neighborhood, so close to homes, playgrounds and ball fields.

I have several concerns I'd like to share -

1) **Process -**

- I just learned about the proposed site on Thursday 3/10 when I called the Village office and talked to Matt.
- I had seen something briefly mentioned in the Village newsletter a few weeks ago about two proposed housing developments and a dog park, and my reaction was, "I'm sure I'll get a notice from the Village to attend something if there is anything proposed that is in our neighborhood close to us." We did not receive a notice.
- The newsletter also said I could get details on the website, but when I went to the site, I couldn't find any details on any of these things. So I finally called the office Thursday and learned for the first time exactly where the proposed dog park would go.
- As residents, neighbors and tax payers, I would expect that we'd get adequate and specific notice to come to meetings where this is being discussed and to have the opportunity to voice our thoughts and concerns. I was shocked to learn what was being planned and that you were at a point of looking at fencing options. When I walked around talking to my neighbors, only a couple even knew anything about a dog park, which they had also learned through The Village News, and not one knew exactly where you were proposing to locate it.
- This is news to those it impacts the most, and we have not, until tonight, had the opportunity to have our voice be heard.

2) Traffic –

- I'd like the Village to address what is already an overcrowding situation (significant spike in traffic and parking) whenever there are games at the park, before there is any consideration for adding something as significant as a dog park. The traffic on Saint Francis St. and Laufenberg is significant before, during and after these events, which makes it feel like a major thoroughfare and a safety hazard.
- There isn't enough parking in the existing lot and people end up parking along Saint Francis St. and completely filling the street, including where our driveways are, making it nearly impossible for us to get out (with the median creating narrow roadways). Building yet another parking lot, if even feasible, would only add to the issue, as parking lots are an additional eyesore that adversely impacts property values of the surrounding homes.
- A dog park will make the traffic problem even worse and more frequent, as people will come from all over Cross Plains at all times and every day of the week (not just during the few hours per week where there is a game). Our neighborhood isn't positioned to handle a significant increase in both traffic on our streets and the parking that will go with it, and it will change the dynamic of having our children use our streets to get to and from the park.

3) Safety –

- The traffic issue creates a safety issue, as does having people bringing their dogs (not all well-trained or kid-friendly) to the park right where everyone brings their young children to play.
- Our neighborhood is filled with young children who enjoy the park (both sides), as well as riding and walking in our streets to and from the park, school, etc. We also know that not all dogs get along and there are fights that break out when dogs are off-leash and beyond the control of their owners. Do we want that happening right where our kids are playing?
- The majority of the time when I've gone to a dog park, I have seen a dog off leash somewhere outside the fence. They jump out of cars when people open the hatch, or they sneak out when someone opens the gate to the park. It's one thing when this happens out away from everything. It's quite another when it happens right next to a playground and homes with small children.
- Many times, we have also witnessed dogs being aggressive with each other when we've gone to other dog parks.
- We also know that most kids are drawn to dogs, so they will want to go to them, and since not all dogs are kid-friendly, there will be problems.
- We're asking for trouble if we locate a dog park here, and I have to think there will be significant legal exposure. Dog parks and small children don't mix.

- 4) **Replacing a multi-use space** (ball field, place to walk, picnic, throw a Frisbee, etc.) **with a single-use space** (dog park) –
- As the weather gets nicer, we see kids in that part of the park throwing the ball around or playing a pickup game of baseball.
 - Over the last few days, since learning about this proposed site, I saw a bunch of kids start up a baseball game, I saw a dad and his son playing catch, I saw four girls running up and down the field working out, and I saw several people and groups walking up and down the trail.
 - It's a nice place for a variety of uses, and a dog park takes that flexibility away.
- 5) **Property values** –
- A dog park is an eyesore. A chain link or other fence around that beautiful piece of land next to and behind our homes will negatively impact the aesthetic. It's a treat to walk around that land, which I'm guessing is why the Village uses a photo of that land on the back cover of its Welcome Packet folder.
 - It will be loud, as dogs don't always play nice and our dogs in our yards will bark at what they see across the creek...and most of us along that creek have dogs. The barking noise in our neighborhood will go up exponentially.
 - Dog parks are dirty. The grass will get worn away over time, leaving dirt and dust, and because people don't pick up after their dogs in dog parks, there will be dog waste everywhere. The smell from this, and the trash cans in/near the park, where people who do clean up after their dogs will throw the dog waste, will also be a problem.
 - At this specific site, with it being such a small piece of land and so close to everything in our neighborhood, the problem will be even worse. This will adversely impact property values for all of our homes in the immediate area in a significant way.

The proposed location for the dog park is not reasonable or acceptable for the reasons listed above, and I urge you to reconsider so we can work together to find a more suitable location if the Village feels a dog park is even appropriate. I'm not just here to share my concerns. I'm also here to offer my services to help in any way I can, including helping to find a better location that wouldn't create the traffic, safety and property value problems that this location will create for many residents in our neighborhood.

Thank you.

Joe Zeimentz
jzeimentz@gmail.com
303.909.4107 c

Matt Schuenke

From: Greg Valaskey <gvalaskey@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 7:58 PM
To: Matt Schuenke
Subject: Dog park

Hello,
I am writing with concern regarding the proposed dog park at Rasberry park. I am a dog lover and a dog park proponent but I am in opposition to a dog park in a residential area. My family goes to the play area at Rasberry park at least a couple times a week. There are no sidewalks so the street is the path we take either by foot, stroller, bike etc? When residents park on the street it creates blind spots? I can only imagine how many more blind spots will be created with a dog park across the street that does not provide a safe parking area. The neighborhood is full of families with young children who use the park like my child does. It is one of the things that makes the neighborhood great. For this reason I ask that you please refrain from using Rasberry park for a dog park. I enjoy walking my dog in the neighborhood and I know she loves it to. We do not need another dog park when we can continue to use the beautiful ones close by.

Sincerely,

Greg Valaskey
7016 Laufenberg Blvd

Matt Schuenke

From: Martha Brunner <brunnermartha@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Matt Schuenke
Subject: Proposed dog park

I live on Laufenberg Blvd and am not opposed to the proposed dog park at what is know as Raspberry Park. When one of my neighbors asked me to sign a petition against the park I did not sign the petition.

Neighbors have told me the following objections:

TRAFFIC FLOW/CONGESTION

I feel a dog park would have a small number of dogs that at the same time.

NOISE

1. One neighbor said when there is movement in the park his neighbors two German Shepherds bark for up to 15 minutes. I walked in the park for about 5 minutes earlier today. I heard dogs barking in two houses and they barked for less than 10 seconds. I told one of my neighbors when you daughter's Cocker Spaniel stays with me she use to bark at the neighbors dogs. I worked with her dog. She no longer barks at these dog and if she does start barking she stops when I tell her to. When I am not home I close my blinds and windows so she will not see them when I am not at home. If she does bark by having the windows closed she should be a limited nuisance to my neighbors.

2. I do not feel their would be very limited noise from the people and the dogs that use the park. The person I talked to did not mention dogs walking on the street are a problem.

ACTIVIES NO LONGER AVAILABLE

The person who had the petition and one other neighbor mentioned the following would no longer be available

1. flying kites can be done by the soccer field that is across the street

2, walking is available on the streets and in the soccer field,

3. II have seen tracks but have never seen any cross county skiing there.

4. The one activity I feel is valid is the loss of the softball field. When there are games is the only time there is an issue with traffic flow/congestion. During the games I have to drive extremely slowly due to little kids running out between cars. Will other parks in the village be able to have time in their schedules for the teams that use the field? I wonder what the person whose dogs bark when there is activity in the park reaction during these games.

NEW HOUSE

I am sure the buyers of the property next to Raspberry Park are very upset.

I think this lot is the only one that will be significantly impacted by a dog park.

One of my neighbors mentioned the buyers have small children. When I look at the property I feel a bigger safety issue for small children would be the location next to the creek.

It would be wonderful if another area would be available. I am sure most people in the Village are against a dog park in part of Zander Park. The only other option I see is to have the Village buy land for a park. I am sure a lot of people would be against the expense for the Village to purchase this land. Would it be feasible, if Veridion develpes the area by the middle school to have them include a dog park on that property? The biggest issue I would foresee for that option is how long it will be until the land is developed and a dog park added.

Thank you for your time in viewing my thoughts.

Martha Brunner
7005 Laufenberg Blvd.

June 2, 2016

To Village Board Members & Parks Committee,

I have been a resident & taxpayer in the Village of Cross Plains for close to 34 years. I've raised my sons and now have grandsons growing up in the Village. I served on the Parks committee and was recreational director in the village 20+ years ago. We are fortunate to have beautiful parks and green space that are used for many purposes. But there are 3 issues that I would like to address in my opposition to Raspberry Park as a potential location.

Repurposing an existing park into a dog park-

When I built my house there was an existing park in the neighborhood that is utilized by people of all ages for recreational purposes. Those include children's t-ball and soccer games. I've also seen people walking dogs, playing frisbee, kite flying, children learning to ride bikes, and just enjoying this beautiful outdoor space. Park space in our village is at a premium for organized activities for our youth and always has been. Over 20 years ago our parks and schools were filled to capacity with youth programs. Fast forward to present day with increased population & new neighborhoods popping up, I can't imagine that the need for park space has decreased for our children. By repurposing this space to a dog park, you will be limiting its use to one thing. Has thought and consideration been given to where you will move soccer and t-ball games for our youngest residents? If the Parks committee still insists on placing a dog park in a residential area, it has a unique opportunity with the new sub divisions now being planned. This committee has time to plan properly and address the issues for ample space, design, noise control, upkeep, enforcement, and maintenance for a dog park within village limits.

Safety-

My husband and I purposely moved to Cross Plains because it was a small rural town. Lot sizes are larger and houses are not built close together. We've owned 2 large breed dogs and were able to exercise them adequately in our yard because of lot size. We also exercised them with walks and occasionally took them to dog parks located outside of the village. There are several dog parks within minutes of Cross Plains for more intense exercise. Not once in all the years that I have lived here, or when I was parks director, did I hear anyone talk about the need for a dog park.

I use Raspberry Park with my grandchildren and am concerned about the safety of small children if dogs are off leash. I've used dog parks and have watched owners exit vehicles with their dogs off leash and let them run to the fenced in area. I've also witnessed several dog fights at parks. Several questions need to be addressed before a

dog park is considered. How are we going to make sure vaccinations are up to date? How are you going to make sure dogs are licensed? What happens if a fight breaks out among the dogs when exiting cars and small children are in the park, residents walking, or homeowners are in their yards? What happens if kids are playing ball or frisbee and a dog breaks free to try and grab it? There are other scenarios that come to mind not to mention liability issues. Who will enforce park policies? These concerns have not been addressed to my satisfaction. I feel this dog park is being fast tracked without consideration to the above issues and insuring the safety of residents & park patrons.

Lastly, I would like to address public input. We have gone out and collected references, data, and signatures to support our opposition. To all committee members I ask that you listen with an open mind. Our neighborhood has spoken by representation at parks meetings and signatures on petitions. Members of the community that are in favor of the dog park have had the same opportunities to be heard. A dog park should not be placed in a residential area. As members representing the community it is your duty to listen to public input and vote accordingly. Our neighborhood is speaking...we are opposed to a dog park in our residential neighborhood or **ANY** residential neighborhood.

Dana Fuhrman
Laufenberg Blvd
Cross Plains

PAUL W. PRITCHARD
7008 Laufenberg Blvd
Cross Plains, WI 53528
ppritchard@nationlaw.com
608-413-0197

June 5, 2016

To: Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation Committee

I am a 3-year resident of the Village. My family and I moved directly here from Florida. My family and I *love* the Village of Cross Plains. My wife and I believe it is the ideal place for raising our children. We consciously chose Cross Plains over Middleton and other nearby areas for one simple reason: the St. Francis subdivision. I am writing to you regarding the proposed “dog park” at the northeast section of Raspberry Park. I will be working in Florida during most of June, 2016, and will be out-of-state during the Park and Recreation Committee Meeting where I would be allowed to speak. But I would like to be heard.

It makes no sense converting an existing, useful, active space in the heart of a residential neighborhood into a dog park. I am not only opposed to converting Raspberry Park into a dog park, I would be opposed to a dog park in *any* residential neighborhood. My specific concerns as a taxpayer and resident of the Village and St. Francis subdivision include:

- **Traffic and Parking.** - I believe that a “dog park” in *any* residential area is a bad idea. I think that a dog park in a neighborhood filled with infants, toddlers, and children is a *horrible* idea. I think that a dog park situated across the street from another park specifically designed to attract small children—as the southwest side of Raspberry Park is, with its playground equipment—is unthinkable. Many houses in the area surrounding Raspberry Park have infants and small children. Raspberry Park caters to children, with soccer goals, baseball diamond, swings, basketball courts, etc. Initially, during the September 9, Committee meeting, the minutes reflected discussions of Raspberry Park as a potential site, and parking was addressed: “We would have to acquire some property for Parking lot spaces.” Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes, September 9, 2015. What has changed? During the last meeting, we were instructed there would be no additional parking lot, because the Committee did not know if there would even be a big enough draw at the dog park to require additional parking (which begs the question, why even have a dog park). Remote parking forces the loading and unloading of dogs either curbside in front of residences or in the existing parking lot which is directly next to the space used for playground and basketball courts, and quite a walk from the proposed site. There will be inevitable interaction between small children and dogs with potentially catastrophic results. In my profession as an attorney, I have dealt with countless “dog bite” cases and dog injury cases. I have prosecuted far too many brain injury cases where a dog got loose and chased a person on a bicycle, scooter, or motorcycle, and caused a severe accident.

- **Inverse Condemnation and Nuisance.** The July, 2015 Committee minutes state: “Another consideration is **how close to put this to residential property. Our current land we own is not big enough to sustain.**” Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes, July 9, 2015 (emphasis added). Therefore, I am probably most surprised that the neighboring residents’ concerns about property values and nuisance have not been more seriously considered. It seems like the Village knows there is a problem placing a dog park in a residential neighborhood, but is inviting litigation over the dog park for inverse condemnation and nuisance. “How close to put this to residential property” has now become a proposal to place a dog park next to single family homes, and immediately adjacent to a family with 5 (soon to be 6) small children, whose house will inevitably face the lot. I would think a single resident’s successful action for diminished property value would obliterate the entire budget set for the dog park. Surprisingly, the statements by the Committee, and its actions (like intentionally *not* viewing the property as a Committee, but individual members going to view and stake out the property anyway) seem to be intentionally disenfranchising the very people who would have standing for such actions.
- **Converting Multi-Use to Single-Use, When Alternative Facilities Exist.** A new Village dog park offers nothing additional to Village residents. Alternatives currently exist. The Committee has apparently explored changing ordinances to allow dogs in current parks (referenced in the Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2016).¹ The Village of Cross Plains Spring/Summer Activity Guide 2016 expressly informs residents that the H. M. Zander Community Nature park is a “dog park.” We already have a dog park. If any Village resident has to drive to the proposed site of any dog park, Dane County provides a dog park in nearby Indian Lake Park.

By targeting Raspberry Park, the Committee proposes taking a multi-use, public space and dedicating it for a single, very narrow use that excludes many residents who already use the area. Residents enjoy the park for baseball,² kite-flying, cross country skiing, walking, Frisbee playing, hot air ballooning, picnicking, movie-making, and so much more (including dog walking). With the exception of the dogs, *none* of the activities will occur in a dog park. My own children use that part of Raspberry Park during most the year and extensively in the summer time when school is out. They prefer *that* section of Raspberry Park because it gives them a more mature outdoor feel than the facilities across the street (with playground equipment and soccer field, drawing a younger resident).

¹ I find it fascinating that the Committee was concerned how this option “affects our insurance,” but I see no similar concerns about the impact of placing a dog park in a residential area.

² As I typed this portion of the letter, children are playing T-Ball in Raspberry Park, and I can hear the sound of children’s laughter and cheering—not dog barking.

- **Environmental Impact.** FEMA maps show Raspberry Park is located within the flood plain. The topography is such, and casual observation shows, that rain water runs off the hill, through the park, and into Brewery Creek which in turn feeds Black Earth Creek. I have seen no mention in any of the Minutes or other documentation of the environmental impact when feces laden runoff enters Brewery Creek. Children play and wade in Brewery Creek. At least, they did.

We have been told that discussions for a dog park have been taking place over the last 10 years, and more seriously for the last year. After 10 years, *all* questions like the impact on a residential neighborhood should have been thoroughly addressed. But I believe the Village is moving ahead without properly considering the full impact of a dog park in a residential area. I started to express these concerns during the March, 2016, Park and Recreation Committee Meeting and was promptly told I was wrong: that the Committee had performed due diligence regarding creating a residential dog park. “Due diligence” concerning research into dog parks was mentioned again at the May, 2016, Committee meeting. I have searched the entire Village website and cannot locate any documents, studies, or even references to what due diligence has been done. In the event this proposal extends beyond the June 20, 2016, proposed meeting, I will be requesting a complete copy of all “due diligence” materials that have been considered by the Committee.³

I have other concerns, most you have heard before and I’m sure will be hearing in the future. I do thank you for your time and service to the Committee and Village. You are our voice, and we want to be heard. I do not envy your position, and also thank you for your willingness to listen.

I would be remiss if I did not mention how thrilled I am that Cross Plains has Mike Axon on staff. I don’t believe I could be more impressed with anyone else in that position. He is knowledgeable, informed, articulate, and clearly makes the resident’s interests paramount to his actions and decisions. I am thankful for his employment and service.

Thank you again for your time,



Cc: Pat Andreoni
Mike Axon

³ Wis. Stat. § 19.31. I did see a July 9, 2015, reference to model dog park laws and an American Kennel Club document called “Establishing a Dog Park in Your Community” <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/GLEG01.pdf>. Hopefully these documents are not what the Committee is relying on. Even the AKC document, which is clearly biased in favor of dog parks, recognizes that the dog park’s impact on the neighbors and environment must be considered, along with provision for adequate drinking water, proper drainage, sufficient lighting, etc.

“There are many perspectives and types of information that needs to be taken into consideration when proposing to develop and manage off-leash dog parks that are successful in terms of harmony with the surrounding community as well as with the park users. Community support and involvement is integral to this process.

Noise, Rule #1: Do NOT establish a dog park immediately adjacent to residential property lines”

– Benjamin L. Hart, DVM, Ph.D., DACVB. Guidelines for Establishment and Maintenance of successful off-leash dog exercise areas.

Tara Sommers, RN, BSN, MS
4012 Saint Francis St
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Village of Cross Plains
2417 Brewery Road
Cross Plains, WI 53528

To the Village of Cross Plains Government council/members;

I am writing to you today to voice my opposition to the proposal of an off-leash dog park across from Raspberry Park. I am deeply concerned about not only the process and lack of communication from the government officials to community members, but the continued push towards establishing a dog park in an area in which the residents/ private property owners oppose such actions.

Upon conducting research about off-leash dog parks, the majority of research concludes that there is no comprehensive reference manual outlining the requirements for the design and operation of a safe and well maintained dog park. There are guidelines and papers about establishing dog parks which all highlight that the governing body of the community must take into account the community support in addition to the legalities surrounding public/private property and County/Village ordinances.

I feel the Village of Cross Plains has continued to “turn a blind eye” to the opposition that the community (especially of those who live close to the proposed park) have taken. During the research on establishment of dog parks- it is re-iterated time and time again that the community must support the dog park as well as the dog park is **NOT** to be near residential homes.

There are many points I want to discuss on why this area for the proposed dog park is not a good idea.

1. According to Dane County Ordinance, Title 9- Health and Sanitation, paragraph 47.19, Keeping of Barking Dogs Prohibited...dogs are not kept or allowed within 1,500 feet of a neighboring residence.
 - a. So tell me how would this dog park NOT be in violation of this ordinance?
There are neighboring residents within 1,500 feet of proposed park.
2. Dance County Ordinance, Title 7- Public Safety and Order, paragraph 34.04, Prohibition of Excessive Noise disturbing the Public Peace...any sound or level of sound of sufficient loudness that it tends unreasonably to disturb the peace, comfort, quite or repose of persons in the vicinity of the noise..
 - a. So tell me how would this dog park NOT be in violation of this ordinance as well? The proposed dog park is ADJACENT to private, residential properties in which property owners have the right to peace and comfort in their own homes, not to mention privacy. The flow of traffic to/from the park would go DIRECTLY by several private homes which is an infringement on personal privacy as well.
3. Safety:
 - a. In conjunction with health and safety topics, has the Village considered that perhaps the neighboring private property owners and residents that live within ear/sight distance of the dog park might find the dog park threatening/intrusive to not only them, but their family as well? Has the Village considered that what if a resident or family member has a deep fear/anxiety around dogs and to be subject to see/listen/hear these dogs at a dog park from their own private home would be an infringement on their rights and health? This is another reason why dog parks are often put in more "industrial/urban" areas and NOT in residential areas.
 - b. Increase of traffic- Saint Francis Street and Laufenberg are the main thoroughfares for vehicle traffic to/from the park. As noted, there is not a lot of room to park on the sides of the road due to the islands of grass- which makes the roads narrow. There are also no sidewalks on these streets so residents must walk on the sides of the road -in which when cars park on the side, residents must then walk around the cars which places them further out in the middle of the road and/or walking through people's private yards.
 - c. Parking/traffic- When residents park their cars along the side of the road this creates a very hazardous situation because of the lack of walking space and this community is full of young children riding bikes/ walking/ skateboarding on the streets. Having cars obstruct the view of other drivers spells DISASTER.
 - d. Parking in front of homes- when people park their cars alongside the road and block resident mailboxes, our mail does not get delivered. This infringes on our ability to receive mail.

4. Health:

- a. I know there are “laws” in place regarding domestic animals being properly vaccinated and tagged, however who is going to enforce these laws at the dog park? Dogs carry parasites as well, and having a large collection of dogs using an enclosed park multiples the risk of dogs transmitting parasites to one another and potentially to humans. To mitigate this risk is the enforcement of proper dog waste disposal. It is my experience that at dog parks, there are plenty of dog waster “piles” that get left and/or trash cans overflow which cause not only an odor problem but potential health problem. According to a scholarly paper published in 2007 by the University of Pennsylvania, Dept. of Earth and Environmental Science titled: Dog Parks: Benefits and Liabilities, “Internal parasite transmission is a serious concern at a dog park to those dogs that are not current on their medical vaccinations. Piles of dog feces makes a community look messy and unsightly. Also, feces are unhealthy, as they can be a host of parasites and disease. The feces biodegrade slowly, especially in the cold weather, and it can take several weeks to several months to dissolve”.
- b. Mental health- back to the point I made under Safety, paragraph a.
- c. Safety of surrounding area- the proposed dog park is on a DNR regulated “flood plains” area correct? Does not the DNR have to approve how the dog park would potentially be built so that an excess of dog urine/waste does not contaminate the creek which runs right by it? The DNR has strict rules/regulations on what can/cannot be in a flood plains as well as the “layout” of the land, so I believe the DNR would need to be directly involved with this proposal of a dog park as well.

5. Property value for surrounding residents:

- a. While there is not a lot of research done regarding property value of homes near dog parks, I believe this is because most dog parks are not NEAR residential homes to begin with. Secondly- at one of the meetings it was said that Veridian homes rejected the idea that a dog park be put in their building development in Cross plains because they would have a hard time selling the lots near the dog park. **So WHY would this be okay then to put the dog park adjacent to Raspberry Park where there are already pre-established homes that were built in which the residents had NO idea that a dog park might be placed nearby?** I can personally attest that if my family knew a dog park might be put in this close to our house, we would have NOT built our home two years ago on this lot.
- b. To think that a dog park would NOT affect our property values is absurd. Of course it would affect our home values. The audacity of a city government to place a park which would drive down our private home values is not a matter

to be taken lightly. Does the city want to take responsibility for the private land and home owners in the decrease of their home worth/value?

To conclude, It is my sincere desire that this letter and pointed objections will be taken into consideration along with the community petition/park and recreation meeting(s) attendance by opposed community members/ and other letters/emails/phone calls of opposition will put a CLOSE to any further movement to build this dog park in the Raspberry Park area.

I cannot fathom how the Village of Cross Plains could continue to go forth with this proposal given the amount of objection from the residents it has received and the obvious and potential legal flaws in the design and planning of this park.

In summary: Dog parks do NOT belong near residential homes and the residents that have signed the petition and opposition to this dog park will not allow further progress to be considered by the Village.

Sincerely,

//electronically signed//

Tara L. Sommers

Plan it. Don't Jam it.

Why does the Village of Cross Plains Parks Committee insist on placing a dog park in the middle of a residential neighborhood? Against strong neighborhood opposition, the committee continues to push forward with Raspberry Park as its top site.



Most communities recognize that dog parks don't belong in residential neighborhoods. What do the Prairie Moraine, Lake Farm, Yahara Heights, and Middleton dog parks have in common? They are not in a neighborhood.

Over 100 local citizens have signed a petition opposing the Raspberry Park location. We're concerned about the noise, impact on property values and safety to our children. Dane County ordinances restrict the keeping of barking dogs within 1500 feet from any residential property. Why would we place the dog park next to a residential property?

The board has stated that studies show dog parks increase property values. Yet they rule out planning for a dog park in the future Buechner Farm development because the developer might pull out due to the dog park's negative impact on future property values. Why are the property values of future residents more important than current residents?

The transition of unloading/loading dogs poses the greatest risk for dogs getting loose. The current plan has dog owners transferring dogs in the street or using a

parking lot 30 feet from a busy playground. Why would we risk mixing large dogs with small children?

The top dog parks in Dane County allow dogs to run. The proposed park at Raspberry Park is in the shape of a narrow wedge you would shove under a door. Let's plan for a dog park, not jam it. Our community deserves better.

Mike Sanders
Cross Plains, WI

We Oppose a Dog Park in Raspberry Park



Matt Schuenke

From: Mike Axon
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 11:14 AM
To: Matt Schuenke
Subject: FW: Dog Park flyer
Attachments: DOC070616-07062016215025.pdf

FYI

Michael Axon
Parks and Recreation Director
Village of Cross Plains
(608)-798-3241x107 or maxon@cross-plains.wi.us



From: Mike Wollmer [<mailto:mike@iceagetrail.org>]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 11:07 AM
To: Mike Axon
Cc: Kevin Thusius
Subject: Dog Park flyer

Mike,

Please ignore that this is being sent from my IATA email account. This message represents my personal (constituent) perspective. The IATA has no position on the dog park issue.

Here's the flyer that was jammed in my door last Wed. I talked to Kevin as well and am copying him.

I plan on speaking at the next meeting in opposition to dog parks and very specifically about the Raspberry Park location. Inserting such a facility into a fully developed residential neighborhood is in my view, is inappropriate regardless of shape and size. All that debate aside, I'm far more troubled about the actions and assertions made by un-named authors of the attached flyer...a flyer that is blatantly inaccurate in content, process and the entities authorities/responsibilities.

In addition to speaking out against the flyer, I expect address the antagonistic and thoughtless actions of the two Board members that chose to go out under cover of a holiday weekend to stake out the proposed dog park. Given the resources of GIS, Google Earth and other tools available to the Village it was unnecessary, inappropriate and a poor example of respectful public service.

Thanks for your work.

Mike

Mike Wollmer
7029 Laufenberg Blvd

Attention: Residents of Cross Plains!

"Plan it! Don't Jam it"! Help us STOP the continued push for the "dog park" ie- "wedge"



By now you have probably heard about the proposed "fenced- in dog park" (ie- "wedge" since the proposed site is literally a "wedge")- that the Village is trying to push forward in our community (Raspberry Park). Despite **multiple** emails/ phone calls/ personal visits/ letters from residents and even a petition signed by over 100 residents that live close to this area—the Village Park and Recreation committee is **STILL** considering Raspberry Park their top option! Our actions insofar have fallen on deaf ears. The committee seems relentlessly charged with putting a dog park RIGHT by our private homes!

The proposed dog park has multiple design and planning flaws. The most obvious fact is that dog parks **DO NOT BELONG** in residential areas. Upon review of literature, this fact is reiterated time and time again. Dog parks belong in more urban/industrial areas **and not** by neighboring residential homes for reasons such as property values, privacy, noise disturbance, traffic flow/congestion, health and sanitation (to name a few).

We **NEED** your voice to be heard and urge you to join us at a VERY IMPORTANT Village Park and Recreation meeting scheduled on Monday, June 20th at 6:00 pm. We need as many residents as possible to be at this meeting. We need the Village to **SEE us and HEAR our voices!** We understand family commitments and schedules, but please allow at least one family member to attend this meeting. *In addition-* we ask that you **PLEASE** write an email/ place a phone call/ or post on the Village's Facebook website your opposition to this "park". Every contact counts!!

<http://www.cross-plains.wi.us>

email: matt@cross-plains.wi.us

Phone # 608-798-3241

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/crossplainswi

****SAVE THE DATE, because we need ALL of you!****

Monday- June 20th at 6:00 pm at Rosemary Garfoot Library

Matt Schuenke

From: Miller Deborah L <Deborah.Miller@uwmf.wisc.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 10:11 AM
To: Matt Schuenke; Mike Axon
Subject: Dog Park issue in Raspberry Park

I'm finding it hard to believe that the Village is still trying to push for a dog park in Raspberry Park. My husband and I have been a resident on Laufenberg Boulevard for over two years, and love the neighborhood. We moved here from Sparta, Wisconsin when my husband retired, and we appreciate smaller communities. The T-Ball area is used constantly, even when there is no scheduled activity. The young family that will be building a house on that small, triangular lot that would ADJOIN the T-ball area has six children, one of whom has special needs. You are looking at a site that has long established, HIGH TAX homes surrounding it. Please review the "Selecting a Site" (Lessons from Seattle) below – you're doing just the opposite of these suggestions. I truly can't believe there are not more appropriate areas that don't have residences this close. We choose not to have a dog, and I have no problems with people walking their individual animals, but you know the noise that would be created from having many dogs running free in that area. Raspberry Park is one of the reasons we love the area, and we have watched the families gather (massive amounts of them!) to play T-Ball there. This will kill all the grass there – people also walk by the T-Ball site and continue to follow along hiking by Brewery Creek, which is behind our property. The Brewery Creek area is home to such a vast array of beautiful, colorful wild birds, which many of us feed. This area DOES have a POSITIVE history of children's activities – why ruin that? I know there are other, better alternatives. We will be at the meeting on Monday, June 20th, and this will be my first experience with a Village Park and Recreation meeting. We hope you listen to the people of your community and those of that neighborhood directly affected. You know how we feel, and this is a problem you could avoid. Thank you for reading.

Selecting a Site

(Lessons from Seattle)

- Avoid interference with other established uses or department-sponsored activities. **Avoid locations directly abutting residences.** (This will avoid complaints about the noise of dog barking.)
- Assure availability of close-by parking
- **Avoid locations near children's play areas** (non-dog lovers worry about their children getting bit)
- Choose spots where there are **minimal impacts on the visual character of the park** (it's almost impossible to grow grass in a dog park and they are often not the prettiest of places)
- Site so as to avoid spillover into **non-dog areas**
- Avoid **sensitive environmental habitats**
- Find a property with **no history** (Dewey Potter, spokeswoman for the Seattle park department says, "It's a lot easier than persuading people to change a field's use into something different.")

Deborah Miller
Finance Department
University of Wisconsin Medical Foundation
7974 UW Health Court
Middleton, WI 53562
PH: (608) 821-4116
Fax: (608) 821-4221
Deborah.Miller@uwmf.wisc.edu

Matt Schuenke

From: Bill Brosius Home <bbrosius@charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2016 9:45 AM
To: Paul
Cc: Mike Axon; jpandreo@aol.com; Matt Schuenke
Subject: Re: Proposed Dog Park - Raspberry Park

Thanks Paul for you're feedback. I'm sorry to hear that you were attacked, and I hope you reported the attack to our police department.

The Park and Recreation committee will be meeting Monday night 6-20 at 6:00 pm at the Library. If you can make a that meeting that would be great. I'll have this email added to the packet to the rest of the committee members if possible.

Thank you again.

Bill

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 15, 2016, at 9:04 AM, Paul <Pvass@charter.net> wrote:

<image001.gif>

Hello Bill and Mike:

I am 100% opposed to a dog park in Raspberry Park. Here are the reasons for my opposition:

- 1.) Increased traffic in the neighborhood.
- 2.) Increased noise - barking dogs will be a nuisance.
- 3.) Safety threats to myself and my neighbors - more risk of dogs getting loose and potentially biting or attacking those who live in the area. Dog parks should never be close to where there are people/homes.

The last point is near and dear to me. This past winter I was attacked by a pit bull here in Cross Plains not far from where I live. The dog bolted out the front door of its house and attacked me on the street. I don't know if either of you has ever been attacked by a pit bull, but it is not a pleasant experience.

Today, when I go for walks or ride my bike through our village I am constantly vigilant for dogs and the potential threats they pose. There have been several times since then that I have seen dogs not properly restrained and have taken different routes to avoid them. What used to be a very enjoyable thing for me to take walks now has an element of anxiety that did not exist before. The thought of more dogs in my neighborhood and the potential for them to get loose (and we know this is very likely to happen) causes a great deal of discomfort for me.

Please vote against the proposed dog park at Raspberry Park.

Thank you!

Paul Vassalotti
4002 St. Francis St.
Cross Plains, WI 53528
608-798-1478
pvass@charter.net

P.S. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

June 25, 2016

To: Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Committee, et. al.

Recently, city of Middleton residents near Parisi Park wished to write a grant that would bring fruit trees into the park. The city requested that information regarding the proposal be shared with all nearby residents. Neighbors - now turned grant writers for the orchard - drew maps and visited residents door-to-door, detailing the project and plans and answering questions. In an initial hearing, fruit tree hopes were ended by three neighbors voicing concerns over more bees buzzing around the neighborhood. *No fruit trees... due to bees.*

Fast forward to April, 2016 when my family purchased the lot at 4008 Saint Francis Street, directly adjacent to Raspberry Park. Within days we learned that the Village of Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Committee had researched and were ready to propose an approximate 5-acre dog park within feet of our future home and site. Information had been presented in the Village newspaper stretching back to October, but like us, our newest neighbors were similarly unaware. During well-attended March, April, and May Parks and Recreation Committee meetings, it was clear that many nearby residents are also opposed to the Raspberry Park site for the dog park. The committee heard our concerns, and we hope more - the Village residents, the Village Planning Committee, and the Village Board - will hear them as well.

First and foremost, my gravest concern is over the safety of my children and others playing in Village parks. As a husband and a father to six children, all of whom are age eight or under and one of whom is a child with special needs, protecting my family and others from harm is my primary concern. The safety of residents is also the primary duty of our elected leaders in local governments. Dane County ordinances restrict the keeping of barking dogs within 1500 feet of any residential property. At times some dogs get loose while exiting and entering vehicles and/or dog park gates. At times some dogs don't mind their owners. At times some dogs are unpredictable around other dogs and around people, including children. One bite is one bite too many.

Next, please know that 100+ Saint Francis neighborhood residents have signed a petition in opposition to a dog park in Raspberry Park. Thankfully, committee members looked to residents to help propose alternative locations. Saint Francis subdivision residents gave several suggestions, including new developments within the Village. In response, committee members shared that future residents might (also) not want a dog park in their neighborhood (either). The developer might even pull out. While committee members' feedback included no dog parks in new residential developments, we take it further to suggest that no dog parks be proposed in ANY residential neighborhoods.

Last, it's worth noting that much time and effort has gone into finding a site for a Village dog park. Committee members shared that each time a location has been proposed within a residential neighborhood, it has been met with strong resistance by nearby residents. Despite 10+ years of searching for an ideal dog park location within the Village, Parks and Recreation Committee members have once more learned of grand opposition to a residential dog park location. This time, however, it occurred well into the final planning stages for the Raspberry Park dog park proposal.

Along with many others, our family opposes the Raspberry Park site for the Village dog park, and we kindly ask that residential neighborhoods be excluded from consideration entirely.

Respectfully,

Robert and Lisa Schell
Future residents of 4008 Saint Francis Street
bobschell@gmail.com
608-215-6902 (c)



Dog Park

From October 12, 2015

What's the criteria for a good dog park?

Brewery Creekside Park

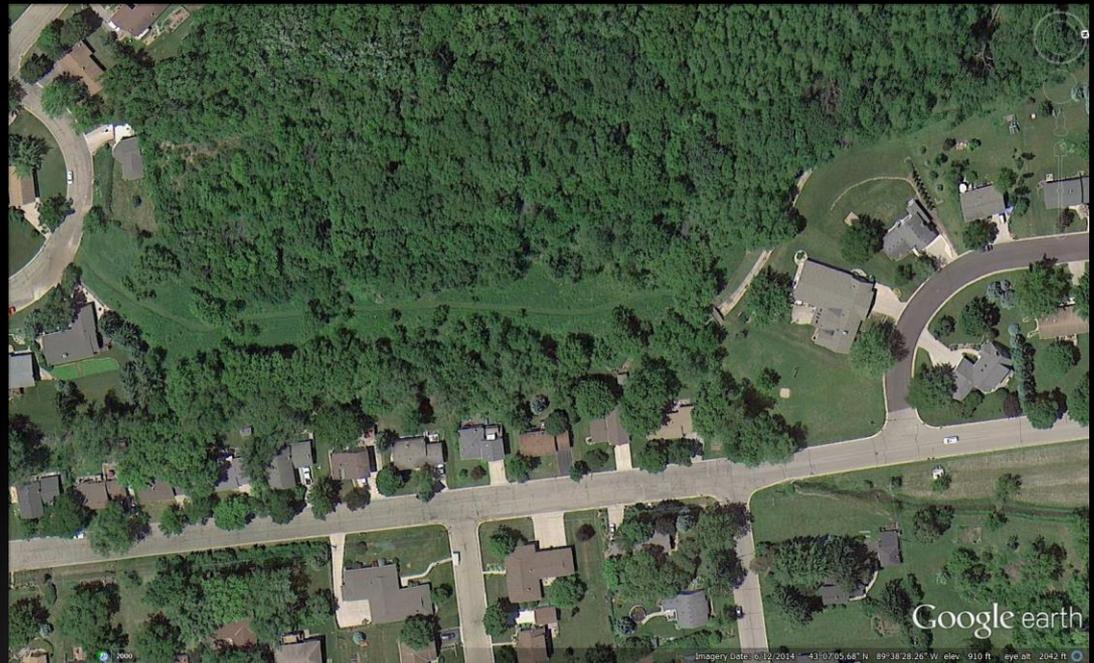
- 1-5 Acres of land
- Good drainage to prevent muddy conditions
- Allow for 5-6 foot fencing
- Double gate system
- Access to water
- Central, well-lighted location
- ADA accessibility
- Parking lot
- Buffer zone between residents



Possible Location (Continued)

Brewery Creekside Park

- ✓ 1-5 Acres
- ✓ Good drainage to prevent muddy conditions
- ✓ Allow for fencing
- ✓ Access to water
- Central, well-lighted location
- ADA accessibility
- Parking lot
- Buffer zone between residents



Possible Location (Continued)

Glacial Valley Conservancy

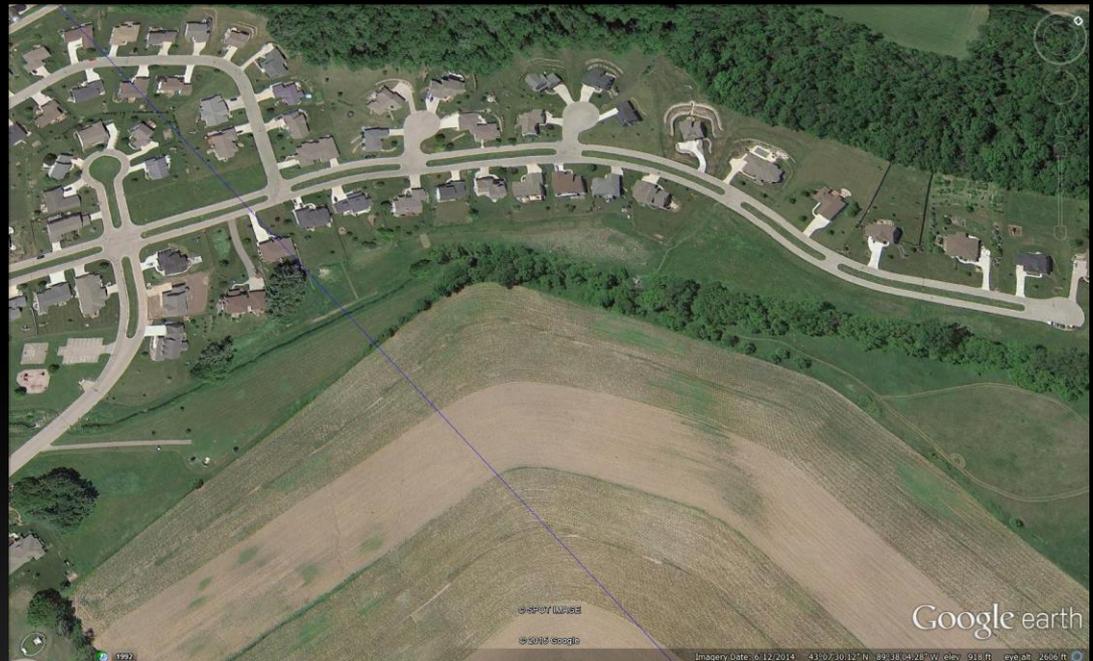
- ✓ 1-5 Acres
- ✓ Good drainage to prevent muddy conditions
- ✓ Allow for fencing
- ✓ Access to water
 - Central, well-lighted location
 - ADA accessibility
 - Parking lot
- ✓ Buffer zone between residents



Possible Locations (Continued)

Raspberry Park (East Side)

- ✓ 1-5 Acres
- ✓ Good drainage to prevent muddy conditions
- ✓ Allow for fencing
- ✓ Access to water
- **Central, well-lighted location**
- ✓ ADA accessibility
- ✓ Parking lot
- ✓ Buffer zone between residents



What's our next step?



Are there other possible locations we didn't bring up? Send information to:

Michael Axon

Parks and Recreation
Director

Village of Cross Plains
608.798.3241 ext. 107

maxon@cross-plains.wi.us