



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Parks and Recreation



DOG PARK ESTABLISHMENT PROPOSAL FORM

Upon completion, please mail to:
Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of the Director
ATTN: Dog Park Proposal
1250 U Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

LOCATION

Location Description: Open field, in Fort Chaplin Park, across from Plummer Elementary

Location Address: Texas Avenue and C Street SE, 20019 Ward: 7

SPONSOR GROUP/APPLICANT

Sponsor Group Name: East River Dog Park Group

Address: 4365 C Street SE

City: Washington State: DC Zip: 20019

Website: N/A

How long has this group been in existence? 1 and 1/2 years

REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

Representative's Name: Clyde Darren Thompson

Representative's Address: 4365 C Street SE Ward: 7

City: Washington State: DC Zip: 20019

Representative's Affiliation with Sponsor Group: Member

Are you a bona fide resident of DC? Yes No

Will you serve as primary point of contact? Yes No

If no, then name of primary point of contact _____
(Please see 732.1 of the enclosed Dog Park Regulations)

Home Number: _____ Mobile: (240) 398-6241

Other: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: C.Darren.Thompson@Gmail.com

Which is the preferred mode of contact? Email

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

I have read the rules and regulations set forth by the Government of the District of Columbia for the establishment of dog parks. As representative of the above mentioned sponsor group, I agree to adhere to the rules and regulations published in 19 DCMR Chapter 7.

Furhermore, I certify that the statements made in this proposal to the District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation, including the supplements and attachments, are accurate and complete to the best of my understanding. I understand that any false, misleading, and/or inaccurate information may serve as the basis for the District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation to reject this proposal.

Clyde D. Thompson
Representative's Name

20 Nov 2018
Date


Representative's Signature

20 Nov 2018
Date

PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

The following supplemental information has been included and should be used in evaluating the proposal.

Formal Proposal Letters of Support Petition

For Official Use Only	
Date Received: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
_____ DPARC Representative	

October 15, 2018

Mr. Keith Anderson
Director, D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation
1250 U Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

SUBJECT: Dog Park Application

Director Anderson:

This letter, along with the attached documentation, is being submitted by The East River Dog Park Group ("Group") as the Group's dog park application. This application is being submitted with the purpose of establishing the first DPR sanctioned dog park in Ward 7, as well as the first DPR sanctioned dog park East of the Anacostia River. This request is to construct a dog park on underutilized, District-owned, parkland at Texas Avenue and C Streets SE, Washington, DC 20019. The Group has worked diligently to engage the community and ensure that the Single Member District (SMD) 7F02 was well informed of our plans and able to ask any questions over the summer as we worked to locate an ideal location for the numerous dog owners in our neighborhood, as well as our Ward. We believe this location would be ideal for numerous reasons, which include ample parking, good lighting, and a central location within the Ward. We believe that this site meets the needs of Ward 7 dog owners and the community at large, while satisfying both the existing criteria outlined in the D.C. Municipal Regulations (DCMR). This site is very spacious and the group would like to request 10,000 square feet for a fenced-in off-leash dog exercise area.

The following reasons support the Group's rationale for selecting this new site:

The site provides a buffer from neighbors on both sides:

This site is surrounded by trees on three sides which would serve as a buffer to any possible noise concerns. Further, the side that is not enclosed by trees is open up the Texas Avenue and located across the street from a school. Because of this, the dogs would not disrupt the peaceable enjoyment of any district residents in their homes.

The site is an open space which is relatively underutilized:

This site is a wide open field, which used to play host to soccer games and picnics, but use of this field has declined a lot in the last two to three years. While ward 7 has an abundance of park space, most of the underused spaces in our Ward are owned by the National Park Service (NPS), this site is one of the few park spaces that is owned by DPR, relatively underutilized during the summer, and rarely used during the rest of the year.

The site is not located between any heavily used athletic fields:

The proposed site is not near any formal or informal athletic fields.

The site is not an area designated specifically as playgrounds or children's play areas:

The closest playground to the proposed site is located across Texas Avenue inside the fence of Plummer Elementary.

The site is not an Athletic field or court:

There is no official athletic field close to this site and the closest court is across Texas Avenue, inside the fence of Plummer Elementary.

There is no dog park in Ward 7: Ease tensions between residents:

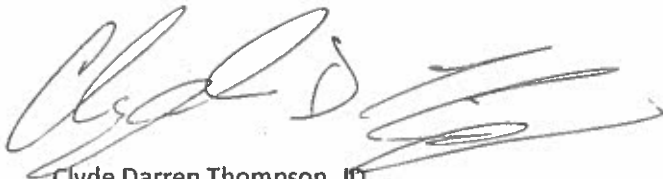
Finally, there is an issue of equity in resources to our community. The City has built multiple dog parks in every Ward of the city except the two poorest. As we fight for amenities in our ward and for our residents, we believe our dogs are just as deserving of an off-leash recreation area as any other dogs in the city. While many residents in Wards 1-6 have multiple locations to take their dogs, residents East of the Anacostia have none. While dealing with a lack of amenities that would be considered unfathomable in Wards 1-6, we also are dealing with an increase in the tick population in the Fort Circle Park trail system, leading to an increase in Lyme's Disease in our pets. In addition to that, we are dealing with a lack of trash receptacles, in a heavily wooded area, which often leads to raw and/or spoiled food being found adjacent to the sidewalk and then consumed by our pets, leading to intestinal issues. This is often due to raccoons, opossums, and foxes who raid the overflowing trashcans.

Ease tensions between residents:

There are at times confrontations between dog owners and non-dog owners for a variety of reasons. Providing dog owners with a safe space for their animals would likely ease a lot of tensions among residents. Neighborhoods with dog parks generally see a reduction in complaints about pet waste, which is likely a leading cause of these confrontations. No dog owner should be afraid to walk their dog in their neighborhood. Likewise, no resident should have to deal with dogs if they do not wish to do so.

This dog park, if approved, would be a great benefit to the community. Dog parks bring neighbors together and increase overall engagement within a community. They serve as community spaces for an often overlooked segment of the population. Ward 7 deserves all of the amenities that seem to come so willingly to our neighbors West of the Anacostia River. Least of these, and easiest of these, is our first dog park.

Sincerely,



Clyde Darren Thompson, JD
The East River Dog Park Group