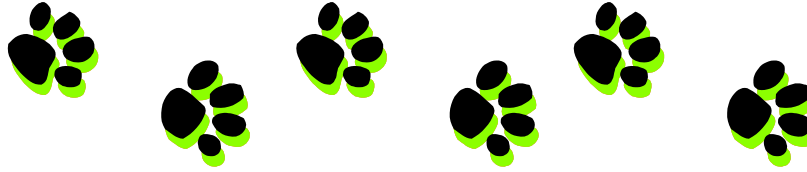




GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Parks and Recreation



DOG PARK ESTABLISHMENT APPLICATION FORM

Upon completion, please mail to:
Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of the Director
ATTN: Dog Park Application
3149 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010

LOCATION

Location Description: Takoma Recreation Center

Location Address: 300 Van Buren Street, NW Ward: 4

SPONSOR GROUP/APPLICANT

Sponsor Group Name: The Northern Ward 4 Dog Park Group

Address: 6323 Georgia Ave., #55186

City: Washington State: DC Zip: 20004

Website: www.northernward4dogpark.org

How long has this group been in existence? 1 year, 5 months

REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

Representative's Name: Michael Cohen

Representative's Address: 6200 7th St., NW Ward: 4

City: Washington State: DC Zip: 20011

Representative's Affiliation with Sponsor Group: Lead Volunteer

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: 703-599-0809 Mobile: 703-599-0809

Other: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: michaelcohen5@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.

Furthermore, I certify that the statements made in this application 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 application.

Michael Cohen 12/10/2015
Representative's Name Date

_____ 12/10/2015
Representative's Signature Date

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

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

☐ Formal Proposal ☐ Letters of Support ☐ Petition

For Official Use Only

Date Received: _____ ☐ Approved ☐ Rejected

DPARC Representative

October 14, 2015

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 attached documentation, is hereby submitted by The Northern Ward 4 Dog Park Group (the "Group") as part of their dog park application. The Group has spent the past year and a half meeting, discussing, and planning for a dog park at or near Takoma Recreation Center. Our group contains hundreds of Ward 4 residents who have been active in attending informational meetings, events, and education sessions related to establishing a dog park in Ward 4.

The Group has been following the dog park application process established by DPR and set forth in DPR's Dog Park Application Packet. Our Group requests that DPR continue to follow the established process and afford the Northern Ward 4 Dog Park Group, as well as the residents of Ward 4, the same due process that has been given to other dog park groups and communities throughout Washington, D.C.

Finally, it is our Group's understanding that DPR has considered or may be considering changing or amending the dog park application process. Given that our Group has been following the published and approved dog park application process since 2014, we request that our Group and our Group's application be subject to the dog park application process that is currently in effect.

The following document contains our group's formal application, documentation associated with the application, and petition signatures.

Sincerely,

Michael Cohen
The Northern Ward 4 Dog Park Group

D.C. Dog Park Application

Need for a Dog Park:

Current Amenities. Exhibit 1 displays Ward 4's lone dog park in the Ward, the Upshur Dog Park ("Upshur"). Our Group has determined that Ward 4 has the least amount of dog park space of any Wards located in D.C. which offer fenced-in, off-leash dog park amenities. As the population in Ward 4 continues to grow, and as more pet-friendly buildings are erected throughout the Ward, there needs to be adequate space where residents can take their pets for exercise and play.

Current Option: Upshur is not a viable or realistic option for many Ward 4 residents. Many Ward 4 residents lack the transportation methods needed in order to reach the only dog park in Ward 4. Ward 4 residents who are elderly or disabled often lack the means or the ability to travel several miles in order to exercise their pet or service animal. Additionally, Upshur is often frequented by residents from Ward 1, as its location is closer to many Ward 1 residents than Ward 4 residents. As seen in Exhibit 2, some residents in Ward 4 live almost three (3) miles away from Upshur.

Registered Dogs. Based on information obtained from Mr. Edward Rich, Deputy General Counsel at the D.C. Department of Health, and highlighted in Exhibit 3, the Ward 4 zip code 20011 has the second highest number of registered dogs (253) in Washington, D.C. The Takoma Recreation Center is located in zip code 20011 and the majority of our petition signers and group members live in close proximity to the Primary Site that our group is proposing as part of this application.

DPR's Plan. The Play Master Plan (the "Master Plan"), created during Mayor Vincent Gray's administration highlights the importance of dog parks in the community. The Master Plan included a vision of a dog park in the vicinity of the Takoma Recreation Center (Outdoor Facilities Vision, Page 37) (included as Exhibit 4). Dog Parks were included in the Master Plan as part of the "Outdoor Facilities" grouping, and these facilities were selected and included in the Master Plan based on need and proposed methods of meeting demand as determined by DPR.

Ward 4 Growth. The Northern area of Ward 4 has been experiencing rapid growth and the needs of residents in the area continue to evolve with that growth. An example of this is Takoma Central, which is pet friendly, as evidenced in Exhibit 5. Residents in various neighborhoods throughout Northern Ward 4 have expressed strong interest in a centrally located dog park where they can let their dogs run, play, and exercise. Dog Parks are community amenities in alignment with DPR's mission to *'enhance the quality of life and wellness for DC residents and visitors by providing equal access to affordable and quality recreational services...'* All of the supporting groups who petitioned for existing dog parks located throughout Washington D.C. went through the same processes and procedures established as a result of the Dog Park Establishment Amendment Act of 2005. Our Group has worked diligently to follow these established processes and procedures. The Group feels strongly that these processes and procedures should remain consistent for our application process, and that no special amendments, changes, or considerations be made in regard to that process.

Why Takoma Recreation Center?

Ample Open Land. There is over 6 acres of unused District-owned Parkland at Takoma Recreation Center (Exhibit 6). Our Group believes that there are multiple sites available at Takoma Recreation Center where a 10,000 square foot dog park could be built. The Chair of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission in which this dog park would be located has said “There is enough space at Takoma Recreation Center for everyone.”

Middle Ground. Takoma Recreation Center is a centrally-placed location in the Northern Area of Ward 4. Placing a dog park at our Primary Site would allow for neighbors in or near Portal, Shepherd Park, Takoma, Brightwood, Lamond-Riggs, and Manor Park to have a walkable and nearby dog park.

Site Selection. The primary site that our Group has selected is over 300 feet from the closest private residence. The primary site is also over 450 feet from the closest church (Promised Land Baptist Church) and dog park visibility from the Church would be partially to completely obscured by existing trees and shrubbery. An example of our Group’s Primary Site is included as Exhibit 7.

Design:

Triangular Space. There is a natural triangular space that is located next to the Williams Building and Takoma Recreation Center’s Indoor Pool Building. We propose placing a 10,000 square foot dog park at this location. Exhibit 7 displays where this site would be located.

Standard Amenities. Our group proposes that this site receive all of the basic infrastructure (fencing, flooring, water hose, waste bags, etc.) that is provided to all dog parks that are located in Washington, D.C.

Additional Amenities. In addition to the standard amenities, our group would like to install 5 foot high shrubbery which would be placed on the northwest side of the triangular space. This shrubbery would exist to cut down on any noise and would also make the dog park less visible to homeowners on 5th Street and Van Buren Street. Our Group would also like to pay for and install a memorial bench at the Site.

Petition:

Historical Petition Numbers: Based on information obtained from DPR’s General Counsel, Ms. Amy Caspari, our Group determined that the largest petition submitted to DPR to date was the Shaw Dog Park Group’s 2008 dog park application containing 445 signatures. This information is included as Exhibit 8 and Exhibit 8-A. The second two largest D.C. dog park petitions contained 197 and 193 signatures, respectively.

Initial Petition: Prior to conducting the 300 Van Buren Street, NW petition, our Group collected signatures for a petition for the 4th and Whittier. This petition (attached) contains 290 signatures. Had our Group submitted this petition it would have been the second largest petition ever submitted to DPR. A small sample map of these signatures is evidenced in Exhibit 9.

A Historic Petition: After learning that the 4th and Whittier Site was not a viable location, our Group conducted an entirely new petition. At the present time this application contains approximately 550 signatures from members of Ward 4 and throughout the D.C. community. It is our Group's belief that these signatures make up the largest petition by D.C. residents ever filed for a dog park in Washington, D.C. Attached as Exhibit 10, Exhibit 10-A, and Exhibit 10-B, are maps containing some locations of petition signers

Additionally, our group has attached letters of support, as Exhibit 11 through Exhibit 11-E, that we have received from members of the community.

Considering Both Petitions: The language that is included on DPR's petition pages, and the language that petition signers sign off on is: "By signing this petition, I support the establishment of a dog park in this community." (emphasis added). Because our Group was not able to recapture every signature from our initial petition, we would like DPR and the DPARC to take into account and consider the 290 signatures that are included in this initial petition. As of today's date there are many more community members who have requested to sign our Group's petition, yet are unable to do so logistically.

Our Group believes that we have a strong case for installing a dog park at the Takoma Recreation Center. There is plenty of land available, there are plenty of dogs in the community, and there is a considerable amount of support for the park amongst neighbors and Ward 4 residents. We hope that you strongly consider our application and give our group the same consideration procedurally that other dog park groups were afforded.

Very Truly Yours,

Michael Cohen
The Northern Ward 4 Dog Park Group
info@northernward4dogpark.org

Exhibit 2

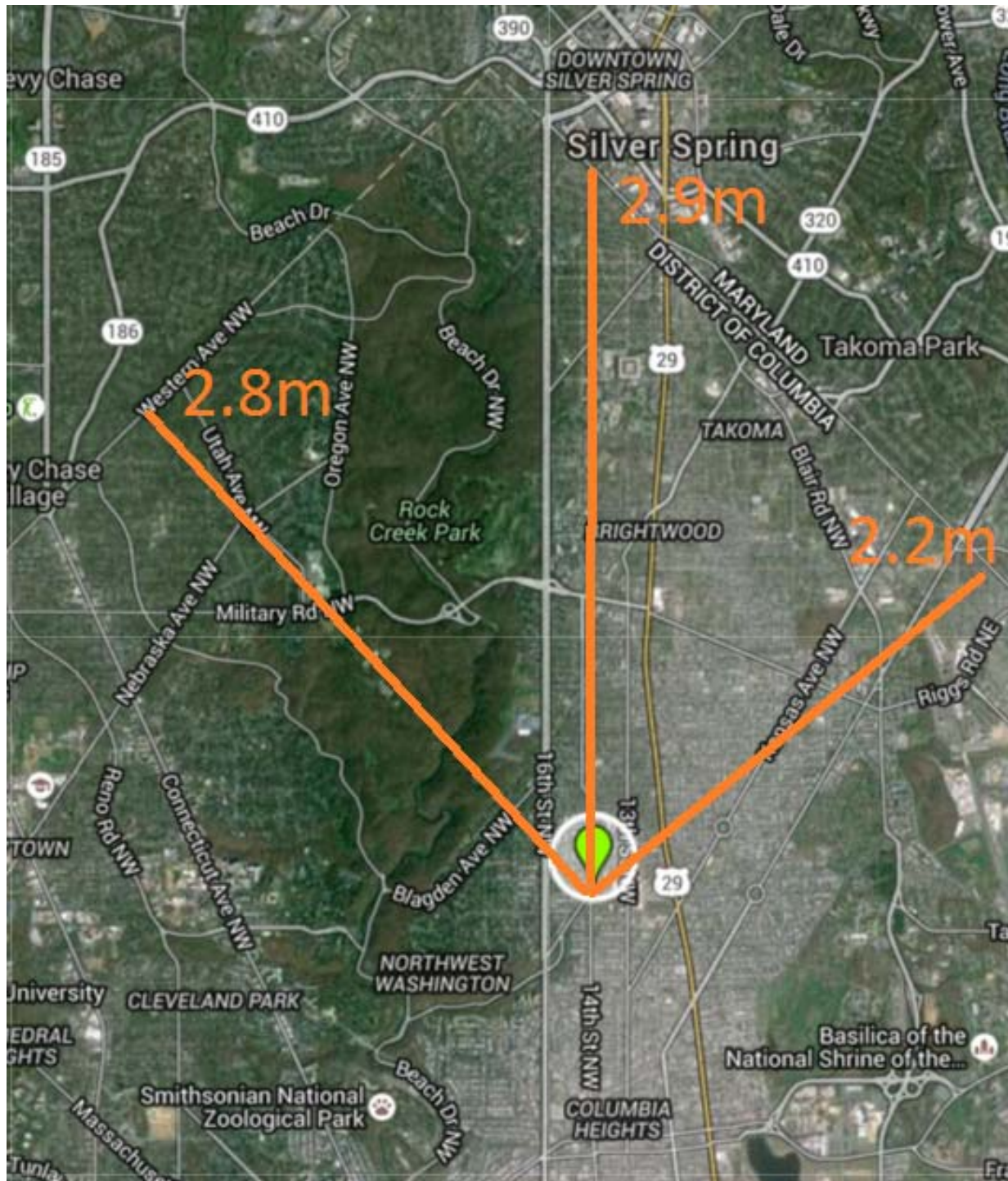




Exhibit 3

Mike Cohen <michaelcohen5@gmail.com>

Freedom of Information Request: Dog Licenses

Rich, Edward <edward.rich@dc.gov>

Fri, Oct 2, 2015 at 3:37 PM

Reply-To: edward.rich@dc.gov

To: michaelcohen5@gmail.com

Cc: edward.rich@dc.gov, phillip.husband@dc.gov, angli.black@dc.gov

Mr. Cohen,

In response to the recent Freedom of Information Act request for information on the number of dogs licensed by ward and with a dog park license, the Department of Health responds that it is currently unable to separate licenses by ward. We are able to provide you with the numbers of dogs licensed by ward in 2014, which is as follows:

20001- 165

20002- 303

20003- 116

20004- 2

20005- 30

20006- 2

20007- 60

20008- 71

20009- 146

20010- 113

20011- 253

20012- 52

20015- 45

20016- 80

20017- 103

20018- 84

20019- 176

20020- 126

20024- 58

20029- 2

20032- 86

20036- 8

20037- 21

20039- 1

20057- 1

20087- 1

Exhibit 3-2

Each of the dogs licensed by DOH also received a dog park license at the same time.

This e-mail and its attachment constitute my final response on behalf of the Department of Health regarding your FOIA request. No FOIA fees are due for this response.

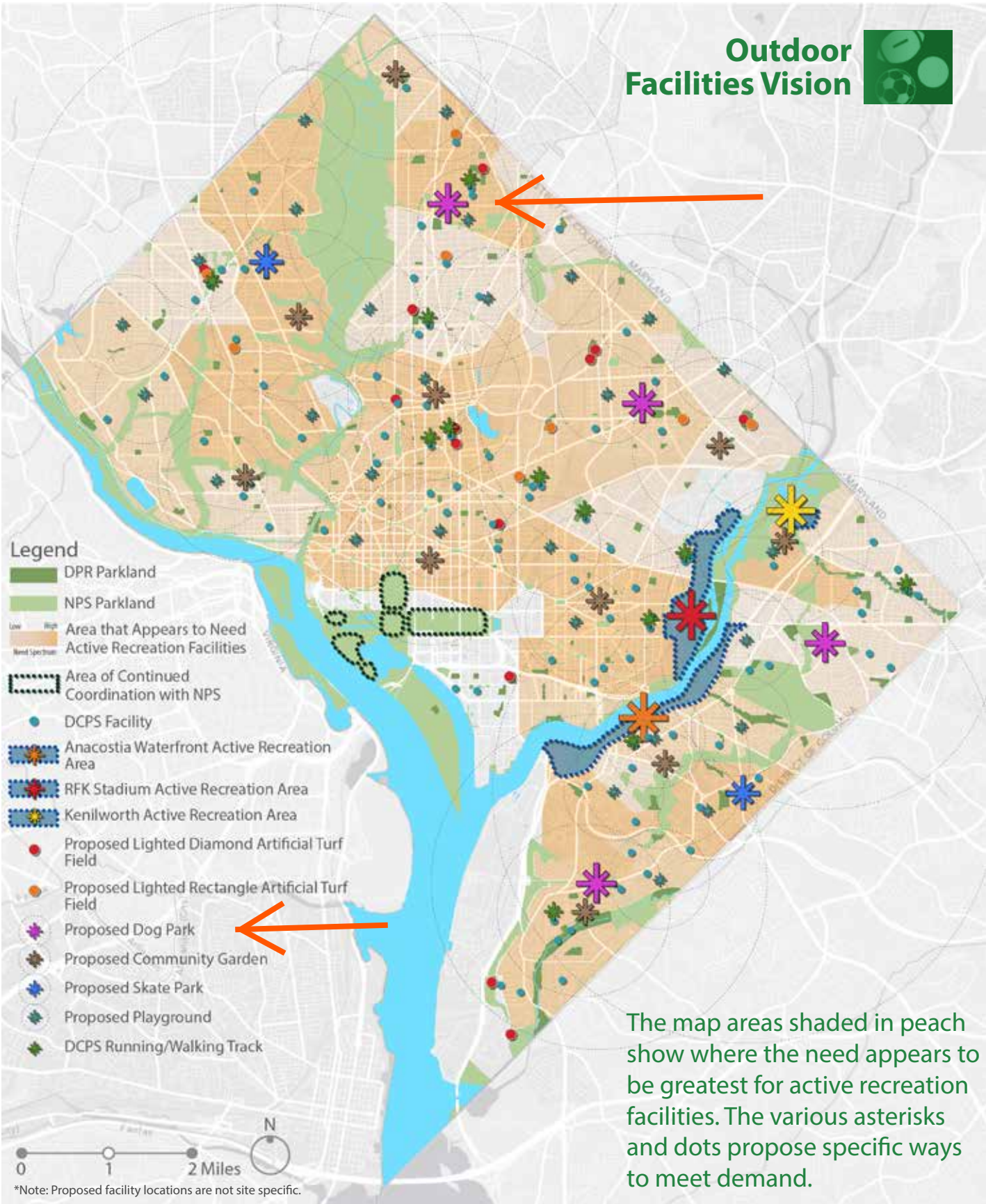
Please know that, under D.C. Official Code § 2-537 and 1 DCMR § 412, you have the right to appeal this email response to the Mayor or to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. If you elect to appeal to the Mayor, your appeal must be in writing and contain "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" or "FOIA Appeal" in the subject line of the letter as well on the outside of the envelope. The appeal must include (1) a copy of the original request; (2) a copy of any written denial; (3) a statement of the circumstances, reasons, and/or arguments advanced in support of disclosure; and (4) a daytime telephone number, an email address, and U.S. Mail address at which you can be reached. The appeal must be mailed to: The Mayor's Correspondence Unit, FOIA Appeal, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 316, Washington, D.C. 20004. Electronic versions of the same information can instead be emailed to The Mayor's Correspondence Unit at foia.mayor@dc.gov. Further, a copy of all appeal materials must be forwarded to Phillip L. Husband, Freedom of Information Act Officer for the Department of Health, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Health, 899 North Capitol Street, N.E., 5th Floor, Suite 547, Washington, DC 20002 or via email to Phillip.Husband@dc.gov. Failure to follow these administrative steps will result in delay in the processing and commencement of a response to your appeal to the Mayor.

If I may be of further assistance, please contact me.

Regards,

Ed Rich

Edward Rich
Senior Assistant General Counsel



[FLOOR PLANS](#) [GALLERY](#) [FEATURES](#) [AMENITIES](#) [NEIGHBORHOOD](#) [SOCIAL](#) [BLOG](#) [SERVICES](#) [CONTACT](#) [SPECIALS](#)[SHARE](#)

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*BUSBOYS AND POETS NOW
OPEN! SEE MORE*

235 Carroll Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012
866.430.5684

Exhibit 5



There will be times when you just want to stay home. That's when you'll understand why we went to such great lengths to include so many wonderful ways to spend your time in our Takoma DC apartments for rent.

- Beautiful resident lounge with large-screen TV and shuffleboard
- Designed and built for LEED® certification
- Private courtyard with fire pit and outdoor grills
- Top-of-the-line fitness center

- Business center
- Controlled access
- Smoke-free community
- Bicycle storage racks
- Social e-café
- On-site Busboys and Poets now open
- Smoke-free community
- Local art in amenity areas
- 24-hour automatic package concierge
- Located at the Takoma DC Red Line Metro station
- Year-round farmers market two blocks away
- Pet-friendly*
- Storage lockers
- One block from Capital Bikeshare™, Metrobus and Ride On bus
- Eco-friendly cleaning supplies

*Restrictions apply

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT
GET STARTED

GALLERY
SEE PHOTOS

CONTACT US
CONTACT US



235 Carroll Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012
866.430.5684

FLOOR PLANS

AMENITIES

BLOG

WHY BOZZUTO

GALLERY

NEIGHBORHOOD

SERVICES

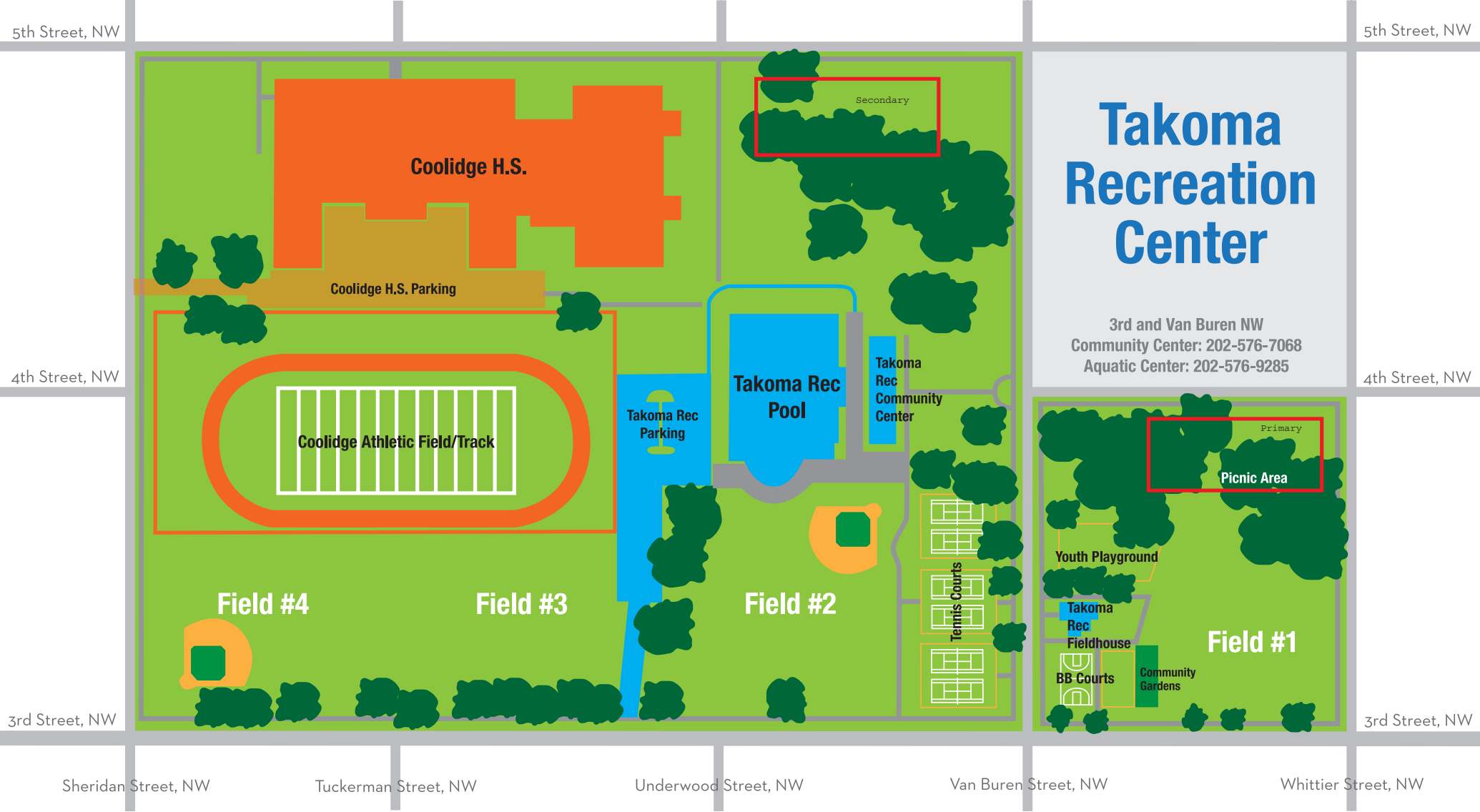
FEATURES

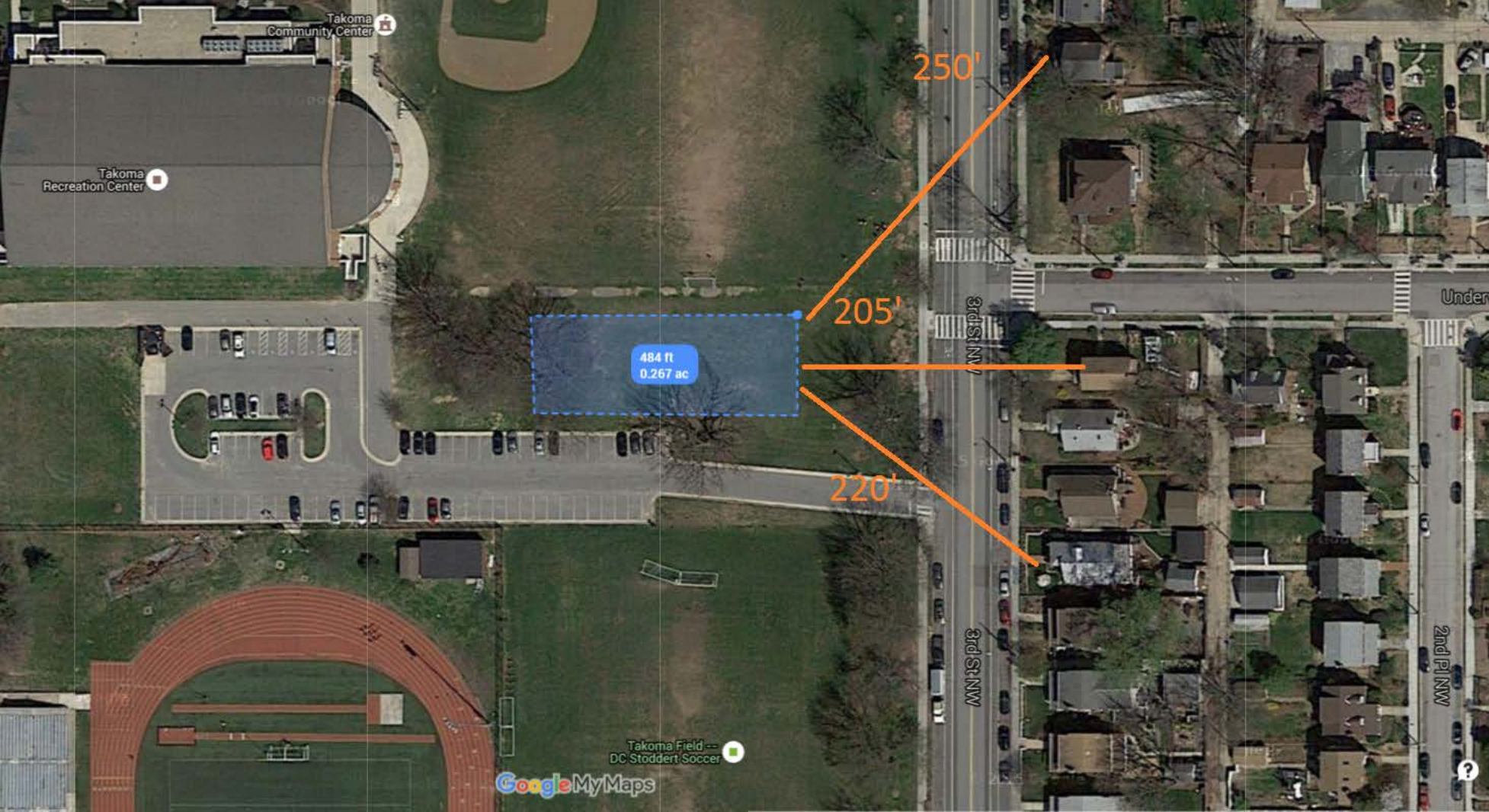
SOCIAL

CONTACT



Exhibit 6





Takoma
Recreation Center

Takoma
Community Center

484 ft
0.267 ac

250'

205'

220'

3rd St NW

3rd St NW

2nd Pl NW

Takoma Field --
DC Stoddert Soccer

Google My Maps



Muriel Bowser
Mayor

Exhibit 8
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Parks and Recreation



Keith A. Anderson
Director

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
michaelcohen5@gmail.com

September 29, 2015

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Per your September 4, 2015 FOIA express request, 2015-FOIA-04674, we are providing, with this letter, information pertaining to your request "please provide the total number of petition signatures included in all DC dog park applications. Please provide total amount of money spent (on construction) for each existing dog park in Washington D.C. [from 2004-2015]."

While the Freedom of Information Act, D.C. Official Code §§ 2-531 *et seq.* provides for the right to public documents, and your request is not for documents, DPR has processed the request anyway with the information that is available to us. The information was placed in the chart attached and the spaces indicating n/a are not available to DPR at this time. We are still trying to get this information and we will let you know when and if it is available.

Please know that under D.C. Official Code § 2-537 and 1 DCMR 412 you have the right to appeal this letter to the Mayor or to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. If you elect to appeal to the Mayor your appeal must be in writing and contain "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" or "FOIA Appeal" in the subject line of the letter as well on the outside of the envelope. The appeal must include (1) a copy of the original request; (2) a copy of any written denial; (3) a statement of the circumstances, reasons, and/or arguments advanced in support of disclosure; and (4) a daytime telephone number, and e-mail and/or U.S. Mail address at which you can be reached.

The appeal must be mailed to: The Mayor's Correspondence Unit, FOIA Appeal, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 316, Washington, D.C. 20004. Electronic versions of the same information can instead be e-mailed to The Mayor's Correspondence Unit at foia.mayor@dc.gov. Further, a copy of all appeal materials must be forwarded to the Freedom of Information Officer of the involved agency, or to the agency head of that agency, if there is no designated Freedom of Information Officer there. Failure to follow these administrative steps will result in delay in processing and commencement of a response to your appeal to the Mayor.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (202) 671-4122.

Sincerely,

Amy Caspari
General Counsel

Move • Grow • Be Green with 

1250 U Street, NW | Washington, D.C. 20009 | P: (202) 673-7647 | F: (202) 673-2087



www.DPR.DC.gov |   @DCDPR

Exhibit 8-A

| Name | Ward | Year Constructed | Address | Cost | Size (Sq Feet) | Application Signatures Received |
|---------------------------------|------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Chevy Chase Dog Park | 3 | 2012 | 41st & Livingston Sts., NW | n/a | 5,500 | 115 |
| Gage - Eckington Dog Park | 1 | 2011 | 286 V St., NW | n/a | 6,800 | 159 |
| Guy Mason Dog Park | 3 | 2013 | 3600 Calvert St., NW | n/a | 6,400 | 62 |
| Kingsman Dog Park | 6 | 2011 | D St. & Tennessee Ave., NE | \$335,465.21 | 11,500 | n/a |
| Lansburgh Dog Park | 6 | 2014 | M St. & Delaware Ave., SW | \$345,778.00 | 10,192 | 193 |
| Langdon Dog Park | 5 | 2012 | 2901 20th St., NE | \$243,387.60 | 11,350 | 197 |
| Newark Street Dog Park | 3 | 2010 | 39th & Newark Sts., NW | \$430,965.00 | 9,570 | n/a |
| S Street Dog Park | 2 | 2009 | 17th & S Sts., NW | \$614,051.00 | 5,500 | 109 |
| Shaw Dog Park | 2 | 2008 | 11th St. & Rhode Island Ave., NW | n/a | 13,500 | 445 |
| Upshur Dog Park | 4 | 2012 | 4300 Arkansas Ave., NW | \$322,174.33 | 9,220 | 182 |
| Walter Pierce Dog Park | 1 | 2008 | 20th & Calvert Sts., NW | n/a | 10,000 | n/a |
| Francis Dog Park | 2 | 2015* | 2435 N Street, NW | \$218,571.25 | 7,600 | 119 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| *Projected (under construction) | | | | | | |

Exhibit 9

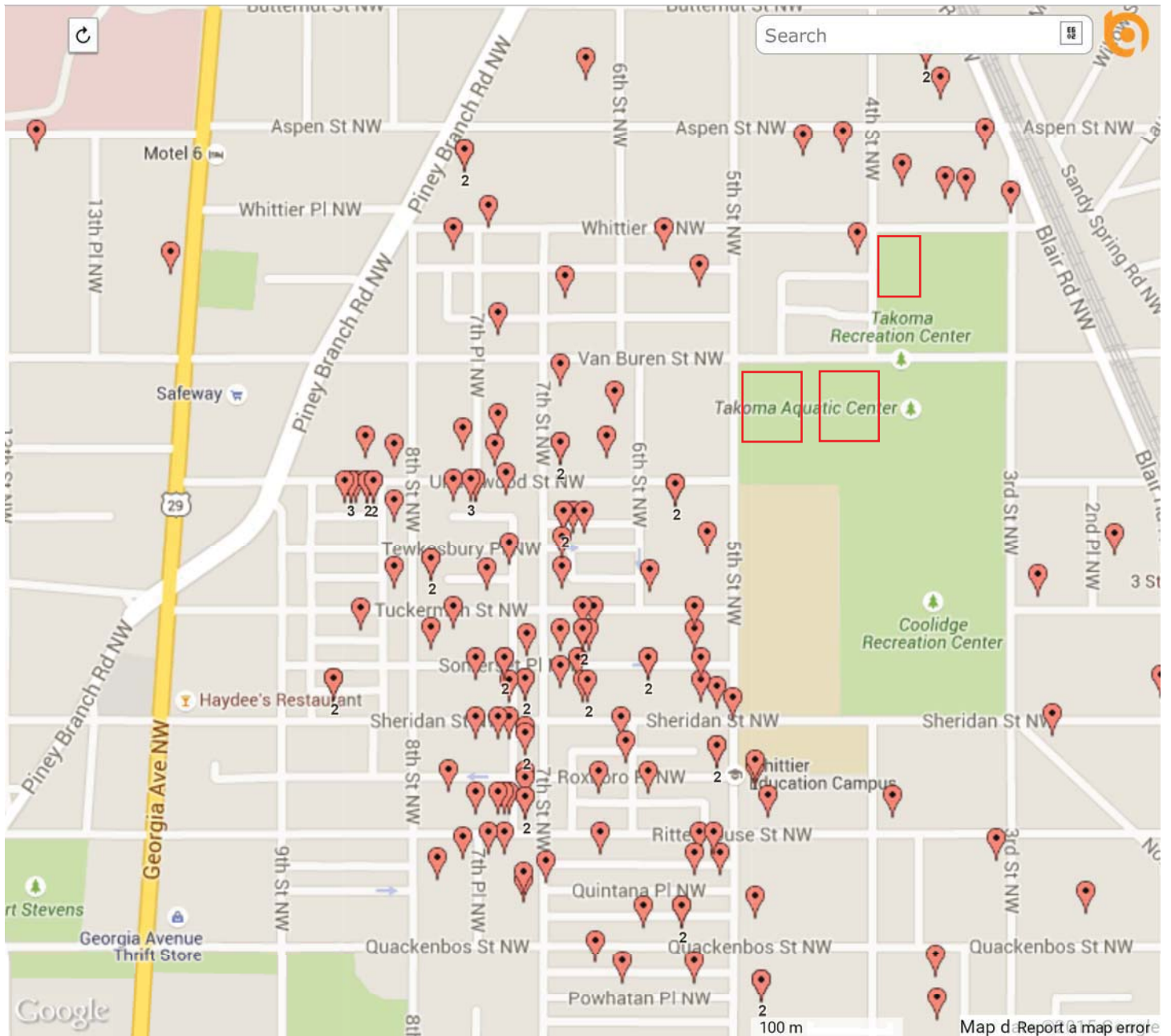


Exhibit 10

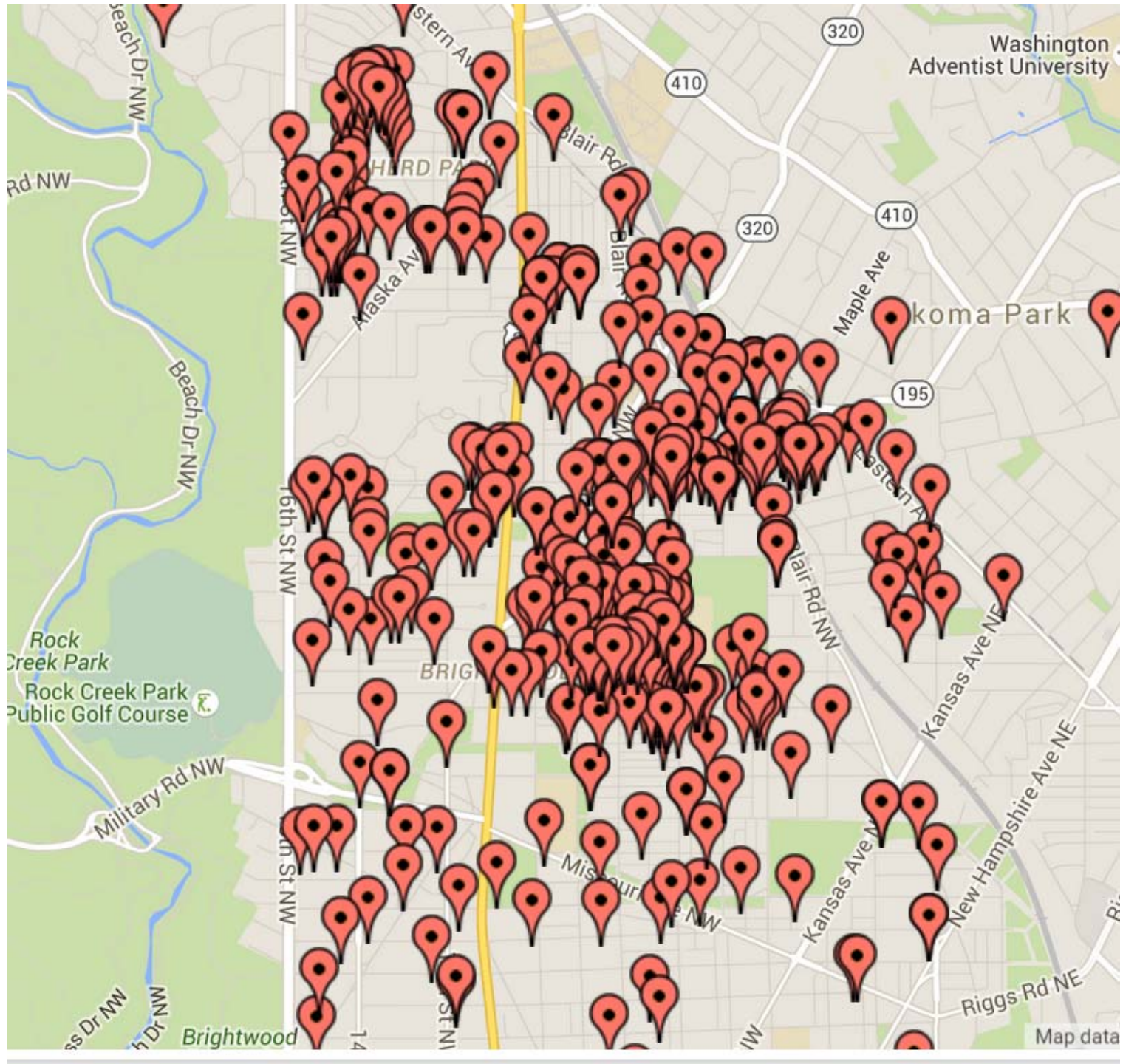


Exhibit 10-A

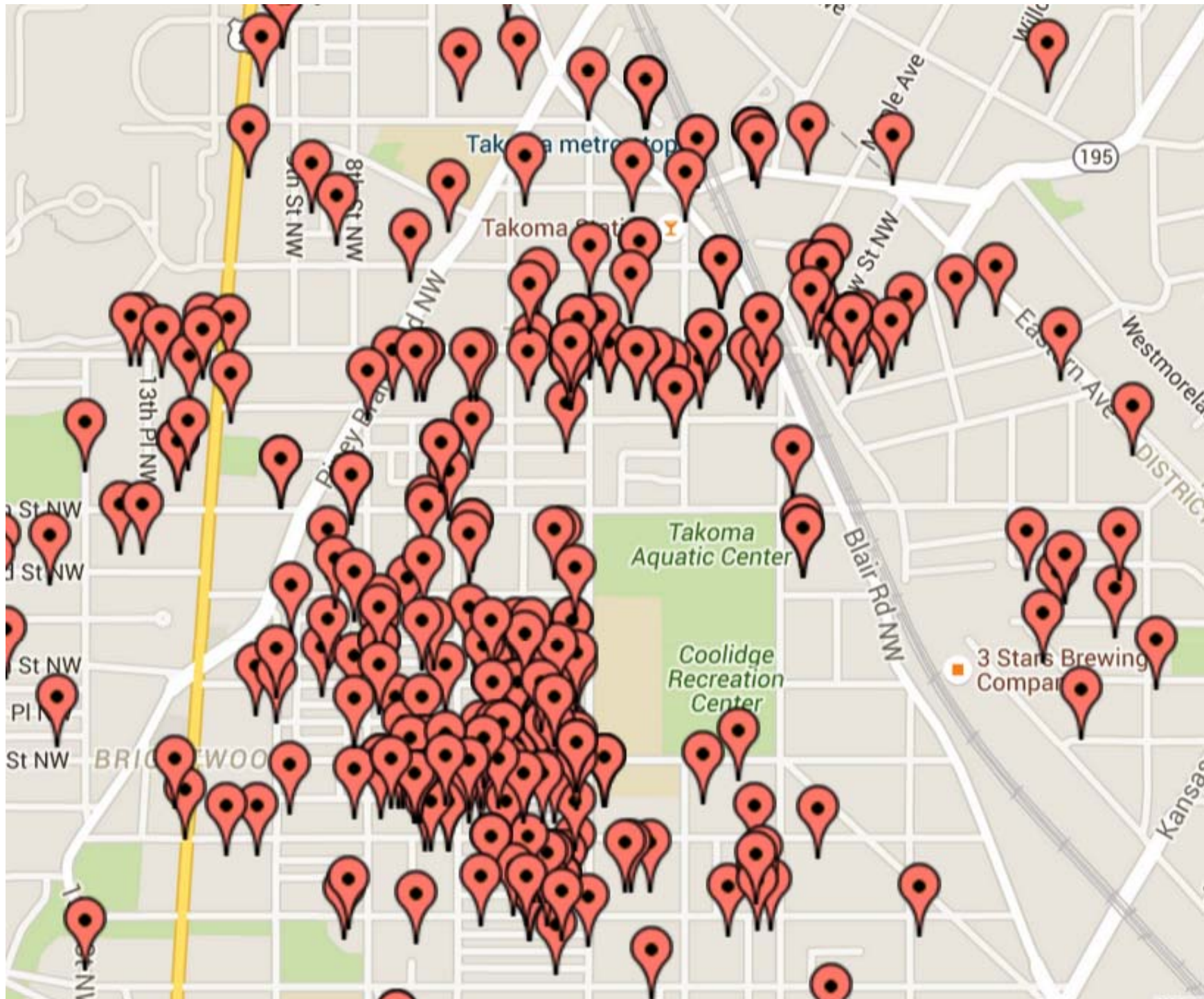


Exhibit 10-B

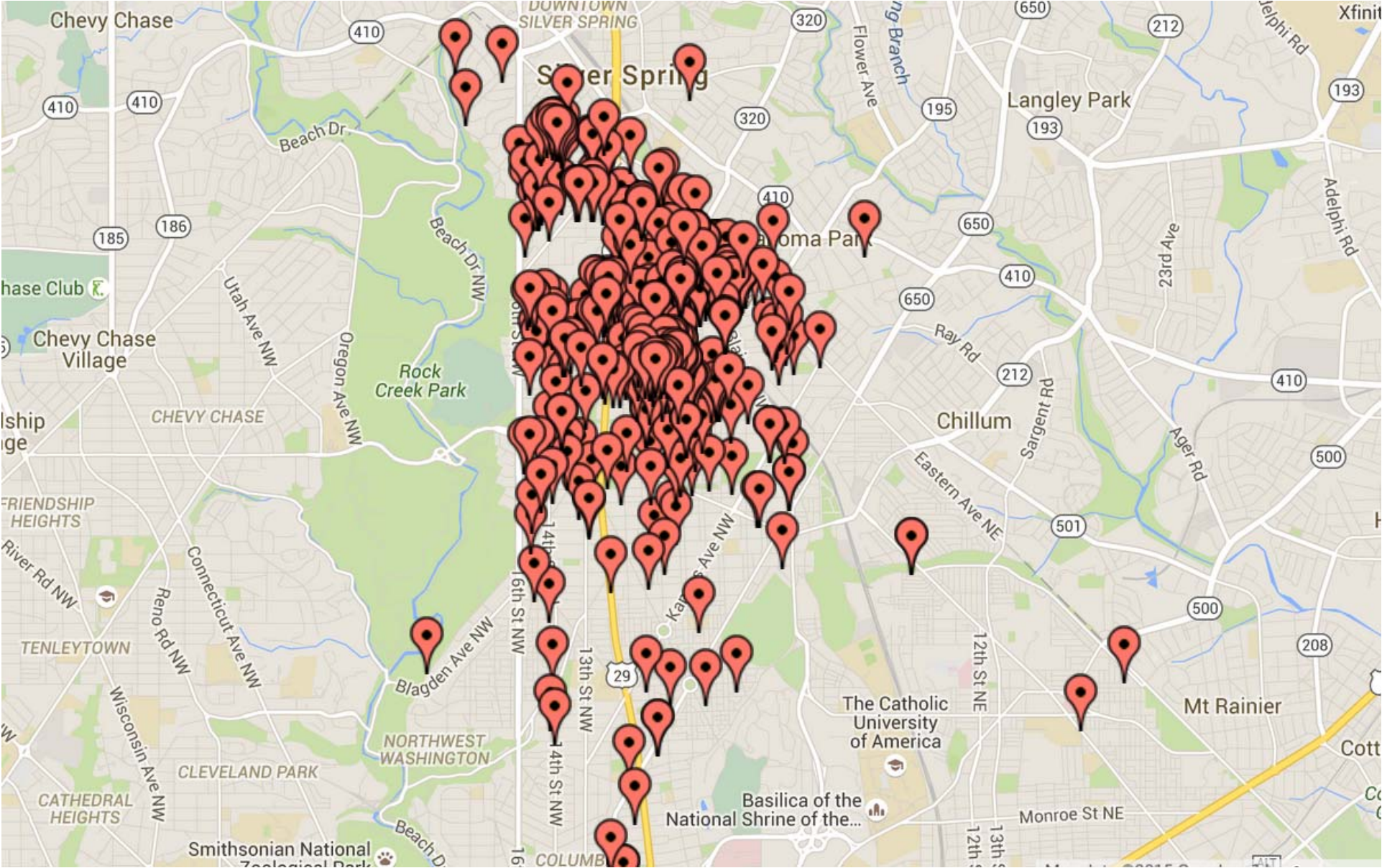


Exhibit 11-A

From: "Alan Forde" <afwineseller@gmail.com>
Date: Jun 20, 2015 5:57 PM
Subject: Northern Ward 4 Canine off leash area
To: <btodd@dccouncil.us>

Councilman:

You may remember me as the former consultant to Singh at Cedar Crossing, or you may remember me as the guy that auctioned off a couple of exclusive bottles of wine at Ethan Landis' office for Muriel's fundraiser

At least I hope you do. I live on Elder St NW, at the corner of 9th. Love the neighborhood, and my neighbors. It's great to see over the past couple of years the growing numbers of baby strollers and bikes with Training wheels on the streets. Even so, those of us with 4 legged family are only too acutely aware that in the blocks bounded by Georgia Ave, Fern, Blair Road and Aspen, there are roughly four times the number of households with canines than with kids.

A new baseball diamond was just installed at TEC, and already a couple of games have been played. But on an annualized basis, that baseball diamond will enjoy very few play hours when compared to an off leash area in the neighborhood, which will be utilized every day, four seasons, twice a day, by many many more people. Notice that I have refrained from calling this much needed space a "dog park". It is a people park, where people can gather and interact, not just sit on a bench and stare at their smart phones. That those people also get to interact with a range of effervescent, spirit raising canines, is just a plus.

I was involved in starting two off leash areas back in Atlanta, and the presence of those areas did a great deal for making the neighborhood more desirable. Many people came to hang out even though they didn't have a dog. Some mothers brought their younger....and I mean under 5 yrs old...kids so they could learn how to interact with dogs and not grow up afraid of them

You don't know how funny it is to see an 18th old baby running underneath the belly of an enormous Great Dane, and laughing his head off!

All this is to say, many, many of us here in Northern Ward 4 hope you will take the time to appreciate our needs, support our efforts, and encourage the establishment of an off leash recreation area for people and their best friends.

Regards,
Alan Forde



Exhibit 11-B

Mike Cohen <michaelcohen5@gmail.com>

[TakomaDC] Dog Park Objections at Takoma Recreation Center

christine.paluch@yahoo.com [TakomaDC] <TakomaDC@yahoogroups.com>

Sun, May 24, 2015 at 3:03 AM

Reply-To: TakomaDC@yahoogroups.com

To: TakomaDC@yahoogroups.com

While I am indifferent because I don't have a dog, there is a few considerations that need to made for the future of the community in which the dog park will be beneficial.

1. There is no such resource in this part of Ward 4.
2. There is going to be a significant influx of new residents with the following projects which are being built or will be built in the immediate future which are multifamily units with no yards: the apartment project by the metro station, the douglas development project behind CVS, the space just purchased on Georgia ave across from Walter Reed, never mind Walter Reed redevelopment itself. Likewise there will be others in the future as well.

As much as I find it pleasant people walking around their dogs in this community, I am cognizant of the issues which arise as a result of this community transitioning from one that is relatively sleepy single family homes and douplexes, to one with more apartments. I think the reality is the dog park transitions from a "nice to have", to a kind of needed. Yes, those with fenced in yards with dogs this is not a huge concern. But for the future of the community it is something that would improve the quality of life. Plus, I think people tend to forget we have the humane society and one of the better pet stores right as part of our community as well. This is already a big part of our local culture. I am kind of surprised this is even controversial. This strikes me as a resource in the community that can potentially foster better communications in the community.

While I prefer cats myself, I am in complete support of the dog park.

Christine

Posted by: christine.paluch@yahoo.com

[Reply via web post](#) • [Reply to sender](#) • [Reply to group](#) • [Start a New Topic](#) • [Messages in this topic \(13\)](#)

Community Websites:

TakomaDC.info: <http://www.takomadc.info>

Neighborhood Association (TDCNA): <http://TDCNA.org>

Takoma Education Campus: <http://takomaec.org>

Maggy's List of Service Providers: <http://maggyslist.wordpress.com>

[VISIT YOUR GROUP](#) [New Members 10](#) |

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Exhibit 11-C

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cynthia Lee** <cynthia.haramoto@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Jun 19, 2015 at 10:18 AM

Subject: support for a dog park in Northern Ward 4

To: "Todd, Brandon (COUNCIL)" <BTodd@dccouncil.us>

Dear Councilman Todd:

It was great meeting you at the SPCA Community Picnic last Sunday. Thanks for coming out and introducing me to your staff.

I am writing to urge your support for a dog park in upper northwest Ward 4. This will be on the agenda at this Monday's ANC meeting at the police station. Many residents of Shepherd Park can't travel that far to the nearest dog park in DC, which is not very close, and would appreciate having a place where our dogs can play off-leash with other dogs. I hope you will support the initiative to bring a dog park closer to our homes. Currently many residents have expressed support for a dog park near the Takoma Park Recreational Center. I urge your support for such a dog park and for one at Walter Reed Army Hospital.

Thank you,
Cynthia Lee

Exhibit 11-D

Hi Michael,

We are Elaine Ulrich and Ed Etzkorn and we own 400 Whittier St NW, the house that covers the largest swath of area facing the park area with the concrete shuffleboard slabs.

We'd like to formally weigh in and give support to a dog park there. The area is underutilized and poorly maintained. There is erosion, recently high schoolers have begun gambling there in the afternoons, and overall, it is an area that is difficult to use in any kind of recreational manner because the concrete slabs make it unsuitable for sports, picnics, or really anything.

We moved here after living directly across the street from the Congressional cemetery which was also an off-leash dog area and we very much appreciated the friendly and social activity associated with 4-legged friends.

We would love to see the park serving as many as possible in the community and there are so many dog owners, I can only imagine that this would increase the number of people (and pets) well served by our park space if outfitted with appropriate equipment and ongoing maintenance.

The main concern we would have is excessive night time lighting-as we do find that disruptive (even now the playground is lit all night which seems inappropriate and wasteful and has been shown to actually increase night activity without improving security www.darksky.org)

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss further. While we don't have pets of our own- we would welcome them to our street.

Best regards,

Elaine Ulrich and Ed Etzkorn

Exhibit 11-E

From: **Katherine Padgett** <katherine.penberthy@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jun 18, 2015 at 12:01 PM
Subject: Strong support for dog park at Takoma Rec Center
To: 4b01@anc.dc.gov
Cc: Greg Padgett <greg.padgett@gmail.com>

Dear André,

My husband and I are registered voters residing in your single-member district and we are writing to express our strong support for the proposal to establish a dog park at the Takoma Recreational Center. When we moved to our home in January 2014 from Columbia Heights one of the amenities that we lost was a dog park within walking distance of our home for our rambunctious black lab. Because we think Takoma is a wonderful neighborhood, reflecting the very best aspects of DC city living, we were surprised that such a popular and now-standard feature of any city neighborhood would be missing. Accordingly, we were very excited to learn about Michael Cohen's group's efforts to locate a dog park in Northern Ward 4 and we strongly support the efforts to get the park specifically located at the Takoma Recreational Center. We believe a dog park will enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood and do not believe there are any objectively reasonable grounds to oppose the location of a dog park at the rec center.

As the parents of a newborn, we are unable to attend Monday's ANC meeting where we understand that a resolution opposing the dog park will be introduced. We strongly urge you to either vote against any resolution to oppose the dog park or postpone consideration of the resolution indefinitely. Should we hear that you provided any support to the efforts to oppose the dog park, we will be extremely dissatisfied constituents.

Sincerely,

Katherine and Greg Padgett
7217 8th Street NW



Mike Cohen <michaelcohen5@gmail.com>

Happy to hear this!

Ellen London <ellenrogerslondon@yahoo.com>

Tue, May 26, 2015 at 11:37 AM

Reply-To: Ellen London <ellenrogerslondon@yahoo.com>

To: "info@northernward4dogpark.org" <info@northernward4dogpark.org>

Hello -

We received your letter over the weekend and are in full support of your efforts to create a dog park at 4th and Whittier. We are cat owners...but love dogs and would be delighted to see them get the chance to run in the park! And beyond that, we have seen an increase in burglaries on our block this spring. We were broken into for the fourth time in ten years, and believe an increase in resident presence - at all times of the day - would help alleviate some of the crime. Let us know when you need our support -

Bill and Ellen London
421 Whittier Street NW



Mike Cohen <michaelcohen5@gmail.com>

Ward 4 Dog Park

Matthew Courtad <mjcourtad@yahoo.com>

Thu, Oct 15, 2015 at 5:27 PM

Reply-To: Matthew Courtad <mjcourtad@yahoo.com>

To: "4B06@anc.dc.gov" <4B06@anc.dc.gov>

Cc: "jcarnes@dccouncil.us" <jcarnes@dccouncil.us>, "mblackwell@dccouncil.us" <mblackwell@dccouncil.us>, "lhuff@dccouncil.us" <lhuff@dccouncil.us>, "Office of Ward 4 Councilmember Brandon T. Todd" <btodd@dccouncil.us>

Dear Commissioner Austin,

Thank you for taking the time to read this email and for organizing the special meeting last night at MPD's 4D Community Room. I attended the meeting until 8:45pm; I didn't expect the meeting to go so long and had to leave before I had the chance to say what am about to say in this email.

I am a homeowner living at 715 Tuckerman Street NW, in former Commissioner Grant's SMD. I have lived there for over 5 years and have lived in the area over 8 years. I am currently not a dog owner, but am in full support of establishing a dog park in 4B. I used own a dog many years ago and my finacè are in the process of adopting two dogs. I am not a "core member" of the dog park group, but I support the initiative, have signed their petition and hope that you and a majority of the ANC will vote to proceed with establishing the dog park.

I completely understand the reservations of the few, vocal community members against the dog park, yet I believe that their arguments against the park are unfounded. Concern was voiced over the dog park leading to an increase in attacks by dogs on people, yet the DOH representatives stated that this is a myth and the DPR representative stated that he's never been contacted about such attacks. A gentleman voiced concern over community events not being able to be held in the park due to the proximity of the dog park, yet also stated that the closest the events reach the proposed placement of dog park would provide "40 feet" of space between the fence and the perimeter of the event - the equivalent of a 4-storey building.

There is concern about noise from the park disrupting church services and the peace and quiet of local residents in the immediate. I believe that residents supporting and planning to utilize the dog park are responsible dog owners and that they are as concerned with noise as folks who don't have dogs. I also believe that residents against the dog park have more to be concerned about from dog owners in the community that are not responsible dog owners. Lastly, there is a concern that residents were not provided sufficient notice regarding the dog park. I found out about the discussion of the dog park in Spring of this year; 531 signatures have been received since August; I firmly believe that the Mr. Cohen and his colleagues

have canvassed the community to get input from the members about whether they support the park as well as its proposed locations and alternate sites. Just because a few residents didn't answer the door when Mr. Cohen and the group knocked on it doesn't mean that an entire effort should collapse. There has been ample opportunity for these residents to interact with the dog park group. It is quite apparent that there are more people in favor of allowing a dog park to be built than there are those vocally against it, including other members of the ANC Commission.

On account of the unfortunate passing of Fred Grant, I understand from ANC rules that you have the ability to endorse the creation of the dog park in his place as the ANC Commissioner of 4B. I hope that you will be able follow through with his stated desire to see a dog park constructed in 4B. I wish you the best in trying to persuade your colleagues on the ANC to vote for the application of the dog park to proceed.

Have a good day.
Sincerely,
Matt Courtad

715 Tuckerman Street NW



Mike Cohen <michaelcohen5@gmail.com>

Dog Park in Takoma

Scott Giacoppo <SGiacoppo@washhumane.org>

Fri, Nov 20, 2015 at 11:17 AM

To: "4b06@anc.dc.gov" <4b06@anc.dc.gov>, "4b01@anc.dc.gov" <4b01@anc.dc.gov>, "4b02@anc.dc.gov" <4b02@anc.dc.gov>, "4b03@anc.dc.gov" <4b03@anc.dc.gov>, "4b04@anc.dc.gov" <4b04@anc.dc.gov>, "4b05@anc.dc.gov" <4b05@anc.dc.gov>, "4b07@anc.dc.gov" <4b07@anc.dc.gov>, "4b08@anc.dc.gov" <4b08@anc.dc.gov>, "4b09@anc.dc.gov" <4b09@anc.dc.gov>

Cc: "michaelcohen5@gmail.com" <michaelcohen5@gmail.com>, "greg.padgett@gmail.com" <greg.padgett@gmail.com>

Dear Chair Austin and the Commissioners of ANC 4B:

My name is Scott Giacoppo, and I am the Chief Community Animal Welfare Officer for the Washington Humane Society. As you may know, WHS is an animal-welfare agency chartered by Congress in 1870. In addition to handling animal care and control throughout the District, we also operate all of our cruelty investigations and an animal adoption center and training facility within ANC 4B, on Georgia Avenue between Fern and Geranium.

I have recently learned that residents in the Takoma/Brightwood neighborhood are working to establish a dog park at the Takoma Recreation Center. On behalf of WHS, we wholeheartedly support this proposal. Many residents in this neighborhood (and, of course, all over the city) include dogs as part of their families, and to have a nearby dog park would be a wonderful addition-for everyone. Dog parks allow pets to learn vital socialization skills, to exercise and remain healthy, and to spend time with their owners, all in a safe, fun setting. Plus, the dog park would serve as a gathering place for the community, lead to more foot traffic and thus eyes on the street, and promote pet registration (since all of the dogs would need to be registered to use the park).

Placing the park at the existing Takoma Recreation Center seems like a perfect use of that space, and based on the success of other parks in the District I believe that it would make this great neighborhood even better. We at WHS hope that you will strongly consider this initiative.

Best regards,

Scott

Scott Giacoppo

Chief Community Animal Welfare Officer

Washington Humane Society