



Attachment - 5

Pop-up Off-Leash Dog Area Site Reviews Summary

Pop-up Off-Leash Dog Area Site Reviews Summary

Performance, Durability and Use

Parks Planning and Development Staff monitored the Pop-up Off-Leash Areas for twelve months starting October 2023 until September 2024. This included detailed observations of the site conditions and overall usage by residents. The staff visited each site weekly for the first four (4) months and bi-weekly for the following eight (8) months. The following parameters were observed and recorded during each visit:

1. Date and time of visit
2. Nature of any past concerns
3. Gate and fence integrity
4. Groundcover quality
5. Placement of all required signage
6. Garbage receptacle capacity
7. Number of dogs within the location
8. Instances of off-leash dogs outside of the designated area

Ground Cover Quality

Parks Planning, Design and Construction Staff monitored the surface conditions for one full year through all four seasons.

All pop-up sites except Monarch Park site have natural grass as ground cover. Monarch Park site dog area has wood chips as ground cover.

The **Table - 1** below shows the average groundcover quality each month from September 2023 to September 2024.

The results show good to excellent groundcover quality in Fall 2023, and average groundcover quality throughout the winter. In the first spring, the quality of groundcover was sporadic between all locations with some in poor condition, and most in fair to average conditions. In the summer, this improved to good condition except for Monarch Park and Mintleaf Park which remained poor to average condition.



TABLE -1														
Off-Leash Dog Area Pilot Sites - Average Ground Cover Quality														
Ward	Park	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Ward 1	Cricklewood Park	E	G	A	F	S	F	F	A	A	G	A	G	G
Ward 2	Victoria Square Park	E	G	F	A	S	P	F	F	F	A	A	G	G
Ward 3	Monarch Park	E	G	A	G	S	P	F	G	G	A	F	P	P
Ward 4	Mintleaf Park	E	G	F	A	S	G	P	F	F	A	A	A	A
Ward 5	Blodwen Davies Park	E	E	A	A	S	P	A	A	A	A	A	G	G
Ward 6	Berczy Park South	E	G	F	P	S	F	F	F	P	F	G	G	G
Ward 7	Aaniin Community Centre Park	E	G	A	G	S	F	F	A	F	A	G	G	G
Ward 8	Ada Mackenzie Park	E	G	F	F	S	P	A	F	P	F	G	G	G
Note: Groundcover quality is considered improved when there is a reduction of wet conditions, or coverage of snow.														

Legend: E (Excellent), G (Good), A (Average), F (Fair), P (Poor), S (Snow)

Waste Bin Capacity

Table - 2, below outlines the percentage of time over the past year the dedicated Pop-up Off-Leash Area waste bins were either nearly empty, had some capacity, or were nearly full.

The data shows that the most used locations, had more instances with somewhat full or nearly full waste bins, and therefore less time the waste bins were left empty. While less used locations had more time with empty waste bins and less time with some capacity or nearly full.



TABLE - 2				
Ward	Park	Percentage of time Nearly Empty	Percentage of time with Some Capacity	Percentage of time Nearly Full
Ward 1	Cricklewood Park	100%	0%	0%
Ward 2	Victoria Square Park	77%	19%	4%
Ward 3	Monarch Park	88%	12%	0%
Ward 4	Mintleaf Park	81%	15%	4%
Ward 5	Blodwen Davies Park	96%	4%	0%
Ward 6	Berczy Park South	77%	23%	0%
Ward 7	Aaniin Community Centre Park	65%	35%	0%
Ward 8	Ada Mackenzie Park	58%	27%	15%

Waste Bin – Household Waste

Table – 3 below outlines the percentage of time over the past year the dedicated Pop-up Off-leash waste bins had household garbage within them.

The data shows that more used locations had greater instances of having household waste within the waste bins.

Ward	Park	Instances with household garbage (%)
Ward 1	Cricklewood Park	0%
Ward 2	Victoria Square Park	19%
Ward 3	Monarch Park	0%
Ward 4	Mintleaf Park	12%
Ward 5	Blodwen Davies Park	4%
Ward 6	Berczy Park South	4%
Ward 7	Aaniin Community Centre Park	8%
Ward 8	Ada Mackenzie Park	35%

Site Visit Notes

The following are the main notes and findings from site visits over the past year:

1. Small dogs were observed going underneath the gate. In response, plastic bottom flaps were installed, although a few broke and had to be replaced.
2. 1-2 months after opening, grass started to wear within the entrances.
3. 3 months after opening (December) entrance areas began to get muddy.
4. Residents placed picnic tables within the Pop-Up Off-Leash Areas.
5. In November, Mintleaf Park and Monarch Park were extremely wet and difficult to access and use.
6. The Pop-up Off-Leash Area at Cricklewood Park was not safely accessible in the winter due to the steepness of the hill while frozen.
7. Mintleaf Park and Monarch Park were not accessible during the spring and fall as the pathway in Monarch Park was muddy and flooded, while Mintleaf Park had no entrance pathway and the surrounding grass was extremely wet.

Recommendations

The following are recommendations based on the data:

1. Prior to summer, Off-Leash Areas require new seeding or sod at the entrances.
2. Monarch Park and Mintleaf Park locations require additional drainage methods to remain accessible year-round.
3. Cricklewood Park location is not safely accessible for many months of the year.
4. Waste bins should continue to be consistently emptied, and if household waste is found, additional signage or other deterrence measures may be required.



Ward 1: Cricklewood Park



Ward 2: Victoria Square Park



Ward 3: Monarch Park



Ward 4: Mintleaf Park



Ward 5: Blodwen Davies Park



Ward 6: Berczy Park South



Ward 7: Aaniin Community Centre Park



Ward 8: Ada Mackenzie Park

