



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

QUINLAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
10185 NORTH STELLING ROAD • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-5732  
TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3120 • FAX: (408) 777-1305  
CUPERTINO.ORG

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Meeting: June 3, 2021

#### Subject

Update on the Extension of the Dog Off-Leash Area Trial at Jollyman Park.

#### Recommended Action

Receive an update on the extension of the Dog Off-Leash Area trial at Jollyman Park and provide any input.

#### Discussion

The Dog Off Leash Area (DOLA) was a City Work Program item that began in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and resulted in the DOLA trial at Jollyman Park, recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission at their September 5, 2019 meeting. The trial was initially scheduled through the spring and summer months, during which time the mixed-use field would be permitted to youth baseball and soccer groups. Due to COVID-19 impacts and the lack of data available regarding the coexistence of youth sports organizations and the DOLA trial, the item was extended to the Fiscal Year 2020-21 City Work Program.

In response to the County's Shelter-In-Place Order and COVID-19, the trial was temporarily suspended from March 17, 2020 through June 4, 2020. The DOLA reopened on June 5, 2020 in accordance with State and Santa Clara County guidelines. At that time, youth sports and games were still prohibited by the State. Without sufficient data to assess how well youth sports and a DOLA were able to co-exist, the Parks and Recreation Commission provided their support at their July 2, 2020 meeting to extend the DOLA trial to June 30, 2021 or until sufficient data is collected. Additionally, the Commission supported updating the Jollyman DOLA trial hours to be one hour before and one hour after sunset.

Following the extension, use of the Jollyman baseball and soccer field was not permitted during Fall 2020. A permit was approved for Cupertino Little League to use the field beginning April 20, 2021. Their current usage is two days per week and represents less than half of a normal season.

The new Athletic Field Use Policy was adopted by City Council on May 4 and will go into effect on July 1. The new policy changes the permitting process to an hourly fee and may impact field use requested at Jollyman, as sports groups are expected to only reserve the space they require. The impact of the new policy on reservations will not be apparent until Spring 2022. Furthermore, the Santa Clara County Mandatory Directives during COVID-19 required telework for most City employees and prevented staff from observing the DOLA. With these considerations, the Jollyman DOLA trial should be extended to June 30, 2022 in order for the City to have sufficient data to determine if Jollyman Park is a suitable location for a DOLA.

Extending the trial is not expected to negatively impact the existing pilot which would continue during this time and maintain the same hours of one hour before and one hour after sunset. This extension will allow staff to observe how the DOLA interacts with sports groups, once COVID restrictions ease, and activities are able to resume closer to their normal capacity. Impacts will be monitored regarding the updated field use policy. Staff will use this time to collect feedback from the community (Attachments A and B), monitor activity at the Jollyman DOLA, and will continue to maintain an observation and incident log (Attachment C), with data from the City's 311 application, Code Enforcement, San Jose Animal Control, and the Sheriff's Office to adequately determine the feasibility of a Jollyman Dog Off-Leash Area.

Next steps include updating the City's DOLA website with the latest information and revising signage at Jollyman Park to note the extended date for the trial.

Sustainability Impact

No sustainability impact.

Fiscal Impact

\$200 from existing funds to update the a-frame signage at Jollyman Park.

---

Prepared by: Karen Levy, Recreation Coordinator

Reviewed by: Jenny Koverman, Recreation Supervisor

Approved for Submission by: Joanne Magrini, Director of Parks and Recreation

Attachments:

A – Written Comments to the Commission for the June 3, 2021 Meeting

B – Public Comment Log

C – DOLA Observation and Incident Log