

Communication Received Regarding the Jollyman Dog Off Leash Area Trial

Date	Name	Feedback
10.24.19	Nancy Cantor	dog off leash at Jollyman running throughout the park that morning. Feels unsafe. Permanent signs are gone, temporary signs not where you enter the park
	City response--Jenny Koverman	confirmed permanent signs are still in place, 2 a-frames are at 2 entrances to park, recommended she contact Code/Sheriff non-emergency if dogs are off-leash during non DOLA hours. Provided phone numbers
10.25.19	Catherine Coe	Questions regarding the evaluation process, what type of violation would stop the trial, what type of coverage would we have, who is paying for the monitor, how can they report violations, when did the hours change, signs have been moved to expand area (included pictures)
	City response--Jenny Koverman	explained how the City would be evaluating the trial, how incidents would be dealt with, how rule violations would be handled. P&R is paying for the monitor--trying to find PT staff but FT staff have gone out a couple times. Explained procedure for reporting violations, the rationale behind the hours, and went over why the signs had been moved after the first couple of days.
10.27.19	Carol Stanek	asked about adjusting the hours
	City response--Jenny Koverman	Explained how hours were chosen--based on survey, staff looking at avg. time for dusk.
10.29.19	Carol Stanek	I got another question about the times again today when I was at the dog park. The users are getting concerned as we get closer to ending Daylight Savings Time.
10.30.19	City response--Jenny Koverman	spoke with Randy about the off-leash area yesterday. We are keeping the times as posted at the DOLA for the duration of the trial. Should we move forward with off leash areas in the city, the open hours will be addressed. Based on the survey results, the most preferred time for the trial was late evening to dusk. We created the times because we were trying to be true to the evening time. When the sun sets earlier in the winter, that would mean the open time could be as early as 3pm, which is outside late evening to dusk. There will also be a point in the summer that closing at 8pm will be earlier than dusk. In deference to those whose houses back up to the off-leash area, we felt 9pm might be too late.
10.30.19	Carol Stanek	Thanks for the response. Unfortunately I respectfully disagree with the decision. I don't think survey results were intended or can be detailed enough to address specifics like when the sun sets. This is setting up a situation where the users have to choose between living within this parameter (which effectively negates the trial for 4 of the months) or using the DOLA outside of the approved parameters, which is exactly what the residents and city were trying to avoid by creating this area and trial. The residents have been extremely supportive of the city's process. I'm sure they would have liked to resolve this without escalating it. Thanks for the feedback. I will notify the users at the park who have asked me about the hours. Always tough to be the bearer of bad news.
11.1.19	Sameer Raheja	asked about adjusting the hours, he and Randy talked on the phone and per Randy's suggestion he asked for the hours to be discussed at the Commission meeting
11.7.19	Sameer Raheja	Thanks for putting the DOLA update on the agenda for the commission meeting this week.
11.15.19	City response--Karen Levy	I would like to inform you that effective December 1, 2019 the DOLA hours will be adjusted to 4:00pm-6:00pm. After further staff review we felt it was important to establish a compromise that would satisfy all park users. The next two weeks will provide staff the opportunity to produce new signs and disseminate the information to the public. Please continue to adhere to the current guidelines set in place. We appreciate your cooperation and we hope that this change is an improvement that allows you to better utilize the DOLA during the trial. We continue to welcome your feedback as we work through the DOLA trial period.
11.16.19	Sameer Raheja	asked if we could set up a regular meeting with City staff and the DOLA group
11.18.19	City response--Kim Calame	agreed to talk to Randy when he returned but didn't see the need for monthly meetings.
3.10.20	Uparkar Bhushan	First of all, I would like to thank you for the fantastic and ground breaking work you have done, to enable the Cupertino community and their dogs the opportunity to use our local resources equitably, by approving a 10 month trial for the Dogs off-leash Area two hours a day in Jollyman Park. I and my dog(s) are an avid user of this facility and we absolutely love it. I like this place as its close from my house and surrounded by lush green grass. I use the park almost 6 days a week and my dog, Roman has lot of friends in this park. It would be great. if we could get water fountain near DOLA. Finally, I am sorry I could not attend the March Parks and Recreation meeting where an update on this project was discussed (or I attended but did not stay as it was very late). I would like to request you to please make this trial a permanent feature of the park. In fact, I would highly encourage that this should be expanded to other Cupertino parks, as well. That way the population of 11,600+ dogs in Cupertino will all have "time based" access to our wonderful parks.
3.10.20	Raj Avasarala	First of all, I would like to thank you for the fantastic and ground breaking work you have done, to enable the Cupertino community and their dogs the opportunity to use our local resources equitably, by approving a 10 month trial for the Dogs off-leash Area two hours a day in Jollyman Park. I and my dog(s) are an avid user of this facility and we love it. I have 6 year old lab retriever. She looks forward to meeting her friends every day during this time. During the social interaction between the dogs in the 2 hour off leash time, she releases all her pent-up energy. This keeps her physically and mentally healthy. It would also be great if a dog water fountain could be installed in the off-leash area. Finally, I am sorry I could not attend the March Parks and Recreation meeting where an update on this project was discussed. I would like to request you to please make this trial a permanent feature of the park. In fact, I would highly encourage that this should be expanded to other Cupertino parks, as well. That way the population of 11,600+ dogs in Cupertino will all have "time based" access to our wonderful parks.

3.10.20	Sayuri Nishimura	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to express my opinion on the issue. I am one of many happy dog owners that visit Jollyman DOLA regularly. Before becoming an avid user of Jollyman DOLA, I had visited many nearby dog parks or dog-friendly parks including those in neighboring cities like Sunnyvale, and San Jose.</p> <p>Jollyman park is not the nearest park from my home. Mary Avenue Dog Park is closer. Still I go to Jollyman, not Mary Avenue Dog Park. The reason is because my dog is happier at Jollyman. The keyword here is "happy". If my dog is not happy, there is no point for me to go there. Let me address two points that people may have concerns against DOLA with. 1. Risk of dog being off-leash If people think that off-leash dog means risk, then I think that having a well-marked area/hours would make the risk more manageable. If you ask any dog owner if he/she has ever let the dog play off-leash in places other than the backyard or dog runs, the majority would answer yes. It may imply that dog owners find facilities that would make their dogs happy are not readily available. Given the reality, if we have DOLA, more dog owners may choose to come to DOLA instead of letting their dogs off-leash elsewhere. It might even help reducing dog incidents rather than increasing. 2. Conflict to other activities I did not see many other activities in the fields near DOLA at DOLA hours. We could add the wording on the DOLA signs and say that anybody who want to have an activity near DOLA at DOLA hours, you could contact the following number to discuss and resolve any issue or conflict.</p>
3.10.20	Deepa Mahendraker	<p>First of all, I would like to thank you for the fantastic and ground breaking work you have done, to enable the Cupertino community and their dogs the opportunity to use our local resources equitably, by approving a 10 month trial for the Dogs off-leash Area two hours a day in Jollyman Park. I and my dog(s) are an avid user of this facility and we love it. Myself, my husband and my 7 year old Golden Baby (named ACE), love to go there DAILY. *EVERY* *SINGLE* *DAY*, rain or shine. We carry a communal water bowl and a big bottle of water for all our thirsty four legged friends, and settle down for 45 minutes to an hour of unparalleled fun. We catch up with our neighbors, complain about bosses, talk about family lives, exchange notes on the politics and COVID19. A thriving, growing family of dog lovers community making instant bonds and connections! Needless to say, it is the highlight of our day and our dogs' day. Finally, I am sorry I could not attend the March Parks and Recreation meeting where an update on this project was discussed. I would like to request you to please make this trial a permanent feature of the park. In fact, I would highly encourage that this should be expanded to other Cupertino parks, as well. That way the population of 11,600+ dogs in Cupertino will all have "time based" access to our wonderful parks. I DO NOT WANT DOLA TO STOP AFTER JULY 31. Please find an interim solution, while you work towards a permanent plan so there is no break in our routine. It is hard to tell a Dog why we can't go to the park any more (or worse: to go and be out of compliance with the park rules).</p>
6.18.20	Charlie Hanson	<p>I am a charter member of this group. I was a daily visitor to Jollyman since the park was first built and have seen many changes. The best was "legalizing" our off leash dogs. This trial has served as a model for the many other unofficial DOLA's in Cupertino's other parks. I encourage you to make the Jollyman DOLA a permanent feature for our dogs and their owners. The DOLA has been a tremendous way to meet our neighbors and their dogs.</p>
6.19.20	City Response-Whitney Zeller	<p>Thank you for sharing your feedback regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial at Jollyman Park. Your comments will be included in the documentation we provide to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial. We appreciate all feedback and encourage members of the public to continue to share their observations and comments.</p>
6.18.20	Mary Ellen Chell	<p>I have been a resident of Cupertino since 1991. My puppy and I absolutely love the off leash area at Jollyman Park. It is a wonderful place for him to go and be a dog among other dogs. Please, please keep this going. I do not have two legged children, but I continue to pay my full taxes for the schools, even though I could get the senior discount. All I ask is a little bit of space for me and my dog to go out and have fun! Thank you!</p>
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6.18.20	Edith Nelson	<p>I live in the Jollyman Park area (November Drive) and I am interested in seeing the extension of the DOLA. Everyone has been SO cooped up for months. We love our pets and happy pets make happy families! Please seriously consider all the ways this would be positive in people and pet lives if you extend this program.</p>
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6.18.20	Deepa Mahendraker	<p>We have been working with the city to open the DOLA trials for our dogs for nearly three years. It is unfortunate that along with many other normal activities, the trial was shut down during COVID 1. Thank you and the county for opening it up on June 5th 2020 2. Please continue the DOLA beyond its original end date of July 31, till there is a permanent resolution. Due to COVID, we only were able to use the place for 4 months out of 8 so far, though and we have provided the usage data. Please consider this email a request to vote to continue DOLA trials during the upcoming Parks and Recreation meeting.</p>
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6.18.20	Shripad & Shamal Patki	<p>We have been participating in the DOLA trial over the last few months. Both of our dogs have enjoyed the opportunity to play along and socialize with other neighborhood dogs there. It is unfortunate that along with many other normal activities, the trial was shut down during COVID 1. Thank you and the county for opening it up on June 5th 2020 2. Please continue the DOLA beyond its original end date of July 31, till there is a permanent resolution. Due to COVID, we only were able to use the place for 4 months out of 8 so far, though. Please consider this email a request to vote to continue DOLA trials during the upcoming Parks and Recreation meeting.</p>
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6.18.20	Tony Alexander	I would like to share with you how happy my dog Indy and I are now the DOLA is operational again. It is not just the off leash exercise and socialization that is important for the dogs, it is also the community aspect where so many of us have got to know each other in the surrounding neighborhoods. The camaraderie friendship are not the only factors, we know often where each other lives and it helps us all keep an eye out for each other and suspicious activity in the area which strengthens the Neighborhood Watch concepts as we walk around when not in the park. In the park our activity in the evening when there is little use of the other facilities is also a deterrent to others who cruise by and take off when they see it is in use. Please consider extending or making permanent the Dogs Off Leash program and build a stronger community. If any of you have dogs please walk on over to the park and join us.
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6.19.20	Gail Marzolf	I would like to request an extension of the Jollyman DOLA trial due to the COVID-19 SIP closure. As a 50+ year resident of Cupertino, a life-long dog owner, and neighbor of Jollyman Park, I see this DOLA one of the best additions to the neighborhood! I have visited the DOLA often and have made many friends through these visits. Please extend the trial.
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6.19.20	Sameer Raheja	Thank you for giving us the opportunity to show you the dog off leash area trial can be a success! We hope you will extend the trial until a final decision on the status of the off leash area is reached.
6.22.20	City Response-Whitney Zeller	Thank you for sharing your feedback regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial at Jollyman Park. Your comments will be included in the documentation we provide to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial. We appreciate all feedback and encourage members of the public to continue to share their observations and comments.
6.20.20	Madhu Krishnan	We regularly take our dog to DOLA at jollyman park. Our dog enjoys meeting her friends and running around with them. The dogs that come to the park regularly are friendly and obedient. The dog owners are also very responsible. We hope you will continue to keep DOLA open for our furry children.
6.22.20	City Response-Whitney Zeller	Thank you for sharing your feedback regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial at Jollyman Park. Your comments will be included in the documentation we provide to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial. We appreciate all feedback and encourage members of the public to continue to share their observations and comments.
6.22.20	Bhushan & Prerana Uparkar	First of all, I would like to thank you for the fantastic and groundbreaking work you have done, to enable the Cupertino community and their dogs the opportunity to use our local resources equitably, by approving a 12 month trial for the Dogs off-leash Area two hours a day in Jollyman Park. I and my dog(s) are an avid user of this facility and we absolutely love it. I like this place as its close to my house and surrounded by lush green grass. I use the park almost 7 days a week and my dog, Roman has a lot of friends in this park. It would be great. if we could get a water fountain near DOLA. I would like to request you to please make this trial a permanent feature of the park. In fact, I would highly encourage that this should be expanded to other Cupertino parks, as well. That way the population of 11,600+ dogs in Cupertino will all have "time-based" access to our wonderful parks.
6.24.20	City Response-Whitney Zeller	Thank you for sharing your feedback regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial at Jollyman Park. Your comments will be included in the documentation we provide to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial. We appreciate all feedback and encourage members of the public to continue to share their observations and comments.
6.22.20	Manjaya Hedge	Again thank you for granting the DOLA trial in Jollyman park which ends on July 31, 2020. We request you to extend the trial period for another year or make it a permanent dog park. Here are the benefits: 1. While dogs and their owners love playing in them, dog parks can create a safer, more active, pet-friendly community. Dog parks make your community safer by offering a secure area for dogs to play and socialize, without getting in the way of others. 2. Behavior problems are the number one reason pets are brought to shelters or abandoned. Having access to a dog park means your pal can get the vital exercise he needs while becoming socialized. These things combined with training can drastically reduce the number of behavioral issues, such as barking and digging, that lead many to give away their pet. Because of this, the overcrowding of shelters can be reduced.
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6.22.20	Vidya	I have been taking my dog (we live near Black berry farm) to Jollyman DOLA Area It has been a great experience for our family. Highly recommend that we implement similar projects in other Santa clara parks.
6.24.20	City Response-Whitney Zeller	Thank you for sharing your feedback regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial at Jollyman Park. Your comments will be included in the documentation we provide to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the Dog Off Leash Area trial. We appreciate all feedback and encourage members of the public to continue to share their observations and comments.
5.24.21	Margaret Lem	My dog loves the place, and it becomes a must go for her. Please make the off-leash dog park at Jollyman park to be permanent. Thank you!