



RESOLUTION 2024-205

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ADDITION OF FENCING AND FORMALIZATION OF EXISTING USE PATTERNS CONCEPT PLAN AT THE DOG PARK AT MINNEHAHA REGIONAL PARK WITHOUT A PUBLIC HEARING

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is the steward of the Minneapolis park system;

Whereas, MPRB was created by the Minnesota Legislature in April 1883 and has the authority to manage and operate park facilities;

Whereas, The MPRB owns and operates Minnehaha Regional Park;

Whereas, The off-leash dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park is currently not fully fenced and does not meet the standards set at other MPRB owned dog parks;

Whereas, The off-leash dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park has been operational for over 25 years with a majority of users taking their dogs off leash outside the established off-leash boundary and onto adjacent parcels not owned or managed by MPRB;

Whereas, The adjacent parcels are owned by the Department of Veteran's Affairs and the Minnesota Historical Society;

Whereas, The adjacent parcels are managed by those agencies and also the National Park Service (NPS), which have differing leash policies for dogs;

Whereas, The MPRB has received grant funds in the amount of \$55,000.00 from the NPS to implement fencing at the dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park;

Whereas, The MPRB staff propose to construct fencing along the property boundary to formalize existing use patterns and keep off-leash dogs out of adjacent parcels;

Whereas, The community engagement plan developed for this project was followed to inform park users of the project through project on-site signage, on-site engagement, and project webpage; and

Whereas, This resolution is supported by Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036, which envisions Goal 1 to "Foster belonging with equity," Goal 3 to "Provide core services with care," and Goal 4 to "Work from our strengths and determine our role in partnerships;"



RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners approves the concept plan for the addition of fencing and formalization of existing use patterns concept plan at the dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park without a public hearing; and

RESOLVED, That the President of the Board and Secretary to the Board are authorized to take all necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.

Commissioners:



TO: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

FROM: Michael Schroeder, Assistant Superintendent, Planning

DATE: 1 October 2024

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ADDITION OF FENCING AND FORMALIZATION OF EXISTING USE PATTERNS CONCEPT PLAN AT THE DOG PARK AT MINNEHAHA REGIONAL PARK WITHOUT A PUBLIC HEARING

BACKGROUND

This resolution considers approval for the addition of fencing and formalization of existing use patterns concept plan at the dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park without a public hearing (*Attachment A*).

The dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park is located south of 54th Street between Hiawatha Ave and the Mississippi River. It shares a western boundary with the Department of Veteran’s Affairs and to the south with the Minnesota Historical Society.

The community engagement level for this project was set as Inform because the project does not necessitate participatory scoping, the fence design is technical in nature and the dog park existing use patterns would be formalized rather than changed. Community engagement included an on-site event, yard signage placed along existing entrance points and fencing, and a project page on the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board website.

Staff are requesting approval of this concept plan without a public hearing based on guidance from a memo submitted to the Board of Commissioners on June 15, 2022, adjusting public hearing procedures for site renovation projects.

The improvement project includes the addition of fencing segments and posts largely following the MPRB property line along with a vehicular maintenance gate and a chicane-style double entry gate at the dog park entrance.

FUNDING/COST SUMMARY

Sources		\$ 55,000.00
National Park Service grant	\$55,000.00	



Uses		\$ 55,000.00
Fencing Construction	\$ 55,000.00	
Remainder		\$ 0.00

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTIONS

NA

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the concept plan for the addition of fencing and formalization of existing use patterns concept plan at the dog park at Minnehaha Regional Park without a public hearing.

This action is supported by the following goals and strategies in Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036:

Goal:

01. Foster belonging and equity

02. Steward a continuum of nature and recreation

04. Work from our strengths and determine our role in partnerships

Strategy:

1.7: Continually convene conversations between those with different priorities for the parks.

2.7: Provide both unprogrammed natural spaces and recreational park amenities throughout the system.

4.13: Collaborate with other agencies and organizations to share best practices in parks and recreation, governance, engagement and public service.

Attachments:

1. Attachment A - Dog Park Fencing Concept Plan