

## Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire

1. Do you have a dog? If so, where are your favorite places to walk your dog? **Yes. I walk them on the neighborhood streets. Sometimes in the Water Dog Open Space, but that is rare.**

2. The City of Belmont has 337 acres of open space filled with wonderful trails. Dogs are only allowed on 2 trails, the Lake Road trail and the Water Dog Lake Loop trail, both in Water Dog Lake Park. Dogs must remain on-leash on these trails. Do you believe:

- (a) There should be some off-leash trails and more on-leash trails.
- (b) These trails should allow off-leash dogs, but no additional on-leash trails.
- (c) The amount of off-leash trails (none) and on-leash (2 trails) is just right.
- (d) There should be no off-leash trails and fewer on-leash trails.

Please explain your choice. **I'm not aware of a prohibition of dogs on any trails in Water Dog Open Space. However, I think the number one priority in the open space should be the protection and peace for the wildlife, as this is their home and where they forage and hunt. Dogs can be very disturbing to wildlife, especially if their human companion doesn't care about wildlife and allows their dog to chase, or otherwise disturb the wildlife.**

3. Cipriani Dog Park is the only Belmont park that permits dogs off-leash: Do you believe:

- (a) Additional parks should allow dogs off-leash.
- (b) This is the right amount of off-leash dog parks for Belmont.
- (c) Cipriani Park should no longer have an off-leash area.

Please explain your choice. **A. City parks should allow off-leash dogs as long as the dogs are friendly, under voice control and their human companion picks up their poop. I think the number one reason people don't want dogs in parks is because some people act irresponsibly and don't pick up their dog's poop. This gives all dog people a bad name. I would like to hear any suggestions you have for solving this problem.**

4. Should schools in Belmont allow people to walk dogs on-leash and/or off-leash on weekends and/or evenings? If so, which schools? **I am for dogs being allowed on school grounds if we can solve the problem of irresponsible human companions who don't pick up their dog's poop. I fully understand that kids, and adults, don't want to be utilizing the school grounds and step in dog poop. If we can solve the poop problem public opposition to dogs on school grounds would be minimal.**

5. Do you believe there are Belmont parks that should no long permit dogs on-leash? Please elaborate? **No. However, I do support a zero-tolerance policy for people who don't pick up their dog's poop. Dog people need to help police their own, otherwise public support for prohibiting dogs in open areas will only grow.**

6. Is there anything else you would like voters to know about your position on recreational dog walking access? **I am very pro-dog, but also very pro-responsible human companion. Parks and open spaces are a shared resource and everyone needs to respect that, by not doing things that negatively impact the environment and the experience of other users. I mostly walk my dogs on the street and I just don't understand people who don't pick up their dog's poop or leave their poopy bag on the street. In my old San Mateo neighborhood there was an area near the water**

**tower where people allowed their dogs to poop and didn't pick it up. We called this area "poopy alley," and it smelled. I wouldn't have wanted to live across the street from "poopy alley." When I leafleted Ringling Bros. Circus at the Stockton Arena the people who lived on the streets around the Arena would let their dogs poop and didn't pick it up; the streets smelled. Dog poop smells and no one wants to smell or step in it. In fact on my dog walks if I see dog poop on a lawn that my dogs regularly poop on I will pick up the poop, because I don't want the residents to think my dogs pooped there and I didn't pick it up. If we can solve the problem of irresponsible human dog companions – i.e., not picking up their dog's poop - this survey would probably be unnecessary.**

Pat CuvIELlo  
Printed Name

/s/ Pat CuvIELlo  
Signature

9-3-20  
Date

*Thank you for answering these questions. We plan on putting your answers on our website to make it easy for your constituents to view your positions.*