

Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire

1. Do you have a dog? If so, where are your favorite places to walk your dog?

Although I am a “dog guy,” we do not have a dog. One of my daughters has extreme allergy to dog hair and we have never gone past that.

2. Are there parks, open spaces, and/or trails in your district which: *(mark all that apply)*

- (a) Do not allow dogs that you believe should allow dogs on-leash or off-leash?**
- (b) Permit dogs on-leash, but you believe should allow dogs off-leash?**
- (c) Allow dogs off-leash, but you believe should only permit dogs on-leash or not at all?**
- (d) Allow dogs on-leash, but you believe should not allow dogs at all?**

Please elaborate.

I think the beach still requires dogs on leash, but my observation is that many ignore it and it seems they have stopped enforcing it with COVID initially closing the beaches. Generally I favor off-leash where there are large open spaces, like beach, Fort Funston, Polo Fields etc. Places with lots of foot traffic, like GG Park Bandstand area, can require leashes.

3. What are your thoughts about allowing people and their dogs on leash access to California State Parks beyond the parking lot? Would you carry such legislation?

I would support this type of legislation.

4. Are you supportive of off-leash walking opportunities in Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and retaining the current off-leash dog walking at Fort Funston?

I thought change over to GGNRA was a mistake. Now “leash” rules are set by bureaucrats at Dept Interior. The folks with most juice (and inside connections) get their way. That has tended to be environmentalists. While many are nature-loving dog owners, there is a strong trend to leave everything “untouched.” When they get these types of regulations implemented, it is almost impossible to reverse them. Instead of SF Board of Supes listening to the locals who vote for them, the decision is made in DC.

5. Are you supportive of on-leash dog walking and some off-leash dog walking opportunities in San Mateo County parks in Assembly District 19? (FYI: Currently San Mateo County allows 8% on-leash and 0% of its parks off-leash dog access; Mid-Peninsula Open Space allows 26% on leash and under 8% off leash)

I favor more access for dog owners. As above, off-leash where practical and on-leash where needed, such as parks with playgrounds or limited open space.

6. Is there anything else you would like voters to know about your position on recreational dog walking access?

As I said, I am a “dog guy” and would generally support more dog walking access.

John P. McDonnell
Printed Name


Signature

September 15, 2020
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.