

Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire

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

Yes, I have a nine-year-old cocker spaniel mix that we adopted when he was 2 years old. We love to walk around our neighborhood, the Baylands and Foothill Park.

2. Palo Alto allows dogs on all trails in open space preserves except weekends and holidays at Foothill Park. Do you believe:

- (a) There should be some off-leash trails.
- (b) Foothill Park should allow dog access on weekends and holidays.
- (b) The amount of off-leash trails (none) and on-leash is just right.
- (c) There should be no off-leash trails and fewer on-leash trails.

Please explain your choice.

I would be an advocate of off-leash trails and allowing dog access on the weekends and holidays at Foothill park. The park is very open and large and can accommodate this. I've not seen any issues with well trained dogs and I think the trails are well situated to allow off leash dogs in some areas.

3. Palo Alto has small fenced in off-leash dog areas in Greer Park, Hoover Park and Mitchell Park: Do you believe:

- (a) Additional parks (or more area in these parks) should allow dogs off-leash.
- (b) This is the right amount of off-leash dog parks for Palo Alto
- (c) One or more of these parks should no longer allow dogs off-leash.

Please explain your choice.

I think many parks in Palo Alto have underutilized space that can accommodate expansion of off-leash dog areas. I've visited parks in Mountain View and even San Francisco that have facilities that would be great to have in Palo Alto. I think dog parks are great for bringing the community together.

4. There is a proposal to test off-leash hours at two Palo Alto parks (other than the fenced in dog run areas at Mitchell, Greer and Hoover parks). Do you support this proposal? Do you support the overall concept of limited off-leash hours at some Palo Alto parks? Please elaborate.

Yes, I'm supportive of this. I've seen off leash dogs already in many other Palo Alto parks even though not explicitly allowed so I think it's better to have more formalized spots for this.

5. Do you believe there are Palo Alto parks, trails and open space that should no long permit dogs on-leash? Please elaborate.

No, I do not.

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

I love dogs and think it's very reasonable for us to have facilities for them.

Ajit Varma
Printed Name

Signature

9-2-208
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.