

# Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire

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

I do not currently have a dog. Unfortunately, my landlord does not allow dogs. I grew up with dogs, including:

1. a golden retriever named Charlie.
2. a chocolate lab named Travis.
3. a golden retriever named Clicquot.
4. a golden retriever named Chloe.
5. My parents currently have a golden retriever named Cuvee.

I love Ft. Funston.

## 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 am open to studying some off-leash trails or areas. Personally, I prefer to keep my dogs on their leash for their own safety and so they don't get lost or in trouble. Typically, me and my dogs feel more secure being off leash if it's a beach, pond or an enclosed area. Yes. Like Palo Alto's residency requirement for weekend and holiday access, the current restriction seems arbitrary or outdated. Foothills Park has not reached peak capacity in two decades. If dogs are permitted during the weekdays, there doesn't seem to be much of an environmental or capacity issue that would justify the current restriction.

## 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 am in favor of fenced in areas for off-leash dogs at any smaller neighborhood park that can fit one. Residents should have a place they can bring their dog on a daily basis that is close to their homes -- that's why we have so many, smaller neighborhood parks.

## 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 have no issue with pilot programs, of any sort. If it works, then it works. If it doesn't, it provides us with valuable information about how we might make it work in the future. We won't know, unless we try.

I am generally supportive of the concept of limited off-leash hours at some Palo Alto parks, as long as there is an expectation that dogs are trained, well behaved and don't have any prior incidents with other dogs or humans. We would have to put in place procedures if a dog-owner abuses this privilege.

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

No. Unless I am shown compelling evidence that dogs are causing an un-preventable environmental impact, I am generally in favor of allowing on-leash dogs,

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

Dogs are important members of many Palo Alto families. And with everything going on this year, I think enabling greater access for dogs would enhance both human and canine mental wellbeing.

Steven Lee

/s/ Steven D. Lee

9/14/2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
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.*