



Peter Misersky: 30 dog-owner vehicles, 30 plus barking dogs, after hours in the dark

How We Got Here...

Staff are now well aware of the social and functional ***dynamics of a dog-park.***

Councillors were not aware of the ***social implications of fencing a dog-park.***

Nor were Councillors aware that there ***hadn't been any 'resident' neighborhood engagement completed*** by staff in developing the Off Leash Policy and Implementation Plan.

Councillors had to rely on staff to provide proper process and to locate fenced-in dog-parks in a proper area.

Staff are very reluctant to admit mistakes. Staff usually make decisions and act based on the information 'they' consider 'appropriate' at the time.

".....this particular project/scope of work does not trigger a Planning Act requirement to consult or notify [Residents]."

July 4, 2019 Luke Jefferson

Council have listened to staff recommendations on this matter.

I invite you now, to please listen to the people.



Peter Misersky: Multiple dogs barking/owners standing around; decommissioned ballfield doesn't drain; urine/fecal contamination

Where We Are Now...

Resident Impacts:

Dog, Dog-owner and Vehicular NOISE

Dog-owner Behavior and demand for AFTER HOURS ACCESS

*Vendor disclosure of dog-park affects **PROPERTY VALUES***

Purpose of Report:

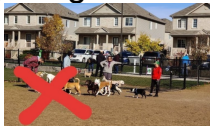
"To update the previously approved implementation plan of the Leash Free Policy with respect to Lee Street Park and to provide an update on operational mitigation strategies to address resident concerns at Peter Misersky Park and Bristol Street Park fenced leash free facilities."

Information utilized by staff:

- 1) Off Leash Survey (only dog-owners invited)
- 2) Peter Misersky & Bristol resident meetings (engagement after the fact)
- 3) Phone Survey (600 city wide; no residents contacted)

Information NOT utilized by staff:

- 1) Dog-Owner Petition (Change.org; 286 signatures)



We did not get what we asked for and the City did not do extensive research like they said they did. We want parks that do not disturb residents, are minimum 2 acres and are open until 10 p.m.

- 2) Bylaw Enforcement complaint records (Residents contact bylaw everyday)

Lee Street not continuing because:

- Neighborhood park
- No adjacent parking
- Resident 'Concerns' (Impacts)

"We recognize Lee Street is a neighborhood park with no adjacent parking, which has never been ideal." 29 January 2020 Heather Flaherty

Mitigation for Resident 'Concerns':

- Setbacks to 25 meters
- Planting buffer trees
- Camera surveillance



Peter Misersky Park (0.75 acres)

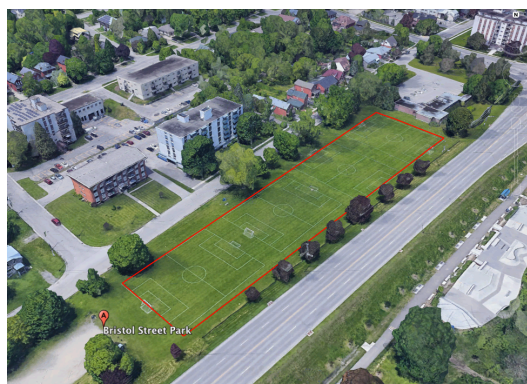
7am it starts, multiple dogs barking, owner voices, car-doors, vehicle security and gate slamming and continues **well after dusk** sometimes after midnight; **worse on weekends** because dog-owners are not working. – Close to 40 households directly impacted.

90% of all dog-owners using Peter Misersky dog-park **drive to the location** - simply count the dogs, count the parked cars. Majority of these dog-owners are coming from central-downtown, Exhibition Park and south Guelph.

35%* of Canadian households have at least one (1) dog; **47,500 Guelph dogs** (135,000 pop. x 35%). **10%* of dog-owners** will drive to an off-leash location; **~5,000 dogs transported** to an off-leash area while residents are told by staff to drive elsewhere for recreation. *Canadian Veterinary Medicine Association (CVMA)

A property **vendor must disclose proximity** to any animal facility – including a dog-park. Adjacency to a dog-park translates to a **20% reduction in property value**.

As a **municipal facility, dog-parks** are required to have appropriate **liability coverage**. All dogs, therefore, must be licensed to access a city fenced-in dog-park. Successful dog-parks in Ontario **require licenses** and are **self-governed by dog-owner or community** organizations. Potential **revenue stream** for operations and capital expenditures. (5,000 dogs x \$40 annual license fee = \$200,000)



Bristol Street (1.48 acres)

Where to Go from Here....

Resident Impacts:

Dog, Dog-owner and Vehicular NOISE

Dog-owner Behavior and demand for AFTER HOURS ACCESS

*Vendor disclosure of dog-park affects **PROPERTY VALUES***

*Mitigation: **RE-LOCATION***

Why was ***Eastview Community Park ignored*** in the original off-leash implementation plan although the Off-Leash Survey, involving only dog-owners, ***specifically recommended Eastview*** as the ideal location?

Eastview has ***2.27 acres*** available for a fence-in dog-park that has ***zero proximity*** to residential, has ***ample parking***, adjacent ***accessibility*** and is in fact ***winter serviced***.

A considerable number of dog-owners utilize Eastview on a daily basis for their dog recreation – trails and open spaces. Majority of these ***dog-owners drive to Eastview***.



Eastview (2.27 acres)

***IF DOG-PARKS ARE LOCATED AWAY FROM RESIDENTIAL,
RESIDENT IMPACTS ALL DISAPPEAR...***

RECOMMENDATION:

Committee to direct staff to not move forward with Lee Street, not to pursue any mitigation measures for Peter Misersky or Bristol, immediately close Peter Misersky and re-locate that dog-park to Eastview Community Park.

Thank You for Listening

Additional opportunities:



Grange Road (5.67 acres)

Zero proximity to residential

Ample parking

5 min. walk from parking and suburban neighborhoods

Note: Fergus dog-park is 5 acres of meadow and woodlot....and has no fencing.

Go Out and Talk to the People....