

Cold Lake Off Leash Dog Park

Nov 12 2019

Topics of Discussion

1. Community desire for a second park
2. Proposed rules and regulations for the park
3. Central location of park
4. Park specifications
5. Projected cost

Community desire for a second park

- According to the 2015 Blackfalds Off Leash Dog Area strategy, the provision of off leash dog areas is trending nationally. Data suggests that between 30 – 35 % of Canadian households own a dog. The City of Cold Lake currently has only 1 off leash area for dogs. It is a re-purposed baseball diamond located in the former Makenzie area of 4 Wing that was basically taken over by residents when it was no longer used for sports.
- We would like the council to consider the building of a new, more centralized off leash park that would allow residents to exercise their dogs in a fun and safe environment. A quick search of Alberta cities with a population of 10,000 – 14,000, show established off leash, fenced areas in at least 7 of those cities including Blackfalds, Whitecourt, Lacombe, Wetaskiwin and Canmore with 5 off leash areas.
- Having a dedicated area for the canine community would allow for safe, regular exercise and would hopefully deter owners from frequenting other restricted city spaces such as the beach with their dogs. It would also encourage residents to socialize with other citizens of Cold Lake, while at the park, thus promoting a stronger sense of community. This area would also be a welcome resource for those who are visiting or vacationing or camping in the Lakeland area.

Proposed rules and regulations for the park

- **Disclaimer:** Use of the Cold Lake Off Leash Park is at your own risk. Owners are legally responsible for the actions and behaviors of their dog(s) at all times. By entering this dog park, the user agrees to hold the City of Cold Lake harmless and free of liability from any actions of the park user(s) or their dog(s). The City of Cold Lake assumes no responsibility for any accidents/incidents to dogs or people while in the park. The City of Cold Lake will not be responsible for lost dogs. Use of this dog park constitutes acknowledgment of this Disclaimer.
- Park users agree to fully comply with all park rules.
- All dogs must be licensed in Cold Lake or their respective municipality and must wear a tag while in the park.
- All dogs must have current vaccinations.

Proposed rules and regulations cont'd

- Dogs must be kept on leash when entering and exiting the park entrance.
- Owners are responsible for picking up after their dogs and properly disposing of waste/feces. Any hole dug by their dog must immediately be filled by owners.
- Any dog showing signs of aggression must be removed immediately. Owners are legally responsible for their dogs and injuries caused by them.
- Female dogs in heat are not permitted to enter.
- Puppies under the age of 5 months are not permitted.
- A maximum of 3 dogs per owner at a time.
- Dogs must be supervised by an adult at all times. No children under age 5. Children ages 6 – 14 must be accompanied by an adult.
- No food or treats (human or canine), cigarettes/cigar smoking or vaping is allowed in the park.

Central location of park

- We would like to propose Imperial Park as a central and easily accessible area for an off leash park. It is situated between Cold Lake North and South and is frequented by many area residents for numerous sporting and social activities.
- If located near the original ball diamonds, there is already a large parking lot that would lower the cost to build the park.
- Imperial Park and the Energy Centre are very recognizable areas in the Lakeland making the off leash park easy to locate for those who are visiting and vacationing in the area.

Park specifications

- An ideal off leash area would include at least 2 separate areas with a staging enclosure. One for smaller dogs under 14 inches to allow them to exercise and play without fear of the larger dogs.
- There is no size recommendation for the off leash areas.....but of course, the larger the better. That way owners and dogs could enjoy walking the park and not congregating at the entry.
- A five foot fence would work but a 6 foot fence would certainly deter any canines from escaping and hopefully wildlife from entering.
- A water source would be appreciated to reduce over-heating in the summer months. Owners would provide their own portable bowls.
- Besides the main gate, a larger maintenance gate should be included in each area to allow for emptying garbage's and grass cutting.
- Waste bag stations and garbage cans would be required.
- Benches or picnic tables are usually included in a park.
- Agility equipment or other dog sports could follow. Fund raising by local clubs or even sponsorships by local retailers could alleviate further city costs.
- Lights would be beneficial with the shortened days from fall to spring.

Projected Cost

- An inquiry to Phoenix fence resulted in a quote of \$25 ft for 6 foot, installed chain link fence.
- Working on the basis of a 2.5 acre large dog area and .5 acre small dog area, this would equal approximately \$ for the perimeter.
- Waste bag stations can be purchased from several websites. An idea of cost would be from \$165 US to \$290 with a garbage can. 2 stations for the small dog area and 4 for the large area should suffice for the suggested sizes of fenced yards.
- Water source.....?
- Lights.....?

Proposed Site of Dog Park

- To the right of the parking lot

Lakeland
Lutheran Church

Google

Proposed Site of Dog Park



 Cold Lake High School