

# Area for Dogs @ Washington Park

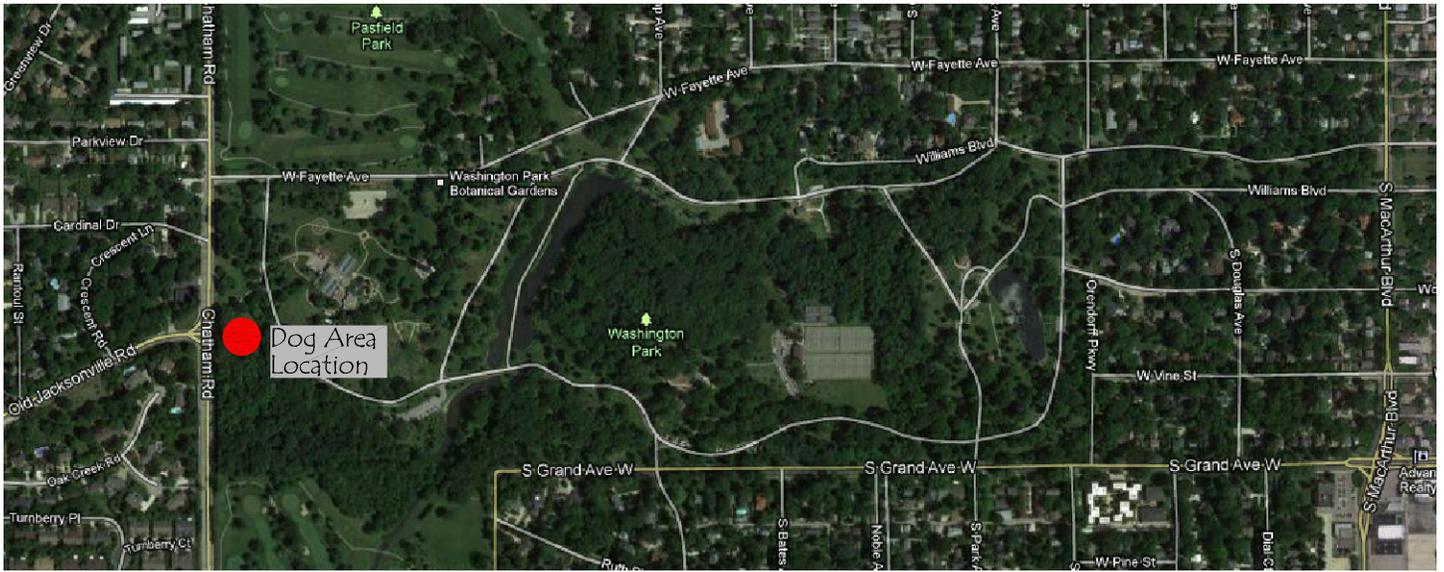
10-10-2013

Key points of consideration for the proposed dog park location:

- 1.) The 1.2-acre site of the proposed dog area is on the west edge of Washington Park, between Chatham Road and the west park road. The site is naturally screened from the rest of the park by a densely vegetated drainageway along the park road. The site's gentle 2-7% slope provides adequate site drainage.
- 2.) This area of the park is virtually unused by the public. A small part of the location is currently used by staff for composting botanical garden waste.
- 3.) Most of the area now has scattered trees and turf that is regularly mowed. A small part on the southern edge of the proposed area is densely overgrown with volunteer trees and invasive non-native species including Bush Honeysuckle shrubs and Wintercreeper vines.
- 4.) To create the dog park good quality trees would be preserved and new trees would be planted to enhance the historic character of the park. Hardy turf similar to that used on sports fields would be established by over-seeding the existing lawn turf. To transform the over-grown area, non-native invasive species would be eradicated.
- 5.) Site improvements would primarily include open metal perimeter fencing with gates. No major earth work or pavement changes are foreseen. Basic items for the area would include benches, trash receptacles, regulatory signs and a potable water fountain if feasible for the use of owners and their dogs. Other features typically found in dog areas also have been discussed if donated funds are raised and are deemed appropriate for retaining the park's aesthetic character.
- 6.) The proposed location is accessible from the existing park road (shared use roadway for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians) and from the Chatham Road/Old Jacksonville Road crosswalk. Parking is available at both the upper parking lot off Fayette Ave. and at the lower parking lot near the lagoon.
- 7.) High-quality materials would be used that provide years of use with little maintenance. If possible, two areas for small dogs and two areas for large dogs would be designated. Their use could then be alternated to allow rejuvenation of the turf.
- 8.) A maintenance fund for upkeep is proposed as a part of the fund raising effort. Volunteer assistance with maintenance and management are also anticipated.
- 9.) Rules and regulations would be similar to those currently established at Stuart Park.

# Washington Park – Potential Dog Area

July 18, 2013



Location Map



Dog Area