

**From:** [Ramsden Park DOA](#)  
**To:** [Councillor Saxe](#); [Toronto East York Community Council](#)  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for Removal of Commercial Dog Walkers in Ramsdon Park June 11, 2024  
Toronto and East York Community Council  
**Date:** June 11, 2024 8:57:50 AM

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the June 11, 2024 Toronto and East York Community Council meeting requesting the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation remove commercial dog walkers from Ramsden Park.

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

I am the Chairman of the Ramsden Park Dog Owners Association, which was formed in accordance with the City's People, Parks and Dogs Policy of 2007.

Ramsden Park Dog Owners Association supports Councillor Saxe's request for the removal of the classification of Commercial Dog Walkers for the Dogs Off-Leash area in Ramsden Park. Our community-based Dogs Off-Leash area is too small to support the large groups of commercial dog walkers. We have received complaints from residents who would normally use the space but find it too congested, dangerous, and crowded with commercial dog walkers.

When the DOLA fencing was being discussed, we did advise that it would result in a good number of Commercial Dog Walkers coming to use the DOLA. The partial fencing meant that owners had to be aware of their dogs and their dogs had to respond to recall for their own safety. Now dog owners can socialize, paying no attention to their dogs, and so can Commercial Dog Walkers.

Additionally, with more people working from home these days, having the Dogs Off-Leash area adjacent to residential homes has been problematic and has caused some conflict between commercial dog walkers and residents. The large groups of dogs driven in throughout the day intensify the noise in the area more than individuals walking their dogs.

We fully endorse the removal of commercial dog walkers' access to Ramsden Park Dogs Off-Leash area.

Since its inception, the fenced in DOLA has had a lack of enforcement which compounds the issue. We also propose better enforcement.

Sincerely,

David Bluestein  
Ramsden Park Dog Owners Association

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