

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM29.26	ACTION			Ward: 18
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Dog Off-Leash Area at Glendora Park - by Councillor Lily Cheng, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Lily Cheng, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks and Recreation to consult with the community on several options for a Glendora Park Off-Leash Area and include a seasonal Off-Leash Area that would encompass the Glendora Park toboggan hill to be used as an off-leash area from spring to fall while maintaining the toboggan hill for winter use only, as one of the options presented in the consultation.

Summary

As the city grows in population, we are not growing more land. This necessitates creative considerations for opportunities for the diverse uses to meet the needs of our city. It is estimated that Toronto is home to 600,000 or more dogs. The City's current off-leash area network includes 81 off-leash areas distributed across 21 wards. An additional 13 off-leash areas are under development. Only one of these off-leash areas is located in Willowdale at Bayview Arena Park and it is not located anywhere close to our concentration of density.

We want to ensure that Willowdale's unique needs and preferences are taken into account and would like to retain the opportunity to create a dual-use Off-Leash Area, one that leverages a beloved toboggan hill to potentially become a 3-season dog park. It is already a place where many illegally off-leash their dogs.

This motion allows us to continue a consultative process to reflect this option that attempts to model what happens successfully in Mississauga at Jack Darling Park, where they also have a toboggan hill that is used as a 3-season dog park.

Reason for Urgency: The Off-Leash Policy is being moved today, and Willowdale is in the process of launching off-leash area consultations. We need to move this motion to create the conditions for this option to be considered.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM29.26

