# 2014 Dog Park Survey

## Recap

A one-question survey was launched on April 22, 2014 reading "The Lake Elmo Park Commission is exploring the possibility of creating a dog park off of Jamaca, near the west entrance into Sunfish Lake Park. Are you in favor of the addition of a dog park off of Jamaca Avenue? The survey was promoted in 'fresh,' on the Lake Elmo website, and on Facebook. Several local news outlets also wrote briefs bringing awareness to the issue.

As of May 13, 2014, 77 responses were received: 82% in favor, 18% against. Comments received are as follows.

# In Favor of Dog Park



### 'Yes' Comments

- 1. Please please please!
- 2. an off leash dog park would be a fantastic addition to Lake Elmo! We moved here one year ago and love our life here! The closest dog park is in Woodbury or St. Paul....this would be great.
- 3. This would be a great addition to the community!
- 4. and a cat park!
- 5. I love the Woodbury dog park!!! But it would be even better to have one in Lake Elmo. The park in Woodbury has walking paths for owners to exercise w there dogs. That's really nice!! Hope you get started soon!!!!
- 6. We would love a dog park in Lake Elmo! Everywhere we travel with our dog, we find the local park and it is always a good experience -- good for socializing dogs, making them more people and other dog friendly. And those young ones need to run.
- 7. YES!!!!!!
- 8. been waiting a long time for a dog park.
- 9. Parking will be a huge issue at that location.
- 10. Would LOVE having a dog park in the neighborhood. Currently I go all the way over to Battle Creek.
- much needed
- 12. Dog Parks are a great way to meet new people in the community.
- 13. The sooner, the better!
- 14. Otter Lake Dog park is great but too far and the parking lot is often filled. We always go to Cup and Cone afterward. I'd love a 5 acre or more Dog Park at Jamaca.
- 15. This area really could use an off leash dog park
- 16. Yes would love it and use it lots!
- 17. Absolutely!
- 18. I our area of Lake Elmo, the Afton dog park is too far and the Battle Creek dog park has too much violence. The dog park here would be perfect.
- 19. We would most definitely use a dog park. Currently we drive 20 minutes to get to a dog park and would love to have one closer. Additional reasons include perhaps reducing the number of dog owners who leave their dogs off-leash in areas where leashes are required. (Our dog has been attacked by off-leash dogs in Sunfish Park.) Finally, a dog park would be a great place to meet and talk to other Lake Elmo residents.

- 20. Please provide pros and cons describing the issue.
- 21. Several other communities have off-leash dog parks and they are very successful and widely used. I think it would be great to have one in Lake Elmo. Thank you.

#### 'No' Comments

- 1. Why not the South side. There are no houses around that part of the park.
- 2. The general public doesn't know how to read dog body language and have no idea if their dog truly enjoys this. There are many fights and serious injuries as a result of uneducated dog owners. As an owner of a doggie daycare facility we hear all too often of dogs that come in for an assessment to participate in our doggie daycare program that go to dog parks regularly and cant pass our assessment due to dog aggression issues, fearful behaviors etc. For the safety and well being of our dogs, please do not put in a dog park in our community.
- 3. Absolutely NO!!! This is not the most important thing to worry about. Fix the roads.
- 4. Put your dog park in Savonna where no one lives and there is no open space. The dump at Lake Jane is bad enough in our area. Why attract more strangers to our neighborhood? Why invite more crime and traffic?
- 5. NOT SAFE!!!Too many dog fights, and in some cases (recent news) pets have been killed. I walk my 3 in the park daily, always equipped with "bags". Everyone is safe. A dog park is a recipe for disaster.
- 6. I am very concerned that a designated dog park in this area would create a steady stream of traffic through Lake Jane Hills from Oakdale on 42nd street. This needs to be carefully thought out and parking cannot interfere with the Fire Station. Advertising Sunfish Lake Park on Hwy 5 served only to make StPaul criminals aware that was the perfect spot to dump a stripped car after murdering its owner.

#### **Facebook Comments**

- 1. Yes, yes, yes! I think that a dog park would be a very POSITIVE addition to the whole "family oriented" Lake Elmo community! I would gladly volunteer services to make tis happen! Thx!
- 2. Awesome!
- 3. Anyone interested should check out the friends of Stillwater area dog park committee we have been trying since 2007 to get a dog park in the area.
- 4. If it goes, they ought to check out the dog park at Bonnie Wenk Park in McKinney, Tx. First class.
- 5. It amazes me that they're just getting around to this.
- 6. What else do you do with an old landfill I guess (Lake Elmo)
- 7. Can't understand why it hasn't happened already.
- 8. Most definitely! It would be a great addition to the park.
- 9. A dog park would be good. Is the location decided upon? Will user parking be available? The proposed location is on the opposite side of the front entrance to Sun Fish Lake Park and there is very limited parking available there.