

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 355-06

AN ORDINANCE

determining that it is in the public interest to proceed with construction of a fenced dog park in the Garth Nature Area; approving and adopting plans and specifications; determining that the work shall be done by contract; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division; providing for payment for the improvement; providing for compliance with the prevailing wage law; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Council finds that construction of a fenced dog park in the Garth Nature Area is necessary for the welfare and improvement of the City and that it is in the public interest such improvement be made.

SECTION 2. The plans and specifications for this improvement, including a schedule of prevailing hourly wages needed to execute the contract, and the general prevailing rate for legal holiday and overtime work, as prepared by the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department and filed in the office of the City Clerk, are hereby approved, adopted and made a part of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. The construction of the improvement shall be done by contract in accordance with the plans and specifications adopted therefor, the laws of the State of Missouri, and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri.

SECTION 4. The Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to call for bids and execute a contract for the improvement.

SECTION 5. Payment for this improvement shall be made from Park Sales Tax Funds, the Annual Park Improvement Fund and such other funds as may be lawfully appropriated.

SECTION 6. The City shall cause to be inserted into the contract a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing hourly rate of wages, as found by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations of Missouri, shall be paid to all workers performing work

under the contract. The contractor's bond shall include such provisions as will guarantee the faithful performance of the prevailing hourly wage clause, as provided by the contract.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2006.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor

Source

TO: City Council
FROM: City Manager and Staff 
DATE: August 12, 2006
RE: Garth Nature Area – Leash Free/Dog Park

Mike Hood 

Summary: The Department of Parks and Recreation is requesting authorization to proceed with improvements to the leash free portion of the Garth Nature Area. As one of five leash free sites in the City, the Department is proposing the creation of a fenced Dog Park that would be developed as part of the Garth Nature Area: Recreation Trails Program (RTP) grant project. Estimated cost of the Dog Park is \$14,400 with funding being provided by the Park Sales Tax, Annual Park Improvement Funds. The project will begin at the conclusion of the RTP project, probably in the early spring, 2007. A combination of contract and force account labor will be used to complete the project.

Fiscal Impact

YES x

NO

Project Description: The Garth Nature Area project was proposed in 2005 and a Recreation Trails Program (RTP) Grant application was submitted and approved for funding. The total cost of the project was \$70,000 with \$42,000 being funded by the RTP grant and \$28,000 from the Park Sales Tax. The project will provide an increased exposure to the natural flora and wildlife found along Bear Creek through native species planting, walking trails, wetland cells and interpretative signs. As a former City sewer lagoon property that was taken out of service in the 1970's, this land has since served as green space that is adjacent to the Bear Creek Trail. It also has served as one of five designated leash free areas for dogs and has received substantial use by local dog owners.

Other Info.

Due to the proposed development of the Garth Nature Area and the concerns expressed by the dog owning public that the leash free dog area was going to be in direct conflict with the nature area concept, it was decided that a new fenced dog park would be designed for the site. Three proposed design concepts for the dog park were developed by the parks planning staff and presented at a public meeting held on-site July 10th. Approximately 35 people attended the meeting and their input resulted in the final design concept for the dog park and reflects the various ideas and comments expressed by those in attendance.

The proposed plan has addressed the concerns that many expressed regarding the need for a fenced area that was both functional yet attractive. The concern for the overall aesthetic quality of the area was supported by the majority of those in attendance and they indicated that the two uses could co-exist on the site if properly planned. The final design has located the dog park in an area that provides the necessary space needed for an enjoyable experience for dogs and their owners and is situated so that visual impact on the nature area is very minimal.

Staff believes this plan will provide the necessary space and aesthetic qualities to not only blend well with the adjoining nature area development, but also provide dog owners a well designed area that offers trees, shade, water, and grass for their animals to enjoy.

This plan was submitted to the Parks and Recreation Commission at their meeting on Thursday, July 20 2006. Following a staff presentation, Randy Williams speaking on behalf of the Hunter's Gate Neighborhood Association, voiced his support. After a brief question and answer period, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend the plan as submitted to the City Council for approval and funding.

The project is scheduled to begin immediately following the conclusion of the Garth Nature Area RTP work. Staff anticipates that the Garth Nature Area work will begin this fall and should be concluded by winter or early spring, depending on the weather. The project will be bid through the City's purchasing division. Estimated cost of the Dog Park is \$14,400 with funding being provided by the Park Sales Tax, Annual Park Improvement Funds.

Recommended Council Action: If the Council concurs that the project should proceed, the resolution calling for the public hearing should be approved, and following the public hearing, the ordinance authorizing the project should be adopted.



Proposed Garth Nature Trail 7-13-06
Conceptual Plan for Leash Free Area
City of Columbia, MO Parks and Recreation