

Introduced by _____ Council Bill No. R 182-06

A RESOLUTION

declaring the necessity for construction of a fenced dog park in the Garth Nature Area; stating the nature of and the estimate of the cost thereof; providing for payment for the improvement; providing for compliance with the prevailing wage law; and setting a public hearing.

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

SECTION 1. The City Council deems construction of a fenced dog park in the Garth Nature Area is necessary to the welfare and improvement of the City.

SECTION 2. The nature and scope of the improvement shall consist of furnishing all labor, materials, transportation, insurance and all other items, accessories and incidentals thereto necessary for the complete construction of the improvements.

SECTION 3. The estimated cost of this improvement is \$14,400.00.

SECTION 4. 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 5. Any work done in connection with the construction of the improvement specified above shall be in compliance with the provisions of the prevailing wage laws of the State of Missouri.

SECTION 6. This resolution shall be published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the City of Columbia for seven (7) consecutive insertions, and a public hearing in respect to this improvement will be held in the Council Chamber of the Daniel Boone Building, 701 E. Broadway, Columbia, Missouri, at 7:00 p.m. on September 5, 2006.

ADOPTED 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 

Fiscal Impact

YES x

NO

Other Info.

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.

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.

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