

Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy Timeline

- **1990s** - The City's original off-leash areas (OLAs) were established over time and on an ad hoc basis, mostly in response to public requests. Demands for improvements to existing sites, and management of issues around safety, bylaw enforcement and distribution of OLAs eventually led to the City recognizing the need to review Edmonton's policies and practices.
- **March 2016** - Council endorses the Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy (developed in 2015), which guides the planning, design and management of OLAs in Edmonton.
- **September 2017** - Community and Public Services Committee receives the Dogs in Open Spaces 10 Year Implementation Plan, which includes developing a process for the establishment, enhancement and elimination (decommissioning) of OLAs, including options for City-led, developer-led and community-led OLAs.
- **July 2019** - Administration presents report CR_7144 Off-Leash Dog Park - Recommendations which covers Administration's detailed review of the Neighborhood Park Development Program (NPDP) and Community Group Led Construction (CGL) processes as options for community-led OLAs. At the time, both the NPDP and CGL processes were also under review as a result of a City Audit in 2018.
 - This report concluded that City-led and developer-led OLAs are the most effective processes to ensure equitable distribution of amenities that meet City guidelines, but that a community-led model could be used in the absence of capital funding as long as community-initiated development was aligned with the Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy and that the CGL and NPDP processes were modified to include OLAs.
- **2019-2021** - Administration review of how the City collaborates with community groups related to OLAs in the absence of a process for community groups to initiate, fund, or establish OLAs independently.
 - Following this review and feedback from internal and external stakeholders, Administration recommended against developing a process for community groups to fund, build, and manage permanent OLAs. Funding through NPDP raises issues around equity, and project initiation through NPDP or CGL can create direct division within a community and competition between user groups.
- **November 2021** - Council approved an increase to the operating budget in Parks and Roads Services by \$206,000 on an ongoing basis to fund the Dogs in

Open Space Strategy implementation. These funds included a position whose work includes enhancing how the City works with developers on establishing new OLAs, as well as funds for enhanced education and communications. At this time, Administration is working on an enhanced communications plan focused on OLAs and associated programs. Initial discussions have also taken place around tactics for improving engagement with developers interested in building OLAs through the existing Shared Park Development Program and Off-leash Program.

Summary of new off-leash areas built or in process since implementation of the Dogs in Open Spaces Strategy began:

2018

- Lauderdale Dog Park- enhancement to existing
- Paisley Dog Park
- Alex Decoteau Dog Park

2019

- Manning Village Dog Park
- Montrose Off-Leash Area- enhancement to existing

2020

- Royal Gardens Off-Leash Area- enhancement to existing

2021

- Buena Vista Off-Leash Area- enhancement to existing

2022

- Eastwood Park Dog Park- enhancement to existing
- Inglewood Off-Leash Area- enhancement to existing
- Hermitage Off-Leash Area- enhancement to existing
- Keheewin/ Bearspaw Off-Leash Area- enhancement to existing
- Braithwaite Dog Park in Garneau
- Glengarry Dog Park
- Alberta Ave Dog Park
- 9 seasonal off-leash areas managed by Community Leagues as part of the Temporary Off-leash Pilot

2023/2024 (planned)

- The Orchards Dog Park
- Pleasantview Dog Park
- Ottewell Dog Park

Future

- Warehouse Campus Park - under consideration for integration into the concept design

Attachment 1

- Beaver Hills/Michael Phair Parks - under consideration for integration into the concept design
- Rollie Miles Athletic Grounds Renewal - integrated into final design pending funding for overall project.
- Washburne Park Concept Plan - community is currently prioritizing recreational amenities, including a potential dog park, before the Concept Plan is finalized.