

Q15: If you have any further comments on the potential dog park options, please enter your comments below (300 character limit).

Comment #

- 1 I was recently attacked by a pit bull at O B Sherry park by a guy who did not live in the area w/a vicious dog & no tags. Dog ran across street on Leon to where I was walking, attacked my small dog, pushed me to the ground. Took my dog to emergency vet.
- 2 I think this would be a great addition to the neighborhood! People without cars can't access the other parks to exercise our dogs.
- 3 Dog parks should not replace current uses for a park. Both Parks are neighborhood parks near peoples homes and are often under water. Both parks are used by small children. Proximity to dog areas is too close.
- 4 I'm concerned about the environmental impacts including wildlife that uses these spaces to nest and live. Both locations flood regularly which is not ideal. Would lose areas utilized for group games/sports. Too close to homes- noise and parking are major concerns.
- 5 this neighborhood needs a dog park
- 6 We use dog parks every single day and I don't notice any other one that is in someone's backyard. I cannot believe the city is resorting to this. Or putting money into this at this time.
- 7 I live within 5 minutes of OB Sherry & love the park as is. Definitely would like to keep it as is.
- 8 I think it's really needed in this neighborhood so an addition of one would be great
- 9 Neither of these are ideal locations due to lack of parking, poor site locations due to wetlands and flooding, and proximity to housing. Voit farm area or Garver feed mill are both within close proximity and provide much better locations.
- 10 A new dog park is definitely needed in this area.
- 11 I would rather see the money spent on projects for children and expansion of safe biking routes within the city.
- 12 What about limiting the dog park at OBSherry to north of the bike path and keep the playground.
- 13 I support a new dog park on the east side of Madison, but would hope that a location could be identified that has lesser impacts on existing homes.
- 14 Do you have stats on how many dog park users walk to dog parks or drive? From my observation, most drive. If so, why put dog parks in residential areas that only offer on-street parking?
- 15 Do the existing east side dog parks not provide enough space for exercising existing dogs?
- 16 dogs should not be in parks
- 17 This is amazing. I'm sick and tired of having to drive to a dog park. Put one near us. People of color dont have access to a dog park right now.
- 18 I seldom see anyone using the grassy area of OB Sherry, and the unmown area near the wetlands never gets used. The neighbors who oppose the park are simply suffering from NIMBY, and need to get over it.
- 19 Allowing on-leash dogs in neighborhood parks was long, overdue and provides ample community/relationship building for dog owners while not carving out a significant space for others to use and enjoy the same space. Both parks are way too small!
- 20 Both options way too close to homes in neighborhoods that don't need the excess parking and traffic.
- 21 A dog park within walking distance would be a wonderful addition to the neighborhood.
- 22 I live in eastmorland and was not aware of the ECA letter or position.
- 23 We have enough dog parks in this area. We really don't need anymore dog parks. Especially if the city starts allowing dogs in city parks on leash.
- 24 Better to use a part of a much bigger park than transform MOST of an existing park to dog park.
- 25 Lack of dedicated parking is a concern for both proposed sites.
- 26 Dog owners in this city already have enough parks. Not everyone wants to be around dogs
- 27 eastmoreland is much closer to sycamore...redundant.
- 28 I am very concerned about both options, mainly for the residents that live very close to the proposed sites.

29 The city is not addressing the parking issue. I live near East Moreland park and use it with my kids often. This
is a bad idea, the traffic and noise will ruin our neighborhood

30 a different park entrance would probably address valid neighbor concerns about traffic and parking issues. It
would be ideal if the Eastmoreland option had the entrance on the Woodmans side.

31 why would you add another dog park. people can drive to any dog park they want. city parks are for people.
NOT dogs

32 While not a dog owner, I am a dog lover, but both of these sites are terrible choices for an off leash park. We
are a dense area with lots of families and it is absurd and dangerous to stick a dog park literally in our
backyards.

33 voigt park developmeny

34 I live on Schenk St and strongly oppose the park at Eastmorland. There isn't sufficient parking or access for a
lot of cars. This park abuts many properties. Not all have fences. Dogs could get into yards.

35 We have so much dog infrastructure. And now dogs allowed in most parks. Dogs impact all users. What about
some mountain bike trails on the east side?

36 What is so hard about a leash. There are more kids in the east side - how about a pool?

37 Why have another dog park when most people don't have their dog's on a leash now

38 I rarely see people using the grassy area at O.B. Sherry park across from the play equipment. When I do see
people there, they have their dog off leash in that area. I feel like it might as well be fenced in to permit dogs
to be off leash.

39 We need a dog park in the Marquette neighborhood. LOTS of dogs. NO park within walking distance

40 Dog parks should only be purchased with dog license fee

41 Maybe a private business should buy some land and dog owners can pay a membership fee.

42 I strongly oppose using OB Sherry for a dog park. It is too close to the residential area. Plus it takes away green
space for kids. Dog owners can walk a bit further.

43 As a resident very near the Eastmorland park, I am so eager for this dog park! It will be a much needed
resource for our neighborhood.

44 Yaharah Park would be a great option as well!

45 We do not need anymore dog parks. There are already plenty of dog parks.

46 Both of these locations lack parking, have existing uses that would be harmed by the inclusion of a dog park
(commuting bike paths, playground spaces), and have environmental runoff concerns from waste, in addition
to being very close in proximity to homes.

47 With more than 8 dog parks in a 77 mile radius I feel we do not need another one. Especially on sites of
empheral wetlands.

48 Parks should be for people, not dogs. Dogs are already allowed on leash at nearly all city parks, there's no
reason to turn another into a dog only park. I have a cat as well - should we be subsidizing a new off leash cat
park?

49 I use the dog parks, and do not find them that crowded!

50 Putting a dog Park essentially in the back yards of my neighbors is unacceptable

51 Thanks for trying to find a place for a dog park in our neighborhood.

52 I love the idea of a dog park in this area. Thank you for putting this together. Also, questions #10 & #12 are
confusing. Are "concerns" negatives or things I considered in my decision? I answered about my
considerations.

53 Tenny Park may have the highest dog walking traffic in the city and an off leash area would be a great
compliment to these dog walkers.

54 I do believe the city should provide dedicated dog places, as I indicated in question 4, but not at the expense of
existing city park space, especially from such small spaces as O.B. Sherry.

55 The majority of residents are not represented in the letter from the ECA. There are no dog parks proximate to
our neighborhood and we have many dog owners who would benefit from this community asset in either
underutilized park.

56 Too much dog poop! When it rains, the runoff is vile.

57 Fears associated with dog parks are always the same but never realized
58 I'm strongly opposed to OB Sherry Park. Starkweather Creek shouldn't bear the extra burden of more dog urine and feces each time it rains. The creek's a fixture of life in this neighborhood, providing access to nature, relaxation, exercise, & Lake Monona. Don't mistreat it more than we already have.

59 The dog park at OB Sherry park is just not ideal! The traffic alone is a huge problem and would only get worse!

60 Olbrich park is huge. The other parks are small. If we are going to have a dog park use a park that's big; don't take space from an already small park.

61 Both these sites are already used as off-leash dog parks. Making at least one of these options a legal off-leash dog park is just being realistic, and acknowledges the reality of what citizens need from our parks.

62 Homes behind Eastmorland have hill in back yards so Park used for sports and children playing
63 Sycamore dog park is never crowded. Another dog park is not needed. You have provided no commentary on the increase for street noise and parking which residents will have to put up with. This is a very bad idea choose an area that can provide parking without disrupting a neighborhood. .

64 Not at this time.
65 Starkweather creek needs water quality improvements, and I'm a volunteer working on those. A dog park nearby would be a major setback.

66 The proposed parks are just too small. A 2 acre dog area would overwhelm the other characteristics and uses of the park

67 Madison has a high number of dog parks, converting small neighborhood parks to accommodate dog parks is taking away quiet green space that is so valuable to our neighbors. In the case of Sherry Park, the unique environment provided by Starkweather creek supports much wildlife that would be effected.

68 Most people have to drive to a dog park, so having one walking distance would be wonderful. I do think that people would appreciate having a dog park in the neighborhood. This may be one of those situations where people (ECA) are avoiding changes that could benefit their neighbors.

69 All the objections have been voiced many times I would add when I was walking my dog down Leon St today how sad it will be not to see our yearly pair of Sand Hill cranes enjoying the park. They were grazing this morning and relaxing in the shade this afternoon ten feet from the sidewalk.

70 Seems people have been fine with the current dog park options. The city allowing dogs in parks has already changed things enough and provides options for people to walk their dogs. No need for dog parks of this scale in residential neighborhoods. thank you

71 The ECA has taken the pulse of its members and we strongly disapprove of the proposed Eastmorland dog park.

72 This disruption will be unbearable for all of the reasons listed and more. Parking is already a problem. My dog will go insane. I work at home now. It doesn't belong in the middle of our neighborhood.

73 The Eastmorland site is a horrible idea. Think of all the people whose backyards abut the proposed dog park Their dogs will go wild. Plus, there is no parking there and it is like a dead end. Very bad idea.

74 Don't destroy these two beautiful existing neighborhood dog parks. See #14 for better locations.
75 I love dogs. We don't need to dedicate more precious greenspace to fenced-in uses. Neither park is big enough for a decent dog park anyway. Maybe a large company could donate space for a nice sized dog park? Amazon has a little money, right? :)

76 I do feel that the Warner Dog Park is great and I'd probably continue to go there, even if this one was closer.

77 So many home owners with dogs in this area. The need for more off leash locations is obvious.

78 I continue to have concerns about the ECA board's belief that it can speak on behalf of the entire neighborhood. Several of their points in opposition were "a stretch," at best. Why didn't they survey residents instead of presuming to speak for the whole?

79 With the location of the proposed entrance to the Eastmorland dog park its an open invitation for dog park users to cut between the houses on Dawes St (a lot of backyards are not fenced) as a short cut to the entrance of the dog park

80 It sounds like most of the opposition is based on the construction of the park. If there is parking and the park is created to decrease flooding and mud it will be less of an impact on the neighborhood.

81 Eastmorland area would need a vegetative barrier on the dawes st side not just the Woodman's side. Even with a setback, that location is practically open to backyards on that block of Dawes.

82 I believe the dog park would be to close to homes.

83 The East Moreland location does not have adequate parking. There are two deadend streets. I have witnessed uturns, backing up problems and driving onto others property to exit already.

84 Cons: Environmental/wildlife impact, pedestrian/bike safety, parking issues, quality of life for current residents, increased traffic, noise and odors, potential for flooding making it unusable in the spring much like McCormick green space.

85 Most dog parks are located outside of residential areas and have a parking lot for dog owners

86 We do not want an off-lease dog park in our back yard. There are already way too many dogs barking and causing a disturbance. More dogs running around off-leash will cause a HUGE problem and the people that live in our neighborhood will be the ones that suffer with the outcome.

87 A dog park does not have the same characteristics as a regular park. There are dirt paths usually having some woodchips, that are impacted by heavy rains. The grass areas are also changed by the dog use. Home values will be impacted negativity as well by the very close proximity of the dog parks.

88 I am totally against a dog park in Eastmorland. I was attacked by an off leash dog in my childhood and cannot stand the noise, smell and constant barking.

89 Dog parks should not be in peoples backyards! I own four dogs. If there is a dog park in my backyard my dogs and neighbors dogs will not stop barking. No one wants to hear dogs barking all day because of a day park.

90 Dog Parks should be where they do not abut residential homes as per the current city policy for designating dog parks. A dog park should be surrounded by natural areas.

91 Our family actively uses OB Sherry and appreciates the abundant wildlife. We fly kites, play informal games and more in the large field precisely where this off-leash area has been proposed. This park would be disruptive to the much-needed open space families and neighbors enjoy.

92 O.B. Sherry has a ton of wild life including cranes, Red tail hawks ect. Also, it gets so saturated with water in the area being proposed. Also, the field is used for soccer, kickball, kite flying

93 Increase in population density and decrease in available useable existing park space is unacceptable. With more people we need more visual open space and useable existing open space

94 As someone that has been attacked by a dog in the past, this makes the parks inaccessible.

95 I think dog parks should be located much farther from residential homes than eith of these options.

96 Removing green space from our limited parks, especially in an area with so much wildlife, is unnecessary and disruptive when Sycamore is so close. Folks with non-social dogs like me would need to move as this plan abuts our property directly.

97 We don't need one. They look gross and ugly and ruin the whole park. I walk that route everyday and I would never go back if there was a dog park there.

98 That the ECA is opposed to both options comes as no surprise. they are opposed to any reasonable proposed changes. They complain about dogs in the neighborhoods in every newsletter yet oppose dog parks that would lessen the presence of dogs in the neighborhoods.

- 99 My main concern is that locals who have unlicensed/unvaccinated/untrained dogs will get the urge to try out the dog park when it appears so close to home, and this will cause problems (hopefully temporary).
- 100 Dog Parks should not exist. People should have a backyard that they use for that purpose.
- 101 I think a dog park with its own parking lot is preferable. I know this redevelopment is many years away but it may be worth waiting.
- 102 I have seen the sorry state of dog parks in other areas of the city when visiting with friend who have pets. Ob Sherry in particular is heavily used by young children and a dog park would destroy that. I believe families would abandon the existing playground and field area.
- 103 Please try and build a dog park! The concerns people are bringing up are not concerns. The dog parks I have visited in Madison are always clean, poop is picked up, it is not loud, and parking is never an issue.
- 104 I run in Eastmorland multiple times per week, no one uses the proposed area. Adding natural plants is great. Based on other dog parks, I don't think there will be as much noise as the community worries about. Almost all owners pick up after their pet's mess, too. So not a concern.
- 105 You should have an extensive email I wrote, but other factors include deteriorated mental health and well-being of nearby residents and their pets, property values and resellability, loss of wildlife habitat, costs of continued drainage engineering
- 106 I live on Harding Street and I personally think a dog park in this neighborhood would be amazing and would improve our neighborhood greatly. I do not agree with the majority of the oppositions points on why they don't think it's a good idea.
- 107 Dog and human safety was not addressed in this survey. We need to address unsafe behaviors and the risk for dog fights and behavior issues in the parks that do exist before adding more parks.
- 108 People already use OB Sherry as an off-leash park for dogs/ put up a fence with some infrastructure and contain this activity safely.
- 109 i think a dog park would be great! i wouldn't be concerned about people not picking up dog poop, as a frequent dog park user most people pick up their poop
- 110 I do think the dog park areas should be located as far from neighborhood homes as is feasible
- 111 Please put at least 1!
- 112 Please consider putting a dog park where there can be a dog watering station. If there was running water, less people would bring their own disposable water bottles.
- 113 I think this would be a great addition to our neighborhood.
- 114 I would welcome either of these locations, but prefer the OB Sherry location. There isn't really a great dog park on the near east side so this would be a great addition.
- 115 We visit many Dog Parks and there is none that is so close to residential housing. The Eastmorland location would be right at our back yard. We have a dog and she would never be able to enjoy her own back yard.
- 116 I live in the Eastmorland neighborhood. I had no idea a letter was being drafted in opposition to a potential dog park and I disagree with the sentiment expressed in the letters.
- 117 Living close the the East Morland park walking there makes sense. There is not enough parking for traffic to be of any impact in the neighborhood as people who drive to go to a dog park will most likely end up driving to one that does allow and has available parking
- 118 I don't believe there will be much traffic, as an owner of I have to drive I would go to a larger park. Plus more traffic to Eastmorland would help with crime on a dead end.
- 119 The wetlands at OBSherry are home to wildlife. There are nesting cranes as well as many other species that would be adversely affected. The runoff could affect Starkweather creek. I walk there several times a week and the noise and disruption would be a detriment to the neighborhood
- 120 A near eastside dog park would take pressue off of Warner dog park and Sycamore dog park, both of which are overcrowded. It would also reduce dog traffic in city parks that are not off-leash areas.

121 The proposed locations are poor choices on two counts: they're essentially wetlands and are very close to homes. Starkweather Park is much better suited, being nearby but without water-retention issues and away from residences.

122 I wasn't sure how to answer the question re: concern about walking distance to my house — I'm very excited by the proximity of OB Sherry park to my house and welcome the project.

123 I enjoy walking my dog through Sherry Park. He is leash-reactive and would be very triggered by dogs running around unleashed.

124 Considering Eastmorland has the highest number of dog owners in the city it's about time we get an off leash park(s) in our own neighborhood. Also dog parks are quieter than the traffic on Milwaukee street so people close by should not have to worry about noise.

125 I would love to see more off leash dogs parks in the area. We go to various ones in the area quite often.

126 The ECA is run by a neighborhood clique. They do not truly represent the neighborhood anymore. The neighborhood is changing.

127 Should not have dog parks in residential areas.

128 I really hate that so many of us have to drive to get to off leash dog parks and strongly support the creation of more neighborhood based off leash areas areas

129 I will go there if parking is available.

130 Neither location is great but Eastmorland is a terrible idea.

131 I'd be so excited to have a dog park to walk to if the OB Sherry park is chosen to have a dog park!

132 There is a large area adjacent to the marsh where the ground is often very soft and any dogs running around would destroy the grassy area.

133 Just please note that the letters of opposition from the community association only reflect the loud concerns of a very small few. I believe based on my discussions with neighbors that most are supportive

134 This is a horrible idea and thrown together with no neighborhood input. This will negatively affect those who live directly next to the park.

135 I would love to have a unleashed dog park in walking distance! I am disappointed that ECA opposes it. We have many dog park owners in our neighborhood and will encourage them to fill out this survey.

136 We need more off-leash parks

137 It is important to have local easy access, walking distance dog parks for our dogs. This will prevent use of Schenk school property & other areas that people let their dogs run. I believe the concerns about noise, not picking up dog waste & the park unable to have other uses are exaggerated

138 Both of these locations are in very residential areas and will be disruptive at many different levels: noise, traffic, environmental, wildlife, current park usage.

139 I have been to many, but not all, Madison dog parks. I can't recall any that are in a residential area, with backyards adjacent. Most are very far back from housing and residential streets.

140 I'm very annoyed by the number of dog owners who do not pick up after their dogs. Please cite more people more often. Perform spot checks to see if dog walkers have poop bags on hand and cite them if not. Too many off-leashers in the city, too.

141 I wouldn't mind it at Olbrich since that's a bigger park, if there's not a lot of places to park to accommodate people coming to the dog park. I'd prefer there be a fence too, to keep the dogs and owners separate from other park goers.

142 Thank you for creating options, it would be nice to have a dog park in the area.

143 I don't think the ECA represents what the community actually wants. They were against the Biergarten which has been an amazing gathering spot for our community.

144 Olbrich Park has a ton of open space, fencing off a small portion for use as a dog park seems reasonable. It's further from residential areas and would alleviate those concerns. Doesn't have to be swim-accessible.

145 The ECA is a self-selected group of about 8 people who have been meeting in the same room for 30 years. They oppose EVERYTHING.

146 In 18 months of walking my dog though OB Sherry I've seen the green space in use about 7-8 times. I take my dog to Yahara Heights for off leash play. None of the concerns the ECA raises strike me as either valid or significant. A dog park would be highly used and an asset to the neighborhood.

147 Please listen to the people who live in Eastmorland. I think the people in Eastmorland do not feel listened to when Amazon wakes us each morning and gives no break on Sunday morning.

148 Too little space in "neighborhood" parks to accommodate 2 acres. Let the 2020 change in leash dog activity take hold before deciding on new locations. 10-day review of OB Sherry, I did in May, showed the park is being used for dog walking. More pathways = contentment for people and pets.

149 Dog owners already have many off-leash city and county options. Plus can now walk leashed dogs in most city parks (please note dog waste all over Olbrich Park.

150 East Moreland, my neighborhood is against change & does not ask for opinions. OB sherrys is used often for walking dogs. I do not see an impact to the neighborhood & I live 2 blocks away. There is a great blue heron & sand hill cranes that nest nearby so that should be evaluated.

151 Eastmorland park is an extension of our backyard. Our dog would be going nuts all day long and our kids would lose the green space and direct access to the play structures. The green space also is a marshy mess and the culvert rises high with debris in the field post-rain.

152 Eastmorland is small and the area is busy due to Woodmans. Droster has a huge, unused field. Acewood has many access points.

153 I live on Ivy Street (outside of the District covered by OB Sherry Park) and I am most concerned with the affect on wildlife that an off-leash dog park will have.

154 Will either location be ADA compliant? It does seem like there would be a greater burden on disabled users as there would not be handicapped parking spots

155 OB Sherry has plenty of space along the northwestern section of the park. its farther from exposed homes and always devoid of dogless humans.

156 These dog parks would be a welcome addition to the area.

157 I don't have a dog myself but I do use the parks and I care about my neighbors with dogs. I think it's a nice amenity, especially during a pandemic, to have a spot nearby for dogs to run around. I'm for whatever location has more support.

158 "More dog owners" is not a valid reason for favoring this group above other users. Theres also a lot more DOGLESS people too! And MUCH more demand for natural green space/trails/bird and wildlife habitat/quiet contemplative space. What about us?

159 I'm 63 and have been bitten by "family" dogs 3 times in my life. Very badly at age 7. Too many owners do not adequately train their dogs for the safety of others. Increasing dog traffic in the neighborhood concerns me for safety reasons.

160 I feel strongly that the 2 proposed parks are ill equipped to handle increased traffic, parking, and dogs. Parking in Dawes St is already a shitshow as multiple homes have MANY cars. There has got to be a better option for a dogpark.

161 waste of money

162 It's shocking to me looking at the survey of dog ownership that there isn't yet a park closer to the near east side. This is the densest dog ownership area, yet no convenient park without driving? Seems like one of these is a must.

163 We would love to have a dog park in the neighborhood!!!

164 Please extend the area of the Eastmorland by removing the backstop and playground equipment as there is already playground equipment east of the storm water culvert.

165 If there needs to be another dog park on the eastside, it shouldn't be next to homes. I'm also concerned about potential contamination of nearby waters from dog waste.

166 I walk my dog through both of these parks multiple times a week. The open space in Eastmorland park seems particularly unused. Given the proximity to Woodmans it seems that there is a lot of parking availability and the use of that parking would not disturb the neighbors.

167 Both of these parks are too small to have dog parks. Find a bigger park or wait and do something over by the Garver Feed Mill. Turn those large mounds of dirt covered with invasive non-native plants into a dog park.

168 I strongly object to the ECA's position on these dog parks, and also strongly object to the notion that the ECA is in a position to speak for the neighborhood as a whole.

169 I walk through both parks many times each week. I almost never see anyone else using the park for recreation, only other walkers or bikers on the path. Both parks are seriously underutilized.

170 Sherry is not big enough- dog park would take up most of the park. Eastmorland is larger and underused.

171 I hate dogs. I want to be able to ride my bike through Sherry Park w/o being chased or even nuzzled.

172 . Ample parking, few residents impacted and underutilized space.

173 The East Side is getting more than its share of noise pollution and environment risks (i.e. Truax and F-35's). Being historically a working class neighborhood, I feel the East Side is expected to absorb an unequal share of the "negatives" of urban living.

174 I feel strongly that a dog park needs to be located in a non-residential area. Dog parks inevitably cause an increase in noise - not only from the dogs in the park, but also from the dogs in yards and houses nearby.

175 Changes are taking place to upgrade. but maintain income diversity, in housing options. A dog park in the residential areas would lower the value of the properties and significantly reduce the play area for sports actives and family outings.

176 There is a new open space being planned behind the Amazon Distribution Center on Milwaukee Street. There will be areas there that could absorb a dog park.

177 Wild life - turkeys, sandhill cranes, Canadian geese, etc - frequent these parks. For the sake of the children and families in the areas, these natural spaces need to be preserved.