

Dog PAC Community Meeting Minutes
Potential South Loop DFA Site: Roosevelt & Michigan (NE corner)
 February 22, 2003

How many of the present dog owners utilize the following parks?

Parks	Percentage of Respondents
Roosevelt	90%
Dearborn	75%
Grant	75%
16 th /Indiana	2%
So. Loop Elementary/Cotton Tail	2%

Design Elements

- Viewing area for those who don't own but enjoy the experience is important
- Passive involvement and enjoyment: kids, elderly, disabled, etc.
- Do not want to foster segregation between dog owners and non-dog owners
- Isolation areas to introduce new dogs to the park and do allow for temporary containment for various reasons
- Would like to see some design drawings in order to visualize possible outcome for DFA
- Dog specified drinking fountains/water supply

Discussed

- Concern about over use since the area has large dog population but not a single DFA
- Lara sited Churchill Park in Bucktown as an example and that there is a need for more
- Typical DFA requirements from CPD stated plus the newly introduced need for splitting the cost of development with the community. CPD pays ½; Community pays ½
- Site surveys need to be 9 months to 1 year but since our site is not in a heavily utilized or residential or commercial area this may be reduced to 6 months
- Advisable to get letters of support from community: schools, businesses, alderman, CAPS, etc.
- Apparently there is mayoral support for DFAs
- Need for community volunteers and involvement
- City of Chicago owned land north of planned site as a possible alternative

Questions, comments and issues raised

- Pee gravel use verse other items such as grass
- Dog hours at regular parks as well as a DFA
- Backlash from other park users regarding using non-dog specific parks
- Convenience of location for use of DFAs
- Trash/litter pick up – specifically, poop is litter why no support from CPD?
- Possible Alderman public hearing (idea)
- Possible sponsorship from corporation
- Possible reward for proactive and responsible of dog owners
- Fund raising – how to proceed, etc.