



**Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation**

**Dog Off-leash Update**  
**October 8, 2009**

Visit the Park Board web site at [vancouverparks.ca](http://vancouverparks.ca)

**Dog Off-leash Update**

- Currently 32 off-leash parks in Vancouver
- Off-leash issues arise for a number of reasons:
  - Denser urban neighbourhoods
  - Changes to hours to address community needs
  - Conflicting use of park space
- Dog Strategy Task Force established in May 2006
  - Changes to off-leash parks put on hold
  - Reported back in December 2007
  - No consensus among Task Force members

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## Review of Staff Briefing June 8, 2009

1. Board Approval
  - New Off-leash areas
  - Consultation process
  - High density neighbourhoods a priority
  - Examples: Stanley Park and Devonian Harbour Park

## Review of Staff Briefing June 8, 2009

2. Board Delegation to Staff
  - Existing off-leash locations
  - Changes in hours or seasons
  - Controversial vs. non-controversial - Consultation required
  - Fraser River, Charleson, Portside

## Review of Staff Briefing June 8, 2009

### 3. Staff Recommendations:

- Evaluation of Pilot Sites
- No issues and confident with current status - status quo  
New Brighton, Killarney
- No action recommended for Jonathon Rogers, Falaise,  
Woodland or Creekside

### 4. New Parks

- Continue to design off-leash areas in new parks, especially in  
high density neighbourhoods

## New Off-leash Areas Requiring Board Approval



## New Off-leash Areas Requiring Board Approval

### Devonian Harbour Park

- Serves a high density community
- Consultation - site signs and notice on Park Board website in September
- 33 comments received – 26 in favour, 7 opposed
- Petition for Coal Harbour site is supportive
- Main issue was potential conflict on adjacent pedestrian/cycle path
- Secondary issues were impact on wildlife, noise, animal waste and lack of enforcement
- Designated area may reduce off-leash activity in other areas
- Proposed hours - 6 am to 10 am & 5 pm to 10 pm
- Signs and enforcement are key to success

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## New Off-leash Areas Requiring Board Approval

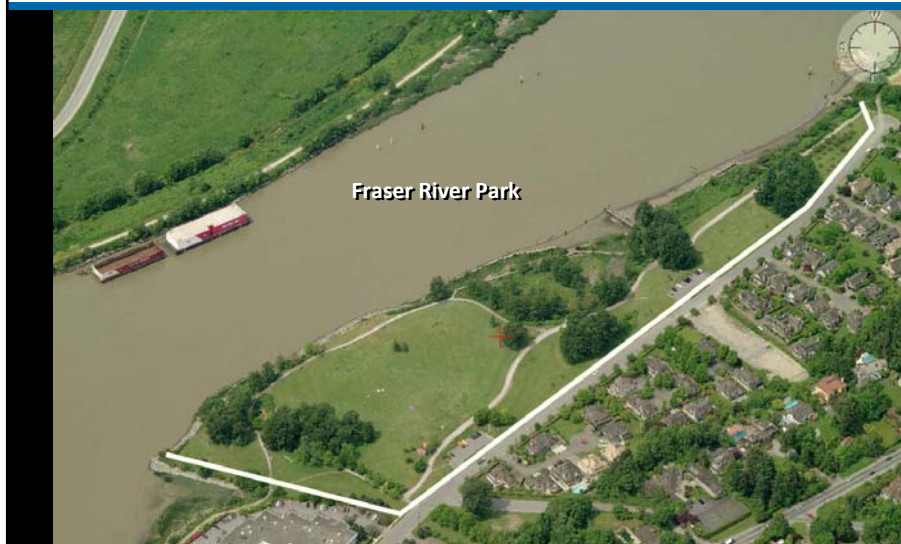


## New Off-leash Areas Requiring Board Approval

### Stanley Park – Second Beach Area

- Serves a high density community
- Consultation - site signs and notice on Park Board website in September
- 26 comments received – 25 in favour, 1 opposed
- No negative comments were received
- May take pressure off “small dog area” and reduce off-leash activity in other areas
- Proposed hours - 6 am to 10 am & 5 pm to 10 pm
- Signs and enforcement are key to success

## Requests for Extended Hours

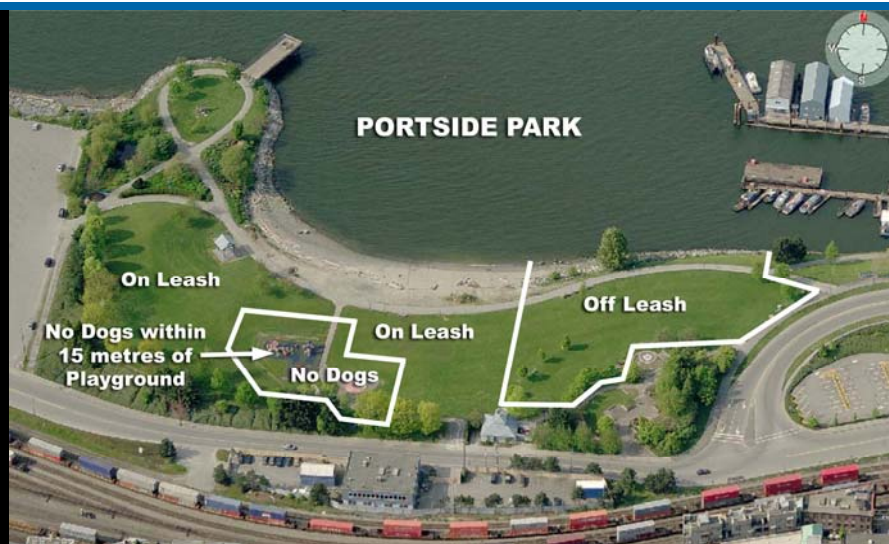


## Requests for Extended Hours

### Fraser River Park

- Popular off-leash destination
- Large passive area and water access are appealing
- Current off-leash hours - 6 am to 10 am & 5 pm to 10 pm
- Petition received asking for all day access
- Consultation - site signs and notice on Park Board website
- 112 responses – 88 in favour, 24 opposed
- Winter hours are an issue in late afternoon and evening
- Adjustment of hours:
  - ❖ October 1 to April 30 – off-leash all day
  - ❖ May 1 to September 30 – 6 am to 10 am & 5 pm to 10 pm
- Signs and enforcement are key to success

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### Portside Park

- Serves the downtown and DTES areas
- Current off-leash hours - 6 am to 10 am & 5 pm to 10 pm
- Consultation - site signs and notice on Park Board website in September
- Raycam consulted regarding playground program
- 2 responses – both in favour
- Adjustment of hours:
  - ❖ September 1 to June 30 – off-leash all day
  - ❖ July 1 to August 31 – 6 am to 10 am & 5 pm to 10 pm