The City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Planning and Capital Development Branch
New Off-Leash Area Developments
Public Engagement
Survey Analysis | West Seattle Stadium | Summer 2025



In-Person Outreach Event and Survey Overview

On June 5, 2025, an in-person outreach event was held from 4pm to 7pm at the project site. The intent of this event was to bring more community awareness and engagement to the project by asking for community feedback on the preferred schematic concept for the off-leash area. One presentation board depicted the approximate location for the off-leash area, and another showed the final schematic design concept for the proposed off leash area. Attendees were encouraged to place heart stickers or sticky notes on the boards for elements they loved, or to provide feedback to the project team members present.

Additionally, an online survey was implemented to increase accessibility for feedback. Like the outreach event, the survey showed the preferred schematic design concept and also asked the public for their feedback on surfacing material. The survey was open from June 5 to June 24, 2025. In total, 49 people completed the survey. It is important to note that this is not a statistically valid survey. The survey was presented as a series of questions with supportive graphics using the SurveyMonkey platform and was designed to take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Outreach Event - 6/5/2025

During the in-person outreach event, participants were shown boards with basic project information and the preferred schematic concept. They were encouraged to place heart stickers on elements they loved, sticky notes on elements they had feedback on, and to write comments and place them into the comment box. Over the course of the event, 14 community members came through and gave their feedback.

SurveyMonkey Survey

1. What do you like about the above proposed schematic design?

- o Answered: 33 / Skipped: 16
- The most resounding positive feedback was the separation between big and small/shy dog area. 10 of 33 responses were in support of this design aspect.
- Participants appreciated the retention of access to Camp Long. 3 people mentioned this as a positive attribute.
- 2 people responded positively that the existing tree canopy won't be touched.

Sample open-ended responses:

- "I like the shape and flow of the design."
- "Lots of space for the dogs to run"
- "I love that you maintained pedestrian access to camp long!"
- "I love this project to begin with. In particular, I like the idea of having a separate area for shy
- dogs and the drinking water options."
- "All of the necessary basics are there"
- "Doesn't cut down a lot of the current trees"
- "The design uses the space well and looks park-like and pleasant.

2. Do you have any concerns about the above proposed schematic design?

- o Answered: 34 / Skipped: 15
- Surfacing concerns were voiced by 5 respondents of the survey. They all advocated for mulch over gravel.
- 2 participants were concerned about the fencing and want to ensure that it's tall enough and reaches close enough to the ground to prevent escape.
- 2 people advocated for reducing visibility between the big dog area and the small/shy dog area to reduce the chances of conflict and excessive barking through the fence.
- o 3 people want to make sure that the park is well lit for the dark winter evenings.

Sample open-ended responses:

- "If you have direct access via a gate to Camp Long from the dog park, I'm afraid you will have the same issues you have at Westcrest, where people walk their dogs off leash forested areas on leash area degrading the trails(dogs dig holes on the trails, poop, etc.)"
- "With benches placed along the fence, is it possible for a dog to jump on the bench and then
- over the fence?"
- "Having two long fences running parallel might create excess barking between the shy dog area
- and the main area. I hope there is a visual barrier between the two sides of the path."

3. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the design?

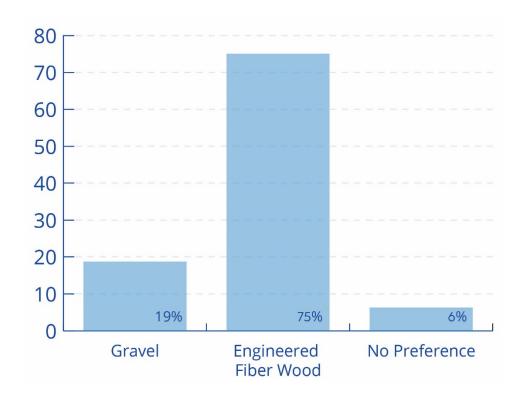
- o Answered: 34 / Skipped: 15
- Overall, the designs were positively received by the community. There were 5 comments from people saying simply that they liked the design and that it was being installed.
- 8 people all voiced concern on surfacing material. 7/8 said they preferred mulch over gravel,
 while 1/8 said they prefer gravel.
- People want to ensure that the site does not create an opportunity for people experiencing homelessness to establish nearby camps, which has been an issue with this site in the past.

Sample open-ended responses:

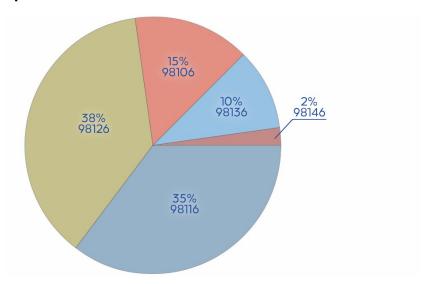
- "I can tell this was thoughtfully designed thanks for taking the time to do so!"
- "In shy dog, switch locations of pet waste (on way out drop off) and water station to reduce dog crowding at entrance. In main dog area, put water station on opposite side of maintenance gate to separate disease vectors (trash from water)"
- "Benches need to have minimal gaps- a dog- friendly bench design, instead of standard parks benches."
- "I am so glad Seattle is investing in more dog parks!"

4. What surface material would you prefer between the following options?

- Answered: 48 / Skipped: 1
- 18.75% of respondents selected gravel.
- o 75.00% of respondents selected engineered wood fiber (EWF) / playground wood chips.
- 6.25% of respondents selected no preference.



5. What is your zip-code?



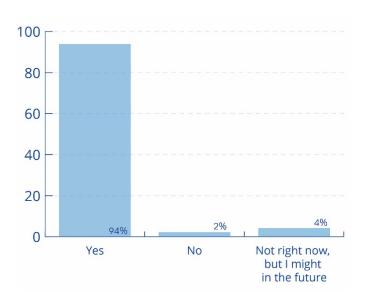
- Answered: 48 / Skipped: 1
- o 35.42% of respondents live in the zip-code 98116.
- o 37.50% of respondents live in the zip-code 98126.
- o 14.58% of respondents live in the zip-code 98106.
- 10.42% of respondents live in the zip-code 98136.
- o 2.08% of respondents live in the zip-code 98146.
- o These five zip-codes account for 100% of respondents and are all in West Seattle.

6. How would you like to receive updates about the project?

- Answered: 47 / Skipped: 2
- o 14.89% of respondents prefer no updates.
- o 6.38% of respondents prefer getting updates from a project sign at the park.
- 44.68% of respondents prefer getting updates from the project website.
- o 34.04% of respondents prefer getting updates from emails.

7. Are you a dog owner?

- o Answered: 49 / Skipped: 0
- 93.88% of respondents are dog owners.
- 2.04% of respondents are not dog owners.
- 4.08% of respondents are not dog owners right now, but might be in the future.



Conclusions

Overall, the community responded positively to the design proposed. Any concerns mentioned in the survey were concerns that have been advocated for throughout the outreach process. These concerns include: surfacing materials, fence height, and water access. The most prominent piece of feedback received was excitement for the new dog park and the positive change it will bring to the neighborhood. As the project advances, smaller detail items that do not impact layout will be more finely considered with the feedback received. These include: agility equipment location, benches and shade structure selection, surfacing materials, and a smart and effective organization of the entry area with benches, wash stations, and waste bins.