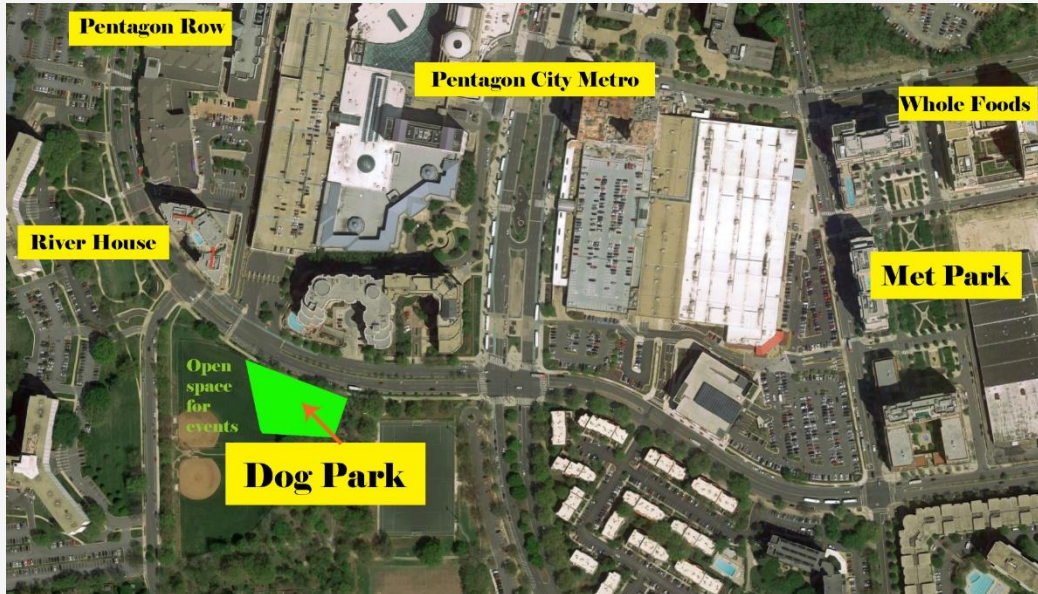


## Executive Summary

### Proposal for a Temporary Dog Park at Virginia Highlands Park

We are requesting the creation of a public dog park facility in the Pentagon City area, specifically a site at Virginia Highlands Park (VHP) as the most feasible location to support the broadest group of residents.



Location of dog parks [left]. Approx location for main & small dog area [top right] depiction of main dog area in part of diamond field [bottom right]



## Support

**Need is Significant & Now:** There are ~2,500+ dogs located within 10-minute walk of VHP & no public dog park.

**Neighborhood Conservation Plan:** The NC Plan calls for the creation of multiple dog parks in the area, and specifically cites desired locations at both Virginia Highlands Park and Fort Scott Park

**County's Public Space Master Plan (PSMP):** Map Cites Dog Park Need in 22202, near Pentagon City.

**Resident-Volunteers to Help Maintain the Park** The dog park will be maintained by Pentagon City Dogs, 20 volunteer residents of both single-family homes and multi-family high rises in Pentagon City who have signed up in advance to help maintain this dog park.

**Civic Association Support:** The proposed site, and the majority of Pentagon City, fall within the Aurora Highlands Civic Association boundaries. The AHCA civic association unanimously supported the VHP proposal on July 17, 2019.

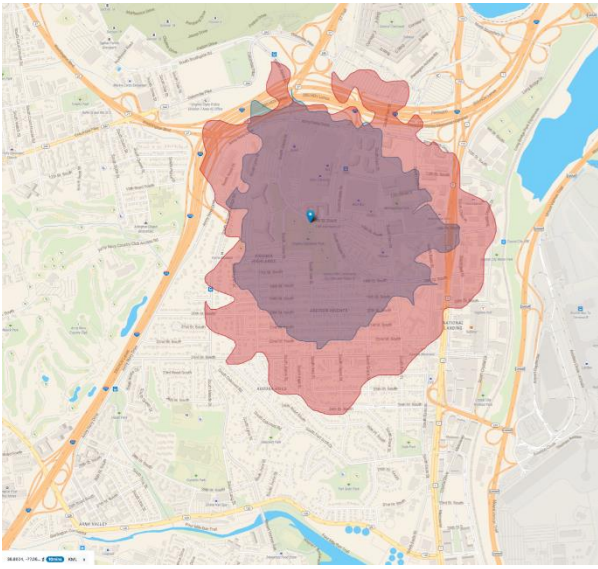
**Community Support:** Over a hundred signatures from residents in multi-family homes and single family homes.

**Parks and Recreation Commissioners:** In 2017, commissioners have expressed support for "temporary use spaces" in this area as a prelude to more intensive redesign.

**Shirlington Dogs II Support:** Shirlington Dogs II endorses the proposal and has offered to lend their knowledge to ensure that the Pentagon City site is well implemented and maintained.

**Local Business Support:** There is a need for a dog park to help support our community businesses. Two Way Dog Walking supports the dog park proposal.

## Logistics



**~11,000 households within 10 minute walk:** Pentagon City has embraced the “Car-free diet.” Without a car, it is virtually impossible for dog owners to even access any other County dog park facilities

**Quickly & Temporary 2019:** This area of the park was slated for improvements under the 2016 CIP program and is recommended for a master planning process by the County. We suggest that the location proposed may be temporary with relatively little cost that could easily be funded out of general maintenance budgets before the end of 2019.

**Opportunity to expand the main dog area to the west by using land currently occupied by one of the softball fields.** Expanding to the west by approximately 30 yards would nearly double the space and provide the necessary capacity, and open space for other community needs as requested by the neighborhood in a 2016 Civic Association vote.

**Not located near homes:** The location provides easy access from high-rise and single family homes without any disruption to the quality of life of neighbors. In fact the closest single family homes are the equivalent to nearly 2 blocks away from the end of the proposed dog park. A dog-friendly multi-family building is across the street and uses VHP

**Size: Approximately 25,000sq ft** The area outside fencing that is currently unused would provide approximately 15,000 sf; Observations at Met Park apartments and VHP show that there will be easily 50+ dogs (small & large) at peak times. The size would need to be at least 22,500 ft to avoid conflicts, which can be achieved by expanding into space currently occupied by one softball field.

**Temporary Fencing** could be achieved using the heavy-duty temporary fencing currently warehoused by the County. This could be used initially, at no or relatively low, cost.

**Water Source already exists** in the area delineated in the diagram by the “small dog park”.

**Trash Service already exists:** In addition, there are already County trash bins and trash service provided by the County along the service path between both dog areas.

**Shed already exists** to store the necessary maintenance tools at Virginia Highlands Park. Volunteers can use it to store the dog bags, first aid kit, broom, shovels, clippers, signage and tools.

**Easy Entrance Access:** The service road in VHP is ideally situated to allow for owners to enter and exit the dog park without using main sidewalks.

**Easy Parking (if needed):** There is plenty of street parking adjacent to the location & a full parking lot.