



# Agenda Item Report

**Legislative Board:** City Council  
**Date:** April 1, 2025  
**Contact:** Anthony Host  
**Agenda Item ID / Number:** 2025-140- / I.1

**ITEM TITLE:** Workshop on relocation options for the City's dog park due to the expansion at the Sportsplex (Parks Director Tony Host)

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to the Sportsplex reconstruction, the dog park must be relocated to accommodate the new clover of softball fields. Staff took this item to the Parks Commission on Feb. 19 for consideration. Staff presented location options based on existing available park land and proximity to neighborhoods including evaluation of Whispering Hollow, Stagecoach, and Green Meadows parks. Staff's original recommended design included two separate dog parks adjacent to each other, one for small dogs and one for large dogs. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend Whispering Hollow Park, with a motion to combine the two into one with a fence separating small and large dogs.

## 2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

This item was presented to the Parks Commission on Feb. 19. The commission voted unanimously for Whispering Hollow Park. Staff originally recommended two separate dog parks adjacent to each other, one for small dogs and one for large dogs. The Parks Commission's motion recommends combining the two into one with a fence separating small and large dogs.

When the Buda Dog Park was established in 2007, the Sportsplex was chosen for several key reasons:

- Available Space: The Sportsplex provided enough land for an off-leash area without impacting other park functions.
- Central Location: The site was accessible for a large portion of the community.
- Existing Amenities: The park benefited from existing Sportsplex infrastructure, including parking, restrooms, and nearby walking trails.
- Cost-Effective: Utilizing part of an existing city park reduced development costs.

## 3. ANALYSIS

To ensure residents continue to have a dedicated space for their dogs, staff has identified four potential relocation sites. Staff took into consideration the availability of parking, proximity to neighborhoods, proximity to downtown/central location, available land, flood plain status, and existing amenities. Below are the different options staff presented to the Parks Commission and will present to City Council on April 1.

1. Staff recommends relocating the dog park to either Whispering Hollow or Summer Pointe. These locations offer sufficient land, amenities, including playgrounds and parking, and should not impede the adjacent neighborhoods. Additionally, they offer the most budget-friendly relocation options with minimal financial impact. Whispering Hollow could require the removal of some trees, mostly Mesquite, that are not protected by the City's tree ordinance.

2. Stagecoach is also a compatible location with these considerations - it is a central location, has existing amenities, including restrooms, playscape, and sufficient parking. Stagecoach would require clearing of space including removal of some trees.

3. Green Meadows may be a consideration for similar reasons as Whispering Hollow and Summer Pointe. The park has existing amenities, including parking, restrooms, and playscape and should not greatly impact the surrounding neighborhood, as this park is already a high-use facility.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The financial impact of the move of the dog park can range from low end \$35,000 to \$150,000 on the high end.

#### **5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS**

SAFE, FUN EXPERIENCES FOR ALL - OUTDOOR CAPITOL OF TEXAS

#### **6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES**

Small Town Charm that is a Family Friendly and Beautiful Community

#### **7. PROS AND CONS**

***Pros:***

- Better Location
- Preserves a Community Amenity
- Enhanced Design
- Reduces Construction Conflicts
- Potential for Growth
- Financially Feasible Options

***Cons:***

- Loss of Familiarity
- Community Pushback
- Potential Space Constraints
- Parking and Accessibility Concerns
- Budget Considerations
- Possible Impact on Nearby Residents

#### **8. ALTERNATIVES**

Direct staff to relocate the dog park to another location, including Stagecoach, Green Meadows, Summer Pointe, or an alternative location not identified in the presentation.

#### **9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION**

The Parks Commission unanimously recommends relocating the dog park to Whispering Hollow Park. Tonight's discussion is to seek feedback and direction from City Council. No outreach has been made to adjacent neighborhoods yet without first consulting with City Council.

#### **Attachments:**

[City of Buda dog park relocation.pdf](#)