

To the Parks and Recreation Commission

11/23/19

I oppose the plan to change McKenzie Park from a park space that includes a playground structure, picnic tables, park benches, and walking paths into an area that will become a completely fenced off dirt area for off leash dogs.

This park currently serves the needs of recreation and relaxation for the majority of residents living in Los Altos, including dog owners who can enjoy the park with their dogs on leash.

This park also provides an open space respite that is easily accessible for individuals and their families who are residing/convalescening at the Los Altos Sub-Acute and Rehabilitation Center located at 809 Fremont Ave., as well as a location for employees of local business's to have lunch and relax.

By fencing off this park and having it be a dirt playground for dogs it will then only serve the needs of a small minority of residents in Los Altos who wish to have their dogs off leash. All of the parks in Los Altos are currently being used by dog owners who allow their dogs off leash as well as dog owners with dogs on leash. Within a five to six mile radius of McKenzie Park there are currently five fenced in dog parks that residents of Los Altos can easily access.

1. Mary Avenue Dog Park in Cupertino
2. Village Green Dog Park in Mountain View
3. Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale
4. Dog Park at Shoreline Park in Mountain View
5. Murphy Park in Sunnyvale

McKenzie Park should remain an open space for all residents of Los Altos to enjoy and not just a limited few. Los Altos has limited open space parks to enjoy and it is important to protect the parklands that we have.

November 23, 2019

*Read at the November 25, 2019 meeting*