

Summary of Petition by Linda White  
McKenzie Park Fenced-In dog Park Proposal

December 11, 2019

1. I went to 91 homes located within the 1,000 foot Noticing Map
2. At 33 homes no one was home.
3. In 50 of these homes individuals signed the attached petition opposing the plan for a fenced-in dog park to be located at McKenzie Park by the tennis courts.
3. At three homes individuals were in favor of a fenced-in dog park. Two people liked the idea for McKenzie Park; one person didn't care where it was but wanted one in Los Altos.
4. At 5 homes the residents wanted more information before making a decision.
5. I went to two doctor offices located on Altos Oaks directly next to McKenzie Park. 4 office staff members signed the petition opposing the fenced-in dog park.
6. I visited the Los Altos Sub-Acute Center located on Fremont Ave. and the administrator signed the petition opposing the fenced-in dog park.

My impression is that the Park and Recreation Commission thinks that the smaller section of McKenzie Park is not used frequently. From my interactions with more than fifty households and several businesses located around McKenzie Park this is simply not true.

While the larger section of McKenzie Park is popular among families with children, nanny groups, and weekend gatherings the smaller part of the park offers a more intimate and quite reprieve.

There are no park benches for adults located at the larger section of McKenzie Park and frequently the picnic area is busy with children and their families or

caregivers using the picnic table space. At the smaller park there are seating benches as well as picnic tables.

Many of the individuals living around McKenzie Park frequent the small section of the park on a daily basis, even several times in one day. At least seven families told me that they frequent the park with their children. Almost every dog owner I spoke with likes meandering through the park with their dog and appreciating the natural beauty it has to offer.

Families have had their family portraits taken by the great oak tree, and they play hide and seek among the redwoods. They have taught their children how to ride a bike at this park and they have stayed to picnic afterward.

Bicyclists frequent this park on the weekends and can be found relaxing at the picnic tables with friends.

Individuals appreciate having the public art located at McKenzie Park.

From the Los Altos Sub Acute Center patients are wheeled in their wheelchairs to the park for a breath of fresh air and to relax with friends and family.

Staff members from nearby doctor's offices frequently eat their lunch here and they also hold small office meetings in the park.

This is a park that is open to all for many different uses. It is highly valued and recognized for its beauty, open space, and the resources it offers to its surrounding community.

There are numerous conservation organizations in California trying to protect and grow our surrounding open spaces because they recognize the value and the benefits of rescuing these lands from being lost.

My hope is that the City of Los Altos recognizes that giving up a beautiful and valuable open space park in trade for a less valuable, unattractive, restrictive space is a bad deal with very few benefits.

# McKenzie Park – 1,000-foot Noticing Map

