



City of Apache Junction

Home of the Superstition Mountains

MEMORANDUM TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
THROUGH: Bryant Powell, City Manager
FROM: Liz Langenbach, Parks and Recreation Director
DATE: June 18, 2019
SUBJECT: Off-Leash Dog Park Direction To Staff

At your June 3rd, 2019 Work Session, staff presented a recommendation by the Parks and Recreation Commission to pursue building a dog park at the Pinal County Complex Retention Basin.

Items of consensus among citizens, commission members, and the ASU Project Cities report is as follows:

- Because of the cost, a smaller scale park with basic amenities, close to residents should be considered
- An off-leash park should be a minimum of one acre, with grass, 5 foot fencing, and separate areas for large/small dogs,
- Additional top amenities include: shade, seating for owners, and a water source

While several sites were considered, the most ideal sites for consideration included Prospector Park, Silly Mountain Park, and the Pinal County Retention basin at Superstition Blvd and Idaho Rd. This third site was conceptualized most recently in 2015 as a less costly alternative to the two original master planned locations. After visiting and considering all options, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend the county retention basin, for the following reasons:

- It is an existing City-Maintained property that already has much of the necessary infrastructure in place
- It is the least expensive site and easiest to implement
- It exceeds the minimum land requirements identified by ASU
- The proposed design includes mitigating the current inefficient drainage of the basin
- It has good proximity to the downtown area and highest density of citizens
- County leadership is open to working with the City to allow this type of an amenity at the county complex

We respectfully request that the City Council select the Pinal County Complex Retention Basin for our dog park location and direct staff to 1) begin the design process, 2) seek grants and other sources to assist in the funding of the project, and 3) begin coordination efforts with Pinal County leadership to update our current intergovernmental agreement for that property. Thank you, for your consideration.