

Citizens In Support of San Jose Dog Parks

Dear Parks, Recreation and Neighborhoods Planning Commissioners:

I am a resident of San Jose and a dog owner. I am writing in support of the *Lincoln Hound Society* efforts concerning the development of more off-leash dog areas in our neighborhoods within San Jose District 6, particularly at Lincoln High School.

Positive results from off leash areas in other cities such as Campbell, Los Gatos, and San Francisco among others have included the following:

- Increased community activity decreased vandalism, crime and gang related incidents.
- Elderly people and those with limited physical abilities had greater access to exercise their pets and socialize with their neighbors.
- Pet friendly parks created areas for people to socialize which resulted in a wealth of benefits to pet owners and the community at large, including improved pet behavior, increased citizen involvement and a stronger sense of neighborhood.
- Dog owners could exercise safely with their pets without infringing on the welfare of cyclists, children and other park users.
- Improved community relations with law enforcement officers by enabling leash laws to be enforced with mutual community consent.
- Increased community stewardship through pet owner volunteer clean up.

I am aware of the increase in community and comradeship that dog parks create and I would enjoy seeing this spirit in my neighborhood. I support the creation and maintenance of more off-leash dog areas not just in District 6, but also in the City of San Jose.

Thank you for your time and support of this cause.

Sincerely,