

April 29, 2019

To: His Worship the Mayor
And Members of City Council

Re: Community and Protective Services Committee: Bylaw Amendment for Seasonal Off-
Leash Dog Sites

RECOMMENDATION

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES
COMMITTEE - APRIL 11, 2019**

1. That amendments to The Regina Animal Bylaw, 2009, Bylaw No. 2009-44 as identified in this report be approved and come into effect May 1, 2019.
2. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the required amending bylaw for consideration by City Council.

COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE - APRIL 11, 2019

The Committee adopted a resolution to concur in the recommendation contained in the report. Recommendation #3 does not require City Council approval.

Councillors Andrew Stevens (Chairperson), Lori Bresciani (teleconference), John Findura, Jerry Flegel and Jason Mancinelli were present during consideration of this report by the Community and Protective Services Committee.

The Community and Protective Services Committee, at its meeting held on April 11, 2019, considered the following report from the Administration:

RECOMMENDATION

1. That amendments to *The Regina Animal Bylaw, 2009, Bylaw No. 2009-44* as identified in this report be approved and come into effect May 1, 2019.
2. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the required amending bylaw for consideration by City Council.
3. That this report be forwarded to the April 29, 2019 meeting of City Council for approval.

CONCLUSION

Administration has received requests to expand the City of Regina's (City) seasonal outdoor rink off-leash areas. Administration believes that this is a good use of outdoor boarded rinks in the off-season and, as a result of positive feedback from the community, recommends moving forward with the addition of Joanne Goulet (Westhill) and North West Leisure Centre boarded rinks to the program. It is recommended that *The Regina Animal Bylaw, 2009, Bylaw No. 2009-44* be amended to permit this use.

BACKGROUND

The City currently has two year-round off-leash dog parks and five seasonal off-leash dog areas that are located within boarded rinks. These five seasonal locations were chosen to geographically distribute the off-leash opportunities throughout the city. Administration has been asked to expand the program in the north/west area of the city

DISCUSSION

In spring 2018, Administration received requests from the community to allow for off-leash use of the outdoor boarded rink near the Joanne Goulet Golf Course. Administration believes using rinks as off-leash areas is a good use of existing infrastructure and where they exist, they are valued by the community. Therefore, a decision was made to do an assessment of this request from the community. Administration determined that other sites should be considered as well, so Administration assessed existing boarded rink sites to determine which sites could be added to *The Regina Animal Bylaw, 2009, Bylaw No. 2009-44*.

In December 2018, staff in the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department reviewed all existing boarded rinks throughout the city. In assessing the sites, Administration looked for sites that:

- Were no closer than 30 meters to other amenities such as playgrounds or walking trails
- Were no closer than 25 meters to the back yard of a residential properties
- Had parking availability
- Were not regularly booked from May to September
- Did not contain other program elements (ie. rinks with basketball hoops).

As a result of the analysis, Administration has identified two outdoor boarded rink locations that could serve as a designated seasonal site (see Appendix A):

1. Joanne Goulet Golf Course (Westhill) - 8045 Kestral Drive
2. Rochdale Park (North West Leisure Centre) - 1127 North Arnason Street

Like the other seasonal sites, these locations will continue to be used for skating during the outdoor ice season. To ensure the Parks Maintenance branch has sufficient time to prepare sites for the outdoor ice season, the following hours of operation will be in effect for off-leash use at all locations:

- Dates of operation: May 1 - September 30, annually
- Hours of operation:
 - o 4 p.m.-11 p.m. on a school day
 - o 6 a.m.-11 p.m. on any day other than a school day

The Regina Animal Bylaw, 2009, Bylaw No. 2009-44 will be in effect at all locations and rules and regulations for the off-leash areas will be clearly posted at the entrance to each site.

Administration also understands that additional off-leash parks are desired by Regina residents. Administration continues to work with the Planning & Development Services Department and the development community to identify potential off-leash park locations to be included in concept plans.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

Financial implications associated with this project involve the cost of adding permanent signage at all two sites. These costs are estimated at \$1,000 and will be accommodated through the approved 2019 budget.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

Policy and/or Strategic Implications

The Recreation Master Plan (RMP) provides strategic guidance to Administration and Council related to public investment in recreation opportunities. Off-leash areas were a consideration in the development of the RMP and using the amenity prioritization system in the RMP, off-leash areas rate as the tenth priority among outdoor recreation amenities for Regina citizens.

Off-leash areas also support the policy direction in the *Design Regina: The Official Community Plan, Bylaw No. 2013-48*, of developing complete communities.

Other Implications

There are no other implications related to the recommendations in this report.

Accessibility Implications

There are no accessibility implications associated with this report.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Regina Humane Society, Community Associations and Zone Boards have been informed of

this initiative and are supportive of moving forward with the additional two locations for off-leash use. The public will be notified via social media and through Community Associations of the new off-leash areas, as well as the bylaws, rules and regulations of the new spaces.

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The recommendations contained in this report require City Council approval.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE



Tracy Brezinski, Secretary

4/23/2019.