

In-Person Outreach Event and Survey Overview

On October 24, 2024, an outreach event was held from 4pm to 6pm. The intent of this event was to bring more community awareness and engagement to the project by asking what community members want in their dog parks and what they want to avoid. Two presentation boards depicted the approximate location for the park, asked some questions to prompt discussion, and provided precedents of dog park elements such as dog agility training areas, fences, and water supply. Attendees were encouraged to place heart stickers on the boards for elements they loved, or to “vote” in one of the prompted questions.

Additionally, an online survey was implemented to increase accessibility for feedback. Like the outreach event, the survey focused on providing a brief overview of site analysis to solicit public feedback regarding potential improvements for the project site adjacent to West Seattle Stadium. The survey was open from October 24 to November 12, 2024. In total, 116 people participated in the survey. It is important to note that this is not a statistically valid survey. The survey was presented as a series of questions with supportive graphics using the SurveyMonkey platform and was designed to take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Outreach Event – 10/23/2024

During the event, participants placed sticky notes on the board as well as dropped them into a comment box. The comments on the sticky notes are as follows:

- “one large – too small for separation; like to fetch; don’t like gravel – dust, mud; like terraced; like concrete area at entrance; high and low entrance”
- “lighting”
- “different terrain; area gets wet; seating; water; this space underutilized; double gates; tunnel; want fully fenced; no parking”
- “signage for park should have translation esp. park rules”
- “opposed to a parking lot”
- “drainage at drinking area gets too muddy”
- “activate with events (with cola); Richmond Beach; Edmonds”
- “agility circular / breakaway; not steel; natural materials (stumps)”
- “webster dead-end; parking; publicity – so no parking will be provided. Potential for streets to be blocked”
- “rain barrells – water for dogs during winter when water is shut off”
- “rain collection barrels for dog drinking water”
- “request for lighting for evening use if open”
- “community cork board; like community local art; dog wash station – baths provided”
- “want shelter – covered area for rain”
- “visual barriers on the fence, along the pathways – preventing dog fights/agitation”

The following is a summary of these comments:

- Ensure the park is well lit
- Have separate spaces for shy/small dogs, running, and fetch that total at least 1 acre
- Have double entry gates and fences that are escape proof
- Provide water year-round, but ensure that drainage is sufficient.
- No parking in addition to what currently exists.



Site Overview

Where would you prefer to access the site? Use a sticker!

Do you prefer to have small/shy dog areas or one large open space?

Small/Shy Dog Area	One Large Open Space
5 hearts	2 hearts

What kind of human-focused features would you prefer?

Seating 4 hearts

Drinking Fountain 3 hearts

Weather Protection 4 hearts

What time of day would you use this park?

Morning	Afternoon	Evening
6 hearts	3 hearts	6 hearts

Legend

- Study Area (approx. 12,000 ft²)
- Pedestrian Access
- Vehicle Access

Vicinity Map

October 2024

Othello Playground Off-Leash Area

Seattle Parks & Recreation

One of the questions on the board prompted participants to place a sticker on the location where they would like an entrance. The existing site entrance on West Seattle Stadium Access Road received a sticker as well as the social trail leading into Camp Long.

Other questions and results are below:

“Do you prefer to have small/shy dog areas or one large open space?”

- Small/shy dog area – 5 hearts
- Large open space – 2 hearts

“What kind of human-focused features would you prefer?”

- Seating – 4 hearts
- Drinking Fountain – 3 hearts
- Weather Protection – 4 hearts

“What time of day would you use this park?”

- Morning – 6 hearts
- Afternoon – 3 hearts
- Evening – 6 hearts

What might it look like?

Off-Leash Area



Agility Training



Dog Water Stations



Fence / Gates



Human Accommodation



Bioretention Swale



Art Integration



October 2024

Othello Playground Off-Leash Area



On the board with dog park elements, participants placed hearts to the elements they really loved. The totals for this board are as follows:

- Off-Leash Area – 3 hearts
- Agility Training – 9 hearts
- Dog Water Stations – 9 hearts
- Fence/Gates – 10 hearts
- Human Accommodation – 9 hearts
- Bioretention Swale – 5 hearts
- Art Integration – 4 hearts

Survey

1. What types of features would you like to see at a new dog park?

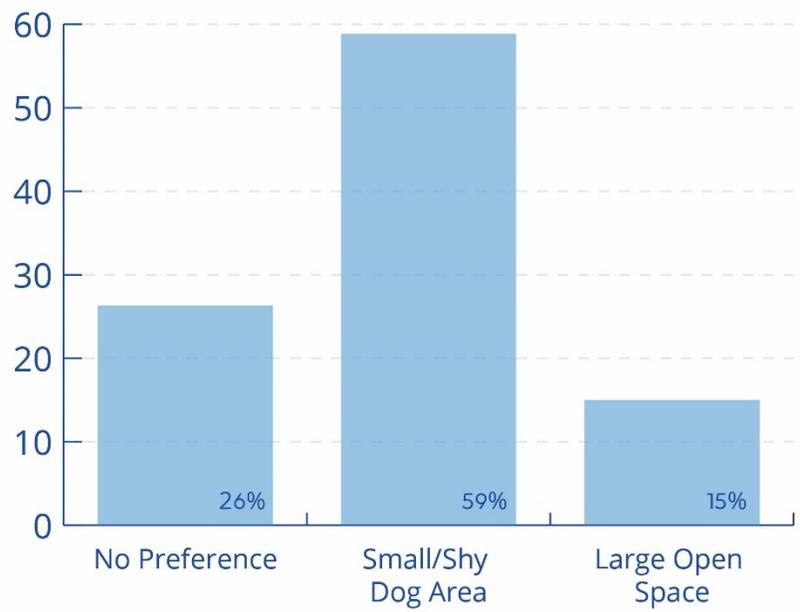


- Answered: 100 / Skipped: 16
- Responses related to wanting large amounts of open grass space, as well as wanting site furnishing and amenities were the predominant themes that arose for this open-ended question.
- Most important to respondents was access to water with 32% of respondents wanting something water related. There were mentions of water fountains for dogs and humans as well as water features for dogs to play in. There was intentional mention of maintaining water access in winter when many water sources are turned off.
- 15% of respondents were worried about the surfacing of the dog park, especially in particular to the drainage. There were several mentions about how other dog parts have poor draining due to surfacing and then their dogs become very muddy after playing.
- Also important to folks is to have seating for humans with 18% mentioning this. People want benches and seating inside and outside of the park boundaries as well as overhead coverage for rainy as well as sunny days.
- Fewer mentions include a desire for bulletin boards seeing as how this is an important third space for community members to gather.

Sample open-ended responses:

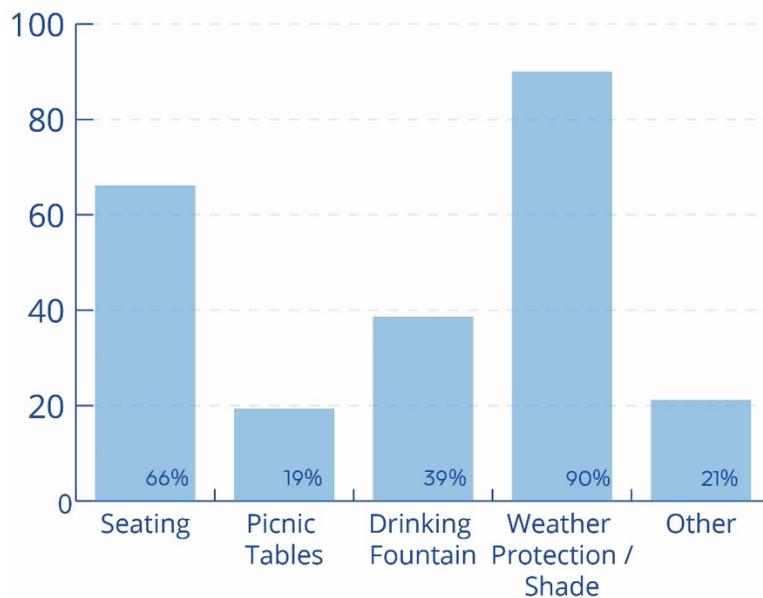
- *“Covered area, lighting for the winter evening hours, agility course, water access with drainage to prevent puddling or pooling”*
- *“Something with good drainage. A lot of the dog parks get super muddy in the rainy seasons.”*
- *“Enrichment like Climbing structures.”*
- *“Gravel or wood chips to minimize mud in the winter. Trails to walk on. Water available in small dog area.”*
- *“Small dog area, biofillic design/products, double entry area, community board/lost and found, signage on usage, lighting, photo op item/area, agility ramp or items, seating, tree for summer shade, trash can, dog poop can, hydration for dogs and humans, wash station, seating also on outside”*

2. Do you prefer to have a small/shy dog area or one large open space?



- Answered: 114 / Skipped: 2
- 26.32% of respondents have no preference.
- 58.77% of respondents preferred to have a small/shy dog area.
- 14.91% of respondents preferred to have a large open space.

3. What kind of human-focused features would you prefer?

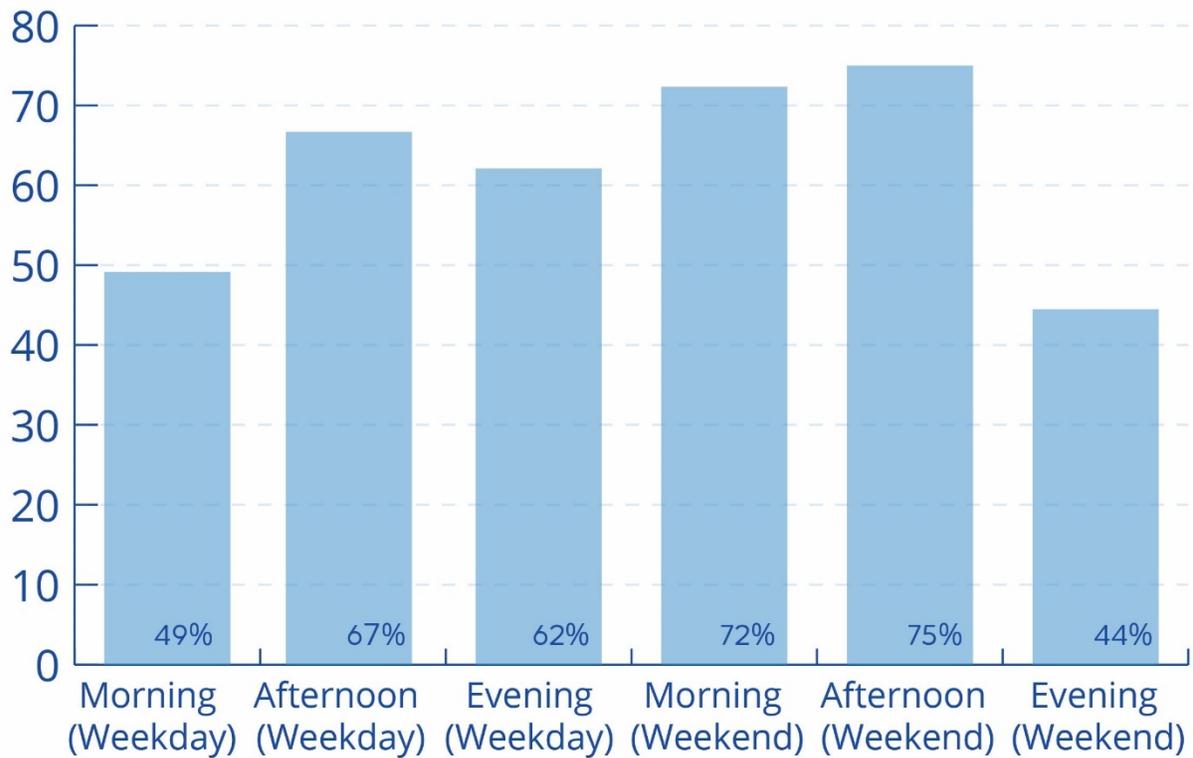


- Answered: 109 / Skipped: 7
- 66.06% of respondents want seating included.
- 19.27% of respondents want picnic tables included.
- 38.53% of respondents want drinking fountains included.
- 89.91% of respondents want weather protection / shade included.
- 21.10% of respondents provided other ideas. Those are included below.
- The most popular items put into the “other” included human bathrooms, accessibility for disabled folks, and lighting for the big dark season. People were also concerned with parking and waste bins.

Sample open-ended responses:

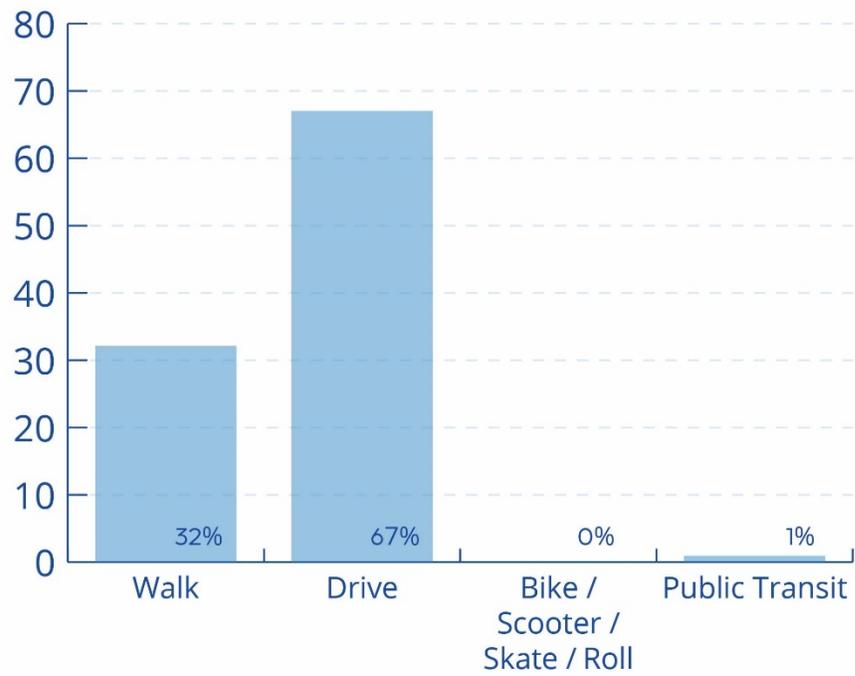
- *“Please do not put in picnic tables. Human food has no place in a dog park.”*
- *“Seating for all body sizes and abilities.”*
- *“Lighting! Definitely our #1 request. We will most often use the park before and after going to work, and for half the year, that is in the dark. It would be awesome if there was lighting at the park for this reason.”*

4. What time of day would you use this OLA?



- Answered: 108 / Skipped: 8
- 49.07% of respondents would use the OLA on weekday mornings.
- 66.67% of respondents would use the OLA on weekday afternoons.
- 62.04% of respondents would use the OLA on weekday evenings.
- 72.22% of respondents would use the OLA on weekend mornings.
- 75.00% of respondents would use the OLA on weekend afternoons.
- 44.44% of respondents would use the OLA on weekend evenings.

5. How would you get to the OLA?



- Answered: 112 / Skipped: 4
- 32.14% of respondents will walk to the OLA.
- 66.96% of respondents will drive to the OLA.
- 0.0% of respondents will bike/scooter/skate/roll to the OLA.
- .89% of respondents will ride public transit to the OLA.

6. How does your dog like to play?

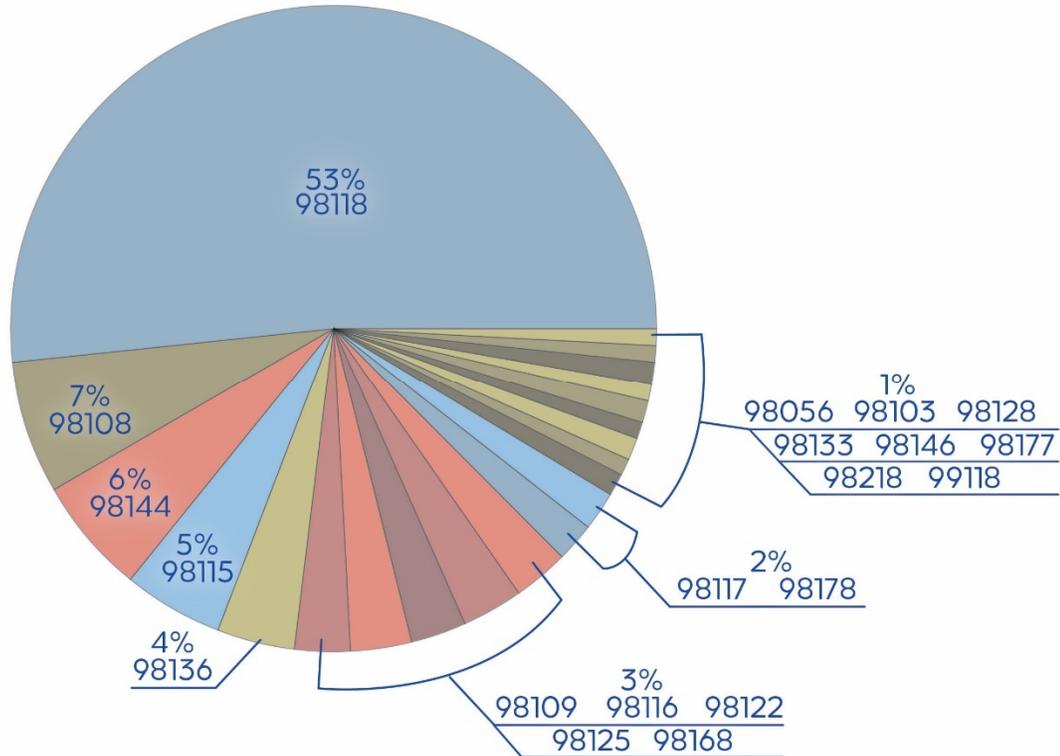


- Answered: 103 / Skipped: 13
- The most popular words given in this response were “run” with 38 mentions, “chase” with 27 mentions, and “fetch” with 18 mentions.

Sample open-ended responses:

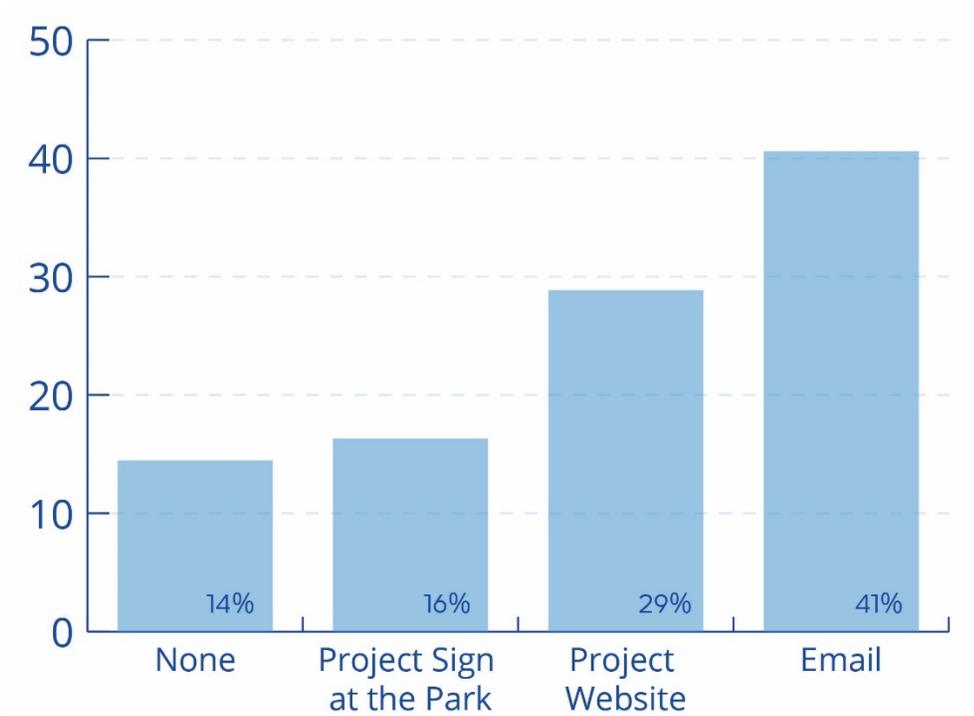
- *“Fetch, exploring, sometimes chase with other dogs”*
- *“He’s a great communicator and offers clear calming signals between play bouts. He loves puppies/younger dogs.”*
- *“Ball, tug, chase, wrestle.”*
- *“having topography where not all dogs are in view all the time helps break up play with rest time.”*
- *“We have a back yard, and he gets multiple walks a day, but the park provides enrichment in ways that we can’t otherwise provide him. It’s such a valuable asset for us, and we are thrilled to have this park be in walking distance.”*
- *“I have a on-leash dog that is afraid of off-leash dogs and live a half block from the park. We need to be able to continue to access the park without interference with off-leash dogs. We ask that all gates to enter the offleash area are away from the SW corner of Webster and 43rd so that we can use the crosswalks to enter the park without dealing with dogs entering and leaving the off-leash area.”*

7. What is your zip-code?



- Answered: 111 / Skipped: 5
- 53.15% of respondents live in the zip-code 98118, which is the zip-code the OLA is in.
- There are more Seattle zip-codes represented in this data than are missing from this data. From south Seattle to north Seattle, there was a response received from every area of town except for the downtown core.
- 98128 and 98218 are not valid zip codes, but each was given once.

8. How would you like to receive updates about the project?



- Answered: 114 / Skipped: 7
- 14.41% of respondents prefer no updates.
- 16.22% of respondents prefer getting updates from a project sign at the park.
- 28.83% of respondents prefer getting updates from the project website.
- 40.54% of respondents prefer getting updates from emails.