

Appendix A



Lake Avenue Dog Beach Summary of Engagement Results

From August 2017 to September 2019, we invited residents to share their thoughts and experiences regarding the Lake Avenue Off-Leash Dog Beach Access. During the original engagement session at Lake Avenue in spring 2016, City staff received many strongly felt comments from nearby residents opposed to a dog beach in this location. However, it also received broad support from the wider community both online and at the city-wide open house. To allow for a better understanding of public opinion, a two-year trial was conducted. This also allowed both nearby residents and visitors to the beach to experience the space as an off-leash site.

Engagement Summary

The City's engagement website, getinvolved.kelowna.ca, was utilized as the primary tool to capture feedback during the two-year trial. Residents could provide open ended comments to "tell us what they think" about Lake Avenue as an off-leash dog beach or ask questions.

The feedback opportunity was advertised:

- *On site at Lake Avenue Beach Access.*
This was the most important consideration as we wanted to hear from those who visit/frequent the park and those who live nearby. A sign (pictured) was posted at the entrance of the park for the duration of the trial.
- *kelowna.ca/website.* Information was hosted on a number of webpages including the [Lake Avenue Beach Access page](#), [dog park public engagement webpage](#) and was intermittently featured on the kelowna.ca homepage.
- *Get Involved site and social media promotions.* Featured on the Get Involved site for duration of the two-year trial including on the featured projects section along with general social media posts about opportunities to provide feedback on City projects and initiatives including this trial.



Engagement Results

From August 2017 to September 2019:

- 1245 were aware of the project (viewed the get involved Lake Avenue Dog Beach Trial page)
- 283 were involved (viewing or reviewing the page at a more detailed level)
- 92 engaged (providing feedback or asking questions)

Get Involved – Tell Us What You Think (67 contributors)

SUPPORT	44
SUPPORT w CONDITIONS	21
OPPOSED	2

Get Involved – Ask a Question (24 questions, 15 of which expressed support or opposition)

SUPPORT	8
SUPPORT w CONDITIONS	6
OPPOSED	1

Service Request System (note that the SR system is not a traditional avenue to voice support)

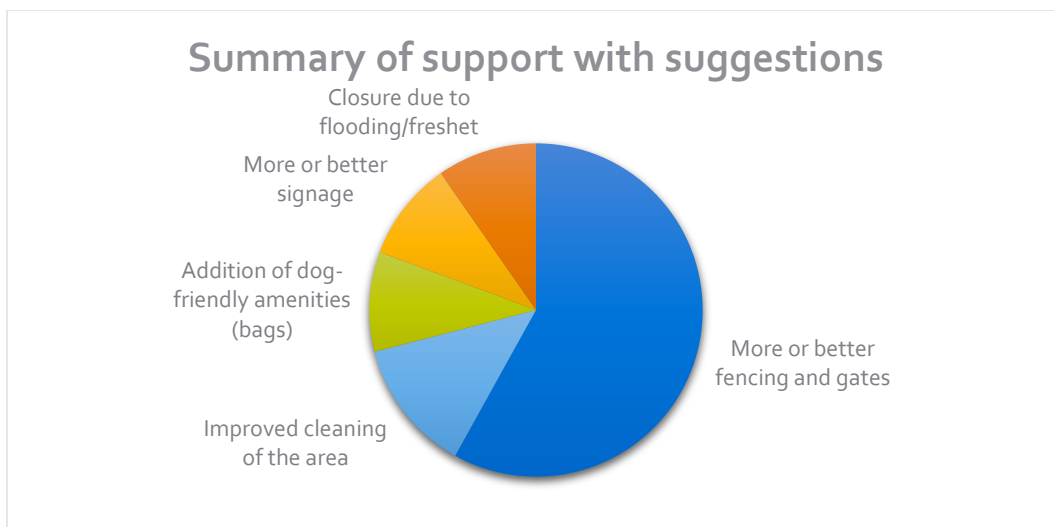
SUPPORT	0
SUPPORT w CONDITIONS	4
OPPOSED	5*

**four of the five service requests were from the same resident*

Support with Conditions:

Of the 31 total responses that supported the off-leash dog beach with suggestions, these included:

- Numerous requests for improved fencing and gating (18)
- Requests for better signage (3)
- Removal of glass/increased safety sweeps (4)
- Complaints of closure during flooding/freshet (3)
- Addition of dog-friendly amenities such as bag dispensers (3)



Examples of Feedback Received:

- I took my dogs to this beach on August 12th. What a fantastic location for this! I always wanted to take my dogs downtown in the summer but until now there is really nowhere to let them off leash safely/legally. This beach provides enough room for them to actually run around and enjoy themselves. One small feedback would be to extend the fence further down towards the water or put up some other form of natural barrier.
- We love this new dog park! It is walking distance to our house and in great proximity for those hot days we walk downtown. We have not had any issues with other dogs like we have found at fenced in dog parks and this is our new favourite park!
- We already have enough beaches with dogs everywhere and dog dodo on the ground. I and my family want to swim and sit on beaches and not deal with wet dogs running around and angry dog owners who don't want to control their dogs because they say I am on their beach!!!!
- We own property one house away from Lake Ave beach We were strongly opposed to having a dog park there. We were pleasantly surprised of the success of this dog park and have made a 100% change in our opinion. It is working better than we expected.
- We have been to the new dog beach at Lake Ave several times and it has been wonderful. We live in the neighbourhood so we are very happy we now have somewhere to walk to with our little dogs. We have been driving 11kms to the Cedar Creek dog beach for years. We've met lots of nice people....locals and tourists...and the beach has been spotless. Hope everyone keeps up the good work so we can continue to enjoy the beach with our dogs!
- I think it's a great location for a dog beach. Hopefully more people start using it for their dogs and less for other activities. Just need a bit more signage so people know it's a dog beach.
- This is a fantastic idea. My dog loves to swim and the only place I can take her is all the way up Lakeshore. Great thinking.
- One of the best ideas the City has had! Kelowna was called the most pet friendliest city in BC, but pet owners felt there was a lack of beaches to take their dogs to (only one off leash) before Lake. It's so great to be able to take the dogs for a swim on a hot day! A couple of things we did notice is that it wasn't fully gated like the Richter dog park (that I believe we will be losing in the near future?) I would be better to have a gate at both entrances because of the people going over the walking bridge.
- I hate that the city took what was a mostly adult only beach and turned part of it into a dog park. I want to go to a beach that isn't over crowded and doesn't have screaming children running around. The city has ruined a beautiful beach because it wants to curb drug activity. I think you went about it all wrong. There aren't enough beaches to accommodate people and the city turns one into a dog park.