



# **SERVICE DOG PARK**

## **BARRIE MOLSON CENTRE**

### **DOG OFF LEASH RECREATION AREA (DOLRA)**

Presented By:

Planning & Asset Management, Engineering Department

Date: April 11, 2019



# Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to update the Accessibility Advisory Committee, and report back as directed by Council Motion 16-G-003.



Source: <http://copedogs.org/about/our-mission-history/>

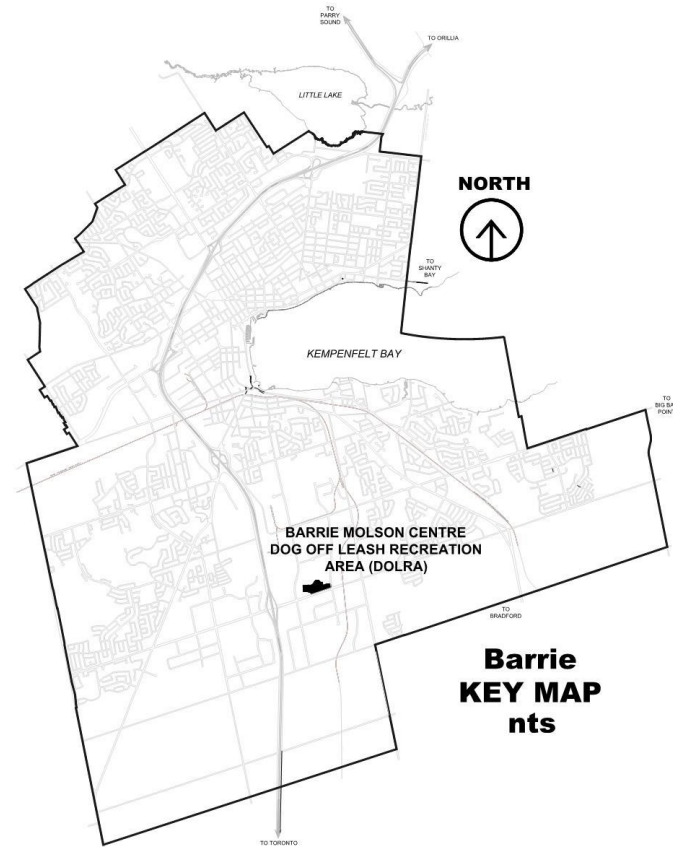
# Council Motion 16-G-003

## 16-G-003 INVESTIGATION OF A SERVICE DOG OFF LEASH AREA (WARD 8)

- That Staff in the Engineering Department investigate the feasibility of implementing a Service Dog Off-Leash Area within the Barrie Molson Centre Dog Off-Leash Recreation Area (DOLRA) including the following:
  - Potential utilization;
  - Community needs;
  - Implementation cost;
  - Possible funding/sponsorship opportunities.
- That Staff in the Engineering Department report back to the Accessibility Advisory Committee during the second quarter of 2016.

### PROCESS

- A. Stakeholder Consultation
- B. Design Review
- C. Implementation Costs





# Barrie Molson Centre



 Existing Dog Off Leash Recreation Area (DOLRA)

# A. Stakeholder Consultation

The City of Barrie conducted a survey amongst existing stakeholders including:

- COPE Dogs (30 COPE Dogs and 8 COPE dogs in training)
- Guide Dog Users of Canada Group (12) – no data received
- Barrie Service Dog Playtime Group (25)
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) – no data received





# Potential Utilization Feedback

Stakeholder Feedback indicated:

- 75 service dogs' users indicated that they would utilize a service dog specific dog off leash area with dedicated regularity.
- The consultation process indicated there was likely more than 100 service dog users currently within the City of Barrie who would use such a facility.



Source: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3016489/asperger-syndrome-assistance-dogs-autism.html>

Stakeholder Feedback also identified a key CONCERN:

Staff were advised repeatedly that the majority of service dog users within our community, would not support a service dog DOLRA at the current BMC DOLRA location due to accessibility issues at the location and accessibility issues travelling to BMC DOLRA location.

# Community Needs

The time, money and effort that goes into raising a successful service dog is vast and consequently service dog users/handlers are very protective of their service dogs.

If a service dog is harmed by another dog while at a general population off-leash area, the injury to the service dog is not the only concern the user/handler would have to address, as an injury to a service dog severely limits the user/handler's ability to function in daily life.

# Community Needs – DOLRA Requirements

- Separate and distinct from other users
- Awareness Campaign
- Transit Access
- Parking
- Walkable
- Accessible Playground
- Multi-use Pathways
- Water Access (not required but desirable)



Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/service-dogs-ptsd-standards-1.4625484>



# Community Needs – DOLRA Requirements

## **Dedicated Space**

A dedicated space that only individuals with service dogs or guide dogs are permitted to access to ensure both the safety, well-being and security of the service dog or guide dog, but also of the service dog or guide dog user.

## **Park System Approach**

A larger overarching **DOLRA Park System or Management Strategy**, which would also include a consistent, comprehensive strategy or approach for the provision of off-leash areas.

# B. Design Review



## Bayview Drive Transit Routes

Route 1: Pink  
Route 2: Red  
Route 3: Blue  
Route 7: Orange  
Route 8: Black  
Route 11: Yellow

## Bayview Drive Transit Stops

#508 Mapleview Drive East, south side of  
entrance to Barrie Molson Centre  
#98 Northwest corner of Bayview Drive and  
Mapleview Drive Intersection  
#737 Northwest corner of South Village Way  
and Bayview Drive  
#736 In front of 505 Bayview Drive  
#777 In front of 149 Live Eight Way (approx.)

# BMC Concept – Access, Parking & Lighting



- Access: Sidewalk on east side of BMC. No connecting sidewalk to DOLRA from street.
- Parking: Shared parking with BMC at walkway entrance to DOLRA. Closed during BMC events.
- Lighting: Parking lot lighting and Building lighting. No lighting at dog park.



# Service Dog Park – Halifax Example

## Ardmore Park, Halifax

Area (Imperial) 45' x 90' = 4,050 ft<sup>2</sup>

Area (metric) 13.7m x 27.43m = 375.8m<sup>2</sup>

Total Area: .0929 acres or .1 acre



# BMC Concept – 2 options

## Concept Options



Target Size Minimum: Accommodate 10 service dogs simultaneously

### Option A: .27 Acre

Convert existing small dog enclosure to Service Dogs only. Create new enclosure for small dogs use in partially fenced area or existing regular area.

#### Pro's

Existing  
Adjacent parking  
Level Access

#### Con's

Far from transit stop

#### Costs

New 75-100m fencing cost to relocate small dog use (\$5,000 - \$9,000 est.)

New Raised Graphics Signage (\$2,000 est.)

### Option B: 1 Acre

Install fencing to enclose the partially fenced area for Service Dog only use.

#### Pro's

Available  
Adjacent parking  
Level Access

#### Con's

Far from transit stop

#### Costs

New 100m fencing cost to enclose (\$9000 est.)

Extend granular path 32m (\$4,000 est.)

New Raised Graphics Signage (\$2000 est.)

# Controlled Access

To ensure enforcement of service dog users only gaining access to the service dog off leash area, controlled access may be required.

Additional Regulatory System Cost to be Determined.

Example: Controlled Card Key Access System, Halifax





## C. Implementation Costs

- An off-leash area in general can average \$75,000, but costs vary depending on site topography, size and elements included (ie. Card Access).
- Staff time and operation costs are additional costs to be identified.
- Service Dog user groups can assist with inspections, clean-up, reporting, and information distribution as municipal partners.



Source: <https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/847943436062908044/?lp=true>

# Funding / Sponsorship

## FUNDING/SPONSORSHIP

- Grant program - Royal Canine Canada Sponsorship and Charitable Giving Program – up to \$20,000
- Strong existing local support for service and guide dogs and their users
- Potential monetary or in-kind supports for development or marketing through local businesses
- Sponsorship/fundraising campaign would require development



Source: <https://signalhfx.ca/volunteering-time-and-love-to-raise-a-future-guide-dog/>



# Conclusions

1. The Barrie Molson Centre DOLRA could be expanded to include a Service Dog Park subject to Council approval and funding.
2. Consultation with Service Dog Owners indicates that the BMC DOLRA location is not ideal.



## Questions?

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/copedogs/>

