

Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire

1. Do you have a dog? If so, where are your favorite places to walk your dog on-leash and/or off-leash?

My family and I grew up on Long Island, NY, and we owned and cared for several dogs as I grew up. Living here since 1981, my husband and I have not had pets, other than koi fish, because of our busy work schedules and Steve's allergies. However, I enjoy our friends' pets and walking with my friend and her dog on Pulgas Ridge.

2. Recognizing that over 40% of households in Redwood City have dogs, which schools, open spaces and trails in the city do you think people should be allowed to walk dogs on-leash and/or off-leash?

Unfortunately, there are people who illegally walk their dog in school yards and parks and fail to pick up after their dog. Each site must be looked at independently and balanced with the interests of dog-owners and non-dog owners. I believe that all dogs should be on leash where there are children playing.

3. Stulsaft Park allows dogs on-leash throughout the park and off-leash on a little under half the park. Do you believe:
 - (a) The amount of off-leash is right
 - (b) There should be more off-leash
 - (c) There should be less off-leash

Please explain your choice.

I believe that there is balance here. It gives people who are afraid of off-leash dogs the opportunity to still use the park.

4. Redwood City currently permits dogs on-leash in all parks other than ball fields. Do you believe any Redwood City parks (other than Main Street Dog Agility Park, Shore Dogs Park, and parts of Stulsaft Park) should allow dogs off-leash or on-leash? Please elaborate.

I don't believe that there should be dogs off-leash in areas where there are children playing. Most dog owners think their dog would never bite someone but every year my husband, a physician, will sew up a dog bite where the dog's owner will state 'he/she has never done that before'. It is not the dog's fault. We need more responsible owners willing to take classes with their pets.

5. Is there anything else you would like voters to know about your position on recreational dog walking access?

I love dogs and although most dog owners are responsible, there are enough who are not. As a result, some areas will have stricter regulations than some thinks are necessary. I know that responsible people understand that it is all about safety and balance.

Thank you so much for this opportunity. I think that many know that since I am a former Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioner, I am in favor of creating more parks and open space for all our needs whenever possible.

Diane Howard_____ September 5, 2022

Thank you for answering these questions. If you have any questions, contact Matthew Greenberg, PeninsulaDogPAC@gmail.com, (650) 400-1280