

Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire

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

Yes, a border collie. We mostly walk in the neighborhood we live in, and mostly off leash.

2. Recognizing that over 40% of households in Menlo Park 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?

I'm not familiar with the spaces or trails of Menlo Park.

3. San Mateo County (SMC) has 24 parks encompassing over 16,000 acres with 200+ miles of walking trails, much of these areas are on the coastside. Although over 40% of SMC households have a dog, only approximately 8% of trails allow dogs on-leash and 3% of trails (just parts of Quarry Park) allow dogs off-leash as part of a one-year pilot program. By comparison, environmentally conscious Marin and East Bay Parks allow dog access on 90% of trails. **Would you like to see dog access in SMC parks increase, stay the same or reduce? Are there particular trails or parks you believe should permit dogs on-leash and/or off-leash?**

The right amount and type of dog access is whatever amount and type of dog access the community in an area will broadly support. I haven't talked to enough people in the Midcoast community about this issue to have strong feelings about whether the current level and type of access on the Midcoast should change in any material way.

4. The Board of Supervisors (BOS), after over 5 years of study by the SMC Dog Work Group, voted 4-1 on November 9, 2021 to approve a one year pilot program to allow dogs off-leash on specific trails at Quarry Park and Pillar Point Bluff. The Midcoast Community Council, at the time, did not support these off-leash areas. **If you had been on the MCC, how would you have voted? Please explain your position.**

I wasn't there to hear the arguments either for or against, so I have no way of knowing how I would have voted.

5. Do you support on-leash dog walking access at Rancho Corral de Tierra (Golden Gate National Recreation Area site on the coast)? Do you support providing opportunities for voice control dog walking at Rancho Corral de Tierra? Please discuss.

On leash at Rancho seems reasonable to me given the wildlife there. I leave it to the wildlife biologists to recommend whether dogs can be off leash there without causing disruption to the ecosystem.

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

I don't think so.

_____Gus Mattammal_____

_____9/17/22_____

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Thank you for answering these questions. We plan on putting your answers on our website to make it easy for your constituents to view your positions.