

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?

We have two dogs – both Great Pyrenees – Sarah who is 3 and Bradley who is 6. We try to walk them daily in our neighborhood (weather and schedule permitting). They are always on leash because they can be bolters, particularly Sarah. They also have a fenced acre of land for them to enjoy the rest of the time. We have had Pyrs for over 30 years.

2. Larry Lane Trail allows residents to take a hike with their dogs on-leash. Recognizing that over 40% of households in Portola Valley have dogs, what parks, schools, open spaces and trails in Portola Valley do you think people should be allowed to walk dogs on-leash? Please elaborate.

Please do not forget that almost all the trails in the Windy Hill Open Space (which is fully in the borders of Portola Valley) are open to dogs on leash. Including this, there are miles of trails currently available. Portola Valley is very dog friendly and most of the fields and Town Center are open for dogs on leash. Beyond this please see my response to #4

3. What parks, schools, open spaces and trails in Portola Valley do you think people should be allowed to walk dogs off-leash? Please elaborate.

I am aware that the Parks and Rec Committee has been advocating for a dog park in Portola Valley for some time. The challenge, of course, is that space has to be identified and specifically set aside for this. In general, I support more opportunities for dogs on leash, and areas for dogs to play off leash.

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

Portola Valley is fortunate to have a significant trail system, extensive open spaces, and a strong sense of conservation to preserve our natural spaces. Hikers, pedestrians, dog walkers, dog runners, bikers, equestrians, and athletes all take advantages of the wonderful outdoor activities that Portola Valley offers. With this interest, including a noticeable uptick from non-residents during the pandemic, the pressure on all of the trails and open spaces is incredible. We have three great committees that work to balance the issues of all these groups: Parks and Recreation, Trails and Paths, and Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety. In general, I support more opportunities for dogs on leash, and areas for dogs to play off leash. However, I must defer to the Town committees that have been working on these issues for a long time.

Dale Pfau

13 August 2022

Printed

Name Signature Date