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The City of Jacksonville’s Bark Park

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Project Description ................................................................................................................. 5

Design Process .......................................................................................................................... 6

### PART 1: FINAL CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Final Conceptual Design .............................................................................................................. 8
Final Conceptual Master Plan A .................................................................................................. 11
Final Layout Plan A ...................................................................................................................... 12
Final Conceptual Master Plan B .................................................................................................. 13
Final Layout Plan B ...................................................................................................................... 14
Detail Plan for Sponsorship Area ............................................................................................... 15
Perspective 1: Dog Park Entry .................................................................................................... 16
Perspective 2: Sponsorship Area ............................................................................................... 17
Perspective 3: Large Dog Agility Area ....................................................................................... 18
Perspective 4: Waterfront Deck ............................................................................................... 19
Phasing Plan ............................................................................................................................... 20
Entry Sign Design ....................................................................................................................... 23
Materials List ............................................................................................................................... 25
Budget Estimate .......................................................................................................................... 34
Rules and Regulations ................................................................................................................. 36
Management Guidelines ............................................................................................................. 37
Potential Funding Resources ...................................................................................................... 38

### PART 2: SITE ANALYSIS AND PRELIMINARY DESIGNS

Site Inventory and Analysis ......................................................................................................... 41
Soil and Water Inventory and Analysis ......................................................................................... 43
Site Inventory and Analysis ......................................................................................................... 44

Case Studies ............................................................................................................................... 45
Case Study A ............................................................................................................................... 46
Case Study B ............................................................................................................................... 47

Character Boards ....................................................................................................................... 48
Character Board: Contemporary ................................................................................................. 50
Character Board: Natural ............................................................................................................. 51
Character Board: Water Features ................................................................................................. 52
Sponsorship Idea Board ............................................................................................................... 53

Preliminary Concepts .................................................................................................................. 54
Concept Plan A ........................................................................................................................... 55
Concept Plan B ........................................................................................................................... 56

### PART 3: Appendix

A. Preliminary Conceptual Design Meeting Notes ..................................................................... 59
B. Central Illinois Director’s Roundtable Survey, Dec. 2015 ..................................................... 61
C. ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Benches ............................................................................. 65
The City of Jacksonville is a dog-loving community of approximately 19,500 people located in Morgan County, IL. Members of the community have identified the need for a recreational space for their furry friends and have organized a Bark Park Initiative to develop a community dog park. In the summer of 2015, the City of Jacksonville, with leadership from the Bark Park Initiative and the Jacksonville Park Foundation, won a $100,000 award from the PetSafe® “Bark for Your Park Contest” to plan and build this facility.

The city dedicated approximately seven acres on the shore of Mauvaise Terre Lake for the dog park, and the Bark Park Initiative surveyed the local community for suggestions and concerns. Jacksonville recognized the need for a long-term planning document that could be utilized by the city in a phased approach for park construction, a visual statement of what the dog park could be, and a framework for raising funds. The city and the Bark Park Initiative requested that the Office of Recreation and Park Resources (ORPR) develop a conceptual master plan for the dog park.
The design process began with an initial site visit to the City of Jacksonville in November 2015. ORPR team members met with city council members, members of the Bark Park Initiative, and other stakeholders. The team and stakeholders walked to future site of the dog park and conducted a site analysis. In addition to hearing stakeholder wants and needs, the ORPR team received survey results from the Bark Park Initiative based on 149 community member responses and sent a survey to members of the Central Illinois Director's Roundtable to hear from other dog park managers in the field. By gathering on-site data, documenting existing conditions, and gathering ideas from the community, the team was able to better understand the opportunities and constraints of the site. This analysis would later influence the design of the park. (See the Appendix for Central Illinois Director's Roundtable Survey Results.)

After careful consideration of all factors, two preliminary conceptual design alternatives were developed. These designs were presented to the community in February 2016 where they were reviewed and commented on by city council members and citizens. Based on the comments at the meeting, the design alternatives were then revised and combined into a final conceptual master plan. (See the Appendix for Preliminary Community Presentation Notes.)

The final conceptual master plan was presented to city council members and citizens on Monday, March 14th where it was voted on and approved by city council.
PART 1: FINAL CONCEPTUAL DESIGN
The Jacksonville Bark Park provides a lively outdoor environment for dogs to play off-leash. Contemporary features such as agility equipment and state-of-the-art dog splash pads blend with the natural environment to create a diverse range of opportunities and experiences that will keep patrons returning for more. The park is divided into two sections: one for small and elderly dogs and another for large and active dogs. Both sections offer amenities such as a dog-wash station, a water fountain with a pet bowl, agility equipment, a splash pad, lake-access, and pavilions and seating for pet owners.

The park, located between E. Vandalia Road and Mauvaise Terre Lake, provides a modern appearance adjacent to the road with contemporary signage, materials, and features. Large lawns with agility equipment create playing fields for both small and large dogs. Each lawn is bordered by a pavilion where owners can socialize and monitor their pets. The park transitions to a more naturalistic environment as one moves toward Mauvaise Terre Lake. Materials seek to blend in with the environment, and grassy lawns shift toward low prairie meadows, which serve to reduce maintenance and to improve surface water quality by filtering stormwater before it enters the lake. Composite wood boardwalk trails with viewing platforms provide access through the low prairie meadows adding richness to the user experience. The primary trails that loop through both the small and large dog areas are 6’ paved ADA accessible pathways. It is recommended that the benches be designed for ADA accessibility as well. (See the Appendix for ADA accessible bench guidelines.)
Parking for the bark park is provided in the southwest corner of the site near the CB club property. The parking lot is designed for 23 vehicles along with two ADA accessible parking spaces near the entrance to the park. Although primary access to the parking lot is from E. Vandalia Road, it is recommended that access to the parking lot from the private drive on the CB club property be included to allow for shared parking and access with future development. The landscaped entrance to the bark park features a decorative dog-themed bike rack, a welcome sign with a map of the park for pedestrians, a covered ADA accessible port-o-potty, a small storage room, and maintenance access and parking for the park. Rules and regulations are posted on the fence at the entryway. It is recommended that solar security lighting be located in the parking lot, but not elsewhere within the park, to discourage after-hour use.

A sponsorship garden is located at the park entrance to provide a gathering space for visitors. A large pavilion with tables and chairs, water fountains, and dog wash stations are centralized within this space. This portion of the park is dedicated to park sponsors and creates opportunities to showcase their support through a sponsor stone, engraved brick edging, and sculpture. (See page 15 for a detailed plan of the sponsorship area)
Access to the park is controlled by 5-foot perimeter fencing to provide a safe space for off-leash dogs. The entrances are thoughtfully designed to help dog walkers keep their pets under control before entering the park. Both the entrances to the park and to the lake access area have double-gated entries with 10’x10’ holding zones between the gates. This type of entry keeps dogs from escaping, provides a transition zone, and offers easier access for wheel-chair users.

Environmental sensitivity is also a critical component of the master plan. In addition to low prairie meadows to treat surface water, bio-swales and rain gardens are designed around the parking lot, sponsorship garden, and splash pads to reduce surface runoff volume and to facilitate infiltration. Large trees are preserved on the site to provide shade, and the vegetative buffer along the shoreline and neighboring properties are preserved.

Lastly, the Jacksonville Bark Park is designed with connectivity in mind. The lakeshore promenade provides views of the lake and allows the opportunity for a trail system around Mauvaise Terre Lake if desired by the community in the future. In addition, it is recommended that a multi-use trail link the dog park to Nichols Park in order to expand walking opportunities for visitors and to promote connectivity between parks.

Two final conceptual master plans were created for the dog park (Concepts A & B). They are identical with the exception of the parking lots, which have similar capacities but varying footprints. The final conceptual drawings can be found on the following pages and include the Final Conceptual Master Plans (A & B), Layout Plans, Detailed Plan for the Sponsorship Area, and Perspectives.
The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park

March 14, 2016
Final Conceptual Master Plan A

Final Conceptual Design

- Small Dog Area
- Large Dog Area
- Nichols Park
- Vandalia
- Mauvaise Terre Lake
- BBQ Pavilion
- Deck
- Covered Pavilion
- Maintenance Gate
- Bike Racks
- Large Dog Agility
- Bio-swale
- Entry Signage
- Sponsorship Area
- Natural Prairie
- Multi-use Trail
- Entry Sign (vehicular)
- Lawn
- Rain Garden
- 6' ADA Accessible Path
- Small Dog Splash Pad
- Large Dog Splash Pad
- Waterfront Promenade
- Boardwalk
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Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism

11

DISCLAIMER:
This drawing is conceptual and was prepared to show approximate location and arrangement of site features. It is subject to change and is not intended to replace the use of construction documents. The client should consult appropriate professionals before any construction or site work is undertaken. The Office of Recreation and Park Resources is not responsible for the inappropriate use of this drawing.
Summary:
- Perimeter fence: 2220 ft
- Parking: 23 cars + 2 ADA spaces
- Large dog area: 3.06 acres
- Small dog area: 0.86 acres
- 6' ADA accessible path: 3424 ft
- Boardwalk pavement: 3334 ft²
- Pavilion: 4
- Drinking fountain: 3
- Waste station: 7
- Bench: 12
- Dog wash station: 2
  - "Port-a-potty"

The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park

Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism

March 14, 2016
**Disclaimers:**

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**Features:**
- Small Dog Area
- Large Dog Area
- Small Dog Splash Pad
- Large Dog Splash Pad
- Dog Wash Station
- Shared Pavilion
- Storage Room
- Entry Gates
- Covered "Port-o-potty"
- Maintenance Gate
- ADA Parking Space
- Bike Racks
- Large Dog Agility
- Fence
- Bio-swale
- Entry Signage
- Sponsorship Area
- Multi-use Trail
- Entry Sign (vehicular)
- Mauvaise Terre Lake
- Boardwalk
- BBQ Pavilion
- Deck
- Rain Garden
- 6' ADA Accessible Path
- Natural Prairie
- Multi-use Trail
**Final Conceptual Design**

**Final Layout Plan B**

**The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park**

April 5, 2016

**Summary**
- Perimeter fence: 2220 lf
- Parking: 23 cars + 2 ADA spaces
- Large dog area: 3.06 acres
- Small dog area: 0.86 acres
- 6' ADA accessible path: 3424 lf
- Boardwalk pavement: 3334 ft²
- Pavilion: 4
- Drinking fountain: 3
- Waste station: 7
- Bench: 12
- Dog wash station: 2
- "Port-o-potty"

**Jacksonville Bark Park**

**Nichols Park**

**Vandalia**

**Mauvaise Terre Lake**

**Small Dog Area**

**Large Dog Area**

**Office of Recreation and Park Resources**

**Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism**

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Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism

Jacksonville Bark Park
March 14, 2016

Detailed Plan—Sponsorship Area

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Features:
- Dog Wash Stations
- Composite Wood
- Concrete Pavement
- Gravel
- Waste Station
- Drinking Fountain
- Shared Pavilion
- Tables and Benches beneath Pavilion
- Engraved Brick Edging
- Sponsor Stone
- Rain Garden
- Sculpture
- 0 to 20 Feet
- ADA Accessible Path
- 0 5 10 20 Feet
The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park

PHASING PLAN

It is recommended that the bark park be built in phases. Initially, features that are critical to ensure the basic function of the park should be built. A proposed construction and development schedule is listed below.

Construction & Development Schedule

Preliminary Work:
A. Remove any yard waste and trash piles from site.
B. Remove and trim unwanted landscape materials such as shrubs, trees, etc.
C. Have an engineer investigate and evaluate the old well site:
   a. The engineer should recommend what to do with the site.
   b. Make sure the existing well is safe and secure.
D. Have a construction engineer or a concrete contractor inspect the existing concrete pads on the property and make recommendations concerning their appropriate future.
E. Install water lines and decide upon the need for third drinking fountain.
F. Analyze Mauvaise Terre lake for safety regarding sedimentation in the delta and for water quality.

Phase One:
A. Design and construct the parking lot and portable potty base.
B. Construct bio-swale.
C. Install perimeter and dividing fence for the two dog park areas. Include all necessary gates.
D. Install dog wash station in both small and large dog areas (2).
E. Install waste receptacles in both small and large dog areas (2).
F. Install drinking fountain with pet bowl in both small and large dog areas (2).
G. Install the park name sign.
H. Install the park rules sign.
I. Install donor recognition sign, stones, bricks, fixtures, etc.
   a. Depends on which donor recognition pieces are selected.
J. Construct 6 ft. wide accessible path in the dog parks.
K. Install shared pavilion.

Phase Two:
A. Decide upon need to plant lawn area.
B. Decide upon need to plant prairie area.
C. If lawn is needed, plant it and fence off from public accessibility until it is established (this process should take about 8 weeks).
D. After lawn is established, plant prairie areas and fence it off until established.
E. Install waste receptacles (2).
F. Purchase and install picnic tables for pavilions (4).
PHASING PLAN

G. Purchase and install park benches (4).
H. Add interior boardwalk or, if needed, mow secondary paths and/or maintain existing gravel roadbeds in naturalistic areas.
I. Add dog play and agility equipment.

Phase Three:
A. Install 10x10 pavilions (and replace existing pad if necessary).
B. Install 12x12 pavilion (and replace existing pad if necessary).
C. Add custom bone bicycle rack (1).
D. Add parking lot lighting (4).
E. Add additional park benches.
F. Construct multi-use trails.
G. Construct lake access points.

Phase Four:
A. Install water splash pads (2).
B. Add rain gardens (2).

Phase Five:
A. Construct boardwalk side trails.

Phase Six:
A. Connect multi-use trail to Nichols Park.
B. Add crosswalk.

The phasing plan can be found on the following page.
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**Phase 1**
- ADA Accessible Pathway
- Parking Area
- Entry Gate
- Sponsorship Area
- Lake Access Gate

**Phase 2**
- Boardwalk
- Pavilions
- Agility Equipment

**Phase 3**
- Multi-use Trail
- Lake Access Points

**Phase 4**
- Splash Pads

**Phase 5**
- Boardwalk Side Trails

**Phase 6**
- Crosswalk
- Multi-use Path Connecting to Nichols Park
ENTRY SIGN DESIGN

In addition to the master plan, the ORPR team designed two signs for the Jacksonville Bark Park, one for vehicular traffic and another for pedestrian traffic. The park entry sign for vehicular traffic is located at the entrance of the parking lot. Based on the current logo for the Bark Park Initiative of the Jacksonville Park Foundation, this sign welcomes people driving on E. Vandalia Road to the dog park. The sign is simple in design so that it can be easily read by vehicular traffic and consists of a friendly bulldog-silhouette with “Welcome to Jacksonville Bark Park” text. It is intended for the sign to be constructed of durable, weather-resistant aluminum metal in colors that match the materials of rest of the park.

The park entry sign for pedestrians is located near the entry gate to the park. This sign is smaller in scale and meant to familiarize visitors with the layout and features of the park. The base of the sign is an 18” stone seat wall. The sign itself is constructed of colored steel in the shape of a boxer/bulldog silhouette. The name of the park, “Jacksonville Bark Park”, is placed on top of the sign and made of silver steel. Under it, a location map and park introduction hangs in the dog’s body. Not only does the sign introduce visitors to the park, but the seatwall also provides a seating area to wait for friends.

The entry sign designs can be found on the following page.
Location Map

Mini Perspective of Sign B

A. Park Entry Sign (for Vehicular Traffic)

B. Park Entry Sign (for Pedestrian Traffic)
MATERIALS LIST

The following are a list of suggested materials for Jacksonville’s Bark Park. Pictures do not reflect color recommendations. It is advised that the City of Jacksonville select a color scheme for the park and that all amenities reflect that color scheme to the degree possible.

For the contemporary section of the park, which is near the entrance and along E. Vandalia Road, we recommend using the Deluxe Dog Park Bench found on ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website. This bench has a highly durable texture with a polyethylene coating to prevent any rust or water damage and is 6 feet long. The bench is available in red, which will match the similarly colored contemporary agility equipment in the large dog area of the park while also playing along with the more whimsical theme of the park front. The estimated cost of these benches is $1,384 each, not including any shipping, tax, or installation costs.

As the theme of the park transitions from contemporary to naturalistic, we recommend the Expanded Metal Park Bench from Illinois Correctional Industries. This bench is made from ¾ diamond mesh 16 gauge steel, is 6 feet long, and comes in a wide array of colors to accommodate to park needs. This bench acts as a simple and sturdy seating option for the small dog areas in order to match the natural theme of the agility equipment as well as the rustic sections of the park. The estimated cost for this bench is $500, excluding potential shipping, tax, or installation costs.

An alternative recommendation for the natural styled benches is the Green Tree Plastics Bench. These benches are made entirely from recycled plastic bottle caps, are 6 feet long, and the color options include blue, grey, brown and green. These benches are recommended as a community project to collect donated plastic bottle caps and to act as a less expensive option for park seating while bringing the community together. The estimated production cost per bench, once the recycled plastics are donated, is $360. This price does not include any potential shipping, tax, or installation costs. To ensure bench durability with respect to dog urine, chewing etc., we advise contacting the company before purchasing.
Our recommendation for an ADA accessible picnic table is the *SuperSaver Commercial Rectangular Wheelchair Accessible Picnic Table* from the ‘Barco Products’ website. The tables are 8 feet long, expanded metal construction with thermoplastic coating and can accommodate up to two wheelchairs.

Tables come in green, blue or black. The cost, including shipping and tax, is estimated to be $1,123 for each table from the recommended website.

An alternative recommendation for picnic tables includes the *Green Tree Plastics Table*. These tables come from the same company as the recommended recycled material benches and are 6 or 8 feet long with the color options blue, grey, brown and green. This could be another community project of gathering donated plastic bottle caps. The estimated production cost per table, once the recycled plastics are donated, is $650 for a 6-foot long table or $700 for an 8-foot long table. This price does not include any potential shipping, tax, or installation costs. The company should also be contacted prior to collecting recycled materials in order to determine if the tables are able to withstand dog urine, chewing, or other potential issues.

For the park’s dog wash stations, the *Dual Dog Wash Station* from the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website is recommended. There are two pet washing sides, and the station comes with a leash hook and two hose bibs (hoses not included). The total cost for each *Dual Dog Wash Station* is $2,660, including shipping and freeze resistant valves. The station is available in 15 colors and is made entirely of stainless steel.
The suggested water fountains to include in the park are also found on the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website and are called the Barrier Free Fountain w/ Pet Bowl. These fountains provide water for both pets and people and are available in 15 color options. They are made entirely from stainless steel and are also ADA accessible. Cost per fountain, including shipping and freeze resistant valves, is $4,473.

This bone shaped bike rack is recommended for the bark park to match the contemporary theme and is available for custom ordering from the ‘Dero’ website. It is available in 18 powder coat color options and 6 thermoplastic color options, with the options of being mounted by surface, or in-ground. The rack is able to park 2 bicycles comfortably, with one on either side. A Dero sales coordinator estimated the price for this custom-made bicycle rack to be $1,055 each.

The Dog Waste Stations w/ OnePul Bag System from the ‘Dog Waste Depot’ website are the suggested pet waste stations for the park. The posts are made of commercial grade aluminum and each station comes with a post, sign, bag dispenser, hardware, 400 pet waste bags, 50 can liners, a round mesh waste can, and installation instructions. The stations come in either black or green color and are $199 each with free shipping on the recommended website.
MATERIALS LIST

Signs
Upon request, park signs that included both braille and English wording were sought after. Multiple online companies were contacted and it was discovered that custom, outdoor, heavy-duty braille signs were unavailable for order from every contacted business. Therefore, if braille signage is still wanted, two separate signs may be necessary, and a company that makes commercial braille signs would have to be found and contacted for a custom order for the large and small dog park signs, the rules and regulations signs, and the park map.

Agility Equipment
For the contemporary large dog park agility equipment, it is recommended to purchase the Gold Package in order to receive a 5% package discount from the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website and catalogue. The Gold Package comes with seven of the most popular dog agility activities such as the Adjustable Tire Jump, Bow Wow Barrel, Dog Walk Ramp, Hound Hoops, Single Wall Jump, Double Wall Jump, and Flexible Weave Poles. Dogs of different sizes and with different abilities are able to use the various types of equipment, but some pieces of equipment are more suitable for larger dogs, such as the Dog Walk Ramp and the Double Wall Jump. The complete package costs $6,413, excluding any potential shipping or tax costs.

The Adjustable Tire Jump is a contemporary piece of agility equipment for the large dog park that is adjustable to the dog. There are different heights where the tire can be placed by using a heavy-duty brass clip, and it can provide a challenge to dogs but still remain at a comfortable jumping height. The diameter of the tire is not specified, but is noted to be wide enough for the largest of dogs. The cost of the Adjustable Tire Jump alone is $960 with an additional $165 for shipping. The tire is also available to have a name customization for an additional $25.

The Bow Wow Barrel is also featured in the Gold Package from the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website and catalogue. It is one of the easiest agility components for dogs, and works well with giving opportunities for less confident dogs to be in smaller spaces. It is 32-inches-long and is 27 inches in diameter, which allows for larger dogs. The cost for this piece of equipment alone is $1,289 without any potential shipping or tax costs included.
This particular piece of equipment is the *Dog Walk Ramp*. The ramp requires dogs to walk at an 8-foot-long incline, across a 4-foot-long platform, and then down another 8-foot-long ramp. The ramp width is 20 inches wide throughout, and the surfaces are solid, free of step strips, and coated with a texturized coating named PawsGrip for slip resistance. Individually, this ramp costs $2,195.

The *Hound Hoops* are another piece of agility equipment that dogs of all sizes are able to use. The set comes arranged in a serpentine shape with five curved pipe arches made of bent heavy-wall aluminum pipe that is 28-inches-wide. It is rust resistant and, singularly, costs $844 with $165 shipping.

The *Single Pointer Plank Jump* or the *Single Wall Jump* consists of eco-friendly planks made of recycled polyethylene plastic and is rust resistant. It is 32” L x ¾” W x 4” H and costs $238 apart from the set with a $34 shipping fee.

The *Double Pointer Plank Jump* or *Double Wall Jump* is similar to the *Single Pointer Plank Jump* in its eco-friendly planks made from recycled polyethylene and appearance. The measurement for this jump, however, is 32” L x ¾” W x 8” H. It is 4 inches taller than the *Single Pointer Plank Jump* and costs $322 individually with a $37 shipping cost.
Last of the *Gold Package*, the *Flexible Weave Poles* are poles made of molded urethane tube, which makes them flexible and safe for the use of dogs while remaining sturdy and chew resistant. The poles are 30 inches in length and cost $742 outside of the *Gold Package*, with a $45 shipping fee.

Other dog agility equipment pieces that are not featured in the *Gold Package* can be seen on the ‘Bark Park- Dog Park Product’ website and purchased through the ‘Bark Park- Dog Park Product’ catalogue. One of the two recommended agility equipment pieces includes the *Bark Park Hoop Jump* in the playful style. It is a progressive jumping trainer for dogs and has three rings in a variety of heights for canines to jump through. It has a thermoplastic coating named CanineCoat that has been developed specifically to reduce slipping for dog paws. The cost of this product is $611, excluding any shipping or tax charges.

The last suggested contemporary piece of agility equipment for the large dog park is the *King of the Hill* frame which can also be purchased from the ‘Bark Park- Dog Park Product’ catalogue and is featured on their website. The *King of the Hill* is an A-frame that allows dogs to walk up and down an incline to help them build endurance and balance. This piece of equipment is recommended to be mastered before the *Dog Walk Ramp* listed above in the *Gold Package* and increases the confidence level of canines while also giving them a challenge. It also is coated in the thermoplastic coating named CanineCoat in order to be slip-resistant for dog paws. *King of the Hill* is listed for $2,397, excluding additional shipping or tax costs.
MATERIALS LIST

For the small dog park section, more naturalistic dog agility equipment is recommended. This *Small Boulder* piece from the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website is hand painted and detailed and made from steel and fiberglass that is reinforced with concrete. It is 48” L x 30” W x 16” but still lightweight and durable. It can be used as agility equipment for small dogs because they can jump, climb, and balance on top of the boulder. It is $1,305 on the website, excluding any shipping costs, and to permanently install this piece requires concrete footers.

Another piece of natural-looking agility equipment for the small dog park is the *Little Stump Jump* that is also featured on the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website and catalogue. It is hand painted and detailed to have seemingly real tree rings and can be used for balance, jumping, and climbing. This stump is 24”L x 10” W x 16” H, but is very durable and light in weight. Individually, the *Little Stump* cost $617 without any shipping costs and would need concrete footers to be permanently installed.

Additionally, for the natural themed parts of the park, there is a *Big Stump Jump* on the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website to go along with the *Little Stump Jump* mentioned above. The picture shows both stump jumps and the two are hand painted, and crafted with steel and fiber reinforced concrete while still being lightweight and durable. The single difference is that the Big Stump Jump is 24” L x 14” W x 16” H. It is listed for $742 on the website, excluding any shipping costs. The piece must also be installed with concrete footers for permanent placement.
Also recommended for the small dog park’s natural theme is the Dog Through the Log agility equipment piece from the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website. The Dog Through the Log piece is an opportunity for small dogs to practice agility by running through the log, jumping on top of it, and balancing on it. Similar to the other natural pieces, the log is hand painted, made from steel and fiber with reinforced concrete, and needs concrete footers to be permanently installed. It is 48” L x 32” W x 24” H and is priced at $2,118 excluding any shipping charges.

Another recommended piece of agility equipment is the Dog Leg Walk from the ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website and catalogue. The dimensions of each log are 48” L x 14” W x 12”, and two logs come in every set. The piece is handcrafted with steel and fiberglass reinforced concrete and requires concrete footers to be installed permanently. Each set of two logs costs $1,430 on the website, excluding any potential shipping charges.

For potential sponsorship opportunities, memorabilia, and fence decorations the Fence Silhouettes from ‘Dog-On-It-Parks’ website and catalogue were requested from members of the Jacksonville community. The silhouettes come in a standard matte black powered coat finish, but custom colors are available with a customization fee. There are eight standard dog breeds to choose from on the website: Labrador, Dachshund, Pointer, Basset Hound, Beagle, Bichon Frise, Hound, and Scottie. Other breeds are also available upon request, but minimum orders may apply. Each silhouette is rust resistant, made from 10-gauge aluminum, and has a baked powder coat finish. Hardware for the silhouette installation is not included, but there are two ¼ inch-mounting holes pre-drilled for convenience. The price for each dog fence silhouette is $100 with a $15 shipping rate.
The recommended pavilion for the shared sponsorship area is the **Steel Frame Hexagon Orchard Pavilion** from the ‘Cedar Store’ website. The pavilion is 136 inches in height, 20’ x 20’ in size, and has an area of 346 square feet. It also features a steel frame with a single, hexagon shaped roof, and has a pre-primed tube steel frame and groove roof decking. The base price of the pavilion is $15,499, excluding any shipping or tax costs. Additional costs include an additional $1,909 for powder coated tube steel frame, an additional $299 for a factory stained deck, and $1,379 for 30 year shingle roofing or $4,399 for 26-gauge metal roofing.

The suggested pavilions to be used throughout the park are also found on the ‘Cedar Store’ website and are named the **Steel Frame Square Forestview Pavilions**. These pavilions come in a wide range of sizes, from 10’ x 10’ to 60’ x 60’, and are square or rectangle shaped as opposed to hexagonally shaped. They are single roofed and tube steel framed with groove roof decking and a 4:12 roof pitch. The base price of these pavilions is $9,699 for a 10’ x 10’ size. This price excludes any potential shipping or tax expenses. Additional features and costs include $639 for 30 year shingle roofing or $1,909 for 26-gauge metal roofing, $139 for factory stained deck, or $319 for a 6:12 roof pitch.

For parking lot lighting, it is suggested to use solar lighting to reduce additional costs for electricity and electricity lines in the park area. The recommended parking lot lights are the **SL22 Solar Double 12 Watt LED Street/Parking Lot Light with Pole** from the ‘Solar Illuminations’ website. This particular lighting is sold as a complete system and includes two lampshades, a 15-Watt (1485 Lumen) LED PAR light bulb for each lampshade, a 90-Watt solar panel, two rechargeable 12 volt batteries, and an MPPT charge controller. There is a battery box located at the bottom of the pole, and the lights can be set to run at selected hours of the day, or will otherwise be illuminated from sundown to sun-rise. Once set up, the light poles are 16 feet tall, and its popular uses, as stated on the ‘Solar Illuminations’ website, are typically small parking lots, playgrounds, parks, open areas, and can be for either residential or commercial use. Each lamp’s approximate illumination area is up to 30 feet by 30 feet, and there is a 20-year solar panel warranty with a 5-year warranty included on the other features, apart from the batteries. Each light post is priced at $2,120, excluding shipping, tax, or installation costs.
The City of Jacksonville’s Bark Park

BUDGET ESTIMATE

Preliminary Work:
City staff will do preliminary work

Phase One:
A. Parking Lot ........................................ $141,350
B. Bio-swale ........................................... $21,090
C. Shed .................................................. TBD
D. Portable Potty ..................................... $2,860/year
E. Fencing & Gates .................................... $50,000
F. Dog Wash Station (2) .......................... $5,320
G. Dog Waste Stations (2) ....................... $498
H. Park Name Sign .................................... TBD
I. Park Rules Sign ..................................... TBD
J. ADA Drinking Fountain w/ Pet Bowl (2) .... $7,000
K. 6’ Wide Accessible Path ....................... $42,000
L. Shared Pavilion Base ............................ $1,730
M. Shared Pavilion ................................... $15,499
Approximate Total: $287,347 ($284,487 initial costs + $2,860 annually)

Phase Two:
A. Prairie .............................................. $12,500
B. Dog Waste Stations (2) ....................... $498
C. Pavilion Picnic Tables (4) ..................... $3,845
D. Park Benches (4) ................................. $2,000
E. Interior Boardwalk ................................. $9,500
F. Dog Agility Equipment .......................... $17,100
Approximate Total: $45,443

Phase Three:
A. 10x10 Pavilion .................................... $9,750
B. 12x12 Pavilion .................................... $10,000
C. Custom Bone Shaped Bicycle Rack ........... $1,055
D. Solar Parking Lot Lighting (4) .................. $10,000
E. Park Benches (4) ................................. $2,000
F. Dog Waste Stations (2) ....................... $498
G. Construct Multi-Use Trails ..................... $33,515
H. Lake Access Points ............................... TBD
Approximate Total: $66,818

Phase Four:
A. Rain Gardens (2) ................................. $44,280
B. Water Splash Pads (2) ......................... $55,000-$60,000
Approximate Total: $99,280-$104,280
Phase Five:
A. Boardwalk Side Trails..................................................$6,500
   Approximate Total: $6,500

Phase Six:
Phase Six will be left to the City of Jacksonville

*All costs are estimates and are subject to change
RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations are based on published research and guidelines as well as feedback from existing dog parks. Rules and regulations should be posted prominently at the park entrance. Signs should be well maintained.

- Users of this facility do so at their own risk. This facility is unsupervised. The Jacksonville Parks and Lakes Department is not responsible for any injury or damaged caused by any dog in the off-leash area.
- Owners are legally responsible for their dogs and any injuries caused by them.
- All dogs must be properly licensed, fully immunized, and healthy.
- Dogs must wear a collar, ID tag, and rabies tag at all times. No choke or spiked collars.
- Owners must pick up feces left by their dog(s) and deposit them in the trash receptacles.
- Aggressive dogs are not allowed. Any dog with a known history of aggressive or dangerous behavior is prohibited. Dogs showing aggression toward people or other dogs must be leashed and removed from the park immediately.
- Puppies must be at least four months of age.
- Dogs in heat are not allowed in the park.
- Owners must maintain voice control over their dog(s).
- Owners must keep their dog(s) in sight at all times.
- Dogs must be leashed before entering and prior to leaving the park. Owners must carry a leash for each dog at all times.
- No more than three dogs per adult.
- Children under the age of 12 are not allowed in the park. Children 12-15 years old must be accompanied by an adult 16 years of age or older.
- Absolutely no food of any kind allowed in the park. This includes dog chews and rawhides.
- No smoking or alcohol in the park.
- Owners must fill any holes created by their dog.
- Excessive barking is prohibited. Dogs that are barking excessively must be removed.
- Dog bites must be reported to the Morgan County Department of Animal Control or the Morgan County Sheriff’s Office within 24 hours of the biting incident per Ordinance 2013-38.
- Report any other issues to the Jacksonville Parks and Lakes Department at (217) xxx-xxxx.
- Not obeying these rules may result in a temporary or permanent loss of park privileges.
MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

General Recommendations

Research suggests that maintenance is critical to dog park success. The following general recommendations are based on published research and guidelines as well as feedback from existing dog park managers.

Maintenance:
- Schedule regular turf maintenance, including rotation, seeding, fertilization, and aeration of turf areas.
- Schedule regular maintenance of other surface materials in the park.
- Schedule regular maintenance of fencing and signage.

Membership:
- Require membership, even if it is free. This enables you to ensure that dogs are immunized and also gives you the ability to revoke memberships if dogs or their owners violate the rules.
- Make temperament screening a part of the membership screening.
- Align dog park memberships with the licensing year.

Miscellaneous:
- Install an electronic entry system to limit access to dog park members. This will help ensure that the dogs within the park have been properly immunized and that those who break the rules can be kept out.
- Partner with local volunteer organizations (such as the Bark Park Initiative) to help with maintenance and policing of the park. Consider providing indemnity from potential liability to this group.
- Create a monthly e-newsletter for dog park members. The newsletter can be used to inform members of upcoming events, maintenance, educate them about dog behavior, etc. This could be sponsored by the Bark Park Initiative or another volunteer group.
- Hold community clean up days once or twice per year.
- Designate a point person to keep a log of all issues and complaints.
POTENTIAL FUNDING RESOURCES

The Mars Petcare U.S. business is a United States based pet company that is dedicated to making a better world for pets. The donation requests for Mars Petcare US, Royal Canin, The Nutro Company, and Banfield Pet Hospitals use the same online application for sponsorship and donations to non-profit pet organizations. These companies provide support for organizations that “strengthen the human pet bond by creating more pet-friendly destinations,” which is where dog parks may be classified under and eligible for application. There are possibilities for either product donations, or financial resources under this specific sponsorship opportunity.

By Nature Pet Foods is a pet food company who “lends a helping paw” to a variety of community projects for both humans and pets in order to contribute to a positive community atmosphere. There is limited information about previous projects this company has been involved with, but their charity is named Pets Move You. They support communities by helping with dog parks and donating pet food and state on their website that they are up to a challenge. Other information can be found on their website under the Community and Charity tabs.

One method of fundraising through community events is by using Donation Match. This website is a self-service platform that allows organizations to receive raffle and auction prizes, along with sample products. Companies donate through products or services, as opposed to money, for school and non-profit events. There is one application to reach out to numerous companies, many of which are well-known brands who support similar causes. Donations may come in forms of samples, gift cards, discounts, or full products. This platform can be used for community fundraising efforts for the dog park through events such as a 5k Run/Walkathon, a Trivia Tournament, or a mass-volunteering event in which goodie bags or prizes are given away.
The WellPet Foundation is dedicated to helping pets live healthy, long and happy lives by giving back to them through charity. The foundation’s website states that they support organizations who “promote the power of natural nutrition and the benefits of healthy, active lifestyles.” They financially assist multiple types of non-profit organizations and groups who encourage healthy lifestyles for pets. The Jacksonville Bark Park may fall under this description because of the walking paths and future plans for agility equipment and splash pads. The application form is conveniently located on their website under the WellPet Foundation tab, and is available to download, fill, and mail to a listed address.

The National Recreation and Park Association’s Fund Your Park organization is a crowd funding website that is specifically for parks and recreation funding. The project aims to provide resources for communities in order to improve conversation, health and wellness, and social equity efforts. There is an application to submit to the National Recreation and Park Association that requires dates and project details which must be selected to be put on the website for funding. The bark park can propose the need for multi-use trails within the park’s construction as part of a health and wellness and social equity fundraising need in the community. The two guidelines for who may apply for the grant include being a member of the NRPA, and being a “local, municipal or regional governmental agent or non-profit organization working in partnership with a park and recreation agency with full authority to implement the proposed project.”

Finding fundraising opportunities may also involve asking pet-related companies for potential sponsorship. Examples include pet stores, day cares, veterinary clinics, pet food companies, pet grooming parlors, etc.

Other potential sponsorship opportunities include reaching out to companies, stores, and other organizations nearby whose residents and businesses may have interest in the creation of the dog park.

Other popular chain or local organizations that sponsor non-profit developments should also be considered as possibilities for fundraising attempts. Some companies who have previously given assisted funding to other dog parks include PetSmart, Pet Supplies Plus, Target, and Wal-Mart.
PART 2: SITE ANALYSIS AND PRELIMINARY DESIGNS
SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Based on several visits to the site in Jacksonville, the team inventoried and analyzed the existing conditions based on topography, water flow, soil types, circulation, views, existing characters, and surrounding context.

Site Inventory and Analysis

The Site Inventory and Analysis details the existing conditions of the property. The existing dog park property is approximately 7.21 acres and is located between the Mauvaise Terre Lake and Nichols Park. In addition, there is a neighboring house on the east side of the property. It is recommended that the buffer be maintained between the dog park and neighboring property to maintain privacy.

E. Vandalia Road is the main access road to the site. Across E. Vandalia Road from the bark park, Park Road provides access for vehicles into Nichols Park. There are also two existing access drives into the site. Overhead utility lines are located along E. Vandalia Road and within the southern portion of the park. Any trees planted in the park should be offset from the utility lines to avoid conflict.

Several structures exist on the site. At the central portion of the site, there is an old roadbed, a shelter, and a building foundation. In addition, an abandoned well is on the north side of the site, close to the lake. With the exception of the well, existing structures and foundations were incorporated into the design to make use of existing material and to save additional costs. It is recommended that the existing structures be renovated and upgraded as needed.

On the north side of the site, the lake-shore slope is steeper than other parts of the property. There is an existing linear buffer zone between the lake and the site that prevents bank erosion, reduces stormwater runoff, and protects users in waterfront areas. An existing boat launch ramp is located in the northwest portion of the site and offers the potential for a lake access point.

Construction debris and invasive species are located throughout the site. It is recommended that these be removed before dog park construction.
SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Water and Soil Inventory and Analysis

The Water and Soil Inventory and Analysis indicates the soil and water conditions of the existing site. Based on the existing topography, the west-central portion of the site has the highest elevation and creates a knoll from which water flows toward the north, east and south. In addition, there are two floodplains close to the site, one to the north next to the Mauvaise Terre Lake and the other one toward the southern section of the site. Approximately one-third of the site is in the floodplain, which requires specific considerations during the design process. As a result, the existing buffer zone is kept in the final conceptual design to prevent bank erosion and reduce runoff to the lake. Moreover, the buffer zone protects users when they walk along the waterfront promenade by providing some separation between park users and the water.

In addition, there are three main types of soil throughout the site: rozetta silt loam with 5-10% slopes, tama silt loam with 2-5% slopes, and tama silt loam with 5-10% slopes.

The site inventory and analysis boards can be found on the following pages.
The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park

SITE INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

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**Points of Interest**

- **Broad Views**
- **Good View toward lake**
- **Potential Sign Location**
- **Buffer Needed for Noise**
- **Overhead Utilities**
- **Two-way Road**
- **Park Access Road**
- **General Slope**
- **Potential Entrance to Parking**

**Potential Parking (CB Property)**

- **Building Foundation**
- **Construction Debris**
- **Construction Debris**
- **Construction Debris**
- **Shelter**
- **Old Road Bed**
- **Abandoned Well**

**Points of Interest**

- **Nichols Park**
- **Mauvaise Terre Lake**
- **Approximate Property Line**
- **Riparian Standing Point**
- **Property Area: 7.21 Acre**
- **Steep slopes right along the lake**

**Potential Good Views toward the lake**

**Enhance Buffer / Screening**

- **Potential Sign Location**
- **Good View toward lake**
- **Buffer Needed for Noise**
- **Overhead Utilities**
- **Potential Entrance to Parking**

**Points of Interest**

- **Broad Views**
- **Good View toward lake**
- **Potential Sign toward lake**
- **Buffer Needed for Noise**
- **Overhead Utilities**
- **Two-way Road**
- **Park Access Road**
- **General Slope**
- **Potential Entrance to Parking**

**Enhance Buffer / Screening**

- **Nichols Park**
- **Mauvaise Terre Lake**
- **Approximate Property Line**
- **Riparian Standing Point**
- **Property Area: 7.21 Acre**
- **Steep slopes right along the lake**

**Potential Good Views toward the lake**

**Enhance Buffer / Screening**
SITE INVENTORY & ANALYSIS
Soil and Water Inventory and Analysis

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Water & Soil Inventory & Analysis

- Mauvaise Terre Lake
- Nichols Park
- Rozetta Silt Loam, 5-10% slopes, eroded
- Tama Silt Loam, 2-5% slopes
- Tama Silt Loam, 5-10% slopes, eroded
- Steep slopes right along the lake
- Floodplain
- Two-way Road
- Park Access Road
- Water Flow Direction
In November of 2015 the Jacksonville dog park design team took a tour of four dog parks in the greater Chicago area. The tour was led by the Superintendent of Leisure Services for Glenview Park District, Elsa Fischer. The team also had the opportunity to talk to the staff members responsible for the day-to-day management of two of these parks.

The parks we visited (Deerfield Dog Exercise Area, Northbrook Dog Park, Glenview Bark West, and Prairie Wolf Dog Park) ranged in size from less than two acres to 44 acres. All of them were fenced. In most parks the fencing was 5-6 feet high but one had a low split rail fence (although it should be noted that this dog park is in a forest preserve). All had a shelter, seating (benches and/or tables), waste stations (dog waste stations and trash cans), and water fountains for dogs and people. None of the shelters were enclosed. The three bigger parks all had double gated transition zones; separate big and small dog areas; and dog wash stations.

The smallest park was free; all of the others required a membership (at one park users could pay a day use fee if they did not have a membership). Two of the parks controlled access via electronic card keys.

The case studies are outlined on the following pages.
Prairie Wolf Dog Park
Lake Forest District, Chicago

Located in Lake Forest District, Chicago, Prairie Wolf Dog Park is a 44-acre fenced area. A daily or annual permit is required to enter the park, which can be purchased online or at a self-pay station in the parking lot of the park. All Prairie Wolf Dog Park dogs, and their owners fully participate in natural environment, well-managed training experience, and have the wonderful experience with water.

Its naturalistic landscape is economically beneficial, providing broad views and naturalistic experience. It provides access to take with a constructed "flood plain" area. There are stones on edge of the area, protecting the upper land from flooding, as well as safe space for dog to play with water.

This fenced 44-acre dog park is one of the largest dog parks in Chicago. Its naturalistic environment attracts many people and dogs to come. It features:
- naturalistic scene
- restrooms outside the park
- drinking fountains
- training enclosures
- picnic areas
- bioswale
- bike access
- benches
- naturalistic and economic wash station

Jaycee Dog Park
Deerfield Park District, Chicago

Located in Deerfield Park District, Jaycee Park is a small fenced dog park. There are playing facilities for dogs and pavilion for supervision. It is free to get access to the park. Even though it is small, there are several facilities providing basic functions for dogs and owners in the park:
- combination of trash can and bag station
- pavilion
- dog play equipment
- benches
- economic fences

Office of Recreation and Park Resources
An Outreach Center of the
College of Recreation, Sport and Tourism

CASE STUDIES
Case Study A
February 8, 2016
City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park

Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism
City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park

CASE STUDIES
Case Study B

**The City of Jacksonville’s Bark Park**

**Office of Recreation and Park Resources**

**Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism**

**The City of Jacksonville’s Bark Park**

**CASE STUDIES**

**Case Study B**

The City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park

February 8, 2016

**City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park**

Northbrook Park District, Chicago

Urbana Dog Park

Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District

Community Bark West

Geneva Park District, Chicago

CASE STUDIES
Case Study B

**Northbrook Dog Park**

Northbrook Park District, Chicago

**Community Bark West**

Geneva Park District, Chicago

**Urbana Dog Park**

Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District

**The Northbrook Park District operates a friendly dog park where your pooch can play, socialize and exercise. The Dog Park opened in December 2013.** Dog owners can bring their dogs to run and play off-leash, subject to several rules. The key fee is $49 for the first dog, $25 for additional dogs (July 1 through June 30—no prorating).

**Northbrook Dog Park**

Northbrook Park District, Chicago

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**Community Bark West**

Geneva Park District, Chicago

Community Bark West has special designed pet-friendly signage. Wild canopies are preserved in the back of the park. A winding trail cuts through the park, connecting both man-made and naturalistic areas. Moderately sloped hills are covered by prairie-like vegetation to create a naturalistic atmosphere.

**Urbana Dog Park**

Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District

The Urbana Dog Park is a friendly dog park where your pet can play, socialize and exercise. Located in the Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District, it opened in December 2013. The park features walking paths, fountains for dogs and people, benches, a shelter for shade and inclement weather, swipe card entry for security, easy access and free parking, waste disposal bags and receptacles.

**CASE STUDIES**

**Case Study B**

**The City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park**

February 8, 2016

**City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park**

Northbrook Park District, Chicago

Urbana Dog Park

Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District

Community Bark West

Geneva Park District, Chicago

**CASE STUDIES**

**Case Study B**

The City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park

February 8, 2016

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CASE STUDIES
Case Study B

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CHARACTER BOARDS

Contemporary Board

The contemporary concept of the park is focused on the spaces within the large dog park and will be expressed through whimsical colors and standout features. The photos from the contemporary character board show modernized ideas of potential aspects that can be added into the Jacksonville Bark Park. Some examples of components that can be incorporated into the park include the fence silhouettes of various breeds of dogs, which offer a unique look while also being able to act as sponsorship or memorabilia opportunities. The board has many images of dog agility equipment that can provide challenging options for canine companions. The contemporary theme allows the bark park to have rare qualities that are not commonly seen and upholds a fun environment.

Natural Board

The Natural Character Board shows the earthy tones and settings of the small dog park and prairie areas that are envisioned for the Jacksonville Bark Park. Composite wood structures are incorporated into the character of the park in order to create a relaxed habitat that contrasts the portion of the large dog park that is contemporary in design. Naturalistic sections (for example, the small dog park) will consist of seemingly natural agility equipment in the form of logs and boulders to match the park’s mixed themes and its naturalization as one moves further into the park and towards the lake. There will also be more shade introduced amongst the natural portions through the large trees that exist on site, as opposed to the pavilions in the large dog area.

Water Features

There has been a consistent desire for a water feature in every stage of the park planning process and the Water Feature Board shows a variety of possibilities that the Jacksonville Bark Park can incorporate into future phases of the park’s construction. Water features allow dogs to challenge their agility while also partaking in recreational activities, which can be accomplished particularly through splash pads. The board shows a mixture of water features that range from natural to contemporary, and extravagant to simple by featuring images with both small and large splash pads and ponds. The board also includes temporary suggestions for the park, such as small portable pads and sprinklers, which can be used for all dogs of any sizes. Money will need to be raised for future water feature developments.
CHARACTER BOARDS

Sponsorship Board

The Sponsorship Board introduces an array of opportunities for sponsorship and memorabilia that can be integrated into the park. Potential sponsorship suggestions include plaques placed on drinking fountains, benches, or the boulders that can be added in the sponsorship circle or throughout the park. Small plaques could also be added onto the boardwalk, once it is constructed, as a way of acknowledging participants who assisted in fundraising, volunteering, building, or other types of work that went into the park’s creation. Alternative ideas include creating a sponsorship or donation board, sign, or wall near the entrance where those who enter may recognize the contributions that will be made. Additionally, memorabilia could be merged with the sponsorship area, such as through brick pavers, boulders, or statues.

The character boards are found on the following pages.
CONTEMPORARY

vibrant, modern, metal, color, rust...
The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park

Character Board: Natural

**NATURAL**

wood, stone, fabric, prairie...

Character Board: Natural

City of Jacksonville's Dog Park

February 8, 2016

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Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism

Illinois Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism
WATER FEATURES

playful, hilarious, recreational, active...

City of Jacksonville's Dog Park

February 8, 2016

Character Board: Water Features

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CHARACTER BOARDS
Sponsorship Idea Board

City of Jacksonville’s Dog Park

Sponsorship Idea Board

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PRELIMINARY CONCEPTS

Concept Plan A

This concept proposes a naturalistic landscape where most existing trees and shrubs are kept. The dog park is designed to make full use of the existing vegetation.

The dog park is divided into two parts separated by fences: the small dog area and the large dog area. The main vehicular access to the park is located at the west side of the parking lot. The main pedestrian access to the park is at the east side of the parking lot. There are two individual gates for each part of the park.

A transition of the landscape from the riparian areas (north) to the near-road areas (south) is created throughout the park. The riparian areas next to the lake offer great views and abundant trees. The existing native habitats are kept for dogs and their owners to experience the naturalistic landscape. Areas to the south have large lawns with fewer trees providing broader views from within the park and potential views into the park from E. Vandalia Road. This area is designed to be the more developed activity area. The surface is covered with grass or wood chips (to be determined). Throughout each part of the park, the looped paths are designed to link the activity areas on the south side with the undisturbed native habitat on north side. Moreover, two access points, one for small and another for large dogs, provide connections to the lake.

As for the facilities, the pavilions are designed with dog owners in mind. Each pavilion is intended to be a place of rest with sweeping views of the park to observe dog activity. Several benches along the looped paths are placed for dog owners to supervise their dogs, rest, or socialize with others. Drinking fountains are also placed along the looped paths.

Concept Plan B

Similar to concept A, concept B separates the park into a small dog area and a large dog area. This concept differs from concept A in the design of the parking lot, landscape style, water features, and Mauvaise Terre Lake accessibility.

In concept B, the parking lot is not shared with CB club. It is designed to include 15 parking spaces, one ADA parking space, and one parking space for maintenance vehicle parking. Best management practices are applied here to address stormwater runoff.

To the north-west of the parking lot, there is a restroom and storage room. The two buildings will be separated from the vehicles by a thin slice of green buffer.
PRELIMINARY CONCEPTS

The entrance to the park is located next to the restroom. In addition to the main gate, there are separate gates for the small and large dog areas. A decorative sculpture and park signage are located on the right side of the entrance, and a 2320ft perimeter fence separates dog areas from the surrounding environment.

An ADA accessible path runs through the park and a 4ft boardwalk is placed in areas with dense vegetation. Agility equipment is located in open space areas.

The small dog area shares a gathering space with the large dog area. It includes two drinking fountains, one waste station, seating and a shared dog wash station. This area is designed to be attractive for sponsorship opportunities, such as benches, sculpture, and small installations.

The second difference between the two conceptual designs is the water feature. This concept features two dog splash pads, one for the small dog area and one for the large dog area. A rain garden surrounds the gathering area and two dog splash pads.

In the large dog area, the original pavilion shelter and building foundation are transformed into shelters with canopies. A third pavilion is added near the open space to make it convenient for owners to supervise their dogs and to socialize with one another.

In this concept, dogs do not have lake access. A small exit allows people to reach a promenade which runs along the lake shore. People are invited to this beautiful area to stand or sit on the deck and enjoy the view. In the future, if the nearby/adjoining properties along the lake are interested in a lakeside trail system, the promenade could be extended and transformed into a coherent, continuous lake trail.
City of Jacksonville's Dog Park

Summary:
- Parking: 52 cars
- Large Dog Area: 2.6 acres
- Small Dog Area: 1.4 acres
- 6’ ADA Accessible Path: 2,476’
- Soft Walking Path: 330’
- Perimeter Fence: 2,356’
- Pavilions: 3
- Dog Wash Station: 2
- Tables and Benches
- Drinking Fountain
- Fenced-in Access to Lake
- Restroom

Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism
The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park
PRELIMINARY CONCEPTS
Concept Plan A

56
City of Jacksonville's Dog Park

Concept Plan B

February 8, 2016

PRELIMINARY CONCEPTS

Summary
- Perimeter fence: 2320 ft
- Parking: 15 cars
- Large Dog Area: 3.48 acres
- Small Dog Area: 0.91 acres
- 6' ADA accessible Path: 4078.76 ft
- Boardway Path: 1398 ft
- Pavilion: 3
- Drinking fountain: 3
- Wastebags: 5
- Dog wash station
- Bathroom
- "Port-o-potty" outside the fence

Office of Recreation and Park Resources
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism
The City of Jacksonville's Bark Park
PART 3: APPENDIX
APPENDIX A: PRELIMINARY CONCEPTUAL DESIGN MEETING NOTES

Preliminary Conceptual Design Presentation for Jacksonville’s Dog Park
Office of Recreation and Park Resources, University of Illinois
Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 8th, 2016
Next Meeting: March 2016

Summary:
After the preliminary design presentation, community members selected the layout and overall design of Concept B, but wanted to incorporate some of the naturalistic character of Concept A. Specifically, the community liked the concept of a well-manicured lawn and contemporary features toward the street side of the park transitioning to more naturalistic features, such as native grassland and wood composite material, toward the lake. It was recommended that all signage, shelters, and benches be contemporary in style. Other requests include that access to the parking lot remain on the dog park property, port-o-potty restrooms be covered with a shelter, dogs have access to the lake, bike racks be included on the plan, and that a brick patio be incorporated for fundraising.

Flip Chart Notes:
• Wood versus composite wood- would like to use composite wood in naturalistic areas
• Would prefer contemporary signage- eg. stone
• Would like a combination of Concept A and B. Like the layout from Concept B, but the manicured-to-natural design from Concept A.
• Like the artistic dog fence from the Contemporary Idea Board
• Would like to incorporate a brick paver patio for fundraising
• Like the natural grassland component
• Contemporary furnishings and equipment are easier to clean
• Would like to have a shelter over the port-o-potty
• Would like to use the parking lot in Concept B, but would want to rotate it so that it uses the access road on the property. Need to figure out parking and access
• Like the natural landscape from Concept A
• Want plenty of drinking fountains
• Want all of the features in Concept B to remain
• Would like to make the lake accessible to dogs
• Want contemporary signage, shelters, and benches
• Would like features to be more naturalistic as you move toward the lake and more contemporary toward the road
APPENDIX A: PRELIMINARY CONCEPTUAL DESIGN MEETING NOTES

- Would like composite wood docks for lake access and some composite wood features
- Show bike racks
- Show maintenance gates
- Consider turkey grit for pathways
- Consider foot lighting along the path
**APPENDIX B: CENTRAL ILLINOIS DIRECTOR’S ROUNDTABLE SURVEY, DEC. 2015**

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**Central Illinois Director’s Roundtable Survey on Dog Park Management. Dec 2015**

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**What has been the greatest management challenge at your dog park(s)?**

- Time and money: staff time and time spent working on the problem dogs/owners; members/users disregarding posted rules; discourtesy.
- Dog park is over used, and too small. We close for a month in May to regrow the grass.
- Litter/trash pick up, daily maintenance
- Aggressive dogs and owners, poop cleanup
- Dog owners will be your biggest challenge, getting them to follow the rules!!! Have a large area for large dogs and small area for small dogs, parking
What do you wish you had known before building your dog park(s)?

- Require some way to screen dogs/owners; require evidence of training/socialization (for both owner and dog : >)
- Dog park users will pay a membership fee to use the park.
- The people are the problem, usually not the dogs.
- A better sense of charging fees and memberships

What advice would you give to other park managers interested in building a dog park?

- Make the park as big as possible - we have 10 acres and members love the space. Put in place your system for reporting problems; consequences for rule infractions; build a continued relationship with local law enforcement. Have a separate, smaller fenced area for new dogs, uncertain dogs to use - don't call it a small dog area as folks expect small does to use it only. Gate system that allows members only - we allow daily users who pay as they enter (enforcement is difficult).
- Make sure it is large enough, or put down a pea gravel floor and skip the grass. Good to have two spaces. One for large dogs and one for small, but not required. Might be good to have two spaces to let one area rest and regrow.
- Try to have separate areas for different sizes of dogs, seating for dog owners and no place for dogs to escape
- Your grass will die. Pick a dry spot, or it turns into a mud pit.
- Visit other dog parks and learn from them. Work with your local vets to help with rules and PR
What are the most popular features in your dog park(s)?

- 10 acres with central wooded area and surrounding open fields
- Ours is simple. Couple of benches and picnic tables and two fake fire hydrants. Make sure fire department knows they are fake.
- Other dogs!
- Small dog area, seating
- Water fountain for the dogs to pee on!!

Are there any features that you are interested in adding?

- The following is what membership requests continually: lights in the winter time (our park is open sunrise to sunset); paved parking (we have gravel), a paved path around the edge of the park.
- Larger and electronic scan to open and use the park. Collect revenue to offset costs. Would like to have some obstacle features for training.
- Some type of water for the dogs to drink
- More seating, shade
- More trees, request for a paved path from the owners, more features for the dogs
What questions or complaints have you heard from your residents about your dog park(s)?

- Unsafe (vicious dogs) and rude visitors; someone to be the rule enforcer (though I must admit visitors ignore me even when I am wearing district ID); disease, tick infestation (no evidence); after dark use especially in the winter months.
- Some dog owners do not get along with other dog owners. That has been our greater problem, but not a big issue. More friendships than problems.
- Nothing major! Sometimes complaints about fellow dog owners not following rules
- Complaints about aggressive dogs, or aggressive owners trying to enforce the rules
- Dog got sick by eating the grass in the park! Complaints about other dogs, people not being a member or paying daily fees

Special thanks to the following survey participants:

Urbana Park District
Champaign Park District
Peoria Park District
Beardstown Park District
Rock Island Parks & Recreation
APPENDIX C: ADA ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR BENCHES

ADA CRITERIA FOR BENCHES

What are the ADA requirements for outdoor benches?
Confusion abounds, mostly as a result of a misinterpretation of Section 903 of the ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities. Section 903 requirements were developed to enable people in wheelchairs to transfer to benches in certain function- and situation-specific settings. It defines bench requirements for these enumerated facilities, rooms and elements: 612 Saunas and Steam Rooms (Chap 6); 803 Dressing, Fitting and Locker Rooms (chap 8); 807 Holding Cells and Housing Cells and 808 Courtrooms (chap 8).

The US Access Board confirms that Section 903 applies only to the above and that there are no ADA requirements specified in Section 903 for outdoor benches. Nevertheless, efforts are sometimes made to apply the Section 903 standards to benches in outdoor public environments, no doubt prompted by the desire to ensure seating opportunities for people in wheelchairs. We believe this misapplication of standards may provide little real benefit to people in wheelchairs while actively disadvantaging other populations. Here’s why:

- People in wheelchairs typically do not transfer to benches outdoors. Rather, they pull up next to or across from people sitting in benches or movable chairs or seating walls or picnic tables to join in social activity. Current approaches to site design and furniture are focused on creating more flexible elements and spaces. Fixed and dimensionally restricted benches limit choices and risk isolating people in wheelchairs, rather than expanding choices and bringing them closer to the center of action.

- Benches with high, exceptionally deep seats and without side arms, as specified in Section 903, are dysfunctional for people with other disabilities and needs, including:
  - A smaller person, who can’t sit in high, deep benches without having their legs dangle above the ground.
  - People with mobility problems and the visually impaired who often need side arms to help them sit down and get up.

Anyone needing back support. (It is difficult, if not impossible, to sit back in a bench seat so deep that it keeps the knees from bending.)

A single ADA guideline for outdoor benches appears in The Revised Draft Guidelines for Accessible Public Rights-of-Way. Although not currently an enforceable ADA standard, the guideline specifies a bench seat height of 17 inches minimum and 19 inches maximum above the ground or floor space. In addition, the Access Board has issued Advisory R307.6.3.2, which states, “Benches will be most useful if they have full back support and armrests to assist in sitting and standing.”

Benches meeting these simple height guidelines and back and armrest advisements are readily available from Landscape Forms and other site furniture manufacturers.
APPENDIX C: ADA ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR BENCHES

ADA CRITERIA FOR BENCHES

Beyond The Bench

People in outdoor spaces don’t just line up on benches like birds on a wire. They sit in multiple configurations of seating and in optional locations that provide variety – in seating type, in exposure to sun and shade and wind, in aspect and views, in degree of proximity to other people and activities. Movable seating has contributed to the success of outdoor spaces, such as New York’s iconic Bryant Park, and it might be noted that the wheelchair is the ultimate movable chair.

The challenge is to provide variety and options in outdoor seating that offer more abundant accessible opportunities for all. There are many creative ways to make that happen.

We thank Bill Botten of the Access Board for his expertise and review. For technical assistance call the Access Board hot line: 1-800-872-2253 or send inquiries to ta@access-board.gov.

TO ENABLE PEOPLE IN WHEELCHAIRS TO FIND A QUIET PLACE OR JOIN THE PARTY

- Provide firm, stable ground surfaces with adequate clear ground space to permit maneuverability in public spaces. (A minimum 30” x 48” clear ground space is required to accommodate a single stationary wheelchair with occupant.)
- Provide adequate space around seating elements – for example facing groups of chairs and at the end of benches parallel to the short axis of the bench. (See Illustration.)
- In outdoor eating areas provide picnic tables with one seat removed or with one bench made shorter on a side to permit wheelchair approach. ADA requires 36” clearance along all usable sides of the table measured from the back edge of the bench, and sufficient knee and toe clearance under the table (27” height, 30” width and 19” depth) for access, maneuverability and comfort. (Click here for details) (See Illustration.)
- NOTE: Landscape Forms 3-seat Carousel Table meets ADA requirements and special adaptations are available for other Landscape Forms picnic tables to meet compliance criteria.

Credit: Robert G. Chipman, ASLA

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