



To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date: May 10, 2010

From: Dave Semple
General Manager, Parks and Recreation

File: 11-7375-00/Vol 01

Re: Prohibition of dogs at Terra Nova Park

Staff Recommendation

That:

1. The Public Parks and School Grounds Regulation Bylaw No. 7310, Amendment Bylaw No. 8612 (attachment 1) be introduced and given first, second and third reading.
2. The Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 7321, Amendment Bylaw No. 8613 (attachment 2) be introduced and given first, second and third reading.

Dave Semple
General Manager, Parks and Recreation
(604-233-3350)

Att. 3

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Community Bylaws	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>	
Law	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO
			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the City Council meeting on September 13, 2004 approving the Terra Nova Rural Park Master Plan Council resolved:

“That the concept plan include Option 1 of part C – the complete ban of dogs at Terra Nova Rural Park.”

This report addresses that resolution, and contributes to the Council term goal to “demonstrate leadership in and significant advancement of the City’s agenda for sustainability through the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategy”.

Analysis

The Council approved vision for the park is “to preserve the unique rural character of the park while providing a balance between agricultural heritage, wildlife conservation , and recreational uses”.

The rationale behind prohibiting dogs from the Terra Nova Rural Park was to protect the sensitive wildlife areas and the proposed gardening/ farming areas. The park has developed over the last 5 years and is now home to a number of farming, gardening and wildlife initiatives that address issues such food security and sustainability, as well as provide opportunities for community engagement. These initiatives and land uses include:

1. Trail use by the public
2. Wildlife habitats
3. Community garden plots (public use)
4. Terra Nova Schoolyard Society garden plots (school program use)
5. Fruit Tree Sharing Farm areas (food grown for the food bank)
6. Kwantlen University Farm School programming (in collaboration with the Fruit Tree Sharing Farm)

The park is unique to Richmond and the Lower Mainland in its design which incorporates the historical farm use of the area with native species habitats.

The majority of park users are respectful of the ban on dogs, however, there are some who continue to bring dogs into the rural area. Concerned citizens have contacted the City about dogs in the park, however at this time staff are limited in the course of action they can take.

If the attached bylaws are adopted Community Bylaws staff can respond to concerns about dogs in the park by issuing a ticket if necessary. The goal is not to generate money from tickets, but rather to provide a tool for animal control officers to use if needed, while protecting agricultural and wildlife areas.

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Park users in the Terra Nova area will still have the option to enjoy the Terra Nova Natural Park and the dyke trails provided their dogs are on a leash (see attachment 3 for map). This area does not have any agricultural projects and was designed with a waterway that acts as a moat. This prevents access to the old-field habitats which reduces the potential negative interactions between nesting birds and dogs.

Financial Impact

No financial impact. Based on the historical number of complaints regarding Terra Nova Rural Park, enforcement will be covered using existing divisional resources.

Conclusion

Terra Nova Rural Park is a unique and award winning park housing a variety of community programs. In order to preserve the integrity of the farming/gardening and sensitive natural areas, it is important for the ban on dogs to be continued and for staff to have a way to enforce the ban when necessary.



Jodie Shebib
Manager, Parks Programs
(604-244-1275)

JS:js



City of Richmond

Bylaw 8612

**Public Parks and School Grounds Regulation Bylaw No. 7310
Amendment Bylaw No. 8612**

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Public Parks and School Grounds Regulation Bylaw No. 7310, is amended by adding the following after section 1.6.2:
 - 1.6.3 A person must not bring or permit any dog under his or her care, control or custody within the boundaries of Terra Nova Rural Park.

2. This Bylaw is cited as "**Public Parks and School Grounds Regulation Bylaw No. 7310, Amendment Bylaw No. 8612**".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originating dept.
APPROVED for legality by Solicitor



City of Richmond

Bylaw 8613

**Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 7321
Amendment Bylaw No. 8613**

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

- 1. Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 7321, is amended by adding the following to Schedule B 10, in numerical order:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Bringing or permitting a dog in Terra Nova Rural Park	1.6.3	\$100

- 2. This Bylaw is cited as **“Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 7321, Amendment Bylaw No. 8613”**.

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

CITY OF RICHMOND
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**Terra Nova Area
Dog Regulations**