

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

February 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners was held on this day at 950 Eden Park Drive. Commissioners present: President Molly North and Vice President Kick Lee. Commissioner Phyllis McCallum and Commissioner John Neyer attended virtually. Commissioner Susan Castellini was not present. President North called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Acknowledgement of Public Comments

President North acknowledged five in-person public comments about the Burnet Woods dog park and the potential for a skatepark at Sawyer Point. President North thanked attendees for braving difficult weather to advocate for parks, and acknowledged public comments received via the Cincy Parks email address regarding the Burnet Woods dog park and a potential skate park.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Approval of the January 16 Meeting Minutes

Vice President Lee motioned to approve the January 16, 2025, meeting minutes. Commissioner Neyer seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

2025 Board of Park Commissioners Meeting Schedule

Director Jason Barron presented a memo requesting that three changes be made to the 2025 Board of Park Commissioners meeting schedule, due to holiday and scheduling conflicts. Staff requested approval to adjust the time of the March Board of Park Commissioners meeting and the dates of the June and September meetings to the following: March 20 at 10:00am, June 20 at 9:00am, and September 26 at 9:00am. Commissioner McCallum motioned to adjust the schedule as discussed. Commissioner Neyer seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

INFORMATION/ UPDATES

2025 Events and Programming Update

Lou Sand (Region Manager, Riverfront & Special Events) presented an overview of 2025 Events and Programming throughout Cincinnati Parks, including self-produced events, rentals, and community-led partnership events. Highlights included the return of Oktoberfest and the Red Bull Flugtag to the Riverfront, as well as the inaugural America's River Roots celebration. Staff emphasized the importance of partnerships and volunteers in successfully activating events and programming throughout Parks. The Commissioners shared their appreciation for the huge amount of effort and coordination it takes to produce and manage so many events. The Commissioners and Staff also discussed staffing and resource opportunities that could leverage current success to help grow event programming.

Planning & Design Update

Division Manager Joel Gross provided updates on the status of multiple projects, including the Division of Natural Resources service garage, the Ault Park Valley Trail restoration project, the completion of the Art Museum Drive improvements in Eden Park, progress at International Friendship Park, the Lytle Park comfort station, the Burnet Woods dog park, the Smale Lot 23 bid process, the Mt. Airy bike skills course and site improvements, Everybody's Treehouse, the

Ault Park playground, and the hydrological survey of California Woods. Commissioners and Staff discussed next steps for the development of the biochar project and progress on the site plan at Parks' Sinton campus, as well as opportunities to use the biochar project as an educational tool for the community. Staff provided an update on planning progress at Inwood Park, completion of the repair of the rock catchment at Bellevue Park, and the Commissioners and Staff discussed work to repair sanitary sewer lines and combined sewer issues at Burnet Woods. Staff also shared updates on work to move more Parks staff to the Central Avenue facility, storage improvements at Warder Nursery, and updates on the Sawyer Point playground replacement and the pickleball shade installation. President North requested an update on progress at Glenway Park, which Staff provided.

HR Update

Director Barron provided an overview of current staffing, vacancies, hiring of seasonal staff, testing, and new and in-progress full-time appointments.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Barron presented the following updates:

- Krohn's Spring Show, *Emerge*, is open and runs until April 20.
- Parks MLK Day of service was moved inside due to extreme cold. A group of UC students helped to repair and paint picnic tables and benches and organize storage.
- Parks staff attended the OPRA Conference in Sandusky, OH, where Cincinnati Parks was awarded first place in the Excellence in Natural Resources & Conservation category for the Cincinnati Conservation Stewards program. The Parks Foundation was awarded third place in Management Innovation for their obLITTERators litter removal program.
- Parks Academy recently held chainsaw safety training at Trailside Nature Center.
- Upcoming events and educational opportunities in Cincinnati Parks throughout February and early March.

OPEN COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION & COMMENTS

The Commissioners and Staff discussed the status of flooding and the impact on the riverfront parks and California Woods. Staff shared that the river had crested and cleanup is in the works, however California Woods may remain closed for up to a week.

ADJOURNMENT

President North adjourned the meeting at 10:37am.

The next regular meeting date is Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 10:00am.

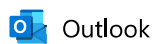
ATTEST:

PRESIDENT



DIRECTOR





Outlook

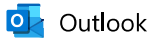
[External Email] Public comment 1/16

From Karly <karlyamorgan@gmail.com>
Date Wed 1/15/2025 9:43 PM
To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

I am strongly opposed to the dog park plans in burnet woods. Please reconsider this proposal and listen to the public.

Karly Morgan
karlyamorgan@gmail.com
513-319-5663



[External Email] NO to Burnet Woods Dog Park - Public comment 1/16

From Shivani Gundala <shivani Gundala@gmail.com>

Date Thu 1/16/2025 5:42 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from shivani Gundala@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Respected Cincinnati Parks Board,

I am a rescue dog owner and foster and proud former resident of Jefferson Avenue in 45220, and 45219 zip codes. I have paid taxes to the city of Cincinnati and the great state of Ohio, as a good citizen and am indebted to the city for my beautiful life. I have been a resident of 45220-45219 for 10+years, 2011-2021. Despite having a job in Mason, I chose to live near Burnet woods and Jefferson avenue out of sheer love for the community and greenery.

I am in objection to the city's proposal to build a dog park in the pristine Burnet Woods which has provided a great solace to me in times of great distress.

Human impact:

When great personal tragedy impacted my life, I have walked to this exact spot to gain some calm and happiness back into my life, and I wish the same upon generations of future residents of this lovely neighborhood.

Long term Financial Impact to City and Locality:

Please do not corrupt this serene public space with a man made dog park built of man made materials that degrade overtime and leach forever and unknown chemicals into the ecosystem.

It is impossible to avoid the natural breakdown of manufactured materials and the dog park will be a tremendous financial cost to the city to upkeep in the long run as well.

Environmental Impact:

The biggest asset of Cincinnati is the beautiful green spaces it offers, including the calm woodland haven that is Burnet woods. Thousands of human visitors enjoy and share this space with every kind of local wildlife imaginable. The long term repercussions of this dog park

measure are insurmountable and restoration will be horrific once the dog park ages with time.

Save money and put to good use elsewhere. Please leave the green space as-is and nurture our community like the fragile baby it is.

Dog Health and Wellbeing Impact:

On a more direct note, dog parks invite disease and infection. They are a prime location for dog fights and dogs do not enjoy artificial turf. The temperature of artificial turf and manmade materials in summer is several degrees higher than real grass or earth. This is a danger to the dogs as well. Inhalation of fumes from these overheated materials will affect living things also. I understand the park is small to have/maintain natural grass but the better solution is to not have a park at all. Leave the green space for folks and all paw-rents to walk around safely on leash.

Sincerely,

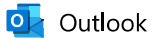
Shivani Gundala

M.Eng. University of Cincinnati

Sr Engineer, 8+ years of Work-Ex

Proud Bearcat family,

Former resident and taxpayer of 45220/45219



Outlook

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25. Stop burnet Dog Park

From Shannon, Leah (shannolh) <shannolh@mail.uc.edu>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 3:09 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from shannolh@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Dear Cincinnati Parks,

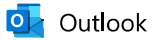
I am in direct opposition with the project to build a dog park in Burnet Woods.

Pleasant Valley is not only a space that serves refuge for vulnerable plant and animal species, but it is also a community space that I have enjoyed with friends on several occasions. 27 identified species are directly affected by the destruction of this area, and thousands of other species are indirectly affected. If you care about the Cincinnati broader community, and about the health and wellbeing of future citizens, then this effort to stop the dog park will matter to you!

As a community member of Clifton, Burnet Woods has a large place in my heart. There are many maintenance efforts that need to be invested in. Do not allow the dog park to be built.

Best,
Leah

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[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From Lefors, Kiva (leforska) <leforska@mail.uc.edu>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 3:56 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from leforska@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hi whoever is reading this,

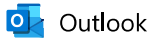
My name is Kiva LeFors and I am entering my fifth year of college here at the University of Cincinnati. I just moved into my 7th housing (subleasing!) across the CUF/Clifton area at the beginning of this month. I now live directly right across Burnet Woods on Ludlow Ave and **this is my plead to say NO** to ripping out nature and placing artificial, synthetic turf that is harmful to humans in order to build a dog park.

From what I understand from [this article](#) that the board had approved a non-turf model, but there are **zero plans** being shared with the public around this new model. We should have access to this information in order to move forward. Why the lack of transparency?

The addition of this dog park will directly affect 27 species and will be harmed by the build, and another 1,219 will be indirectly harmed. Dogs are already welcome to take a walk through Burnet with their owner, why must we make a synthetic experience for them? People come to Burnet for the nature and expect that when taking a stroll through, not a dog park. In this specific Pleasant Valley area, I have experienced my friend's capstone project take place, countless picnics, reading and sketching the trees and birds with friends. I don't want to lose this spot to a dog park that isn't necessary. There is a dog park less than 10 minutes away downtown that I have been to, residents of Clifton can make that journey too.

Please take my words into consideration and **reject this dog park build**. Instead, use this money to work on repairing the Bandstand's restrooms at Burnet instead + the other higher priority maintenance requests.

Best,
Kiva



Outlook

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From Claire Gerdenich <clairegerdenich@gmail.com>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 6:13 PM

To Parks, Cincy <Cincy.Parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Citycounsel@cincinnati-oh.gov <Citycounsel@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from clairegerdenich@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

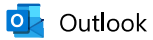
Hello,

I'm writing in regards to the plan to build a dog park in Burnet Woods. The public and I feel that this is not a good use of the space for a few reasons.

1. Anyone can walk their dog here already so the plan doesn't benefit dog owners.
2. Adding concrete and artificial grass to the natural landscape would be damaging to the species who currently inhabit the land.
3. Creating a space used for only certain people, rather than the public space that exists now, excludes community members from enjoying the park.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and I hope Burnet remains a beautiful park for the community and ecosystem going forward.

Sincerely,
Claire Gerdenich



Outlook

[External Email] Public Comment 2.20.25

From Olivia Tussey <olivia.tussey121@gmail.com>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 11:36 PM

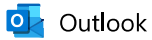
To #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from olivia.tussey121@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Please do not allow a dog park to be built in Burnet Woods. The entire park is already able to be used by dogs. Destroying biodiversity and a natural landscape, which are already rare enough in urban settings, to put in fake grass is ridiculous. That area can currently be used by everyone. Turning it into a dog park reduces its usefulness to the public. Thank you.

-Olivia Tussey



Outlook

[External Email] 1/21/2025 Burnet Woods Dog Park Save Our Space

From Adia Eagle <adia.eagle@gmail.com>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 9:16 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; CincyCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov <CincyCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

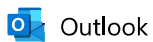
You don't often get email from adia.eagle@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I'm writing to inquire why this is still being implemented. I understand that it will harm the ecosystem of Burnet Woods, will impose \$4 million in upkeep of an artificial space, impose unwanted construction near home owners there, and is completely unnecessary. I understand wanting a closed space for dogs, however why not just put a fence in the grassy area there? The only reason I can think of wanting to add this is if a turf company is paying you all. Please reassess your intentions and change the way you are implementing this dog park. If you still somehow deem the turf necessary, please inform the community of your many legit beneficial reasons why this is still happening, in spite of all the backlash and reasons not to.

Thank you,
A concerned citizen



Outlook

[External Email] Public comment 2/20/25

From Samantha Messer <samanthamesser11@gmail.com>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 5:51 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from samanthamesser11@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email Communication

To whom it may concern,

My name is Samantha, I'm a Clifton resident and Burnett Woods hiker. I'm writing to let you know I do not support a dog park in this area.

As I understand it, there are 27 species in Pleasant Valley, all of which will be directly harmed by your choice to build a dog park. Another 1,219 species will be harmed indirectly. Yuck. Boo. Pass.

I strongly object to this development in the few areas of nature we have to enjoy in this city.

I'd like a response on this issue.

Thanks,
Samantha



Outlook

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From jaykennethwright@gmail.com <jaykennethwright@gmail.com>

Date Wed 1/22/2025 6:52 PM

To Parks, Cincy <Cincy.Parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jaykennethwright@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello City Officials,

Currently Burnet Woods has a proposed dog park that will require tree removal and removing natural spaces. As our community is well aware, our green space is already a limited resource here in Cincinnati and tree density is equally endangered. The construction of a dog park is incongruent with the needs of our communities at this time, and there is a wealth of dog parks available for pet owners to attend across Cincinnati's neighborhoods. If the need of a dog park is so apparent to the community, we should be looking at spaces that are developed in these park areas and repurposing them for this kind of land use. I implore the council, park officials, and mayor to rescind and reject these proposals for constructing this dog park, and instead focus on cultivating our green spaces, not uprooting them.

Cheers,

Jay Wright

Email: jaykennethwright@gmail.com

Cell: 248-766-3200

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Bowling, Isabel (bowlinir) <bowlinir@mail.uc.edu>

Date Fri 1/24/2025 1:43 PM

To #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <Cincy.Parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Cc Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bowlinir@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other. The dog park will have harmful consequences on the entire ecosystem and park as a whole. This space is also an Audubon Important Bird Area. Development on this land will have impacts on the birds who use and live in Burnet Woods. There are other spaces a dog park could be built in this city, why use a space that will harm important bird populations? There are few Audubon important bird areas and urban greenspaces in Cincinnati; we should do all we can to protect what is left of the one we do have. Burnet Woods is also a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Not only will animals and plants be affected by the construction, but people will too. Those living in the surrounding area were not properly apart of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site. There should be more of an effort to listen to their concerns and opinions on this matter. The dog park construction moved locations because you listened to the surrounding residents of the previous location, why are these residents getting different treatment? They have expressed the same disapproval for the dog park as the residents at the original location did, so how were their concerns grounds for moving it yet the same concerns from residents near the Burnet Woods location are not?

Furthermore, this dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high. On the topic of money, Burnet Woods is already underfunded and is millions of dollars behind on maintenance and upkeep. If your goal is to create a greater community and improve the park, we should be focusing our time and money on the already existing issues that need to be fixed before moving on to costly development plans. If the park is already behind on maintenance and upkeep, how do you plan to keep up with additional construction and maintenance costs the dog park will result in?

Finally, I would like to say that those who oppose the dog park, like me, are not dog haters or dog park haters; in fact, I love seeing people use the park trails to walk their leashed dogs. However, we are being realistic about the consequences of building a dog park in Burnet Woods. There is a time and place for a dog park and now is not that time and Burnet Woods is not that place. If you do not share any of these

concerns with me in particular, you can at least see the tremendous amount of disapproval from the community at large. There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; I hope you consider listening to us.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this subject.

Isabel Bowling (she/her)

University of Cincinnati | Class of 2025

School of Environment and Sustainability | Environmental Studies

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Date Sun 1/26/2025 7:12 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; CityManagerEmail <citymanager@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Dear Stewards of Public Lands,

I am writing again to ask if another location outside of Burnet Woods would be considered for the request of Clifton residents for a dog park in their neighborhood.

The entrance to Mount Storm is flat enough for a completely accessible dog park. Water is available and there is ample lot parking which would allow for designated accessible spaces.

There are no residences nearby.

It would be a much safer experience for the dogs and would allow for the original plan for a larger off leash area, even the possibility for separation of large and small dogs. Our UC Students have suggested many sustainable ideas, please consider them.

Corryville, CUF and park stakeholders have made it abundantly clear that they are opposed to the loss of habitat in Burnet Woods. Please respect their collective voices.

Why was Mount Storm not included in the search for a location?

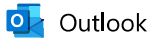
Burnet Woods has the same historical significance, being designed by Adolph Strauch, as Mount Storm.

Mount Storm is underutilized.

The public would appreciate an explanation.

Sincerely,

Shari Frost



Outlook

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From Rylee Jennings <ryleejennings286@gmail.com>

Date Thu 1/23/2025 3:12 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from ryleejennings286@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello

I am a student at the University of Cincinnati and I am writing in regards to the construction of the dog park in Pleasant Valley. As someone coming from Columbus it was important to me when looking for a college that I could find one with lots of local greenery. Metroparks are very popular in Columbus and I knew I wanted to find some near campus. I have loved getting to walk around Burnet and enjoy the nature in between my classes. I would hate to lose so much valuable land due to a dog park that is falsely advertised, not ADA accessible, and is going to affect so many species. It is frustrating that the city refuses to listen to the people directly affected by this, whether it be students, residents, disabled people, or just locals who frequent the park. If the majority of people, 85% according to a poll that was published, do not want the park I do not understand why you are going through with this. If you want to make the park more friendly and inviting then focus on the millions of dollars worth of maintenance that you need to do around the park. Burnet Woods had a large impact on where I wanted to go to school and I know it did for so many others, please do not proceed with the construction of this dog park.

It is frustrating that you refuse to listen to the people who thrive within this park.

[External Email] Feb. 20 public comment

From Ruth Sproull <gardener612@yahoo.com>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:25 PM
To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from gardener612@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

To whom it may concern,

The Burnet Woods dog park project should be abandoned. Until Cincinnati Parks can balance their books and provide (deferred) maintenance to existing projects, this has no business on the radar of the commissioners.

It seems unbelievable to me that the commissioners are ploughing through despite the very vocal objections of neighbors who use the park. Why not try doing something that has universal appeal and support instead of insisting on this very controversial project?

Ruth Sproull
7786 Cooper Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
802-334-3438 Talk
802-988-0492 VM & Text

“Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced.” James Baldwin

[External Email] Public Comment Feb 20

From Don Bones Parrett <cincybones@gmail.com>

Date Tue 1/28/2025 3:29 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

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External Email Communication

Sirs,

I have been a resident of Cincinnati for nearly 70 years, and a user of Burnet Woods' facilities for nearly as long, and I would like to add my voice to those protesting the ill-advised dog park planned for that park. I'm a dog-owner, and would love to see a dog park at Burnet Woods, but not in that environmentally sensitive area, and not with an artificial turf surface. The thought of exercising my dogs on artificial turf makes me feel sick; how could anyone in a position actually to enact such a bad idea even entertain the thought? Real turf, real dirt, and natural mulch are healthier for the city, the state, and the world --- and, most importantly, the dogs.

Peace,

[Don Bones Parrett](#)

[External Email] Public Comment Feb 2025

From Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Date Wed 1/29/2025 2:42 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

The Westwood Dog Park currently has 75 piles of dog feces inside the perimeter of the fenced off area for dogs.

I am among the thousands of voices who are literally begging you not to do this to Burnet Woods.

The site is too close to people's homes, the library, businesses and a pedestrian path into the park.

In the hotter weather the dog park will smell terrible!

How will people be able to enjoy their porches and patios, or leave open their windows to enjoy the fresh air?

Please relocate the proposal to a less impactful area, preferably in a location that allows for full ADA compliance and parking.

Sincerely,

Shari Frost

[External Email] Public comment 2/20/2025

From Aaron Kuebel <awk2010@outlook.com>

Date Thu 1/30/2025 10:12 AM

To Parks, Cincy <Cincy.Parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from awk2010@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Good morning,

My name is Aaron Kuebel, and I am a senior at the University of Cincinnati. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. I believe this is not the right course of action at this time.

We are facing an unprecedented rise in climate-related issues worldwide, and further reducing green space will only exacerbate the problem. Burnet Woods is already a human-focused park that does not require additional development, especially when existing areas are not being adequately maintained. Why is there no funding allocated for the nature center, playground maintenance, restroom accessibility, or the repair of trails affected by sinkholes? Instead, resources are being directed toward a dog park that is not ADA-accessible, is supported by only 15% of the community, and will displace 27 native plant species, further harming the local ecosystem.

It is frustrating to see such blind commitment to a project that benefits so few while neglecting more pressing environmental and community needs. Why is there no effort to green grey spaces instead? There are numerous empty parking lots and abandoned buildings where this funding could be better utilized to combat climate change.

As a resident and environmental advocate, I am deeply frustrated. I am angered on behalf of the many people living near Burnet Woods who were not consulted. I am angered as someone who values nature and sees it being destroyed. And I am angered as a citizen who knows this project will likely become yet another neglected, overgrown, and poorly maintained space. If the parks department were more consistent in its efforts and genuinely listened to the community, my response would be different. However, as you continue to disregard public opinion and environmental concerns, I cannot support this decision.

Burnet Woods deserves better. The majority of the community does not want this dog park, and it has no place in the park's future. I urge you to reconsider this decision in favor of more sustainable and community-focused initiatives.

I hope you understand the importance and the gravity of the situation we all face.

Regards,
Aaron Kuebel

[External Email] public comment 2/20/25

From Eli Johnston <777edjohn@gmail.com>

Date Fri 1/31/2025 9:29 PM

To Parks, Cincy <Cincy.Parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.Aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from 777edjohn@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email Communication

Save our space stop the dog park in Burnett woods !!

.)

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Goldman, Mya (goldmama) <goldmama@mail.uc.edu>

Date Sat 2/1/2025 5:50 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from goldmama@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other. Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build ofn this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city. Those living in the surrounding area were not properly apart of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high. There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Best,
Mya Goldman

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Mackenzie Mettey <mcmettey@gmail.com>

Date Sat 2/1/2025 6:41 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mcmettey@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban green space with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduces the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate of the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Sincerely,
Mack Mettey

--

Ms. Mack Mettey (she/they)

Artist

513.908.7410

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Grace Schuermann <graceschuermann@gmail.com>

Date Sat 2/1/2025 9:06 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from graceschuermann@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

My name is Grace Schuermann. I am writing to express my concerns over the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. This construction would harm at least 27 different species of wildlife and disrupt the ecosystem of 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods is a vital and beloved urban greenspace that us humans as well as so many other species rely on.

Burnet Woods acts as a green island within an urban heat island. The greenspace helps to absorb some of the surrounding heat and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. Disrupting this green island would only add to the heat in our city. At a time when projects like ReLeaf are so critical - this plan would be counterproductive in destroying green spaces already existing in Cincinnati.

The people who live in the area and who would be impacted by this change haven't truly had their voices heard. There are over 415 public comments opposed to the renovation and only a handful in favor and a survey showing an 85% disapproval rate.

The community has been abundantly clear in its opposition to the proposed change. It is time to listen to us, the community you were elected to represent.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Grace Schuermann

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Nikki Tayidi <nikkitayidi@gmail.com>
Date Sat 2/1/2025 9:50 PM
To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

[You don't often get email from nikkitayidi@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Thank you,
Nikki Tayidi

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Aster Craker <hrcraker@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 11:08 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hrcraker@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Good morning Cincinnati Parks, Cincinnati City Council, and Mayor Pureval,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. As a resident of Cincinnati and an avid lover of the outdoors, replacing an established and mature green space with concrete and plastic turf for a dog park is ridiculous to me.

The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other. Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city. Those living in the surrounding area were not properly apart of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high. Where will people with guide dogs and disability assistance dogs go with their animals? *Cost is not a good excuse to remove accessibility.* As a construction designer, all too often accessibility features are seen as "features or requirements" and not integral components of building design that bring more people into the space. Other things can be removed or reworked in a building place to keep a space from being exclusionary by design if not by intent.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Thank you,

Heather Craker

Resident of Cincinnati

Electrical Designer

Disabled Person

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Jordan Engelke <jordanengelke@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 2:36 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods.

The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build over this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut when the price got too high. **There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it.** A past survey showed an **85% disapproval rate** to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Sincerely,
Jordan Engelke

[External Email] Public Comment 2/2/2025

From Alisander Schmid <alisanderschmid@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 3:42 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from alisanderschmid@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

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There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Alisander Schmid

Co-Owner

Totally Lit Events

513-787-5715

Alisanderschmid@gmail.com

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From Aidan Metz <aidanm2023@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 6:00 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from aidanm2023@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

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There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

-Aidan Metz

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Amber Hollan <hollan_amber@icloud.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 6:48 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from hollan_amber@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

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[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Naser, Charlotte (nasercc) <nasercc@mail.uc.edu>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 8:52 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nasercc@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello all,

I am a student who goes to the University of Cincinnati, and I do not want a dog park built in Burnet Woods. Bulldozers, concrete, and fences would ruin the park's ecosystem and harm the 1,246 different species of plants and animals that live in it. In Clifton, there is already a very limited amount of greenspace due to the urban area so do not build a dog park in Burnet Woods, keep it as it is.

Charlotte Naser /she/her/hers
International Affairs
Political Science
University of Cincinnati /2025
E: nasercc@mail.uc.edu

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Rachel Carson <rachel.carsonrs@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 9:32 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from rachel.carsonrs@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. Burnet Woods was a haven for me personally while I attended the University of Cincinnati, and it continues to be one as it exists now for students and animals alike. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other. Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city. Those living in the surrounding area were not properly apart of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high. There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Regards,

Rachel Carson

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Erin Fung <eofung@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/2/2025 10:07 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Cc Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from eofung@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concern and dismay at the continued plans to create a dog park in Burnet Woods. Burnet Woods is a vital green space in the city, home to over 1,200 species, and provides a green island within our concrete urban heatscape that effectively reduces the temperature of our city. Think of all of the heat waves we have experienced in recent years and the impact this has had on our most vulnerable and marginalized communities. Do we really need to destroy an important urban ecosystem and reduce our critically limited green space to create an unnecessary dog park for the privileged? Was it also necessary to completely remove the elements of accessibility that were a key part of the original development plan, further making this a space of privilege that is not inclusive and does not intend to serve all Cincinnati residents?

As a resident of the Clifton community, I am concerned that proceeding with this dog park plan will essentially create an astroturf urine scape that will reduce the beauty and serenity of these Woods, destroy ecological habitats and harm the biodiversity in the region, and release an acrid stench in our community.

Who is this dog park really for? Over 415 public comments opposing this plan have been heard, with only 20 comments in favor. Please remember that this plan has an 85% disapproval rate. Represent your constituents and hear our opinions and voices - do not proceed with this dog park!

Erin Fung

--

Erin Fung

Principal Clarinet, Lexington Philharmonic

she/her

www.erinfung.com

509 629.9687

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Kathryn McKenna <katmckenna17@outlook.com>

Date Mon 2/3/2025 10:40 AM

To Aftab, Mayor <Mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <Cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from katmckenna17@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my disagreement with the proposed dog park at Burnet Woods. The construction would destroy the ecosystem present there and the many species that inhabit the area.

The current proposed dog park plans do not meet the wants of the people. Please leave the beautiful area alone. There are only a few green spaces for people to utilize in the area.

The people that have elected and trusted you to hear their voices are now calling on you to serve them. Please save the Burnet Woods space without the construction and development of the dog park.

Thank you,
A concerned citizen.

[External Email] public comment 2/20/2025

From n <nikorecipe@gmail.com>

Date Mon 2/3/2025 11:21 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nikorecipe@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

to whom it may concern,

as a local cincinnatian, i am deeply and vehemently opposed to bulldozing of Burnet Woods for a dog park.

I have dogs myself and I speak for them and myself when I say that none of us would want to rid the community of a local, beautiful park for a dog park. dog parks carry numerous diseases and would provide nowhere near the sustainability and accessibility of the current Brunet Woods.

if you are intent on creating access for dogs (which I support!) make better sidewalks, PROTECTED bike lanes, and trash cans near sidewalks for dogs and their people to walk safely.

i strongly oppose the removal of Burnet Woods in this manner.

sincerely,

- niko, local cincinnati resident and frequenter of Burnet Woods

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Maggie Weaver <maggieweaver2626@gmail.com>

Date Tue 2/4/2025 9:08 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from maggieweaver2626@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Anushkaa Parwade <anushkaa.parwade@gmail.com>

Date Tue 2/4/2025 11:45 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from anushkaa.parwade@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. Its construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace where species interact and depend on one another, and this project threatens that balance.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island, helping to absorb heat and reduce temperatures in Cincinnati. Developing this space will only worsen the urban heat island effect, contributing to rising temperatures in our city.

Additionally, the residents living near Burnet Woods were not adequately included in the decision-making process. Their voices have not been heard, despite the fact that they will be the most affected by these changes.

The original plan emphasized accessibility for individuals with disabilities, yet these key elements were the first to be cut when costs became too high. This undermines the project's original intent and limits inclusivity.

Public opposition to this project has been overwhelming. There have been at least 415 public comments against the dog park compared to only 20 in favor. A previous survey showed an 85% disapproval rate. The community has spoken—and continues to speak. Please listen to us.

Sincerely,

Anushkaa Parwade

45219

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Tre Harris <treharris81@gmail.com>

Date Tue 2/4/2025 2:03 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from treharris81@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello, to whomever this may concern,

Yes we think building upon our existing green space is bad. Want to build a dog park? How about considering the nature that the dogs came from and thrived in, in the first place? I think our furry friends and us as humans would appreciate the little nature we do have in this city, and we don't want anyone to interfere with this natural environment many species and animals call home. I can't tell you how many people come to Burnet Woods to simply relax, but building a dog park would take away from the natural beauty and contribute to the mass amounts of noise pollution already in the middle of Clifton...

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

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There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Thank you,

[External Email] Public Comment: (2/19/25)

From Sylvia Lang <sylvialangfortin@hotmail.com>
Date Wed 2/19/2025 11:29 AM
To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from sylvialangfortin@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I am very much in favor of building a skatepark at the site of the former playground under the Big Mac bridge.

Great location, easy access for everyone, and a great use of a unique space.

Being the wife of a skater, and having visited many parks around the country (big cities and small towns), I feel it's long overdue for Cincy to join the ranks as a destination city for skateboarding.

One suggestion: Please invest in a skatepark company from start to finish.

Many existing parks here were designed by skate companies (yay!), yet built by construction companies (boo!) which resulted in crap quality.

That's why those skateparks are often empty.

Build it and they will come.

Build it well and they will come back repeatedly.

Thank you,
Sylvia Lang

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20

From Ash Taylor <taylorashley08@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 11:53 AM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from taylorashley08@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

The continued pushing of the Burnet Woods dog park is unfortunate and a gross overstep by those choosing to go forward with the project. Over 85% of those living in the community do not want the dog park including myself. I have two dogs myself and would never allow them to go to a dog park for several reasons....

1. those that are houseless with pets that like to hang out around burnet woods, I've seen several individuals with misbehaved dogs off leash that hang out next to the statue at Ludlow and Clifton intersection, this will become a new meeting point for these individuals that will keep others from visiting, rendering it unusable and unsafe.
2. it's going to affect the flora and fauna in the area, regardless of using a no-turf approach, this area will not only become a mud pit but also all the urine will filter into the old-growth trees in the area and the lake that community members fish in. The construction will eventually kill those old-growth trees over a couple of years. Burnett Woods is also a natural stopping point for birds and the barking will affect how they interact with the park.
3. several diseases are spread to dogs by attending dog parks, more recently there was a mystery illness that was spreading from canine to canine through dog parks as of last year, to ignore this is detrimental.
4. To continue to push something despite the significant outcry of the community makes it seem like the board is being paid off, or taking bribes. I'd hope that maybe you'd consider how this would make the board look to their community, and how unfair and distasteful this is to even continue to consider it. The people who want the dog park didn't even raise the total amount of funds needed and now is depending on the local government funding to finish the project.
5. There are multiple sites in which this would be a better idea, such as Mount Storm.

I am deeply disheartened by the continued push of this project and I will not forget or forgive those who have pushed this through. We all know those who have supported this and it has caused a distinct divide within the community when we should be relying on each other to come together.

We live in such a nice neighborhood where walking our dogs is safe and easy to do, we do not need this park.

Ash Taylor

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Mitchell, Molly (mitch3ma) <mitch3ma@mail.uc.edu>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:05 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mitch3ma@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this green space, we will be contributing further to the urban heat effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park was also advertised to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction projects, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express our opinion to you; please listen to us.

Thank you,
Molly Mitchell

[External Email] 2/19/25

From Michael Fortin <michaelforti@gmail.com>
Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:42 PM
To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

[You don't often get email from michaelforti@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email Communication

Hello,

I am writing to offer my support for a new skatepark located at the site of the former playground under the Daniel Carter Beard Bridge.

Cincinnati has a great opportunity to develop a skate park under the bridge that will allow us to join the cities of: Eugene, OR., Boise, ID., Boston, MA., and Newport, KY.

All four cities have enjoyed their covered skateparks as centers for community building and maintenance free accessibility.

I applaud the recent progress of the Cincinnati Skatepark Project for the new skatepark planned for Camp Washington. The momentum of this project could be the catalyst for another skatepark under the bridge at Sawyer Point.

Thank You,
-Michael Fortin
(Skateboarder)

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Knutson, Lydia (knutsolc) <knutsolc@mail.uc.edu>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:42 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from knutsolc@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. This construction will harm 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem in the area.

Burnet Woods is a vital green island in an urban heat island. I grew up in Clifton and now am a UC student. Burnet Woods has been an important green space for me and many of my peers and neighbors for years. This proposed dog park does not uphold the accessibility standards that were in mind when it was first suggested and will take away from the experience and enjoyment that Burnet Woods provides for so many residents of this city.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to this construction project. Please listen to the community when we express our opinions about things that affect us.

Thank you

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Ethan Foraker <eforaker8@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:43 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; cintycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov <cintycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from eforaker8@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other. Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city. Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site. This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high. There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Cutri, Devon (cutride) <cutride@mail.uc.edu>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:46 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cutride@mail.uc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high. Without specific reasoning for this construction, it would make sense to keep the woods as is for a natural dog friendly area.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us and halt plans to destroy our local woods.

I hope you consider our perspectives.

Signed,
UC student Devon Cutri

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Elise McGann <elisemcgann@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:50 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from elisemcgann@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital urban greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were NOT properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the price got too high.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Trevor Abele <taabele19@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:51 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from taabele19@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I'm writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. This construction is set to harm at least 27 documented species, and would disrupt the ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the larger area. Burnet Woods is a desperately needed urban greenspace with its own ecosystem of species that depend on one another. Not to mention, Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. Many people don't realize how much heat the area absorbs in the area, reducing the temperature of Cincinnati as a whole. If we build onto this greenspace, we are greater contributing to the heat island effect in the city.

I feel as though those living in the surrounding area weren't properly included in this conversation and decision process. Their voices aren't being heard or considered, and these decisions will impact their lives the most as they live right next to Burnet Woods.

There have been hundreds of public comments opposed to this dog park construction project, while there is only a small percentage of that in favor. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed their opinion to you time and time again. Please please listen to us.

Thank you for your time, and sincerely,
Trevor Abele

[External Email] Public Comment (2/19/25)

From Alex Evans <alexevans211@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 12:52 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from alexevans211@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I would like to say I support the Cincinnati Skatepark Projects initiative of putting a skatepark at Sawyer Point under I-471.

This is a location near downtown, making it easy for everyone in the city metro to use the park.

Similar to the Newport diy, the coverage from the bridge keeps a lot of the rain/snow off the park. This would allow the park to be used more often throughout the year, compared to other outdoor parks with no coverage.

Many people all over the city have been asking for it. There are many other smaller cities within the metro that have their own skateparks (Florence, Delhi, St. Bernard) so why not Cincinnati?

Thank you!

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025 – Opposing Construction in Burnet Woods

From Syed Bilal <syed2000.bilal@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 1:01 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from syed2000.bilal@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Dear Mayor Pureval, City Council Members, and Cincinnati Parks Board,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to any construction in Burnet Woods. Our urban green spaces are already critically limited, and further development threatens the delicate ecosystems that so many residents and wildlife depend on.

Burnet Woods is designated as an Important Bird Area by the Audubon Society, making it a vital habitat for numerous bird species and other wildlife. Destroying or fragmenting this space would have lasting negative impacts on biodiversity, disrupting migratory patterns and further diminishing the already limited natural areas in our city.

As Cincinnati continues to grow, it is imperative that we prioritize the protection of our green spaces rather than eroding them for development. Parks like Burnet Woods provide invaluable environmental, recreational, and mental health benefits for residents. They serve as essential carbon sinks, aid in stormwater management, and provide refuge from the increasing urban sprawl.

I urge you to reject any proposals that would lead to construction within Burnet Woods and instead focus on preserving and enhancing this irreplaceable public treasure. Please prioritize conservation and the long-term well-being of our city's environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,
Mohammad Bilal Syed

Class of 2026 | MS Engineering Management | Westcliff University

Class of 2024 | BS Mechanical Engineering Technology | University of Cincinnati

'24 Team Lead | Bearcat Electric Vehicle | University of Cincinnati

Chassis & Manufacturing | Bearcat Motorsports | University of Cincinnati

Former Treasurer | UC Ornithology Club | University of Cincinnati

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Elise Bergeron <elisebergeron17@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 1:03 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from elisebergeron17@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns and oppositions about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area.

Burnet Woods is an Audubon Society designated Important Bird Area- IBAs are sites that are important habitats for birds. "Burnet Woods is a special category IBA. It is deemed important because of the migration ecology studies done in an urban park migrant trap" (Audubon Society). Since the surrounding area around Burnet is mainly urban, birds concentrate in Burnet when migrating through Cincinnati, as it is a natural area that provides food and a place to rest. The park's role as a greenspace in the middle of a large urban area makes it an invaluable home for many different species.

Burnet is also a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city. Additionally, we will be negatively affecting the ecology of the park, and in turn the many species that inhabit Burnet.

Those living in the surrounding areas were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site. Many students at the University of Cincinnati are also opposed to the dog park.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. It is clear that while this project is supposed to serve Clifton residents, the majority of them are against it, and will not benefit from the project. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

Sincerely,
Elise Bergeron, student at UC

Works Cited:

<https://netapp.audubon.org/iba/Reports/2026>

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Aidan Ventresca <firstaid285@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 1:25 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from firstaid285@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area. Burnet Woods serves as a vital greenspace with an ecosystem of species that interact and depend on each other.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb the heat in the area and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati. If we build on this greenspace, we will be contributing further to the urban heat island effect in our city.

Those living in the surrounding area were not properly a part of this conversation and decision process. Their voices are not being heard, and these decisions are going to impact their daily lives the most as they live right next to the site.

This dog park plan was supposed to be accessible to those with disabilities. This was one of the key points in the original plan, but all of these accessibility elements were cut first when the cost got too high.

There have been at least 415 public comments opposed to the dog park construction project, while there are only about 20 in favor of it. A past survey showed an 85% disapproval rate to the plans. The community has expressed and is continuing to express their opinion to you; please listen to us.

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20 - Burnett Woods Dog Park

From Eric Hoffman <evhoffman4192@gmail.com>
Date Wed 2/19/2025 1:30 PM
To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from evhoffman4192@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Parks Department and City Leadership -

As a resident of Clifton and a dog owner, my wife and I are both adamantly against the destruction of part of Burnet Woods for the creation of an unwanted dog park. Everything we've read about the location, materials used in construction, size of park, and accessibility makes this project unpalatable for our neighborhood.

Put the funds to better use in protecting, preserving, repairing, and maintaining our parks as they sit today.

Eric and Brenda Hoffman
3516 Biddle St, Cincinnati, OH 45220

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25 concerning Burnet Woods

From Paige Kingsley <paigek2020@yahoo.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 1:38 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from paigek2020@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to address the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will harm at least 27 documented species and disrupt the broader ecosystem of over 1,200 species in the area.

Burnet Woods is a green island within an urban heat island. It helps absorb heat from the city, and reduce the temperature in Cincinnati, which is incredibly vital, especially in an area such as Clifton where there are high amounts of concrete.

As a student living in the Clifton area, and has had opportunities to learn a deeper knowledge of the significance of a green area like Burnet Woods, I'm appalled at the mere suggestion of a dog park. It is a disgrace upon one of the last natural ecosystems this city possesses.

I might also remind you this plan is heavily unpopular. 85% of people oppose it.

Please review your decision in accordance to the public opinion, the people who elected you to serve their needs.

Sincerely,
Paige Kingsley
Communication Design
University of Cincinnati '25

[External Email] Public Comment: (2/19/25)

From mike@mikekrisher.com <mike@mikekrisher.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 1:48 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

[You don't often get email from mike@mikekrisher.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email Communication

Regarding a skatepark at Sawyer Point, I would encourage the park board to investigate my hometown of Fort Wayne, Indiana's success in building a skatepark. They took a similar plot of land, near the river, and provided the community a safe space to gather, excel, and focus on their athletic abilities. It had a positive impact on local businesses, and more importantly, it provided justification for local youth to participate in a sport they might not otherwise have considered.

[External Email] Public comment 2-20

From Marijo Fraley <marijo.fraley@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 2:10 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

I urge you to stop the dog park project in Burnet Woods. There are many reasons why this project is bad for the community.

First, there was no honest community engagement on this project and the board has ignored the many, many residents of the city that do not support this project.

Secondly, dog parks generally speaking have issues with dog fights, diseases and adequate maintenance. This dog park is too small to be divided into areas for large or small dogs. There is no requirement for dogs to be vaccinated. People and dogs get injured when using dog parks. Why would the Park Board invite problems?

Thirdly, the dog park is too expensive, especially in light of the many long needed repairs in the park that have been deferred and deferred. It is simply irresponsible to continue with this project and at the same time ignore the repairs needed to bring the park

Finally, I simply expect better stewardship of our natural spaces and better management of financial resources. It's not too late to stop this debacle.

Marijo Fraley

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/205

From Josiah Immanuel Rajasingh <josiah.rajasingh@outlook.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 3:25 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from josiah.rajasingh@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods. The construction will disrupt over 1200 species in the area and also impact the local population due to being a vital green space in an otherwise urban setting. This green space reduces the urban heat island effect, which is when areas of cities lacking in green areas have higher surface temperatures compared to areas with large green areas such as Burnet Woods.

Additionally, Burnet Woods impacts the city's overall health by providing people with an area to destress and spend leisurely time away from the hustle and bustle of the city. I have personally experienced this as a Medical Sciences student at the University of Cincinnati. After a long day of classes, and especially after a week of exams, I have found myself going to Burnet Woods to take a walk and take pictures of birds there (one of my favorite hobbies) to clear my mind. This has helped me have a happier mood overall and feel less stressed when going to my classes throughout the week. I speak for many other students at UC when I say that Burnet Woods is necessary for our mental health and sanity in the face of a stressful college lifestyle.

Please take the health of the local Cincinnati community including myself and prevent the construction of the dog park. I am not alone in standing against the construction in Burnet Woods, there have been 415 public comments against the proposed construction and a survey has shown that there is an 85% disapproval rate for the project.

For the sake of the greater Cincinnati community, please listen to our opinion against the dog park project.

Warm regards,
Josiah

[External Email] Public Comment: (2/19/25)

From Layne Weatherford <layneweatherford@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 4:31 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from layneweatherford@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello,

I moved to Cincinnati in 2019 for a career as a scientist. I have aggressive skated (rollerbladed) for 20+ years and try to skate at least weekly. After moving here, I was quite disappointed in the skateparks in the region, especially the skateparks (or lack thereof) in the city of Cincinnati.

In my opinion, it is ridiculous that there is not a single real skatepark in the city of Cincinnati. The skateparks in the suburbs are either far from the city, are small, or in a state of disrepair. Now that I'm a father, I don't have much time to skate and I find that it's not worth it to drive 20+ minutes each way to skate during my lunch hour just to skate in a bad skatepark. The Camp Washington skatepark will help, and I am very grateful for that. But for a city as big as Cincinnati, we still need more than a single real skatepark. I think Sawyer Point Park would be a perfect spot for a skatepark, and the overpass will provide shade during the hot summer months.

As more skaters grow up and become career professionals, it will be important for Cincinnati to have decent skateparks that will help recruit professionals to move here. I really think Cincinnati has dropped the ball on this, but there is no better time than now to fix this situation. Please consider building a skatepark under the 471 overpass in Sawyer Point park.

Thank you,
Dr. Layne Weatherford

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/2025

From Jen Vasconcellos <jlvasconcellos@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 4:37 PM

To Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jlvasconcellos@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Hello!

As a UC alumni I fondly remember my time spent in Burnet Woods cooking out, exploring, and connecting with nature through the serenity that this green island provides amidst the concrete jungle that is Clifton. To put it simply, Burnet Woods provides peace. Not only this, it is a habitat that supports over 1200 species of plants & animals, sequesters heat & carbon dioxide, and allows us concrete-jungle-dwellers a reprieve from the heat of the summer. So, imagine the surprise and betrayal I felt when I found out that my own government still plans to destroy a large slice of the paradise that is Burnet Woods.

Surely you've noticed by now that opponents of this plan significantly outweigh its supporters—have you not been listening, or do you simply do as you please with no regard for those you are directly impacting? Is the city of Cincinnati truly a democracy, or is this an oligarchy?

Your actions will answer these questions more conclusively than words ever could. All eyes are on you — what you choose to do next will never be forgotten.

With utmost sincerity,
Jen Vasconcellos

[External Email] Public Comment 2/20/25

From Ruby Hyland-Brown <ruby.hylb@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 4:49 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; #COUNCIL <citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Aftab, Mayor <mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ruby.hylb@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Stop the dog park. Burnet Woods serves as an important habitat for wildlife that will suffer because of this choice. This is an opportunity for the Park Board to listen to the community. Thank you.

[External Email] Public Comment: (2/19/25)

From Samuel Jervis <srjervis22@gmail.com>

Date Wed 2/19/2025 4:57 PM

To Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

You don't often get email from srjervis22@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

Dear City of Cincinnati,

My name is Samuel Jervis and I am here to express my support for one of the city's first skateparks. To be built under the bridge at Sawyer Point, replacing the burned down playground. Although tragic, I think a high quality/ properly integrated skatepark will provide a superior form of exercise, beauty, challenge & entertainment for not only our cities youth, but everyone that visits Sawyer point to come.

On behalf of the skaters in the area, we need more skateparks in & around the city. Without a central Cincinnati skatepark, our skaters lack a home/ community hub. I know it is not the cities job to simply just build skaters a skatepark, & i know we already have an awesome project happening in Camp Washington. But i believe a new skatepark at Sawyer point, with easy parking access & lights into the night, would do great things for everyone involved: especially the park, city, & most importantly the people. A skatepark-if built properly-will improve mental health, public safety, & could be an outrageously beautiful addition to the city! May even bring visitors/ revenue from all corners of the world: if a park design is implemented properly.

Skateboarding's community & culture is relatively new to our world- and to be honest we can use all the help we can get right now. With the recent tariff's: our industry is struggling to stay afloat, with many brands and skateparks closing. An investment to our community may give an avenue for business to be sustained throughout these rough times.

I have lived in or around Cincinnati for 26 years, & have spoke to city council about the need for a skatepark three time now. I have shared with you how my passion for skateboarding was put out around the age of 8, following an injury skating in the streets, because my hometown blue ash had no public skatepark for me to learn at. & How my passion was only reignited when i visited a high quality skatepark for the first time. I will give a couple more details here: While on a roadtrip in 2017 i was stunned to see the Venice beach skatepark during sunset hours. My friends and i spent over an hour just watching the skaters rip the place up. There i witnessed a grown man (skater) who was helping a mom, help her daughter (skater) drop into a 9 foot extension in a bowl. You should have seen the look on the kids face when she finally landed it. This helped encourage me to buy a helmet and learn how to skateboard, a hobby I have continued to love now for almost 10 years. Needless to say: skating brings people together, brings out the best in one another if safely practiced, & encourages growth in

the right environment. Cincinnati is more than capable at producing the right skatepark, to encourage these amazing things!

Cincinnati, currently lacks a skatepark, which negatively impacts the local skateboarding community at a deep level. Especially beginners, like myself a few years ago! Its also a shame we have no resources to train athletes interested in getting to the next level-now that skateboarding has entered the olympics. Skateparks provide a safe space for skaters to practice and progress, and their absence can lead to skaters seeking alternative, potentially unsafe locations. This can result in increased risk of injury, conflict with local authorities, and a stifling of the local skateboarding culture.

This project would provide a safe and dedicated space for skaters of all ages and skill levels to practice and enjoy their passion. A skatepark would not only promote physical activity, creativity, and community engagement but also help revitalize one of our central city parks. It would attract visitors from surrounding neighborhoods and beyond, fostering a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere. I have travelled 9 hours on multiple occasions when i can manage it, over to Des Moines, just to skate their incredible new skatepark: multiple times. Investing in a skatepark would also demonstrate our city's commitment to providing recreational opportunities for all residents, regardless of age or socioeconomic background.

Thank you for considering this proposal. I urge you to seize this opportunity to create a dynamic and welcoming space that will benefit our community for years to come. Imagine: many artists from different mediums-concrete, metal, paint, sculpt, impressionist-coming together to make this addition to Sawyer point a masterpiece for the world to not only see-but ride.

Sincerely,

Samuel Jervis