

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
May 16, 2024

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, Vice President Kick Lee, Commissioner Susan F. Castellini, Commissioner Phyllis McCallum, and Commissioner John Neyer. President North called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

Acknowledgement of Public Comments

President North acknowledged nine in-person public comments about the Sawyer Point pickleball courts and the Burnet Woods dog park.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Approval of the April 18 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner McCallum motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Vice President Lee seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION/ UPDATES

America's River Roots Presentation

Rick Greiwe and Kelly Kolar presented an overview of the America's River Roots celebration, scheduled for October 2025. The presentation included planning, programming, and funding goals. The Commissioners shared their excitement about Parks' involvement in the event.

ACTION ITEMS

California Woods: Hydrological Plan Design

Division Manager Joel Gross updated the Board on the status of bid selection for a firm to create a plan to correct and prevent erosion problems at California Woods. Staff responded to questions from the Commissioners regarding the need for and intended outcomes of this project. Staff recommended authorization of \$300,000 (to include an approximate 5% contingency) for the hydrological study and design. Commissioner Castellini motioned to approve \$300,000 for the project. Commissioner Neyer seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Avon Woods Roof Replacement

Division Manager Gross updated the Board on bid selection for an EPDM replacement roof at Avon Woods Nature Center. Staff recommended award of the project to Imbus Roofing in the amount of \$75,000, which includes a \$5,000 contingency. The Commissioners expressed support of inclusion of a contingency on this and other projects. Commissioner Neyer motioned to approve the award. Vice President Lee seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Eden Park – Art Museum Drive: Landslide Correction

Division Manager Gross updated the Board on bid selection for wall stabilization and sidewalk repairs to Art Museum Drive in partnership with DOTE. Staff requested adoption of an MOU with DOTE and allocation of \$162,682 as Parks financial contribution to complete the project.

Commissioner Castellini motioned to adopt the MOU and approve the allocation. Vice President Lee seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ODNR NatureWorks Grant Approval: Glenway Park

Director Jason Barron provided an overview of recent work at Glenway Park and plans for improvements to accessibility and lighting. Staff requested the Board adopt a resolution of authorization to apply for an ODNR grant and agree to obligate funds, in advance, of up to \$150,000 per the terms of the reimbursable grant. Commissioner Neyer motioned to adopt the resolution and approve the commitment of the \$150,000 of funds, to be identified by Staff prior to the next Board Meeting. Commissioner McCallum seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION/ UPDATES

Planning & Design Update

Division Manager Gross updated the Board on the grand opening of Lytle Park, the completion of renovations to the French House in French Park, and progress on reconstruction at Friendship Park, which is anticipated to be finalized in the spring of 2025. The Commissioners and Staff discussed progress on and anticipated updates to the 3-Year Parks Improvement Plan.

HR Update

HR Manager Derrick Gentry provided an overview of current staff numbers, vacancies, seasonal hiring, and improvements to the injury reporting process. The Commissioners were introduced to Parks' new GIS Analyst, Clayton Belcher. Staff also announced the upcoming retirement of five key staff members.

ACTION ITEM

Foundation Grants Application / Acceptance

Director Barron provided an overview of seven potential grants from the Cincinnati Parks Foundation, and requested the Commissioners approve the application for and acceptance of grants for Reduced/Waived Fees for Explore Nature programming, Explore Nature summer camp scholarships, an evaporator shed at California Woods, Drake Park maintenance, improvements to Smale Lot 23, repairs to the Brumm Arbor in Ault Park, and improvements to Glenway Park. Commissioner Neyer motioned to approve the application and acceptance of these grants. Commissioner McCallum seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Barron presented the following updates:

- Conversations with Springfield Township are occurring to move the Cincinnati Biochar project forward, including improvements to vehicle access to Warder Nursery.
- With the support of Councilmember Owens, City Council passed a resolution to make April 2024 Native Planet Month in Cincinnati, highlighting the vital role of native plants.
- More than 500 volunteers from 20 Cincinnati organizations and companies participated in the Mayor's Corporate Challenge, helping Parks get ready for summer.
- Parks will present to City Council on May 28th as part of the budget request process.
- Overview of summer events at the Riverfront and throughout neighborhood parks.
- Parks' efforts to analyze the feasibility of continuing the Ault Park 4th of July fireworks.

OPEN COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION

Vice President Lee shared how much he enjoyed participating in the Mayor's Corporate Challenge event, and thanked staff and volunteers for their time and contributions.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting date is Thursday, June 20, at 9:00am.

President North motioned to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 A.M.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Molly North", written over a horizontal line.

DIRECTOR

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Bon", written over a horizontal line.

[External Email] Public Comment: PFAS Concerns from Emely Casasola-Amaya

Emely Casasola-Amaya <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Tue 4/23/2024 4:08 PM

To:Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>
Cc:Owens, Meeka <meeka.owens@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;
Cramerding, Jeff <jeff.cramerding@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Jeffreys, Mark <mark.jeffreys@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Walsh, Seth
<seth.walsh@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org
<ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and for ongoing meetings of the City Council Climate, Environment & Infrastructure Committee. This record represents a unique response from Emely Casasola-Amaya.

Email address	emelycasa16@gmail.com
I oppose the use of synthetic turf or other PFAS containing materials in Cincinnati City Parks and public greenspaces, as well as for the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods, for the following reasons: * Synthetic turf contains, among other chemicals, PFAS which will leach into the natural environment and could expose humans, dogs, and wildlife to pollutants known to cause cancer and other morbidities. * In all 12 of the indices the USEPA uses for Environmental Justice screening, the residents who live closest to the proposed site for the dog park in Burnet Woods are in the 80th percentile for exposure. In 6 of the indices, they are in the 90th percentile. In other	I agree. Reduction of exposure to PFAS chemicals/environmental contaminants is important to me.

words, the installation of the dog park will introduce additional risk to residents who already carry a disproportionate share of exposure to environmental risk.

The following areas of concern resound with me when I consider the use of synthetic turf/PFAS containing materials in public greenspaces generally or construction of the Burnet Woods Dog Park specifically: (Check all that apply)

- > Lack of unbiased community engagement on IF or where a dog park should be located for the impacted communities (I agree)
- > Our water and air quality are in a state of decline not being taken seriously enough by elected leaders. (I agree)
- > Concerns about the financial crisis currently faced by Cincinnati Parks (I agree)
- > Lack of a cohesive plan to implement amenities such as dog parks equitably across the entire park system (I agree)
- > I am uncomfortable with children being exposed to synthetic turf due to its known chemical components. (I agree)
- > Lack of transparency in the decision-making process which allowed this project to fast-track past other pressing park needs related to infrastructure repair, accessibility needs, staffing needs, etc. (I agree)
- > This project will degrade greenspace unnecessarily when it could be used to add greenspace to the community through use of an already developed location. (I agree)
- > This proposal is causing great conflict in my community and between my neighbors. (I agree)
- > Concerns that our parks are already failing at regular maintenance in terms of existing infrastructure and daily maintenance needs (litter removal, facility repair, invasive species removal, etc.) and are heavily reliant on volunteer labor to meet basic needs. (I agree)
- > Mature natural fields and old growth trees should be a priority for conservation and not development opportunities in our public greenspaces. (I agree)

In my own words, I oppose the use of synthetic turf or other PFAS containing materials in Cincinnati City Parks and public greenspaces, as well as for the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods, for the below reasons. (Some evidence-based research materials relating to PFAS,

I oppose harming what little wildlife we have. And this project not only destroys trees, plants, and animals habitat but also contaminates it with forever chemicals.

synthetic turf and animal waste concentration can be found here should you want that information for your response.)

I acknowledge that upon completion of this form, an email will be sent for public record entry to the Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners, Cincinnati Mayor Aftab Pureval, and the current members of Cincinnati City Council Climate, Environment and Infrastructure Committee: Meeka Owens, Jan-Michele Kearney, Jeff Cramerding, Mark Jeffreys, and Seth Walsh. A copy will also be sent to Preserve Burnet Woods.

I acknowledge the above emails will be sent upon clicking 'Submit'.

Your Full Name	Emely Casasola-Amaya
Your Email Address	Emelycasa16@gmail.com
Your Zip Code	45219

Respectfully,
Emely Casasola-Amaya

Sent: Tue, Apr 23, 2024 4:08 PM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnud8N8Ps8I-XFQErFHla_klcjDng_1wXC01HSdlgxs8AlrejJ-BVo-dNMLKad_XaR5M

Response Number: 124

[External Email] Public Comment from Kelsey Linder

Kelsey Linder <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Wed 4/24/2024 8:24 AM

To:Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and ongoing for public meetings of the Cincinnati City Council Healthy Neighborhoods Committee. This record represents a unique response from Kelsey Linder.

Email address	kelsey.linder96@gmail.com
Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to the selected site for a dog park in Burnet Woods. The Park Board's decision to ignore those who would be most directly impacted by a dog park in Burnet Woods is failure to professionally engage the community on this issue.	I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.
The City of Cincinnati has neighborhood councils for the purpose of ensuring a link between citizens and decision makers. From the city's	I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of community representation by ignoring the opposition of the CUF Neighborhood Association and Corryville Community Council regarding the dog park. I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of trust with its

own website: “These organizations [i.e., community councils] ensure that neighborhood development responds to the needs and goals of its citizens.” Despite the two community councils whose boundaries include Burnet Woods having passed resolutions against the dog park, the Park Board is choosing to use a heavy-handed approach to the development in violation of the entire premise behind our city having community councils. Similarly, Cincinnati Parks has Park Advisory Councils (CPACs), to, according to the Cincinnati Parks Board website, “build and maintain public support for Cincinnati Parks by providing feedback to the Cincinnati Park Board and exchanging and sharing information and providing mutual support between CPACs.” Park CPACs often donate hundreds of volunteer hours to maintain park spaces and host community events. In violation of its own stated purpose for CPACs, the Cincinnati Park Board has ignored multiple resolutions passed by the Burnet Woods Park Advisory Council (BPAC) in opposition to the

own volunteer Park Advisory Council for Burnet Woods by ignoring their resolution against the dog park.

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I agree that the Board of Park Commissioners has damaged the public trust in its failures to develop and execute a professional, equitable and unbiased community engagement process applied consistently to projects in Burnet Woods and the Cincinnati Parks system.

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Kearney, Reggie Harris,
Scotty Johnson, and
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I acknowledge the above emails will be sent upon clicking 'Submit'.
I acknowledge that a summary of responses may be submitted to
members of Cincinnati City Council.

Your Full Name

Kelsey Linder

Your Email Address

Kelsey.linder96@gmail.com

Your Zip Code

45205

Respectfully,

Kelsey Linder

Sent: Wed, Apr 24, 2024 8:24 AM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnudUOB23GlF8ghixVsbaDiI7VmUsin-2kvnGvQ--BrrzetPNPyO3UfM_YszAyd9XUEo

Response Number: 73

[External Email] Public Comment from Elisa moncrief

Elisa moncrief <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Wed 4/24/2024 10:19 AM

To:Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and ongoing for public meetings of the Cincinnati City Council Healthy Neighborhoods Committee. This record represents a unique response from Elisa moncrief.

Email address	elisamichelle15@gmail.com
Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to the selected site for a dog park in Burnet Woods. The Park Board’s decision to ignore those who would be most directly impacted by a dog park in Burnet Woods is failure to professionally engage the community on this issue.	I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.
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I acknowledge that a summary of responses may be submitted to
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Your Full Name

Elisa moncrief

Your Email Address

Elisamichelle15@gmail.com

Your Zip Code

45230

Respectfully,

Elisa moncrief

Sent: Wed, Apr 24, 2024 10:19 AM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnuf4tkTt3v-ulTCsnzYBMzlXT1RHTYh88RQ5qN2J-yGFdLRF--fBi2VPU_-ikQQBAqM

Response Number: 74

[External Email] Public Comment from Shari Frost

Shari Frost <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Thu 4/25/2024 9:36 PM

To:Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

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Email address	stichbear@gmail.com
In my own words, I feel that my voice has been excluded from organized public discussion designed to provide actionable feedback regarding the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods as a result of the Park Board’s violations of best practices in community engagement in the following ways:	A community input discussion did not occur. After Molly North elevated the current site, and it was agreed upon by the board, it was stated that stakeholders would not be notified, that it would be in the meeting minutes.
Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to the selected site for a dog park in Burnet Woods. The Park Board’s decision to ignore those	I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.

who would be most directly impacted by a dog park in Burnet Woods is failure to professionally engage the community on this issue.

The City of Cincinnati has neighborhood councils for the purpose of ensuring a link between citizens and decision makers. From the city's own website: "These organizations [i.e., community councils] ensure that neighborhood development responds to the needs and goals of its citizens." Despite the two community councils whose boundaries include Burnet Woods having passed resolutions against the dog park, the Park Board is choosing to use a heavy-handed approach to the development in violation of the entire premise behind our city having community councils. Similarly, Cincinnati Parks has Park Advisory Councils (CPACs), to, according to the Cincinnati Parks Board website, "build and maintain public support for Cincinnati Parks by providing feedback to the Cincinnati Park Board and exchanging and sharing information and providing mutual support between CPACs."

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of community representation by ignoring the opposition of the CUF Neighborhood Association and Corryville Community Council regarding the dog park.

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of trust with its own volunteer Park Advisory Council for Burnet Woods by ignoring their resolution against the dog park.

Park CPACs often donate hundreds of volunteer hours to maintain park spaces and host community events. In violation of its own stated purpose for CPACs, the Cincinnati Park Board has ignored multiple resolutions passed by the Burnet Woods Park Advisory Council (BPAC) in opposition to the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods.

As it relates to community engagement on the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods, and in addition to the points above, the Park Board of Commissioners has further violated the public trust in numerous ways, including: · masquerading an old survey about a proposed dog park in a different Cincinnati park as community engagement on a dog park in Burnet Woods · using accessibility as a red herring to advance the dog park in Burnet Woods before determining if the amenity is desired by the community in the first place · ignoring other, decades old infrastructure and accessibility needs in Burnet Woods in order to prioritize the pet project of a dog park in Burnet Woods · excluding

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various groups and stakeholders, including the most vulnerable, from engagement and decision making · mocking the community engagement process itself and those who are demanding best practices in community engagement · boasting that as Commissioners they will use their power to make amenity-siting decisions for the community because they don't believe in the community · greenwashing the clear, evidence-based ecological destruction the dog park will cause · undermining the legitimacy of process by ignoring the fact that two sitting Park Board Commissioners have a conflict of interest by residing near enough to the proposed dog park that their private property values could materially benefit from the development

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**Scotty Johnson, and
Victoria Parks. A
Summary of responses
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sent to Preserve Burnet
Woods.**

Your Full Name Shari Frost

Your Email Address Stichbear@gmail.com

Your Zip Code 45030

Respectfully,

Shari Frost

Sent: Thu, Apr 25, 2024 9:36 PM

Response ID:

2_ABaOnueqYaORzkaQUwT1s_ermOQykeLY5hPBO2C8XHrW819CULbEVgyDR4yHECTaprT6FKg

Response Number: 75

[External Email] Public Comment from Sara Walters

Sara Walters <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Fri 4/26/2024 11:28 AM

To:Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

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Email address	walters.sara.lou@gmail.com
In my own words, I feel that my voice has been excluded from organized public discussion designed to provide actionable feedback regarding the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods as a result of the Park Board’s violations of best practices in community engagement in the following ways:	The vast majority of people do not want this dog park here. Every inch of nature has been fought for and these beautiful inches are worth standing up for.
Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to the selected site for a dog park in Burnet Woods. The Park Board’s decision to ignore those	I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.

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Your Full Name Sara Walters

Your Email Address Walters.sara.lou@gmail.com

Your Zip Code 45247

Respectfully,

Sara Walters

Sent: Fri, Apr 26, 2024 11:28 AM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnuebqRufKAguGyvdy08xluBpjaxewY44ITpviRVFxQE0xBtOV1_kkQ1CthZw6oDxFy0

Response Number: 76

[External Email] Public Comment: PFAS Concerns from Sofia Kreimer

Sofia Kreimer <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Fri 4/26/2024 2:24 PM

To:Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>
Cc:Owens, Meeka <meeka.owens@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;
Cramerding, Jeff <jeff.cramerding@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Jeffreys, Mark <mark.jeffreys@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Walsh, Seth
<seth.walsh@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org
<ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and for ongoing meetings of the City Council Climate, Environment & Infrastructure Committee. This record represents a unique response from Sofia Kreimer.

Email address	kreimesr@mail.uc.edu
I oppose the use of synthetic turf or other PFAS containing materials in Cincinnati City Parks and public greenspaces, as well as for the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods, for the following reasons: * Synthetic turf contains, among other chemicals, PFAS which will leach into the natural environment and could expose humans, dogs, and wildlife to pollutants known to cause cancer and other morbidities. * In all 12 of the indices the USEPA uses for Environmental Justice screening, the residents who live closest to the proposed site for the dog park in Burnet Woods are in the 80th percentile for exposure. In 6 of the indices, they are in the 90th percentile. In other	I agree. Reduction of exposure to PFAS chemicals/environmental contaminants is important to me.

words, the installation of the dog park will introduce additional risk to residents who already carry a disproportionate share of exposure to environmental risk.

The following areas of concern resound with me when I consider the use of synthetic turf/PFAS containing materials in public greenspaces generally or construction of the Burnet Woods Dog Park specifically: (Check all that apply)

- > Lack of unbiased community engagement on IF or where a dog park should be located for the impacted communities (I agree)
- > Our water and air quality are in a state of decline not being taken seriously enough by elected leaders. (I agree)
- > Lack of a cohesive plan to implement amenities such as dog parks equitably across the entire park system (I agree)
- > I am uncomfortable with children being exposed to synthetic turf due to its known chemical components. (I agree)
- > Lack of transparency in the decision-making process which allowed this project to fast-track past other pressing park needs related to infrastructure repair, accessibility needs, staffing needs, etc. (I agree)
- > This project will degrade greenspace unnecessarily when it could be used to add greenspace to the community through use of an already developed location. (I agree)
- > Concerns that our parks are already failing at regular maintenance in terms of existing infrastructure and daily maintenance needs (litter removal, facility repair, invasive species removal, etc.) and are heavily reliant on volunteer labor to meet basic needs. (I agree)
- > Mature natural fields and old growth trees should be a priority for conservation and not development opportunities in our public greenspaces. (I agree)

In my own words, I oppose the use of synthetic turf or other PFAS containing materials in Cincinnati City Parks and public greenspaces, as well as for the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods, for the below reasons. (Some evidence-based research materials relating to PFAS, synthetic turf and animal waste concentration can be found here should you want that

I oppose the use of synthetic turf or other PFAS-containing materials in Cincinnati City Parks and public greenspaces, as well as for the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods, because of the negative environmental impact that a dog park presents to our community. I do not think that individual dog owners nor Cincinnati City Parks will be able to maintain upkeep and prevent waste and runoff from the dog park once it is constructed, and once the existing greenery, including its mature trees, has already been destroyed or disrupted to make way for its creation.

information for your
response.)

I acknowledge that upon completion of this form, an email will be sent for public record entry to the Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners, Cincinnati Mayor Aftab Pureval, and the current members of Cincinnati City Council Climate, Environment and Infrastructure Committee: Meeka Owens, Jan-Michele Kearney, Jeff Cramerding, Mark Jeffreys, and Seth Walsh. A copy will also be sent to Preserve Burnet Woods.

I acknowledge the above emails will be sent upon clicking 'Submit'.

Your Full Name

Sofia Kreimer

Your Email Address

kreimesr@mail.uc.edu

Your Zip Code

45223

Respectfully,

Sofia Kreimer

Sent: Fri, Apr 26, 2024 2:23 PM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnufYD42btsIJOtKZF5YCsm9J6u5rrcnTCkJUhtthsci7Aoa8oM4B3MZyF_zFg08ZIJ0

Response Number: 125

[External Email] Public Comment from Virginia Robinson

Virginia Robinson <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Fri 4/26/2024 8:33 PM

To: Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>; Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and ongoing for public meetings of the Cincinnati City Council Healthy Neighborhoods Committee. This record represents a unique response from Virginia Robinson.

Email address

yrobinson7@cinci.rr.com

In my own words, I feel that my voice has been excluded from organized public discussion designed to provide actionable feedback regarding the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods as a result of the Park Board's violations of best practices in community engagement in the following ways:

Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to the selected site for a dog park in Burnet Woods. The Park Board's decision to ignore those

Yes, the cost of the park, the damage to the ecosystem, and the chemicals that will be released into the air, water, and soil have been completely ignored by council as myself and those trying to be heard keep sharing. It is already so hot in this urban area, I do not understand why, with temperatures rising, and storms increasing, the choice would be made to change the environment in a way that can only add to it at taxpayers expense. The cost of 500K ridiculous. Just because the majority of people are too busy to say no to this project does not mean it is wanted. Is this truly a response to citizens need or a college project that got out of control.

I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.

who would be most directly impacted by a dog park in Burnet Woods is failure to professionally engage the community on this issue.

The City of Cincinnati has neighborhood councils for the purpose of ensuring a link between citizens and decision makers. From the city's own website: "These organizations [i.e., community councils] ensure that neighborhood development responds to the needs and goals of its citizens." Despite the two community councils whose boundaries include Burnet Woods having passed resolutions against the dog park, the Park Board is choosing to use a heavy-handed approach to the development in violation of the entire premise behind our city having community councils. Similarly, Cincinnati Parks has Park Advisory Councils (CPACs), to, according to the Cincinnati Parks Board website, "build and maintain public support for Cincinnati Parks by providing feedback to the Cincinnati Park Board and exchanging and sharing information and providing mutual support between CPACs."

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of community representation by ignoring the opposition of the CUF Neighborhood Association and Corryville Community Council regarding the dog park.

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of trust with its own volunteer Park Advisory Council for Burnet Woods by ignoring their resolution against the dog park.

Park CPACs often donate hundreds of volunteer hours to maintain park spaces and host community events. In violation of its own stated purpose for CPACs, the Cincinnati Park Board has ignored multiple resolutions passed by the Burnet Woods Park Advisory Council (BPAC) in opposition to the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods.

As it relates to community engagement on the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods, and in addition to the points above, the Park Board of Commissioners has further violated the public trust in numerous ways, including: · masquerading an old survey about a proposed dog park in a different Cincinnati park as community engagement on a dog park in Burnet Woods · using accessibility as a red herring to advance the dog park in Burnet Woods before determining if the amenity is desired by the community in the first place · ignoring other, decades old infrastructure and accessibility needs in Burnet Woods in order to prioritize the pet project of a dog park in Burnet Woods · excluding

I agree that the Board of Park Commissioners has damaged the public trust in its failures to develop and execute a professional, equitable and unbiased community engagement process applied consistently to projects in Burnet Woods and the Cincinnati Parks system.

various groups and stakeholders, including the most vulnerable, from engagement and decision making · mocking the community engagement process itself and those who are demanding best practices in community engagement · boasting that as Commissioners they will use their power to make amenity-siting decisions for the community because they don't believe in the community · greenwashing the clear, evidence-based ecological destruction the dog park will cause · undermining the legitimacy of process by ignoring the fact that two sitting Park Board Commissioners have a conflict of interest by residing near enough to the proposed dog park that their private property values could materially benefit from the development

I acknowledge that upon completion of this form, an email containing responses will be sent for public record entry to the Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners, Cincinnati Mayor Aftab Pureval, and the current members of Cincinnati City Council Healthy Neighborhoods Committee: Jan-Michele Kearney, Reggie Harris,

I acknowledge the above emails will be sent upon clicking 'Submit'.
I acknowledge that a summary of responses may be submitted to members of Cincinnati City Council.

**Scotty Johnson, and
Victoria Parks. A
Summary of responses
may be compiled and
provided to City Council
also. A copy will also be
sent to Preserve Burnet
Woods.**

Your Full Name Virginia Robinson

Your Email Address Vrobinso 7@cinci.rr.com

Your Zip Code 45002

Respectfully,

Virginia Robinson

Sent: Fri, Apr 26, 2024 8:33 PM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnufHjGP0_RlwDoWuvifCce7heVB7vqalOiCij9xlbI6g9hhu3AzCG-PTAeW84sGLsdU

Response Number: 77

[External Email] Public Comment to the Parks Board of Commissioners

Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Thu 5/2/2024 9:39 PM

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

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

External Email Communication

Dear Commissioners and Park Director,
Please reconsider the location of an off leash area for dogs in Burnet Woods.
Having an Important Bird Area in the city is something to celebrate.
Please find a site outside of Burnet Woods Park.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Dear Ms. Frost,

Thanks for reaching out to share your thoughts on the 117th Congress' H.R. 4833, the Migratory Bird Protection Act, and the subsequent rulemaking process by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. When I review this rule, I will keep your thoughts in mind.

Ohio has a special relationship with migratory birds and is home to the "Biggest Week in American Birding" every spring. Roughly 90,000 people from all over the world come to Ohio to see millions of migratory birds head north after spending the winter in warmer weather. Furthermore, Ohio is home to seven designated Globally Important Bird Areas.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact me about migratory birds. Like I said, I will remember your thoughts while reviewing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's rule.

Sincerely,



JD Vance
United States Senator

Sincerely,
Shari Frost

Please include attachment in Public Comment

[External Email] Public Comment May 16,2024

Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Thu 5/2/2024 10:09 PM

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

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

External Email Communication

Dear Park Board of Commissioners,

Please reconsider using Burnet Woods as the location for an off leash dog area.

Please find an already developed site versus removing greenspace in a rare urban bird habitat in our city.

Thank you,

Shari Frost

Please include attachment in public comment meeting minutes

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Dear Ms. Frost,

Thanks for reaching out to share your thoughts on the 117th Congress' H.R. 4833, the Migratory Bird Protection Act, and the subsequent rulemaking process by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. When I review this rule, I will keep your thoughts in mind.

Ohio has a special relationship with migratory birds and is home to the "Biggest Week in American Birding" every spring. Roughly 90,000 people from all over the world come to Ohio to see millions of migratory birds head north after spending the winter in warmer weather. Furthermore, Ohio is home to seven designated Globally Important Bird Areas.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact me about migratory birds. Like I said, I will remember your thoughts while reviewing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's rule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JD Vance", enclosed in a white rectangular box.

JD Vance
United States Senator

[External Email] Public Comment from Cynthia McCarthy

Cynthia McCarthy <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Sun 5/5/2024 4:49 PM

To:Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and ongoing for public meetings of the Cincinnati City Council Healthy Neighborhoods Committee. This record represents a unique response from Cynthia McCarthy.

Email address	charlielimabravomike@gmail.com
In my own words, I feel that my voice has been excluded from organized public discussion designed to provide actionable feedback regarding the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods as a result of the Park Board’s violations of best practices in community engagement in the following ways:	I heard about the Dog Park a little over a year ago. I have stood up to speak against the Burnet Woods Dog Park at City Council (when funds were voted on) and several times in front of the Park Board. Not only have my requests to pause on this project and reevaluate with an environmental impact study and true community engagement fallen on deaf ears, I have been met with disrespectful eye rolling, and unprofessional commentary about better uses of my time. It’s not easy for a citizen to stand up and speak in front of a public board and to be treated in that way is patently ridiculous. The lack of respect and inclusion in this decision, and this non-transparent expenditure of hundreds of thousands of tax payer’s dollars to RUSH to destroy an irreplaceable green space is irresponsible and reckless. Please, please, please, put the brakes on this project. Do the due diligence required to truly examine alternatives and engage the community. There is no need to keep rushing into it. Bids are due on May 9 with the winning bid chosen prior to the board meeting on May 16. It is documented in City emails that they are rushing in order to avoid more protesting. The park is failing their fiduciary duty to care for our shared green spaces in a fair and equitable manner.
Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has	I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.

remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to the selected site for a dog park in Burnet Woods. The Park Board's decision to ignore those who would be most directly impacted by a dog park in Burnet Woods is failure to professionally engage the community on this issue.

The City of Cincinnati has neighborhood councils for the purpose of ensuring a link between citizens and decision makers. From the city's own website: "These organizations [i.e., community councils] ensure that neighborhood development responds to the needs and goals of its citizens." Despite the two community councils whose boundaries include Burnet Woods having passed resolutions against the dog park, the Park Board is choosing to use a heavy-handed approach to the development in violation of the entire premise behind our city having community councils. Similarly, Cincinnati Parks has Park Advisory Councils (CPACs), to, according to the Cincinnati Parks Board website, "build and maintain public

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of community representation by ignoring the opposition of the CUF Neighborhood Association and Corryville Community Council regarding the dog park.

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of trust with its own volunteer Park Advisory Council for Burnet Woods by ignoring their resolution against the dog park.

support for Cincinnati Parks by providing feedback to the Cincinnati Park Board and exchanging and sharing information and providing mutual support between CPACs.” Park CPACs often donate hundreds of volunteer hours to maintain park spaces and host community events. In violation of its own stated purpose for CPACs, the Cincinnati Park Board has ignored multiple resolutions passed by the Burnet Woods Park Advisory Council (BPAC) in opposition to the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods.

As it relates to community engagement on the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods, and in addition to the points above, the Park Board of Commissioners has further violated the public trust in numerous ways, including: · masquerading an old survey about a proposed dog park in a different Cincinnati park as community engagement on a dog park in Burnet Woods · using accessibility as a red herring to advance the dog park in Burnet Woods before determining if the amenity is desired by the community in the first

I agree that the Board of Park Commissioners has damaged the public trust in its failures to develop and execute a professional, equitable and unbiased community engagement process applied consistently to projects in Burnet Woods and the Cincinnati Parks system.

place · ignoring other,
decades old
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accessibility needs in
Burnet Woods in order to
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residing near enough to
the proposed dog park
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**I acknowledge that upon
completion of this form,
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the Cincinnati Board of**

I acknowledge the above emails will be sent upon clicking 'Submit'.
I acknowledge that a summary of responses may be submitted to
members of Cincinnati City Council.

**Park Commissioners,
Cincinnati Mayor Aftab
Pureval, and the current
members of Cincinnati
City Council Healthy
Neighborhoods
Committee: Jan-Michele
Kearney, Reggie Harris,
Scotty Johnson, and
Victoria Parks. A
Summary of responses
may be compiled and
provided to City Council
also. A copy will also be
sent to Preserve Burnet
Woods.**

Your Full Name Cynthia McCarthy

Your Email Address Charlielimabravomike@fuse.net

Your Zip Code 45211

Respectfully,

Cynthia McCarthy

Sent: Sun, May 5, 2024 4:48 PM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnudUmdMwISSnBIJfWVm9fWn02Ela8LbNr0tPA0Lug49Zhgfd1X-
RICD4MAGBev4PB38

Response Number: 78

[External Email] Public Comment from Terri Smith- Corryville

Terri Smith- Corryville <ilove.burnet@preserveburnetwoods.org>

Sun 5/5/2024 8:49 PM

To:Aftab, Mayor <mayor.pureval@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Kearney, Jan-Michele <jan-michele.kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Harris, Reggie <reggie.harris@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Victoria <victoria.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>;Parks, Cincy <cincy.parks@cincinnati-oh.gov>

External Email Communication

Please enter the below transcript into public record for the next Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners public meeting and ongoing for public meetings of the Cincinnati City Council Healthy Neighborhoods Committee. This record represents a unique response from Terri Smith- Corryville .

Email address	teriauki@gmail.com
In my own words, I feel that my voice has been excluded from organized public discussion designed to provide actionable feedback regarding the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods as a result of the Park Board’s violations of best practices in community engagement in the following ways:	The activists opposing the Burnet Woods choice have exposed credible evidence that this was motivated as payback for other successful attempts at stopping development in Burnet Woods. The egregious mishandling of community engagement is astonishing. By allowing public discourse that changed the original location away from an affluent neighborhood of single family homeowners, to then commandeer a beloved park with a history of activism located near citizens who own less affluent housing smacks of Park Commissioners (friends and neighbors of the exceedingly small pro- dog park faction) of using their appointments for personal reasons. It’s the kind of behavior that created the Parks Board in the first place. However, now instead of corrupt politicians using public space without regard for the larger community, it’s the moneyed interests of political appointees. It’s a shameful mark on a City administration that’s claims to be liberal and Green.
Best practices in Community Engagement call for centering the voices of individuals who will be most directly impacted by the issue at-hand. The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has remained unengaged and has even ignored residents of multifamily housing directly next to	I agree that the Park Board has failed to center voices of those most directly impacted by the location chosen for a dog park in Burnet Woods.

**the selected site for a
dog park in Burnet
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issue.**

**The City of Cincinnati has
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two community councils
whose boundaries
include Burnet Woods
having passed
resolutions against the
dog park, the Park Board
is choosing to use a
heavy-handed approach
to the development in
violation of the entire
premise behind our city
having community
councils. Similarly,
Cincinnati Parks has Park
Advisory Councils
(CPACs), to, according to
the Cincinnati Parks
Board website, "build
and maintain public
support for Cincinnati
Parks by providing
feedback to the
Cincinnati Park Board**

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of community representation by ignoring the opposition of the CUF Neighborhood Association and Corryville Community Council regarding the dog park.

I agree that the Park Board has violated the covenant of trust with its own volunteer Park Advisory Council for Burnet Woods by ignoring their resolution against the dog park.

and exchanging and sharing information and providing mutual support between CPACs.” Park CPACs often donate hundreds of volunteer hours to maintain park spaces and host community events. In violation of its own stated purpose for CPACs, the Cincinnati Park Board has ignored multiple resolutions passed by the Burnet Woods Park Advisory Council (BPAC) in opposition to the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods.

As it relates to community engagement on the proposed dog park in Burnet Woods, and in addition to the points above, the Park Board of Commissioners has further violated the public trust in numerous ways, including: · masquerading an old survey about a proposed dog park in a different Cincinnati park as community engagement on a dog park in Burnet Woods · using accessibility as a red herring to advance the dog park in Burnet Woods before determining if the amenity is desired by the community in the first place · ignoring other, decades old infrastructure and accessibility needs in

I agree that the Board of Park Commissioners has damaged the public trust in its failures to develop and execute a professional, equitable and unbiased community engagement process applied consistently to projects in Burnet Woods and the Cincinnati Parks system.

**Burnet Woods in order to
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Cincinnati Mayor Aftab
Pureval, and the current
members of Cincinnati**

I acknowledge the above emails will be sent upon clicking 'Submit'.
I acknowledge that a summary of responses may be submitted to
members of Cincinnati City Council.

**City Council Healthy
Neighborhoods
Committee: Jan-Michele
Kearney, Reggie Harris,
Scotty Johnson, and
Victoria Parks. A
Summary of responses
may be compiled and
provided to City Council
also. A copy will also be
sent to Preserve Burnet
Woods.**

Your Full Name Terri Smith- Corryville

Your Email Address tsmithgeneralmail@gmail.com

Your Zip Code 45219

Respectfully,

Terri Smith- Corryville

Sent: Sun, May 5, 2024 8:49 PM

Response ID: 2_ABaOnuctQ5DH_WtSOZQ_-8-2M0o0tMmrByx0l2bYuUy-NFvEo2-dP8Ys5L8_qaylW7BZgiw

Response Number: 79

[External Email] Public Comment

Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Tue 5/7/2024 4:19 AM

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

External Email Communication

Dear Cincinnati City Council members and Cincinnati Parks Board of Commissioners,
I just wanted to let you know that I saw some of wonderful ideas that our UC students presented to create a sustainable and inclusive community facility for off leash dogs in Clifton that involved repurposing areas that have already been paved and improving those spaces for community use. It is my belief that the decision of the Park Commissioners to leave the community out of the project is a missed opportunity for all.

Please pause the proposed dog park project in Burnet Woods and find a location using universal dog park citing principles, one that won't remove existing greenspace in an Audubon designated IBA, or violate city ordinances on noise, health or air pollution.

Protect our watershed.

Sincerely,

Shari Frost

[External Email] Public Comment 5/16/24

Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Wed 5/8/2024 5:12 PM

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

External Email Communication

Dear Commissioners,

Please examine the mistakes that were made in regards to the lack of community engagement prior to choosing Burnet Woods as a location choice for the Clifton Dog Park project, and start again.

The communities, park volunteers, and stakeholders do not consent.

Please respect their collective voices on this.

Why is the project out for bids before the fundraising goals have been reached? My understanding is that your contribution was contingent upon that piece.

We have new EPA regulations on PFAS since this project was started, can you rethink what you're doing in light of the clear science that shows that this "dog park" is a terrible idea?

Sincerely,

Shari Frost

[External Email] Public Comment: June 20, 2023

Wenz, Amy <Amy.Wenz@cchmc.org>

Wed 5/8/2024 7:20 PM

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

You don't often get email from amy.wenz@cchmc.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Email Communication

To the Park Board,

I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for your support of the Dog Park at Burnet Woods. I know it's easy to hear the loudest voice, but there are many of us who are a bit quieter and are in full support of the effort.

Thank you so much!

Amy Wenz

3434 Manor Hill

Cincinnati OH 45220

[External Email] Public Comment 5/16/24

Stich Bear <stichbear@gmail.com>

Wed 5/8/2024 8:45 PM

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

External Email Communication

Greetings!

I want to remind each and every one of you that our children are watching.

Every environmental educator is out here trying to teach our children about sustainability and how to mitigate the effects of climate change and then we have appointed LEADERS, like yourselves, doing the exact opposite!

Our UC students put together some great ideas for transforming already developed spaces for projects like the Clifton Dog Park.

Please set the example and show our young people that adults care about the world we're leaving for them.

Nix the Burnet Woods dog park plan and Fix the missed opportunities for inclusion on our playground, in our nature center and at our Bandstand instead.

History has its eyes on you.

Be big enough to admit mistakes were made in how the site was chosen and make it right.

I'd encourage the three newest board members and the director to rewatch the park board meeting when it was decided and stated that it was not necessary to notify the stakeholders.

The Burnet Woods Advisory Council and volunteer groups who pour their hearts and time into this park deserve better.

Shari Frost

[External Email] Public Comment - May 16, 2024 Park Board Meeting

CUF Neighborhood Association <thecufna@gmail.com>

Thu 5/9/2024 8:08 AM

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

Cc: Cynthia Duval <cynthia@preserveburnetwoods.org>; Rob Neel <neelrw41974@gmail.com>

 1 attachments (110 KB)

2024 Opposition Dog Park CUF 050824.pdf;

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

External Email Communication

The CUF (Clifton Heights-University Heights-Fairview) Neighborhood Association revisited our decision opposing the Burnet Woods dog Park project at our Board of Trustee meeting on May 7, 2024. We have previously outlined our objections in a letter to the Park Board dated May 20, 2002. After a spirited debate between board members, the majority of Trustees voted to remain on record as opposing the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods.

Please see the attached letter, providing more details about our opposition.

Rob Neel
President, CUF Neighborhood Association



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

representing Clifton Heights | University Heights | Fairview

8 May 2024

Board of Park Commissioners Cincinnati, Ohio
John Neyer, City of Cincinnati Park Board Commissioner
Rocky Merz, City of Cincinnati Park Division of Natural Resources Division Manager

Re: Proposed Clifton Dog Park

To the Board, John Neyer, Manager Merz:

The CUF (Clifton Heights-University Heights-Fairview) Neighborhood Association revisited our decision opposing the Burnet Woods Dog Park project at our Board of Trustee meeting on May 7, 2024. We have previously outlined our objections in a letter to the Park Board dated May 20, 2002. After a spirited debate between board members, the majority of Trustees voted to remain on record as opposing the construction of a dog park in Burnet Woods.

We understand this is a contentious issue, and we did not have a unanimous decision, but ultimately our opposition centered around the degradation of an existing greenspace, safety of the location, and incompatibility with the existing character and use of the park. We also remain concerned about environmental and residential impacts, lack of parking, lack of access to water, lack of equitable siting criteria, and the lack of sustainable funding for ongoing maintenance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Neel, President
CUF Neighborhood Association