From: Kelly

To: <u>Steven Regner</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ridgewood Park Dog Run

Date: Friday, September 29, 2023 10:26:49 AM

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I am writing to give my full support to the creation of a permanent dog run at Ridgewood Park. I live 1 block from the park on 98th ave and plan to visit the dog run with my 3 year old lab several time a week.

There are currently no designated dog parks close to this area and this would be a huge benefit for the neighborhood. I typically drive to the Rock Creek dog park, but it takes time and fuel and often not feasible.

The temporary pop up dog run almost 3 years ago was a great success. I met so many neighbors that I would otherwise never have met. It definitely increases the sense of community in our neighborhood.

The park is already informally used as a dog park. Having the dog run to separate the dogs from the children on the playground would increase safety and improve the experience at the park. An enclosed area would prevent off leash dogs from running into the street as well.

I suspect most people would walk to the park as we saw back in Nov 2020, but there is room for parking behind the park on Parkway and street parking in front of the park. Wilshire is a wide street with little traffic East of the 217 off ramp, but a designated cross walk with a flashing light would increase safety when crossing the street.

I am surprised at how long this process has taken. I understand that THPRD has been ready to move forward for a while now. I am hopeful this will be approved quickly and construction can start soon.

Thank you for your consideration, Kelly O'Connor 2045 SW 98th ave Portland 97225