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Executive Director

March 26, 2025

In April 2024, the Park District of Franklin Park and Village of Franklin Park staff met regarding a potential collaboration between the two agencies to meet the needs of the Franklin Park community for a Dog Park. A centrally located, Village owned property at 9621 Pacific Avenue with four parcels of open land, north of the train station and east of an apartment building, was identified and determined as the most viable site.

Over several months both agencies worked together on an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) and updated ordinances for the project. A site concept was created by the Park District's landscape architects, Hitchcock Design Group.

At the November 26, 2024 meeting, the Park District Board of Commissioners amended Chapter 1, Section 16 of the Park Use Ordinance Code in anticipation of managing a Dog Park. At their January 28, 2025 meeting, an IGA was approved to lease the Village of Franklin Park's four parcels of land at 9621 Pacific Avenue for the use of a Dog Park that the Park District would develop and manage. At the February 3, 2025 Village of Franklin Park Board of Trustees meeting, the Dog Park IGA was approved in Ordinance 2425-G-42.

The Park District of Franklin Park hired Ekkert Environmental Services to conduct a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment on the property to provide an opinion if any Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) or other environmental concerns were associated with the property. The property was cleared of any environmental concerns.

The next step is amending the property zoning to allow for a Dog Park. A hearing is scheduled for the Village of Franklin Park's Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting on April 2. If the Zoning Board approves the amendment, that recommendation will be brought to the Village Trustees for approval at their April 21 meeting.

Once the site is rezoned, we look forward to sharing the Dog Park conceptual drawings and plans with residents so they can review the design and offer feedback at a Community Input Meeting on a day and time to be determined.

We are excited about this project and want to thank the Village of Franklin Park for its cooperation. There are still logistical and operational items regarding the Dog Park that Park District staff are reviewing and working on. We do not have a tentative ground breaking or park opening date.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Please check the district website at [fpparks.org](http://fpparks.org) and our social media outlets for project progress and updates.

Sincerely,

Dan LoCascio  
Executive Director  
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