

Pets in Parks Comments (585)

Response options:

I am indifferent

No, I disagree with the proposed ordinance change

Yes, however I would recommend changes to the proposed ordinance

Yes, I agree with the proposed ordinance change

Comment Categories

All Parks

Allergies

Allow

Anxiety/fear

Currant

Eagle Point

Enforcement

Farmer's Market

Nuisance

Pet Parks

Safety

Waste

With restrictions

Comments from Citizens who responded "I am indifferent to the proposed ordinance change" (4)

All Parks

-I stand up for everyone should have their pets at any parks there's no reason not to have it!! Dubuque community needs to be pet friendly at all park!!! Davenport Iowa is all pet friendly at all of there parks!!

Allergies and also commented on Nuisance

- I don't like dogs, they bark. I am allergic to cats.

Enforcement and also commented on Anxiety/fear

- I'm somewhat skeptical of the ability to enforce provisions like keeping dogs on leash and picking up waste - who will be able to do that all across the city? My three-year-old daughter is scared of big dogs, and I would hate for her enjoyment of going to the park to be affected by irresponsible dog owners.

Comments from Citizens who responded “No, I disagree with the proposed ordinance change.” (122)

Allergies

- Our grandson is EXTREMELY allergic to dogs. Contact with a dog could send him to the emergency room.
- My grandchild is severely allergic to dogs

Allow

- Part B: Pets on leash should be allowed in city parks it helps build good neighborhoods.

Anxiety/fear and also commented on Waste, Enforcement, Pet Parks

-The parks are intended for people, mostly children, and many of which have a fear of animals. Whether it's unfamiliarity or a previous traumatic event, it's unfair to ask community members to deal with the potential distress of dealing with the presence of dogs in a place that is intended to be a safe, outdoor place to enjoy ourselves. It's Particularly unfair to to ask our children to have to deal with these fears

- I am a pet owner, but I do not want pets in our parks. I have young children, and one of my kids is afraid of dogs, especially big dogs. If dogs were allowed in parks, we would not be able to enjoy them as we do now. Some pet owners would be responsible and keep their dogs on leashes, and pick up after them, but others would not. Even dogs on leashes, especially big dogs, can create a tension in the park for some people. Please consider adding more dog parks instead. Thank you.

- I myself am afraid of animals NOT on leashes. I feel we need to make everyone feel safe. We have enough violence in this city and why try add to this.

- My son is afraid of dogs. If almost all parks are going to allow dogs, he won't want to go or will want to leave as soon as he sees a dog.

- Are dogs more important than the children that have anxiety over them??? Parks are for kids, families, not dogs. Believe it or not, there are many, many kids afraid of dogs. Dog owners have showing us to be irresponsible. My granddaughters already don't go to Bergfeld because of the unleashed dogs and all the feces. The taxpayers and kids should not be afraid to go to a park to worry about getting bitten or stepping on dog poop. Have you seen all the dog poop around Bergfeld park? Have you seen the amount of dogs that are no on leashes around Bergfeld? I have and it is

a fact. Dog owners have already proven to be they are not capable of following the rules. Dog bites will happen, dog poop will be everywhere. Please use your common sense. Again, let me ask, are dogs more important than the children that have anxiety over them? Thanks for your service.

- I think there should be some parks where pets are not allowed for the sake of people with animal allergies and so parents can let their children play and not have to worry about pet owners not following the rules or having animals get too close. This is very traumatic for children who have a fear of animals. And lets be honest, lots of dog owners don't pick up waste and you shouldn't have to watch every step you take.

I have a very friendly dog. But I do not think they should be allowed in parks. To many irresponsible people. To many people children who are,afraid of them

- Parks should be a place where children and families can run free and play on the equipment without animals or their waste. Some children (and adults) are extremely afraid of dogs, leashed or not. Also, even though the dog feces are supposed to be picked up, the dog urination still lingers in the grass where children may come in contact with it as they play or walk through it.

- My son with Down syndrome is very afraid of dogs (actually all animals) even after we have tried to train him otherwise. He screams and runs from even our neighbors' very nice dogs and won't go near our nice house cat. I would not be able to stop at a park with him if dogs were present or would need to leave if any showed up. That would be a bummer and a bit unfair. I'm wondering if this is the case with just him, or many disabilities such as autism? Can this be researched first?

- If all pet owners actually kept their pets on a leash and restrained, maybe I would agree to them in some parks, but not the majority. There are many people of all ages who have a fear of dogs. They should not be restricted from the use of the parks when they are placed in fear. Also, I do not want to be concerned with owners not picking up after their pets.

Current Ordinance is Sufficient and also commented on Eagle Point, Waste, With restrictions, Enforcement, Safety

- I do not want the city to allow pets in any more public parks.

- The current restrictions and allowances for animals in parks is sufficient

- Dogs have enough places that accept them.if If you allow changes, please keep Eagle Point as a No Pets allowed area.

- Dog are fine at places like Heritage Trail etc. I personally do not want dogs in parks where people picnic. Some dog owners pick up after their pets and some do not. Perhaps parks could have designated dog areas.

- No animals in the parks,leashes or unleashed.

- I am fine with leashed pets on trails and open spaces. I'm not sure what a parkway is. I am opposed to pets, leashed or otherwise, in parks. Enforcement of leash usage and removal of pet waste will be difficult. It is also a waste of park patrol/DNR personnel's time. Furthermore, parks are where many people gather and it will be likely that pet owner's will not be supervising their pet as closely as they would when walking them on a trail or in an open space. This increases the opportunity for kids to walk into pet waste or approach an animal that may not respond well to children.

- No. DOGS in the parks . The city needs to Stop this issue now

- No dogs in the park!

- I believe the ordinance is fine like it is with dogs not being allowed in the parks. It isn't so much that I have a problem with the dogs, it's more the problem with their owners not training them. They allow the dogs to sniff, smell, and jump on you without caring at all.

- I want to keep the parks dog and cat free. We have a dog park and I personally walk on the trail behind Kerper where dogs are allowed many times I have almost stepped in crap left behind by furry little friends no offense but it is not a good time cleaning off your shoes or wondering if this dog is going to growl or snap at you. If you ask people that have been bitten by dogs I would be willing to bet most owners will tell you that their dog has never bitten anyone before. Parks are for the residents to enjoy the beauty. Please take this to heart not everyone enjoys your dog. To each their own but let me enjoy the city parks. Thank you

Eagle Point and also commented on Waste & Farmer's Market

- Eagle Point Park is a jewel. Eagle Point Park should be a park for the people. It is used for concerts, where people sit on the grass, there is a children's wading pool, there is a fish pond and multiple play ground areas. How would you keep dogs out of these people areas? It should be kept as a preservation for these uses. Please do not take this beautiful park away from the people who currently enjoy it without the fear of dogs and their messes.

- I am absolutely opposed to all pets in Eagle Point Park. I am concerned because there are dog owners who continue to refuse to follow the rules throughout the city. I do not trust enforcement of rules would happen or be possible.

- Allowing animals within city parks, most especially Eagle Point Park, will drastically alter the character and environment of these public spaces. Children (and adults) should be free to roam and explore these parks without concern that they will encounter others' pets (and waste). Even if an owner follows the regulations, barking dogs create a noisy, chaotic, and potentially frightening environment that diminishes others' enjoyment of these public spaces and can further disrupt natural wildlife including bird species. As a lifelong Point resident, I am deeply concerned that allowing pets will forever alter the peaceful nature of Eagle Point Park, which is already on the National Register of Historic Places. Countless individuals seek out the tranquility "the Park" (as Point residents refer to it) provides. Many of our fondest family memories include the Park. Visits to the Park calmed my late sister as she endured the final stages of dementia and I so enjoy taking my grandchildren there now. A small minority of vocal pet owners has persisted in this pursuit without consideration of the impact to the rest of the community. I love animals and have owned many throughout my lifetime. I never once felt I had the right to bring my pets with me wherever I pleased. There is a time and place for all things. In this case, simply increase the city space allocated for pet parks. That way, all who choose to gather in those spaces choose to be in the presence of pets and voluntarily accept the resulting environment. This is analogous to creating skate parks or other areas designated for specific activities that would otherwise be inappropriate for general-use public recreation spaces. On a final note, the much-cited survey included in the August 5, 2019 assessment involved only 615 individuals – that is, approximately 1.4% of the adult population of Dubuque responded to this survey. Such a limited survey cannot be used as the basis to make significant decisions regarding the city's public spaces. Please do not pass this proposed ordinance. At the very least, please exclude Eagle Point Park.

- My spouse & I go to Eagle Point Park almost every day during operating season. We enjoy the tranquility, wildlife and beauty of Eagle Point Park. Dogs aren't allowed, but this last summer a day didn't go by that a dog wasn't brought in to the park. One dog didn't change the park, but what happens when we have 2 to 50 dogs? The park will not be the same with dogs.

- I feel Eagle Point Park should remain pet free. There are enough parks for them to go to, it would be nice to have one park that is free from pets. I also feel they should not be allowed at farmers market. Farmers Market is becoming a dog show.

- Not in favor of letting dogs or cats in most city parks! Eagle Point park, Flora park and children's playgrounds should not be included! I should have the right to use and enjoy the quietness and surrounding beauty of Eagle Point Park

without the concerns of barking, irresponsible pet owners not picking up after their pets! There are many irresponsible adults that seem to own pets! I am concerned about children having fun at their playgrounds without the fear of being bitten by a animal! Is the city prepared to accept some responsibility in incidents that may occur as they are allowing animals to be interacting with people (children and adults) ? I would rather support a new pet park where pet owners can take their pets and the owners can visit while the pets are confined ! Thanks for letting me voice my opinion!

- Eagle Point Park should not be allowed animals. I see people abusing the law all the time in that park. Too many kids and they play in the grassy areas. MOST people really don't "pick up" if they can get away with not. Also, people need to know that the fine is \$750 if caught not picking up throughout the city.

- I don't mind pets in parks with the exception of Eagle Point park. Too many children's play areas and historic buildings are here. Children should not have to be confronted by pets, or have pet urine in their play areas.

Enforcement and also commented on Eagle Point, Farmer's Market, Nuisance, Safety, Waste

- Although the proposed ordinance imposes regulations and fines, the reality is that there will be unleashed animals; uncollected waste; and the inevitable animal bites.

- Pet owners that currently show up at parks in violation of the current ordinance often do not keep their pets on a leash or pick up after their pets. If pet owners are unwilling to follow these rules prior to a change in ordinance, what makes us think that they will change once numerous pets are present in the parks? At the very least I would change the ordinance to exclude Eagle Point, Flora, and Murphy park from the list of parks that allow pets.

- I have seen first-hand too many people violating the leash law. I have never heard of the police citing anyone for not having a dog on a leash....why?. Dog owners claim their dog doesn't bite. They have no way of knowing that, and even with that reassurance, I would never risk being near an unleashed dog. Even one dog bite is too many. Also not every dog owner is going to pick up after their dog. Dogs are being given too many privileges. I understand people's love for their dogs, but dogs are not people.

- The city parks are for families and children. The addition of cats and dogs to the area is a detriment to the activity of the kids in our parks. I have yet to see a dog on a leash - and how do you leash a cat? I understand there are some animal owners that take care of their pets, BUT most just let them run and do NOT pick up after them. I wish it were different, but that is what I see. The kids are way more important than the pets.

- I am an animal lover. However it is the owners who are the problem. We have a more restrictive ordinance now which is already not being followed. People do not use common sense in how they interact with their pets. I understand pets are like family members but many people forget that they are animals with instincts and behaviors that we cannot always control. I often walk in areas where pets need to be leashed, often they are not, and when I turn in the license plate number of the owner, it doesn't seem to deter the behavior. Dubuque is already welcoming to all people and animals. That doesn't mean pets have to be in public places. To think that you will impound animals when the ordinance is not followed is ridiculous. You will only be able to follow through on that after injury or damage is done and if owner can be identified.

- These comments are private. I do not give my permission to have these printed or read publicly except on an anonymous basis. Not everyone is a dog or cat person. We HAVE a dog park. I see people in the city regularly with pets off leash. People don't follow rules in our neighborhoods. What makes us think people will pick up after their animals in the park? Are we going to put on an enforcement officer to check dog licenses, vaccination records and "poo" pick up patrol? Obviously, the powers that be won't be happy until this is forced upon us. At the VERY least, leave more parks as PET FREE zones for those of us who don't wish to step in something or be sniffed and jumped on.

- I live across from Allison-Henderson Park for the last 40 years. We had a NO pets in the park sign on the light post across from my house. It is gone! Every week people drive up to this park, get out of their cars and let their dogs out to

run on the kids play ground. Some play catch with their dogs others just let them out to run. No leashes, NO picking up after their pets, NO control of the animals out in the play areas. I do not see them changing with or without your change in the city laws. Like your rules about not putting down chemicals on the parks grounds do NOT allow the dogs and their waste to be on the same ground the kids play on. Please vote no and just build more dog parks for the dogs. Let the kids have their parks also with out animal waste.

- The current pet restrictions are not being obeyed nor enforced. I've witnessed daily (AM and PM) over the past 10 years, pet owners curbing, walking, or otherwise letting run free their dogs in Jackson, Madison and Eagle Point parks; where it's clearly posted "No Pets Allowed". All it takes is one pet nipping, biting or merely scaring a person/child for the city to be neck deep in defending an ordinance that just isn't prudent. Build a pet park in an undeveloped or industrial area. There are reasons a majority of the the community doesn't own pets: hear us screaming into the wilderness.

- As a dog owner, I have firsthand experience with the reality that pet owners are not all responsible, law abiding citizens. On our strolls, we see the waste that is left behind and when walking at the farmers market, I experience the aggressive dogs on leashes. Seriously....who is going to police this? I want my tax dollars going towards the park police being more attentive to potential criminal and unruly behavior in the parks, rather than monitoring if someone picked up their dog poop. Also, animals get into fights which can then escalate into their owners having confrontations. Not to mention the liability if a child is bitten/attacked while in a city park. Regarding the scenery and the beauty of the parks - Eagle Point Park is a beautiful park and families can enjoy their time at the park without worrying about if they/their children are going to step in animal feces. It should be a "waste free" "pet free" zone.....a safe haven. This is just another opportunity for a lawsuit if you ask me. I feel that the City is just increasing its liability if they were to open this can of worms. You can't convince me someone is not going to relocate to Dubuque because it doesn't have "pet friendly" parks. Keep our parks beautiful and safe. Park police and other staff need to be doing what they were hired for...keeping the parks safe for all persons to enjoy.

- Not every one in Dubuque is comfortable being around dogs or cats. Yes they are supposed to be leashed, but there will be exceptions to the rule. Who is going to patrol this issue along with waste not being properly removed? Who is going to be liable if a unleashed animal attacks someone?

- I oppose this change. The inclusion of dogs in parks brings the potential of injuries from aggressive dogs, defecation, and incessant barking. People often go to the park for peace, enjoyment, and to 'get away' from the urban setting (without having to travel to a rural area). Allowing dogs will ruin this. People are forgetting that dogs will bark. A lot. Dogs will get loose from leashes. Dogs will be aggressive towards other dogs. Someone will be bitten and the owner will say the famous last words of, "He's never done that before". Having this rule is no better than loading a gun and hoping it won't go off. Eventually, something will happen. Parks are for PEOPLE, and honestly, people cause enough trouble themselves. Adding K-9 ingredient to this mix is a terrible idea and not for the greater good. This rules only appeases dog owners and is not written with the spirit or intent of being good-for-all.

- I'm strongly opposed. We at least need to exclude more parks from allowing animals - ie have some pet free parks or pet free zones within parks. I absolutely do not trust people to keep animals on leashes. It will not be enforced. I am very much looking forward to taking my son (currently an infant) to the parks and I should not have to worry about animal attacks or feces.

- Dogs are just everywhere and that isn't necessarily a bad thing but we need to remember they are dogs, not people. The restrictions listed are good ones but generally won't be enforced because they won't be seen by those who could enforce them. Children can be lured by someone with a dog to go with them and parks should be a safety zone for kids. I've witnessed dogs behavior at Farmers Market and the lack of control some people have for their pets. Dogs in parks would probably be similar. Thank you

- I strongly disagree about having pets in all our parks. You can educate pet owners all you want, and you are still going to have inconsiderate people out there. There is no way you can enforce any of the rules. A perfect example is Farmers Market. Not everyone likes dogs and some people have allergies. We can still be a pet-friendly community without letting animals control my quality of life. You can have the most well behaved animal and a good responsible owner but all it takes is once. They shouldn't be allowed in all apartments either. What if I have a cat? I should be able to bring her to the park also without the fear of having a confrontation. Maybe having one or two small parks that animals are allowed might be allowed for a trial period but that is it. There are too many ifs involved and too many things that could happen. I like animals also, but i do not agree at all that they should be allowed at parks on a leash or not.

- Maybe I'm not aware of increased funding to pay for more park staff, but without that I'm concerned about enforcement. I know several people who are deathly afraid of dogs and would no go to parks if they were allowed and too many don't pick up their dog's waste/ I'm an animal lover, but don't think our pets need to go everywhere with us.

Farmer's Market and also commented on Waste, Safety

- dogs at Farmer market equal congestion, not child freindly/safe & dog poop not being picked up by ALL!! dogs already in parks & owners not obeying ordnances. Owners not all licensed for their dogs. picking up feces does not get it ALL, no picnics on the blanket, no leaning/setting by trees, listening to barking, no going barefoot, afraid for small children getting bit or scared. Ecoli & not all feces are solid. yuck for picnics and lawn games with dogs. How about parks for people. Already plenty of places for dogs at breweries, restaurants sidewalks & every green space along streets & curbs plus Farmers Market. Pin worms, hook worms, tape worms are in pet feces, also.

- Dubuque is oing to the dogs! 1. More attention is paid to having dogs/cats in the parks, etc. than is paid to the rights of citizens to be able to enjoy an environment free of animals. I can no longer go to the farmers market because of all the large dogs that monopolize the sidewalks. (I am afraid of large dogs and also afraid of tripping on their leashes or the dogs themselves.) 2. Despite the claims made by pet owners, the majority do not pick up after their dogs. I have walked the Riverwalk and cannot enjoy the scenery because I have to constantly be aware of where I am walking. Even in my own neighborhood, I find piles of dog shit in my yard and on my sidewalk (3 times in the last two weeks). 3. Even dogs on leashes can easily trip an elderly person or a child, or bite them. There are plenty of places for pets now. Don't add any more, which would take away the rights of the citizens, and especially the elderly, who do not care to be around animals.

Nuisance and also commented on Farmer's Market, Waste

- Not everyone is a dog lover. I don't want animals on leashes (or not) sniffing at my legs , barking, jumping at me or my grandchildren. And of course, dog poop. I stopped going to farmers market because of dogs being allowed in crowded, food areas.

- Parks are for families and kids.I haven't enjoyed my backyard in 5 years cause of barking dogs.

- I don't care for dogs coming up to me when I am out walking.

- I live across from comiskey park there enough noise and traffice there that I can here in my house do not need any more comotion in that area with dogs and cates they need to build of couple more pakrs from the owners to take there animals to if not they can build a fence around there house.

- People enjoying the parks should not have to put up with the barking, running of pets, pet waste etc. while in the park. If they are like me I get enough of it in my own neighborhood and other public places.

Pet Parks and also commented on Enforcement, Nuisance, Safety, Waste

- I appreciate those that love their pets, and I support the development of designated parks specific to pets, clearly defined spaces that meet the needs of all community members by keeping these spaces separate.
- Parks are for people. Pet Parks are for animals and people that like or tolerate other people's animals. Please keep the 2 types of parks separate.
- I disagree with the proposed ordinance because owning a pet is an individual or family decision and responsibility. It is not a community responsibility to provide for or accommodate the needs of pets and their owners. People who choose not to own a pet do not wish to meet up with other peoples' pets in public places for many reasons. Children and adults walk, run, and play in areas other than designated areas, trails, and playgrounds. Pet owners are not always watching the behavior of their animals nor consistent in cleaning up pet waste.
- Pet owners have their own dog parks now. The rest of the parks should not need to be shared with pets. When picnicking in a city park that my tax dollars pay for, I shouldn't have to worry about being bitten by or having to deal with pet waste.
- The parks that the dogs are in currently are plenty enough. Kids play and run in parks we don't need excited dogs running after them. Some owners will push the limit and have them off their leashes. Not everyone is a dog lover. I think dog parks are the answer not all over our parks!
- I like dogs, but do not feel they need to be in every park. There should be one or two parks where they are allowed and the rest should remain off limits. Most owners clean up after their dogs do their business, but many do not. The park rangers should check to make sure registration and vaccination records are up-to-date. Its hard to walk on the sidewalks with dogs even when they are on a lease and loud noise generated when they encounter other dogs or cats.
- Name one or two. parks and the rest are off limits. Dog owners should also have proof with them that the dog or cat is registered and that there shots are up-to-date
- We already have a dog park. Why does every park need to be a dog park?
- The city needs two more dog parks: One downtown, perhaps at Mauss Park, and the other on the West End. We don't need dogs in public parks. The majority are penalized by the few who don't pick up their dogs' droppings.
- There is a dog park that is fine for their use. People will have pets unsupervised and will not pick up after them. I am a dog lover but not everyone is so people should be able to enjoy themselves.

Safety and also commented on Allergies, Enforcement, Pet Parks, Nuisance, Waste, With restrictions

- I do not feel safe around dogs, even when they are on leashes. Every one of my family members have been bitten by dogs, both running loose and on leashes. I also have been chased while riding my bike and have had to stop and walk my bike even with dogs on leashes. My experience is that dog owners will not keep there dogs on leashes and will not pick up after them. If the dogs are allowed in all parks, the parks will simply become dog parks and there will be no parks for people who are afraid or allergic to dogs. Very sad!!!
- I wish to enjoy the parks and not worry about stepping in dog excrement or fearing encountering an unrestrained or unvaccinated dog. Irresponsible dog owners ruin it for all.
- Please keep pets out of all parks. They can bite or threaten build another dog park rather than allow them in parks with families.

- Years ago I saw a child bitten in Allison Henderson park by someone who illegally brought their dog to the park on a leash. The child was not only injured and bleeding but also traumatized. Luckily the dog owner did stay until the police office arrived. I am very concerned about allowing dogs into parks and interacting with children. You do not know how children will treat an animal or how any animal will respond.
- I want to enjoy the parks and trails without concern of attacks or droppings. Current restrictions are not adhered to, so loosening of those restrictions would not seem to be a logical change.
- Anecdotal or not, I have been accosted by two different dogs, off leashes, at public parks in my time in Dubuque. There are already dogowners whom fail to follow existing ordinances. To allow more lenient ordinances regarding pets in parks, the owners will become more defiant. Keep the pets in pet parks and people in other parks.
- This is just setting the City of Dubuque up for more lawsuits. It will be only a matter of time before someone gets bit.
- It is possible for dogs to break their leash or get loose from the control of their owner. My infant son was viciously attacked by a Golden Retriever and nearly lost his ear after the dog broke free from the owner. The only failsafe way to ensure 100% safety for our children is to restrict dogs in public spaces.
- I walk a lot in the city and in places like the Mines of Spain, Swiss Valley. Almost every walk I take dogs are off the leash and bounding toward me. Dog poop is everywhere even in my private gardens, where I never invite dogs.

Waste and also commented on Anxiety/fear, Eagle Point, Farmer's Market, Nuisance, Safety, With restrictions

- I oppose the ordinance proposal to allow pets in the majority of city parks in Dubuque, Iowa. Animals and the contents of their fecal material and urine and subsequent potential exposure to humans is hazardous. Consequently, I recommend rejection of a proposed ordinance change.
- The park does not have the resources and man power to clean up the messes. The liability when someone is bit or mauled will be with the City.
- 1. Past experience dog waste has not been cleaned up as it should. 2. Someone is going to get bitten. 3. The city already has a dog park. 4. People should have a park without dogs. 5. With food around it is just inviting a disaster. 6. Costly to monitor each and every dog. 7. It will be a additional expense to the city. 8. Will need additional animal control personal.
- Who turns in violations of pet owners not cleaning up the manure?? Do the the City Parks Lawn cutters pick up the manure and report a violation? I volunteer at St. Patrick Church at 1425 Iowa Street. Many times I have picked up dog manure from the church lawn and even on the sidewalks on Iowa Street. I put down Pepper powder to help deter the problem. Too many irresponsible dog owners. City officials even estimate many dogs and cats are not even licensed. Many owners have too long have a leash on the dog.
- I habe been in parks where dogs are no allowed and have "discovered" pet waste not picked up. I also believe that Murphy,Flora and Eagle Point Park should be pet free.
- There are way to many people that dont pick up after their dogs. With dogs being allowed at these parks I would no longer he able to let my kids run around in the grass for fear of finding dog poop and eating it. If you want to put up fences in most parks for dogs I would be fine with that.

- Pet waste is a hazard. Especially, for little children. Many people are afraid of animals even on a leash. They take up too much space on trails and side walks. Plus barking is an issue in this town and hardly any tickets are issued for that. No. No. No.
- Owners do not pick up waste making health hazards and kids and adults tracking through poop
- I believe there are too many irresponsible pet owners that will prohibit families from enjoying the parks. In prohibit, I mean: dogs off leashes, feces not picked up, children being bitten. Dog owners in this town have yet to learn to take a bag with them as they walk along sidewalks. Parks are for our children. If a pet owner takes children to the park, they should be watching them, not a pet.
- I don't believe people will consistently comply with leash and waste rules.
- I have seen over & over that pet owners do not pick up the poop at Swiss Valley Nature Center & other parks in the county. Sure it won't be any different in the city. It's unfortunate there are always some that spoils it for others. Thank you
- I am opposed to dogs and cats in any parks in Dubuque. Although Item E in the proposed Ordinance requires that the owner pick up and dispose of the waste, I know from observing pets at Farmers Market, many owners don't bother to do it. That creates a mess and health hazard for the park patrons as well as the lawn mower operators. Although the Ordinance requires the pets to be leashed, it just takes a second for an animal to bite a child or adult. Item F requires the owner to be responsible for the actions of the pet. This will necessitate manpower for the City to oversee and prosecute.
- I feel pets do not belong in City parks. Our streets are littered with dog droppings and the parks will be the same from irresponsible pet owners. How long will it be, before the first lawsuit from someone being attacked by a vicious animal?
- I walk almost every day and some dog owner has dropped a poop bag or there is poop on the sidewalk While most pet owners are good it just takes one to ruin time in a park
- Too many people do not pick up after their pets. When the Winter Farmers Market was in the old Colts building we were always stepping over dog excrement in the area between sidewalks and street. Just a few such uncaring pet owners could leave behind smelly messy problems in our parks.
- I pick up dog droppings others leave behind on the lower river walk. Bags are provided, but, from the number of bags of waste I pick up weekly I think most dog owners do not use them. How will that be different in a park setting? It won't.
- A lot of people don't clean up after their pets, Also I don't feel comfortable around dogs.
- If you want children playing in the park walking through dog piles, then this change is a good idea. Otherwise this is a terrible idea. I go with the latter! Parks are for families and kids - NOT dogs. Too many dog owners are not responsible - they do not keep their dogs under control, do not pick up after them, etc.
- This subject has come up often and once again I must respond. I do not think pets should be in public Parks meant for families and children. Even if the pet owner was responsible, and this is often debatable, even if they pick up waste there is residue to which little bare feet and hands can be exposed. Also, pet owners tend to unleash dogs the minute they enter Eagle Point Park. Do you think this will improve when the NO PETS sign is removed? Not likely. Who polices it, the non pet owners? I would like to keep parks free of scary running dogs. Thank you
- Absolutely ridiculous to allow pets on golf courses, and people allow their pets to poop on private property all the time without picking it up, so why would we think they would follow rules on public property. This proposed ordinance goes way too far and should be significantly scaled back.

- I walk my dog on the river walk often. There is quite a bit of dog excrement that is not picked up. It is in the grass, in the mulched areas and even on the walkway sometimes. Quite a few people walk their dogs without a leash down there also. There are too many irresponsible dog owners for pets to be allowed in parks.

- Let me first say I'm 55yrs. old and I am a pet lover . I've had dogs, cats and other animals my whole life and now have a teddy bear dog. She is my husband and my baby. She goes with us a lot and loves to ride in my car but she doesn't sit on my lap she sits in the seat next to me that's the rule . As for pets in parks I'm against it. I don't believe they should be allowed where people are preparing and eating food. Who wants to be eating and see a dog going pee or taking a dump. Yes some people clean up after but not all and you don't get rid of all the smell till it rains. It also not good to have the dogs around play areas ,kids move fast and some dogs get skittish and can change behavior and bite leaving the pet owner saying it's never done that before. Plus with older people dogs running around even on a leash can be very dangerous. I'm not against pets just not in our beautiful parks they are for people. We have dog parks and lots of sidewalks and places where you can take them now. So why in city parks? Sometimes just like our kids we have to say no, you can't go.

- I think your pets should be left at home they don't need to be in our parks! People say they will clean up after them but they don't!!

- I don't feel dogs in all city parks and trails is safe nor sanitary. I do not feel owners would clean up after dogs, just walk along Grandview or Fremont Avenue, as they just let their pets do their business. If they happen to bag it, they often leave the bag for others to throw away. Pet owners have not proven themselves responsible, why reward them with more places to mess up.

- I walk the city trails daily. It's disgusting the amounts of dog feces laying on the ground plus the huge number of dogs that are running loose!!! Most dog owners are disrespectful and will carry this same mentality into our parks! Do not let dogs in our parks!! Keep our kids safe!!

- Too many irresponsible dog owners. I don't want to step in poop or fear a mean dog. Not everyone likes dogs. There are many dog parks.

- I can see having a few parks where dogs are allowed, but too many people do not pick up after their animals. Look at the poor condition of the dog park--the people who actually use it don't help do anything to maintain it, such as picking up after their dogs. I've also seen people breaking the current ban and not even using a leash by just letting their dog run.

- Too many people do not pick up their animal's 'waste', and there is no way to enforce this. Walking on the dike is disgusting with all the dog poop. The parks would end up the same way. If possible, I would also like something to be done about the dogs at farmers market. Highly annoying to get wrapped up in someone's extra long leash while their dog explores. Also highly annoying to push someone's huge dog away when they want to climb you, or stick there snout up your crotch...

- Parks should be primarily for people to enjoy, even if they dislike or are allergic to pets. No new parks should be opened for dogs or cats. Pet owners are not responsible and often do not pick up their dog's waste and sometimes cannot (dogs get diarrhea and throw up, especially when they eat strange things). Also some people are afraid of dogs and they are a potential public liability if they injure people. The city should not encourage this except in pet parks or limited parks already open to dogs. Not neighborhood playground parks or Eagle Point Park.

- I would not want to see my Great Grandchildren having to dodge dog poop in the parks. And it WILL be there & for the most part the people leaving it there will not be penalized even IF they are caught & charged. If they're found guilty & fined they won't pay or ever pay. The only people that pay are property owners because there can be a lien put against

their property. And you can blow smoke & sugar coat it BUT you KNOW this is the way it is. Look at "Iowa Courts on Line" & look at how much in fines some of these people owe. They're free loaders & it will never be paid.

- People wont clean up after them.

- I use heritage trail a lot. There is always a lot of dog droppings. Even on the trail itself! I just feel like the same thing will happen at our parks. Little kids play there and they and their parents shouldn't have to worry about them getting into that "stuff". I use the parks also.. and while I love dogs, a lot of their "parents" aren't responsible in that regard.

- They do not pick up the poop at the dog park, by the flood wall, and when walking on public streets. I have also watched a man walking his dog throw the bag down a sewer hole in my neighborhood every time he walks his bagel so why not just take it home to throw out.

- People get lazy and do not pick up after their pet and dangerous for children when unfamiliar animals in play areas. Dogs have a place and add pleasure, but not in public parks.

- People get lazy and do not pick up after their pet and dangerous for children when unfamiliar animals in play areas. Dogs have a place and add pleasure, but not in public parks.

- As someone that uses the river walk and A Y McDonald park on an almost daily basis, I am very much aware of the lack of cleanup by pet owners. I will admit I am a dog lover and I enjoy interacting with the dogs and owners, most are compliant with the rules but as with everything it only takes a few to ruin it. As a pass holder to Eagle Point park and frequent visitor to Flora I oppose the change, I feel there are enough options for exercising your pet in the city. I know the cleanup rules are difficult to enforce and dont want my grandchildren in that mess.

- While most dog owners are responsible there are some that ruin it for everyone. Don't clean up after and let them run. Also I don't think dogs should be at Farmers Market. Please ban dogs from Farmers Market.

- Some people will not pick up waste. Even if the waste is picked up, parasites can still be present on the ground. Children shouldn't be exposed to parasites just because they're playing in the grass.

- We are new to Dubuque and are daily walkers. Wherever we go, we see dog mess that hasn't been picked up. This includes our neighborhood, parks, riverwalk area and neighborhood. Sadly, many do not know what a trash can is for either. Eat and toss the trash, construction activity and throw the trash in the street, drink and throw the trash on the sidewalk, visit a store and trash all over the parking lot, drive down Hwy 20, NW arterial, etc and trash along the side of the road. There are some that would pick up after their dogs but many that won't. I understand this is a difficult issue to resolve and seems the negligent make it more difficult for those that pick up after their dogs to have what they desire.

- I do not believe that pets should be allowed in the public parks for children and young adults. I have to sidestep landmines on my way to Allison Henderson Park when I'm walking there with my children, so I can only imagine what kind of mess it would be for my children and I as we are trying to play on the equipment having dog poop everywhere. What about children that are allergic to animals, should they have to stay away from the parks because people want their dog's to go everywhere we go? Possibly allowing a small area of portions of certain public parks available to animals would be all right as long as they were fenced off and not anywhere near the play equipment.

- While I am a pet lover, some people will not pick up waste. People need to know some are afraid of animals.

- While I am a pet lover, some people will not pick up waste. People need to know some are afraid of animals.

- I do not believe dogs should be allowed in parks, open areas, and most of all, Farmers Market or anywhere food is being served. Dog owners are not all responsible and walking in dog waste, listening to dogs barking, and dealing with dog waste bags being left all over the park would be horrible.

- To many nonresponsible per owns, walk the bee branch green way or the Riverwalk in the port.

- Not only do neighbors allow their dogs off leash to defecate in other neighbors' yards (with no consequence if the owner is not "caught in the act"), I have also seen a large number of dog feces left on the paved trails at Bergfeld Pond. I do not believe pet owners who bring their pets to the parks would act any differently. In addition, I do not see any consequences in the ordinance for the pet owners who do not pick up after their pets. If there are no consequences for leaving piles, having an ordinance serves no purpose. Additionally, who will be providing the bags and labor to pick up those piles? If the City is responsible, this becomes a tax issue for residents to pay for staff time and materials. If the City does not take on this responsibility, I envision parks that are very unhygienic for all users.
- There are too many pet owners that do not pick up the waste from their pets and I believe it would be a huge issue. Gay park is restricted now and dog waste is a problem now.
- If you choose to go this way there needs to be a special license to cover the cost of poop clean up or very strictly enforced fines.
- I don't feel that many owners pick up the poop. Also kids all playing in parks and having them playing in dog poop areas is not healthy.
- Cause they won't pick up after the pet. (Some will) Kids and adults don't want to step in it. Once you start, people will start letting their animals off leash.
- To many dog owner's don't pick up dog waste in town. Please don't allow dogs in the parks.
- To many people do not pick-up their dog waste. Not everyone is a dog lover. If a dog is on a leash, people feel safer.

With restrictions

- Dogs / cats should be allowed on leashes at outdoor sports events parks veterans memorial using upmost respect for facilities(NOT ALLOWED ON OR NEAR MEMORIAL but at a distance) and arboretum BUT in picnic area and area of band/event on lease Not allowed in area of plants or pond area.... I do NOT agree with dogs being loose At Bergfeld pond....

Comments from Citizens who responded “Yes, however I would recommend changes to the proposed ordinance.” (65)

All Parks

- I think it is too restrictive, but a step in the right direction
- Since we as taxpayers paid for the parks we should be able to take our pets there. All parks need to be available to us not just designated ones you decide on.
- Dog owners should be allowed in ALL PARKS! We are tax payers and should have the right to walk our dogs anywhere. The city is very anti dog. I lived 19 years and I could take my dog to ANY PARK. They cared about the citizens opinions unlike here. You limit almost all the parks to us so I say open all of them up as we should have just as many rights as dog haters! I can't wait to one day move from this city to a more friendly, fair city where our voice counts. Big brother loves to tell us how to live!

- The proposal is a start, and I good one. I live near Murphy Park and would love to be able to take my dog (on leash) on a walk through the park. I would also like to see larger fenced in areas where dogs can be off leash.
- Overall I agree. I would like the ability to walk my dog at the Arboretum and think it is imperative that the current dog park have major renovations.

Eagle Point and also commented on Waste

- Please keep animals (not service related) out of Eagle Point Park and Murphy Park. When children run thru the parks with excitement, dogs also react. And there always will be some owners that don't have the pet on a leash. We use the park for many gatherings and family picnics with our little ones. It would still be great not to worry about strange pets invading our space while eating or enjoying the view, not to mention stepping in the feces or urinating on the beautiful flowers. And with the many budget cuts, who will monitor the parks? A few years ago, we presented a petition to the City Council with many signatures of Dubuque citizens that wanted to keep Eagle Point Park free of pets. These people had the same concerns as us. On a side note our three children have 4 dogs between them, and have said there are many places to walk their dogs in our area. Thank you.
- Please prohibit pets in eagle point park and the port of Dubuque river walk. Pets take away from the tranquility of walking at those locations.... for those of us that do not wish to encounter your pet and its demeanor, whether it be friendly or not.
- We would like to see Eagle Point Park excluded as it is our premier park and when you charge admission we should not have to tolerate animals. Everyone proclaims all pet owners follow the rules but we all know they don't. Otherwise charge an additional fee for the pet, like motels do. Please protect citizens who don't have pets.
- Please do not include Murphy Park or Eagle Point Park in this ordinance. People in my own neighborhood don't always clean up after they walk their pets. I just can't see policing could be done in these larger parks nor that those who feel entitled to take their pet everywhere are always inclined to see that they are well behaved. These are beautiful parks and very family friendly. I want them to stay that way! Barking dogs are also annoying! There is enough problems at times with loud music in the group next to you.
- Please include eagle point park restricted when the park is open. When the park is closed in winter time. Yes people can walk pets. Imagine a dog getting loose at someone's party with tables of food.

Enforcement

- "Where a prohibitory sign is posted"... are you guys just going to put up prohibitory signs everywhere?
- Section A is somewhat contradictory of the said proposal and with harsh punishments. Why would you take the animal away from their owner and make them come get them? How traumatizing for both animal and human. A simple warning or conversation could warrant a much more civilized consequence. Open areas with leashed dogs can be an accident waiting to happen. Many dogs are trained or wear collars to protect them. Open areas are where dogs want to run free, not be chained by someone. You're bound to have more human accidents than animal accidents with dogs pulling. One dog park on a super inconvenient road and with no toys or obstacles does not suffice a worthy dog park. As for Bergfeld, where exactly can an owner play fetch with their dog without being on other property? Not all dogs can swim, or want to. This is one of our favorite spots to walk and our dog stays at our side and is leashed when others come by. If an owner does not have a dog well trained, then they will easily be told by others with trained dogs to leave. If someone

who does not like dogs is walking on the trail, they should probably find a new spot since it's a super dog friendly place, and they have no business telling dog owners what to do.

- Owners be fined \$5 per pet up to 3 occurrences that they don't pick up after their pet. After 3 they are banned from said park. I have 2 large dogs, it's not hard to be a responsible pet owner. The money could be used towards a new dog park.
- I don't agree with a dog being impounded at least on a first offense. A ticket seems more reasonable as a first offense.
- If caught without a leash, a ticket should be issued. Second offense, impound dog and pay fees. It would be traumatic for the pet to be hauled away and thrown in a kennel because of owners stupidity on first offense.
- I feel that saying "where a prohibitory sign is posted" means that the city will just go and put signs at any of the parks where they should be permitted.
- Provide reporting and penalty system for owners who do not pick up their pet's excrement.
- There should be a hefty fine to any owner/ caretaker if pet waste is not picked up and disposed of properly.
- As a once and future dog owner I would like to bring my dog into the parks occasionally, especially when out and about with my whole family. However, I've witnessed first-hand the irresponsible nature of many dog owners that could lead to pollution and more work for city workers. I suggest an increase in pet registration fees and increased enforcement of licensing laws to offset those costs.

Pet Parks and also commented on Enforcement

- I have a well behaved dog that I will take full responsibility if anything ever happened or maybe because I pay to register my dog with the city of Dubuque and they provide nothing other than 1 dog park that is small forever away from my house and hardly ever well taken care of. I don't understand why business can decide to allow all dogs but yet something the people pay for with tax money who also pay to register dogs are not allowed
- I feel that all city green spaces should be open to leashed pets. A pet under leashed control would not cause significant problems and frankly, people littering seem to be a bigger problem than dog/cat feces.
- I would propose permitting dogs and cats in the Veterans Memorial Plaza within the Gerald "Red" McAleece Park and Recreation Complex, as it would be nice to bring our pets with us to watch games at the softball diamond or have picnics at the picnic tables. I would also propose allowing dogs and cats on playground and recreational areas designed for use by children as our pets may actively play with our children in those areas in cities that permit them.
- It's nice to have additional options for walking/hiking. Also, more places to play fetch (outside of the dog park) is always a bonus. So if there were other locations, such as the Mines of Spain or Swiss valley, where that could take place, that would be phenomenal.
- More dog parks.
- I would like the use of pet friendly salt if needed for safety. We have never had a dog that would wear those boots I would like to see some other area where dogs could run free. An enclosed park would be good especially for elderly who may have difficulty walking any distance. An area that does not get so muddy or soggy as current park

- I would like more options as to open fields where dogs can run off leash.

Safety and also commented on Waste, Farmer's Market

- I wish we could allow dogs in our parks. However, there are some problems that should be considered. I have a disability that makes me off balance and unsteady. Although I use a cane in public, it is dangerous for me when a dog attempts to jump up on me or his/her lease crosses my path threatening to cause a serious fall. The same thing would be danger for small children. Most owners are cognizant of this fact but many are not and seem oblivious to the harm that this could cause. I've noticed others take great care not to bump into or cause danger to someone who has a disability. Our poor pets are not capable of recognizing those situations.

- I'm concerned with the off-leash dogs at AY McDonald Park. I walk my dog their often and there's already owners not using a leash with dogs not under their control. Those of us owners who do control their dog and pick up after their pet shouldn't be punished for those that don't.

- Section A: Should address the ability and responsibility of the owner to physically handle multiple leashed dogs or dogs with aggressive behaviors.

- It may be helpful to clarify the length of allowable leash, even if defined elsewhere in the code. This would prevent confusion. A 6' leash is plenty and I have seen people with much longer leashes. This can be problematic. I definitely support pet-friendly parks, though.

- I agree in section A with the leash law. However I think impoundment takes to many resources and time. What if a dog is off leash and a animal control officer approaches and the owner places the dog on leash? I think I fine in those types of situations would be better the impoundment. This would give animal control more time to monitor for infractions rather than spending time on impoundment. Possibly impoundment after multiple infractions. Section B subsection i. I would like to see this removed or renamed to temporary signing. I could see temporarily restricting pets like at AY McDonald park during July 3rd. But having a broad statement to remove pets from any park with just a sign without any public input is not something I would like to see. Section E. The wording should be changed to solid waste or feces. It is not feasible to require urine pickup. As a responsible dog owner I hate seeing dog poop left by other owners. I would suggest adding a fine to this section for not picking up solid waste.

- I walk/ bike/jog on city owned property. The problem I often encounter is dog owners with their dog on an a lease that expands to approx.. 30 feet. Often when you come from behind the dog owner is unaware but the dog isn't and almost always approaches you. I would suggest amending the ordinance to state that all dogs must be on a 6 foot leash. There also has to be a stated fine for those dog owners who do not abide by the ordinance.

- Unleashed if wearing a remote collar

- I would like more options as to open fields where dogs can run off leash.

Waste and also commented on Enforcement

- It's not so much the problem of the pet usually but of the owner. Pose a fine to owners that do not pick up after their pet.

- There should be a fine noted for people who do not clean up after their pets. I am a dog owner and love being able to take my dog places but it frustrates me when i see piles of poop from other dogs where the pet owners ignore. This puts my pet at risk of catching something. Hence why i think it should be stated in the ordinance that pet owners are subject to a fine if caught. I love how AY Mcdonald parkvhas the waste bags making it easy to pick up and dispose of the waste. I also think that pets should be allowed in the McAleece park area. It is a nice big open flat area to walk. People who are boating like to bring their pets so they have to be allowed around the boat ramp areas. Also being so close to the campground where people also bring pets.
- Each handler should be required to have, within the range of the lease, a spare bag, for the purpose of waste collection. A leash length maximum, say, 6 feet. Animals sustaining aggressive behavior should be removed. In some cases, a proximity limit should be maintained, from restricted sites, as larger groups of people may fill a site. Say, ten feet from a perimeter. Each pet keeper should uphold all this, as a privilege, to sustain good standing in the community.
- More trash cans need to be provided by the city for owners to dispose of pet waste, not just confined to the downtown area. This would also cut down on the insane amount of litter throughout the city, as a bonus
- E. "Solid" waste. (Not urine.)
- I would suggest specific penalties for the failure to remove pet waste be included in the ordinance ("subject to but not limited to"). Monetary and/or community duty.
- I do think the park patrol should be able to give people a hefty ticket for not picking up the dog waste. I pick up after my dog and I get very upset when I see people not picking up after their dog. At least people should be able to report these people and it should be posted in the parks that citizens have the ability to report them, providing a license plate number, etc.
- The only change I would like to see is a fine for not picking up after your pets.
- I believe there should be a hefty fine for not picking up the animals waste and properly disposing of it. Possible small increase in licensing fee that would pay for waste bags to be located throughout the parks should someone run out of bags.

With Restrictions and also commented on Pet Parks

- Dogs and cats on leashes should be allowed into children parks if it is not busy or even vacant.
- Those of us who live in the Arboretum area would greatly benefit by allowing leashed pets in Marshall Park. We have a great neighborhood and the access to the park seems reasonable. If there's an issue with the flower beds, post signs preventing pets from those areas.
- I would like to see this develop in stages. Could we first have a handful of parks be pet friendly according to the ordinance, see how things go with these and then expand if things go well after a trial period? I am concerned. Most pet owners are responsible but there are always those who ruin it for the rest of us.
- Throw out part "i" under section B. City could just put up pet prohibited signs in parks to get around laws allowing pets in parks.
- There are lots of people who walk in the arboretum. It would be nice to be able to walk with our pets in these areas
- Allow leashes pets at downtown events such as Farmers Market , and others.

- Arboretum would be nice to take my dog to on her leash.
- I believe that pets should be allowed in Flora Park. The pool is enclosed by a fence and walking a dog through the main area of the park is not going to affect the pool or its patrons in any way.
- I think it would be very enjoyable for my pets and I to be able to go to the Arboretum and Gardens. As we would be able to explore the beautiful flowers and pond together. And of course, all waste would be clean up and disposed properly.
- Mcaleese should be open to dogs in the walking areas but not on the fields.
- Restaurants would be encouraged to permit well-behaved dogs to accompany their owner into the restaurant.
- Add areas where dogs can be off leash for exercise while supervised by owner. Allow dogs off leash in parks if nobody else is present or over a certain distance away.
- If your animal is restrained to a leash, while in the proposed parks, why can they not be allowed in areas with recreational equipment (letter h)?
- Unleashed should be allowed for fetch type games with pets, on the basis that they are well behaved
- I need clarification on Flora park pool (B, d) and areas designated for children (B, h). Does this ordinance refer to only Flora pool or is the park also prohibited? And since there are play areas for children at Flora, where would the pets be allowed? I would love to be able to walk my dog through this park on a leash, but the current ordinance is not clear on what would be allowed.
- I believe pets should also be prohibited at parks with unfenced areas that are used for sporting activities. For example, the cricket ground at Usha Park, the baseball & softball areas at Flora, Gay, Valentine, and any others where citizens could potentially step, fall, or dive into animal waste.
- I think allow access to unleash dogs in fences parks.
- Be more specific and list by name which parks fall into exclusion categories so there is no doubt or question if they are excluded.
- The subdivision by the arboretum has many dog owners that would love to be able to walk their dogs through the arboretum. I assume the reason for the arboretum not being on the list is keeping the beauty? Perhaps a special permit could allow this?
- I see no mention of Eagle Point park. However, I would like to see animals prohibited from all parks, except for service dogs for persons with disabilities. If appropriate, areas of the parks can be set aside for animals with obvious restrictions. Those areas should be so designated. All other areas of the parks should be animal free as the waste matter, and affects of humans can be detrimental. Dog parks are currently available for pet owners use if exercise and well being of their pets are of concern.
- Section B, item F, H, and I should be removed, as they make no sense. If a playground or fenced in arena isn't being used there is no reason my dog shouldn't be allowed there. I play fetch with my dog in tennis courts or hockey arenas often as they provide a fence to keep the ball contained. I would accept these line items if it says "while not I use by other users." Playground equipment can be great for agility training for dogs too, but I wouldn't ever use it while kids

are on said playground equipment. The last item, I, means that section A doesn't matter. It leaves it up to any location to post a sign to prohibit animals and that defeats the entire purpose of this new ordinance.

- I would recommend allowing dogs at mcaleece park as it's already stated they are not allowed inside the fenced areas there is a lot of other grassy and open areas that would be great to use for pets without any negative consequences
- Clarify that an "emotional support animal" does not exempt the prohibitions in section B as a registered Service animal does.
- Allow pets at Vets!
- There should be more exceptions than bergfield pond to the leash requirement. Many of our parks have sufficient room for training exercises.
- I would recommend adding a clause about pet-friendly programs (ie doggie dip at flora)

Comments from Citizens who responded "Yes, I agree with the proposed ordinance change." (394)

Accessible/More Locations for Pets

- I would urge the approval of the ordinance change. The parks where dogs are allowed are all a several mile drive away. It would be so nice to be able to walk the dog in our neighborhood park, where the walks are even and not hilly, there is no traffic, and one can meet with other dog walkers. And where one could walk several times a day, if so inclined. This is something the council can do to help out all of us at very low cost to the city. Please approve this change for the better!
- It has always been frustrating not being able to take my pet to one of Dubuque's great city parks. I also have considered there will be those owners who do not pick up after their dogs, but I feel this should be handled whenever witnessed by not only the park rangers, but other owners. There should be tickets written when a ranger sees this to send a message that it's not ok. It should also be communicated that self policing is a good thing in order to keep our parks clean and safe.
- I have a dog and know how difficult it is in Dubuque to find nice areas to walk him. We actively avoid going to many parks because we can't bring our dog. This ordinance will encourage more people to visit the beautiful parks around Dubuque because they can now bring their dogs.
- I would like to see leashed dogs allowed in more public places than they are today.
- I visit dubuque for shopping and to spend time walking the river trail and my dog is my companion I would love to have more areas that we are aloud in.
- I have 2 dogs and I would like to be able to take them for walks in the city parks and can't currently do so.
- Not enough green space for my dog. She needs to go to different parks and experience other things.
- Dog owner and would like t enjoy city parks with my dog
- Am a dog owner and would like to enjoy the city parks with my dog

- Allow in arboretum
- Our parks are great places to visit and would be a benefit to walk dogs through them as well. Strict adherence to owners picking up waste would be necessary and enforced.
- I have 3 dogs and they are my children. My husband and I enjoy taking our dogs with us when we walk and it would be nice to take them with us to the parks. Parks have less traffic which is safer for all pets.
- I am in support of leashed pets being allowed in almost all public spaces.
- My dog loves to be outside and it encourages me to get outside more often. My options are limited where I can take him. Flora & Eagle point are 2 parks I have lived near over the years and never went because my dog was not allowed. Give pet owners a chance to prove this can be done responsibly.

Family

- Dogs are part of families so they should be allowed to go into a park with its family.
- Pets are part of our families and should be allowed to accompany their families on outings in the park as long as they are leashed and picked up after
- I have children and I have dogs, often times when I get the kids and dogs out of the house for a walk we end up walking by a park since there are several in my neighborhood, the kids always want to stop and play and I have to tell them because we have to take the dogs home first and that always disappoints them to the point of not wanting to go to the park anymore.
- Our pet is like a close family member. We take our dog out for exercise at least twice a day and generally we are confined to sidewalks which are used by the walking traffic. We find the dog park to be small and most of the time muddy. We generally take our dog to Iowa City and typically shop and eat while there.
- Animals are just like us so we should be able to take them with us in parks. They need exercise just like us, too.
- Our animals are part of our family and they go every with us.
- My dog is my kid so not being able to enjoy time at a city location limits the walks and outings we can do as a family.
- Our family loves going to the beautiful parks in Dubuque and we would love to walk our dog when we go for walks as a family. This is a quality of life that is huge for not only families but also those young, single people our communities are trying to woo to Dubuque.
- Pets are family in most cases and not being able to take them with to a park for a walk or pictures is heartbreaking.
- Pets are a very important member of the modern family and should be as important to a progressive, inclusive community that wants to promote and inspire social connections between ALL members of that community. Over the past decade, throughout the entire country, those municipalities that have actively forged a productive relationship with responsible pet owners have also shown tremendous social and economic growth within their communities. Allowing pets in the parks would be a wonderful, symbolic start to forging that win-win relationship.
- Dogs are family members to many people which is why they should be allowed to join us in parks and other places we visit. I travel with my dog and choose places to visit that are dog friendly. I believe it has been a negative for Dubuque to have such restrictive policies toward dogs in parks and other public places. I'm sure this has been a factor in whether someone chooses to visit or move into our community. Dubuque is also in need of a much larger and more enriching dog park where dogs can run free, socialize and be involved in other positive activities.

- I'm a pet owner myself and a dog lover. Getting outside and taking my dog with me is something I enjoy doing. Not many spots available to do that in Dubuque unlike other bigger or more developed cities. Some pets are like part of the family to people and taking them with is all apart of the fun.
- I believe responsible owners be allowed to have their family members and pets with them for family outings.
- Being able to enjoy the parks with my pet is important to me. Both my pet and I can get our exercise in the relaxing atmosphere of the city parks, while having the pet on a leash. Off leash dogs will still have access to the dog park. I love to take my pet to family function in the parks because they are part of the family.
- The role of pets in families has changed for some over the years where they are now family members. That's not so new to me. I've held them in that regard my entire life. It's about time Dubuque parks become pet friendly and let us take all of our family members with us.
- Our dogs are a huge part of our lives, and being to share our lives with others and enjoy the scenery of Dubuque helps us feel like part of the community we've come to love.
- I believe that allowing pets in our city parks would only be beneficial to Dubuque. There are many people in the community where their dog is extremely important to them, including my self. I know that having the ability to bring my dog with me to more venues around the city would raise my view and morale in terms of the City of Dubuque. I personally owned a Certified Therapy Dog that currently spends three days of the week at Jefferson Middle School with my fiance, who is a 6th grade science teacher there. Our dog has been able to help a multitude of situations within the school and community. This coming week he will start spending Monday nights at a local retirement home. There are so many positive attributes to the presence of pets throughout a community. The limiting factor, of dogs not being welcome within Dubuque is definitely a down side, and purely sad. I am 24 years old, and have thought of and continue to think about moving because the lack of dog friendly places. I have been to many places where dogs are allowed in an out of almost every establishment throughout a town, which is so extremely important to me. For my generation, dogs are extremely important and are an integral part of their families. There is only one dog park, in an inconvenient place to many people of Dubuque and they are not allowed in parks. That creates a restricting community for our dogs and pets. If you want to continue to make this community appealing to the younger generations, making a more pet, friendly community is a necessity. I hope you make the right decision.

Park Usage Increase

- I think our parks would be used more if they were pet friendly.
- I specifically do not go to parks because I cannot bring my dog with me. I am a responsible dog owner but it is unfortunate that even I cannot bring my dog to enjoy parks in Dubuque. Dubuque is very unfriendly to dog owners.
- Our family would use parks more if we could bring our dog.
- As a dog owner, I find it difficult and frustrating that I can't take my dog to beautiful places around Dubuque - such as Eagle Point Park. If I could take my dog to parks in Dubuque I would walk my dog all the time at various Dubuque parks. I'm 100% sure that parks around Dubuque will see a more visits.
- I am a dog owner and love taking my dogs disc golfing. It is a shame that i can't utilize the course inside dubuque even with my dogs on a leash.

- Not a dog owner but would like to see parks more utilize. Parks are for the entire community, not just traditional families. They should be a built environment that can be enjoyed by all. Let's encourage people to be apart of a community by engaging in our community.

Responsible Pet Owners

- I believe that a majority of pet owners are responsible. Our dog is part of our family.

- If they are licensed and on a leash, pets are under the control of the owner. As a taxpayer, I should be able to use the public areas (within reason) equally as all other community users.

- Its reasonable what they are asking. I walk my dog every day and in my pocket or my hand you will find a waste bag. I have had people stop and thank me for picking up after my dog.

- I believe this would be great, especially for those people who cannot drive somewhere with their pet. The pet owner must be responsible for their pet when in a public park. And if they were, maybe most parks would allow dogs. Train them right and treat them right. It is a win-win situation. I like taking my dog to a country or county park.

- If dogs are on leashes at all times and waste is picked up, there should be no problem with allowing them in parks

- I feel Dubuque is doing an in service to responsible dog owners by not allowing pets in parks. As long as pet owners keep their dog leashed and clean up after them it should be allowed.

- I believe it is in the best interest of the city and all residents to allow leashed pets in the parks as listed in the above ordinance.

- As long as a dog or cat is on a leash and the waste is picked up, I agree that they should be allowed. Pets are a big part of people's lives now and are good company for picnics and gatherings.

- I am a responsibly dog owner and feel my dogs should be able to be at the park with me on leash.

- Responsible dog owners should not be punished for irresponsible owners. Pets should be allowed in parks.

-Dogs are like family and the majority of the time less of a threat than humans. Responsible pets and owners should not be penalized due to the few irresponsible ones.

-Leashed animals should be allowe din parks. They are being controlled by there human provider and should cause no harm to others.

-Responsible pet owners should be able to walk dogs in the parks.

- For me personally. I train dogs to be therapy dogs, ESA dog and to show . I need to be able to have the freedom in the city to socialize my dogs in many different situations with people and places. Very hard to do when I'm so limited as to where I can go to socialize and introduce my dogs to situations that they might encounter on a day-to-day basis as a therapy dog.Currently I have to leave the city in order to properly socialized my dogs in all areas needed.

- We are completely responsible with our dogs and would love to be able to take him more places.

- Common sense proposal is appreciated! I trust the penalty for animal waste violations will be strong & meaningful

- The animals are not the problem, it's the pet owners. Pet owners must take responsibility for the actions of the pet, injuries, waste, and care don't fall on the Pet, but the owner. Allow pets to go where the owners want to go, and hold the owner responsible for the pets actions. It's that simple.

- Because when we walk, we walk our dog. The parks are so beautiful, we'd appreciate the opportunity to be able to stroll through them with our pet.
- I think the ordinance is still far too strict, but is a step in the right direction.
- I think that as long as owners are responsible and follow rules. Dogs can safely be at parks. I think a dog-friendly city is a pleasure. Walking your dog through a park is relaxing and enjoyable, and seeing dogs in parks is also relaxing to most pedestrians.

Welcoming Community/Progress/Quality of Life

- Dogs are an huge part of American culture. In order to attract new businesses and employees, this is an easy change to come in-line with other modern cities.
- I believe it is an improvement to our parks.
- Personal enjoyment with pet and economic development potential
- The parks seem to be underutilized as it stands. Dogs that are social are better trained and it is an opportunity for dog owners to socialize as well. Makes for a better community overall.
- Attractive dog parks and off lead hiking areas are a significant quality of life factor at nominal cost and would make Dubuque a better place to live and attractive to visitors.
- I chose yes to allow pets in parks as a pet owner and as a citizen that believes in allowing people freedom of choice. Dubuque continues to punish responsible pet owners because of a few bad ones by excluding them in the community. This has been a discussion for last 10 years in Dubuque and it's about time Dubuque steps up for all their citizens that pay taxes. You go to basically any other city, and pets are allowed in parks, which is great and makes me feel included in the community when traveling.
- Our policies to restrict pets has been a point of embarrassment for years. When I go to other pet-friendly cities, such as San Antonio, my irritation is further provoked. Aside from my personal opinions, however, I wonder what the economic impact has been due to potential newcomers deciding AGAINST choosing Dubuque as their residence due to our archaic, restrictive ordinances against animals in public.
- I believe the city has an interest in healthy citizens and expansion of areas of the city where dogs can be walked will support the health of the owners.
- It is about time that dogs are allowed into Dubuque public spaces. The policy not allowing dogs feels very regressive and puts Dubuque in a negative light.
- This is LONG overdue. With more and more young people owning pets rather than having children, how do you expect to entice them to Dubuque? Dubuque is one of the least pet friendly places that I've ever been to. You are losing out on revenue because the city council are too stubborn for their own good.
- We have to beat more welcoming community. Some times we fail and this is a place this beautiful community fails.
- I would love to take my dog on walks through city parks for leisure & exercise!!!

- Yes because it will allow for these parks and recreation areas to be better utilized and enjoyed by ALL residents and promote an active and healthy lifestyle.
- As a recent graduate, I decided to stay in the city with my husband because of the wonderful community we found here during college. We love our jobs and our home, and the small-town feel with plenty of things to do that Dubuque has to offer! However, one thing that does truly impact our lives here in Dubuque is the current lack of pet friendly facilities and areas. Our parents both live hours away, and both have dogs. When either set wants to come and stay, there are only a select number of places that they are able to stay that allow dogs, and finding places to exercise them after their long car rides can be difficult. We are also hoping to get a dog ourselves within the next year, but are concerned about the availability of places to bring them. Allowing dogs in the aforementioned parks would be a huge reason that we would feel comfortable adopting a dog, and also be a huge asset to encouraging us and our friends who have dogs to remain in Dubuque for years to come. Our pets are our family, and we want to treat them as such! Fulfilling their basic need to run off energy and play is a big deal to us in being responsible pet owners, and I think passing the above ordinance would be a huge asset to Dubuque.
- I see no issue in having a leashed, well behaved dog or cat in these areas under the supervision of an owner. Many cities across the country have already implemented these types of ordinances and it creates a more inclusive and positive environment for all.
- A welcoming community is a pet friendly community. I support this ordinance wholeheartedly and hope to see even more improvements in our city for pets and their owners. Thank you for considering the proposed ordinance.
- Dubuque needs to make being a pet friendly a top priority if the city wants to attract and retain young adults. It will also make Dubuque a better place to visit for our of town visitors since right now, they only have a muddy dog park. I travel all over the country for work and almost all cities allow dogs in parks and outdoor dining establishments. It's time for Dubuque to make the change.
- From Dubuque now living in Chicago where it is very pet friendly. Dubuque should be the same
- It hurts the standard of living to have such restrictions on where your dog can go.
- This change would encourage people to get outside for fresh air and exercise with their pets. Healthier for all. Cities like Denver are very dog friendly- you see the city providing frequently accessible dog waste bags and receptacles encouraging people to get out with their pets and be responsible to keeping city clean. In Denver, I have witnessed well managed dogs and happy pets and people being out and active socially. Why not encourage this happier and healthier lifestyle in the city of Dubuque. What to improve mental health- promote pet ownership , getting out socially and to exercise in the fresh air!
- I am in favor of moving into a dog-friendly city. The time is right!
- I would like to see Dubuque be more in line with what other cities allow in terms of dogs in parks, and this goes a long way towards that. I would also like to see more dog parks, especially in areas where the community is less mobile, perhaps a fenced-in area of an existing park.
- Inclusive environment
- Those who are responsible pet owners are those who want equal access to our City's parks. They want the right to exercise their pets in public areas, safely introduce their pets to different surroundings and situations, and have access to waste bins to properly dispose of their pets' waste. Irresponsible pet owners aren't concerned with any of the above points, and a few irresponsible owners should not mean taking these rights away from the rest of us.

- It would be amazing to be able to bring my dog to parks in town. This would make the community more approachable from a tourist point of view for those who travel with pets. Perhaps a suggestion would be to put more trash cans up for easier access when throwing away their waste.
- I used to visit Dubuque for the day 1-4 times per year. Then 8 years ago I got my first dog and discovered that pets are not welcome in Dubuque public spaces. Now, I don't even stop for gas or a rest stop in Dubuque when I am driving through to Wisconsin. I stop in Worth or Drsville instead. You lost my tourism.
- This proposed ordinance change is what I have been waiting and hoping for for several years. I believe that it would improve the quality of life here in Dubuque. We have many wonderful parks, but I do not visit them as often as I would like to due to the fact that dogs are not allowed in most. It is such a pleasure to visit A.Y. McDonald Park, where dogs are allowed. When our dog is with us, she draws people to us, and we talk and are friendly with people who we have never met before and would most likely not talk to otherwise. It helps build community!
- I think it's a huge step forward!
- These changes are common sense and long overdue for our city.
- I am a dog owner/lover and would love to see Dubuque get more pet friendly. We have kids that live in Kansas City, KS and Portland, OR. Dubuque is way behind the times. Move forward Dubuque!!!
- About time we have pets in parks. As long as people clean up waste
- It is just time.....
- I think it is about time Dubuque moved up with a new ordinance for dogs. There are a lot of responsible dog owners who would so enjoy having their pets with them in parks. The irresponsible- ticket and fine
- This would be a fantastic addition to Dubuque.
- Dubuque needs to be more pet friendly which gets citizens outside and enjoying tax payers dollars!
- We love walking to the park and it would be great if we could bring our dog with while our kids play.
- My dog is my best friend, and I love to be able to take him places other than just on a walk. My brother lives in Colorado and the whole entire state is so pet friendly and it is WONDERFUL to bring my dog out there to explore places and things he could NEVER here in Dubuque. Pets are FAMILY, and it's about time we recognize that
- It is now 2020 and Dubuque is extremely far behind other metropolitan when it comes to pet friendly locations. Pets have proven to make citizens more active, involved in the community, and happier overall. Research shows people often choose where to live based on their pets and nearby pet-friendly amenities and services. Dubuque could, and will, suffer as a city if this ordinance does not change soon.
- This 50 year old ordinance is long-past its usefulness. I am a tax-paying, law-abiding, responsible Dubuque citizen, and I want to be legally able to walk my leashed dog through a city park.
- I support the proposed ordinance based on scientific research proving increased physical and mental health benefits of interactions with companion animals. Allowing companion animals in public parks and recreational areas gives individuals more space and opportunities to interact, therefore promoting greater physical and mental health. Thank you for your time and consideration.
- This is long overdue!

- Dubuque has not been a dog friendly community, to its detriment.
- The proposed change would be one step in making Dubuque a more pet-friendly community. Over 5 years ago, Dubuque allowed pets in several city parks and in the following years, and since then, there has not been a discernible change in the number of park violations involving pets in parks. The Parks Commission and the Pet-Friendly Community Group has worked hard to craft this proposed ordinance along with community-wide education programs for responsible pet ownership. Dubuque is the only city of the top 15 cities in Iowa that does not allow leashed pets in their city parks. We need to change with the current ordinance so that it's not a criminal act to walk a leashed pet in our city parks!
- I believe that Dubuque is so behind the times in being a pet friendly community. I fully support any ordinance that would allow pets in our community more.
- It's unfortunate dogs are currently not allowed in parks.
- Having pet friendly exercise trails and parks is very attractive to people who are looking to relocate. When we moved here in August, I couldn't believe every trail we drove to that weekend had a sign posted for no pets. Where we lived before, responsible pet owners brought their dogs everywhere, including restaurant patios and breweries. I have no idea how long the current ordinance has been on the books but change needs to take place as soon as possible. Thank you.
- This city is supposed to be an All American city, it's about time we quit living in the dark ages. People who have pets, would like to be able to include them in family outings.
- It is time to stop punishing responsible pet owners and limiting access to green space for fear of fear what "might" be the actions of some irresponsible people.
- Let's get on with it. Dubuque is one of the least pet-friendly cities in the midwest and we are way behind the times. The lowest common denominator, the one who will complain about this, and probably everything else, should NOT be accommodated any longer, on this and so many other things. Pet friendly = people friendly. Irresponsible pet owners (the very few there are) must be accountable, but enough passing rules because a few are stupid. Halloween candy in a parade rules for example, but I digress. Pass this now and be done. We've studied it to death. I was in Oregon this summer for a couple of days. Dogs everywhere. Problems with it no where. The MOST pet friendly state, I was told. It was refreshing to be in a culture where the default is to trust people to think and be responsible, rather than prohibit things to address and guard against the few idiots (who won't respond anyway). Thank you. Let's get this done now. It's not a big breakthrough to make this logical change to our overly prohibitive civic rules. The start of many improvements one would hope in civic freedoms.
- After 50 years, it's time to decriminalize dog walking in Dubuque city parks. During a 5-year trial, owners have proven to be responsible at the Mississippi Riverwalk, A.Y. McDonald Park, Bee Branch Greenway, trails, and other prized spaces. Therefore, I urge the Parks Commission and City Council to pass this ordinance and finally allow pet owners and their families to experience Dubuque's most beautiful outdoor spaces -- from their neighborhood parks to Eagle Point Park -- without feeling like criminals. This is a carefully crafted ordinance which brings Dubuque in step with cities nationwide, and aligns with many city council goals. Goals such as having a vibrant, healthy community with liveable, walkable neighborhoods and a truly inclusive atmosphere. It will improve quality of life for residents, better welcome visitors, and help Dubuque retain essential workforce to remain economically competitive. It is written to hold owners accountable for their animals, to protect children's play areas, veterans' memorials, and historic structures within parks, and to include a large pet-free park and playground (Marshall Park) for those who wish to avoid pets. Once passed, it can be enforced and adjusted if needed, and the Pongos and Perditas of Dubuque will finally have a chance to meet and mingle in the fresh air with their pet Rogers and Anitas. Tremendous thanks is owed to all Parks & Recreation

Commissioners, Pet Friendly Committee Members, and devoted staff who have worked so hard on this important policy change - now, and over the past decade. The people and pets of Dubuque will rejoice when it is finally passed into law.

- Dubuque has been anti-dog for too long. This would make Dubuque more livable for everyone with a dog.
- Pet friendly parks would attract younger people to the area and be a convenience to everyone who has a pet. There isn't a reason people shouldn't be able to cross a place like Wahington park while walking their dog.
- After living in about 10 different towns in Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois I have landed in Dubuque. I am extremely disappointed to say that Dubuque is hands down the LEAST pet friendly town that not only I've lived in but even traveled to throughout the states. Not only should they be allowed in ALL parks, they should be allowed in restaurants if the owners so choose. I understand that not everyone enjoys pets, but allowing them into all public parks and places doesn't force the people to interact with pets, it merely offers the opportunity.
- This would be a valuable improvement to Dubuque. Please highly consider this change.
- The number one reason we consider moving out of Dubuque is the lack of pet friendly places to take our family. There is a beautiful park near our house and we were shackled when we couldn't take our dogs there. We have lived in 5 cities around America, 2 larger than Dubuque and none of the others had a pet ban.
- This makes Dubuque more dog friendly than it has ever been in the past.
- we need to be more dog/family friendly in this town
- Dubuque is behind the time. Look at all of the other bigger cities in Iowa. They all allow leashed dogs and cats in city parks. Its time for Dubuque to make the change.
- I am a native Dubuquer (64 years old) growing up in the area of what is now called Louis Murphy Park and the past 37 1/2 years in Point Area of Dubuque. Have always had dogs in my family as now we have 2 dogs, a border collie rescue and a golden retriever. My son and I walk everyday. We frequent A.Y. McDonald with our dogs and have not witnessed any issues with people not complying with rules. Dogs and people and bike riders seem to co-exist well. The parks are for everyone to enjoy including pet owners who are not only enjoying the great outdoors but getting exercise.
- Love it! Can't wait to have pets in our parks. Thanks for doing this!

Eagle Point and also commented on With restrictions

- Anything but pit bulls . Make eagle point free. Was a horrible decision to keep the tax payers out
- Opens up a great park for dogs: Eagle Point!

Enforcement

- I would like to see the License money stay here in Dubuque. I do not like sending a check to Texas for license requirements here in Dubuque.
- The owner should receive a serious warning instead of impounding the animal if found off leash for the first offense.
- I am completely in favor of fining owners that do not pick-up their pet's waste. Is this in place already?
- The only thing I would put in. If you get caught leaving animal waste, you can get fined up to \$200 or something along those lines. Enough where people might actually respect the privilege to along animals in the parks.

Pet Parks

-As the pet park is the main place animals can be off leash, I would like to see other options or pet parks to be established. Can we have three pet parks, one on west end, the current "mid town" and one on east end to help those all around the city.

-Being a pet-friendly community is more and more important to people. A nice big dog park is also needed.

-I am a frequent user of the dog park. It desperately needs some maintenance. There are areas where standing water collects after rain and the areas in front of the cement are constantly muddy. Maybe they should be gravel? A hose with a sprayer would be an excellent addition to deal with muddy paws and dogs. A trail between the park and Bunker would be a welcome addition.

-Is there another spot in addition to Bergfeld for off-leash parks? Maybe something of the eastside of town? The Pet Park is sad.

Safety

-I agree, but I strongly encourage dog owners to PLEASE KEEP THEIR DOGS ON A LEASH.

- There is limited green space in most neighborhoods. Also, with more people using in-ground fencing, it is becoming more challenging to actually walk a dog on a sidewalk without getting attacked by unsupervised dogs. I would also feel safer walking in a park by myself with a dog.

Waste

-I am for dogs/cats in parks if leashes and waste disposal is enforced as I feel this will be the biggest challenge/obstacle

-I would like to take my dog on walks on trails or in parks. I do think there should be bags and receptacles provided, as too many pet owners are not responsible.

-Fines for not picking up pet's waste

-Advise that parks provide doggy clean up bag stations and available trash recepticals. Would like to see/hear what the plan is for disease control in commonly used parks- for both humans and animal concerns Please add another dog park!

-Owners can be responsible for the pick up of any poop, have trash cans available and require leashes.

- I think the proposed ordinance is fair. My concern is owners picking up waste in areas - and being held accountable if they do not.

With restrictions

-As of now 5 out of 48 Parks are Pet friendly. I propose opening up half of our Parks to start with and see how it goes. Change is always hard for Dubuque residence but it do not make it right! So after a 2 or 3 year test lets them see it will work out for all that live in our beautiful city!! Remember we always need to move forward not stationary or backwards.....

- Signs need to be very clear about prohibited areas, for example staying away from any playground equipment. Dog waste bags and garbage containers very accessible.
- You can skip all the small print rules and just go with parks posted that let's not allowed. This is a great step in making Dubuque a livable and viable community.
- Pets are an important part of many people's lives and should be allowed in certain public areas.
- There needs to be more access for dog owners to be able to walk their dogs in the city of Dubuque. Increasing the amount of open space and off leash walking paths can improve the lives of not only dogs but their owners by making more of a community socialization.
- It would benefit many families and pet owners by allowing leashed dogs and cats in the areas listed above.
- There may be a problem with people tying up their dogs at city parks, and staying there all day long. That is when dogs can bark at everyone who walks by, and make dead areas in the grass. Would it be beneficial to address this? Maybe, allow dogs to be leashed and walking, but not allowing them to be tied up for any extended period?

Agree/support

- I support changing the ordinance to allow leashed pets in parks, as outlined above.
- I think it's reasonable to allow park users to come with their pets. I appreciate the effort the committee's efforts to solicit input and to provide educational materials. The proposed restrictions, i.e. at pools, children's playgrounds, etc. also seem reasonable.
- I also feel dogs should be able to be at restaurants that have outside seating. Even with food present. Let's get pet friendly. In Germany dogs are allowed inside restaurants
- I have 2 Golden Retrievers that are very friendly and love other people and dogs.
- I would love to see our community using our beautiful parks more and I think allowing dogs access would increase the number of people and frequency that people visit substantially
- I think it will increase the park attendance
- Neat!
- People want to be able to enjoy our beautiful parks w/their companion and best friends, their animals.
- Pets in parks is a good idea.
- Dogs should be allowed in parks
- I live by Flora park and I see dogs there a lot. Either people are not aware of the current ordinance or don't care. Most parks have plenty of room for people and dogs to enjoy the green spaces separately and so I would like to see dogs allowed.
- I have a dog and would love if she could join me for walks in parks and she would love it, too!
- I support allowing dogs in parks on a leash!
- Dogs are the biggest fans of parks.

- Only change would be to allow an exception for last day of pools at Sutton / Flora.
- I like what is proposed. I think if problems arise adjustments should be made annually.
- I agree with the proposed ordinance

I love animals!