

ORDINANCE NO. 11 - 22

By: Sam Marcellino

An ordinance to provide for designated off-leash areas within Schneider Park.

Whereas, funding and a recreational easement for the planned Bexley Dog Park at Schneider Park have been obtained; and

Whereas, Bexley code must be amended in order to allow for legal operation of the dog park; and

Whereas, the Mayor has proposed also providing for off-leash hours in trails adjacent to the dog park, in order to provide for a legal off-leash option for dog owners in Bexley;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEXLEY:

Section 1

That 618.01 Dogs and Other Animals Running at Large, is hereby amended as follows:

618.01 DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE.

(a) No person who is the owner or keeper of any animal shall permit it to run at large upon any public property, including, without limitation, sidewalks and streets, or upon the premises of another.

(b) No owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog shall permit it to go beyond the premises of the owner, keeper or harbinger unless the dog is on a leash, cord or tether of not more than six feet in length, which is controlled by a person of such age, size and discretion that he is capable of preventing the dog from approaching any person or other animal in a menacing fashion, **with the exception of conditions outlined in section (d).**

(c) No owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog shall fail at any time to keep it either physically confined or restrained upon the premises of the owner, keeper or harbinger by a leash, tether, adequate fence, or secure enclosure to prevent escape, or under reasonable control of a person of such age, size and discretion that he is capable of preventing the dog from approaching any person or other animal in a menacing fashion.

(d) Notwithstanding the following, the Mayor may authorize designated off-leash areas within Schneider Park, along with restrictions that he or she deems appropriate. Any owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog shall only permit their dog to be off-leash within designated areas if their dog has demonstrated an ability to obey verbal

commands and has not at any time been classified as a Dangerous or Vicious Dog by the City of Bexley or any other jurisdiction. Any owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog that is off-leash in designated off-leash areas shall maintain reasonable control of their dog, and shall ensure that their dog is within view at all times.

(e) Strict liability is intended to be imposed for a violation of this section.

(f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

Section 2.

That this ordinance shall go into effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

Passed: 5/10, 2022

Attest: Matt McPeek
Matt McPeek, Clerk of Council

Troy Markham
Troy Markham, President of Council

Approved: May 10, 2022

Ben Kessler
Mayor Ben Kessler

First Reading: April 12, 2022

Second Reading: April 26, 2022

Third Reading: May 10, 2022