

\$(custom1) = Emma Long

Survey Question Date Entered Survey Record Number Open Ended Text Statement

Please select the county which you reside.

Identify the reasons you choose \$(custom1) for you visit? Select 1 or more...

10/8/2009	5113343	Grew up going there and live 2 blocks away. I don't have time to travel to other parks before or after work.
10/8/2009	5117042	Easy to keep dogs in view
10/9/2009	5126435	Long, SAFE, trails for dogs with shade and water
10/9/2009	5128649	it's a natural environment, not fenced in or on a highway
10/9/2009	5131618	I am active with the well-organized Friends of REd Bud Isle for purposes of maintenance
10/12/2009	5206743	It's beautiful
10/15/2009	5315181	one of few fenced dog parks in city
10/17/2009	5373127	off leash with natural boundaries to prevent cars, runners, bikes
10/19/2009	5420244	Nnatural setting and trails for trekking with multiple water crossings
10/19/2009	5423483	Off leash, part of the trails ar lit
10/19/2009	5427275	It's good for both human and canine mental health!
10/20/2009	5443064	beautiful when open...
10/22/2009	5477282	we also meet with friends and walk to the park with their 2 dogs
10/26/2009	5592391	it's beautiful and not too crowded
10/26/2009	5595765	Big open area for the dogs to romp.
10/27/2009	5617068	Natural Beauty
10/28/2009	5651265	dogs are spread out throughout the trail and are not in one big clump, better socializing for my dog to just sniff and move on
10/29/2009	5689088	that beautiful new grass
10/30/2009	5700465	restroom availability
11/1/2009	5734820	Beautiful park - dog owners take good care of it
11/4/2009	5815236	pretty area
11/7/2009	5869559	it is leash free.
11/8/2009	5895848	Socialization of my dogs with other dogs
11/8/2009	5898720	There are a lot of regular users who care for and informally keep the place clean, loved, and protected.
11/9/2009	5938020	Most of the dogs listen to their owners.
11/12/2009	6022733	off leash
11/18/2009	6183252	A great group of dog owners--and therefore a great group of well socialized dogs.

How do you stay informed or follow current information on \$(custom1)? Select all that apply.

10/8/2009	5106217	neighborhood dog email
10/8/2009	5106260	Active "Friends Of..."
10/8/2009	5110125	Friends of TURkey Creek
10/8/2009	5113343	Other Bull Creek Park patrons.
10/8/2009	5118101	friends
10/9/2009	5127868	OLA group
10/9/2009	5128652	there is very little info about this OLA
10/9/2009	5131618	Friends of Red Bud Isle maintenance group
10/10/2009	5156746	Word of mouth
10/10/2009	5163197	read posted signs at park
10/11/2009	5170974	i receive email updates from friends of emma long
10/12/2009	5187875	meet up. com - Vizlsa group frequently meets there
10/12/2009	5206743	friends - conversations
10/15/2009	5307665	Neighborhood list serves and friends
10/22/2009	5497614	other dog owners
10/27/2009	5617068	Word of mouth.
10/27/2009	5630808	other dog owners
11/8/2009	5898720	Friends of Turkey Creek is a Google Group, also active on park volunteer work days, and know park staff.

11/10/2009 [5948798](#) NeighborHood Web Site and newsletter
 11/18/2009 [6183252](#) word of mouth from other dog owners

In the transition from parking to entering $\$(\text{custom1})$ you stated some "hazards" are present. List those hazards.

10/8/2009 [5106217](#) Cars driving through the parking lot at speed, double parking, loose dogs in parking lot. Parking is completely inadequate for numbers using park.
 10/8/2009 [5107660](#) Hazards include getting two excited dogs across a busy parking lot and away from kids that may be playing near parking lot.
 10/8/2009 [5107636](#) Crossing a sometimes busy street.
 10/8/2009 [5109135](#) Other cars coming in or leaving area.
 10/8/2009 [5110125](#) jkjkjk
 10/8/2009 [5111921](#) Lots of cars driving around looking for parking.
 10/8/2009 [5112604](#) Trail goes too close to City Park Road.
 10/8/2009 [5113739](#) need barrier between parking lot and road
 10/9/2009 [5125419](#) Auto traffic cuts through too fast. Joggers and bicyclists should bypass the off-leash area via the adjacent sidewalk but cut through OLA instead.
 10/9/2009 [5125631](#) Not always enough parking, so sometimes have to next to the road. Then have to walk near the road.
 10/9/2009 [5126435](#) Poor conditions in parking lot - parking directly adjacent to very busy roadway with poor sight lines
 10/9/2009 [5126786](#) busy parking lot and city streets, no fencing/gate structure to protect dogs
 10/9/2009 [5128455](#) Moving vehicles, other unleashed dogs
 10/9/2009 [5128649](#) if you aren't lucky enough to get one of the spot in the lot, you are forced to park out on the side of the street, which is not the safest area - esp because of the windy roads on which the park entrance exists
 10/9/2009 [5138709](#) Drivers drive too fast on road by Bull Creek
 10/10/2009 [5156746](#) Trash (broken glass and food) in parking lot
 10/10/2009 [5158626](#) Cars and a road
 10/10/2009 [5163197](#) others maniacally trying to find parking, crossing streets (the new lighted crossings are great, but there are people crossing all over the place)
 10/10/2009 [5163506](#) If you have to park on the street, then crossing Red Bud Trail is dangerous w/ two dogs and a toddler
 10/12/2009 [5204399](#) crossing walk at Lamar Ave.
 10/12/2009 [5206743](#) When I park next to the bridge at first street, I must watch out for other cars in the parking lot when crossing the parking lot to get to the grass where the park is.
 10/19/2009 [5417937](#) There is an area right before crossing Turkey Creek the first time where unleashed dogs could run into the road.
 10/19/2009 [5419726](#) dogs frequently off leash in parking lot.
 10/25/2009 [5563766](#) Cars backing in and out of the parking lot, parking lot is small and is next to street.
 11/2/2009 [5761853](#) Blind corner at underpass.
 11/2/2009 [5771514](#) dogs can easily chase after say a squirell and run into the road
 11/2/2009 [5784672](#) When parallel parking (due to a full parking lot) I get extremely nervous with my dog so close to riverside.
 11/4/2009 [5815236](#) When parking is full and need to walk thru the parking lot.
 11/5/2009 [5841758](#) May need to cross riverside dr if parking is not available at a lot on the same side as dog park (which it often is not).
 11/5/2009 [5846018](#) It is somewhat dangerous to have cars driving/parking so close to an off-leash area, as people are not always watching for dogs and may drive too fast.
 11/6/2009 [5858705](#) Traffic. Cars do not always stop for pedestrians in crosswalk
 11/7/2009 [5866564](#) Traffic. Drivers do not always stop for people and/or dogs in crosswalks
 11/7/2009 [5872369](#) The trail parallels the street with fast traffic. A fence is present but only for a few feet. A few more yards of fencing could be added so that dogs don't get into the street.
 11/10/2009 [5943025](#) many people take dogs off leash in parking area.
 11/10/2009 [5948798](#) Cross a street on which people tend to speed
 11/10/2009 [5965167](#) Right after you leave the parking lot, you walk a short way, and then there is an area right on the road that is essentially unfenced (just one plank).
 11/12/2009 [6010842](#) parking lot is close to a road where people drive fast and there is no fence
 11/14/2009 [6063074](#) Parking lot and entrance are too close to the street.
 11/19/2009 [6238690](#) passing cars

You answered "Yes" $\$(\text{custom1})$ is shared with other park patrons. Check all that apply. Select 1 or more...

10/8/2009 [5106217](#) fishing, firefighter water practice
 10/8/2009 [5106656](#) Swimming
 10/8/2009 [5113343](#) Rock climbing
 10/9/2009 [5126808](#) Swimming
 10/9/2009 [5128652](#) There is a playscape next to the parking and OLA
 10/9/2009 [5131618](#) Fishing

10/9/2009	5133790	fishing swimming
10/15/2009	5307665	Events - Blues on the Green, etc. where dogs attend
10/15/2009	5315364	bird watching; nature hike
10/19/2009	5419726	birding
10/19/2009	5423483	Handicap
10/21/2009	5455386	swimming
11/6/2009	5860605	I'm not sure what it is that's being asked here.
11/10/2009	5943025	fishing
11/14/2009	6063074	Hiking
11/15/2009	6102785	fishing

Please share with us any ideas you have that can help improve the City of Austin's Off-Leash Areas.

10/8/2009	5105770	I really think you need a carrot and stick approach. There is no policing and people still refuse to pick up the poop. I think that is the biggest issue, I've never seen not control their animals. But I have seen people look away when the dog poops. A few highly publicized fines/tickets would help. Other cities do it. I pick up after my dog and i think it is a reasonable exchange for the privilege to use the park. I do think there needs to be some improved signage. I wish PARD would block off areas so the grass can re-grow, in general I think Auditorium Shores is way overused for events and it just beats the heck out of the grass. I go there almost every day (headed there as soon as this is done) and love it but with some minor tweaks think it could be even better. I volunteered to serve on the OLA committee but am pretty sure I'm too middle class and too white to be considered!
10/8/2009	5106470	
10/8/2009	5106217	Water must be available for dogs, trails are helpful for walking dogs who don't want to socialize, there MUST be adequate parking if people outside immediate neighborhoods are using the area, park area must be large enough (West Austin Park is not large enough for my dog to be comfortable; although I live two block away from it I do not use it.)
10/8/2009	5106260	Am a big fan of Turkey Creek just as it is - it is rough and un-developed and much like Walnut Creek, is one of the few locations where I feel good about letting my dog run through the brush and creeks. I *do* think it would be a good idea to have one or more small fenced parks for smaller dogs. While I do not own a small dog, I have seen how hard it is for some other dog owners to feel safe with their little dogs around the packs of bigger dogs. Maybe a section at Riverside or LadyBird? Because of the undeveloped land, I realize it is really not practical for PARD to have more trash cans further into the trail, but when you guys get those little flying cars going, it would be nice to have another trashcan at the trail loop split - I always see doggie bags in that area that people have apparently gotten tired of carrying at that point in the trail... until then, I guess I'll keep picking them up on my way back to the trail head.
10/8/2009	5106613	I applaud your efforts to save Bull Creek. It's in distress. Not every dog owner who visits there is against the rehabilitation and crack down on it. Do what you need to do to save our parks. The parks come first! Parks for Children and Adults come second. Dog parks come 3rd. IMO, and I'm a dog owner who frequents them. Really, protect the park land. It's getting damaged so quickly. Do what you need to do. and THANKS for all you do. xoxox
10/8/2009	5106744	
10/8/2009	5106656	Please enforce the "scoop the poop" law. People are lazy and have not been held accountable, and us responsible dog owners are starting to pay the price. Bull Creek is first, but I'm certain it won't be the last if something isn't done. As a dog owner and park user, I kindly remind others to do what they should be doing. Sometimes they oblige, usually because they are embarrassed that I called them out, and sometimes they tell me to take a hike. This is where enforcement needs to come into play. I think, especially with all the new vertical use development, that it's important to have places for our dogs to run and play.
10/8/2009	5106541	The best thing would be to have more of them. The Crestview/Brentwood area has a large number of dog owners, but the area lacks in nearby leash-free areas. As it is, we use leash-free areas rarely (only once every few months) because we have a young child, and finding the time to go to Emma Long or Zilker is difficult. Far West is close, but that park is...undesirable. If we had a nearby leash-free area (say, in Brentwood Park or in the Crestview Station development), we would use it frequently, probably 3 or 4 times a week, because using it after work or quickly on a weekend would be workable. A park within walking or biking distance would be wonderful.
10/8/2009	5107660	
10/8/2009	5107636	
10/8/2009	5108058	More of them! Like everything else in Austin, they have become over-crowded. And now a very popular one -- Bull Creek Park -- is slated for closure Nov. 1.
10/8/2009	5109237	
10/8/2009	5110021	
10/8/2009	5110125	
10/8/2009	5110258	
10/8/2009	5111147	I would like to see more off-leash areas in somewhat contained spaces, as opposed to designated open spaces like at Town Lake. Thanks.
10/8/2009	5111921	
10/8/2009	5112604	We need many more OLA, especially trails and water based like Red Bud!

10/8/2009	5113343	The city needs more off-leash areas in NW Austin. I would not be able to exercise my dogs daily if there was not a park somewhere near my home. I rescued both of my dogs because I knew I could take them to Bull Creek Park daily. Before or after work on weekdays, traffic is too bad to drive across town.
10/8/2009	5113739	Keep Bull Creek OLA!
10/8/2009	5113913	We need MORE off leash areas!
10/8/2009	5117042	All parks should have OLAs. Currently, you discriminate against the people that use those parks that don't have OLAs.
10/8/2009	5118101	
10/9/2009	5125419	Keep bicycles strollers and joggers out of the OLA. Dogs love to chase these people playfully. The people seem shocked by this, despite their choice to go through a marked OLA.
10/9/2009	5125631	Not all dogs should be off-leash. There need to be stiffer fines for dogs that attack other dogs/people so that we all stay safe. I think the best rule is not to worry about if an area is off-leash or not, it's better to worry about if the dog is under the owner's control. If the dog is not under control, then remove the dog and fine the owner.
10/9/2009	5126014	
10/9/2009	5126433	
10/9/2009	5126435	Enforcement of scoop the poop effort. Fenced, maintained lawn areas divided into big/active and little dog areas. Double gate entryways. Safe approach to OLA from parking lots. Dog activity areas that don't share space with other recreation activities (running, cycling, playground). NO SEATING/BENCHES that encourage congregating.
10/9/2009	5126786	
10/9/2009	5126808	I would like to see more fenced-in dog parks in Austin. My dog and many dogs are prone to running away off-leash and so I cannot take advantage of the off-leash dog parks. This also seems like it would address some of the boundary issues that are arising with OLAs and other nearby activities. To my knowledge there is only one fenced-in dog park in Austin, at Riverside and I-35. I would be very interested in seeing a fenced-in dog park in Brentwood Park.
10/9/2009	5127132	
10/9/2009	5127317	I fully support a program that would require owners to attend training classes on how to control their dogs off-leash and to have an additional off-leash tag for their dog in order to have their dog off-leash. Doing more to promote and encourage responsible dog ownership will make all of our off-leash parks better for everyone, both dogs and people.
10/9/2009	5127084	A number you can report people who don't pick up - or charge ppl who don't pick up.
10/9/2009	5126666	
10/9/2009	5127868	1 - need more of them. The current OLAs are loved to death. 2 - enforce poop pickup (OLA or not, I regularly see people who do not pick up their poop. 3 - provide basic maintenance of the environment. Currently most of this is provided by volunteers - at least at Bull Creek. 4 - Remember that dogs need solid exercise just like people do. There are a number of special use parks in the area (baseball, football, etc.) that not everyone uses. There are so many parks exclusively for people as well. Provide lovely park environments for people who love to spend time with their dogs and you provide a quality of life that people in Austin strive for.
10/9/2009	5128649	i'd like to see better OLA's in central austin - the OLA at shoal creek is pretty lame, so i have to go to red bud in order to allow my dogs to really get some exercise. i love red bud, but it's always packed in the parking which makes it difficult to maneuver 3 dogs unless i get a spot in the lot.
10/9/2009	5128652	I think Austin needs more OLA's to take the pressure of the current OLA's. I also think that the new OLA's should be placed in areas that don't currently have OLA's so there is an even distribution throughout the city and so they are easy to get to for all neighborhoods. For example there are no OLA's in South Austin, except for Onion Creek in Southeast Austin.
10/9/2009	5128455	Fencing and segregated areas for large dogs and small dogs.
10/9/2009	5131618	Develop or maintain vigorous volunteer groups to maintain the parks. Giving dog owners the opportunity to care for their own parks will likely decrease the litter.
10/9/2009	5133790	I simply can't stand it when people don't pick up their dog's poop. It's this crazy, selfish attitude they have that really needs consequences. I say, ticket them hard!! Also, you could make a suggestion on the poopie bag station and board to maybe not only pick up your dog's poop but if you see another one nearby to go ahead and pick it up as well. That's what I do anyway. There really are many great, responsible dog owners that care about the other people, dogs and the environment. It's usually the irresponsible people that ruin things for the rest of us.
10/9/2009	5135048	Would love a OLA in Brentwood Park.
10/9/2009	5137772	
10/9/2009	5138709	Not to take them away from us. Off-Leash areas are one of the main reasons I live in Austin and would be sad to see them go.
10/9/2009	5139159	
10/9/2009	5139748	I think signs should be posted at the dog parks such as Red Bud Isle and Auditorium Shores stating the rules for dog/owner behavior. Also, the wording on signs should be more aggressive - PET OWNERS MUST PICK UP AFTER THEIR PETS - \$500 FINE. Pet
10/9/2009	5140705	

10/10/2009 [5146597](#) The city is growing by leaps and bounds, so we need more off leash areas.

10/10/2009 [5147924](#) Please don't close any more off leash areas! It would be great to have another actual "dog park" like Norwood in another location, maybe north. Turkey Creek is great but too difficult to get dogs from parking lot to trail on leash. Walnut Creek needs trash cans in more places so people don't leave poop bags on trail. It would be great to have an off leash area that was lighted for nighttime use, especially since winter is coming. Thank you!

10/10/2009 [5148043](#) I've heard about the city's efforts to rejuvenate Bull Creek, which has now been closed. No alternate site has been offered or established. Closing this OLA will surely increase use at other OLA and dog parks, thereby exacerbating the problems with overuse at all other parks. The human population in Austin is undoubtedly increasing, as well, the canine population is also increasing. Closing off leash areas without providing alternatives is not a good idea. I've also heard rumors that the city and the Norwood Posse want us out of Norwood Estates, and that the Lady Bird Lake Boardwalk plan does not retain the off leash area at Auditorium Shores. I was part of the group that came to City Council to save Turkey Creek as an OLA. As a taxpayer, voter, and dog owner, I wish to see current dog parks and OLA retained (and maintained) as well as new parks/OLA established.

10/10/2009 [5148979](#) I believe that the bacteria level argument for making Bull Creek not an off leash park has not adequately taken into account how low the water levels were when decisions were made.

I also think that dog owners should be explicitly urged to pick up other dogs poop at least enough to compensate for the poop that they miss of their own dog - I do.

10/10/2009 [5152533](#)

10/10/2009 [5154700](#) Please open an OLA in East Austin, preferably in Mueller.

10/10/2009 [5158626](#)

10/10/2009 [5163197](#) Employ people, perhaps the homeless(?) to pick up poop. FINE PET OWNERS WHO DON'T PICK UP POOP. I would love it if there were plain-clothes "community health officers" who could give tickets to pet owners who don't pick up, along with a card or small pamphlet (recycled) explaining the dangers and impact of leaving poop on the ground. Money goes to park maintenance and clean up. Seriously, this should be a significant fine, at least \$100.

Aside from the poop issue, I wouldn't mind seeing more trees or areas lined with large rocks, etc. to help with erosion.

I would also LOVE to have "SLOW" signs for bikers who go tearing through Auditorium shores, putting people, dogs and children at risk (or perhaps a bike lane, that walkers could know to stay clear of to that bikers could cycle freely?).

Another item for the wish list... some kind of non-fence visual barrier between the park land and the street.... rocks, bushes, trees, other....

Thank you for this survey.

10/10/2009 [5163506](#) We would really like to see a dog park in the new Mueller development.

10/11/2009 [5168085](#) Please add another OLA soon at Mueller

10/11/2009 [5170974](#) i was only able to comment on my favorite park (turkey creek). my social life used to revolve around red bud isle dog park and i love, love, love that park. however, some goofy people that were supposedly "friends of red bud" took out a huge amount of the foliage and sort of ruined the park. that and i guess everyone found out about it---one cannot even find a parking place there anymore. it was such a great place to bring our dogs and one of the only ones close to downtown with water and safety and all that. now it is full of teenagers partying and leaving their cans everywhere. also fisherman who poop in the woods and then the dogs roll in it!!! perhaps restrooms would help that. i don't know. i think the park should remain a dog park only and not encourage it to be anything other than that. i miss my dog park!!!

10/11/2009 [5173779](#) Austin is lucky to have natural amenities for their dogs particularly inside the core of Austin where all the high rise development is coming in. It's important for us to maintain the areas that we have and to supplement them as Austin grows.

I also support volunteer efforts to maintain the parks and think that park police should ticket people who don't scoop the poop. That's probably the only way that people will comply.

I live in Crestview and Brentwood park is often used by dog owners, families, sports teams, etc. But everyone picks up after their dogs and their trash. There is a community pride here that needs to be extended to the other parks in the city.

Thank you for inviting input. And please keep Bull Creek off-leash.

10/12/2009 [5185998](#)

10/12/2009 [5186673](#) We appreciate Austins OLA areas and how difficult it is to maintain and serve these areas. The effort to educate owners thru Scoop the Poop campaign we think has helped, but there still continues to be owners unaware or unwilling to do their part.

10/12/2009 [5187422](#) Perhaps more trash cans placed along the main walking trails (the wider ones) would cut down on people leaving their full poop bags along the trail.

10/12/2009 [5187791](#)

10/12/2009	5187875	Turkey Creek is an awesome off-leash dog park in Austin. We've been there numerous times with our dog because she needs space to run. She loves it. We love it. It's great exercise for all of us. We frequently see families without dogs hiking out there, too. It's an Austin treasure. One great thing about it is that everyone keeps moving - the dogs and people. Austin definitely needs some off-leash parks otherwise people will take their dogs anywhere and take them off the leash anyway. It's important that Austin have at least a place like Turkey Creek - where people can hike with their dogs. But it's also important for Austin to have dog parks for dogs to play and romp off-leash even if their owners cannot hike (people who are elderly or have mobility limitations).
10/12/2009	5204399	I think these parks are a good use of space within the city. Dogs need to run and play and need to be social to learn to behave properly with dogs and humans. These parks help with both.
10/12/2009	5204807	I think Austin has great off-leash areas. I see very little poop at the parks I go to, but I do avoid lower Bull Creek (nr. 2222), preferring the upper part, near Spicewood Springs. Austin is doing a great job; certain citizens are not. I suggest that the anti-poop law be actively enforced, possibly a written warning followed by a fine or an order to appear in front of a judge/official. Have them appear in a group to be publicly humiliated and chastised. I was shamed as a teenager and have picked up ever since. People who routinely do not pick up also routinely react very badly to being approached on the subject, so it is emotionally trying to do much as an individual citizen. Since there is no dog owner in Austin who does not know that morally and legally he/she (frankly it is usually a he) is supposed to pick up, those who routinely don't need to be called on it.
10/12/2009	5206743	Restrooms should always be available and unlocked. Men can always pee in the bushes - women can't. You also need available restrooms at ALL boat ramps for the SAME reason. You really need to mark the off leash areas better - especially for the runners and bikers. Please plant more trees and stop cutting them down around Lady Bird Lake - we kayakers see the stumps - we aren't blind or stupid. Use grass seed - don't waste \$2,000,000.00 on sod like you did for Zilker park.
10/13/2009	5223096	I use Walnut Creek Park on almost a daily basis. I enjoy the park a lot, but have a few suggestions. First, we need more trash cans to deposit dog waste. The only trash can I've ever seen at the park is at one of the entrances. The off-leash area has lots of trails, and people don't "scoop the poop" probably in large part because they don't want to carry it for a mile or more to a trash can. If trash cans are placed at multiple convenient places in the park, poop likely would not be such a big problem. Second, I think the off leash area should encompass the entire park. Many dogs and their owners love the park because of the stream. Using the stream as a natural boundary is inconvenient if the stream itself is not a destination, but rather a stopping-point along a longer route. It often serves to truncate a walk, as there are few circular paths in the park that one can do while staying only north of the stream. Having dogs off leash south of the stream would not inconvenience other users. Most of the cycling trails are in the off leash area already. There are no other picnic or playground areas south of the stream. I think the main issue I see with off leash areas is the lack of awareness from some people that it *is* in fact off-leash. Signs very specifically posted indicating an OLA would be helpful for the angry people who are frustrated by the dogs off-leash.
10/14/2009	5252309	
10/14/2009	5259554	Also, as an aside, I'm not sure if the Mueller park is maintained by the city but for some reason everyone thinks that it IS off-leash and there are never bags available to poop scoop.
10/14/2009	5287498	Dog owners not picking up poop is the biggest issue I see in all of the park areas I've been to. I'm not sure what the best way to address that is. More awareness? More enforcement?
10/14/2009	5290025	
10/15/2009	5307665	My only complaints have to do with the amount of time the park has been closed this year and with the volume of poop left unscooped in the park and around Town Lake Trail. I often pick up after other dogs, but I can't keep up. If there are cops around, I would like to see folks FINED for not picking up after their dog. Town Lake trail was like a dog sewer early this summer!
10/15/2009	5315181	Add more.
10/15/2009	5315364	Hi, I am a new dog owner with a 6 month old puppy so I do not have a lot of experience! Since I have a Sighthound I would love a six foot high large fenced in area so my dog and other Sighthounds could run free.
10/15/2009	5316600	
10/16/2009	5340263	what bothers me is that some dog owners do not correct misbehavior or think it's just play.. I run my dog first befor going to the park... to dain some energy... about half the poeple do this... and also when I run the trail I see poop.. I don't understand why people don't pick up poop.. I have trained my pups to only poop at home and pee... I wish more poeple knew about teaching there dog to do this and it wouldn't smell like pee on the trail on hot summer days... Thank you guys for doing this and I hope it does make a differences
10/17/2009	5354365	It may not be practical to have trashcans in the interior of Walnut Creek due to the park's size, but I think more dog owners would pick up after their dogs if they could throw away the bag someplace other than the entrance to the park. I think Walnut Creek, Shoal Creek, and Turkey Creek are great parks, well-maintained, and (for the most part) populated by responsible dog owners; plus, it's nice to be able to hike while exercising the dog...more parks like these!
10/17/2009	5373127	Prevent bicyclists and runners from entering/using off-leash dog areas. My dogs are herders. They need large open spaces for running but it is extremely difficult for them to resist fast-moving objects. Although the dogs are not dangerous, if they are suddenly frightened by a quiet, fast-approaching biker or runner, they can respond by growling, which frightens the bicyclists and runners. This has caused unnecessary problems in the past.
10/19/2009	5417016	Walnut Creek is an ideal model for OLA planning; picnic/playground areas should be on leash; the rest of the park is off leash Request a portion of the Stephenson Preserve in South Austin be made off leash

10/19/2009	5417937	
10/19/2009	5419726	
10/19/2009	5420244	It is crucial to have trails, water access, and a natural setting with a lot of acreage, not just a fenced "area." Make sure that the OLAs that meet these criteria (Bull Creek and Turkey Creek) remain OPEN, and create new additional OLAs with the same criteria. Get rid of the poison ivy at Red Bud Isle and keep that one open, too. Proper education should minimize user conflicts. There is no reason to separate dogs from kids or cyclists or anyone else; everyone needs to learn to coexist and use trail etiquette.
10/19/2009	5423483	You have to encourage people to pick up after OTHER dogs as well as some owners are not aware that their dog pooped - the minute you turn your back they poop and you simply don't see it. Especially if you have multiple dogs and try to keep an eye on everyone. Make this a community effort. The entire Lady Bird area needs more dog bad stations, much more trash cans, more park benches, water bowls for dogs, fountains for people, more trees and bushes, more mulch in sandy and dusty areas, better irrigation in muddy areas, more lights to make it safer at night (especially in the wintertime), more recycling, better restrooms, clean restrooms, more parking, more police officers and more tickets for illegal parking offenders, more with decorative stone work and more piers and landings around water.
10/20/2009	5430481	I have a rule of thumb I use at each park each day: Pick up one extra poop per dog per day. No matter how hard I try, I'm sure I am looking the wrong way sometimes. This habit makes up for it. Maybe post this idea to others? It's not all that hard to do. Lasty, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT PARKS WITH WATER AND SHADE REMAIN AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE WITH DOGS!!! Much of the year it is so hot that without water access the dogs and people would be unhealthy outside. If we are serious about being a 'no kill' city, then it has to be easy to keep pets. Well socialized, well exercised pets are safer for society. The dogs that spend all their time kept contained are the ones that are more likely to be dangerous if they do get out. I truly value the parks in this city. That's why I've never left since college. I worry that as one park (Bull Creek, for example) get's closed, the others just get more crowded. These parks do not appear to have been designed for the major population increase that Austin has seen, so I think we should consider adding more instead of reducing the numbers of OLA parks.
10/20/2009	5430815	
10/20/2009	5442839	Please keep our beautiful OLA opened.....we even need more !!!! thanks for your help !
10/20/2009	5443064	
10/21/2009	5455386	I visit the OLAs I listed pretty much equally. Parking is the major issue with all the OLAs that I visit. Red Bud is particularly difficult, especially on weekends, which is why I usually go there only during the week, and it's even worse now because more fire lanes have been designated. Turkey Creek's lot is also small relative to the size of the park, but at least parking is allowed along the road, even though it's a bit dangerous because people speed on that road. I both run without my dog and exercise my dog at Auditorium Shores, and its parking is somewhat better if you add in the parking that's available at the Chamber of Commerce. But it's still difficult, given the huge number of people that use Auditorium Shores for various reasons. It's never seemed right to me that numerous parking spaces are taken by training groups at various times of day there, but I can't think of a solution for that--it's certainly a convenient, central location for such activities. Other than parking, the parks I visit are superb otherwise, and I'm grateful to PARD, your committee, and the various volunteer groups for
10/21/2009	5469793	
10/22/2009	5477282	I frequent a few parks with my dogs and our friends and am one of the dog owners that always carries poop bags with me. In regard to Walnut Creek park, I often walk in with friends from their neighborhood, so I'm unfamiliar with the actual location of the Scoop the Poop bags. But at Bull Creek and Walnut Creek both, I don't think there are enough bags and trash cans throughout the park, and I think it would help tremendously. Bull Creek (and Red Bud Isle from what I hear) likely needs some monitoring for awhile to re-educate visitors about the importance of scooping poop, and fines are certainly reasonable to get people to participate. Even a louder red sign at park entrances or throughout the parks that says "Stop! If you have a dog, you are required to scoop and properly dispose of any poop to help protect our creeks and parks" might be more effective. I also HIGHLY recommend you post signs in both English and Spanish in all the parks. The more signs the better, but also having an info sign about why it's important to scoop poop might help train people. I love our city dog parks and don't More fenced in off leash areas, so dogs can't get out into the street.
10/22/2009	5478872	
10/22/2009	5485010	
10/22/2009	5494112	fund more full-time park employees
10/22/2009	5497614	
10/22/2009	5497944	

10/23/2009	5505615	I understand how important children are to our society and its future, and I hope to have my own children someday. However, I do not think that a children's play area should ever be a part of an off-leash dog park. Dog parks are a place for dogs, and people who go to dog parks should be aware of the quirks dogs can have. If a park is designated for dogs, children should not be a priority - there are plenty of playgrounds and children's areas outside of the dog park. In fact, I do not think that it is SAFE to encourage children to congregate in an area meant for canines. Children do not understand dogs and dog behavior the way that adults do, and dogs do not always understand children. Children are a liability in an off-leash dog park; children are not safe in an off-leash dog park. Children should be constantly monitored by parents and dogs should be constantly monitored by owners, but the danger is quite real and a children's area has no place in a dog park.
10/24/2009	5533035	
10/24/2009	5534921	more trash canes for poop
10/24/2009	5539755	
10/24/2009	5540647	
10/24/2009	5540917	I just wish bike riders along the OFA would be warned to slow down.
10/24/2009	5542610	
10/25/2009	5563766	
10/25/2009	5574506	
10/26/2009	5592391	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Require pets over 6 months old to be spayed/neutered (many metropolitan areas do this; also increases awareness of benefit of spay/neuter) 2) Have more fenced dogs parks in neighborhoods (improves safety of neighborhoods by increasing public activity, also helps build community when neighbors get to know each other) 3) More educational materials available (bulletin boards for classes, lost pets, pet services, etc.)
10/26/2009	5593160	
10/26/2009	5595765	
10/27/2009	5617068	Off-Leash areas aren't just useful to dog owners. They are part of what defines Austin as a friendly, livable city. I have talked to many people in dog parks who were visiting from other cities, and they were almost always impressed by the larger implications of Austin's off-leash dog areas: that they contribute mightily to the sense of Austin as a kind, animal-friendly, and, as a consequence, people-friendly place.
10/27/2009	5618397	Keep Bull Creek Park open as an OLA! The efforts of the volunteers on behalf of the park have made it the best OLA in Austin. Recent rainfall has demonstrated that it's the drought and development that was primarily responsible for the poor water quality, not the dogs. Bull Creek OLA is the crown jewel in Austin's OLA system and it should remain so!
10/27/2009	5628529	
10/27/2009	5630882	
10/27/2009	5630808	
10/27/2009	5631455	
10/28/2009	5650504	
10/28/2009	5651265	
10/29/2009	5688723	We like things the way they are.
10/29/2009	5689088	All good.
10/30/2009	5700465	Turkey Creek Trail needs a port -o-potty please. Thank You. :)
10/30/2009	5703702	Keep the OLAs - keep Austin special!
10/30/2009	5706986	There needs to be a dog park on the East Side. It is an issue of fairness, equity, and social justice. Mueller would be a good spot for it.
10/31/2009	5729769	
11/1/2009	5734820	Bull Creek is a fantastic OLA dog park. I am there every day, sometimes 2X per day. As a PhD biologist, I am keenly aware of the amount of dog poop in this yard, and I pick up poop fanatically. I have reviewed the city's historical data for E. coli in the creek over the last few years. Overall the data is sparse and each sample collection is unitary (no replicates). I am troubled that this inadequate data set is the foundation for the advertised premise that E. coli number in Bull Creek OLA is directly linked with dog poop contamination. My opinion is that this data is weak and does not support the correlation with dog poop at the Bull Creek OLA park at all. I have traced and studied the creek northward (upstream) and I am more concerned that there are several "hot spots" - potential sources of polluted or contaminated water - which pour into the creek during high rains. The level of sampling and analysis necessary to provide a sufficient level of confidence in identification of source(s) would be cost-prohibitive. Also, the E. Coli numbers (at certain times) are cause for concern for all of us. But to
11/2/2009	5761853	
11/2/2009	5767562	We need more and larger areas to hike off leash with our dogs! Turkey creek should be 10 miles, up from 3 miles. Walnut creek is being highly restricted with some trails being on leash and others off leash. That whole area of the park should be leash free. We also need some more OLA parks of 40 acres minimum, to hike with our dogs. Austin is a great city that's well know for being pet friendly, let's prove it even more.
11/2/2009	5771514	better maintenance and policing of the park areas>
11/2/2009	5784672	I don't know if these were provided by the city or not, but I really appreciate having the dog bowl at the majority of the water fountains so I can give my dog water on runs. I find this very important
11/2/2009	5786023	More off-leash areas

11/3/2009	5790999	Overall I think the City of Austin does an excellent job of keeping up the parks I frequent with my dogs (Turkey Creek, Norwood Estate, Red Bud Isle, and Auditorium Shores). The challenge with Auditorium Shores is that you've got runners and dogs and I've often seen the runners knocked over by the dogs racing for the water - maybe there's a way to make that area more safe. Norwood Estate has had HUGE improvements over the past couple of years, but there's no water and it's a pretty stagnant environment so dog fights are frequent. I tend to head to the other three more frequently even though Norwood is closer to my home just because the dogs keep moving and occupied and I've seen or experienced less dog aggression at those locations. Thanks so much for providing places for dogs to run and play without the constraint of leashes!
11/3/2009	5792881	Lighting so we can go to the park after dark would be awesome, especially now that it's dark by 6 pm. Our dog is a year old so we don't have tons of experience with Austin's dog parks, but we're very appreciative that the city has so many!
11/3/2009	5804580	
11/4/2009	5815236	Love the OLA!! Keep it up ... please
11/4/2009	5822977	
11/5/2009	5841758	
11/5/2009	5846018	
11/6/2009	5852736	More of them!!! It might be helpful at Auditorium Shores to post signs on either ends of the park on the hike and bike trail alerting runners and especially bikers to use caution and keep an eye out for dogs. I have seen too many bikers swerving at the last minute to avoid hitting a dog. Please continue to have these areas for dogs, who are as much our children as the two-legged ones who have playgrounds with their own equipment. We also use, though not as frequently since we like to hike, the Dog Park at Bull Creek across from our neighborhood (Jester). I would hope it could remain open for dogs off-leash, as there are relatively few off-leash areas for them, and maybe the City could somehow ramp up its patrol of poop-scooping with volunteers, since that is the main issue at Bull Creek. My dogs love to swim, and it is such wonderful exercise for them. I have never seen, in all the times I've visited either Bull Creek or Turkey Creek, dogs jumping on human visitors- why would they, when they have other dogs to jump and play with? Please don't let a few people spoil it for the rest of us!!!
11/6/2009	5860605	I believe that the high levels of fecal coliform in the creek may be due more to drought condition last summer than to higher levels of dog feces. I have not seen any dog owner fail to pick up after his/her dog.
11/6/2009	5860980	I believe the biggest impact on picking up poop would be to have more trashcans along the trails. This would obviously need to include regular trash removal as well.
11/7/2009	5866564	
11/7/2009	5872369	Please continue and thank you for the off-leash areas. Since i really haven't sought info on rules for off-leash areas i guess more information could be added perhaps in the news paper in the life or calender section.
11/8/2009	5893988	
11/8/2009	5895848	Unfortunately, there is always poop around at Bull Creek, and especially at Walnut Creek. I am not sure WHY pet owners do not pick up after their pets. One, small, contributor may be the infrequency of trash cans to dispose ("I could pick it up, but then I have to carry it for the whole walk". I think if 'regular people' started taling to othe people "Hey, do you have bags, here are some bags, pick it up, you know, so it stays clean" would ber VERY effective. I would love to expand the space at Bull Creek ... perhaps clear out some of the trees of the other side of the creek, so there is more room for dogs. Socialization of my dogs is the #1 reason I take my dogs to the park ... I can walk them anywhere. You should have had that listed on your survey. Your results may be off because you didn't have it.
11/8/2009	5898720	Albert at Emma Long is fabulous. We have worked hard to keep Turkey Creek clean and well maintained. It simply can not absorb a whole lot of additional people and dogs without over running capacity and design. For that reason, I would not actively encourage more people to enjoy the beautiful place and would encourage PARD to create more OLAs as a better solution. The questions on facilities are problematic, since there are significant differences between linear trail OLAs and confined space OLAs. Most questions apply much better to the 2nd than the 1st.
11/8/2009	5905130	
11/8/2009	5906051	
11/9/2009	5915543	
11/9/2009	5918413	as a single female walking her dog, and I NEVER walk at night, extra security during the day time is always appreciated. thank you!
11/9/2009	5931288	Auditorium Shores/Butler Area has beautiful design. If that formula (off leash area, lighted water fountain, area is well lighted at night, benches, landscaping, water pond/water elements, well-maintained grounds) could be applied to every dog park then I think Austin would have more people out using them on a regular basis. As it is I feel the older, more run down and tired park areas are not getting utilized because they need to be worked on. For example trash, narrow side walks, no open grassy areas.
11/9/2009	5938020	
11/10/2009	5943025	
11/10/2009	5948798	If the poison ivy could be eliminted from some of the other park we would use them on the weekends. seperate bike and dog traffic if possible. My dog does not chase bike but speeding bike put my dog at risk.
11/10/2009	5949602	

11/10/2009	5965167	Please, please, consider a dog park on the East side. Anywhere on the east side! I go to Emma long once a week as a special treat for my dogs, but if there were an East side park I could take them more often, since I wouldn't have to fight IH35 traffic or crosstown traffic. The other parks I use most frequently (for a quick outing as opposed to a hike) are west Austin and Riverside, but since I live on the East side I often get stuck in traffic on the way there, which means I go far less often than I might.
11/11/2009	5986008	Why on earth is the city planning to close Bull Creek to off-leash? I understand the need to rehabilitate the park area... the drought has been hard on it like all the other parks. But closing the park because some idiots got sick swimming in the creek after a torrential downpour is crazy. There are a bunch of potentially leaky sewer lines and septic tanks upstream from that park... how much of the fecal bacteria is coming from those sources versus dogs? How much is coming from deer and other wildlife? How about enforcing the scoop the poop ordinance with some fines/tickets instead of punishing all the dog owners who DO pick up after their dogs?
11/12/2009	6010842	I would love to see more off leash parks like Turkey Creek where owners, as well as dogs, can get exercise. I often trail run turkey creek with my dog. I also love the varied terrain and it is nice to have a place to hike with my dog as well. It is so beautiful out there and it is a nice family outing when on days when I go with my husband and son. Although I love Turkey Creek, I do not go as often to that park as I do to other parks which are closer to my home. I go to Red Bud Isle daily and it is a very nice park, but the parking problems there are HORRIBLE now and it is something that has to be addressed. I don't see dog waste as much a problem at turkey creek (although there are no trash cans on the trail which would be nice, but I understand the logistical problem of collecting the trash) but I do see that Red Bud is terrible on the weekends when you get the people who are not the frequent dog park goers and tend to be less responsible pet owners. On weekends during the summer, there should be some police presence to enforce the scoop the poop ordinance. (more people come on summer need additional parking at redbud isle - big problem at peak use times
11/12/2009	6011394	
11/12/2009	6022733	
11/12/2009	6022201	
11/12/2009	6033756	
11/12/2009	6034874	
11/13/2009	6055033	
11/13/2009	6060593	The parks are great! Only thing I can think of is it would be nice to keep the poison ivy cut down. Many times I've come home only to have picked up poison ivy from my dogs running through it, when it was close to the trail. This is especially true of Auditorium Shores.
11/14/2009	6063074	
11/14/2009	6063818	
11/15/2009	6086828	
11/15/2009	6094397	More _of_ them, number one :)
		Posted signs at boundaries of alternate entrances to OLAs. Walnut Creek's a great example - entering from the Lamar entrance, there are clear signs at the beginning of the OLA; entering from the Gracywoods entrances, you don't realize you're in WC until you start recognizing landmarks.
11/15/2009	6095094	
11/15/2009	6102785	The police should stop harassing dog lovers by giving out parking tickets at Red Bud Isle. I have gone there for years without a problem, now suddenly we are punished for wanting to take good care of our pets. Surely we can't be expected to drive over there with our dogs, only to have to turn around and go home because there is not enough parking. So what if parking is tight, everyone can always move in and out of the lot. There should be more OLAS, particularly at Circle C Soccer Park; why not restrict ol activity to weekday mornings, when the park is practically empty?It makes no sense to walk around with your dog on a 6 foot leash when there is no one else around for miles.
11/17/2009	6140892	more publicly visible enforcement of poop the scoop law
11/18/2009	6183252	Auditorium Shores and several others (like Redbud) are just GREAT!!!! And such a wonderful asset to Austin. I have heard many folks who don't own dogs say how much they love to walk or kayak by to see the dogs having such a GREAT time. And I have talked to many visitors to Austin who comment that the OLA parks (esp Aud Shores) are such a wonderful element in Austin. Keep up the good work, guys!!!!!!
11/19/2009	6238690	Putting more grass on the upper level where all the dogs play would be nice. I know they tear it up when they play but it gets really muddy.
11/20/2009	6254223	