

Testimony of Martie Sucec
7005 SW 34th Avenue
Portland OR 97219
1 May 2013

Re: 397 Provide for civil penalties for violation of leash and scoop regulations and authorize Commissioner in Charge to adopt policies and procedures for implementation of civil penalties (Second Reading Agenda 377; amend Code Section 20.12.140)

I regret that I was not aware of this item earlier—I just saw a news note that ran along the bottom of the screen on a TV broadcast about it late last week, or I would have attended the first reading to give my testimony. Also, though the ordinance says dog owners and community members were “invited” to give testimony, I saw no notice of this ordinance in Gabriel Park, and I’m not sure who gets on the “invited” list and how they do that.

I strongly agree with these civil penalties, especially for scoop regulations. Many Gabriel Park users have tried in the past to encourage those who don’t clean up after their dogs. These efforts were frequently met with verbal abuse and in one case assault. Some of us offer bags to people we see not obviously cleaning up after their dogs and sometimes this helps.

I also endorse penalties for off-leash violations in required areas—especially game fields, playgrounds, and landscaped areas.

However, I would request that the Council also authorize the Commissioner in Charge to devise and launch a program of off-leash hours in mid-size to large parks. Gabriel Park could serve as a test case for a year (as it first did for an off-leash area under then-Commissioner Hales in the mid-90s), much as the creation of multiple off-leash areas were instituted a few years ago and evaluated after a long test period.

Early morning and late evening off-leash hours would offer tremendous benefit with very little downside. Early morning hours could be, for example, park opening to 8:30 am year-round; evening off-leash hours in the winter could commence at dusk and end at closing—users in winter after dark are some skateboarders and frequently drug dealers. In summer, early evening hours are impractical since park users linger late into the evening, but off-leash hours could start at dusk and end at closing. Signage could indicate for people entering the park that during these hours dogs can be off-leash.

Central Park, for example, in New York City, has off-leash hours from the Park’s opening to 9:00 am and after 9:00 pm until closing. Our own Hillsdale Park offers similar hours, but it is a small park and evinces some of the downsides of fenced or seriously restricted off-leash areas.

Responsible dog owners will always be respectful of others and act promptly to restrain their dogs. An upside to such an option would be to direct enforcement resources more appropriately. The number of people who use Gabriel Park, for example, in the early morning is limited. The effort to institutionalize what the County and City taskforce on the off-leash issue a few years ago described as a “culture of control” flies in the face of the whole history of western civilization. Rather than expend resources on a few responsible park users with dogs in the early morning, why not offer a more imaginative option? This is in the spirit of Portland’s emphasis on “livability” and progressive urban policy.

At one time, my friend and I, who walk early in the morning almost every weekday, ever year for 15 years, kept an inventory of people (with and without dogs) and their activities. Many mornings we encountered only a few people who are long-time early-morning “regular”; very often we’d see no one other than park personnel attending to their early morning chores. In the winter, no more than six people are there. In summer, the population increases modestly, and we recorded a high one day of 24 people, but the usual number ranged from 10 to 15.

On many days, we encountered more empty beer cans than people. I emailed a daily inventory to the Parks department as a follow-up to my earlier written request, with rationale, but I never had a response and suspect the messages were just deleted. I also reported that over the years, park users with dogs have had negative experiences, but have no one to call about these. Naturally, the department has numerous calls about dogs, many of these legitimate. But dog owners also are on the receiving end, for example, of the animosity of runners or cyclists who detest anyone walking on the paths—and if these people have dogs, leashed or not, these people call and complain. It’s a breeze to call and complain about dogs; there’s no way to call and report positive experiences with dogs or hostile behavior toward dog owners and their dogs.

Many park users who walk their dogs in the morning also need to attend to their own exercise. Walkers can manage a 2.5 mile moderately-paced walk around Gabriel Park (this would be true of other large parks like Mt Tabor, example, and perhaps Washington Park), but this is difficult to do with their dogs on leashes. Runners can do this but the dogs of walkers can’t easily do this—their dogs are “reading the newspaper” of the flora and paths to see who or what was there overnight. The only alternative for these folks to get exercise and exercise their dogs would require two trips—one for the dog and one for the person’s exercise. But most of us do not have the luxury of this kind of time, given the constraints imposed by employment and maintaining households and families.

The off-leash areas are not conducive to exercise and don’t provide for real exercise of many smallish dogs—large dog dominate and intimidate smaller dogs. I, as others, have tried to on varying occasions to use the fenced off-leash area, but my small dog, for example, when running after his ball was attacked by a large dog, resulting in an injury that required stitches and almost \$200 in veterinary care. The owner of the offending dog was blasé about it and refused to take responsibility for the care my dogs needed. Even though regulations for off-

leash areas state that owners are responsible for errant behavior, many owners ignore this and the injured dog's owners are left without redress. The people who use the off-leash areas are quite happy to stand in groups while their dogs run around, but even if the dogs were kept under adequate control, standing around isn't an attractive practice to those who need to exercise and have limited time.

As noted above, Hillsdale Park provides for off-leash hours that are amenable to park users who want to exercise their dogs off leash. However, it's not possible for those who wish to exercise themselves to do this in the limited space and their small dogs are invariably hassled by the many large dogs that abound in that park.

I agree with much of the ordinance and supporting documentation. However, I take issue with how the off-leash program is universally lauded. As stated, the off-leash areas are not amenable to many, but there is no way for the many disaffected park users with dogs who cannot deal with the rowdiness and unchecked bad behavior of many dogs in the enclosures to communicate their experiences and alienation from these facilities. Also, as noted above, outreach in parks by posting information on these kinds of ordinances is not a departmental practice, so those who have opinions differing from the department's chosen users and community activists have no venue or opportunity for expressing these differences, nor for offering ideas to deal with the very real issues of dogs in parks and effective enforcement.

I appreciated that a Parks' staffer responded to my request for off-leash hours, but I was deeply dismayed by the reason she gave for denying any consideration of this option. She said it "conflicted with other park uses." There are very few "other park uses" in the early morning and late evening—only skateboarders, tennis players. But on a more rational, logical level, some uses do conflict with others, and Portland's way has been to try to accommodate a diversity of uses. A good example of this is the proliferation of bicycle lanes. The department of transportation could well have said that the roadways are for motorists and buses and delivery trucks, and cycling conflicts with these uses. We didn't do that, though—we didn't discount this use as a low-priority use and leave cyclists to fend for themselves on the roadways without making some provision for their safety and their laudable pursuit of both alternative economic transportation and the attendant exercise that bicycling affords.

A very few hours early in the morning and late in the evening for walkers to also responsibly exercise their dogs off-leash would represent this same spirit of Portland's culture to provide as many opportunities as possible for its citizens to enjoy the riches of the city's public space and at the same time pursue their own exercise. This idea is at the very least worth a try.

Parsons, Susan

186008

From: claudia martin [claudiamartinmd@gmail.com]**Sent:** Wednesday, May 01, 2013 8:23 AM**To:** Parsons, Susan**Subject:** Re ticketing off leash dogs

Dear Mayor Hales and City Council Commissioners,

I m writing regarding the proposed ordinance for ticketing off leash dogs.

This is another example where Portland Parks did not inform the public before moving forward with bringing an ordinance to Council. In the parks where there are trail systems a majority of the users are dog owners. Parks should consider several options which could allow owners to responsibly hike with their dogs off leash. Many municipalities have a "green leash" program in which owners can demonstrate that their dogs are under voice command including in the presence of other dogs and people. Certain trails could be designated "off leash" or certain hours could be "off leash", allowing the portion of the public which does not like dogs to hike elsewhere. Dog parks are oftensmll and do not allow owners to hike. The westside of Portland, replete with parklands has minimal dog park facilities

Tickets of \$150 are draconian, not commiserate with the "crime", and should be re-evaluated.

Please vote against this ordinance or **add an amendment that creates a off leash dog advisory committee that can work with Parks to find of leash trail options.**

Sincerely,
Claudia Martin MD

186008

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Jill Gaddis [aprilhillpark@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 11:23 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: Compliance with leash and scoop laws in parks Item #397

Provide for civil penalties for violation of leash and scoop regulations and authorize Commissioner in Charge to adopt policies and procedures for implementation of civil penalties (Ordinance; amend Code Section 20.12.140)

Item number 397

This letter is written in support of code amendments for improving control and leashing of dogs in city parks. As the chair of the Maplewood Neighborhood Association and Friends of April Hill Park, I have been involved in efforts to increase compliance with dog control and dog waste management in our park and neighborhood and believe that the proposed changes will bring about much needed improvements.

April Hill Park is a heavily-used center of neighborhood activity, with a soccer field, children's play area, and large natural area and wetland. All of these features are severely compromised by unleashed dogs, their waste, and their inconsiderate owners. Although these dog owners have been made fully aware of the impacts of their dogs, they continue to ignore the reasonable rules of park use. I therefore support additional measures to bring the situation into control and urge the Council to enact the proposed changes.

Sincerely,
Jill Gaddis

Jill Gaddis
jillg@pacifier.com

5/1/2013

186008

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Ryan, Ali
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2013 4:40 PM
To: Commissioner Novick
Cc: Moore-Love, Karla; Hockaday, Bryan
Subject: FW: Follow-up Leash Law Code Change Proposal
Attachments: CityCouncilTestimonyFU.pdf

Passing along some follow-up testimony from the leash/scoop code change item.

Best,
Ali

Ali Ryan

Portland Parks & Recreation
Program Specialist | Park and Recreation Services
1120 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 1302
Portland, OR 97204
503-823-2967 (office)
Ali.Ryan@PortlandOregon.gov
www.PortlandParks.org

From: Barbara Pierce-CJ Hurley Century Arts [<mailto:barbara@cjhurley.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 28, 2013 3:08 PM
To: Ryan, Ali
Cc: Gonzalez, Cevero; Shibley, Gail; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Fish; Commissioner Saltzman
Subject: Follow-up Leash Law Code Change Proposal

Dear Ali,

CJ and I would like to thank you and the rest of the team at Portland Parks and Recreation for all of your great work and especially for all of the time you have put into the proposed code change related to off-leash dog citations. I am glad I had the opportunity to speak at City Council last week, and on behalf of all dog owners who desire the enforcement of leash laws, I hope my voice makes a difference.

I really appreciated that the Council Members showed interest in the leash law issue and appear to be engaged in finding a solution, but I am concerned about some of the comments and questions that came up during the presentation. I would like to address a few items of concern and will attach a pdf document outlining my follow-up responses.

I am copying Commissioners Fish, Fritz and Saltzman on this email but do not have email addresses for the full Council. I trust that my input will be forwarded to all involved parties prior to a decision.

Thank you.

Barbara Pierce

Barbara Pierce & CJ Hurley
CJ Hurley Century Arts
Northwest Designer Craftsmen

4/29/2013

8 00087

Roycroft Renaissance Master Artisan

186008

p. 503.234.4167

e. barbara@cjhurley.com

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"Sensitive to History: Remodeling a Period Kitchen" by CJ Hurley

"What to do with the Walls"

April 28, 2013

To: Ali Ryan
Portland Parks and Recreation

From: Barbara Pierce
3247 NE Glisan St., Portland

Re: Proposed Code Change

Dear Ali,

CJ and I would like to thank you and the rest of the team at Portland Parks and Recreation for all of your great work and especially for all of the time you have put into the proposed code change related to off-leash dog citations. I am glad I had the opportunity to speak at City Council last week, and on behalf of all dog owners who desire the enforcement of leash laws, I hope my voice makes a difference.

I really appreciated that the Council Members showed interest in the leash law issue and appear to be engaged in finding a solution, but I am concerned about some of the comments and questions that came up during the presentation. I would like to address a few items of concern.

I am copying Commissioners Fish, Fritz and Saltzman on this email but do not have email addresses for the full Council. I trust that my input will be forwarded to all involved parties prior to a decision.

Thank you.

1. Addressing the concern that those violating the leash law should be warned before being fined and that park visitors may not see signs:
 - a. I am very clear on the fact that warnings have long been given in our parks and now it is time to go beyond warnings and actually issue the fines. Last year, warnings were broadly publicized in many parks with the understanding that fines were coming. It seems like the warning period lasted much longer than the actual fining period. As I said in my testimony, when rangers were present and fines were being issued in Laurelhurst Park, violations were drastically reduced during the times we visit the park. As soon as rangers disappeared, violations went right back up and have continued to get worse.
 - b. For dog owners living in Multnomah County, there is no excuse for not understanding leash laws. It is a requirement for all dogs to be licensed and I believe that all vets are required to remind dog owners about licensing. When you license your dog, you are mailed a dog tag along with information about leash laws. You can't make people read their mail, but there is no excuse for a licensed dog owner who claims they do not know about leash laws. And for unlicensed, unleashed dogs, two laws are being broken.
 - c. It is the responsibility of a dog owner to read signs and understand where official off-leash areas are located. This is not unique to Portland, although we do have much more space dedicated to off-leash dog play than most other cities. Furthermore, signs are quite visible in all of the parks we have visited. If they are not, it is easy to ask. On Friday morning we were approached by a woman with her dog on a leash for this very reason. She had ridden her bike to Laurelhurst

Park with her small dog in a wheeled cart. She wasn't sure where the off-leash area was located, so asked the first dog people she saw. Easy!

Although we walk, bike and use public transportation for much of our activity in the city, we also own a car. As a car owner, it is my responsibility to make sure my car is registered and insured and that I have a valid drivers license. These are laws that car owners must follow. It is also my responsibility to look for and understand traffic signs. "I didn't know" is not an excuse for violating traffic laws. While this might be considered an extreme example, to frustrated dog owners it is no different. Leash laws are widely known and understood; however they are a joke to many.

2. Addressing the question about first time offenders vs. repeat offenders:

- a. As I said in my testimony, our daily morning walk with our dog, Sasha, takes us through Oregon Park and Laurelhurst Park every morning. I can speak from daily experience to say that we see the same offenders day after day. They know they don't have to follow the law because there is no one in the parks to enforce them. It is unfortunate, but true. There are other people we see only on occasion and some we never see more than once. But my informed perception is that most of the people with dogs off-leash in areas where they should not be are regular offenders. My concern with going back into a warning system is that it's been done and with spring in full swing, we need to get this issue under control now with a sustainable result.

Just this past Friday morning, in the course of a 70-minute walk, we passed and counted 11 dogs off-leash. We recognized most of them as regulars.

3. Addressing the concern that out of town visitors may not be aware of our laws:

- a. With all due respect, this comment shocked me and it is my belief that this concern should not be a factor. I was very impressed with the Travel Portland presentation and agree that tourism is great for our city. However, I know first hand that people who travel with dogs do their research and find the appropriate places to take their dogs while on vacation.
- b. Not all hotels allow pets and not all parks allow off-leash dogs—all people traveling with pets know this (or should). When we travel with our dog, we use the Internet in advance to find out where we can take her. It is easy to find the information you need and those looking for off-leash areas in parks can access that information. For those who don't plan in advance, hotels that allow dogs are almost always equipped with suggestions.

Regardless, dog owners know to look for signs and understand leash laws when there are no signs. Not knowing is not an excuse. With this being said, perhaps it would be acceptable for rangers to have the flexibility of issuing warnings to visitors rather than tickets. But please keep in mind that regardless of where you are from, off-leash dogs cause problems and distress for many on leash dogs and many off-leash dogs stray from their owners who do not see where they poop.

4. Addressing the 4th public testimony regarding parks with no off-leash area:

- a. I think it is wonderful that Portland has so many parks with off-leash areas and I know many dog families who use them regularly. I understand the frustration of some dog owners living near parks that do not have an off-leash area. The fact is that not all of our parks have all park amenities and not all parks are suitable for off-leash areas. That is not an excuse. Off-leash dogs can pose a threat to on-leash dogs. Those of us who have rescue dogs that are not well suited to off-leash areas do not go there. When we are in other areas of the park, our dogs deserve to be protected and we should not have to constantly worry about off-leash dogs in those areas.

For those people who do not have cars and cannot get to off-leash parks, there are other alternatives. Many people run with their dogs on leash and some even bike with their dog. Our dog has a tremendous amount of energy and for the good health of all of us, we take her on a very long walk every morning. It is a responsibility that comes with having a dog in the family.

5. Addressing the concern that fees should be graduated rather than \$150.00 for a "1st" offense.
 - a. Again, I will say that most people who violate this very well publicized law are repeat offenders. I agree that the goal is compliance and frankly we are in support of whatever can be done to achieve that. My concern over the proposed graduated fee is that Parks does not have the resources to manage and track the number of offenses and that a small fee will not be met with a high degree of compliance. We are part of a very large group of responsible dog owners who would like to see an immediate improvement in this issue. I fear that reducing fees will not help and will only create more administrative work for rangers.
 - b. I was disappointed that the Parks presentation was interrupted and noticed that the next slide in your presentation was a fines comparison. I would like to encourage Parks to make sure that the City Council is provided that information for review before a decision is made. It was interesting to see that some cities have much higher fines.
6. Addressing the concern that the ordinance has not been visible to the public prior to the city council meeting:
 - a. From my perspective, this matter was well publicized on social media for at least a couple of weeks before the city council meeting. It was highlighted early in the week on the Oregon Business daily newsletter and also in other area papers. Again, a quick google search will show that it was out there in other media outlets for those who might have an interest in either side of the issue.
7. A quick google search will result in plenty of evidence that this matter has been a concern for a long time and that those supporting the code change have waited long enough. A December 2010 Oregonian article will illustrate that many of the problems we have encountered and complaints we have filed are not new:
http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2010/12/enforcing_the_leash_laws_for_d.ht ml

In summary, the bottom line is that we have laws in place that do not allow unleashed dogs in the city. We need our City Council to stand behind the law and give Parks the tools needed to enforce the law. It is pointless to have a law if we are going to turn a blind eye to it and not enforce it.

Violators of the leash law constantly try to make the problem the fault of the leash law abiders. On occasions when we have talked to rangers through county Animal Control, they have stressed that we should not let the lawbreakers bully and intimidate in this manner. Swift justice through enforceable fining will be the most effective solution to remedy this problem.

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Anne-Marie Fischer [amsfischer@icloud.com]

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2013 3:37 PM

To: Moore-Love, Karla

Subject: Compliance with Leash & Scoop Laws in Parks

Provide for civil penalties for violation of leash and scoop regulations and authorize Commissioner in Charge to adopt policies and procedures for implementation of civil penalties (Ordinance; amend Code Section 20.12.140)

As a walker and dog owner I feel compelled to encourage city council to support the code change requested by PP&R. Everyday I see dogs off leash in a park or on neighborhood streets. Some of these dogs are under voice command, most are not. I cannot begin to tell you how many times I have asked people to please leash their dog when they start running towards me. Some people are polite and at least hold their dog until we pass, most are not and it is very scary.

I have had the experience of walking on a sidewalk in Sellwood with my dog on a leash when my dog was attacked by a pregnant Doberman off leash. The dog had my dog in a kill hold around her neck and was flipping her, trying to break her neck. The woman who owned the dog could not get her dog to let go. I grabbed the Doberman by the collar and some kind strangers pulled their car over and helped me. One man took his belt off and slipped it under the collar of the Doberman. My dog survived after extensive surgery at Dove Lewis. I was all scraped up and fortunately not bitten. The woman paid the vet bills but that doesn't ever take away the trauma of that kind of experience.

Every person, large or small, has the right to feel safe in their parks and neighborhoods when out on a walk. If this Ordinance helps to further this basic safety right of individuals by imposing fines on the people who create problems, I am all for it. Deterrents do work.

I see parents with small children letting their dogs off leash in the park and wonder what message that is sending to their kids about obeying our laws. At soccer games, many people bring their dogs and always there are a few off leash. It's too bad that some have to ruin it for all.

There is nothing like the affection and loyalty of a well trained, behaved dog.

As far as dog poop goes, I always carry extra bags. If I encounter someone who doesn't have one for their dog, I will politely ask if they need one. It's too bad Portland Parks does not have recognizable dispensers of dog bags like Washington County. My neighborhood park is April Hill Park in the center of Maplewood neighborhood. There is a pipe behind the park sign where neighbors stuff their extra plastic bags in the hope that people will use them. It would help if there was better signage asking people to pick up after their dogs or.

The problem is larger than just the city parks and streets, it's statewide.

Thank-you for taking the time to read this.

Anne-Marie Fischer

LEASH AND SCOOP REGULATIONS

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
✓ - Allen Field	3240 SE Grant 97214	allen_field@yahoo.com
✓ Barbara Pierce	3247 NE Glisan St 97232	barbara@cjhurley.com
✓ Tanya March	410 NW 19th #303	tlm27@caa.columbia.edu
✓ Susan Lindy ^{Lindsay}	625 SE 17th PDY	lindsay@pdx.edu

Submitted by
Allen Field
4-24-2013

Sewallcrest Park OLA Hours

186008

Summer: June 15 – September 1

Weekends

6:00-10:00 AM

7:00 PM-midnight

Weekdays

6:00-9:00 AM

7:00 PM-midnight

Early Fall: September 2-30

Weekends

Saturday: 6:00-8:00 AM & 4:00 PM-midnight

Sunday: 6:00 AM-midnight

Weekdays

6:00-9:00 AM

7:00 PM-midnight

Late Fall: October 1-31

Weekends

Saturday: 6:00-8:00 AM & 4:00 PM-midnight

Sunday: 6:00 AM-midnight

Weekdays

6:00-9:00 AM

6:00 PM-midnight

Winter: November 1 – March 31

Weekends

6:00 AM-midnight

Weekdays

6:00-9:00 AM

4:00 PM-midnight

Spring: April 1 – June 14

Weekends

Saturday: 6:00-8:00 AM & 7:00 PM-midnight

Sunday: 6:00 AM-midnight

Weekdays

6:00-9:00 AM

7:00 PM-midnight



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION
Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Sewallcrest Park
Off-Leash Program
503-823-DOGS (3647)

186008

Moore-Love, Karla**From:** Waddell, Brian J [Brian.Waddell@CenturyLink.com]**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 7:23 AM**To:** Moore-Love, Karla**Subject:** my concern

Please let the city council hear my concern at the meeting tonight.

My issue is Pier Park, and the people who do not pay attention or care about the leash laws there. It has gotten out of control. Last Saturday me and my wife were walking our dog on his leash through the park, when an off leash dog tried to attack ours. I was able to deflect the attacking dog by trying to kick him away. The owner of that dog took offence to my actions, and attacked me. He ran towards me, and shoved me to the ground and threatened to "put his fist in my face" on several occasions. He said I kicked his dog. I said there wouldn't be an issue if you obeyed the law, and have your dog on a leash. He dropped several F bombs at me in response. I no longer feel safe walking my dog through this beautiful park. I shouldn't have to worry about my dog being mauled, and then being assaulted by his belligerent owner. I pay a lot of taxes to live in this city, and would like to use our parks. I know it's not realistic to patrol parks 24/7, but tickets need to be written, so people will get the message. I have seen park employees working in there, and they don't seem to care that dogs are running wild. I'm sick of it! I am always dealing with off leash dogs, and just want a peaceful walk through the park!

Brian Waddell
N Portland

4/24/2013

800981

186008

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Uwagbae, Grace
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2013 3:39 PM
To: BRIAN WADDELL
Cc: Hales, Mayor
Subject: RE: PierPark = FOLLOW UP

Brian,

Thank you for contacting the Mayor's office in regards to your concerns about off leash dogs at parks around the City.

Your interaction is very concerning. In the future if you are ever in this situation please contact police non-emergency at 503.823.3333 for assistance.

Please know that tomorrow at the City Council meeting the Parks & Recreation bureau will bring before Council Ordinance 377 "Provide for civil penalties for violation of leash and scoop regulations and authorize Commissioner in Charge to adopt policies and procedures for implementation of civil penalties". You can find the exact wording for this ordinance at the link here: <http://www.portlandonline.com/auditor/index.cfm?c=50265&a=444550>. You can also provide testimony, to be put on public record and submitted to each Council member before the hearing by emailing the City Council Clerk Karla Moore-Love at karla.moore-love@portlandoregon.gov. I would encourage you to send in your thoughts, as I recognize that this is short notice.

Again, thank you for contacting the Mayor's office with your concerns.

Best,

.....
Grace Uwagbae
Constituent Relations Manager
Office of Mayor Charlie Hales
City of Portland
1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 340
Portland, OR 97204
P: 503-823-4740
T: @GracieO_says
E: grace.uwagbae@portlandoregon.gov

> Hear my name

800091

From: BRIAN WADDELL [mailto:griz134@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 9:01 AM
To: Hales, Mayor
Subject: PierPark

Mr. Mayor,

I didn't know who to notify about my issue, so I decided to go to the top. My issue is Pier Park, and the people who do not pay attention or care about the leash laws there. It has gotten out of control. Last Saturday me and my wife were walking our dog on his leash through the park, when an off leash dog tried to attack ours. I was able to deflect the attacking dog by trying to kick him away. The owner of that dog took offence to my actions, and attacked me. He ran towards me, and shoved me to the ground and threatened to "put his fist in my face" on several occasions. He said I kicked his dog. I said there wouldn't be an issue if you obeyed the law, and have your dog on a leash. He dropped several F bombs at me in response. I no longer feel safe walking my dog through this beautiful park. I shouldn't have to worry about my dog being mauled, and then being assaulted by his belligerent owner. I pay a lot of taxes to live in this city, and would like to use our parks. I know it's not realistic to patrol parks 24/7, but tickets need to be written, so people will get the message. I have seen park employees working in there, and they don't seem to care that dogs are running wild. I'm sick of it! I am always dealing with off leash dogs, and just want a peaceful walk through the park!

Please address this issue with the parks department, or police department. Something needs to be done soon. I look forward to your response.

Thank you,

Brian Waddell