



MEMO

To: Parks Commission
From: Cindi Wight, Director of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront
CC: Erin Moreau, Waterfront Superintendent
Date: March 14, 2023
Subject: Enforcement of dogs at-large in City Parks

Request:

To authorize the update of Chapter 5-13 to add Urban Park Rangers to the list of officials allowed to enforce city ordinances related to dogs.

OVERVIEW

The City hired the first Urban Park Rangers in May 2022 to support the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department and Burlington Police Department in enforcing rules in City Parks. As they are a new position to the City, we need to add them into the ordinances, where applicable, giving them the authority to enforce park and overall City rules, such as at-large dogs.

Motion

To approve and recommend to the City Council that it accept, authorize, and place in all stages of passages the amendment to Chapter 5, section 13, of the Burlington Code of Ordinances, as outlined in the attached ordinance change form.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE _____

Sponsor: PACC – Shannon, Barlow, Dieng
Public Hearing Dates: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Two _____

First reading: _____

Referred to: _____

Rules suspended and placed in all stages of passage: _____

Second reading: _____

Action: _____

Date: _____

Signed by Mayor: _____

Published: _____

Effective: _____

An Ordinance in Relation to

CHAPTER 5, PARKS—SECTION 13, DOGS - DEFINITIONS

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

1 That Chapter 5, Parks, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by
2 amending Sec. 13, Definitions, thereof to read as follows:

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4 5-13, Definitions

5 The following definitions shall apply to this article:

6 *At-large.* At-large shall mean not under the control of the owner, or another individual either by leash, cord, chain
7 or other similar means of physical restraint.

8 *Dog.* Dog shall include both male and female of the canine species. Dog shall also mean any animal which is
9 considered to be a wolf-hybrid as defined in [20 V.S.A. § 3541\(6\)](#).

10 *Enforcement official.* Enforcement official when used herein shall mean any animal control officer, police officer,
11 poundkeeper, Urban Park Ranger or other individual specifically designated by the city council to enforce the
12 provisions of this chapter.

13 *Owner.* Owner shall include any person or persons, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping or harboring
14 a dog.

15 *Vicious dog.* Vicious dog shall mean a dog which attacks or bites a person or other domestic pet while the dog is
16 off the premises of the owner or keeper, and the person or pet attacked or bitten requires medical attention.
17 Vicious dog complaints shall be investigated pursuant to section [5-27\(b\)](#).

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27 * Material stricken out deleted.

28 ** Material underlined added.

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33 CW/ Resolutions 2023/CHAPTER 5, PARKS—SECTION 13, addition of underlined material.

34 [date]