

# RALLY! RALLY! RALLY! RALLY!

Come to a Rally to Protest the Dog Policy



**Friday, August 3**  
**4:30 - 7:00 pm**



**Civic Center Plaza (the park across from City Hall)**

*\*Check [www.sfdog.org](http://www.sfdog.org) or call 415-339-7461 to confirm the date & time\**

*Tell Rec & Park the Draft Dog Policy is:*

**DESTRUCTIVE** - Dog pens will destroy our park communities and ruin the beauty of our parks by chopping up open space and replacing grass with gravel.

**DIVISIVE** - It segregates dog owners from other park users, and fosters intolerance by treating off-leash recreation as dangerous and unsightly.

**UNFRIENDLY TO FAMILIES** - Dog pens make a family outing all but impossible, forcing busy, dog-owning parents to find separate blocks of time to play with their children and with the family dog.

**INEFFICIENT** - There is too little parkland in San Francisco to partition off any more space for single use. Already athletic fields stand empty most days of the year. This plan also forces dog owners away from their neighborhood parks and into their cars in a city that claims to be committed to transit-first policy.

**INADEQUATE** - It allocates a maximum of .7% of San Francisco's city parkland for more than 100,000 dogs. And it does not take into account the variety of off-leash experiences that people enjoy, from jogging to playing Frisbee to picnicking to water play. Dog pens narrow our recreational choices to one: standing in the dirt while our dogs try to exercise without colliding.

**EXPENSIVE** - Dog pens and widespread enforcement are a waste of taxpayer's money and police officers' time. Why build pens no one will use when there's not enough money left over from Props A & C to upgrade irrigation systems and other park facilities? Why turn our police and park officers into dog catchers when there are real crimes happening daily?

**UNREALISTIC** - The vast majority of dog owners will not use the dog pens. And they certainly will not pay for them. Enforcement can not be sustained. The Recreation & Park Department will be back to square one in a year.

**ILL DEFINED** - The draft policy fails to explain how 100,000+ dogs and their owners will use so little space. It places enforcement before expansion, and places so many restrictions on siting of off-leash areas that few are likely to ever be developed, particularly unfenced trail areas.

**PUNITIVE** - The policy punishes responsible citizens for the actions of a very few irresponsible ones. No one would suggest banning driving because some drivers run red lights, or banning teens from the park because some vandalize property.

**INSULTING** - The Pet Policy does not respond to the immense amount of input that dog owners have given the Recreation & Park Department over the last few years. It places the recreational needs of this huge segment of the population--probably the single biggest and most dedicated group of park users--after every other conceivable form of recreation. It treats dog owners like criminals and off-leash recreation like a crime.