

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY DOG PARK

2018 STRATEGIC PLANNING

FAQ

1. I really love the existing site at Northland & French Road; why are we now looking at alternative sites?

Proximity to Growing Landfill. The existing Dog Exercise Facility site has served the county very well. When it was created, it was and continues to be situated on Outagamie County Recycling & Solid Waste Department Land. Portions of the site have already been lost to landfill expansion, and as the landfill continues to expand, it will impede and limit the usage of the dog site at this existing location. The existing site is not viable in its current state in the long term. However, it will be usable for the foreseeable future. The county has initiated identifying an alternative Dog Park site as a means to be proactive to issues that will be on the horizon.

French Rd Intersection. The intersection of French Road and Northland (CTH 00) has been studied extensively by Wisconsin DOT and other local agencies. In the long term, one of the best solutions to current traffic & safety issues would be to realign French Rd to the east, resulting in loss of a significant portion of the dog park site. In the short term, temporary signals are planned for the intersection.

Sewer and Water Service. Dog park users have expressed a desire for running water and bathrooms. These both required sewer and water. Extension of sewer and water service from the Village of Little Chute would be very expensive; previous estimates have put this cost at over \$1million.

2. Why are no other locations being considered besides the Casaloma Site & the Brewster Site?

Outagamie County has provided the two viable sites that are currently under county ownership that are conducive to hosting a dog park site. Municipalities were contacted in the County to see if there was potential for a collaborative dog park facility, however no municipally-owned land was identified that was conducive to a county-municipal dog park facility.

The county's resources are limited, and there is often pressure to use the remaining vacant land the county owns for a variety of county programs and services beyond parks. The county is not in a financial position to purchase new property for a dog park, but is will to consider existing county-owned land (of which is valued at \$100K per acre!) for a new dog park site.

3. How many acres for each site can be allocated for dog park usage?

Each site has vacant land available, that is at least as large as the existing dog park site; however neither site can allocate all open land for exclusive dog park usage. For the

Brewster Site, there is a strong need to preserve as much of the vacant site for future county facility needs; for the Casaloma Site, the county intends to preserve the land with most proximity to the intersection/Hwy 15 for commercial sale (as previously authorized by the County Board).

Conceptual plans presented at the August 20th Community Input Session will illustrate acreages of the various options at each location.

4. The Casaloma site has wetlands present; will this impede usage of the site?

The presence of wetland presents unique challenges to this site, as permits will be required by Outagamie County, Wisconsin DNR, and the Army Corps of Engineers prior to any development occurring at the site. However, the presence of wetlands does not preclude using this site for a dog park facility. In fact, the current dog park site has wetlands traversing it from east to west (in the area where the “former streambed” is). Not all wetland types are wet year round; most of the wetlands on this site used to be tillable farmland and are currently mowed. Much of the identified wetlands are dry most of the year, aside from the springtime and other rainy periods.

5. The Casaloma Site is located at a relatively busy intersection; what are the pros and cons of being situated at such a busy intersection?

Being on a busy corner can create some challenges, such as ensuring safe entry and egress from the site. The Casaloma site is located at the corner of USH 15, Casaloma, and just west of Interstate 41.

The Town of Grand Chute, which owns Casaloma Dr, requires a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) be completed prior to development approval to ensure that the site, and any road improvements, will be designed as safe as possible. TIAs guide final locations of proposed driveways, and when necessary require turn lanes, traffic signals, and other traffic controls.

The current dog park site at French Road and CTH 00 is also on a very busy corner, with proximity to USH 441. While we all know the intersection of French Rd has created some safety challenges, it has also provided great visibility and ease of access to residents from throughout the County, given its transportation advantages.

The current site does not have access to any bicycle or pedestrian facilities. The Casaloma site is situated adjacent to the Town of Grand Chute’s Casaloma Trail, as well as the trail network that spans I41, connecting in the FVTC/Town of Grand Chute trail network east of the interstate. The Brewster site is also tied into this same trail network.

Updated 8/20/2018