

**RESOLUTION NO. 491**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON,  
REQUESTING A PLACEHOLDER FOR OFF LEASH DOG USES IN THE  
CHAMBERS CREEK PROPERTIES MASTER SITE PLAN FOR FUTURE  
CONSIDERATION**

WHEREAS, many University Place residents value and enjoy the comfort and companionship of their dogs; and,

WHEREAS, more than 730 Pierce County residents recently submitted a petition to Pierce County requesting the consideration of an off leash dog area on the Chambers Creek Properties site; and,

WHEREAS, the Tacoma Pierce County Humane Society estimates that there were 6,645 dogs in University Place in 2003 and an estimated total of 51,718 dogs living in Fircrest, Steilacoom, Tacoma and University Place; and

WHEREAS, off leash dog parks are receiving national recognition as a legitimate recreational use; and,

WHEREAS, there are more than 30 off leash areas throughout Washington State which is only beginning to address the need; and,

WHEREAS, research has proven that vigorous exercise is essential for healthy dogs and their owners; and

WHEREAS, off leash dog parks provide opportunities for dogs to develop necessary socialization skills along with increasing positive human interaction; and

WHEREAS, off leash dog parks can help reduce canine behavioral problems along with providing a realistic enforcement tool to reduce unwanted encounters with unleashed dogs; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish a legal, safe place for dogs to run and play in an increasingly urbanized area with rising densities and smaller lots; and,

WHEREAS, off leash dog areas can help educate dog owners about responsible dog ownership including waste removal and proper dog care; and,


WHEREAS, the presence of well-behaved canines can provide additional security for people and parks;

WHEREAS, a grassroots volunteer group called SUNDODGS (Safe, Unleashed and Natural) has pledged its support for an outstanding multi-use regional park which offers dog owners the opportunity to enjoy an off leash area;

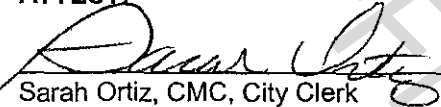
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of University Place, Washington as follows:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of University Place respectfully requests that the Pierce County Council add an off leash dog area, or a placeholder so such a use may be considered without further amendment, to the Chambers Creek Properties Master Site Plan Amendment currently under consideration and slated for adoption this fall.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE 11TH DAY OF JULY 2005.

  
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Ken Grassi, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Sarah Ortiz, CMC, City Clerk