

Parks and Recreation Department

Mission Heights Neighborhood Park

GDP Amendment

Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA)

Parks and Recreation Board

Agenda item #101 October 16, 2025



Issue

Should the Parks and Recreation Board recommend approval of the proposed General Development Plan (GDP) Amendment for Mission Heights Neighborhood Park to incorporate a new Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA)?

Objectives

- To implement priorities identified in the Parks Master Plan & CD 7 Community
 - The City of San Diego Parks Master Plan (2021) highlights off-leash dog parks as a key recreational priority, based on strong community demand. A DOLA provides an additional 10.5 Recreational Value Points (RVP)
 - Council District 7 brought forward the community request for a DOLA in the region
- To reduce Vehicle Miles Travelled
 - Providing recreation amenities close to home decreases the need for car trips in alignment with the City's Climate Action initiatives.
- To alleviate off-leash dog violations in Mission Heights NP and parks nearby

Community input revealed common priorities for residents with an emphasis on investing in:



Acquisition of land for new parks;



Improvements and maintenance of existing parks and facilities;



Neighborhood parks;



Open space and trails;



Off-leash dog parks;



Aquatic facilities;



Fitness and wellness programs;

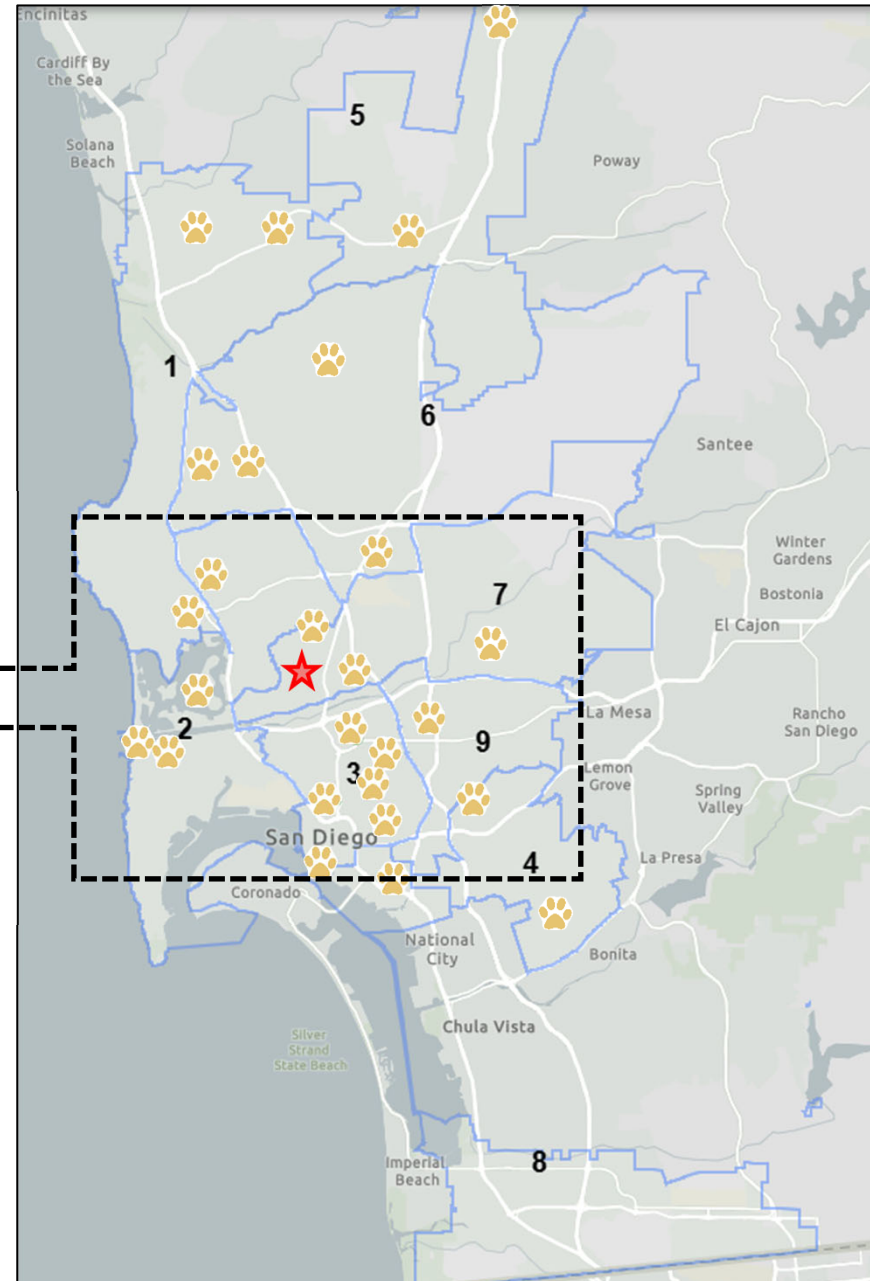
Source: City of SD Parks Master Plan



Existing Dog Parks *City of San Diego*

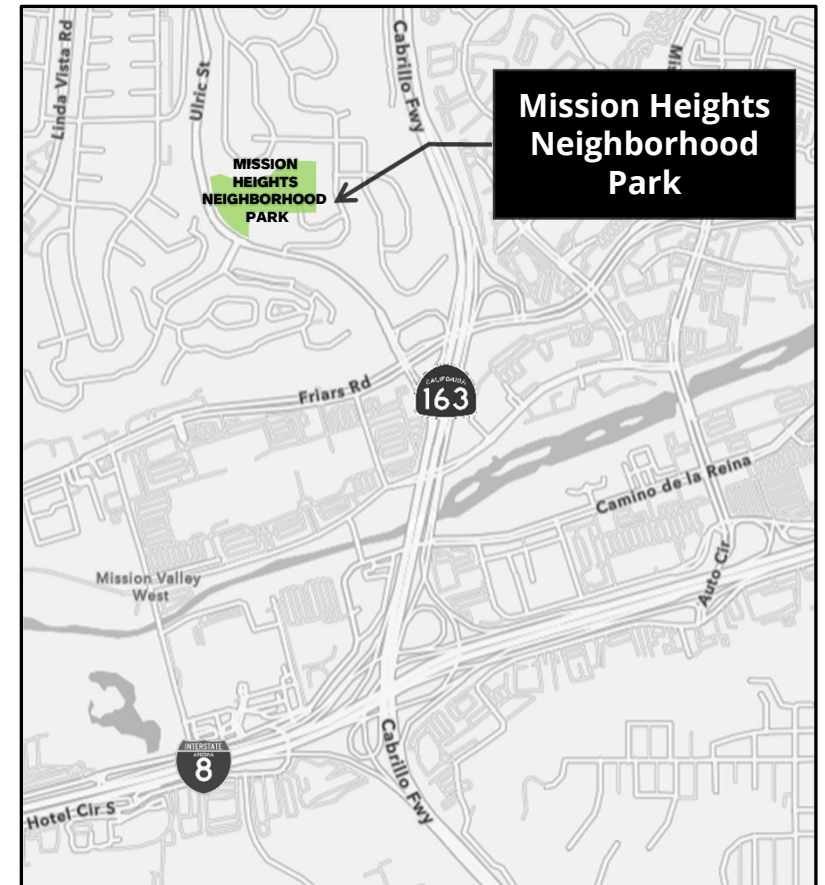


PROJECT LOCATION



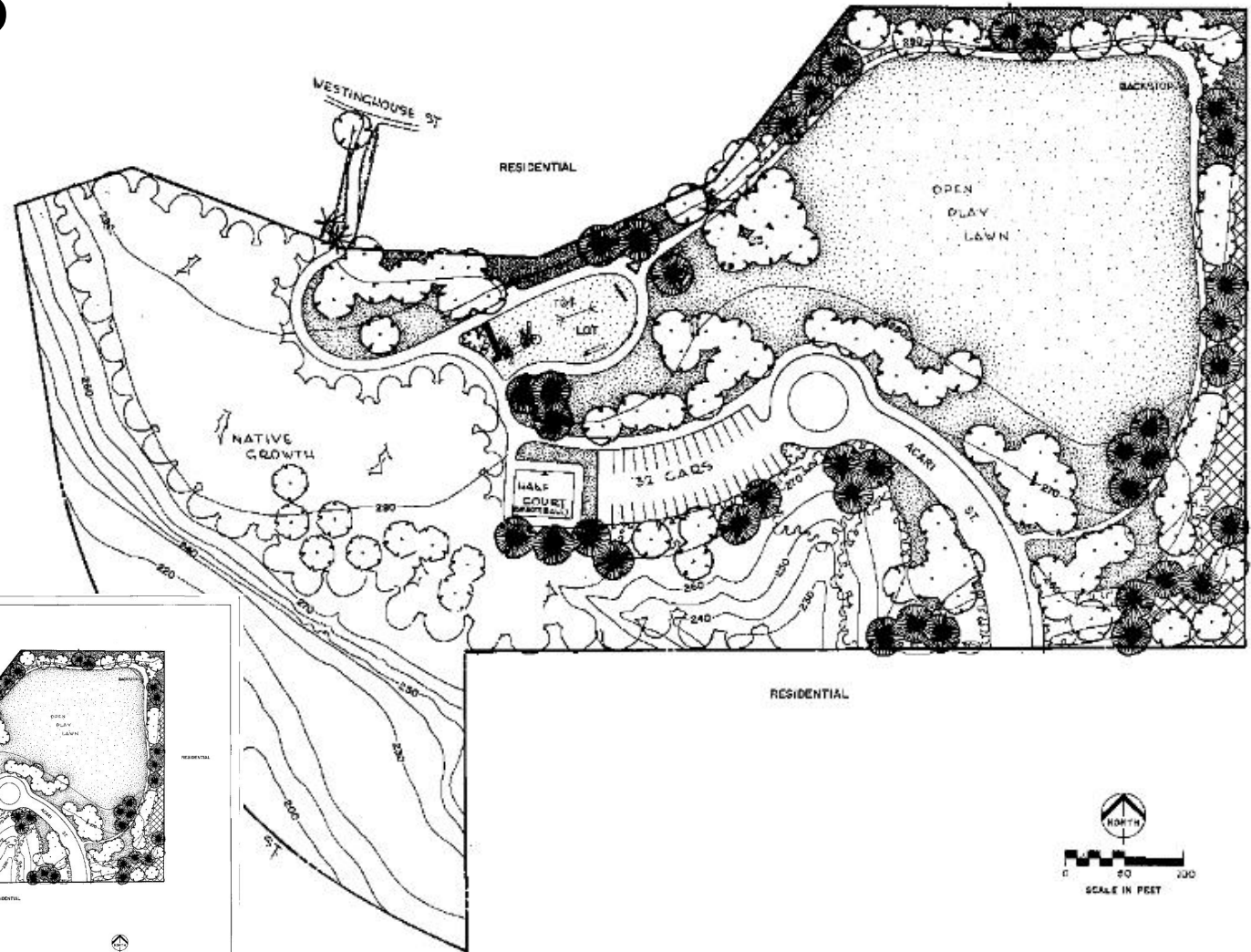
Mission Heights Neighborhood Park

- Located in Council District 7 in the Linda Vista Community
- 11.32 total acres dedicated park land
 - 9.32 acres improved
 - 2.00 acres of natural area
- Improvements include a paved parking lot, playground, open turf field with backstop, walkways, and ½ court basketball



Park Location

Adding a Dog Off-Leash Area requires an amendment to the existing General Development Plan (GDP).





FAQ: *How City Parks Are Designed* GDP Amendment

The screenshot shows the San Diego Parks & Recreation website. The header includes the SD logo and navigation links: Parks & Recreation Home, General Info, Rec Centers & Pools, Regional and Open Space Parks, Golf, Programs & Events, and Design & Development. The main content area is titled "FAQ: How City Parks Are Designed" and includes a brief description of the city's park design process. Below this is a list of eight frequently asked questions, each with a dropdown arrow. The right sidebar contains a "Design and Development" section with links to "Design & Development Home", "Current Park Projects", and "Park Planning Documents". It also features buttons for "Existing Parks", "Capital Improvements Program Overview", "Park Design FAQ", "General Development Plans", and a "Subscribe to Park Design and Development Notices" button. At the bottom of the sidebar is a "Quick References" section with buttons for "Ask Parks", "Department Phone List", "Park Use Permits and Applications", and "Park Use Rules and Regulations".

Parks & Recreation

Parks & Recreation Home | General Info | Rec Centers & Pools | Regional and Open Space Parks | Golf | Programs & Events | Design & Development

FAQ: How City Parks Are Designed

The City of San Diego follows a comprehensive and community-driven process to plan and design parks. This FAQ explains how the City gathers input from the community, the key planning documents that guide park development, and the steps involved from concept to construction.

- What is the public input process required for park projects?
- What is the Parks Master Plan, and how does it shape community input?
- Why is public input important in the park design process?
- What is a General Development Plan (GDP)?
- How can I get involved in the GDP design process?
- Why are Parks and Recreation's public meetings hosted by the Community Recreation Groups (CRGs) and not the Community Planning Groups (CPGs)?
- Where can I find out about upcoming GDP meetings?
- What can I do if I have a comment about a *proposed* GDP?
- What is a General Development Plan (GDP) Amendment?

Design and Development

- [Design & Development Home](#)
- [Current Park Projects](#)
- [Park Planning Documents](#)

[Existing Parks](#)

[Capital Improvements Program Overview](#)

[Park Design FAQ](#)

[General Development Plans](#)

[Subscribe to Park Design and Development Notices](#)

Quick References

- [Ask Parks](#)
- [Department Phone List](#)
- [Park Use Permits and Applications](#)
- [Park Use Rules and Regulations](#)



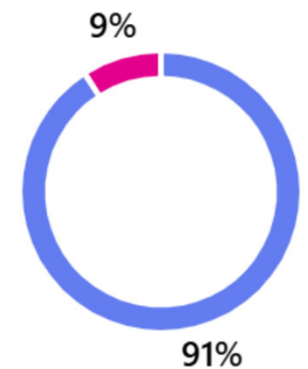


Timeline: GDP Amendment Process

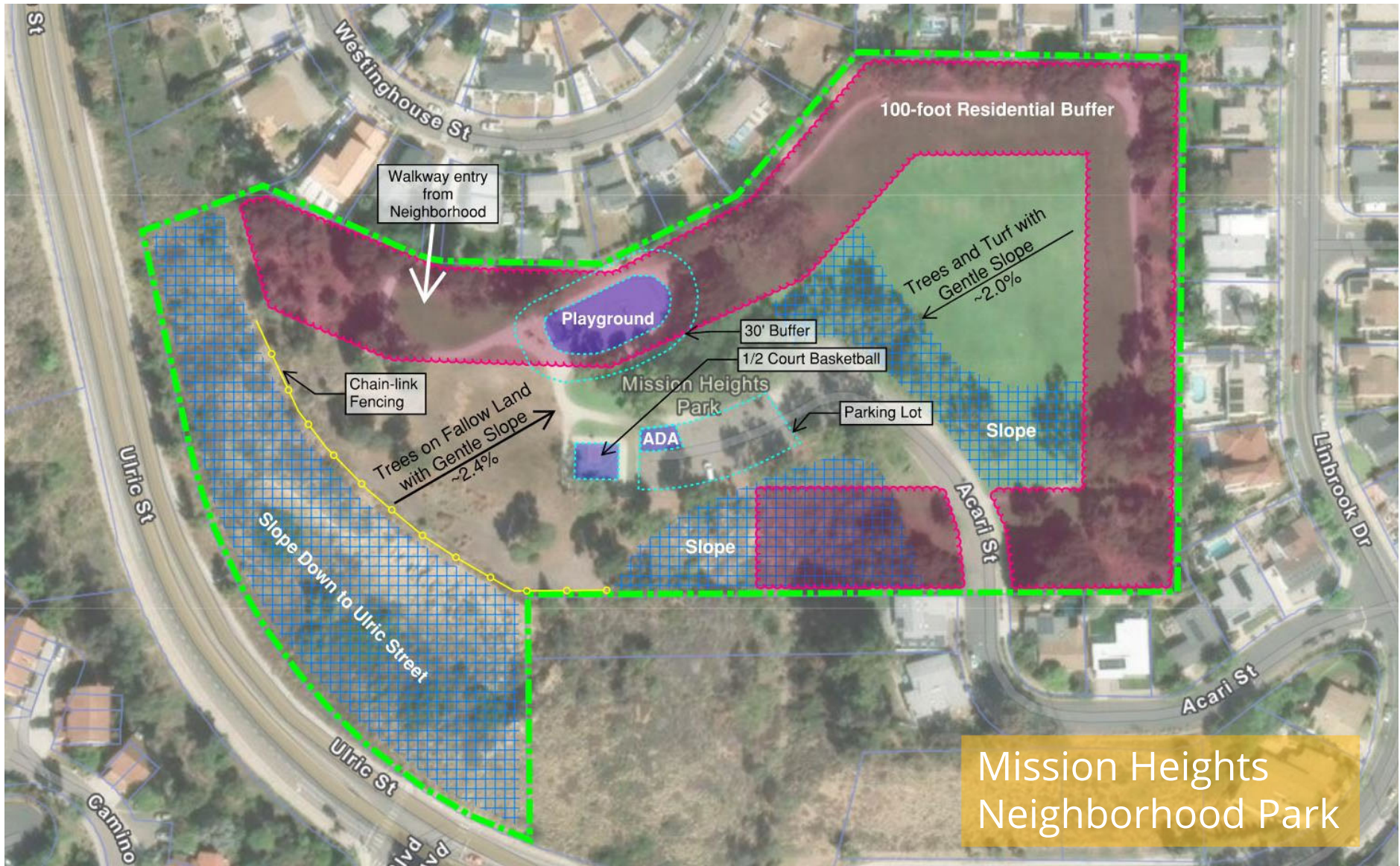
- CRG Workshop #1: March 11, 2025
- Survey Period: March 11 – April 1 (77 Responses)
- CRG Workshop #2: June 10, 2025
- CRG Action Item: September 9, 2025
 - Voted (6-0-0) to recommend approval of the GDP Amendment
- NORA posted: September 25, 2025
- P&R Board Action Item: **October 16, 2025 (TODAY)**
 - Requesting recommendation of approval

GDP Amendment Community Input

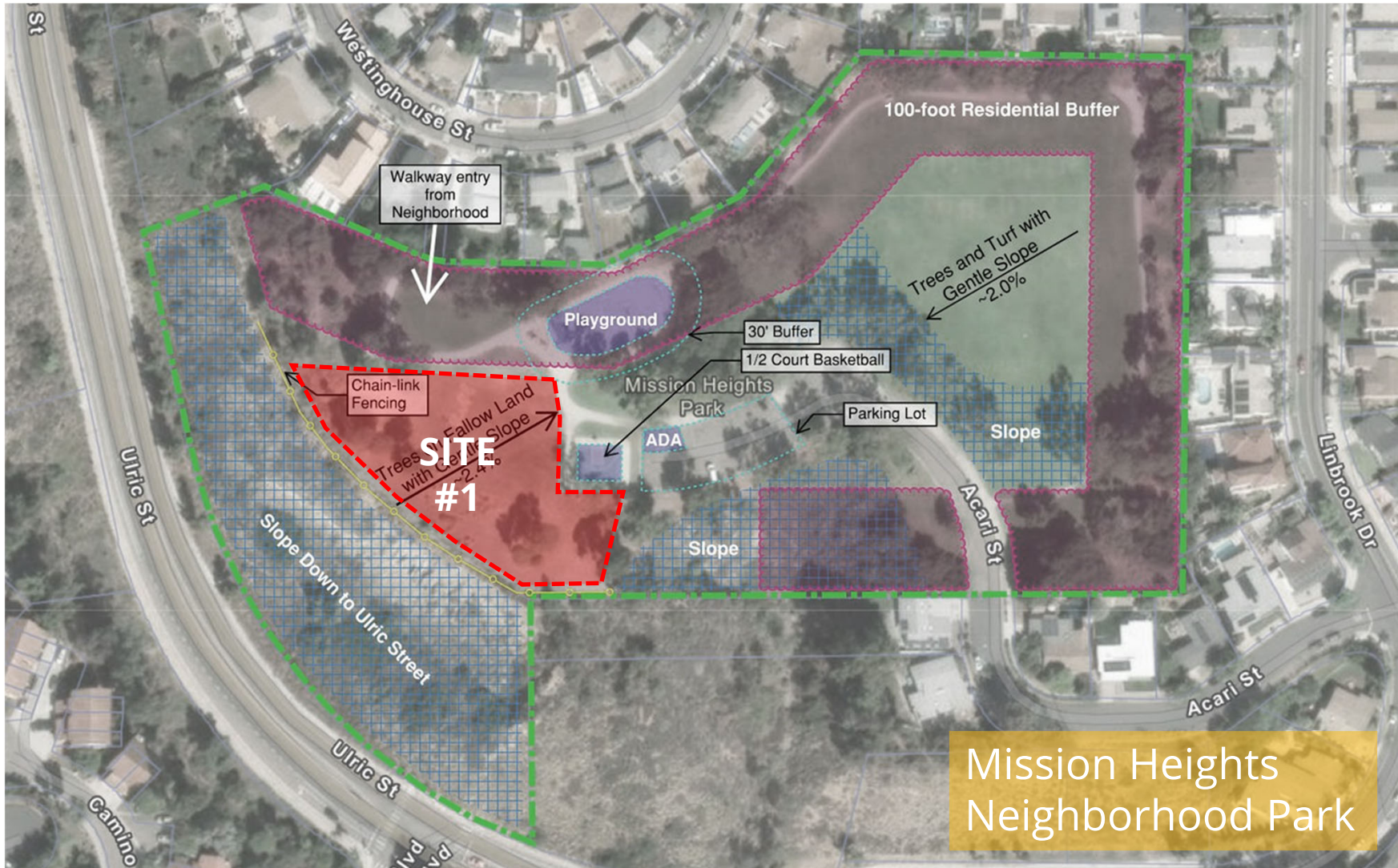
- Workshop 1
 - Reviewed Existing Conditions & DOLA Requirements
 - Identified 2 potential DOLA sites
- Community Survey
 - 91% of survey responders desire a DOLA
 - 91% of survey responders preferred Site #1
- Workshop 2
 - Survey results were presented
 - Two Options for DOLA on Site #1 were presented
 - Community input included: enlarging the DOLA on the north side, increasing size of the small DOLA, and moving secondary entry of the large DOLA to be more proximate to the Westinghouse Street park entry



Existing Conditions

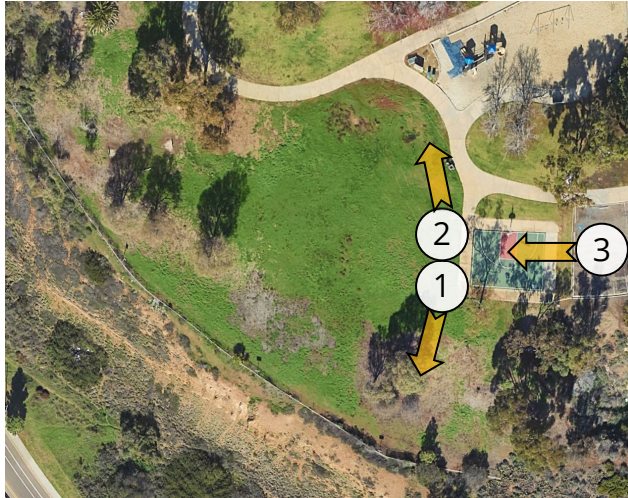


Preferred Site

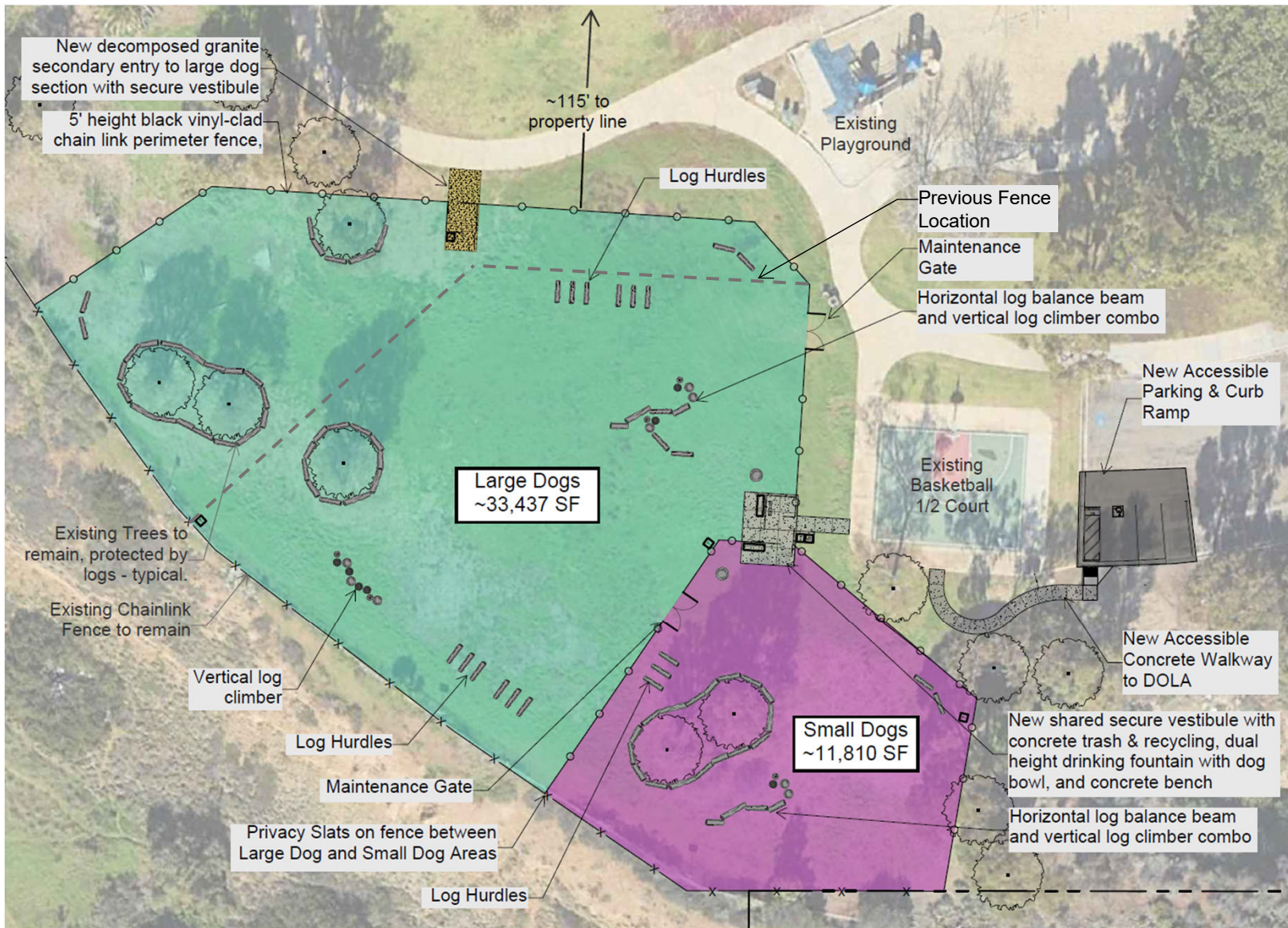




Existing Site Conditions

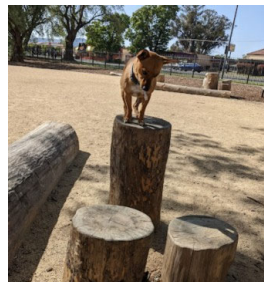
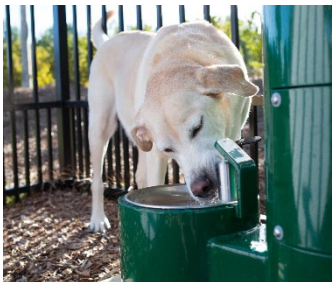


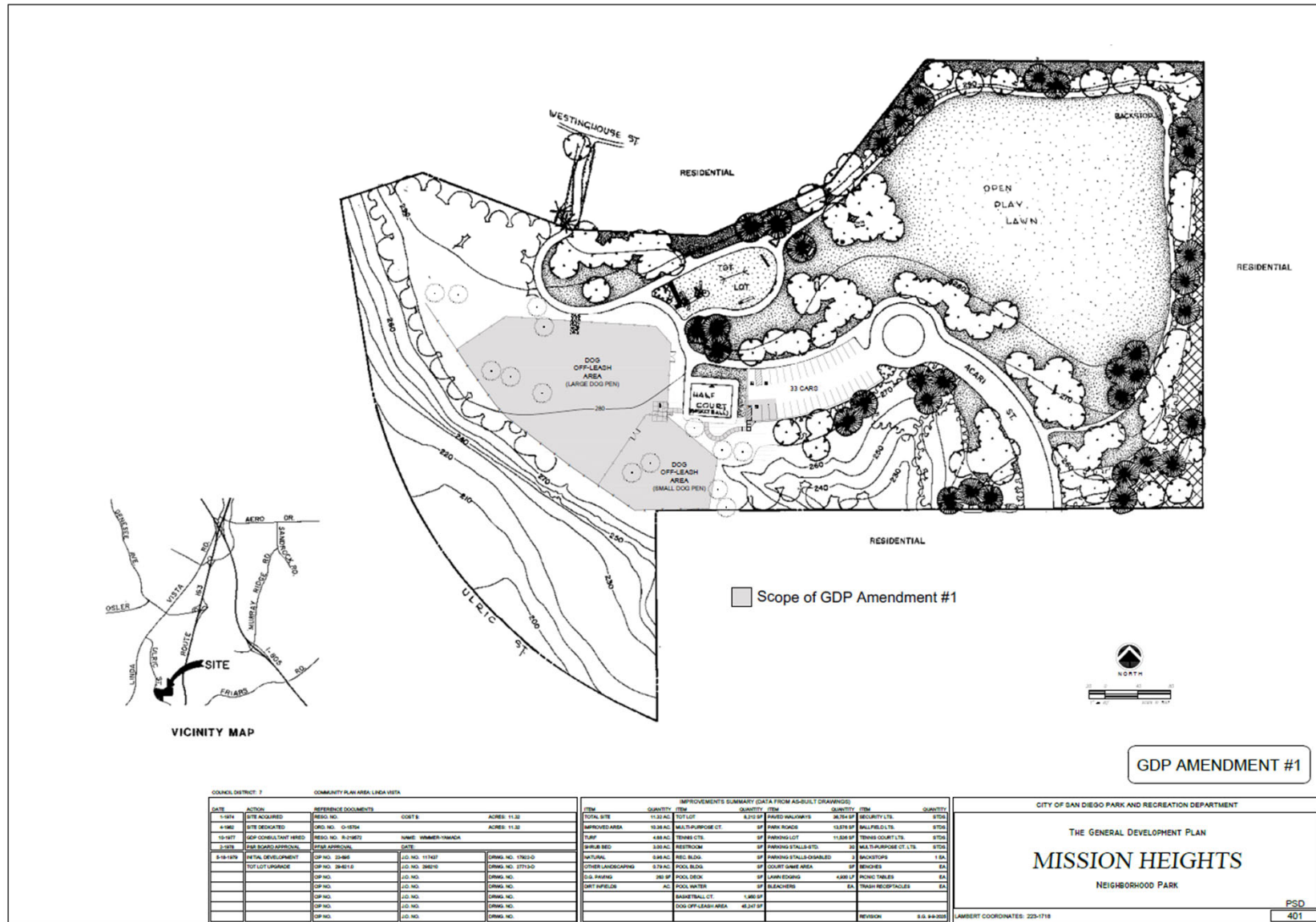
Mission Heights DOLA - Site Plan



Elements & Amenities

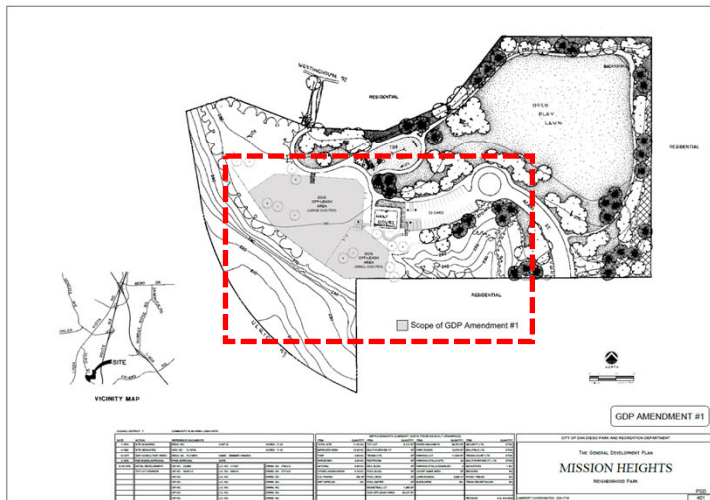
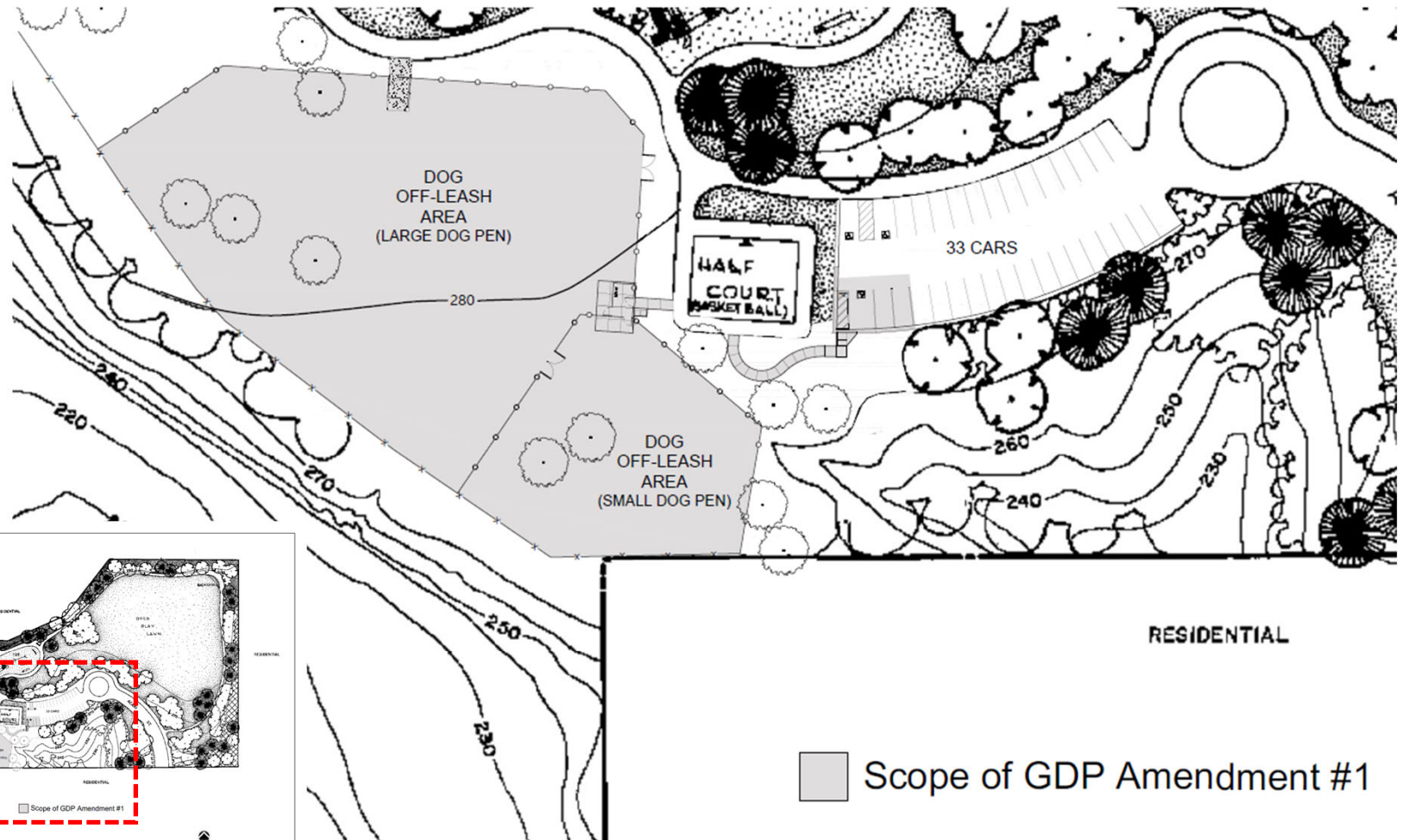
- ADA path of travel from parking to shared entry vestibule
- Double-gated, Secure Vestibule
- Separate Areas for Large & Small Dogs
- Drinking Fountain w/ Dog Bowl
- Agility Opportunities for Dogs
- Seating for People
- Dog Waste Bag Dispensers







Proposed GDP Amendment





Other Recommendations

On September 9, 2025 the Linda Vista Community Recreation Group voted 6-0-0 to recommend approval of the proposed Mission Heights Neighborhood Park GDP Amendment.

Department Recommendation

Recommend approval of the proposed GDP Amendment for Mission Heights Neighborhood Park.



Requested Action

Recommend approval of the proposed General Development Plan (GDP) Amendment for Mission Heights Neighborhood Park.

