

Help Save LiFE (Leash Free Exercise) at Fiesta Island

The city is working on a plan to “develop” Fiesta Island. The fenced, leash-free area on the south end of the island will be cut it into 3 small parks with a road, fences and parking lots. Also ‘tot lots’, bocce ball courts, an amphitheater and other ‘improvements’ will be added to our off-leash area. These plans will destroy the natural parkland and make it difficult and dangerous to pass from one side to the other. The western half is being classified as Regional Parkland, such it could someday be taken away, leaving only 30 acres as an off-leash area with a very tiny beach. FIDO is working with the city to have the road removed and to preserve the off-leash area as one large, contiguous area where we can exercise with our dogs. Most importantly, preserve how us the tax payers as well as dog owners, use this unique resource to exercise.

There is no other area in San Diego like Fiesta Island where owners can enjoy public parkland with their off-leash dogs. Of its 40,000 acres of public parkland, the Dept. of Parks & Recreation currently designates less than 41 acres outside of Fiesta Island as available off-leash use for the county’s 700,000 plus dogs. We cannot afford to lose our space on Fiesta Island. It cannot be replaced with small neighborhood parks. We must convince the city that we are tax paying citizens and valid recreational users of this unique park.

If this plan is approved, not only would we lose our fenced, leash-free area as it exists, but the projected cost is over \$150 million. Furthermore, there has been no mention of the ongoing maintenance costs this project would incur each year. Eliminating their plans for the road and minimizing development within the current off-leash dog area would help reduce these costs.

Join us in our fight to save Fiesta Island. Here’s how:

- 1) Join FIDO. Go to www.fidosd.org and click on the link to join.
- 2) Volunteer! Contact Mary at: 858-531-9369 or volunteer@fidosd.org for more info
- 3) Call / write the city council and other politicians. (see addresses below)
- 4) Send letters to the editors of our local newspapers.
- 5) Attend upcoming meetings and speak out against the current plan.
- 6) Recruit family, friends, co-workers, neighbors. **THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS**
- 7) Make a tax deductible donation at our web site: www.fidosd.org

Political Contact Information:

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