



Bill number: 241082

Introduced by: Young

Cosponsor(s): Driscoll

Assigned committee: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Date introduced: 11/21/2024

Fiscal Note

Overview

This bill would require animals at parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers to be leashed, except in areas designated by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks & Rec) as dog parks/runs, and would prohibit animals from areas designated by the Department as animal free. The anticipated cost to the City is \$195,000 over five years.

Legislative Summary

This bill would apply to parks and playgrounds as follows:

- No person may bring any animal to a park or playground if the Department designates the area as an “animal free,” or a similar designation, except for service, guide or support animals, excluding emotional support animals, as consistent with federal and state law.
- Each area established or designated by the Department as a “Dog Park,” “Dog Run,” or similar designation may have specific rules and regulations for its use, which would be posted on-site.
- A person who brings an animal onto any park or playground must keep it on a leash no longer than six feet in length (including the handgrip, but not the collar or harness) and must be able to fully control the animal at all times. This requirement does not apply to dogs off-leash within a designated and fenced-in dog park or dog run.
- A person who brings an animal into or onto any park or playground would be required to clean up and properly dispose of all feces created by the animal.

A violation of any provision of this Section is subject to a civil monetary penalty of up to \$2,000.

This bill would apply to recreation centers as follows:

- No person may bring any animal into or onto any recreation facility if the Department has posted public notice that such area is “animal free,” or a similar designation, except for service, guide or support animals, excluding emotional support animals, as consistent with federal and state law.
- Each area established or designated by the Department as a “Dog Park,” “Dog Run,” or similar designation may have specific rules and regulations for its use, which would be posted on-site.
- A person who brings an animal onto any recreation facility must keep it on a leash no longer than six feet in length (including the handgrip, but not the collar or harness) and must be able to fully control the animal at all times. This requirement does not apply to dogs off-leash within a designated and fenced-in dog park or dog run.
- A person who brings an animal into or onto any recreation facility would be required to clean up and properly dispose of all feces created by the animal.

A violation of any provision of this Section would be subject to a civil monetary penalty of up to \$2,000.

Proposed Effective Date

This legislation would be effective immediately after enactment.

Fiscal Impact Analysis

The estimated cost of implementing this legislation is summarized in the below table. The total cost is estimated to be \$195,000 over five years.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	Total
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease) Class 100: Personal Services	\$16,200	\$108,800	-	-	-	\$125,000
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease) Class 300: Materials and Supplies	\$35,000	\$35,000				\$70,000
Revenues Increase/(Decrease) General Fund	*	*	*	*	*	*
Net Cost/(Savings)	\$51,200	\$143,800	-	-	-	\$195,000

* Revenues: This legislation would create civil penalties for non-compliance; therefore, the revenue impact of this legislation would depend on the level of non-compliance and enforcement instances.

Parks & Rec estimates that implementing this legislation would cost up to \$195,000 over five years. This amount covers staffing and materials.

Staffing: For this project, Parks & Rec would need to hire five temporary staffers, a standard practice within the Department, to replace and install the necessary signage. These temporary staffers would be paid \$17 per hour for a 40-hour work week.

Materials: Over 600 signs would be installed, each costing approximately \$110. At least one to two signs would be installed at each park, playground, and recreation facility, with the number varying depending on the layout, facility size, and number of entrances.

Process: Parks & Rec's contracted graphic design specialist would create the required signage, which would indicate whether an area is animal-free or a designated dog park/run. These signs would also include a violation notice with a civil penalty of up to \$2,000. They would be displayed across various parks, playgrounds and recreation facilities throughout Philadelphia.

Legislative History

Not applicable

Prepared by: Policy and Fiscal Analyst Unit, Mayor's Office of Legislative Affairs

Date: 02/06/2025

This document is a summary of proposed legislation as introduced and is prepared by the Mayor's Office of Legislative Affairs for general information only. It does not represent the official legal position of the City. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.