



Unleashing Summer Freedom

**Help us build Marquette's first
warm-weather, off-leash community dog park!**

Marquette Dog Park Friends, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization
Lake Superior Community Partnership Foundation, Fiscal Sponsor

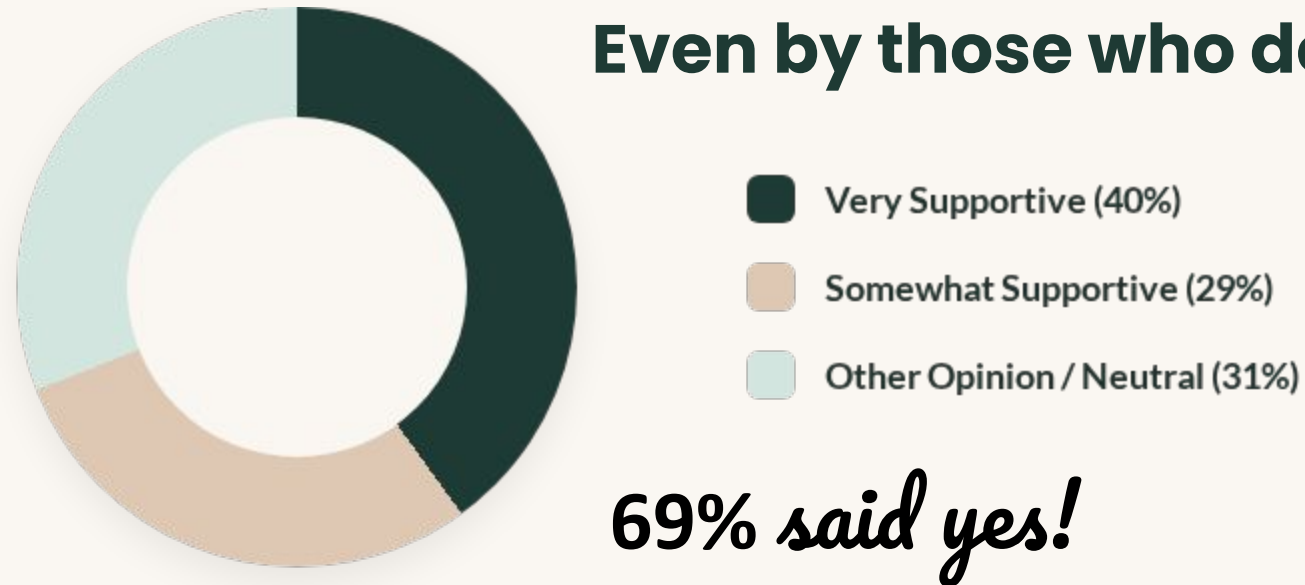
The Summer Void

During the warmest, longest days of the year, off-leash dogs are prohibited in Marquette.

- ⚠️ **Strict Summer Bans:** Public ordinances prohibit off-leash exercise on Marquette city trails, beaches, and parks.
- ❄️ **Winter-Only Sanctuary:** Tourist Park Campground offers an off-leash dog run, but only from November to April.
- 🚫 **Competing for Space:** Summer brings an influx of tourists traveling with dogs who are unaware of the ordinance prohibitions, leading to conflicts.



An off-leash summer dog park has topped Marquette's Recreation Master Plan survey 20 years running.



Source: Marquette 5-year Recreation Master Plan, April 2025.

Based on the numbers, high resident support includes non-pet owners.

Why This Matters



Because people need exercise and social time, too.

“During the winter, walking in the off-leash dog park is the only exercise I get. A summer park would keep my dogs and me moving”

“At the winter park, my dog met other dogs, became braver, happier, and more social—and so did I. It means the world to see him happy. Having this option year-round is something Marquette has needed for far too long.”

8.8 Acres of Dedicated Freedom

The site plan includes **three separate play areas**: a massive 6.3-acre wooded trail system for large dogs and a cozy 1.0-acre safe haven for small dogs, plus 1.5 acres of open green space. The entire perimeter of each space will be completely fenced for worry-free socialization.



A Vision of Quality

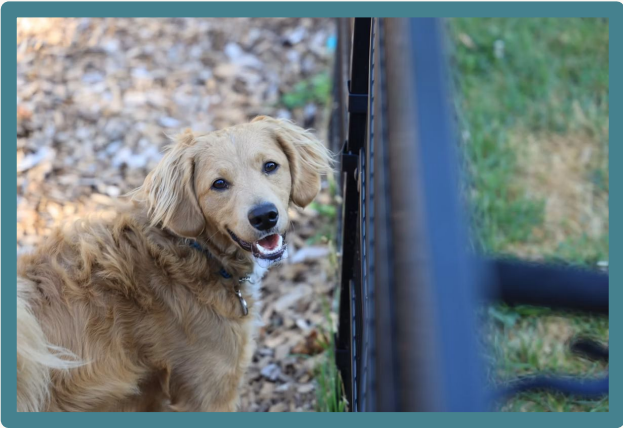
“Now we have *trails of our own!*”

No more competing with bikes and hikers for trail space. The 6.3-acre area will **remain wooded** with crushed-gravel trails. The terrain will be made as level as possible, with wide gate entrances and exits, so dog-lovers of **all abilities** can enjoy the park.

Parking for 50+ vehicles will be located next to the entrance and exit gates. **Drinking water** will be available by hand pump. **Benches** are planned throughout the site. And in the open grassy area, there will be **plenty of space for frisbee!**



Project Cost Breakdown



Development Area	Project Features & Enhancements	Estimated Cost
Large Dog Area (6.3 Ac)	2,926 ft. trails, 2,550 ft. fencing, retractable gates, accessories	\$161,450
Small Dog Area (1.0 Ac)	725 ft. trails, 700 ft. fencing, retractable gates, accessories	\$ 47,380
Green Space (1.5 Ac)	84 ft. perimeter fencing, retractable gates, benches, waste bins	\$ 40,840
Parking Areas	~50 parking spots gravel base and trailhead preparation	\$ 32,600
Hand Pump	For on-site drinking water	\$ 35,000
Endowed funds	Ongoing maintenance support to the City	\$ 32,730
Grand Total	Total Estimated Initial Capital Construction	\$350,000

* Preliminary estimate

Marquette Dog Park Friends & the City of Marquette:

The Public-Private Model



100% Private Build

Construction relies completely on private cash, in-kind donations, and foundation grants. The City does not fund park development.



Public Maintenance

Once built using donor funds, the City of Marquette takes over the park's operations, maintenance, and long-term care.



Tax-Deductible

Gifts are fully tax-exempt and processed securely through our non-profit fiscal partner, the Lake Superior Community Partnership Foundation.

Can you help? Be a Paw Partner!



PLATINUM PAW PARTNER

\$25,000 and up

- Choice of prominent Name or Business/Organization logo on signage at the park OR Named bench
- Plus Golden-level sponsorship publicity

GOLDEN PAW PARTNER

\$11,500– 24,999.00

- Large Name or Business/Organization logo on signage at the park
- Plus Silver-level publicity



SILVER PAW PARTNER

\$5,000 – \$11,499.00

- Name or Business/Organization logo on signage at the park

Plus:

- Mentions when discussing the project in the press
- Social media and website shoutouts
- Business or organization logo in digital media (optional)



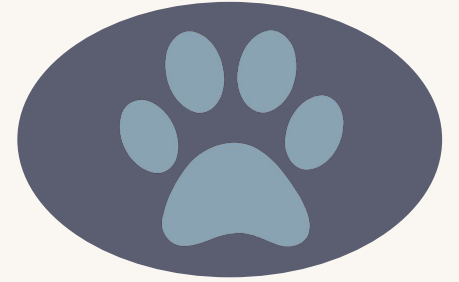
BRONZE PAW PARTNER

\$1,000–\$4,999.00

- Name or Business/Organization logo on signage at the park

Plus:

- Social media and website shoutouts
- Business or organization logo in digital media (optional)



ORE PAW PARTNER

\$500 – \$999.00

- Your name or your dog's name on our donor roster at the park
- Social media and website shoutouts

PAW PARTNER

Any amount up to \$499.00

Funds or equivalent in-kind donation of materials or labor welcome!

Donor recognition



MAIN SIGN

Platinum, Golden, Silver, Bronze-Level Paw Partners



REVERSE SIDE - DONOR ROSTER

Paw Partners & Ore-Level Paw Partners



BENCH PLAQUE

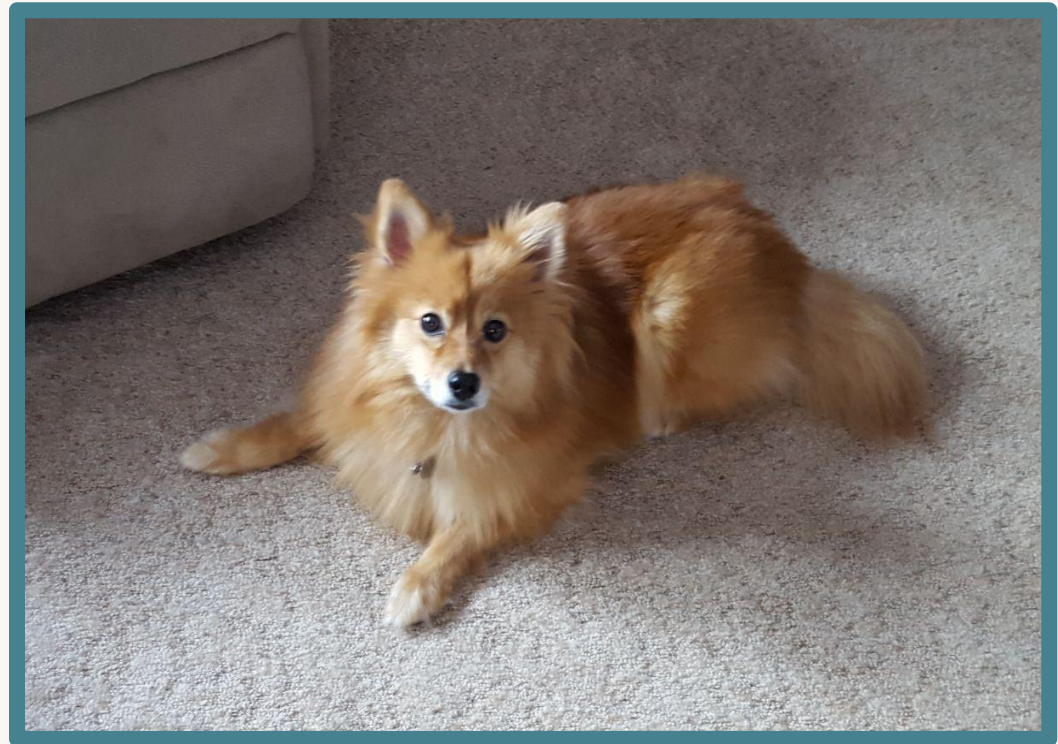
Platinum-Level Paw Partners

* Preliminary concept

Thor's Summer Wish

*"Now I lay me down to sleep,
So thankful for the friends I meet.
If only we could start each day
With barks and chasing every way!
Right now, we only go in snow.
When summer comes, we just can't go.
We wish a year-round park could be,
So from our leashes we'd be free!"*

— Louise Reichert & Thor





Let's Build It Together!

Your tax-deductible gift to the Marquette Dog Park Friends will directly fund construction, bringing safe and active off-leash recreation to Marquette's dogs and their humans. Thank you!

DONATE ONLINE
marquettedogpark.org

GET IN TOUCH
woof@marquettedogpark.org