



# Springfield Park District

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **DONOR TO OFFER FUNDING FOR DOG PARK IN BARKER PARK**

**Local donor, fundraiser and dog park proponent Karen Hoelzer has generously offered to work with the Park District and the community toward the construction of a dog park in Springfield Park District's new Barker Park development.**

**Dog Park proponent and fundraiser Karen Hoelzer stated "I look forward to working closely with the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association, the park board and the community to provide a safe and enjoyable place where dogs can run freely off-leash and socialize with other dogs."**

**Recent fundraising efforts could be shifted to Barker Park to help fulfill a significant component in the established master plan. Barker Park is a 26 acre piece of property that was generously donated to the Park District by the Barker family with the intent to develop the land into a park. The Springfield Park District worked closely with the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association to create a master plan that meets the needs of the local residents. A dog park was included in a recent request from the Franklin Park Neighborhood Association as well as being included in the overall master plan for the park.**

**Franklin Park Neighborhood Association Board President Don Hunt commented "The Neighborhood Association is in full support of a potential dog park in the future Barker Park."**