

## **Peninsula Dog PAC Questionnaire**

### **1. Do you have a dog? If so, where are your favorite places to walk your dog?**

I have a beloved 17.5-year old poodle mix whom we adopted 15 years ago. Our dog, Fluffy, loves walking everywhere, from our neighborhood to the Sierras and to the coast/beach, and is very adventurous. However, given her age now, she cannot walk for too long, so I take her to short trails or around the neighborhood. When Fluffy is tired, she is able to go into a doggy backpack that I wear so that we can both get outside, where she can sniff everything, which she loves to do!

When Fluffy was younger, we had no problems taking her to her favorite off-leash dog park at La Entrada Middle School in Menlo Park, years ago. Now, because of her age, we seldom take her to off-leash voice control dog parks.

### **2. Do you support having some off-leash voice control dog walking access on some Coastside beaches and trails?**

Yes, I support having some off-leash voice-control dog-walking access, but dog owners must be mindful of the fact that not all dogs are created equal and should be prepared to ensure that their dogs are playing nicely with other dogs. Dog owners must also be responsible for their dogs and, at a minimum, have voice control over their dogs if they become difficult and aggressive. At the same time, I think there should be clear signage in areas where dogs are allowed to be off-leash if they are under voice control. However, signage should not, and does not, excuse bad behavior, especially since California's Coastside beaches and trails are public spaces that belong to all Californians, those with or without furry four-legged friends.

### **3. Is there anything else you would like voters to know about your position on recreational dog walking access?**

Fluffy has always loved walking on the beautiful San Mateo County coastal trail and still loves it. When we take there, she immediately gets excited. I love watching her perk up and stick her nose in the air to take in the coastside smells. We love taking in the sites of dogs and their families having fun. To continue making these public spaces special and magical with our furry four-legged friends, respect for everyone is important. Therefore, if people are not comfortable around dogs that are off-leash, dog owners must respect that and ameliorate the situation in a kind and gracious way.

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Printed Name

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Signature

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Date

*Thank you for answering these questions. We plan on putting your answers on our website to make it easy for your constituents to view your positions.*