

For Immediate Release September 7, 2016 Contact: Dana Beesen 310.285.2530 dbeesen@beverlyhills.org Community Services City of Beverly Hills 455 N. Rexford Dr. Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817 310.285.2530 www.beverlyhills.org

City of Beverly Hills Opens its First Dog Park

Grand Opening is Howling Success



Pictured I to r: Recreation & Parks Vice Chair Susan Gersh, Recreation & Parks Commissioner Simone Friedman, Councilmember Kathy Reims, Councilmember Lili Bosse, Mayor John Mirisch, Councilmember Julian Gold, Vice Mayor Nancy Krasne, Recreations & Parks Commissioner Robert Anderson, Recreation & Parks Commissioner Howard Rosoff, Publisher Marsha Hobbs and Recreation & Parks Chair Frances Bilak.

Beverly Hills, Calif. – Beverly Hills opened its first Community Dog Park, located at 344 North Foothill Road, on Tuesday, September 6. An enthusiastic crowd of hundreds gathered to celebrate the momentous occasion. "We broke ground in May, and here we are, four months later "unleashing" a lovely and inviting dog park," said Beverly Hills Mayor John Mirisch. The Mayor, City Councilmembers and Recreation and Parks Commissioners performed the ribbon cutting before officially opening the park at 1:30 p.m.

"There are many people to thank for making this dog park a reality," said Mayor Mirisch. "Without our residents, their voices and shared vision, we wouldn't be standing here today."

The Recreation & Parks Commission brought the community into the process and helped design the park and determine the rules. The Project Management Team which included Charlie Ackerman, Allan Rubenstein and Stephanie Harris from the City and Mandana Motahari from RTK Architects, kept the project on schedule.

Councilmember Lili Bosse, Publisher Marsha Hobbs, Reporter Victoria Talbot, Amanda Foundation Director, Teri Austin and Beverly Hills resident, Tina Sinatra kicked off a donation campaign that raised nearly \$215,000 to help beautify the park with additional benches, trees and two, 20-foot oak trees that provide a decade head start on tree growth and shade. The City allocated \$600,000 to build a base park and the donations helped with park enhancements.

On the day of the grand opening, 355 people were registered for a dog park permit. All guests and dogs, regardless of permits, were welcomed to use the park. Beginning September 7, permits are required to gain access to the park. Currently, the dog park is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. to residents and their visitors, people who work within Beverly Hills city limits, and Beverly Hills hotel guests. To register, go to www.beverlyhills.org/dogpark.

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