

To: Brent Plater[bplater@wildequity.org]
Cc: Shirwin Smith[shirwin_smith@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt[Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Laura Horton[lhorton@wildequity.org]; Mike Lynes[mlynes@goldengateaudubon.org]; Arthur Feinstein[arthurfeinstein@earthlink.net]; Neal Desai[ndesai@npca.org]; Amy Meyer[a7w2m@earthlink.net]
From: Dean, Frank
Sent: Fri 10/25/2013 12:47:52 AM
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Jackie Speier on GGNRA Leash Law Enforcement
Received: Fri 10/25/2013 12:47:54 AM

Hi Brent,
This is very interesting... Thanks for passing it along as we are about to get into all this again with the actual public meetings the first week of November.

Frank

On Thu, Oct 24, 2013 at 12:11 PM, Brent Plater <bplater@wildequity.org> wrote:

Dear Frank,

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, Representative Speier sent a staffer to the Board of Supervisor's hearing on the resolution condemning the GGNRA's pet management SEIS, apparently to support the resolution.

I was surprised to hear this, because in 2005 Jackie Speier, who was then a state representative, penned a letter expressly stating that she supported enforcing leash laws with the GGNRA. Here is the relevant portion of the letter:

Over the years I have worked with dog owner organizations and GGNRA officials regarding off-leash behavior. In fact, in 2002 I authored SB 712 which would have created off-leash dog areas at three state parks. This bill, offered as an alternative for Bay Area dog owners who wanted off-leash parkland, led to the formation of a state task force which subsequently identified three parks that would be suitable for construction (fencing) of off-leash dog parks. Unfortunately, state budget problems derailed the projects. The SB 712 effort left me with the following conclusion:

Off-leash activity should be in areas that do not involve interaction with leashed dogs, or a fragile environment; i.e., the area should be fenced and properly noticed as to its use. For example, according to dog park experts, canine dominance factors preclude the placement of tables in dog parks-dogs jump on tables to be dominant-and problems will arise when a leashed dog is confronted by a free dog.

In brief, I agree with your concerns. I have asked my staff to contact the GGNRA to determine why leash laws are not being enforced.

I've attached the original letter for your files.

Sincerely,

bp

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and the plants and animals that accompany us on Earth*

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