

## Board of County Commissioners

Stephen A. Wantz, President  
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C. Richard Weaver, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
C. Eric Bouchat  
Dennis E. Frazier



## Carroll County Government

225 North Center Street  
Westminster, Maryland 21157  
410-386-2043; 1-888-302-8978  
fax 410-386-2485  
MD Relay 711/800-735-2258

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Chris Winebrenner  
410-386-2043

### **Dog Parks Now Eligible for County Self-Help Recreation Funds**

**Westminster, MD, Thursday, June 27, 2019** - Today, during Open Session, the Carroll County Board of Commissioners (BOC) voted unanimously to allow capital development of dog parks to be supported by community and county funding through the Recreation & Parks Self-Help Program.

Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks Director Jeff Degitz presented background on the history of the county's decisions on dog park funding. At the heart of today's decision is a group of South Carroll residents actively working toward developing Carroll County's second dog park to be located in Eldersburg. The group has currently raised over \$18,000 toward a \$50,000 goal. This group requested the commissioners revisit the position taken by the previous board and consider allowing self-help or capital funding to be used for development of future dog parks. With this decision, Director Degitz emphasized that the operation of dog parks must still be self-sustaining with revenue covering operating expenses.

Commissioner Ed Rothstein, District 5, said, "Dog parks are growing in numbers and popularity. Extending possible self-help funding as an option for dog park development is valuable to Carroll County as we continue to provide opportunities to meet the needs of our community and expand our excellent quality of life."

The self-help program is funded annually by the County Commissioners in an effort to create community interest and involvement in the improvement of recreational facilities throughout Carroll County. To achieve this goal, the county has established a capital fund, which the recreation councils can utilize for this purpose. Details on the [Self-Help Recreation Funds Policy](#) are available on the Recreation and Parks department's website.

Open session is available for viewing on the [county meeting portal](#) and the [county YouTube channel](#). In addition, all meetings will be replayed on [Comcast Channel 24](#).

### CARROLL COUNTY

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