



## **What is your vision of the Fairbanks Dog Park?**

Imagine you are floating above the park in a hot air balloon in the year 2010 and looking down at the dog park. What would you see? A natural, open field or a groomed lawn? Would it be fenced with a brown wooden fence or chain link fence? Would it be a place to hold dog training seminars and educational events or just a place for you and your dog to meet with your doggie friends?

### **Background**

A 20 acre parcel of land was approved for a dog park in summer 2000 by the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly. The land is located near the corner of Mitchell Expressway and Peger Road in Fairbanks in a larger tract of borough recreation land called South Davis Park.

The larger 140 acre tract is divided among local recreational user groups- adult and youth soccer, softball, tennis and dog enthusiasts. Each user group will be responsible for improvements and maintenance of their area. The borough does not charge for use of the land, but Parks and Recreation has the power to take privileges away if use is abused. Fairbanks Dog Park, Inc., will be responsible for funding, building and maintaining improvements at the dog park.

### **Now that the dog park land is approved, what do we do?**

We need to plan improvements and figure out how to pay for them. The first steps in planning are to envision the final product, brainstorm ideas, organize them according to issues, goals and objectives then schedule projects to reach the vision. Grants, donations and other income will fund dog park improvements.

### **The dog park is important for this community**

Dogs are snared near the airport- a popular place for exercising and training dogs. They step in broken glass and trash left by campers. These conflicts indicate the need of land set aside for use by dog owners and trainers. All year long, dogs are euthanized at Animal Control- often because of behavior problems which could be prevented with training and exercising. The dog park would be the place to encourage responsible dog ownership and allow dogs and people to socialize and train.

### **Welcome and thanks for supporting the Dog Park**

Please take a few minutes and think about your vision for the dog park. Sketch it and/or send us your ideas. Send to Fairbanks Dog Park, Inc., P.O. Box 74331 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4331 email us: [jlbrown@gci.net](mailto:jlbrown@gci.net) or look at our website [www.fairbanksdogpark.org](http://www.fairbanksdogpark.org)