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New dog park draw the paws

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WESTMINSTER — As city officials and excited residents got ready to cut the ribbon in front of the Westminster Dog Park, friendly canines were frolicking in their own private space, also enjoying each others company.

With hard work from the mayor and council, the new dog park has opened its gates to the four-legged public and its owners.

But, the idea came from a local dog lover, Cindy Ramsey.

"She did a lot of the leg work," said Mayor Derek Hodgin.

The fenced-in area, just under an acre, connects to Anderson Park. The freshly laid wood chips, benches, water spigots, waste receptacles and bags round out the perfect space for dogs to run free and interact with their fellow hounds.

"We live on Hartwell and there wasn't any place for me to run with my dog," Ramsey said. "So, after attending a couple council meetings and presenting my findings, the council worked to make this happen. This is not only fantastic for local dogs and their owners, but it will bring people into Westminster."

Hodgin said the city plans to one day expand on Anderson Park toward the library, connecting both properties.

"We envision a large outside reading area under the oak tree," he said. "If we can do that, this entire area will be even more fantastic."

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