



August 13, 2014

Jason Coite  
University of Connecticut  
31 LeDoyt Rd. UNIT 3055  
Storrs, CT

Dear Mr. Coite,

We believe a Dog Park would be an excellent use for a portion of the UConn site in West Hartford. Whether under the control of the Town of West Hartford, or of the University, it would bring tremendous benefit to the community.

A dog park would require a relatively modest amount of land: about an acre. Parking is needed. And, as we have found, people don't want the dog park too close to their homes. West Hartford offers very few locations that have this combination of space and remove from neighbors. The UConn property is unique in meeting these requirements, in a central location with great access to the whole community.

The WHDPC is committed to raising private money to build the dog park. No construction funds required from the Town, State or University.

The Dog Park is a popular idea, with broad support in the community. Most activity these days runs through the Facebook group, which has over 400 active members. The Town Council has unanimously approved of the project. I have received the verbal support of all members of the Town's legislative delegation, and have strong support in particular of Senator Beth Bye.

Town Manager Ron van Winkle is strongly behind the dog park. Were the UConn property to be acquired by the Town, I am confident that a dog park would be included in their development plans. If you choose not to transfer the property to the Town, please work with us, for the benefit of our dogs, and our community.

Sincerely,

Philip Karlin  
President

P.S. If you want to connect with our Facebook group, the address is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/111274665560951/> or search West Hartford Dog Park Coalition.