

# **A revitalized public/private partnership for Barrington's dog parks**

**Doug Lane**

January 5, 2026

# My inspiration for being here



# Dogs were central to Christine's life

- Lifelong dog owner and advocate
- **Dedicated volunteer for the non-profit Rhode Home Rescue**
  - Staffed adoption events most weekends
  - Assisted with incoming dog transport arrivals
  - Provided local dog transportation assistance
  - Served as a member of the “screen team”
  - Hosted numerous foster dogs in our home
  - “Foster failed” twice



# Observations

- The Town of Barrington underinvests in spaces for dog exercise and socialization relative to:
  - Other recreational activities in town
  - Other communities with a similar profile
- A clearer definition of roles and responsibilities for the non-profit Friends of the Barrington Dog Park and the Town of Barrington is necessary.
- Friends of the Barrington Dog Park has quietly provided a great service to town residents and would benefit from an awareness and fundraising boost.
- We have an open question of whether the temporary dog park near Cove Haven Marina should be made permanent once the original dog park space re-opens.

# Local examples to emulate

## East Greenwich Scaloptown Park (In progress)



## Portsmouth Dog Park and Trail



# Proposal

- Review other successful public/private dog park partnerships and **execute a new agreement** between the town and Friends of the Barrington Dog Park.
- Coordinate with the state to turn the the temporary dog park into a permanent space dedicated as the **Christine Conrad Lane Dog Park**.
- Harness the interest in remembering Christine and marking the first anniversary of the collision into **a fundraising effort** with a \$15,000 baseline goal.
- Provide **one-time matching funds from the town** in the amount of \$15,000.
- Raise dog registration fee from \$6 to \$8, digitize the licensing process, and explore other ways to **increase ongoing town revenue** from dog owners. (E.g., Multi-year registration linked to rabies certification.)
- Commit \$1,600 in **annual funding from the town** for dog waste removal for one park. (Non-profit will cover the second park.)

# Two distinct experiences

## **Parkside:**

Re-dedicated to Kimberly Perrott

Open space with agility features for exercise and activity added over time through grants and donations.



## **Coveside:**

Dedicated to Christine Conrad Lane

Natural environment for leisure and reflection with art feature dedicated to the 67 lives lost on Jan. 29, 2025.



# Project phases

## Phase 1

- Permanent fencing at Coveseide space, including dedicated space for smaller dogs
- Permanent seating at Coveseide space
- Landscaping at Coveseide space
- Dedication and wayfinding signage at both spaces

## Future Phases

- Art installation at Coveseide space
- Permanent seating at Parkside space
- Agility features at Parkside space
- Turf improvements at both sites
- Explore potable water station shared with East Bay Bike Path
- Explore power and irrigation needs

# Phase 1 estimated budget

Feature	Cost
Fencing	\$30,000
Seating	\$7,200
Signage	\$3,000
Landscaping	\$8,000
	<b>\$48,200 total</b>

# Phase 2+ possible funding sources

- Additional community fundraising initiatives
- Memorial dedication of seating and agility features
- Grant programs
- Corporate sponsorships

# Proposed next steps

1. Requesting the Town Council tonight to support a motion in support of dedicating the proposed Coveside dog park in the name of Christine Conrad Lane, subject to State approval
2. Friends of the Barrington Dog Park to commission landscape architect rendering of permanent Coveside space via private donation
3. Fundraising campaign kick-off once state approval is secured (goal: January 26, 2026)
4. Review rendering and detailed budget, and vote on Town matching funding a future Council meeting (goal: February 2nd or March 2nd)