



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
Dec. 15, 2011

**Contact:** Lea Blevins  
925-373-5746

### **Robertson Park Meadow to remain open for off-leash dog use**

*LIVERMORE* — At a regular meeting Wednesday night, the Board of Directors for the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District voted to permanently designate the Meadow at Robertson Park an off-leash area for dogs.

Following two six-month trial periods, public commentary and risk assessment, the Board approved to establish the area as an off-leash dog park that will be subject to closure for use during special events and facility rentals. Directors approved the option recommended by the Facilities Committee, which includes fencing in a large portion of the Meadow and restricting the area to only allow dogs under voice control. The anticipated cost for fencing is \$16,000, which the Board will evaluate in February's mid-year budget review. Members of the public in attendance Wednesday night voiced their support for the decision.

Directors also voted to fill a Board vacancy by appointment instead of a special election, which could cost between \$294,000 and \$392,000. A spot on the LARPD Board became vacant at the end of November when Lauren Turner joined the Livermore City Council. Due to the costs associated with a special election and the concern of leaving a position vacant until an election in June 2012, Directors will fill the vacancy by appointment.

In addition, the Board took care of several annual matters of business at the meeting. Beth Wilson was elected Board President for 2012, and Maryalice Faltings was elected Vice President. The one-year terms begin Jan. 1. Outgoing President Steve Goodman was given an award for his service. Directors approved a Board meeting calendar for 2012 and also requested some changes to the Board Policy Manual for staff to review and bring back for adoption in January. During the meeting, the Board also received a presentation on the District's Capital Improvement Program, which was well-received.

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