From: Regina Thomas
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Off leash dogs
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The leash law in Missoula is so poorly enforced that I was not surprised to read about the person who was recently bitten and required rabies shots. Every day I walk my dog, and it is a rare day that we do not come across off leash dogs. Recently my daughter and I took our dogs to Greenough Park and we were the only ones who had their dogs leashed. There were so many dogs running loose, that I wondered if it had been designated an off leash area. I felt compelled to double check upon returning home.

It seems to me that we can afford to hire a person to walk the river trail, the local parks, even the neighborhoods and hand out a hefty fine to all off leash dogs. Heck – they can sit on my front porch and hand out several tickets each day. A fine of $100 or more should motivate those dog owners and help to pay the salary as well. Increase the fine with each incident.

This has been a problem ever since I moved back here seven years ago. Three of our dogs have been attacked by off leash dogs in that time. With the growing population, the problem has also grown. It is a problem that needs to be addressed. It would be lovely to never have to hear this phrase again: "It's OK. My dog is friendly."

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