

Ward 8 - Eglinton-Lawrence

Responding Candidates:

[Robert Shusterman](#)

[Enzo Torrone](#)

[Daniel Traves](#)

Robert Shusterman

Questions	Responses
1. As Councillor, I will advocate for staff to meaningfully fulfill the directions given by Council as part of the 2025 Off-Leash Strategy	Strongly agree
2. As Councillor, I will support fencing and enforcement where needed to ensure that Environmentally Significant Areas and community green spaces are protected from illegal off-leash activity.	Strongly agree
3. I believe that education alone can be the solution to the City's off-leash dog challenges.	Strongly agree
4. I believe that increased by-law patrols and ticketing are needed to deter off-leash activity.	Strongly agree
5. As Councillor, I will support by-law officers having Special Constable status to give officers the authority to require ID and to facilitate the enforcement of all by-laws, including off-leash by-laws.	Strongly agree
6. As future Councillor, what are you prepared to do to improve off-leash areas so that they are more likely to be used in a responsible manner by dog owners?	People need to clean up after their dog. There must be someone from the city patrolling these areas

7. Even where off-leash areas exist, we see illegal off-leash activity in adjacent parkland. Taxpayers fund the installation of new dog parks (at a current estimated budget of \$535,000 per park) and the maintenance of existing off-leash parks (\$9.5 million budgeted over the next 10 years) but the City has not included specific additional funds for off-leash enforcement as directed by Council. As Councillor, how would you address this discrepancy? (City of Toronto, General Manager, Parks and Recreation, 2025)	More money needs to be dedicated for off leash enforcement
8. Based on the City's estimate of over 600,000 dogs in the City of Toronto, (City of Toronto, General Manager, Parks and Recreation) and the number of licenses issued, only 8-11% of Toronto dogs are licensed (City of Toronto, Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards). The money from licensing supports Toronto's Animal Shelters and could be used to support improving off-leash areas and providing support for by-law enforcement. As City Councillor, how important do you think dog licensing is and what are your ideas to improve licensing rates?	Licensing rates should be affordable

Daniel Trayes

Questions	Responses
1. As Councillor, I will advocate for staff to meaningfully fulfill the directions given by Council as part of the 2025 Off-Leash Strategy	Strongly agree Safety of people and other animals is the key issue. We all need to be responsible pet owners. My dog is only a tiny Chihuahua but is ALWAYS on a leash.
2. As Councillor, I will support fencing and enforcement where needed to ensure that Environmentally Significant Areas and community green spaces are protected from illegal off-leash activity.	Strongly agree Not everything we decide will work in all areas. We need neighbourhood by neighbourhood consultations on this matter.
3. I believe that education alone can be the solution to the City's off-leash dog challenges.	Mildly disagree We do need education 100%. However if one is not learning from it then enforcement of said bylaws needs to happen 100%
4. I believe that increased by-law patrols and ticketing are needed to deter off-leash activity.	Mildly agree
5. As Councillor, I will support by-law officers having Special Constable status to give officers the authority to require ID and to facilitate the enforcement of all by-laws, including off-leash by-laws.	Mildly agree
6. As future Councillor, what are you prepared to do to improve off-leash areas so that they are more likely to be used in a responsible manner by dog owners?	A case by case study of each area across the ward and implementation of results..

7. Even where off-leash areas exist, we see illegal off-leash activity in adjacent parkland. Taxpayers fund the installation of new dog parks (at a current estimated budget of \$535,000 per park) and the maintenance of existing off-leash parks (\$9.5 million budgeted over the next 10 years) but the City has not included specific additional funds for off-leash enforcement as directed by Council. As Councillor, how would you address this discrepancy? (City of Toronto, General Manager, Parks and Recreation, 2025)	I will have monthly meetings with various departmentss and staff across the city to share the community's thoughts, concerns and need for results that work for ALL.
8. Based on the City's estimate of over 600,000 dogs in the City of Toronto, (City of Toronto, General Manager, Parks and Recreation) and the number of licenses issued, only 8-11% of Toronto dogs are licensed (City of Toronto, Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards). The money from licensing supports Toronto's Animal Shelters and could be used to support improving off-leash areas and providing support for by-law enforcement. As City Councillor, how important do you think dog licensing is and what are your ideas to improve licensing rates?	TBD

Enzo Torrone

Questions	Responses
1. As Councillor, I will advocate for staff to meaningfully fulfill the directions given by Council as part of the 2025 Off-Leash Strategy	Strongly disagree I believe that in order for people to feel safe and also for the safety of pets, rules need to be followed. Enforcing off leash rules while providing a safe space for dogs to be off leash is not unreasonable. By keeping rules in place and demanding they are followed reduces risks such as attacks on people or pets being struck by vehicles. The rules provide a safe environment for everyone
2. As Councillor, I will support fencing and enforcement where needed to ensure that Environmentally Significant Areas and community green spaces are protected from illegal off-leash activity.	Neither agree nor disagree I will need to see where exactly this would be happening and what the exact changes would imply. If it makes sense I will support it
3. I believe that education alone can be the solution to the City's off-leash dog challenges.	Neither agree nor disagree Education is great but often ignored, enforcement may be necessary so that people will respect the rules
4. I believe that increased by-law patrols and ticketing are needed to deter off-leash activity.	Neither agree nor disagree I believe in enforcement, I also believe in education. A registered warning for a first time offender would probably work. Should they reoffend then fines would come into play
5. As Councillor, I will support by-law officers having Special Constable status to give officers the authority to require ID and to facilitate the enforcement of all by-laws, including off-leash by-laws.	Strongly agree More enforcement people means we are better able to see what is happening as it happens. Allowing this proactive approach will reduce incidents
6. As future Councillor, what are you prepared to do to improve off-leash areas so that they are	A combination of education and enforcement and if necessary education by way of enforcement. Please don't get me wrong I don't like fines and that is why education is first but when people refuse to listen then fines would be

more likely to be used in a responsible manner by dog owners?	necessary.
7. Even where off-leash areas exist, we see illegal off-leash activity in adjacent parkland. Taxpayers fund the installation of new dog parks (at a current estimated budget of \$535,000 per park) and the maintenance of existing off-leash parks (\$9.5 million budgeted over the next 10 years) but the City has not included specific additional funds for off-leash enforcement as directed by Council. As Councillor, how would you address this discrepancy? (City of Toronto, General Manager, Parks and Recreation, 2025)	Empowering by law officers as special constables would be a good start but I would also like to revisit the current budget to see if there is any way of reallocating funds to increase the number of enforcement officers
8. Based on the City's estimate of over 600,000 dogs in the City of Toronto, (City of Toronto, General Manager, Parks and Recreation) and the number of licenses issued, only 8-11% of Toronto dogs are licensed (City of Toronto, Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards). The money from licensing supports Toronto's Animal Shelters and could be used to support improving off-leash areas and providing support for by-law enforcement. As City Councillor, how important do you think dog licensing is and what are your ideas to improve licensing rates?	I believe that it is necessary as the system needs to be supported. It identifies who the owners are, ensures that vaccines for the pet are kept up to date and it funds animal shelters that are dealing with lost and abandoned pets while also getting you access to off leash parks (costs of setup and maintenance). It also gives back to the registrant with discounts through programs like the Blue paws program