

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Dog laws

From: Susan Avila [donsue46@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 05, 2013 8:02 AM
To: Bogaard, Bill
Subject: Dog laws

Are you people on crack? This is ludicrous we are suppose to be a free society. I don't live in Pasadena and never will in fact if I can leave california I will. This state has gone over the cliff and all you politicians have taken to many drugs in your past. You are turning regular people into criminals and lining your own pockets doing it. I think you all should be spayed and neutered and quit reproducing. I really don't think you will read this but if you do thank you for taking the time

Sue

Sent from my iPhone

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Mandatory Spay Neuter

From: Kathryn Call [helkat44@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 05, 2013 11:53 AM
To: Bogaard, Bill
Subject: Mandatory Spay Neuter

This is a "big brother" concept that the animal rights activists think will resolve the overflow of unwanted pets in shelters. This is actually an infringement on our civil rights. These animals are our property, they do not belong to the City, County or State. I understand limiting the number of dogs on a given piece of property to protect the animals from hoarders and the neighbors from noise. But there should be a better way to limit strays.

The city does not have the right or authority to tell me that I must spay/neuter my dog(s). The citizens can not control the zoning conditions you put on under the guise of better life but keep your hands off of my private property. I have worked for a city for 16 years and do have an idea of what you are up against but to cave into "specific" groups is a travesty for the balance of your citizens.

I show dogs and breed occasionally plus live on two acres but under your suggested rules I cannot have a kennel because I live closer than 1000' from another residence. My property is 660; deep and 200' wide, everyone around has horses and dogs. The dogs bark all the time - they would not be bothered by a kennel in anyway but still I can't do it. The City is overstepping it's bounds. Please stop this before it goes too far and you are not even able to own a dog because they have feelings too. (snide).

Please give a copy of this to the Council.

Kathryn Call

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: A message from the California Federation of Dog Clubs

From: Geneva Coats <genevacoats@aol.com>

Date: October 4, 2013, 3:26:42 PM PDT

To: <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>, <district1@cityofpasadena.net>, <mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net>, <christiancruz@cityofpasadena.net>, <jwest@cityofpasadena.net>, <nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net>, <vdelacuba@cityofpasadena.net>, <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>, <ttornek@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: A message from the California Federation of Dog Clubs

Pasadena City Council
Pasadena City Hall
100 North Garfield Avenue
Room S249
Pasadena, CA 91101
October 4, 2013

Dear Mayor Bogaard, Vice Mayor Robinson, and City Council Members,

The California Federation of Dog Clubs is an association of thousands of dog owners across the State of California. Formed in 1990, the CFoDC works tirelessly to promote animal welfare, educate the public regarding responsible animal ownership, and protect the rights of responsible animal owners. We administer a disaster relief fund, conduct breed ID workshops for shelter personnel, provide educational information on responsible pet ownership. We also man a toll-free assistance line for animal owners who need advice regarding pet training and behavioral issues. We support animal legislation with positive benefits to society.

The CFODC is OPPOSED to the mandated sterilization of pets. Some of the reasons for our opposition include:

- Existing leash and confinement laws should be enforced. Sterilization does NOT prevent roaming.
- There is no evidence to support the assertion that shelter intakes are caused by animals bred locally. Most puppies are sold outside of the local area where they are born.
- Mandated surgery disproportionately punishes low-income families.
- Punitive sterilization laws results in increased shelter intakes and deaths anywhere they are tried. **Fewer people will reclaim their pets due to high costs.** Los Angeles has seen a steep rise in shelter intakes since implementing its own mandatory spay/neuter law. So has Memphis, Tennessee.
- Mandatory sterilization is **costly to enforce.**
- **Revenues will drop**, as owners will increasingly avoid licensing and forced surgery on their pets. There will be even LESS money for the needed enforcement.
- Oppressive forced sterilization laws have resulted in **increased incidence of RABIES** in some areas, as owners who avoid licensing may also fail to vaccinate for rabies. This creates a dire risk to human health. With recent instances of rabid wildlife in the Inland valley we should not do anything that would jeopardize public cooperation with rabies vaccination programs. Fort Worth TX repealed their law due to increased cases of rabies.
- Dogs are being smuggled in by the thousands now, from Mexico and other countries, to meet the demand for pets. **Mandatory sterilization creates a black market** for dogs and puppies. Black market pets bring **rabies** and **parasites** along with them.
- **The ASPCA and the American Veterinary Medical Association are OPPOSED to mandatory sterilization** because it creates more problems than it solves.
- Feral cats comprise the majority of shelter intakes, and **sterilization mandates do not help feral cats.** The only result is that Good Samaritans who care for feral cats are punished.

We urge you to REJECT any mandatory sterilization ordinances and instead focus on measures proven to work over the past thirty years....aggressive public education campaigns, trap/neuter and release programs for feral cats, and low-cost voluntary sterilization clinics.

Sincerely yours,

Geneva Coats, R.N.
Secretary, California Federation of Dog Clubs

CC: Bill Bogaard, Jaque Robinson, Margaret McAustin, John J. Kennedy, Gene Masuda, Victor Gordo, Steve Madison, Terry Tornek

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Letter re: Agenda Item #9 for Oct. 7 Council Mtg.
Attachments: Agenda.Item.9.Letter.10.7.2013.pdf; ATT00001.htm

From: Anne Dove [annedove@me.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 05, 2013 6:25 PM
To: Bogaard, Bill
Cc: Stone, Rhonda; district1; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry
Subject: Letter re: Agenda Item #9 for Oct. 7 Council Mtg.

Dear Mayor Bogaard,

Please find attached a letter expressing my strong opposition to the proposed mandatory spay neuter ordinance which is the subject of Agenda Item #9 on the City Council agenda for October 7, 2013. These types of ordinances have been demonstrated to be ineffective, inappropriate, onerous, expensive and unfair to responsible pet owners. Instead, I support expansion of PHSSCPA's successful voluntary low cost spay-neuter programs, as well as their education and outreach efforts.

Thank you,
Anne Dove

Anne Dove
1147 North Wilson Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91104

October 4, 2013

The Honorable Bill Bogaard
Pasadena City Hall
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101

RE: City Council Agenda Item #9 (10/7/13) - Opposition to Mandatory Spay-Neuter Ordinance

Dear Mayor Bogaard:

The proposed Mandatory Spay Neuter ordinance would not be effective and would be a costly and unfair imposition on the residents of Pasadena and its many responsible cat and dog owners. As written, the draft ordinance is flawed and based on erroneous assumptions, and for these reasons, ***I strongly urge that you not support moving this ordinance forward***, and instead, partner with the PHSSPCA to expand their low cost spay neuter program and public outreach/education programs.

I have been a Pasadena resident for 16 years, and dog and cat owner for the latter 13 of those years. During this time, I have volunteered at a shelter, participated in breed rescue, and have owned three rescue dogs and three rescue cats, so I am acutely aware of the challenges of cats and dogs ending up in shelters. In addition, I also participate in breeding, training, showing and competing with purebred dogs. As part of my interest in purebred dogs, I am also a member of an American Kennel Club (AKC)-affiliated national breed club, for which I am a member of the Ethics Education committee, and I am an active member of an affiliated regional dog breed club. With this breadth of experience and understanding, I respectfully request that you carefully consider the information I am providing, and oppose the proposed ordinance.

The following is an overview of why this mandatory spay-neuter ordinance should not move forward:

1. Mandatory spay neuter laws do not effectively reduce the number of dogs in shelters.
2. A mandatory spay neuter program would be expensive and difficult to enforce, as described in a 2008 memo to the Public Safety Committee from the City's Director of the Public Health Department.
3. Education and incentives are more effective than regulation and enforcement. The Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA's (PHSSPCA) highly success (and highly in-demand) SNiP (Spay Neuter in Pasadena) program provides a cost-effective, voluntary means for pet owners to have their cats and dogs spayed and neutered. The increased capacity of their new facility will expand the number of cats and dogs that can be economically sterilized without mandating spaying and neutering.
4. Many professional veterinary and animal welfare organizations oppose mandatory spay neuter regulations.
5. The assumption that spaying and neutering yields net positive health benefits, especially in juvenile cats and dogs, is erroneous and a gross generalization.
6. Decisions about a pet's reproductive status and surgical procedures should be made by informed pet owners in consultation with their veterinarians.

7. The ordinance does not provide any exceptions for breeders and exhibitors of cats, as it does for breeders and exhibitors of dogs.
8. The criteria for “exemptions” does not adequately address the realities of show and competition dogs.
9. The criteria for revocation of an “unaltered dog license” are extreme and expose responsible dog owners to unreasonable threat of involuntary spaying or neutering of their pets.
10. The “one strike” policy that an unaltered cat or dog be spayed or neutered as a condition of release from the shelter is unfair.
11. This ordinance would deter cat and dog clubs from hosting shows and events in Pasadena, and deter exhibitors from participating, thus denying the economic and educational benefits of these events to the City of Pasadena and its residents.
12. The draft ordinance would prevent responsible breeders from being able to breed and raise quality family pets.

Each of these points is further explored below:

1. Mandatory spay neuter laws do not effectively reduce the number of dogs in shelters.

The draft ordinance “Fact Sheet” states that this ordinance would have the, “...*added benefit of reducing the population of unwanted and stray animals,*” and that, “*the City Council of the City of Pasadena finds that by requiring that all dogs and cats be spayed or neutered the number of these unwanted and abandoned dogs and cats will decrease.*”

At face value, it may seem an obvious conclusion that requiring spaying and neutering would reduce the number of dogs in shelters. However, there are a number of reasons that animals end up in shelters and only a small fraction of reasons relate to dogs’ reproductive status or how those dogs came into this world.

The National Council on Pet Overpopulation Studies, a research group whose members include the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty for Animals, and several other organizations, published the top 10 reasons why dogs are surrendered to shelters:

- Moving
- Landlord issues
- Cost of pet maintenance
- No time for pet
- Inadequate facilities
- Too many pets in home
- Pet illness(es)
- Personal problems
- Biting
- No homes for littermates

Only one or, arguably, two of those reasons have anything to do with how many dogs are being born. Most relate to economic issues and/or the lack of responsible pet ownership.

In analyzing the effectiveness of mandatory spay neuter laws, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) reviewed existing research and concluded that, “*the main reason for this decline [in per capita shelter intake and euthanasia] is the increasing incidence of spayed and neutered animals in the pet population.*” However, they also note that, “...*to the knowledge of the ASPCA, the only method of population control that has demonstrated long-term efficacy in significantly reducing the number of animals entering*

animal shelters is the voluntary sterilization of owned pets.” They further note that, “...the ASPCA is not aware of any credible evidence demonstrating a statistically significant enhancement in the reduction of shelter intake or euthanasia as a result of the implementation of a mandatory spay/neuter law.”

There are several examples of where mandatory spay neuter laws failed. The first mandatory spay neuter law, enacted in 1991 for San Mateo County, California, resulted in a 126% increase in dog euthanasia and an 86% increase in cat euthanasia. The Peninsula Humane Society (PHS), which helped develop the ordinance, deemed the results “disappointing” since it led to increases in shelter killing. Within the first six months of implementation of Los Angeles County’s mandatory spay neuter ordinance, there was a 28% increase in euthanasia, and a 20% increase in impounds in the six months. These are just a few of many examples.

In addition, there are unintended consequences of enacting mandatory spay neuter regulations. Examples from other communities illustrate such regulations result in a decrease in dog licensing, a decrease in rabies vaccination, and avoidance of veterinary care as people attempt to conceal their lack of compliance with mandatory spay neuter laws. These regulations have also been shown to result in many economically disadvantaged pet owners surrendering their pets due to the lack of financial resources for spay neuter procedures.

2. A mandatory spay neuter program would be an expensive and difficult to enforce, as described in a 2008 memo to the Public Safety Committee from the City’s Director of the Public Health Department.

The “Fact Sheet” for the draft ordinance currently being considered states that there would be “no fiscal impact”. A July 15, 2008 memorandum to the Public Safety Committee on the subject of “Dog spay and neutering” from Takashi Wada, MD MPH, then-Director/Health Officer for the City’s Public Health Department indicates otherwise (*Attachment A: July 15, 2008 Memorandum to Public Safety Committee*). The purpose of the memo was to answer the question as to whether it was feasible and desirable to expand a proposed 2008 ordinance requiring spay neuter for pit bull/pit bull mixes to all dogs in Pasadena. In the memo, Dr. Wada stated the following:

“...the Pasadena Humane Society would require a significant increase in their animal control contract in order to accommodate the increased staffing and operational costs associated with enforcing the ordinance. While there are a minimal number of legitimate breeders of pit bulls, there are a large number of show dogs of other breeds that would be submitted for exemptions. The process of verifying pedigree information, show dog registration, and inspecting breeding quarters is time intensive... Extending the proposed mandatory spay neuter ordinance to all dog breeds is feasible, but would require an additional significant cost to the city.”

According to research conducted by the American Kennel Club, a 2008 mandatory spay/neuter law enacted in Dallas, Texas resulted in a 22 percent increase in animal control expenditures, as well as an overall decrease in licensing projected to reduce revenue by \$400,000. The City of Santa Cruz, California, experienced a 56% cost increase over the first 12 years of implementation. The City of Los Angeles’ budget ballooned from \$6.7 million to \$18 million following implementation. Other communities have experienced similar net increases in their expenses as a result of mandatory spay neuter laws.

3. Education and incentives are more effective than regulation and enforcement. The PHSSPCA’s highly success (and highly in-demand) SNiP (Spay Neuter in Pasadena) program provides a cost-effective, voluntary means for pet owners to have their cats and dogs spayed and neutered. The increased capacity of their new facility will expand the number of cats and dogs that can be economically sterilized without mandating spaying and neutering.

In describing its animal care facility expansion, the PHSSPCA states, “*Our affordable spay/neuter clinic open to everyone is an immediate and effective tool in preventing overpopulation.*” Because the traditional cost of spay neuter procedures is often a barrier, especially to economically disadvantaged pet owners, an expansion of this very popular program will help increase the number of spayed and neutered pets without imposing costly and difficult to enforce regulations.

Engaging pet owners through the SNiP program also affords opportunities to engage pet owners around other aspects of responsible pet ownership in a proactive, cooperative environment that would not otherwise be fostered under a mandatory spay neuter regulatory climate.

4. Many professional veterinary and animal welfare organizations oppose mandatory spay neuter regulations.

While most professional veterinary and animal welfare organizations promote voluntary spaying and neutering of cats and dogs not intended for breeding, many also oppose mandatory spay neuter regulations, recognizing that they are not effective, efficient, and/or appropriate. Some of these organizations include:

Professional Veterinary Organizations:

- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
- American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) (the certifying college for veterinarians board certified in reproduction as a specialty)
- Society for Theriogenology (SFT) (an organization of veterinarians with a special interest in reproduction in veterinary medicine)

Animal Welfare Organizations:

- American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)(one of the oldest and most credible animal welfare organizations in the US)
- National Animal Interest Alliance (a national animal welfare organization)
- Alley Cat Allies (cat welfare organization)
- No Kill Advocacy Center (animal welfare organization focused on a goal of no kill in shelters)

5. The assumption that spaying and neutering yields net positive health benefits, especially in juvenile cats and dogs, is erroneous and a gross generalization.

A breadth of scientific, peer-reviewed literature shows that there are some health benefits to dog sterilization, but there are also health benefits to leaving dogs reproductive systems intact (*Attachment B: Position on Mandatory Spay-Neuter in the Canine and Feline, American College of Theriogenologists and the Society for Theriogenology*). There are trade-offs with either scenario, and these trade-offs become more complicated when factoring the age at which dogs are spayed or neutered.

Hormonal development affects more than the reproductive system, and at four months, dogs are very young for spaying and neutering in the context of development. Some have estimated that a four-month old puppy is the developmental equivalent of 3-½ year old child. Few would promote removal of the reproductive system of 3-1/2 year old child without concerns about how this would affect their physical, psychological and behavioral development.

6. Decisions about a pet's reproductive status and surgical procedures should be made by informed pet owners in consultation with their veterinarians.

It is not an appropriate role for the City of Pasadena to mandate potentially expensive, and in some limited cases, risky, surgical procedures. This ordinance would intrude into the doctor-client-patient relationship. While there are provisions for cats and dogs to be exempt from this ordinance should a veterinarian deem it too risky for a particular animal, gonadectomy (the technical term for spaying or neutering) is still a surgical procedure under general anesthesia that involves significantly altering a major biological system of an animal. Who is liable if someone reluctantly has their animal spayed or neutered due to this ordinance and something unavoidable goes wrong resulting in harm or loss to the animal?

7. The ordinance does not provide any exceptions for breeders and exhibitors of cats, as it does for breeders and exhibitors of dogs.

There are people who breed and exhibit cats under the auspices of the Cat Fanciers Association (CFA), a national organization, and its regional clubs, which is the analog of the American Kennel Club (AKC). While I do not participate in or have connections to this community, this ordinance would affect these responsible pet owners and breeders. These organizations have hosted cat shows in Pasadena in the past, so they are an important stakeholder.

8. The criteria for “exemptions” does not adequately address the realities of show and competition dogs.

Based on the specifics of the criteria for obtaining an “exemption” from the ordinance, it is clear that its authors do not understand the nature of dog breeding, showing and competition, nor did they consult with stakeholders involved in these activities. Dogs are not eligible to compete in “dog shows” until they are 6 months old. For agility, a dog sport, dogs must be at least 15 months old to compete. Often owners will “hold out” their dogs from competition to focus on training, growth of a show quality coat, or to allow a dog to mature. It is not unusual for a dog to not compete for more than a year, making the 365-day requirement unrealistic and unfair.

9. The criteria for revocation of an “unaltered dog license” are extreme and expose responsible dog owners to unreasonable threat of involuntary spaying or neutering of their pets.

It is not uncommon for disputes between individuals or neighbors to result in complaints to animal control about their pets. Given the criterion that an “unaltered dog license” can be revoked if PHSSPCA receives at least two complaints in a 12 month period, owners of intact animals could easily be forced to alter their animals due to vindictive human conflict which may have nothing to do with responsible pet ownership.

10. The “one strike” policy that an unaltered cat or dog be spayed or neutered as a condition of release from the shelter is unfair.

What happens if a responsible pet owner has an “exempt”, unaltered animal that for some reason—as accidents happen—gets loose and ends up at the PHSSPCA? To reclaim their pet, that owner must alter that pet. Almost every pet owner has experienced their cat or dog accidentally slipping out of the front door or yard due to the carelessness of a utility meter reader, gardener, house guest, pet sitter or child. Typically, the animal is quickly back under control and never ends up at the PHSSPCA, but sometimes they do. The policy that the owner may only reunite with their cat or dog if they are sterilized, even if they have previously received an exception, is unfair.

11. This ordinance would deter cat and dog clubs from hosting shows and events in Pasadena, and deter exhibitors from participating, denying the economic and educational benefits of these events.

Cat and dog shows provide economic benefits to communities. As someone who shows dogs, I can attest to the expenses involved in traveling to and participating in dog shows. The AKC has determined that the average exhibitor at an AKC dog show spends \$512 per show weekend. In addition to the money spent by exhibitors, revenue associated with hosting a show such as facility rental and fees, equipment rental, security, EMTs, catering, flowers, and trophies provide additional local economic benefit.

Having participated at least once in every annual Los Angeles area dog show event, I have observed that the Kennel Club of Pasadena’s shows draw more spectators than most other area shows. Dog shows provide opportunities to educate the public about purebred dogs, promote responsible dog ownership, and expose the public to the broad range of dog sport activities in which anyone can participate, whether they have purebred dogs or not. Because of the draft ordinance’s provisions for requiring sterilization as a condition of releasing an intact dog to their owners from PHSSPCA, many exhibitors of purebred dogs from outside of Pasadena would be deterred from participating in Pasadena’s annual dog show, as well as the obedience competitions hosted by Pasanita Obedience Club.

12. The draft ordinance would prevent responsible breeders from being able to breed and raise quality family pets.

Title 6 of the City's municipal code establishes the threshold at which a responsible dog breeder's home becomes a "dog kennel" as where, "...5 or more canine animals 4 months of age or older are kept or permitted to remain or where any dog gives birth to 2 or more litters within a 12-month period." Should a breeder meet or exceed this threshold, business licensing and property/facility requirements apply. This part of the municipal code requires that no "dog kennel" be..."situated within 1,000 feet of any dwelling house other than the dwelling house of the owner or person in control of each kennel", except in the manufacturing district. There are few (if any?) residential properties in Pasadena that meet these criteria, which is a barrier to responsible dog breeding.

These requirements already are unrealistic, but when the spay neuter requirements for dogs 4 months or older are also considered, it would appear that the City is trying to functionally ban any breeding. Many responsible breeders choose to retain puppies beyond four months to evaluate their potential as show or competition dogs. Other responsible breeders choose to retain a litter of puppies long enough to adequately socialize and train them, to ensure that vaccination protocols are completed, and to provide time to evaluate and select the best prospective families for their puppies. One adult female and her litter could easily exceed this five dog threshold. The added requirement that puppies be spayed or neutered by four months of age would deter responsible breeders from breeding and raising healthy, well socialized, purebred dogs and may force some breeders to place puppies in their new homes before they are ready.

There is also demonstrated demand for healthy, well-bred and well-socialized purebred dogs. Even the waiting lists that develop at the PHSSPCA for "high demand" breeds is an indicator that there is no over population "problem" for highly desirable breeds/breed mixes. The demand for some of these more popular dog breeds is so high that rescued dogs of these breeds are sometimes imported from other parts of the US or even other countries.

Conclusion

The draft ordinance should not move forward into adoption. The proposed mandatory spay neuter ordinance would be ineffective, expensive, and unfair. Bolstering PHSSPCA's successful existing low cost spay neuter programs, as well as their education and outreach efforts, would be more effective and appropriate.

Sincerely,



Anne Dove

- Cc: Councilmember Jacque Robinson
- Councilmember Margaret McAustin
- Councilmember John J. Kennedy
- Councilmember Gene Masuda
- Councilmember Victor Gordo
- Councilmember Steve Madison
- Councilmember Terry Tornek

Enclosures:

Attachment A: July 15, 2008 Memorandum to Public Safety Committee

Attachment B: Position on Mandatory Spay-Neuter in the Canine and Feline, American College of Theriogenologists and the Society for Theriogenology

Pasadena Public Health Department Administration

Memorandum

To: Public Safety Committee
From: Takashi Wada, MD MPH, Director/ Health Officer
CC: Stephanie DeWolfe, Assistant City Manager
Date: July 15, 2008
Re: Dog spay and neutering

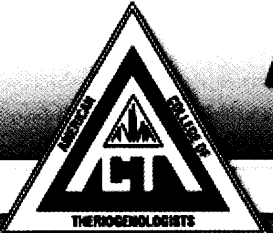
On March 10, 2008, the Pasadena City Council directed the City Attorney's Office to draft an ordinance requiring the spaying and neutering of pit bulls and pit bull mixes in the City of Pasadena. The prepared ordinance was scheduled to be heard for first reading on May 5, 2008; however, the item was held and staff was directed to follow up with additional information to be presented at a future Public Safety Committee meeting.

The primary question to staff was whether it was feasible and desirable to extend the mandatory spay and neuter requirement to all dogs in Pasadena, rather than focus on specific breeds. The challenge with breed specific regulation is in defining and identifying breeds, especially those of mixed pedigrees. In the draft ordinance prepared by the City Attorney's Office, the responsibility for determining the breed of a particular dog is left to the City Poundmaster. In Pasadena, this entity is the Pasadena Humane Society. While identifying breeds can be difficult, there are several reasons why the initial agenda report focused on pit bulls and pit bull mixes.

First, pit bulls and pit bull mixes disproportionately occupy space in the Humane Society impound and records indicate that they are seldom adopted by the public. While no specific breed of dog can be labeled as inherently more dangerous, several of the more well publicized incidents, including attacks in Pasadena and San Francisco, involved pit bull breeds. San Francisco implemented a pit bull specific spay and neuter program with success. Second, Pasadena does not have the capacity to spay and neuter the increased volume of animals should the ordinance be immediately extended to all dog breeds. This would result in the pit bull owners having to compete with all dog owners for scarce appointments, thus delaying the intended focus on pit bull overpopulation. Lastly, the Pasadena Humane Society would require a significant increase in their animal control contract in order to accommodate the increased staffing and operational costs associated with enforcing the ordinance. While there are a minimal number of legitimate breeders of pit bulls, there are a large number of show dogs of other breeds that would be submitted for exemptions. The process of verifying pedigree information, show dog registration, and inspecting breeding quarters is time intensive. The attached document from the Pasadena Humane Society details the costs involved in enforcing a new spay and neuter requirement in Pasadena.

Extending the proposed mandatory spay and neuter ordinance to all dog breeds is feasible, but would require an additional significant cost to the city.

American College of Theriogenologists


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Basis for Position on Mandatory Spay-Neuter in the Canine and Feline

Members of the Spay Neuter Task Force

The American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) is the certifying college for veterinarians board certified in reproduction (specialists) and the Society for Theriogenology (SFT) is an organization of veterinarians with a special interest in reproduction in veterinary medicine. **The ACT and SFT believe that companion animals not intended for breeding should be spayed or neutered; however, both organizations believe that the decision to spay or neuter a pet must be made on a case by case basis, taking into consideration the pet's age, breed, sex, intended use, household environment and temperament. The use of generalized rules concerning gonadectomy (removal of the ovaries or testes) is not in the best interest of the health or well-being of the pets or their owners.** Each of the following considerations must be assessed for each individual animal and household.

1) Health concerns

- a. Research has shown that there can be positive effects of the sex steroid hormones. The sex steroids are hormones produced by the ovaries and testes, and are only present in intact males and females. Gonadectomy at any age deprives the body of the positive health effects of these hormones. Although in most cases, the benefits of spay-neuter outweigh the benefits of exposure to the sex steroids, this is not true in all cases. Since gonadectomy prior to puberty or sexual maturity may make the risks of some diseases higher in certain breeds or individuals, the option to leave an animal intact must be available to the pet owner.
 - i. Advantages of remaining intact:
 1. There is a decreased incidence of hemangiosarcoma in intact bitches and dogs.
 2. There is a decreased incidence of osteosarcoma in intact male and female dogs.
 3. There is a decreased risk of transitional cell carcinoma in intact dogs and bitches.
 4. There is a decreased risk of prostatic adenocarcinoma in intact male dogs compared to gonadectomized male dogs.
 5. There is a decreased incidence of obesity in intact male and female dogs and cats, which may be due at least partly to increased metabolic rate.
 6. There is a decreased incidence of urinary incontinence in intact bitches (equivocal if bitches are spayed after 5 months but before their first heat).
 7. There may be a reduced incidence of urinary tract infection in intact

- bitches.
8. There may be a reduced incidence of feline lower urinary tract disease (FLUTD) in intact male and female cats which may be partly due to decreased obesity in these animals.
 9. There may be a reduced incidence of autoimmune thyroiditis and hypothyroidism in intact male and female dogs.
 10. There is a decreased incidence of diabetes mellitus in intact female cats and a possibly reduced incidence in diabetes mellitus in intact male dogs.
 11. There is a reduced incidence of cranial cruciate rupture in intact male and female dogs.
 12. There may be a reduced incidence of hip dysplasia in male and female dogs that are not gonadectomized before 5 months of age.
 13. There may be an increased incidence of capital physeal fractures in castrated male cats that may be partially due to increased weight gain in gonadectomized males.
- b. Research has shown that there are a number of detrimental effects of the sex steroid hormones. Spaying and neutering will remove these hormones and thus lower the risk of these conditions.
- i. Advantages of being spayed or castrated:
 1. There is an increased risk of mammary, testicular, and ovarian neoplasia in intact male and female dogs and cats.
 - a. There is an increased risk of mammary cancer with each subsequent cycle and the benefit of spaying does not disappear until the animal reaches old age.
 - i. Mammary cancer is one of the most common types of neoplasia in small animals.
 1. Mammary neoplasia is malignant 60% of the time in dogs and 90% of the time in cats.
 - b. The incidence and mortality risk for ovarian cancer are very low
 - c. The incidence for testicular cancer is more common but malignancy and mortality are very low.
 2. There is an increased risk of pyometra in both intact female dogs and cats and this risk increases with increasing age.
 3. There is an increased risk of prostatitis, benign prostatic hyperplasia, prostatic cysts and squamous metaplasia of the prostate in intact male dogs.
 4. There is a decreased incidence of perineal and inguinal hernia and perineal adenoma in neutered male dogs.
- c. **Based on the research available, it is clear there are a number of health benefits of the sex steroid hormones and that this benefit varies with age, sex, and breed. Therefore, although spay-neuter is the responsible choice for most pets, it is in the best interest of each individual patient for its veterinarian to assess the risks and benefits of gonadectomy and to advise his/her clients on what is appropriate for each individual pet at each stage of its life.**
- 2) Behavioral concerns
- a. Research has shown that there are positive effects of the sex steroid hormones on behavior.
 - i. Advantages of remaining intact:
 1. There is a decrease in shyness and hiding behavior in intact male and female cats.
 2. There may be less aggression towards people and animals in intact bitches.
 3. There may be a decreased incidence of cognitive dysfunction in intact male and female dogs.
 - b. Research has shown that there are negative effects of the sex steroid hormones on behavior

- Advantages of being spayed or castrated:
1. Inter-dog aggression may be due to competition for available territory or availability of cycling animals.
 2. Urine spraying and inter-animal aggression is increased in intact male cats.
 3. There is a decreased risk of wandering and being hit by a car in neutered animals.
- 3) Provision of quality medical care
- a. It is not in the animals' best interest to have the legislature dictate the time or need for surgical treatment.
 - i. This does not allow for medical decisions based on the individual animal's needs, its owners' needs or the needs of the household.
 1. Animals with medical conditions that may result in complications during anesthesia or surgery (i.e. heart murmurs, bleeding disorders).
 2. Providing appropriate aftercare for surgical patients may not be feasible in some home situations.
 - b. Restricting and reducing the pool of purebred animals will greatly hinder medical research of conditions that are particular to specific breeds, slowing down advances in medical and surgical knowledge. This may in turn impact the research available concerning health conditions common to both animals and people.
- 4) Public Health concerns
- a. Making spay/neuter mandatory for licensure may make the public more hesitant to seek veterinary assistance because they are afraid of fines and legal repercussions as a result of failing to spay or neuter their pets by the prescribed time. By avoiding veterinary care for their pets, animals will be at increased risk of inadequate routine vaccination (including rabies) and inadequate deworming programs which may in turn result in increased transmission of disease to the public.

The ACT and SFT make the following recommendations to continue moving toward effective methods of reducing the number of abandoned, unwanted and euthanized dogs and cats in the US and other countries where similar problems exist.

- a. Provide increased jurisdictional control to the AVMA Governmental Relations division, Animal Welfare Committee, and the APHIS-Animal Care division.
- b. Ensure suppliers to pet stores are providing adequate care for breeding stock and offspring.
- c. Support programs to expand the public awareness of pet overpopulation, acceptable breeding standards, and responsibilities of pet ownership. Provide the public a means to access assistance with concerns of pet health, ownership, behavior and management issues.
- d. Work with state and local rescue and humane societies to assemble accurate data on causes for relinquishment of dogs and cats to enable these organizations, federal and local governments, and veterinary organizations to address the fundamental causes of abandonment.
- e. Provide low cost spay/neuter facilities for economically disadvantaged persons and communities.
- f. Continue to work on reduction of feral cat populations.
- g. Establish programs to ensure access of breeders to proper reproductive care and counseling.
- h. Provide local or federal governmental assistance to registered rescue organizations to facilitate placement of unwanted pets.

The ACT and SFT do not believe that **mandatory** spay/neuter programs will significantly reduce the net overpopulation problems since most animals that are abandoned are relinquished because of

pet overpopulation problems, since most animals that are abandoned are relinquished because of behavior, health, economic and life changing conditions and not due to their reproductive status. In fact, in some European Union countries where gonadectomy is illegal unless deemed medically necessary (such as Norway) there are no significant problems with pet overpopulation, indicating that the pet overpopulation problem that exists in the United States is due to cultural differences on the importance of pets, the responsibility of pet owners, and the ability of the government and national agencies to properly educate the public. Although both organizations believe that most companion animals should be spayed or neutered, the ACT and SFT also strongly believe that it is not in the best interest of the animals to produce legislation regarding medical treatments. Therefore, both organizations oppose **mandatory** spay/neuter programs.

There are hundreds of references which provide scientific information on the effects of spay and neuter in both dogs and cats. We chose to provide the reader with a selected list of them. This reference list was compiled by Dr. Peggy Root-Kustritz, DACT.

References

American College of Theriogenologists
P.O. Box 3065
Montgomery, AL 36109
334-395-4666
334-270-3399 (FAX)

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Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: WWW COMMENT

Field	Value
Your Name	jan dykema
Phone	707-322-7767
Email	bestuvall@sbcglobal.net
Comments	I object to the mandatory castration of all dogs at the age of 4 months. Mandatory castration has never worked anywhere it has been enacted to decrease stray populations and , in fact, is a public health concern. Statistics show that when mandatory castration laws are enacted licensing of dogs decreases dramatically and so does the mandatory accompanying rabies injection. Please see www.saveourdogs.net for further information. Thank you

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net from CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net on 10/4/2013 9:16:47 AM.

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: WWW COMMENT

Field	Value
Your Name	jan dykema
Phone	707-322-7767
Email	
Comments	Whether policy makers intend it or not, mandatory spay-neuter laws are perceived by the public as especially oppressive and drive a wedge between the public and animal services departments. This perception reduces dog licensing rates, reduces dog licensing income, reduces return-to-owner rates, increases costs, and kills more dogs. From the well researched www.saveourdogs.net

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net from CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net on 10/4/2013 9:28:25 AM.

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: WWW COMMENT

Field	Value
Your Name	jan dykema
Phone	707-322-7767
Email	
Comments	NO mandatory spay-neuter - dog licensing compliance rate Contra Costa County - 34% San Luis Obispo County - 34% Orange County - 32% Ventura County - 34% Mandatory spay neuter - dog licensing compliance rate Santa Cruz County - 13% [MSN since 1995] City of Los Angeles - 13% [MSN since 2000, made stricter in 2008] Los Angeles County - 20% [MSN since 2006] Sacramento County - 14% [MSN on 2nd impoundment since 1995] so it is easy to see that mandatory castration of either sex decreases dog licensing AND risks public health. Not to mention that 4 month is too young to castrate any dog, male or female cas·trate (kstrrt) tr.v. cas·trat·ed, cas·trat·ing, cas·trates 1. To remove the testicles of (a male); geld or emasculate. 2. To remove the ovaries of (a female); spay. Bad law that will harm both animals and people and will decrease revenues to the City of Pasadena Thank you

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net from CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net on 10/4/2013 9:26:09 AM.

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Mandatory spay/neuter laws do not work and are a public health concern

From: Jan Dykema <jandykema@sbcglobal.net>

Date: October 4, 2013, 9:31:19 AM PDT

To: <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Mandatory spay/neuter laws do not work and are a public health concern

Dear Mayor:

Mandatory spay-neuter laws break the bond of trust between many dog owners and their government. Dog owners have seen what happens after mandatory spay-neuter laws go into effect. Licensing makes their dogs known to government, and dog owners fear that government will whittle away their right to make their own informed choices about responsible dog ownership. An increasing number of dog owners would prefer that their government not know about their dogs.

Dog owners have seen the City of Los Angeles implement increasingly strict mandatory spay-neuter ordinances over the years that have turned law-abiding citizens into targets of their government. Dog owners have witnessed the enormous multi-year battles in state legislatures that have been required to stop mandatory spay-neuter laws. They have watched the spread of mandatory spay-neuter laws despite a consistent track record of failure.

Dog licensing is not the only path to saving stray dogs in community animal shelters. Some communities have achieved success with a greater emphasis on comprehensive adoption programs for dogs picked up stray. But returning stray dogs to their owners is a proven way to save lives. Even dogs that would be difficult or impossible to adopt can be returned to their owners, and dog licensing enables that. But high dog licensing rates require a level of trust between dog owners and their government that does not exist in many communities, thanks in large part to the policies that elected officials have chosen to pursue.

Whether policy makers intend it or not, mandatory spay-neuter laws are perceived by the public as especially oppressive and drive a wedge between the public and animal services departments. This perception reduces dog licensing rates, reduces dog licensing income, reduces return-to-owner rates, increases costs, and kills more dogs.

I object to this proposal and ask that it be dropped.

Jan Dykema
Certified Humane Officer
American Kennel Club Judge

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Pasadena, CA - upcoming vote for mandatory spay/neuter

From: Pam Green [pamgreen@cal.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 05, 2013 4:11 PM

To: Bogaard, Bill; district1; Morales, Margo; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry

Subject: Pasadena, CA - upcoming vote for mandatory spay/neuter

The Pasadena City Council will vote on a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance this Monday, October 7th. This measure will require dogs and cats over the age of four months to be sterilized unless the owner qualifies for an exemption.

the exemptions listed below seem to be very broad. any dog who really is a genuine breeding candidate could qualify. BUT there does need to be some provision that gives owner until dog is 18 months age, maybe 2 years of age, to fulfill that exemption, since most competitions are not open to dogs under one year of age -- and some modes of working competition really require more maturity on the dog's part. maybe a provisional "intact" fee/deposit that is refunded or applied to future licenses when the exemption qualification is fulfilled. point out to the city that most of the titles they accept cannot be competed for until the pup is a certain age that is older than just 4 months. eg for AKC confo, is not 6 months the minimum. of course there are puppy matches that are open to younger ones -- I think (could be wrong here ; it's been a while). Canine Good Citizen I think has minimum age of 1 year ? TD has minimum age 6 months and a few dogs have earned TD at just slightly (days. weeks) older than that--- but you have to be damned lucky to get into a TD test that easily.

of course the qualification that the owner is member of a club that has a code of ethics, that can be done regardless of dog's age. and damn near all responsible breeders members of such a club. just a matter of making sure one's club gets recognized.

*_If a dog or cat is impounded it will not be released until it has been sterilized by a city approved veterinarian, even if the owner

has a current intact license. It is imperative that responsible dog owners and breeders immediately contact their elected officials to oppose this ordinance. _*

there's some communities that are taking that attitude towards cats : any cat wandering outdoors is deemed a "community cat" and gets S/N if captured. theory is that intact cats must be kept at home and any valuable breeding animal would be so kept. of course the problem of feral cats is so bad in so many locations that tough rules for cats become essential. and fences don't inhibit cats from roving or mating.

now the reality is that even when a dog or cat owner is very careful, there are some unavoidable accidents beyond that owner's control. things I know have happened to people I know include (a) tree or tree limb falls and takes out part of fence, setting dogs free, (b) car crashes through fence -- could also crash thru house exterior wall so even indoor animal might be spooked to escape, (3) walking down street with dog on leash, cross in crosswalk with green light, but a drunk driver comes thru the red and hits the person into unconscious state, resulting in dog running off. those are things that the person in charge of dog could not have prevented and are also things that usually could be proven by evidence.

so there needs to be a pre-surgery appeals process at which the owner could prove that this was something beyond owner control.

now on the other paw, a lot of people think it's "not my fault" when their spouse or child gets careless with house door or yard gate. wrong ! that's owning-family responsibility. ditto for gardener or pool maintenance person leaving gate open : dog should have been confined indoors on gardener/pool day.

so yes, there MUST be an appeals process, but the rules for owner responsibility for keeping intact animals from running at large need to be fairly strict.

Additionally, any intact dog owner who wishes to breed their dog shall deemed a kennel and is prohibited from maintaining the dog within 1000 feet of any dwelling other than the owner's home. Current law also requires that dog kennel operators purchase a business license.

1000 feet could be prohibitive. today so many houses are crammed so close together that you can barely swipe a credit card in between them.

need to insist that a private home and dogs who live inside the home (with some outdoor access of course) is NOT a "kennel". a "kennel" is a building separate from the human living quarters.

inform the city that most small scale "hobby" or "breed preservation" type breeders do whelp their litters inside their own house and raise the pups largely inside the human home and the connected human used yard. this is very distinct from a "kennel". it's desirable that pups be born inside home and spend plenty of time inside home as well as getting outdoor play time (and potty time). it's the dogs who are raised in "kennels" that are isolated from normal family life who become the problem dogs. that's the big problem with puppy mill produced dogs.

The current code defines a dog kennel as "any lot, building, structure, enclosure or premises wherein 5 or more canine animals 4 months of age or older are kept or permitted to remain or where any dog gives birth to 2 or more litters within a 12-month period." It is unclear what the process will be if a resident possessing fewer than 5 dogs wishes to breed a single litter. This language could be interpreted to prohibit anyone who does not meet the definition of a kennel from engaging in breeding.

also might need to consider some exemptions for people doing dog/cat rescue fostering. rescue people sometimes do need to house extra animals, usually inside their own homes. normally these rescued animals are S/N as soon as medically reasonable to do. always an issue what to do if a rescued dog or cat is too far along in pregnancy, ie pregnancy begun prior to impoundment and not the fault of the rescue/foster person.

* Pasadena City Council Meeting *

Date/Time: Monday, October 7, 2013, 7:00 PM

Location: Council Chamber, Pasadena City Hall, 100 North Garfield

Provisions of the Ordinance:

* Prohibits the ownership of an intact dog or cat over four months of age unless the owner qualifies for a specific exemption.

o Exemptions:

+ Medical -- must provide written confirmation from a veterinarian that sterilization is a threat to the animal's health.

may not be that hard to find a vet who thinks that S/N is best done at a later age. this is at least an area of some degree of discussion and controversy in the literature.

+ Law enforcement dog.

before a dog becomes a law enforcement dog, it is usually at least 2 years old. so between 4 months and whenever official entry into law enforcement training program begins, does the dog have exemption? when does training begin? (now a really smart trainer has begun before 4 months, eg teaching signals, scent-work, directability).

+ Dogs trained and actively being used for guide, signal or service dog work or enrolled in a breeding program for these dogs administered by a person licensed under the California Business and Professions Code.

these dogs don't begin the serious training until after a year of age. they certainly are not going to be trained enough to actually be used by a disabled person until at least a year old and often older. now the essential socialization training does begin prior to 4 months. most dogs who actually become Disability Service dogs will usually (not always) be S/N prior to starting service. it's the potential breeding candidates who must be kept intact long enough to go through training and be evaluated.

+ A dog used to show, to compete or to breed, and which is registered with AKC, UKC, ADBA or other approved breed registries. The owner must also meet one of the

following criteria:

The dog has competed in at least one dog show or sporting competition sanctioned by a national registry or approved by the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA within the last 365 days.

see above about minimum competition ages usually being more than 4 months. and at some point the dog will be too old (or past prime) to compete further.

and need to recognize all the legitimate foreign registries. eg Canadian Kennel Club is every bit as respectable as AKC. lots of european registries that are very strict about qualifying dogs for breeding. and in some breeds serious breeders do a lot of importing from the breed homeland.

The dog has earned a conformation, obedience, agility, carting, herding, protection, rally, sporting, working or other title from a purebred dog registry referenced above or other registry or dog sport association or Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA.

Canine Good Citizen should be something any person who makes reasonable effort can do with any dog with reasonable temperament. but the minimum age is more than 4 months.

The owner is a member of a Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA approved purebred dog breed club which maintains and enforces a code of ethics for dog breeding that includes restrictions from breeding dogs with genetic defects and life threatening health problems that commonly threaten the breed.

can be done regardless of dog's age. and really desirable thing to do.

* Provides that any resident who wishes to breed their intact dog is subject to the definition and regulations pertaining to "dog kennels."

* Intact dog licenses can be revoked if:

- o The city receives two complaints within a twelve-month period, verified by the Poundmaster, that the applicant or licensee has allowed a dog to run loose or escape, or has otherwise been found to be neglectful of his/her dog or other animals.

yes, once could be an unpreventable accident, but twice really does sound like negligence. unless we are talking about twice in a very long time span. eg twice in 10 years might still be two unpreventable accidents. the "verified" part is crucial and could include the potential for the owner to explain to Poundmaster how the event happened and what the owner intends to do to prevent a re-occurrence. could also be a time when the Poundmaster gives the owner some helpful advice or a referral to someone able to do so, referral to a fencing expert, whatever.

- o The applicant or licensee has been previously cited, ticketed, sued, fined and/or prosecuted for violating a state law, county code or other municipal provision related to the care and control of animals.

ahh, might depend a bit on what the person was cited for. eg failing to pick up a pile of poop one day (maybe ran out of baggies ?) wouldn't be enough reason.

also shouldn't this require the person to have either pled guilty or nolo contendere or to have been found guilty. being accused should not be enough reason to take away the valuable (and costly) intact license. ie there is a Due Process issue here.

- o The unaltered dog has been adjudicated as dangerous or vicious, or to be a nuisance.

that's damn well a good reason.

- o Any other unaltered dog license held by the applicant has been revoked.

could depend on the circumstances. eg if revocation were caused by acts of someone else, eg some other family member, then it gets questionable.

* What You Can Do *

- * Attend the Pasadena City Council meeting Monday, October 7th and oppose these burdensome restrictions on responsible owners and breeders.
- * Call or email the members of the Pasadena City Council and ask them to oppose this ordinance.

* AKC Resources *

AKC Position Statement: Breeding Restrictions

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/position_statements/Breeding_Restrictions.pdf>

AKC Position Statement: Canine Population Issues

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/position_statements/Canine_Population_Issues.pdf>

AKC Position Statement: Spaying and Neutering

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/position_statements/Spaying_and_Neutering.pdf>

Mandatory Spay-Neuter Issue Brief

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/toolbox_msn.pdf>

Issue Analysis: /Why Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws are Ineffective/

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/MSN_Article.pdf>

Issue Analysis: /Conformation Shows- More Than Just a Pretty Face/

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/conformation_shows.pdf>

Sample Letter to Lawmakers -- Mandatory Spay Neuter -- Word

<http://www.akc.org/governmentrelations/documents/doc/MSN_Sample_Letter.doc> | PDF

<http://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/MSNSampleLetter.pdf> |

Text <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/canine_legislation/MSNSampleLetter.txt>

* Pasadena City Council *

Mayor Bill Bogaard *Phone* (626) 744-4311

Fax (626) 744-3727 *Email* bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net

<<mailto:bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>>

_ Vice Mayor Jacque Robinson, District 1_ *Phone *(626) 744-4444
*Fax *(626) 396-7300 *Email *district1@cityofpasadena.net
<<mailto:district1@cityofpasadena.net>>

_ Councilmember Margaret McAustin, District 2_ *Phone *(626) 744-4742
*Email *mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net
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_ Councilmember John J. Kennedy, District 3_ *Phone *(626) 744-4738
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jwest@cityofpasadena.net <<mailto:jwest@cityofpasadena.net>>

_ Councilmember Gene Masuda, District 4_ *Phone* (626) 744-4740
Email nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net <<mailto:nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net>>

_ Councilmember Victor M. Gordo, Esq. District 5_ *Phone* (626)
744-4741 or (626) 831-8609
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_ Councilmember Steve Madison, District 6_ *Phone* (626) 744-4739
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_ Councilmember Terry Tornek, District 7_ *Phone* (626) 441-4802
Fax (626) 441-4806 *Email* ttornek@cityofpasadena.net
<<mailto:ttornek@cityofpasadena.net>>

Pam Green
(530) 756-2997 (Please phone only between 10 am and 5:00 pm ,
California time, unless it is an emergency.) If you need to contact
me quickly, use the phone rather than e-mail.

My list posts may be re-posted or forwarded as needed to
assist in rescuing dogs, finding homes for dogs, helping people with
dog problems.

For Bouvier info and humor, visit Crazy Pam's Bouvsite at

<<http://webspaces.cal.net/~pamgreen>>

I am now Northern California district director for the Southern California Bouvier des Flandres Club Rescue program. The SCBDFC Rescue Coordinator is Judy Kasper <addmbouv@yahoo.com>, (951) 780-0419. The club website is <www.scbdfc.com>

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Mandatory Spray Neuter Ordinance

From: hearst <hearst@usc.edu>

Date: October 4, 2013 at 8:59:18 PM PDT

To: "Madison, Steve" <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>, "Bogaard, Bill" <w_j_b@msn.com>, <mbeck@cityofpasadena.net>, <district1@cityofpasadena.net>, <mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net>, <jwest@cityofpasadena.net>, <nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net>, <vdelacuba@cityofpasadena.net>, <ttornek@cityofpasadena.net>, "Jomsky, Mark" <mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net>

Cc: 'Vicky Thomas' <gigvicky@aol.com>, Joan Hearst <hearst@usc.edu>

Subject: FW: Mandatory Spray Neuter Ordinance

Steve Madison, Mayor Bogaard and fellow City Council Members,

Please add my name to those long-time Pasadena residents who feel that requiring citizens to neuter all canines is an extremely unfair and truly terrible idea. Neutering dogs because owners are not responsible is in no way going to improve life for citizens and canines in the City of Pasadena.

If you wish to punish people who do not take responsibility for their pets, you need to go after people whose dogs are continually found untended, or whose dogs have been cited for bad behavior. It is ridiculous and unfair to neuter dogs who have caused NO problems to ANYONE as a means of punishment of their responsible owners.

What makes anyone think that dogs who are pure bred have owners who are more responsible than owners of dogs who are not pure breeds? This concept is illogical and poorly thought out.

The suggested new ordinance is fraught with error and misconception. If you must, punish people who fail to keep their dogs under control, or whose dogs have demonstrated unacceptable aggressive behavior. DO NOT punish responsible owners of dogs who take care of their pets, and who have demonstrated NO irresponsible behavior. Neutering pets of responsible pet owners is NOT the answer. It is irresponsible owners who need to be punished!

Please add this letter and Vicky Thomas's (by attachment) to each member's agenda packet for the City Council meeting on Monday, October 7, 2013.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Joan Hearst
570 S Arroyo Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91105

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Dog by-law
Attachments: HuntingDogs.gif; SENDER_EMAILchessiewoman@UNISERVE@@COM.png; sg-0.gif; butterfly_top.gif; butterfly_bottom.gif

From: "chessiewoman@UNISERVE.COM" <chessiewoman@UNISERVE.COM>
Date: October 4, 2013, 3:32:54 PM PDT
To: <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Dog by-law



Yet you allow the criminals to breed! What is wrong with you and where is your council's and your counsel's brains. If you citizens can bear arms, why can't your citizens earn money and do what they love.?



*Mary Eleanor Hill, Th.D.
Taraglen Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, CKC reg'd
Apt. 3002, 200 Wellesley St. East,
Toronto, Ont. M3X 1G3
416.477.9726*

You have enemies? Good! That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life.

Speak the truth, but leave immediately after - Slovenian Proverb

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Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Please Oppose Mandatory Spay/Neuter of 4 Month Old Dogs

From: Nancy Leon [nancyjleon@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 05, 2013 1:13 PM

To: Bogaard, Bill

Subject: Please Oppose Mandatory Spay/Neuter of 4 Month Old Dogs

Dear Bill

I believe that you will be considering mandatory spay/neuter ordinance on Monday.

Please oppose this measure.

It has been clearly documented in numerous veterinary studies that early spay or neuter detrimentally impacts the physical and developmental growth of dogs.

This ordinance would force responsible dog owners to act in a manner detrimental to their dog.

The whole issue of neutering (at any point) is not at all clear cut. In Europe, neutering is not typically done at any point in the dog's life unless there is a medical reason to do so. Here in the US, many concerned dog owners carefully think over the decision. For example, in some breeds hemangioma (a cancer of the blood) is the leading cause of death in older dogs. But recent studies have shown that un-neutered dogs have a 40 percent lower chance of getting hemangioma.

Instead of mandating neutering, please urge the City staff to enforce existing ordinances that prohibit dogs from being off leash and off the owner's premises. That is the real issue.

Thank you,

Nancy Leon
3640 Fairmeade Road
Pasadena CA 91107

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Not a member of your elegant City but really???

From: lita long <bluepandabobtails@yahoo.com>

Date: October 4, 2013, 4:08:17 PM PDT

To: "bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net" <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Not a member of your elegant City but really???

Reply-To: lita long <bluepandabobtails@yahoo.com>

Dear Sir>

First problem I see is that it is clear you have not looked into the added cost of early animal sterilization. It would be like having your child have their hormone producing parts of their body removed and them developing cancer, long bone disease, urinary issue to start with.

Secondly. Look at the rules for showing. the animal must be 6 months of age to be able to compete in any of the canine activities.

Responsible ownership is an education process and will not be solved by mandating any rules for all. It is not approved by the spca or the humane society of bullies to promote the showing or competition of dogs to start with. You are mixing apples with rotten pears and that stinks.

I have been and owned AKC breeds for 50 years and seen a lot of issues of animal care. You are making it impossible for responsible ownership in your community.

Try starting with attending a few dog shows and meeting the long time breeders. You will have to go to them, They will not come to you. Reason being. You want to destroy their hobby and a great family hobby at that.

The First people you need to go after is JANE Doe who does not care about healthy puppies, just so what take the puppies to the pound and watch dear "Molly" closer next time she comes in season. Track where the mix breeds are coming from and take the "designer" out of MUTT.

I have a contract that will scare the begezzes out of you and I personally breed to a code of ethics.. Not all members of my club do. Also here is a real big question for you. When did dog breeders become GOD??? While we test, it does not mean all in a litter will live long healthy lives, illness occur and mother nature can be a real Bitch.

try a 5 year program of micro chipping all the dogs in your community. England is giving away microchips in order to track where and why the dogs are showing up at shelters.

Just a few thoughts from a Jane Doe in the United States.

Thank you for your Time in advance for the few who just do the right thing and are punished by the many who need to tarred and feathered.

Lita Long

Subject: FW: WWW COMMENT

Field	Value
Your Name	Joan Miller
Phone	619-269-0107
Email	jmillerart@aol.com
Comments	<p>THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION October 6, 2013 TO: Pasadena City Council FROM: Joan Miller CFA Legislative Information Liaison SUBJECT: MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER ORDINANCE FOR CATS AND DOGS OVER 4 MONTHS. Honorable Mayor and City Council Members; The Cat Fanciers' Association is the largest and most prominent International registry of pedigreed cats in the world. We were founded in 1906 and our mission is "to preserve and promote the pedigreed breeds of cats and to enhance the well-being of ALL cats". We have become aware that the first reading for a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for Pasadena is scheduled for the Council Agenda, October 7, 2013. CFA is greatly concerned about many aspects of this ordinance. We share your goal to reduce the number of homeless dogs and cats in the community and in the shelter; however, we encourage you to consider the negative consequences of a mandatory spay/neuter proposal to achieve these objectives. I have attached several policy statements of highly respected medical and animal welfare organizations who oppose mandatory spay/neuter (MSN) laws. MSN ordinances have been shown to actually increase intakes of cats and increase costs. We ask that you vote to not authorize going further with the proposed ordinance. A few fundamental reasons specific to cat issues are: 1. In numerous studies it is clear that pet cat owners are already very responsible. Approximately 88% to 94% of households already alter their cats. Some report they cannot afford the cost and others feel their cat is too young or too old. There is no need to require something that has been successfully achieved through education and voluntary action. Keeping an unaltered indoor-only pet cat is virtually impossible since male cats spray and female cats are constantly in heat and often have health and behavioral problems if not bred. The increasing trend in the US is for cats to be kept indoors. 2. Cats most often found in the shelters are those who are un-owned/feral or "loosely owned" free-roaming, random-bred cats or kittens born to feral cats. The very small number of owners who allow an intact cat to go outside will not comply with a MSN law. A recent study in Santa Clara County, which has no MSN law, reports that "with the start of the municipally funded spay/neuter program, cat intakes declined 50% over 18 years. In only 3 years, intakes declined an additional 25% coinciding with the start of the Shelter Neuter Return project (feral cats altered and returned), and no other changes to animal control programs. Further, in 1993, 16% of owned cats had a litter prior to being spayed, while in 2005, less than 1/2 of 1% of owned cats had a litter prior to altering (Kass, et al., 2013)." 3. The proposed language provides exemptions for working dogs and show dogs; however, there are NO exemptions for cats, other than age or infirmity. This is entirely unreasonable. 4. Responsible, reputable pedigreed cat breeders work to produce show kittens and cats with the goal of preserving their chosen breeds, most of which have become rare. They also provide unique pets for those who desire predictable personality characteristics, good health and beauty.. Four months is the earliest age at which a kitten may be in a CFA show. Breeders need to show their kittens in order to determine their quality and worth as breeding cats, It is unlikely that there are many pedigreed cat</p>

Field	Value
	<p>breeders living in Pasadena; however, the loss of a single breeder is extremely detrimental to the bloodlines of rare and desired breeds. 5. National Studies show that 34% of all households obtain cats as strays who come to the door. (APPA 2010) There is NO purposeful breeding of non-pedigreed cats since there is no market. Reproduction of stray cats will increase if they are ignored for fear of violation of a MSN law. The ordinance will mean people may relinquish cats because they cannot afford to alter them. These individuals need assistance not punishment. More than anything communities that have had success reducing shelter populations of both cats and dogs have done so by encouraging community collaboration with animal services and through affordable spay neuter programs. CFA urges you to reject the path of a seemingly easy spay/neuter mandate solution. This has not succeeded in other communities where the hoped for reduction in the numbers of animals has not been achieved in the shelter nor reduced the associated costs. I would welcome your contact. Sincerely, Joan Miller CFA Legislative Information Liaison 619-269-0107 JMillerArt@aol.com</p> <p>Attachment - Opposition statements to Mandatory Spay Neuter American College of Theriogenologists American Veterinary Medical Association ASPCA Alley Cat Allies National Animal Interest Alliance</p>

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net from CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net on 10/6/2013 11:18:41 PM.

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Vote NO on mandatory spay/neuter ordinance

From: "Schuerger, Bob" <bschuerger@hp.com>

Date: October 4, 2013, 11:41:48 AM PDT

To: "bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net" <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: **Vote NO on mandatory spay/neuter ordinance**

NOT NEED

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Mandatory Spay/Neuter

From: Betty Shively <bshively@earthlink.net>

Date: October 4, 2013, 3:01:25 PM PDT

To: <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>, 'Councilmember Margaret McAustin' <district1@cityofpasadena.net>, 'Councilmember John J. Kennedy' <mimorales@cityofpasadena.net>, 'Councilmember Gene Masuda' <jwest@cityofpasadena.net>, 'Councilmember Victor M Gordo' <nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net>, 'Councilmember Steve Madison' <vdelacuba@cityofpasadena.net>, 'Councilmember Terry Tornek' <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>, <ttorneck@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Mandatory Spay/Neuter

October 4, 2013

Dear Councilmember,

I am writing because I am concerned about the Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance you have on the October 7 agenda that would require mandatory spaying/neutering of puppies of 4 months of age with few exceptions. As a constituent and a responsible dog owner, I oppose the legislation.

I have had poodles for 50 years, training all and showing most in obedience. I have also shown one to her breed championship. Most have been spayed or neutered, but none have had unwanted or unplanned litters.

This is not an inexpensive sport considering entry fees, gasoline, grooming, and supplies. I belong to two dog clubs, both of which support the Pasadena Humane Society financially as well as by donating time.

Mandatory spay/neuter is an ineffective solution to animal control problems because the problems do not come from the law abiding citizens who are responsible dog owners already licensing and caring for their animals.

I have discovered first hand that spaying or neutering a dog at too early an age can be detrimental to their maturation. This may not matter in a mixed breed, but a purebred should look like the breed standard even when going into a responsible pet home.

Responsible dog owners who are complying with local animal control laws will be unfairly punished by this ordinance, while irresponsible owners will continue to ignore the laws and cause problems for their neighbors, the community and local animal control. A better use of taxpayer's monies would be to concentrate on education and enforcement with the irresponsible owners who are causing the problems.

I respectfully request that you support the responsible dog owners and breeders by opposing the Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance that is being presented on October 7, 2013.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Shively
3805 Greenhill Road
Pasadena, CA 91107

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Agenda Item #9, October 7th City Council Meeting
Attachments: image001.png; ATT00001.htm; Pasadena CA 100410.pdf; ATT00002.htm

From: Sarah Sprouse [srs@akc.org]
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 4:31 PM
To: Bogaard, Bill; district1; Morales, Margo; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry
Subject: Agenda Item #9, October 7th City Council Meeting

Attached please find the American Kennel Club's letter regarding our opposition to the proposed mandatory spay/neuter ordinance, Item #9 on the City's agenda for Monday, October 7th. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance or if we can answer any additional questions.

Sarah Sprouse
Legislative Analyst



**AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®**

October 4, 2013

The Honorable Bill Bogaard
Mayor, City of Pasadena
Pasadena City Hall
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101

Re: AKC Opposes Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance

Dear Mayor Bogaard:

The American Kennel Club (AKC) writes on behalf of responsible dog owners and breeders in Pasadena to express our concerns regarding the proposed change to the animal control code, which establishes mandatory spay/neuter requirements. We respectfully ask that you oppose this costly, unfair, and ineffective proposal.

Mandatory spay/neuter (MSN) laws are ineffective because they fail to address the underlying issue of irresponsible ownership. California state law already provides for the sterilization of animals adopted from shelters and mandates that the license fee for intact animals be at least double that of sterilized animals. The mandatory sterilization requirements proposed in this ordinance will merely punish responsible owners and breeders, and the irresponsible owners who are not complying with current laws are unlikely to alter their behavior.

The fact sheet that accompanies the ordinance suggests enactment will not cost the city any additional funds, but other communities have found that these ordinances are expensive to enforce, particularly because a group of currently law-abiding dog owners is criminalized. Dallas, Texas, for example, saw a 22 percent increase in animal control costs and an overall decrease in basic licensing after enacting MSN policies in 2008. These policies also disproportionately impact lower income pet owners.

Unfortunately, some owners either choose to ignore animal control laws entirely, or surrender their pets to the public shelter to be cared for at taxpayer expense rather than pay for expensive sterilization surgery. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), some owners also opt to avoid rabies vaccinations and other general veterinary care in order to hide their lack of compliance with MSN laws.

The four-month age exemption threshold is inappropriate. Dog may not compete in AKC events at that age for reasons of health, specifically they may not have completed the necessary vaccinations and their bone structure is not adequately developed for physically intense competitions such as agility or working and sporting dog events. Recent studies have demonstrated that early spay/neuter can contribute to increased incidence of joint problems, cancers and behavioral issues.

Mandatory spay/neuter of owned animals is opposed by AKC, the AVMA, the ASPCA, and the American College of Theriogenologists (veterinarians who specialize in reproduction) and is not supported by any national animal welfare organization.

Of specific concern to responsible breeders in Pasadena is Section 6.90.050, which requires that they be subject to the definition of a “kennel” (I assume this means “dog kennel” as that is the actual term in the code) and to Section 6.24.010. These provisions are specifically directed at residents who maintain more than 5 dogs and who breed at least two litters a year. It is unclear how an owner wanting to breed a single animal would be treated. Would the owner of a male dog be allowed to stud the dog out? Generally, the puppies are whelped on the premises of the dam so it is unclear why the dog should be prohibited from being near another dwelling. What rules would apply to an owner who has three dogs and wishes to breed a single litter? These provisions could be interpreted to essentially outlaw ANY breeding in residential areas.

Local responsible breeders are assets to their communities. These breeders make serious commitments to their animals by raising healthy, well cared-for dogs and by working to ensure that puppies are placed with responsible owners. They are in a unique position to support new pet owners and exemplify responsible animal ownership. Responsible dog breeders and owners are models for their communities and should not be penalized by being forced to comply with burdensome regulations.

Shelter populations are based on a variety of factors. Economics is often a primary cause of shelter population increases, as families are forced to give up their pet when they can no longer afford to care for them or are relocating. It is unfair to assume that owners of intact animals are the cause of animal population concerns in the community. Low-cost spay/neuter clinics and public education programs designed to help citizens make good decisions before purchasing a pet and to help them care for those they own are much more effective solutions.

We respectfully urge you to focus on enforceable laws that will address the problem of irresponsible ownership in your community for all pet owners. The American Kennel Club would welcome the opportunity to work with you to develop effective, responsible legislation that would address your concerns without restricting the rights of those who choose to be responsible breeders or owners of intact animals. Please do not hesitate to contact us at (919) 816-3720 if we can assist you in developing viable alternatives to MSN policies.

Sincerely,



Sarah Sprouse
Government Relations Manager

Cc: Members of the Pasadena City Council
California Federation of Dog Clubs
California Responsible Pet Owners Association

Novelo, Lilia

Subject: FW: Mandatory Spray Neuter Ordinance

From: Gigvicky@aol.com [Gigvicky@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 12:03 PM

To: Bogaard, Bill; district1; Madison, Steve

Cc: hearst@usc.edu

Subject: Mandatory Spray Neuter Ordinance

Dear Madam & Sirs,

I object to the proposed mandatory Spray/Neuter ordinance coming before you on Monday. I am the owner of spaniels that I use for as hunting dogs. You can imagine how popular I am among PETA people, because we do kill pheasants, doves and quail. While hunting upland game is part of our shared California legacy, now a days, killing birds is politically incorrect.

And, while you might think you've made provision for my dogs, in fact, you create additional hurdles for their ownership. First off, not all of my dogs have earned an AKC title, even though most of them have been trained and competed. I might wish to breed them and I do not choose to neuter my animals unless there is a health issue involved. I have more expertise in dog care than our city government. I object to having government, or Peta, telling me how or when I should neuter my dogs. You already charge \$100.00 per year per unneutered animal, which is why I do not house them in Pasadena unless absolutely necessary. And, that limits to 3 dogs!

This is another Peta inspired ordinance to systematically outlaw "pure breed" dog ownership. I use to be an ardent supporter of the Humane Society and SPCA, until I read more about their objectives. Now a days, they spend an abhorrent amount of their focus seeking Hollywood endorsements, fund raising and political agendas so we all can own dogs from their shelters, rather than a "home breeder". Well, a "dog pound" rescue animal cannot perform the function of my "working dogs." And, I think purchasing a pup from individuals that are "home" breeders is still preferable.

By passing, yet again, another ordinance makes my dog ownership even more expensive, requires more hurdles for me to legally keep the animal, and has just plain gotten out of hand!

Vicky L. Thomas
300 Manford Way
Pasadena, CA 91105