



# Agenda Report

August 19, 2019

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**THROUGH:** Public Safety Committee July 17, 2019  
**FROM:** Public Health Department  
**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF URBAN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

- (1) Find that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment and adopt a negative declaration per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 21080(c) and Sections 15063(b)(2) and 15074 of the State CEQA Guidelines; and
- (2) Approve and adopt the Urban Wildlife Management Plan.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Urban Wildlife Management Plan (Plan) provides guidance to City staff when responding to wildlife concerns within City boundaries. The Plan (Attachment A) specifies a preventive approach to help community members reduce or eliminate conditions that attract wildlife and details expected responses when human and wildlife interactions occur. The Plan focuses on coyotes, however, the approach applies to all wildlife types that have the potential to pose health or safety hazards to human populations.

The Plan uses a three-pronged strategy for managing wildlife interactions within City boundaries:

1. Public education designed around co-existence with wildlife;
2. Enforcement of laws and regulations prohibiting feeding wildlife; and
3. Ensuring public safety by implementing appropriate tiered responses to wildlife and human interactions.

The first two components of the Plan address bears, cougars, coyotes, and other mammals frequently found in the foothills around the City. The third component details a transparent tiered response describing how the City will respond to various scenarios of

human and coyote interactions ranging from a sighting to a provoked or unprovoked attack on a human.

All actions specified in the Plan will be coordinated with appropriate State and local regulatory agencies such as, but not limited to, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Environmental Protection Agency, and Los Angeles County Animal Care and Control.

As the City-designated "Poundmaster", the Pasadena Humane Society (PHS) is currently tasked with enforcing laws pertaining to domestic animals and provides limited services related to wildlife interactions. If a wild animal such as skunks, raccoons, or peafowl are reported as injured or ill and no longer mobile, PHS will remove the animal and provide treatment and/or euthanasia if necessary. The Plan will not change these existing services or the terms of the City's contract with PHS.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The proposed action is consistent with the City of Pasadena City Council's Strategic Plan Goal to Ensure Public Safety by developing guidance for responding to wildlife concerns with the aim to protect wildlife and prevent injury, disease, and disability in the community.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

An Initial Study (Attachment B) was prepared for the project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This Initial Study concluded that the proposed Urban Wildlife Management Plan could not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, a Negative Declaration has been prepared. The Initial Study and Negative Declaration are included in this Agenda Report as Attachment A.


A Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt a Negative Declaration (Attachment C) for the Project was published on May 13, 2019, which initiated a public review period that closed on June 03, 2019. The NOI was posted at the Los Angeles County Clerk, published in the Pasadena Star News, and sent to interested agencies, organizations, and individuals. During the public review period, the Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration were available for review on the City's environmental notices webpage at [ww5.cityofpasadena.net/planning/category/environmental-notice/](http://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/planning/category/environmental-notice/).

Printed copies of the documents were also available at the City of Pasadena Environmental Health Services Division offices and at the Pasadena Central Library. No comments on the Project's CEQA document were submitted.


**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is limited fiscal impact associated with the Plan since educational activities can be incorporated into existing community programming. On an annual basis, there is a potential for minimal costs to the General Fund in the event California Department of Fish and Wildlife or Los Angeles County Animal Care and Control services are not available to abate a wild animal.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Approved by:

  
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STEVE MERMELL  
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Attachments (3)

Attachment A - Urban Wildlife Management Plan  
Attachment B - Initial Study  
Attachment C - Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt a Negative Declaration