

Iraheta, Alba

From: Zia Bossenmeyer <ziasavesdogs@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2014 4:11 PM
To: Morales, Margo
Subject: Re: Set up and in person meeting
Attachments: MSN Pasadena.pdf; Response to Madison Form Letter.docx

My mother has a doctorate. I have a college education. I understand and value reliable research and verifiable information.

I've emailed over to everyone a document titled MSN in Pasadena. Pdf. It is a mandatory read before voting. Honestly I believe no educated person would vote for MSn after reading it.

I have also emailed this morning a link to an article on why dogsbite.org is not a reliable source of information.

Msn has FAILED everywhere its been put in place.

Please let's discuss.

[310.242.7746](tel:310.242.7746)



Previously sent

Please read this article:

Why "statistics" based on media reports are invalid

"The research for articles and statistics presented difficulties as **the majority were anti Breed Specific Ordinances**. The few that were in favor of BSOs generally justified their positions with statistical data generated by dogsbite.org. Research of this website found the data to be extremely distorted with many myths presented as facts....because no one, including the CDC, maintains statistics of attacks by breed, the party who maintains the website gathers statistics based on a review of newspaper articles for reports of dog attacks. This method would not be embraced by any statistician, as this would lead to **greatly skewed and inaccurate results**."

<http://btoellner.typepad.com/kcdogblog/2014/01/why-statistics-based-on-media-reports-are-invalid.html>

On Thu, Jan 23, 2014 at 3:40 PM, Morales, Margo <mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:

Are you available to talk by phone? If so, what's your number? Mine is listed below.

Margo Morales

District 2 Field Representative

(626) 744-4742

(626) 744-3814 fax

To Join Our Mailing list go to www.cityofpasadena.net/district2

From: Zia Bossenmeyer [mailto:ziasavesdogs@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2014 12:56 PM
To: Morales, Margo
Subject: Re: Set up and in person meeting

Dear Ms. Morales,

This is a super important issue. I've sent a series of 3-4 emails previously that went unanswered. The most important is a PDF entitled MSN Pasadena. It cites REAL research and case studies. There's no way anyone will vote for Mandatory Spay Neuter after reading that document. It's the most thorough gathering of all the research out there on the topic. I also sent over a link to an article on why Dogsbite.org is not a REAL source for information and why it's bad decision making to use it as one.

Please read the documents and information I sent over, if you won't speak to me.

Even though other cities are making the mistake, please educate yourself and not make the same mistake.

Thank you,

Zia

On Tue, Jan 21, 2014 at 12:36 PM, Zia Bossenmeyer <ziasavesdogs@gmail.com> wrote:

Even a 10 min conference call might even work better!

Zia

On Tue, Jan 21, 2014 at 12:35 PM, Zia Bossenmeyer <ziasavesdogs@gmail.com> wrote:

I would like to discuss the Mandatory spay neuter ordinance you are voting on Jan 27.

Thank you

Zia

On Tue, Jan 21, 2014 at 11:24 AM, Morales, Margo <mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:

What is it you would like to discuss?

Margo Morales

District 2 Field Representative

(626) 744-4742

(626) 744-3814 fax

To Join Our Mailing list go to www.cityofpasadena.net/district2

From: Zia Bossenmeyer [mailto:ziasavesdogs@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2014 9:13 AM

To: Morales, Margo

Subject: Set up and in person meeting

Dear Ms. Morales,

How do I set up an in person meeting with you?

Thank you

Zia

Dear Mr. Madison in response to this ridiculous form letter,

You suggest you are concerned about the safety of the public in your district. If this is in fact true, you will continue to work on educating the public and enforcing your leash and dangerous dog laws. Education on responsible dog ownership is the MAIN thing that will keep the public safe. What really is the top reasons for dog bites and human death in ALL breeds is 1) loose or stray dogs 2) chained or tethered unsocialized dogs and 3) unsupervised children.

Just because other cities weren't educated enough about the HUGE AND COSTLY mistake they are making DOESN'T MEAN that Pasadena needs to make the same mistake. MSN is difficult to enforce, costly to cities and results in HIGHER INTAKE and EUTHANASIA numbers NOT LESS. See below

Anecdotes of cities who implemented MSN

- A mandatory spay/neuter law enacted in Dallas, Texas, in 2008 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.
- 2005, Kansas City, MO passed a law mandating the spay/neuter of 'pit bulls' in an attempt to reduce the killing of pit bulls at the shelter. During the next 24 months, the city saw a 76% increase in the number of 'pit bulls' killed

at the city shelter. And while the number of dogs of all other breeds being killed was dropping, the number of pit bulls killed nearly doubled. Sourced from The KC Dog Blog "Understanding Cause & Effect when it comes to MSN" (Excellent article)

- Little Rock, AR In the first year of having the ordinance, pit bull killings in the Little Rock shelter increased by 44%.

Sourced from The KC Dog Blog "Understanding Cause & Effect when it comes to MSN"

- Los Angeles, CA – Has had MSN since 2008. 8 years later the city is still not No Kill. See research and another brilliant article from the KC Dog Blog. Research and statistics sited within article "Los Angeles MSN – year 3 – when can we expect it to start working?"

Your source dog bites.org

is a hate site dedicated to spreading lies and misinformation about pit bulls. There is no basis of fact, no true research or case studies to the misinformation sited. Going to dogsbite.org

for reliable information is about as logical as going to the Westboro Church and asking them how to be a good, kind person.

THE REAL STATISTICS show that pit bulls account for LESS THAN 38% of the death fatalities. As well that's of a total of 30 people in 2012 and 29 in 2013. MORE PEOPLE DIE FROM EVERYTHING ELSE BESIDES THIS. This is not a real problem. Why are you citing this as a reason to DISCRIMINATE against millions of pit bulls in the US.

CDC – "Fatal attacks representation a small proportion of injuries to humans, herefore, should not be the primary factor driving public policy concerning dangerous dogs. Many practical alternative to breed specific ordinances exist and hold promise for prevention of dog bites."

Pit bulls are the most popular dog breed. Banfield's State of Pet Health Report 2011, lists Pit Bull among the most popular pets in 46 states. "A 2012 Vetstreet survey showing the American Pit Bull Terrier as the most popular in the country"

There are nearly 75 million owned dogs in this country, 300 million people, and yet, each year, only 30 are involved in incidents that are fatal. And the number of pit bulls involved is less than 38%.

This legislation you're suggesting is NOT LOGICAL. As you suggest **The following organizations are against MSN. (Click on the link for position statements)**

- [ASPCA – American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals](#)
- [AVMA – American Veterinary Medical Association](#)
- [AKC – American Kennel Club \(PDF download\)](#)
- [\(ACT\)](#)

The American College of Theriogenologists & [\(SFT\)](#)

Society for Theriogenology

- Allie Cat Allies -
- [No Kill Advocacy Center \(PDF Download\)](#)
- Best Friends
- [Fix Austin](#)

(MSN) Mandatory Spay Neuter

What is MSN Mandatory Spay Neuter? Why is it good or bad? (MSN) Mandatory Spay Neuter is when cities or counties require citizens to spay or neuter their dogs before they are licensed with the city. They may make the cost of licensing a non-sterilized pet extremely costly or have expensive fines if caught with an un-licensed and non-sterilized pet. *Due to evidence from the many failures of MSN around the country and the overwhelming evidence that this policy or law has not been effective in lowering shelter intake numbers ZiaSavesDogs is completely 100% against any MSN ordinances.*

The following organizations are against MSN. (Click on the link for position statements)

- [ASPCA – American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals](#)
- [AVMA – American Veterinary Medical Association](#)
- [AKC – American Kennel Club \(PDF download\)](#)
- [\(ACT\)](#)

The American College of Theriogenologists & [\(SFT\)](#)

Society for Theriogenology

- Allie Cat Allies -
- [No Kill Advocacy Center \(PDF Download\)](#)
- Best Friends
- [Fix Austin](#)

Why are they against it?

- 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. – ASPCA
- it can be extremely difficult for even a veterinary professional to visually determine if an animal, particularly a female, has been sterilized; it would be virtually impossible for an animal control officer to make those determinations in the field. –ASCPA
- in at least one community that enacted an MSN law, fewer pets were subsequently licensed, likely due to owners' reluctance to pay either the high fee for keeping an unaltered animal or the fee to have the pet altered (Office of Legislative Oversight, 1997) –ASPCA
- One of the main barriers to spaying and neutering of pets is accessibility of services, which is not addressed simply by making spaying and neutering mandatory. Cost is one of the primary barriers to spay/neuter surgery in

many communities (Patronek et al., 1997; Ralston Purina, 2000; Frank, 2001). –ASPCA

- The AVMA does not support regulations or legislation mandating spay/neuter of privately owned, non-shelter dogs and cats. Although spaying and neutering helps control dog and cat populations, mandatory approaches may contribute to pet owners avoiding licensing, rabies vaccination and veterinary care for their pets, and may have other unintended consequences. – AVMA
- The ACT and SFT do not believe that mandatory spay/neuter programs will significantly reduce the 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 – The American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) & Society for Theriogenology (SFT)
- Most of America's 50 largest cities do not have high-volume spay/neuter clinics. Smaller communities, whether suburban or rural, are even less likely to have affordable and accessible spay/neuter facilities. – Allie Cat Allies
- Veterinary services in many, if not most, areas of the country are prohibitively expensive for working families – Allie Cat Allies
- The resources a community would have to dedicate to enforcing mandatory spay/neuter laws would be far better spent in making spay/neuter facilities available to residents and educating them about the importance and availability of sterilization. – Allie Cat Allies

- When a law governing the ownership or care of animals is enacted 1) without adequate resources for the populace to comply, but which 2) has costly penalties and 3) is widely enforced, it can cause people to relinquish their pets to a shelter or to abandon them elsewhere. When more animals enter shelters, the kill rate goes up. When cats are abandoned outdoors, they add to and compound the feral cat issue.- Allie Cat Allies
- Legislation is often thought of as a quick solution to high rates of shelter killing. "If only we had a law," the argument goes, "all the bad, irresponsible people would have to take care of their pets properly, and shelters wouldn't have to kill so many animals." If this were true, given the proliferation of punitive mandates nationwide, there should be many No Kill communities. That there are not, is because experience has proven that legislation is far from a cure-all. In fact, it often has the opposite effect. Communities that have passed such laws are not only far from No Kill, many are moving in the opposite direction. – No Kill Advocacy Center [The Dark Side of Mandatory Laws \(PDF Download\)](#)
- "Best Friends does not support mandatory spay-neuter legislation as a method of pet population control"
- Every single data-based study of mandatory spay/neuter laws has demonstrated that such laws do not increase spay-neuter compliance rates, nor do they reduce shelter intake, nor are they cost-effective, nor do they save lives. In fact, the opposite is true: in community after community that has passed a mandatory spay/neuter law, shelter killing and intake actually increase because in poor communities, families who cannot afford the money or time to have their pets surgically altered are forced to surrender their pets (or the pets are seized). These pets are quickly replaced in the communities with additional unaltered animals, creating an enhanced cycle of killing. These laws do not work, have never worked in any community, and will not work. – Fix Austin.org [Why we Join the Natl Consensus against MSN](#)

(PDF Download)

- There is universal opposition to mandatory spay/neuter laws among national animal-welfare organizations who have spent time to empirically study such laws' effects. Indeed, given the frequent hostility between

national animal-welfare organizations, the universal opposition to mandatory spay/neuter laws is telling. – Fix Austin

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the proposed mandatory spay/neuter ordinance for pit bull and pit bull cross-breed dogs. We understand and respect your views. The City Council is committed to ensuring public safety, while at the same time establishing preventive health measures for pets that can reduce overpopulation and improve their quality of life.

The proposed ordinance is consistent with California Senate Bill 861 which states that “uncontrolled and irresponsible breeding of animals contributes to pet overpopulation, inhumane treatment of animals, mass euthanasia at local shelters and escalating costs for animal care and control; (while) irresponsible breeding also contributes to the production of defective animals that present a public safety risk.”

Many other cities and counties—including Camarillo and Lancaster, plus Riverside and San Bernardino counties—have implemented the same type of breed-specific ordinance such as the one the City of Pasadena is considering. There is clearly a reasonable basis for this local legislation. Statistics suggest that pit bull breeds are responsible for over half of the fatal dog on human attacks in the United States. No doubt you have followed the cases just here in our region over the last couple of years in which toddlers and seniors have been viciously attacked, and some killed, by pit bull breeds.

Meanwhile, animal shelters—including the Pasadena Humane Society—are overcrowded with unwanted pit bull puppies and thousands are put to sleep in California every year. Our proposed ordinance will directly address these issues.

The proposed City of Pasadena ordinance, which is still under review, would help mitigate the effects of pit bull and pit bull cross-breed overpopulation and help ensure that these pets, their owners and the community remain safe and maintain a high quality of life.

I appreciate your comments and thank you for your community involvement.

Steve Madison, Councilmember for District 6



The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America

Mayor Bill Bogaard and City Council
100 Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA
via fax: (626) 744-3727

RE: Proposed Breed Specific Ordinance

Dear Mayor Bogaard and City Council Members:

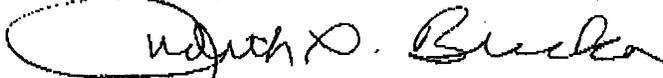
I am writing as legislative chair for the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America with a membership of over 400 members, I would urge you not to implement a breed specific ordinance. Our club does have members who reside in Pasadena, CA and we do have members who visit relatives in your city or drive through on the way to dog shows, agility and obedience trials and may stop for gas or patronize businesses. Several of our members attend and compete in conformation and obedience, rally and agility at the Kennel Club of Pasadena shows and trial in June each year. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is affectionately known as the "nanny dog" and the breed is included in breed specific ordinances because animal control cannot determine whether a dog is a "pit bull" or not. Staffordshire Bull Terriers rarely are seen in a shelter. Our breed club rescue has a good working relationship with the Pasadena Humane Society and if a Stafford should enter the shelter our rescue volunteers first check to see if the dog is a Stafford and if it is arrange to pull the dog as soon as possible. There has not been one recorded bite from a Staffordshire Bull Terrier in the United States.

Some cities have incurred some liability because animal control determined a dog was a "pit bull" when the dog was of a breed not included in the definition. In Denver, Colorado the City had to return a Boxer mix to his owner after the owner challenging the confiscation of his beloved pet. A DNA test showed that the dog was indeed a Boxer mix. In Toledo, Ohio a Municipal Court judge declared a local statute unconstitutional after an owner had his three Cane Corso dogs confiscated by animal control and declared "pit bulls. All criminal charges from owning a dangerous dog were dismissed. The cities of Toledo, Ohio and Topeka, Kansas repealed their breed specific ordinances as they discovered that they were costly and ineffective. The State of Ohio repealed their breed specific law which stated that all breeds described as "pitbulls" which included the Staffordshire Bull Terrier were vicious.

Statutes which create an exemption also require the dog owner to provide the city of Pasadena with personal information and usually in most cities are required to pay a higher fee for a license. Most ordinances do not protect visitors who may come to Pasadena, CA either to visit family or as part of a vacation with their family pet. You may argue that the visitor could present evidence that the dog is AKC registered or a show dog. However, that is personal information and if the dog has not bitten anyone or attacked another dog, should be considered private. I know that when I am traveling with my dogs all I carry is a health certificate and proof of rabies shots. Most people do not carry their AKC registration papers with them. The city certainly has not articulated a public safety argument that dogs that are not show dogs are a danger. If, in fact, that is the impetus for this ordinance, then punish the owners of such dogs.

Putting the onus on owners to be responsible dog owners is the key to decreasing incidents of serious dog bites. Enforcement of leash laws and strong generic dangerous dog and potentially dangerous dog ordinances, are some of the best ways to prevent dog bites. Encouraging people to train and socialize their dogs is another effective tool. Most kennel clubs and obedience clubs offer low cost dog training classes. We would urge that your council look to strengthen your current dangerous or vicious dog ordinances so that you are really protecting the public from dangerous dogs.

Sincerely,



Judith A. Brecka
Legislative Liaison
SBTCA
2018 Pico Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(310) 450-8706
jbreckalaw@gmail.com

Iraheta, Alba

From: Jennifer Brent <jennifer@jasonheiglfoundation.org>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2014 10:35 AM
To: De La Cuba, Vannia; Bogaard, Bill; district1; Morales, Margo; Madison, Steve; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); West, Jana; Sullivan, Noreen; Tornek, Terry
Subject: BSL in Pasadena
Attachments: BSL Pasadena.pdf

Dear City Council of Pasadena,

As concerned animal welfare advocates, I have attached a letter addressing your proposed breed specific legislation from Nancy and Katherine Heigl and the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation. We hope that you will read and consider its contents before voting today.

Jennifer Brent
Executive Director
jennifer@jasonheiglfoundation.org

Jason Debus Heigl Foundation
3450 Cahuenga Blvd W
Unit 905
Los Angeles, CA 90068
USA

Phone: (323) 798 4101
Fax: (323) 798 5051

jasonheiglfoundation.org | just1pet.com



January 27, 2014

Dear Councilmembers:

The Jason Debus Heigl Foundation hopes that you will choose to do the right thing for the people and animals of Pasadena by treating all dogs equally. Please do not adopt Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) in Pasadena.

Not only does it unfairly target specific animals when their owners are the ones responsible for their behavior, it hurts the people of Pasadena. We all want our community, state and nation to be safe.

The American Bar Association, the National Animal Control Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association do not support BSL. They prefer that communities enforce existing laws that demand that dogs are restrained when off private property (leashed), regardless of breed. They suggest that dogs deemed "nuisance" or "dangerous" be microchipped and sterilized. They also target the owners of these "nuisance" dogs by prohibiting ownership for some period of time.

BSL is expensive. Best Friends estimates that for the city of Pasadena, it will cost more than \$248,390 per year. That breaks into:

- Animal control and enforcement: \$125,757
- Kenneling and vet care: \$39,731
- Euthanasia and body disposal: \$4,825
- Cost of litigation to prove the breed of a dog as well as provide constitutional due process before seizing family pets: \$57,594
- DNA testing: \$20,485

BSL also calls into question property rights, as animals do not have rights as sentient beings and therefore owners should have a right to own any breed as long as it has not been deemed to be a dangerous dog—regardless of its breed.

All of this is in addition to the fact that BSL unfairly targets animals rather than the reckless and irresponsible owners who are responsible for their behavior. Pit bulls do not bite more frequently than any other breed—they are targeted because they are convenient scapegoats.

Let Pasadena enforce current dangerous dog laws, let it enforce the rules for the few scofflaws rather than punishing the many law-abiding animal-loving pit bull owners that live in its borders.

Sincerely,

Katherine Heigl

Nancy Heigl

Jennifer Brent
Executive Director

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Mandatory Spay/Neuter Opposition from a physician

From: Aimee Chagnon [<mailto:dr.chagnon@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2014 2:42 PM

To: Bogaard, Bill; district1; district2@cityofpasadena.net; district3@cityofpasadena.net; district4@cityofpasadena.net; district5@cityofpasadena.net; district6; district6

Subject: Mandatory Spay/Neuter Opposition from a physician

Dear Council Members:

I am writing regarding the proposed mandatory spay neuter law being discussed for Pasadena with specific attention to a statement made by Councilman Madison regarding medical professionals, who he claims would never own a pit bull type dog.

My background: I am a board certified neurologist. I graduated with highest honors from UCSD with a degree in biochemistry, went to medical school at UCSF, did my residency at Harvard followed by a subspecialty NIH fellowship. I joined the faculty of UCSF School of Medicine where in addition to clinical activities I was the Director of Clinical Research and Teaching for the Pain Management Center. My research has been published and presented in national and international venues.

While I did not choose emergency medicine as a specialty, I have spent a great deal of time in emergency rooms both in training and my post graduate career. I have seen plenty of trauma and suffering in major metropolitan areas on both coasts as well as on disaster relief trips to Haiti and Rwanda. I state this only to assure you that I have an excellent grasp of what typically causes people to require emergency medical attention and to underscore the fact I am highly motivated to prevent suffering and needless injury.

Imagine my surprise when I discovered the City of Pasadena had decided that pit bull type dogs posed such a threat to citizens that they should be singled out for sterilization. I am well aware that the ultimate goal (at least for Mr Madison) is to seek support on a state level to repeal the ban on breed bans. My surprise was particularly intense since I have shared my life with pit bull type dogs for more than 10 years, and would never be without them (neither would my husband, an architect and ordained minister). I have patients who specifically request the company of one of my dogs in the office.

Neurologists are not known for being impulsive. We are intellectual, data-driven, and methodical in approach. My decision to own pit bull type dogs was made with much the same approach that I would use to determine the basis of a patient's symptoms. The data on pit bull type dogs is clear---the CDC has made its position unequivocal, and one need only see the diverse group of people who own these dogs to understand that millions of people live in harmony with millions of these dogs daily, or perhaps the results of the American Temperament Testing Society, or recommendations by neutral groups like the AVMA and ABA.

Mr Madison in particular appears to have some difficulty understanding statistics, or perhaps in their application. His arguments include the idea that pit bulls have been implicated in the deaths of several individuals, some quite young and others quite elderly. It should be pointed out that children are the most likely targets of dog bites in general, with the reasons well documented. Those at the extremes of age are more likely to suffer morbidity and mortality from any kind of injury (as is seen

with hip fractures in the elderly). When the number of events is so minuscule relative to the total number of exposures, it becomes almost zero and therefore statistically insignificant. This is what we see with major canine-induced trauma and death. The safety record of dogs of any and all breeds is far better than what is seen with humans, or cars, or parents toward their children. Children are far more likely to be hurt or killed by a caregiver than any dog.

Numerous municipalities and a number of states have either repealed or outlawed breed bans because they do not make communities safer. Dogs of all breeds bite, and as long as we share our lives with animals there will always be such events (cows and horses kill more people annually). If Mr Madison and the Pasadena City Council truly wished to make the community safer, a breed neutral approach would be used. If Mr Madison actually cared about the number of animals dying in shelters every day, then a breed neutral spay/neuter ordinance would be passed, or better yet, he would follow the recommendations of the experts and provide low cost spay/neuter programs.

Finally, while it has been pointed out repeatedly in others' comments, it is well known the term "pit bull" refers not to a single or even a few breeds of dog, but rather an appearance shared by dozens of breeds and even more mixes. I would be curious to see how well Mr Madison would do in identifying a "pit bull" from a group of similar-appearing dogs. Historically humans have tried to predict behavior based on appearance. Phrenology looked at physical characteristics of the head and is looked upon as racist quackery today. Less than 20 years ago, almost a million people were massacred over the course of 90 days in Rwanda, based on physical characteristics **determined by a tape measure**. Know your history. I am not arguing that the suffering of humans and canines are equivalent, but I am arguing that there is no basis in fact for taking physical appearance and deciding current or future behavior of a living being--in fact, it has consistently been shown to be the sign of intellectual weakness, ignorance, and fear-mongering among the power hungry.

I will leave it to Mr Madison to see what his own motivations are for proposing such baseless legislation and hope the rest of the council will avoid the pitfalls history and science have so clearly identified.

Sincerely,
Aimee C. Chagnon, MD

Stewart, Jana

From: Rod Chambers <rod2844@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2014 7:47 PM
To: Bogaard, Bill; Robinson, Jacque; McAustin, Margaret; Kennedy, John; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry; Beck, Michael; jguitierrez@cityofpasadena.net; Mermell, Steve; Bagneris, Michele; Foster, Siobhan; Walsh, Eric
Subject: Pasadena Mandatory Spay Neuter Ordinance

Dear Mayor and Pasadena City Council Members,

I am always concerned when a city discusses implementing a Mandatory Spay/Neuter Ordinance of "pit bull" type dogs. It is an ordinance that discriminates against responsible dog owners.

As responsible owners of a rescued pit bull, she is spayed, up-to-date on all her shots and is licensed in the city we reside in which is not Pasadena. She lives with our two cats, and a foster cat from the rescue I volunteer with. She has a fully contained backyard, has never gotten loose and is always on a leash out in public. She spends 99.9% of her time in the house, where she is a beloved member of the family.

My experience with the pit bull type dogs has been a past volunteer at a local animal shelter for 6 years, 8 hours a day, 6 days a week. My husband and I are currently dog walkers on Saturdays with Linda Blair World Heart Foundation. We are past dog walkers for Villalobos Rescue Center, one of the largest pit bull rescues in the country. Our experience with this breed of dog has always been a positive one. I only wish more people would volunteer at an animal shelter or rescue. Then they would have the opportunity to see what these breeds truly are all about and not how the media portrays them most all of the time.

"Safe communities are created and supported when dogs are treated as individuals and pet owners are empowered to be responsible. Breed neutral, non-discriminatory laws and a proactive community approach can make a substantial impact in public safety". -Animal Farm Foundation-

BSL is an ineffective solution to animal control problems because it doesn't address the real cause of the issue; irresponsible owners. Responsible owners are already complying with the local animal control laws and are unfairly targeted by this law just because of the breed of dog they own. As a result, many well-behaved dogs become targets even though they aren't a problem in the community.

Meanwhile, irresponsible owners will continue to make problems for their communities regardless of whether or not they own a breed targeted by breed specific laws. A better use of tax-payers' money would be to have animal control concentrate their efforts on irresponsible dog owners and individual dogs whose behavior has demonstrated that they are a problem for the community.

Please join the growing number municipalities who are rescinding, repealing or rejecting any kind of BSL laws.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Pam Chambers
2531 W. Plaza Serena Dr.
Rialto, CA 92377

Iraheta, Alba

From: Geneva Coats <genevacoats@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2014 1:21 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 #15 for Monday, January 27, 2014

California Federation of Dog Clubs
PO Box 2341
Lancaster, CA 93539
www.cfodconline.org

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

January 24, 2014

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.

Yet AGAIN the City of Pasadena is attempting to push through a mandate to sterilize dogs this time targeting only those who own "pit bulls". There is no way to identify a "pit bull" or mix with any degree of certainty, besides which, the idea that "pit bulls" are a societal problem is a falsehood. Bull terriers score BETTER on temperament testing than most other breeds of dogs.

Breed-specific sterilization mandates are ineffective and being repealed all over the country.

The CFODC is OPPOSED to the mandated sterilization of pets, no matter what exemptions are offered.
Some of the reasons for our opposition include:

- **The ASPCA and the American Veterinary Medical Association are OPPOSED to mandatory sterilization** because it creates more problems than it solves.
- 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.
- 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.
- **Studies show that dogs who are neutered have more health and behavioral problems than dogs who are left intact.**

Two new major studies are summarized here:

<http://time4dogs.blogspot.com/2014/01/dont-spay-or-neuter-your-pets.html>

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

Iraheta, Alba

From: Danielle Doscher <audioflake@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2014 12:17 PM
To: McAustin, Margaret; Morales, Margo
Subject: Opposed to proposed BSL for mandatory spay and neuter of Pit Bulls and Pit Mixes

Ms. McAustin,

I am a 10 year Pasadena resident and I am writing to you to let you know that I oppose the proposed mandatory spay and neuter ordinance for Pit Bulls and Pit Mixes. While I am in favor of spay and neuter, I cannot support any ordinance that is discriminatory, such as the one you are proposing. I feel it needs to either be mandatory for all breeds, or none.

I have been involved with an LA based non-profit called Karma Rescue (www.karmarescue.org) for over a decade. Through my non-profit work I have seen firsthand the huge problem of overpopulation and all the issues that stem from that. Instead of a mandatory ordinance for spay and neuter, how about instead using your resources for increased community outreach and education?

I currently live in Garfield Heights and was elected to the Board of Directors for our neighborhood association for 2014. I have proposed a new committee within our association that deals with Animal Safety and Education. I have found that many of my neighbors are not aware of the resources available to them for free spay and neuter of all breeds, vaccine clinics and microchipping. I also feel our community could benefit from educational sessions held at the local schools and libraries that teach children and adults about proper care for their dogs, the dangers of tethering your dog, leash laws and bite prevention. **My proposal for this new committee is to provide a newsletter, delivered door to door to our 400 households, that outlines the services available to them as well as information on all the subjects I mentioned above.**

I have enlisted the help of Karma Rescue, Downtown Dog Rescue and Best Friends Animal Society to provide us with the informational newsletters. They also all have programs that provide free spay and neuter to those who want it. Karma Rescue has also offered to conduct their existing education program at any school or library I set it up at in Pasadena.

Furthermore, I intend to reach out to other neighborhood associations in Pasadena and encourage them to start similar committees in their neighborhoods.

I believe providing people with education and information is a far better way to address overpopulation and dog bite prevention than a discriminatory and mandatory ordinance. I respectfully request that the Council considers this avenue as well.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts on the matter.

Sincerely,
Danielle Doscher

Jomsky, Mark

From: CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2014 9:35 AM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: WWW COMMENT

Data from form "Contact City Clerk Mark Jomsky" was received on 1/27/2014 9:34:58 AM.

Send Comments

Field	Value
Your Name	Anne Dove
Phone	
Email	annedove@me.com
Comments	<p>City Council Agenda Item #15 (1/27/14) - Opposition to Ordinance Mandating Spay-Neuter of Pit Bull and Pit Bull Cross Breed Dogs I strongly oppose the proposed ordinance mandating spay-neuter of pit bull and pit bull cross breed dogs and request that it not move forward for future consideration. However, should City Council choose to further consider this ordinance, I request that its consideration be deferred consistent with the timeline Council provided at the October 7, 2013 meeting. This revised ordinance is even more problematic and flawed than the October 7, 2013 version and based on erroneous assumptions about the dog breeds specified, the ineffectiveness of mandatory spay-neuter policies, and the nature of "dangerous dogs". Based on the context of previous City Council discussions, it is clear that part of the motivation for this current ordinance is public safety relative to dangerous dogs even though the ordinance fact sheet describes the rationale for this ordinance as being that "pit bulls comprise a disproportionately high number of unwanted dogs in Pasadena." This lack of transparency about the multiple purposes of this ordinance is problematic. If the City is concerned about dangerous dogs, the focus should be on breed-neutral dangerous dog and irresponsible owner laws, and public education. If the City is primarily concerned about the over-population of "pit bull and pit bull cross breed dogs", the focus should be on efforts to partner with the PHSSPCA to expand their low cost spay neuter program and public outreach/education programs that promote responsible dog ownership. Using mandatory spay-neuter laws to address public safety and dangerous dogs is misdirected and ineffective. Ordinance Timing: At the October 7, 2013 City Council meeting, several people, including myself, voiced strong opposition to the proposed mandatory spay-neuter of all cats and dogs in Pasadena. The meeting minutes reflect that: "By consensus, the item was withdrawn to allow for the completion of the canvassing of animal licensing by the Pasadena Humane Society, with staff to return with the ordinance for future consideration in 6 to 9 months, and for the Legislative Policy Committee to discuss at its next meeting strategies to further pursue changes in the law at the state level with local representatives in order to allow banning of specific dog breeds." Given this outcome of the October meeting, I was disheartened to recently learn that the City was pursuing a modified mandatory spay-neuter ordinance prior to the 6 to 9 month period specified at the October meeting. I am concerned that pursuing this ordinance within a shorter time frame will exclude interested members of the public from commenting on this revised proposal. Some may perceive the timing of this modified ordinance as an attempt to minimize public comment. Also, the canvassing being conducted by the</p>

Field	Value
	<p>Pasadena Humane Society SPCA was intended in part to educate Pasadena residents about responsible dog ownership, and until the benefits of these efforts is understood, it would be inappropriate to consider any mandatory spay neuter ordinance, even one that is focused on specific dog breeds. Why this Ordinance Should Not Move Forward: Beyond my concerns about the timing of this ordinance, I am also disappointed and frustrated that several of the well-founded concerns expressed about the October 7, 2013 proposed ordinance have not been adequately addressed in the current proposed ordinance. As a reminder, my previously stated concerns about mandatory spay-neuter laws included the following: 1. Mandatory spay neuter laws do not effectively reduce the number of dogs in shelters. 2. Education and incentives are more effective than regulation and enforcement. The Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA's (PHSSPCA) highly success (and highly in-demand) SNIIP (Spay Neuter in Pasadena) program provides a cost-effective, voluntary means for pet owners to have their dogs spayed and neutered. The increased capacity of their new facility will expand the number of dogs that can be economically sterilized without mandating spaying and neutering. 3. Many professional veterinary and animal welfare organizations oppose mandatory spay neuter regulations. 4. The assumption that spaying and neutering yields net positive health benefits, especially in juvenile cats and dogs, is erroneous and a gross generalization. 5. Decisions about a pet's reproductive status and surgical procedures should be made by informed pet owners in consultation with their veterinarians. 6. The criteria for "exemptions" does not adequately address the realities of show and competition dogs. 7. The draft ordinance would prevent responsible breeders from being able to breed and raise quality family pets. But beyond these earlier concerns, laws that target specific breeds/breed mixes are inappropriate, unfair and based on misinformation about the nature of dog aggression and the targeted dog breeds. Responsible dog owners would be unjustly targeted, punished, and discriminated against just for having a dog of a specific breed. Why should these owners be punished when they and their dogs have done nothing wrong? A diverse range of professional organizations focused on legal and public policy issues, public health, animal welfare and animal behavior have taken positions against breed-specific legislation, including the following: • American Bar Association • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) • National Animal Control Association • American Veterinary Medical Association • American Working Dog Federation • American Kennel Club • American Humane • American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) • Best Friends Animal Society • Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) • National Animal Interest Alliance • Association of Pet Dog Trainers • International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants • International Association of Canine Professionals • National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors Conclusion I have been a Pasadena resident for 16 years and long time dog owner who volunteers in dog rescue, and participates in training, showing and competing with my 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. While I do not own a "pit bull", I strongly oppose the proposed ordinance mandating spay-neuter of pit bull and pit bull cross breed dogs and request that it not move forward for future consideration. However, should City Council choose to further consider this ordinance, I request that its consideration be deferred consistent with the timeline Council provided at the October 7, 2013 meeting.</p>

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net from CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net on 1/27/2014 9:34:58 AM.