

APPROVAL REPORT

Proposed Amendments to Bylaw No. 7860, The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999 and Bylaw No. 8176, The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003

ISSUE

This report is requesting approval to amend Bylaw No. 7860, *The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999* (the “*Animal Control Bylaw*”) and Bylaw No. 8176, *The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003* (the “*Dangerous Animals Bylaw*”).

RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services recommend to City Council that:

1. Proposed amendments to Bylaw No. 7860, *The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999* and Bylaw No. 8176, *The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003* as outlined in this report, be approved; and
2. That the City Solicitor be requested to make the necessary amendments to Bylaw No. 7860, *The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999*, and Bylaw No. 8176, *The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003*.

BACKGROUND

On a bi-annual basis, Administration reviews the *Animal Control Bylaw* and the *Dangerous Animals Bylaw*.

At its October 23, 2017 meeting, City Council approved a report from the City Solicitor, with amendments to the *Animal Control Bylaw* and *Dangerous Animals Bylaw*.

Administration is supported by the Animal Services Working Group, a group of specialists in their field, animal experts and citizen representatives, who provide consultative and collaborative feedback to help guide the Administration. More specifically, this group is comprised of representatives from:

1. Saskatoon Animal Control Agency;
2. Saskatoon Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;
3. Saskatchewan Population & Public Health Authority;
4. A Clinical Associate from the University of Saskatchewan, Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
5. A student from the University of Saskatchewan, Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
6. Saskatoon Dog Park Ambassador; and
7. A member of the general public.

One of the roles of the Animal Services Working Group is to assist with a thorough bi-annual review of the *Animal Control Bylaw* and *Dangerous Animals Bylaw*, while providing direction and reasoning around suggested Bylaw amendments.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

After a review of both the *Animal Control Bylaw* and the *Dangerous Animals Bylaw* in 2019, the Administration and the City Solicitor are recommending a number of amendments be made to these Bylaws. The amendments are designed to promote public safety, improve upon existing enforcement mechanisms and to clarify and update certain aspects for the general public and the courts in areas where there may be ambiguity.

Proposed amendments are provided in the following Appendices:

- Proposed amendments to the *Animal Control Bylaw* (see Appendix 1); and
- Proposed amendments to the *Dangerous Animals Bylaw* (see Appendix 2).

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial, social, or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

Pending approval by City Council of the proposed amendments, the City Solicitor's Office will attend to amending the Bylaws, including miscellaneous housekeeping amendments to update items such as references to current organizational structure.

To promote public awareness of these amendments, they will be highlighted and referenced on the Animal Services webpage. A reference link to the revised *Animal Control Bylaw* and *Dangerous Animals Bylaw* would also be provided.

Animal Services will provide posters on communication boards at each of the off-leash areas highlighting the amended limit to the number of dogs permitted per owner while at the off-leash area. These posters will also reference the amended *Animal Control Bylaw* and *Dangerous Animals Bylaw*. In addition, information regarding the amended Bylaws will be provided at all events conducted by Animal Services.

APPENDICES

1. The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999, Proposed Amendments
2. The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003, Proposed Amendments

REPORT APPROVAL

Written by: Jeremy Probe, Open Space Consultant, Recreation and Community Development
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Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services Department