

Proposed Amendments to The Animal Control Bylaw, and Dangerous Animals Bylaws

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. The General Manager of Community Services previously reported on this subject to City Council at its [February 24, 2020, Regular Business Meeting](#).

Administration is supported by the Animal Services Working Group, a group of subject matter experts in animal services and public 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 (SACA);
- 2) Saskatoon Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Saskatoon SPCA);
- 3) Saskatchewan Population & Public Health Authority;
- 4) A Clinical Associate from the University of Saskatchewan, Western College of Veterinary Medicine; and
- 5) A member of the general public.

One of the roles of the Animal Services Working Group is to assist with the bi-annual review of the Animal Control Bylaw and Dangerous Animals Bylaw.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

After a review of both the Animal Control Bylaw and the Dangerous Animals Bylaw in 2021, Administration and the City Solicitor's Office are recommending a number of amendments to these bylaws. The amendments are a response to comments and concerns raised by a variety of sources, such as the Animal Services Working Group,

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members of the public and the City of Saskatoon (City) Bylaw Court. The amendments are designed to align with provincial regulations for allowed species, promote public safety, improve upon existing enforcement mechanisms, clarify and update certain ambiguous provisions all for the benefit of the general public and the courts.

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).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications identified.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no 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. Such bylaw amendments will be scheduled to be tabled at the January 2023 City Council meeting.

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

Animal Services will work with SACA to communicate the Dangerous Animals Bylaw changes to owners who have dogs that have been declared dangerous.

APPENDICES

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

REPORT APPROVAL

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