

From: [Richard Haas](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Proposed Animal control measures
Date: Thursday, December 7, 2023 8:22:20 PM

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Elected officials,

I am writing this in opposition of the proposed changes to various animal control ordinances. There is NO question that we have a post pandemic problem with excess animals in the shelters. It is my position that these ordinances don't do enough to fix that problem alone.

These ordinances are more focused on the good dog owners that take care of their responsibilities and have no focus on enforcing the laws and ordinances that are already in place. It's my position that more focus can be placed on the protection of responsible dog owners and the rights they should have on any decisions they make for their pet.

It is also very careless to spay or neuter animals of certain breeds (mainly large breeds) before the full development of their growth plate at 18 months. This contributes to hip and back issues for large breeds.

A similar ordinance is in place in Los Angeles county and it has had zero impact. Because the lack of enforcement exists, any revenue created simply goes in on top of tax payers money to kill dogs at the shelters.

To many of us our dogs are part of our family. We take care of them, pay high vet costs for their care and illnesses. Adding all these fees in on top of licensing fees and taxes simply punishes people that aren't part of the problem. Most breeders are breeding Full blooded dogs with strong blood lines. These aren't the dogs in the shelters.

I hope that this opposition can weight heavy on you as you make a decision. Punishing good people by more fees and oversight won't solve the issue and only anger us. We pay taxes and extra fees should not become a burden to us by just trying to have a freedom of choice with our pets.

Thanks for your consideration
Richard Haas
20 year Bakersfield resident
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