

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 6 ANIMALS

November 13, 2025



PALM DESERT



# BACKGROUND

- January 1998– City Council adopted Ordinance No. 874
- Current ordinance is outdated, lacks: enforcement authority, clarity for noisy animal nuisances, licensing, and is not aligned with industry standards.
- Lacks regulations for (microchipping, sterilization), backyard breeding.
- Key changes introduced in this amendment: improve clarity, consistency, and enforcement, and align with the County of Riverside ordinance.

# KEY AMENDMENTS OVERVIEW

- General clean up of definitions and outdated language: ensures clear language throughout, updates terminology.
- Licensing & registration
- Mandatory spay/neuter requirements
- Dangerous/vicious animal standards
- Nuisance abatement (noise, waste)
- Backyard breeding regulations
- Impoundment & adoption procedures
- Expanded enforcement authority
- Align with Riverside County Ordinance

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, TITLE 6 ANIMALS

Chapter	Title	Summary of Amendment
6.04	Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alphabetize and consolidate definitions.</li><li>• Expand and update language,</li><li>• Aligning with county ordinance and industry standards</li></ul>
6.08	Animal Control Officer Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update Enforcement Definitions</li><li>• Aligning with County Ordinance</li><li>• Clear definition of enforcement authority</li></ul>
6.12	Licenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates and clarifies licensing requirements</li><li>• adds a mandatory microchipping requirement</li><li>• adds mandatory spay and neuter requirement</li><li>• Aligns with county ordinance.</li></ul>
6.16	Biting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimal changes</li></ul>

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, TITLE 6 ANIMALS

Chapter	Title	Summary of Amendment
6.18	Potentially Dangerous Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New chapter</li><li>• Provides clear definitions</li><li>• Outline of administrative orders for violations</li><li>• Sets clear impounding guidelines for dangerous animals</li></ul>
6.20	Impoundment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update outdated language for the impoundment of animals</li></ul>
6.24	Noisy Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New chapter</li><li>• Update definitions</li><li>• Nuisance declaration</li><li>• Clarifies administrative hearing procedures</li></ul>
6.28	Offenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarified and updated language includes:</li><li>• definition for unlawful backyard breeding</li><li>• unlawful sales or gifting of animals in public or private property.</li><li>• prohibitions of livestock in city limits</li><li>• prohibit animal cruelty and neglect.</li><li>• Tethering restrictions</li><li>• Trap-neuter-return</li></ul>

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS PROVIDE:

- Clearer rules for residents
- Consistent and clear enforcement tools
- Improved community safety
- Enhances animal welfare protections
- Aligns with County of Riverside Ordinance



# DISCUSSION

Proposed amendments to  
Title 6 Animals of the Palm  
Desert Municipal Code.

# QUESTIONS

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Code Compliance &  
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PALM DESERT

