

ITEM	10
MANAGER'S REPORT #	11
COUNCIL MEETING	96/04/15

TO: CITY MANAGER
FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE
SUBJECT: BURNABY ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW
PURPOSE: To obtain Council authority to amend the Animal Control Bylaw.

1996 APRIL 10
 File: A53

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the City Solicitor be authorized to prepare an amendment to the Animal Control Bylaw to include the animal welfare provisions detailed in this report.

REPORT

Since 1994, several neighbouring communities have adopted animal control bylaws which prohibit cruelty to animals by establishing standards of animal care. These bylaws have been reviewed and are considered a positive step in promoting responsible pet ownership. This report recommends changes to our Animal Control Bylaw that advance requirements for the proper and humane care of animals.

Currently, the Animal Control Bylaw is limited in its address of proper treatment of animals. The poundkeeper may now, at all reasonable times, enter upon a property to investigate an allegation that an animal on the premises is being abused or neglected. Further action by the poundkeeper is based upon the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act which empowers him to seize any animal that he believes will not receive suitable care unless removed from the custody of its owner.

The Superintendent of the Burnaby Animal Shelter has advised cruelty to animal complaints come to their attention throughout the year. Specific standards of animal care would be beneficial in our animal control program as an educational tool and, in persistent cases, as an enforcement option.

Provisions to prevent cruelty to animals introduced in neighbouring cities have been reviewed with our Shelter Superintendent. Of those reviewed, the following additions are proposed for the Animal Control Bylaw:

- A. Definition of animal to mean any mammal, bird or reptile but not humans;
- B. Regular cleaning of any kennel, pen and run area;
- C. Standards of animal care to provide for:
 - 1) the supply of adequate food and water
 - 2) the cleaning of food and water receptacles
 - 3) the opportunity to exercise
 - 4) veterinary care when the animal shows signs of pain or suffering;
- D. Provision of shelter for animals that spend time outside to protect from heat, cold and wet. The shelter must provide sufficient space for the animal to freely turn, sit, stand and lie in a normal position;
- E. Restrict the use of the choke collar to prevent injury to an animal;
- F. Require adequate ventilation when an animal is confined in an enclosed space, including a car; and
- G. Require a body harness or adequate confinement for an animal transported in a vehicle outside the passenger compartment, so as to prevent injury and falling from the vehicle:

Council authority to regulate the keeping of animals is held in Section 933 of the Municipal Act. Any changes to the Animal Control Bylaw will be advertised publicly through an article in InfoBurnaby.


for Rick Earle
DIRECTOR FINANCE

CMC:vm

cc: City Solicitor
Animal Shelter Superintendent