Gautho, Julia

From: Mary Craig Caruthers <marycraigcaruthers@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 1:25 PM

To: City Council

Subject: Comments for City Council Meeting 7/25/24

Attachments: IMG_1149.jpg; IMG_1150.jpg

To the Capitola City Council Members:

My husband and I live on Depot Hill and we walk down to the beach almost every day. We have been concerned for years about the free-roaming dogs on the beach, despite signage stating they are not allowed. Our two young grandchildren play on that beach, and we are worried that they will contract some disease from the filth of the animals. By the way, we are dog lovers and have owned many; it's their presence on the beach that's inappropriate.

One of the issues I see is that the code is never enforced. Why not come to the beach with your dog if no one cares? Only once in the last few years have we seen a police officer speaking with the owner of a free-running dog. We thanked him. But since that single time, there has never been any kind of patrolling.

In the past, I have contacted different department heads in Capitola City Government, and the response has consistently been: "We'll look into it."

I have asked that more prominent signs be placed at eye level so that there is no chance that a dog owner can plead innocence for not seeing the rules. The current signs are readable for a person who is about 9 or ten feet tall and has perfect vision.

The Aptos Farmers' Market has sandwich board signs that are clear and readable. I'm attaching two photos for your reference.

Thanks to each of you for your commitment to our community and all the work you do on our behalf.

Mary Caruthers



