

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Ginny Sawyer, Project Manager
Sylvia Tatman-Burruss, Project Manager

SUBJECT

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 123, 2024, Amending Chapter 4 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to Ban the Retail Sale of Dogs and Cats.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on August 20, 2024, bans the retail sale of dogs and cats from stores within Fort Collins city limits.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Many in the community have been asking Council to address concerns related to animals sourced from puppy and kitten mills by adopting a ban on the retail sale of dogs and cats. At the June 18, 2024, regular meeting a formal request was made to bring such an ordinance to Council at the August 20, 2024, regular meeting.

The Ordinance presented is modeled from other ordinances adopted in other communities. To date, 14 other Colorado municipalities have adopted similar ordinances. Only one of those communities had an existing pet store and that business was allowed to continue. Fort Collins has one pet store that does sell puppies.

Should Council adopt the ordinance as written, the implementation date would be May 20, 2025. Alternatively, if Council wishes to create an exception for the existing pet store that currently sells dogs and cats, the following language could be added at the beginning of Section 4-122(a):

Except for retail stores engaged in such activities within the City limits prior to the effective date of Ordinance No. 123, 2024.

Staff has confirmed that NOCO Humane could enforce this Ordinance as part of their contract with the City.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

First Reading attachments not included.

1. Ordinance for Consideration