

ORDINANCE NO. 861-2026

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF HILSHIRE VILLAGE, TEXAS, CHAPTER 2.000, ANIMAL CONTROL BY ESTABLISHING DEFINITIONS TO ARTICLE 2.100, CLASSIFYING ELECTRONIC CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS AND ELECTRONIC LEASHES AS INSUFFICIENT FORMS OF ANIMAL RESTRAINT, PROVIDING A PENALTY UNDER EXISTING CODE, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HILSHIRE VILLAGE, TEXAS:

Section 1. Amendment to Section 2.100 – Definitions

Section 2.100 of Chapter 2, Animal Control of the City's Code of Ordinances is amended to insert the following definitions:

Electronic Containment System and Electronic Leashes. Shall mean any device, system, or technology, including invisible fences, underground wired systems, wireless boundary systems, GPS-based containment collars, remote-activated collars, or any similar electronic or radio-frequency device, designed to cue, stimulate, or deter an animal's movement or prevent an animal from crossing a boundary without the use of a physical wall, fence, enclosure, leash, lead, or other tangible means of restraint.

Fenced Enclosure. Shall mean a physical wall, fence, or other constructed barrier that forms a visible and tangible enclosure, specifically excluding Electronic Containment Systems, Electronic Leashes, or any device that relies solely on electronic, wireless, or GPS-based signals to deter an animal from crossing a boundary.

Leash. Shall mean a physical leash, lead, rope, or similar tangible device used to maintain control of an animal by direct physical connection to a person, specifically excluding Electronic Leashes, remote-activated collars, GPS-based devices, or any electronic, wireless, or radio-frequency system designed to cue, stimulate, or deter an animal's movement without a physical tether.

Section 2. Amendment to Section 2.100 – Definitions

The definition of "Restraint" in Section 2.100 of Chapter 2, Animal Control of the City's Code of Ordinances is amended to delete the word "chain" so that the definition now reads as follows:

Restraint. An animal shall be deemed restrained when it is:

- (1) Confined to the premises of the owner within the building, walled, or fenced enclosure; or
- (2) Fastened or picketed by a lead, not more than twenty (20) feet in length, so as to keep the animal on the owner's premises; or
- (3) Under the control of a person by a leash; or
- (4) On or within a vehicle being driven or parked so animal cannot escape.

Section 3. Severability.

If any provision of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 4. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and any publication required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 21st day of July, 2026.

Attest:

Robert F. Buesinger, Mayor

Cassie Stephens, City Secretary