

Daniel Buchholtz

From: Lisa Dircks
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2024 9:00 AM
To: Daniel Buchholtz
Subject: Fwd: Humane Pet Store Policy in Spring Lake Park

Good morning Dan,

I'd like to add a discussion for an ordinance banning the sale of puppies and kittens to an upcoming work session.

Let me know when it is going on the calendar, and I will start gathering data for the packet. We could also invite Mr. Zellhoefer to that meeting in case council has any questions.

Happy Saturday!

Lisa

Sent from Android device

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Aaron Zellhoefer <azellhoefer@humanesociety.org>

Date: Jul 6, 2024 7:41 AM

Subject: Humane Pet Store Policy in Spring Lake Park

To: Lisa Dircks <ldircks@slpmn.org>

Cc:

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Hello Council Member Lisa Dircks,

My name is Aaron Zellhoefer and I'm the Minnesota State Director for the Humane Society of the United States. I'm reaching out to introduce myself and ask whether you'd consider an ordinance that prohibits the retail sale of cats and dogs in pet stores in Spring Lake Park.

A humane pet store ordinance like this is a policy that nearly 500 localities across 32 states have enacted, including 8 communities in Minnesota. Most recently Coon Rapids, MN. These laws are enacted, primarily, because puppy-selling stores enable inhumane puppy mills, which are large-scale commercial breeders who put profits far ahead of animal welfare. These puppies are often sick because of the conditions they come from, which can cost unsuspecting consumers hundreds or thousands of dollars. But there are also many localities who have taken action because they want to protect their communities from the predatory lending practices that go hand in hand with the pet store sales pitch.

Now is an ideal time for Spring Lake Park to enact this policy since there currently aren't any puppy-selling pet stores in the city. It would simply prevent bad actors, such as Petland, from opening stores in

Spring Lake Park and adding to the pet issues the city is already facing, such as overwhelmed shelters, stray animals, etc.

I would be happy to talk more with you about this issue, if you are interested in pursuing a humane pet store ordinance in Spring Lake Park. Hope we can connect and go over any questions you may have and more information!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Aaron Zellhoefer

Aaron J Zellhoefer

Minnesota State Director, State Affairs

Pronouns: he/him/his

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