



# AGENDA MEMO

## Business of the City Council City of Sweeny, Texas

<b>Meeting Date</b>	11.15.2023	<b>Agenda Item</b>	
<b>Approved by City Manager</b>	Yes	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	Lindsay Koskiniemi, City Manager
<b>Reviewed by City Attorney</b>	Yes	<b>Department</b>	Humane Services
<b>Subject</b>	Discussion and possible action on an amendment to City Ordinance Chapter 95: Animals		
<b>Attachments</b>	Proposed ordinance, 23-110		
<b>Financial Information</b>	Expenditure Required:	N/A	
	Amount Budgeted:	N/A	
	Account Number:		
	Additional Appropriation Required:		
	Additional Account Number:		

### Executive Summary

At the Council meeting in October 2023, a member of the community addressed Council with a complaint about no action being taken to control the feral cat population within the City of Sweeny. Currently, there is no feline adoption program established or exercised by City staff.

Staff met with local veterinarians to discuss possible courses of action to control the feral cat population within the City. Working through the City's attorney, staff is working on developing a plan that is compliant with state laws. A catch and release program will require spay and neuter after trapping and return to original location. Staff has purchases feline traps and will be able to begin the program once funding is determined. Staff is researching non-profit and interest groups for assistance.

No matter how an Animal Control action plan is developed, or a feline program implemented, domesticated animals must wear a collar and rabies vaccine tag so that staff can differentiate between someone's pet and a stray animal.

The adoption of this ordinance will require pet owners to keep collars and rabies tags on their pets. Once a trap and relocation plan is developed and adopted, this will help safeguard the City from altering and relocating a domesticated animal by accident.

### Recommended Action

Staff recommend adoption of Ordinance 23-110.