

Wildlife Work group Recommendations

The Wildlife work group and Animal Services Office issue this joint position statement;

The City of Austin should be modeling national best practices regarding wildlife management to include volunteer programs, education and outreach, community engagement, partnering with wildlife and animal welfare organizations on humane exclusion and deterrents. Lethal means of control should be permitted, documented, used as a last resort only with approval from the Chief of Animal Services.

Recommendations for AAC consideration

1. The City of Austin should develop a comprehensive humane wildlife management policy based on national best practices.
2. The City of Austin should create a new position, **Wildlife Management Specialist** to implement the new policy. This position would report directly to the Chief Animal Services Officer.
3. The City Of Austin should opt out of the contract with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service - Wildlife Services and negotiate with Travis County to create a county-wide program.
4. The city should initiate an audit of the contract between Texas Wildlife Services and the City of Austin.