



ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 10-12-2015-4-G

Date: 03/11/2021

Subject: Training and control of animals

Motioned By: Larry Tucker

Seconded By: Robert Shaw

Recommendation

The Animal Advisory Commission recommends adopting 3-2-8 as written.

Description of Recommendation to Council

At the March 4, 2021 city council meeting item #2 was pulled and sent back to the AAC for reconsideration. After lengthy discussion the AAC took no action and our original recommendation from 2015 stands.

Rationale:

Several citizens expressed concerns that section C. exempting livestock should be stricken. The AAC placed this exemption into our recommendation for two reasons.

- 1. To appease Rodeo Austin who opposed this ordinance on the grounds that it might be used against them.*
- 2. Texas penal code Title 9 chapter 42 (42.09) already sets much harsher penalties for cruelty to livestock including class A misdemeanors and felonies, subject to jail time. The city of Austin cannot impose harsher penalties than already exist.*

The animal advisory commission values all animals equally but understands that compromises must be made to enact ordinances that protect as many animals as possible. We are confident that enacting 3-2-8 as written accomplishes the most good for the most animals and in no way authorizes or condones any cruelty to livestock.

Vote

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1

Attest: , AAC Chair