

CITY OF GREELEY, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 6, 2025

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTERS 1 AND 3 OF THE GREELEY
MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO ANIMALS**

WHEREAS, the City of Greeley has an interest in maintaining the public safety and welfare of the community;

WHEREAS, in addition to state and federal laws, the City has a local responsibility to promote animal welfare and encourage best practices in the breeding and purchasing of dogs and cats;

WHEREAS, the sale of dogs and cats in public places poses a risk of the spread of disease to the detriment of the public health and welfare of people and/or animals;

WHEREAS, the sale of dogs and cats sourced from large-scale commercial breeding facilities where the health and welfare of the animals is disregarded to maximize profits (“puppy mills” and “kitten mills,” respectively) is a business practice that is not in the best interest of the public welfare of the City; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance would not affect a consumer’s ability to obtain a dog or cat of their choice from an animal rescue, animal shelter, or small, reputable, in-home breeders within the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREELEY, COLORADO:

Section 1. That Section 10-1 of Chapter 1, Definitions, of Title 10, Animals, of the Greeley Municipal Code shall be amended by the addition of the following definitions, to be added alphabetically:

Sec. 10-1. ~~Applicability~~ Definitions.

Animal rescue organization means any not-for-profit organization which has tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, whose mission and practice is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue and placement of animals in permanent homes. This term does not include an entity that is a breeder or broker or one that obtains animals from a breeder or broker for profit or compensation.

Cat means any animal of the species *Felis catus* or any hybrid thereof.

Dog means any animal of the family *Canidae* including, without limitation, those related to the wolf, fox, coyote, or any other domestic canid hybrid thereof.

PACFA means the Pet Animal Care Facilities Act, C.R.S. § 35-80-101 *et seq.* PACFA is a licensing and inspection program dedicated to protecting the health and well-being of those animals in pet care facilities throughout Colorado.

Section 2. That Section 10-1 of Chapter 1, Definitions, of Title 10, Animals, of the Greeley Municipal Code the following definitions shall be amended to read as follows:

Animal shelter means a premises operated by the city or another entity, including ~~the NOCO Humane Society of Weld County~~, for the purpose of housing and caring for animals held under the authority of the laws, regulations or ordinances of the city. An animal shelter may also be an impound agency.

Impound agency means a premises operated by the city or another entity, including ~~the NOCO Humane Society of Weld County~~, and designated for the confinement of animals taken into custody under this title. An impound agency may also be an animal shelter.

Section 3. That Sections 10-68 and 10-69 shall be added to Chapter 3, Violations, of Title 10, Animals, to read as follows:

Sec. 10-68. Sale of Dogs and Cats in Public Places Prohibited.

(a) It is unlawful to display any dog or cat in a public place for the purpose of selling or giving the animal away. "Public place" shall include but not be limited to a street, public right-of-way, parkway, median, park, recreation area, outdoor market, sidewalk, area exterior to a shop or business, or parking lot regardless of whether such access is authorized by the owner.

(b) This prohibition shall not apply to PACFA licensed organizations.

(c) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor offense and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished pursuant to chapter 9 of title 1.

Sec. 10-69. Retail Sale or Display of Dogs and Cats in Stores Prohibited.

(a) It is unlawful for any retail store, owner, operator or employee to sell, display, exchange, offer for sale or adoption, advertise, auction, barter, trade, deliver, give away, lease, or otherwise transfer ownership or dispose of any dog or cat, except for a dog or cat obtained from PACFA licensed organizations.

(b) A retail store that offers space for the adoption of dogs or cats shall post, in a conspicuous location at the store and on the enclosure of each animal, a sign listing the name of the organization licensed by the State of Colorado from which the store acquired the dog or cat.

(c) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor offense and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished pursuant to chapter 9 of title 1.

Section 4. That the existing section of the Greeley Municipal Code to be amended in this Ordinance are attached hereto in Appendix A.

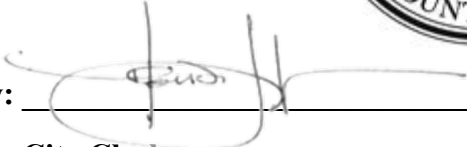
Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect on the fifth day following its final publication, as provided by Section 3-16 of the Greeley City Charter.

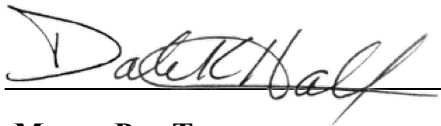
PASSED AND ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED ON THIS 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 2025.

ATTEST
COLORADO



THE CITY OF GREELEY,

By: 
City Clerk

By: 
Mayor Pro Tem

APPENDIX A

EXISTING SECTION 10-1 OF TITLE 10 OF THE GREELEY MUNICIPAL CODE

Sec. 10-1. Applicability.

As used in this title, the following words have the meanings ascribed to them in this chapter.

Animal means any vertebrate creature that has been bred or raised to live with or near humans and is dependent on humans for food, water and shelter. The term "animal" includes pets and livestock. The term "animal" does not include fowl, service animals, wild animals and wild birds, all of which are separately defined herein. The term "animal" does not include human beings.

Animal control officer means any person who is employed by the city and authorized by the chief of police to administer and enforce this title. Any officer of the city police department can act as an animal control officer.

Animal establishment means any premises, including kennels and stables, used in whole or in part for the keeping of animals for the purpose of adoption, breeding, boarding, grooming, handling, selling, sheltering, trading or otherwise transferring animals. The term "animal establishment" does not mean veterinary facilities, licensed research facilities or facilities operated by government agencies, including an animal shelter or impound agency.

Animal shelter means a premises operated by the city or another entity, including the Humane Society of Weld County, for the purpose of housing and caring for animals held under the authority of the laws, regulations or ordinances of the city. An animal shelter may also be an impound agency.

Dangerous animal means an animal that has attacked or bitten a person, attacked or bitten another animal and thereby killed or caused bodily injury, chased a person on property not the premises of the owner or keeper such that the person is reasonably in fear of attack, or acted in a manner that causes or should cause the owner or keeper to know that the animal may be dangerous. The term "dangerous animal" does not mean an animal that merely growls, snarls or bares its teeth and has not attacked, bitten or chased.

Days means calendar days, including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by this title, the day of the event from which the period of time begins to run is not included. The last day of the computed period is included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, in which case the last day is the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

Disposition or *disposal* means adoption, donation, release of an animal to a rehabilitator licensed by the state division of wildlife or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or humane destruction.

Finding of violation means a determination by the municipal court or entry of a stipulation that a violation of this title has been committed.

Fowl means any bird not kept as a pet, but customarily used in the market or household for food consumption, such as a chicken, duck, goose and turkey, and includes wild birds such as guinea fowl and pheasants.

Guard dog means any dog trained or used to protect persons or property by attacking or threatening to attack any person found within the area patrolled by the dog.

Impound agency means a premises operated by the city or another entity, including the Humane Society of Weld County, and designated for the confinement of animals taken into custody under this title. An impound agency may also be an animal shelter.

Keeper means a person, within the city, who has custody of or exercises control over an animal, the occupant of the premises where the animal is usually kept or a person who, for a period of at least five consecutive days, possesses, harbors or allows an animal to remain about the person's premises.

Owner means a person, within the city, who owns an animal or who is named on the licensing records of an animal as the owner.

Premises means real property owned, rented, leased, used, kept or occupied by a person. The term "premises" does not include common areas of multiple household dwelling units.

Restrained means physically controlled by use of a leash, rope, chain or cable not more than six feet in length held by a person of sufficient size and physical ability to restrict the animal's movement, properly tethering the animal or keeping it within an enclosure restricting the animal to a particular premises.

Service animal means a dog or miniature horse that has been trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The tasks performed by the service animal must be directly related to the person's disability. Animals that provide emotional support, therapy or comfort or are pets are not considered service animals.

Sufficient food means a quantity of food sufficient to maintain an adequate level of nutrition for the animal's age, size, physical condition, health condition, species and breed, provided at least once every 24 hours from a clean receptacle.

Sufficient water means clean, fresh, potable water adequate for the animal's age, size, physical condition, health condition, species and breed, accessible to the animal at all times.

Wild animal means prosimians or other nonhuman primates; venomous or poisonous snakes or venomous or poisonous reptiles; felids (including, but not limited to, jaguars, cheetahs, mountain lions, wildcats, panthers, margays or any other species of cat other than ordinarily domesticated house cats); ursids (including, but not limited to, bears); wild birds as defined herein; nonpoisonous snakes longer than six feet; reptiles (other than snakes) longer than one foot; mustelids (including, but not limited to, badgers, prairie dogs, skunks, beavers and muskrats); bats; procyonids (including, but not limited to, raccoons and coatis); elephants; marine mammals (including, but not limited to, seals, sea lions, dolphins and sea otters); hyenas; edentates (including, but not limited to, anteaters, sloths and armadillos); viverrids (including, but not limited to, mongooses, civets and genets); marsupials; undomesticated ungulates (including, but not limited to, deer, hippopotamuses, rhinoceroses, giraffes, camels and zebras); crocodilians (including, but not limited to, alligators and crocodiles); or canids (including, but not limited to, wolves, coyotes, foxes or other species of canine other than ordinarily domesticated dogs). For purposes of this title, an animal in use for bona fide scientific research by a university or college shall not be treated as a wild animal.

Wild bird means a bird of prey, a game bird (excluding fowl) or any other undomesticated bird not customarily kept as a pet. For purposes of this title, neither the house sparrow nor the European starling shall be treated as a wild bird.

(Code 1994, §§ 7.04.010—7.04.210; Ord. No. 33, 2019, ch. 7.04, 8-6-2019)