

Memorandum

TO: City Council
FROM: Renee Eisenbeisz , Assistant City Manager
DATE: June 16, 2025
SUBJECT: Ordinance regulating pet stores
ITEM NUMBER: 10.a
SECTION: GENERAL BUSINESS

REQUESTED MOTION

To approve ordinance number 1054 and ordinance summary for publication regarding regulations for pet stores.

INTRODUCTION

During the November 4, 2024 council meeting, two individuals spoke under citizen comments requesting that the city to adopt a humane pet store ordinance. The city council spoke about this at their March 17, 2025 workshop and directed staff to bring back an ordinance at a future meeting for consideration.

DISCUSSION

Several cities in Minnesota have adopted a humane pet store ordinance with the most recent ones being Columbia Heights, Coon Rapids, and Maple Grove (attached). These ordinances regulate pet stores and prohibit them from selling cats or dogs. They are created based on research that shows a significant number of puppies and kittens sold at pet stores come from large-scale, commercial breeding facilities where the health and welfare of the animals are not adequately provided for. There are no federal or state regulations that address this.

During the March 17, 2025 workshop, the city council discussed whether or not the city should update its city code to regulate pet stores. It was the consensus of the city council to add regulations now given that Shoreview does not currently have any pet stores.

Ordinance 1054 amends chapter 6, animal control, to add section 6-3, pet store regulations. Under this section, pet stores will have the following regulations:

- Cannot sell cats or dogs
- Can work with animal rescue organizations, shelters, or containment facilities to host adoption events for dogs and cats.
 - Must have a certificate of source posted near the dog's or cat's kennel or enclosure.
 - Cannot keep dogs overnight during adoption events
 - Can keep cats overnight during adoption events provided they have a plan for caring for and monitoring cats outside of business hours.

The reason for the difference between keeping dogs and cats overnight is because cats can be comfortably kept in smaller enclosures with access to food, water, and a litter box, whereas

dogs need larger spaces and require walks and bathroom breaks.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the above information, staff is recommending that the city council approve ordinance number 1054 and ordinance summary for publication regarding regulations for pet stores.

ATTACHMENTS

[Ordinance 1054](#)

[Ordinance 1054 summary](#)

[Columbia Heights](#)

[Coon Rapids](#)

[Maple Grove](#)