

## **Correcting City Council's decision on amendments to Chapter 349, Animals - Dangerous Dogs**

**Date:** January 24, 2017

**To:** City Council

**From:** City Clerk

**Wards:** All

### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to correct errors in Licensing and Standards Committee Item LS15.1 adopted by Council in December 2016.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The City Clerk recommends that:

1. City Council amend its decision on Item LS15.1 by replacing Part 2 with the following:

City Council amend Chapter 349, Animals to:

- a. prohibit the tethering of an animal for longer than one hour; and
- b. prohibit the use of choke collars, choke chains, pronged collars or any similar device on dogs.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial impacts arising from this report.

### **DECISION HISTORY**

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City Council at its meeting on December 13, 14 and 15, 2016, adopted Licensing and Standards Committee Item LS15.1 on amendments to Chapter 349, Animals - Dangerous Dogs

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.LS15.1>

City Council directed that the amendments to Chapter 349 come into force March 1, 2017.

## **COMMENTS**

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The City Solicitor is preparing the necessary Bill to give effect to Council's decision. It has come to light that Licensing and Standards Committee Recommendation 2 pertaining to tethers and collars did not accurately reflect the intent of the motions placed and adopted by the Committee. This incorrect wording was subsequently reported to and adopted by City Council in December.

The Licensing and Standards Committee, among other things, adopted motions to:

- Prohibit the tethering of an animal for no longer than one hour; and
- Prohibit the use of choke collars, choke chains, pronged collars or any similar device on dogs.

The wording of the first motion was intended to prohibit tethering an animal for longer than one hour. The inadvertent use of the word "no" in the motion is problematic and does not give effect to the intended one-hour limit.

The second motion on collars was clear. However, in preparing the Committee's decision, this motion was consolidated into the amendment regarding tethers, in error. This motion was a standalone amendment to Chapter 349 and should have been reported to Council that way.

This report provides substitute wording to correct these errors and has been prepared in consultation with the City Solicitor.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Ulli S. Watkiss  
City Clerk