

City of Toronto Act, 2006 Public Notice

Response to EC6.9 - Incident and Operational Review of Serious Dog Attacks

Toronto City Council will be considering recommendations to adopt amendments to City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 349, Animals as part of an operational review of procedures and processes of Toronto Animal Services (TAS) for the compliance and enforcement of Dangerous Dog Orders.

It is proposed that the amendments be adopted at the City Council meeting to be held on March 20, 21, 22, 2024, or at a subsequent meeting. If adopted by City Council, the amendments will:

Amend Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 349, Animals to include a provision that the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards is to create and maintain a public record listing information (including the dog owner's Forward Sorting Area (first three digits of the postal code), ward number, the dog's name, breed and colour, and the date of the dangerous act) of all served Dangerous Dog Orders, which is to be posted in a manner available to the public.

Request the Mayor to include resources in the 2025 Budget (up to \$500,000) for the Municipal Licensing and Standards Division to implement a proactive communication strategy and public education campaign to support compliance and enforcement with the goal of reducing the occurrence of dangerous dog acts.

Request the Government of Ontario consider amendments to the Dog Owners' Liability Act (DOLA) to provide an expeditious process to hear DOLA proceedings, as well as an explicit mechanism for municipalities to recover costs incurred by the municipality when it holds an animal pursuant to a warrant or interim control order under DOLA.

The proposed amendments are outlined in the report titled "Response to EC6.9 - Incident and Operational Review of Serious Dog Attacks". To view or obtain a copy of the report, visit the City's website at:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/#/committees/2563/24438>

At its meeting to be held via video conference and in-person at City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, on February 20, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, the Economic and Community Development Committee of Toronto City Council will hear from any person or by his or her counsel, agent, or solicitor, who wishes to speak to the matter.

The proposed amendments are subject to the decisions of the Economic and Community Development Committee and City Council. Consequently, the proposed amendments may be modified. Additional or other amendments to the above-noted By-law, including amendments not contemplated or considered in the proposal by Municipal Licensing and Standards staff, may occur as a result of the decisions of the Committee and City Council.

To submit comments or make a presentation to the Economic and Community Development Committee on February 20, 2024, please contact the Committee no later than 12:00 p.m. on February 19, 2024:

Economic and Community Development Committee
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
10th Floor, West Tower, Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2
Telephone: 416-397-4579; Fax: 416-392-2980
Email: ecdc@toronto.ca

To ask questions regarding the content of the report, please contact:

Joanna Hazelden, Manager, Policy and Planning Services
Municipal Licensing and Standards
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
16th Floor, West Tower, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Telephone: 416-338-5576
Email: Joanna.Hazelden@toronto.ca

Any comments received after the Committee meeting will be forwarded to City Council.

While the staff report sets out proposed changes, the Committee and/or City Council may change these proposals and adopt additional or other amendments that differ from the recommendations set out in the report. The proposed amendments are subject to the decision of the Committee and the decision of City Council.

If this matter is postponed at the Committee meeting or City Council meeting or considered at a subsequent Committee or City Council meeting, no additional notice will be provided other than the information on the subsequent Committee or City Council agenda. Please contact the above City officials if you require notice in these cases.

The Economic and Community Development Committee will make its final recommendations on February 20, 2024, which will be forwarded to City Council for its meeting on March 20, 21, 22, 2024.

Notice to people writing or making presentations to the Economic and Community Development Committee: The City of Toronto Act, 2006 and the City of Toronto Municipal Code authorize the City of Toronto to collect any personal information in your communication or presentation to City Council or its Committees.

The City collects this information to enable it to make informed decisions on the relevant issue(s). If you are submitting letters, faxes, e-mails, presentations, or other communications to the City, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the City will become part of the public record and will appear on the City's website. The City will also make your communication and any personal information in it - such as your postal address, telephone number, or e-mail address - available to the public, unless you expressly request the City to remove it.

Many Committee, Board, and Advisory Body meetings are broadcast live over the internet for the public to view. If you speak at the meeting you will appear in the video broadcast. Video broadcasts are archived and continue to be publicly available.

If you want to learn more about why and how the City collects your information, write to the City Clerk's Office, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto ON, M5H 2N2 or by calling 416-397-4592.

Dated at the City of Toronto on February 12, 2024

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk