

## Update on City Actions Around Coyotes Downtown

### Updated on May 23, 2025

- As was noted in the previous update ([provided](#) on May 16), following a continuation of escalated interactions with coyotes in the Fort York and Liberty Village area and after comprehensive reviews with external experts, the City of Toronto made the difficult decision to euthanize a mated coyote pair due to rising concerns for public safety and as a last resort. On **May 13**, the City shared a [news release](#) regarding this step.
- Zero coyote reports have been made to 311 in Ward 10 between May 16 – May 22, 2025.
- Staff continue to closely monitor report intake and will action any investigations appropriately. A summary of data is provided in the Appendix.
- Residents should continue to call 311 to report concerns about coyote behaviour for staff response. Information and resources on staying safe can be found at [toronto.ca/coyote](https://toronto.ca/coyote).

#### Panel Recommendation # 1: Procure a specialized team to assess these coyotes, apply adapted aversion techniques, monitor results and report back to City staff.

City Action	May 23 Updates
1. Uniquely trained response team and hunter/trapper company began work on March 23 alongside a specialized aversion conditioning team.	✓ Wildlife feeding, the presence of rats, and dogs off-leash remain factors that increase the likelihood of human-wildlife conflict, and the public should continue to participate in conflict prevention efforts that target these contributors.

#### Panel Recommendation # 2: Continue with low to moderate aversion conditioning on coyotes.

City Action	May 23 Updates
1. Conduct aversion using specialized aversion team.	✓ The specialized assessment team concluded their on-site evaluations as of May 16.
2. Conduct aversion by Bylaw Enforcement Officers and Toronto Animal Services staff.	✓ Toronto Animal Services received 0 coyote incident reports between May 16 – May 21, 2025 in Ward 10 ✓ Staff have resumed standard procedures of responding to service requests upon intake and are no longer conducting frequent patrols.
3. Work with public and community members to educate about using aversion techniques.	✓ City staff continue to leverage online public forums to share information about coyotes and actions to take during a coyote encounter.

## Municipal Licensing and Standards

<p>4. Continuously assess the situation for escalating factors or evidence of the current approach not being effective.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The City euthanized a mated coyote pair due to rising concerns for public safety. This came after almost eight weeks of monitoring and aversion conditioning and after independent assessments by three different groups reached the same conclusion on the necessity of removal for public safety. Other escalation options were carefully assessed prior to this decision and more information is provided in the May 16 <a href="#">update</a>.</li> <li>✓ Relocation options were not allowed by provincial authorities. The provincial Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act requires any wildlife captured for relocation to be released within one kilometre of their capture site. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has noted that this would not be possible for coyotes in Toronto's downtown communities.</li> </ul>
---	--

### Panel Recommendation # 3: Remove food attractants by enforcing no dumping and no wildlife feeding, and empowering enforcement staff to issue fines.

City Action	May 23 Updates
1. Enforce no dumping rules	✓ No dumping concerns were flagged between May 16 and 22.
2. Enforce no wildlife feeding rules	✓ Staff continue to monitor reports of wildlife feeding – none were received between May 16 and 22 in the area.
3. Empower staff to issue fines	✓ Businesses that previously received Notices of Violations continue to comply.
4. Work with partners to refer feeding and food source issues appropriately	✓ Staff previously flagged food waste left in and around areas of interest for appropriate divisions to oversee. No additional updates have been provided.

### Panel Recommendation # 4: Repair fences and improve lighting and sightlines.

City Action	May 23 Updates
1. Repair fences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Staff continue to follow up on active work orders and referrals for fence repairs.</li> <li>✓ Safety assessment/audits have been conducted and smaller repairs have been completed – some larger items may require capital investments and are being reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Division.</li> </ul>

## Municipal Licensing and Standards

2. Improve lighting and sightlines	✓ Staff continue to monitor lighting updates at parks of interest, including the need for capital investments.
------------------------------------	--

### Panel Recommendation # 5: Increase community education to residents about dumping, wildlife feeding, and the importance of keeping dogs on leash

City Action	May 23 Updates
1. Increase signage in the area	✓ Staff have ordered new signs to replace older ones with the community co-designed signs in response to feedback from residents, and are procuring a vendor to conduct this work.
2. Increase community education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Staff continue to use online platforms to share resources and to provide updates on City responses.</li> <li>✓ Staff are planning the launch of a paid public education campaign in spring/summer of 2025 on coyotes and actions residents can take to keep themselves and their pets safe.</li> </ul>

### Ongoing: Policy efforts to routinely review the efficacy of coyote response strategies

City Action	May 23 Updates
Request from City Council to develop a Downtown Coyote Action Plan ( <a href="#">2025.EC18.8</a> ) (March 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ City Council made a request to the Province to conduct environmental assessments when undergoing planning of major projects, such as the redevelopment of Ontario Place, to assess and address impacts to wildlife including coyotes and requested the development of a Downtown Coyote Action Plan, following recent issues with coyotes in Toronto's downtown communities that began in November 2024.</li> <li>✓ City Council made a request to the Province to support the City of Toronto in the costs of managing coyotes and wildlife.</li> </ul>
Development of a Downtown Coyote Action Plan ( <a href="#">2025.EC20.4</a> ) (May 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Staff developed the <a href="#">Downtown Coyote Action Plan</a> as an interim update on the City's operational framework to respond to coyotes.</li> <li>✓ The Plan guides staff responses to coyote activity in Toronto's downtown, using lessons learned from recent actions taken in the Liberty Village and Fort York communities, and notes that staff will continue to improve interdepartmental communication and collaboration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee requested staff to:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review coyote-related 311 sub-types and definitions and create reliable and responsive channels for public and stakeholder updates related to coyote incidents and response;</li> <li>○ Explore what proactive measures can be undertaken to manage food and wildlife feeding sources;</li> <li>○ Consult with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and other municipalities, to consider a reproductive control approach for coyotes in Ward 10</li> </ul> <p>✓ Staff will respond to these requests in a report back on the City's Coyote Response Strategy.</p>
Report back with updates to the City's Coyote Response Strategy	<p>✓ A report with updates to the City's 2013 Coyote Response Strategy will be brought to the City's Economic and Community Development Committee for endorsement later in 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the discussion on <a href="#">2025.EC20.4</a>, the Economic and Community Development Committee requested staff, as part of the planned report on the Coyote Response Strategy later in 2025, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Explore additional preventative measures that can be implemented downtown (including resources requires for a dedicated wildlife staff team);</li> <li>○ Provide thresholds and estimated ranges of time for escalation protocols;</li> <li>○ Establish a more pet-friendly approach as part of efforts to minimize interactions; and</li> <li>○ Make recommendations that support higher set fines specific to feeding coyotes and build on the previous request to the Province of Ontario to support the City's efforts in responding to coyotes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Appendix – Summary of Data

- A summary of data is included below:
  - 0 reports were made to 311 in Ward 10 between May 16 – May 22, 2025.
  - The numbers below reflect calls and reports to 311 and are categorized based on how individuals report the incident. After the City receives coyote reports, staff investigate each report to confirm details and provide support.
  - Public safety encounters are reports of incidents that do not result in attacks or bites.
  - The reports regarding human bites and attacks were investigated and re-categorized, because the details could not be confirmed. Staff continue to closely monitor these locations.

