

Update on City Actions Around Coyotes Downtown

Updated on June 6, 2025

As was made public through a [news release](#) on May 13, 2025, the City of Toronto euthanized a mated coyote pair in the Fort York and Liberty Village area due to increasing public safety concerns. Between May 13 and June 5, 2025, zero coyote reports were made through 311 in Ward 10.

Staff continue to closely monitor coyote report intake in the area and will action any investigations appropriately (a summary of data is provided in the Appendix). **Staff will be discontinuing weekly updates for the time being as there has been a sustained period of 4 weeks with no coyote reports in the area.**

The City will continue to implement interdivisional coyote prevention and response efforts to minimize food and shelter for coyotes. Prevention and deterrence efforts are most effective when applied proactively, collaboratively with the public and widely across the city, so staff are working to identify opportunities to update the City's approach to coyote management.

An updated Coyote Response Strategy will be proposed in an upcoming staff report in 2025, which will outline revised protocols and thresholds for when the City will provide updates to the public and the local Councillor during a period of increased coyote reports or incidents in a particular area.

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.

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	June 6 Updates
1. A specialized assessment team and uniquely trained response/hunter/trapper company worked in the area from March to May 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The teams formally completed their assessments in May 2025. ✓ Wildlife feeding, the presence of rats, and dogs off-leash remain factors that increase the likelihood of human-wildlife conflict, and the public is encouraged to continue to participate in managing these factors to prevent future conflict(s).

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

City Action	June 6 Updates
1. Conduct aversion using specialized aversion team.	✓ The specialized assessment team concluded their on-site evaluations in May 2025.

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2. Conduct aversion by Bylaw Enforcement Officers and Toronto Animal Services staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Toronto Animal Services received 0 coyote incident reports between May 13 – June 5, 2025 in Ward 10. ✓ Staff have resumed standard procedures of responding to service requests upon intake and are no longer conducting proactive patrols.
3. Work with public and community members to educate about using aversion techniques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ City staff continue to leverage online public forums to share information about coyote prevention and actions to take during a coyote encounter.
4. Continuously assess the situation for escalating factors or evidence of the current approach not being effective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Eight weeks of monitoring and aversion conditioning were conducted by staff and supporting teams, with coyotes responding to aversion conditioning in most cases.

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

City Action	June 6 Updates
1. Enforce no dumping rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No dumping concerns were flagged from May 23 to June 5. ✓ Divisional partners continue servicing main routes (sweeping streets, checking side litter bins, using fly trucks, etc.) and reminding residents of their responsibility to remove litter accumulated on their property and the adjacent sidewalk and boulevard.
2. Enforce no wildlife feeding rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff continue to monitor for reports of wildlife feeding – none were received in the area from May 23 to June 5.
3. Empower staff to issue fines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff continue to patrol parks weekly for instances of wildlife feeding, dogs off-leash, and unremoved dog waste - no enforcement action was taken for these issues from May 23 to June 5. ✓ Businesses that previously received Notices of Violations for waste issues continue to comply.
4. Work with partners to refer feeding and food source issues appropriately.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff continue to conduct weekly surveillance and expedite referrals to Toronto Public Health to manage waste from food establishments.

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

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City Action	June 6 Updates
1. Repair fences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff continue to follow up on active work orders and referrals for fence repairs. ✓ 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.
2. Improve lighting and sightlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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	June 6 Updates
1. Increase signage in the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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"> ✓ Staff continue to use online platforms to share resources and to provide updates on City responses. ✓ Staff are launching a paid public education campaign in summer 2025 on coyotes and actions residents can take to keep themselves and their pets safe.

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

City Action	June 6 Updates
Development of a Downtown Coyote Action Plan (2025.EC20.4) (Completed in May 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff developed a Downtown Coyote Action Plan, which was received by the Economic and Community Development Committee on May 6, 2025. ✓ The Action Plan detailed (i) the full range of response options available to staff in the immediate and long-term when addressing coyote activity in downtown communities and (ii) summarized actions taken by the City to respond to incidents in Liberty Village and Fort York.
Report back with updates to the City's Coyote Response Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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 in 2025.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As part of the discussion on 2025.EC20.4, the Economic and Community Development Committee requested staff to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Explore additional preventative measures that can be implemented downtown (including resources requires for a dedicated wildlife staff team);○ Provide thresholds and estimated ranges of time for escalation protocols;○ Establish a more pet-friendly approach as part of efforts to minimize interactions;○ Review coyote-related 311 sub-types and definitions and public and stakeholder channels for coyote incidents and response;○ Explore what proactive measures can be undertaken to manage food and wildlife feeding sources;○ 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; and○ Assess set fines specific to feeding coyotes and build on previous requests to the Province of Ontario to support the City's efforts in managing coyotes.
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Appendix – Summary of Data

- A summary of data is included below:
 - 0 reports were made to 311 in Ward 10 between May 23 – June 5, 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.

