



ORDINANCE NO. 29040

1 AN ORDINANCE amending Titles 5, 8 and 17 of the Municipal Code, relating to
2 Health and Sanitation, Public Safety, and Animal Control, by amending
3 various chapters, and repealing in its entirety Chapter 5.32, entitled
"Hogs", to better address animal overpopulation and clarify language.

4 WHEREAS Tacoma is grappling with an increase in its animal
5 population, leading to overburdened animal shelters, strained animal control
6 and police services, and amplified risks to the environment, public safety, and
7 public health, and

8
9 WHEREAS animal overpopulation is also detrimental for animal welfare,
10 as it can lead to increased euthanasia rates for healthy and adoptable animals
11 due to the high costs of sheltering and an insufficient number of adopters or
12 foster homes, and

13
14 WHEREAS, in 2022-2023, Tacoma's 311 system received 758
15 complaints related to animal issues, such as breeding, animal waste, and
16 animals that have been hit by vehicles; in 2023-2024, the number of complaints
17 doubled; and, data for 2024-2025 shows that 311 complaints for animal issues
18 remained on par with the record highs at 1,467 complaints, and

19
20 WHEREAS, the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County
21 ("HSTPC") has resorted to doubling and tripling kennel occupancy, as well as
22 waiving or reducing adoption fees, on multiple occasions due to high intake
23 rates and overcrowding, and

24
25 WHEREAS Tacoma's Municipal Code ("TMC") is currently ill-suited to
26 help curb animal overpopulation, as it lacks robust constraints on issues such



as breeding companion animals for profit and owning unaltered animals, and

1 WHEREAS the TMC also lacks sufficient fees to help generate even
2 modest amounts of revenue that could be used to support low-cost spay and
3 neuter programs, as well as Trap-Neuter-Return ("TNR") efforts for community
4 cats, and
5

6 WHEREAS low-cost spay and neuter programs, along with TNR efforts,
7 are a proven method for managing animal populations, limiting the burden on
8 Animal Control, Police Officers, and animal shelters, minimizing the negative
9 impacts of large numbers of unhoused animals on neighborhoods, and curbing
10 the need to euthanize healthy and adoptable companion animals, and
11

12 WHEREAS to better equip Tacoma to manage its animal population, the
13 proposed amendments to Title 17 of the TMC include: (1) Adding a definition
14 for "community cats" to enable unowned, free-roaming, and generally feral cats
15 that may be receiving care from a community member or may be stable without
16 intervention in their resident area to remain outdoors and be altered through
17 TNR programs; (2) Banning the breeding, advertising, and sale of companion
18 animals for profit without a current business license issued under TMC Chapter
19 6B.20; (3) Creating mandatory spay and neuter requirements for animals
20 impounded by Animal Control, absent proof of alteration or risk to the health of
21 the animal; and (4) Increasing the general animal licensing fees, including
22 unaltered fees, to help fund low-cost spay and neuter programs and TNR
23 efforts, while also establishing a new reduced fee rate for those who qualify for
24 the Tacoma Public Utility Bill Credit program, and
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26



WHEREAS, along with updates aimed at curbing animal overpopulation,
an amendment is proposed to clarify vague and outdated code language, such
as refining the requirements for keeping pigs, clarifying the penalties for animals
injuring humans, and providing more explicit language regarding the adoption of
potentially dangerous dogs; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby adopts the Recitals of this
Ordinance as its formal legislative findings.

Section 2. That Titles 5, 8 and 17 of the Tacoma Municipal Code
(“TMC”) are hereby amended as set forth in the attached Exhibit “A,” by
amending various chapters, and repealing in its entirety Chapter 5.32, entitled
“Hogs.”

Section 3. That the new annual license fees set forth in TMC 17.05.040
will have a delayed effective date of September 1, 2025.

Section 4. That the City Clerk, in consultation with the City Attorney, is
authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including, but not



limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance
numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any references thereto.

Passed _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

EXHIBIT “A”

CHAPTER 5.23 ANIMALS – KEEPING

5.23.010 Keeping prohibited except in compliance with chapter.

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any horses, asses, mules, cattle, goats, ~~or~~ sheep, [pigs, hogs, boars, sows, gilts, barrows, shoats, and piglets](#) within the city limits of the City of Tacoma; provided that this chapter shall not apply in areas in which slaughterhouses or stockyards are permitted by appropriate ordinances of the City of Tacoma; provided, further, that upon full compliance with the provisions of Section 5.23.020 of this chapter, the keeping of any such animal or animals may be permitted when the conditions of said Section are and continue to be complied with in all respects.

* * *

CHAPTER 5.32

REPEALED

HOGS

~~5.32.010 Prohibited places.~~

~~The keeping of a hog or hogs within the City of Tacoma is hereby declared to be a public nuisance; provided that this chapter shall not apply in areas in which abattoirs or stockyards are permitted by appropriate ordinance.~~

~~5.32.020 Penalty.~~

~~Any person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity found to have violated any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Upon a first conviction, there shall be imposed a fine of not less than \$100.00 and, upon a second conviction, there shall be imposed a fine of not less than \$500.00 and, upon a third or subsequent conviction, there shall be imposed a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Upon a conviction, and pursuant to a prosecution motion, the court shall also order immediate action by the person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity to correct the condition constituting the violation and to maintain the corrected condition in compliance with this chapter. The mandated minimum fines shall include statutory costs and assessments.~~

~~* * *~~

CHAPTER 8.07
BABY CHICKS AND RABBITS

8.07.010 Unlawful to sell or give away in quantities less than six.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell or offer for sale, barter or give away, living baby chicks, rabbits, ducklings or other fowl under two months of age in any quantity less than six, unless the buyer can show proof that the number of new living baby chicks, rabbits, ducklings or other fowl under two months of age purchased will create a complete group of at least six.

* * *

CHAPTER 17.01 ANIMAL CONTROL – GENERAL PROVISIONS

17.01.010 Definitions.

As used in this title, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. “Adult” means any animal over the age of 21 weeks.
2. “Animal” means any nonhuman mammal, bird, reptile, or amphibian.
3. “Altered” means an animal which has been spayed or neutered. To qualify as an altered animal, an individual must provide either proof of alteration from a licensed veterinarian or a written statement from a licensed veterinarian that the spay/neuter procedure would be harmful to the animal.
4. “Animal control” or “animal control authority” means a City department or division designated by the City Manager to implement and enforce the provisions of this title.
5. “Animal control officer” means any Tacoma police officer or an employee of the City authorized by the City and specially commissioned by the Chief of Police to enforce Tacoma Municipal Code (“TMC”) Title 17.
6. “Animal shelter” means a facility operated by the Humane Society or another facility that contracts with the City to provide for the care of animals impounded or detained by an animal control officer or released to an animal control officer under this title.
7. “Animal welfare facility” means any indoor or outdoor facility where pets are routinely housed or maintained by or for an animal welfare organization.
8. “Animal welfare organization” means any public or private charitable organization, whether called a kennel, cattery, animal shelter, society, or rescue, and includes the organization’s officers, agents, and representatives when acting in the name or on behalf of the organization that controls, rescues, animal shelters, cares for, or disposes of pets as all or part of the purpose of the organization.
9. “At large” means off the premises of the owner or keeper of the animal, and not under restraint by leash or chain eight feet in length or shorter.
10. “Cat” a member of the species *Felis catus* and commonly known as the domestic cat.
11. “Charitable organization” means any organization recognized as a nonprofit corporation under the provisions of Chapter 24.03 of the Revised Code of Washington (“RCW”) and exempt from the Washington State business and occupation tax pursuant to RCW 82.04.3651.
12. “Commercial pet facility” means any place, premises, or entity where pets are boarded, kept, or bred for hire, or where pets are housed for resale, such as pet shops, but not including a veterinary hospital where boarding is incidental to treatment. Animal daycare operations are included in the definition of commercial pet facility.
13. “Community cat” refers to an unowned, free-roaming cat that may be receiving care from a community member or may be stable without intervention in its resident area. These cats are generally feral and may or may not be reproductively sterilized. Community cats are not defined as stray cats, and they do not have a legal owner and are not routinely microchipped.
- 13.4. “Companion animal” means and refers to a domesticated or domestic-bred animal whose physical, emotional, behavioral, and social needs can be readily met as companions in the home or in close daily relationships with humans, but excluding indoor pigs which are defined as livestock under Title 17.
15. “Competent person” means a person who is able to sufficiently care for, control, and restrain an animal and who has the capacity to exercise sound judgment regarding the rights and safety of others.

146. “Court” means Tacoma Municipal Court or the Superior Court of Pierce County, which courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction hereunder.

157. “Dangerous dog” means any dog that, according to the records of the appropriate authority:

- a. unprovoked, inflicts severe injury on or kills a human being on public or private property; or
- b. unprovoked, inflicts injuries requiring a domestic animal to be euthanized or kills a domestic animal while the dog is off the owner’s property; or
- c. while under quarantine for rabies bites a person or domestic animal; or
- d. was previously declared to be a potentially dangerous dog, the owner having received notice of such declaration, and the dog is again found to have engaged in potentially dangerous behavior; or
- e. is owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of dog fighting or is a dog trained for dog fighting; or
- f. unprovoked, attacks a “dog guide” or “service animal” as defined in Chapter 70.84 RCW and inflicts injuries that render the dog guide or service animal to be permanently unable to perform its guide or service duties.

168. “Dog” means a member of the species *Canis lupus familiaris* and commonly known as the domestic dog.

179. “Gross misdemeanor” means a crime with a maximum penalty of one year in jail, a \$5,000 fine, or both such fine and imprisonment.

1820. “Harboring” means knowingly providing food or shelter to an animal.

1921. “Humane trap” means a live animal box enclosure trap designed to capture and hold an animal without injury.

2022. “Impound” means to receive into the custody of the animal shelter or into the custody of the City animal control officer.

2123. “Infraction” means a civil infraction pursuant to Infraction Rules for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (“IRLJ”) and any local rule adopted thereto by the Tacoma Municipal Court.

2224. “Livestock” means all cattle, sheep, goats, or animals of the bovidae family; all horses, mules, llamas, alpacas, other hoof animals, or animals of the equidae family; all pigs, swine, or animals of the suidae family; and ostriches, rhea, and emu.

2325. “Misdemeanor” means a crime with a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail, a \$1,000 fine, or both such fine and imprisonment.

2426. “Owner” means any person, firm, corporation, organization, trust, or partnership possessing, harboring, keeping, having an interest in, or having control, custody, or possession of an animal.

2527. “Person” shall include any person, partnership, corporation, trust, or association of persons.

2628. “Police dog.” The definition of “police dog” in RCW 4.24.410, including all future amendments, additions, or deletions, is adopted by reference.

2729. “Potentially dangerous dog” means any dog which:

- a. unprovoked, bites or injures a human or domestic animal on public or private property; or
- b. unprovoked, chases or approaches a person or domestic animal upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public or private property in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack; or
- c. has a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury, or to otherwise threaten the safety of humans or domestic animals.

~~28~~³⁰. “Poultry” means domestic fowl normally raised for eggs or meat, and includes chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese.

~~29~~³¹. “Proper enclosure” means a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping. Such pen or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top, and shall also provide protection from the elements for the animal. An animal that is securely confined indoors is also within a “proper enclosure.”

~~30~~³². “Securely enclosed and locked” means a pen or structure which has secure sides and a secure top suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping. If the pen or structure has no bottom secured to the sides, then the sides must be embedded in the ground no less than one foot.

~~31~~³³. “Severe injury” means any physical injury that results in (a) broken bones, (b) muscle, ligament, or tendon tears, (c) skin lacerations or puncture wounds which require sutures or surgery, or (d) transmission of an infectious or contagious disease.

~~32~~³⁴. “Unconfined” means not securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure upon the premises of the person owning, harboring, or having the care of the animal.

The present tense shall include the past and future tense, and the future the present. Each gender shall include all genders. The singular number shall include the plural, and the plural the singular.

17.01.080 Redemption of dogs.

Unless otherwise specifically provided in this title, the owner of any dog impounded under this title may redeem said dog within 48 hours from time of impounding by paying to the animal shelter the applicable fees as established in the City’s agreement with the animal shelter, if the animal is in the animal shelter, or otherwise, paying the City the applicable fees as established in this chapter or by resolution or ordinance of the City Council. For the first impound within a one-year period, the redemption fee is ~~\$50²⁵~~ and the dog will be microchipped by the animal shelter as a condition of release; for the second impound within a one-year period, the redemption fee is ~~\$75⁵⁰~~; for the third and subsequent impounds within a one-year period, the redemption fee is ~~\$100⁷⁵~~. In addition to the redemption fee, the redeemer shall pay as a boarding charge for the caring and keeping of such dog the boarding fees as established in the City’s agreement with the animal shelter which fees shall include ~~the sum of \$6 per day for each day~~ the first and last days that the dog is retained by the animal shelter and any licensing fees and penalties related to licensing. All fees and charges required pursuant to this Chapter must be paid prior to redeeming the dog. A dog may not be redeemed unless it is properly licensed. If an impounded dog is not redeemed by the owner within ~~72~~⁴⁸ hours, then any person may purchase it within the next ~~72~~⁴⁸ hours by complying with the animal shelter’s purchase provisions. ~~In case such dog is not redeemed within 96 hours of impoundment, it may be humanely euthanized or otherwise disposed of within the discretion of the animal shelter.~~

17.01.090 Redemption of livestock.

The owner of livestock impounded under this title may redeem said livestock within 48 hours from time of impounding by paying a redemption fee of ~~\$75³⁵~~ per animal for small livestock (i.e., goats, sheep, swine, ostriches, rhea, emu, etc.) and a redemption fee of ~~\$150⁷⁵~~ per animal for large livestock (i.e., cattle, horses, mules, llamas, etc.) to the animal shelter, if the animal is in the animal shelter; otherwise, to the City. In addition, the cost of a private livestock hauler, if one is used, is to be paid at the time of redemption. In addition to the redemption fee, the redeemer shall pay as a boarding charge for the caring and keeping of such animal ~~the sum of \$6~~ the boarding fees as established in the City’s agreement with the animal shelter as determined by the animal shelter for each day, ~~including~~ which fees shall include the first and last days that the animal is cared for at the animal shelter. The livestock may be cared for by a private boarding facility, in which case that facility’s boarding fees shall be paid by the redeemer to the City at the time of redemption.

17.01.100 Redemption of animals other than dogs and livestock.

The owner of any animal other than a dog or livestock impounded under the provisions of this title may redeem it within ~~72~~⁴⁸ hours from the time of impounding by paying a redemption fee of ~~\$25~~¹⁵ to the animal shelter, if the animal is in the animal shelter; otherwise, to the City. In addition to the redemption fee, the redeemer shall pay as a boarding charge for the caring and keeping of such animal ~~the sum of \$4 per day for each day, including the first and last days that the animal is retained by the animal shelter.~~ the boarding fees as established in the City's agreement with the animal shelter. ~~Microchips are mandatory upon impounding cats (not to include community cats by definition) at an animal shelter and the cost of the microchip shall be included in the fees designated by the animal shelter.~~ All fees and charges as established in the City's agreement with the animal shelter must be paid prior to redeeming a cat at the discretion of the animal shelter. A cat may not be redeemed unless it is properly licensed and microchipped by the animal shelter. ~~and community cats should not be returned until spayed or neutered. If such animal is not redeemed by the owner within 48 hours, it may be humanely euthanized or otherwise disposed of at the discretion of the animal shelter; provided, however, at the discretion of the animal shelter, any animal so impounded less than two months of age may be humanely euthanized or otherwise disposed of at any time after impounding.~~

17.01.110 Mandatory spay/neuter for impounded dogs and cats – exception.

A. No unaltered dog or cat that is impounded ~~more than once in any 12-month period~~ may be redeemed by any person until the animal is spayed or neutered. The alteration shall be accomplished by the animal shelter or by any duly licensed veterinarian in Pierce County authorized by the animal shelter. In all cases, the veterinarian fees shall be paid at the time of redemption by the animal's owner.

B. Exceptions. The alteration shall not be required upon a showing of proof of alteration from a licensed veterinarian. The alteration shall not be required if the owner or other person redeeming the animal provides a written statement from a licensed veterinarian stating that the spay or neuter procedure would be harmful to the animal. An unaltered animal must have an unaltered animal license with the City of Tacoma.

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17.01.130 Conditions of release.

The animal control authority may refuse to release to its owner any animal that has been impounded more than once in a 12-month period unless the owner demonstrates that they have ~~he or she has~~ taken steps to reasonably ensure that the violation will not occur again, and the animal has been spayed or neutered. The animal shelter or the animal control authority may impose reasonable conditions that must be satisfied by the owner before release of the animal, including conditions assuring that the animal will be confined. Failure to comply with the conditions of release is a violation.

Exceptions. The alteration shall not be required upon a showing of proof of alteration from a licensed veterinarian. The alteration shall not be required if the owner or other person redeeming the animal provides a written statement from a licensed veterinarian stating that the spay or neuter procedure would be harmful to the animal. An unaltered animal must have an unaltered animal license with the City of Tacoma.

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17.01.150 Duties upon injury or death to an animal – misdemeanor.

The operator of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury or death to a cat, dog, or livestock shall

immediately stop the vehicle at or as near to the scene of the accident as possible and return thereto, and shall give to the owner or other competent person having custody of the animal the name and address of the operator of the vehicle and the registration number of the vehicle involved in the accident. If the owner or other competent person is not the person at the scene of the accident, the operator shall take reasonable steps to locate the owner or custodian of the animal and shall supply the information hereinabove required. If the animal is injured to the extent that it requires immediate medical attention and there is no owner or custodian present to look after it, the operator of said vehicle shall immediately report the situation to the Tacoma Police Department. A person who violates this shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

CHAPTER 17.02 ANIMAL CONTROL

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17.02.030 Stray dog, cat, or animal.

Any stray dog, cat, or animal running at large within the City may be seized and impounded. For the purposes of this section, “stray dog,” “stray cat,” and “stray animal” shall mean and include any dog, cat, or animal loitering in a neighborhood or any public place without an apparent owner or home. Community cats located outside who have a caretaker are not considered “stray.”

* * *

17.02.035 Indoor Pigs.

- A. No person may keep or harbor more than ~~two~~ one (2) pigs as an indoor household pets at any residential property.
- B. No person may keep or harbor a pig weighing in excess of 100 pounds as an indoor household pet.
- C. No person may keep or harbor a pig that is not licensed, spayed/neutered, and microchipped by owner.
- D. No person may keep or harbor a pig used for breeding or consumption.
- E. No person may allow or cause any pig in that person’s ownership, possession, custody or control to enter or remain in a public place except when held or restrained securely on a leash.
- F. No person who owns, or is possession, custody or control of a pig, shall allow or cause the pig, due to noise, odor, damage or threats to public health, to unreasonably disturb or interfere with the peace, comfort and repose of owners or possessors of real property.

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17.02.085 Animals injuring domestic animals or livestock – misdemeanor.

The owner or other person having control or custody of any animal is guilty of a misdemeanor if they have possession, custody, or control of an animal that, because of the owner’s acts or omissions, causes serious or grave injury to a domestic animal or livestock which is acting in a lawful manner. Any such animal may be seized and impounded.

Any penalties imposed under this section are in addition to any penalties or civil remedies imposed in relation to a declaration that a dog is dangerous or potentially dangerous.

17.02.090 Animals injuring humans, ~~domestic animals, or livestock~~ – gross misdemeanor.

The owner or other person having control or custody of any animal is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if they have ~~he or she has~~ possession, custody, or control of an animal that, because of the owner’s ~~negligence, acts or omissions~~ causes serious or grave injury to a human, ~~domestic animal, or livestock~~ which is acting in a lawful manner. Any such animal may be seized and impounded.

Any penalties imposed under this section are in addition to any penalties or civil remedies imposed in relation to a declaration that a dog is dangerous or potentially dangerous.

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17.02.110 Directing dog to harass or attack public officer – gross misdemeanor – minimum mandatory.

It shall be unlawful for any person having control or custody of any dog to allow, direct, encourage, cause, or otherwise aid or assist any dog to threaten, charge, intimidate, bite, harass, menace, or attack any animal control or other public officer engaged in the conduct of their ~~his or her~~ duties. Any such animal may be seized and impounded. ~~Any~~ violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor and subject to a maximum penalty of \$5,000 or 365 days in jail, or both such fine and imprisonment. ~~and shall carry a minimum mandatory sentence of five days in jail and a fine of no less than \$1000.~~

“Public officer” means any general authority, limited authority, or specially commissioned Washington peace officer or federal peace officer, as those terms are defined in RCW 10.93.020, and other public officers who are responsible for enforcement of fire, building, zoning, and life and safety codes.

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CHAPTER 17.04
DANGEROUS DOGS AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS DOGS

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17.04.040 Permits and fees.

A. Within ten days following a declaration of potentially dangerous dog, and the exhaustion of any appeal therefrom, the owner of a potentially dangerous dog shall obtain a permit for such dog from the Finance Department of the City and shall be required to pay a fee for such permit in the amount of \$~~250~~300, have the dog implanted with a microchip, and provide the microchip number to the Finance Department of the City.

B. Any potentially dangerous dog is also subject to any additional conditions of confinement set forth in RCW 16.08, as now exists or as may be amended hereafter, including, but not limited to, posting of warning signs and maintenance of liability insurance coverage.

C. The owner of a potentially dangerous dog shall pay an annual renewal fee for such permit in the amount of \$~~100~~50 for two years. After two years, the permit requirement ends.

* * *

17.04.070 Confiscation and destruction of potentially dangerous dog.

Any potentially dangerous dog confiscated pursuant to this chapter shall be returned to the owner upon the owner's compliance with this chapter. ~~However, if the owner does not comply with the provisions of this chapter within 72 hours following confiscation of said dog, said dog shall be euthanized in an expeditious and humane manner, except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter.~~ The owner is subject to boarding charges as set forth in Section 17.01.080, in addition to all penalties set forth in this chapter. If the owner does not comply or seek to regain the potentially dangerous dog from confiscation, the animal shelter is required to alert potential adopters to the dog's status as potentially dangerous.

This section also applies to any dog declared dangerous under any prior ordinance and prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

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CHAPTER 17.05 DOG AND CAT LICENSES

17.05.010 License required.

A. It is a violation for any person to own, keep, or have control of a dog or cat over the age of eight weeks in the City, whether confined or not, without having a current license tag attached to a collar or harness which shall be worn by the cat or dog at all times; provided, that cats need not display a license identification tag if the cat is licensed and has been implanted with microchip identification and the microchip number is registered with the Finance Department of the City, and such microchip is acceptable to and readable by the animal control officer. All dogs must display a license tag in a public place regardless of whether or not the dog has been implanted with a microchip or tattooed with its license number. Provided, that while a dog or cat is competing in a sanctioned dog or cat show, it is not required to display its license tag while competing. Upon demand from an animal control officer or police officer, however, any person in possession of an animal competing in a sanctioned show must provide proof that the animal is licensed in accordance with this title.

B. Any person in possession of a dog or cat in a public place must, upon demand from an animal control officer or police officer, display the animal's license tag, except that a cat properly microchipped in accordance with this chapter need not display a tag, but must allow the officer to scan or read the microchip. Refusal to display the tag or to allow scanning or reading the microchip is a violation and the animal may be impounded.

C. Any person in possession of a dog or cat on private property that is not open to the public must, upon demand from an animal control officer or police officer, provide proof that the animal is licensed in accordance with this title.

D. ~~After August 1, 2002, absent proof of prior ownership, the~~ The following are the maximum number of dogs and cats which may be ~~licensed-owned~~ by a resident of the City or kept at a street address or physical location in the City:

1. Six dogs or six cats or any combination of dogs and cats totaling six animals.

2. After June 1, 2025, absent proof of prior ownership, only one of the total maximum number of dogs and cats owned by a person may be unaltered.

E. The maximum limits on dogs and cats at a street address or physical location does not apply to the facilities of the Humane Society or other animal shelter, veterinary hospitals, or kennel in compliance with this title.

17.05.012 Repealed. Puppies and kittens.

~~A. It is a violation to sell or give away puppies unless the puppies were born to a dog licensed as an unaltered animal.~~

~~B. It is a violation to sell or give away kittens unless the kittens were born to a cat licensed as an unaltered animal.~~

~~C. If the owner provides proof to the court that the dog or cat that bore the puppies or kittens was subsequently spayed and is currently licensed, the court shall consider this a mitigating factor in determining the whether to impose a penalty or the amount of any penalty that is imposed.~~

~~D. Any advertisement, sign, placard, or notice that puppies or kittens are available for sale or may be obtained free of charge must include the license tag number of the mother of the puppies or kittens. Failure to include the license tag information is a violation.~~

~~E. This section does not apply to the Humane Society or an animal shelter as defined in this title.~~

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17.05.015. Banning breeding, advertising, and sale of companion animals for profit

A. The Deliberate Breeding of Companion Animals for Profit is Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to breed, advertise, sell or offer for sale, any companion animal, for the purposes of profit without a current business license issued under 6B.20 in Tacoma Municipal Code. Violation of this subsection by any person or corporation shall be a civil infraction punishable by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per litter deliberately bred. Anyone found guilty of this provision may cure this fine by providing proof that all of the animals bred and their offspring have been spayed or neutered to the Animal Control Officer, via inspection of the animals in question and veterinary records, and that all breeding activity on the property has ceased.

B. Exception for Accidental Litters.

The prohibition on the deliberate breeding of companion animals for profit shall not apply to litters of companion animals which were bred due to accident, provided that the person responsible for the animals provides proof to the Animal Control Officer that the animals bred have been spayed or neutered.

* * *

17.05.040 Annual license fees.

The annual license fees for the ownership, keeping, or having control of dogs or cats in the City shall be as follows:

A. Adult Dogs and Cats:

Cat Altered	\$30 20
Cat Unaltered	\$175 65
Dog Altered	\$40 30
Dog Unaltered	\$175 65

B. Reduced rates for senior citizens, 65 years of age or older, ~~and~~ individuals with a permanent disability, and individuals who qualify for the Tacoma Public Utility Bill Credit Assistance Program:

Cat Altered	\$5
Cat Unaltered	\$100 35
Dog Altered	\$10
Dog Unaltered	\$100 35

* * *

C. License for Indoor Pig: \$40.00

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~~H.G.~~ In addition to the infraction penalty set forth in Section 17.05.070, any person who fails to obtain a license 30 days after the license expiration date but before 60 days of the expiration date shall pay a penalty of ~~\$15~~40 per license. Any person who fails to obtain a license after 60 days of the license expiration shall

pay a penalty of \$~~25~~²⁰ per license.

* * *

4. One replacement tag per license term will be given per animal at no fee, and each additional replacement tag shall be \$~~10~~⁵.00 each.

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