



**AGENDA SUMMARY
EUREKA CITY COUNCIL**

TITLE: AMENDMENT TO ANIMALS ORDINANCE

DEPARTMENT: CITY ATTORNEY

PREPARED BY: AUTUMN E. LUNA, ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

PRESENTED FOR: Action Information only Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

Waive reading, read by Title only and Introduce Bill No. 918-C.S., an Ordinance of the City of Eureka Amending Title IX Chapter 91, Sections 91.001 through 91.999 “Animals” of the Eureka Municipal Code.

FISCAL IMPACT

No Fiscal Impact Included in Budget Additional Appropriation

COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIC VISION

Eureka Municipal Code Update.

DISCUSSION

Eureka’s animal control officer, Officer Villareal, spearheaded the drafting of the amendments to Chapter 91 – Eureka’s Animal Code. As the lead enforcement officer for Chapter 91, Officer Villareal recognized the need for a complete overhaul of the Animal Code, which had not been updated in several decades. Working together with Captain Stephens and the City Attorneys’ office, Officer Villareal used her hands-on experience and local knowledge to draft an ordinance that would serve the needs of the community. The amended Chapter 91 represents more than a year’s work and brings Eureka’s Animal Code into compliance with both state law and current best practices.

Among the highlights are a streamlined hearing process, clear guidance on the number and types of animals allowed in the City, and additional tools to deal with both nuisance animals and their owners. The amended Animal Code is a user-friendly document that will allow both City staff and the public to quickly and clearly understand the City’s rules as they relate to animal care and control.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

- City Attorney
- City Clerk/Information Services
- Community Services
- Development Services
- Finance
- Fire
- Personnel
- Police
- Public Works