



**CITY OF BAY CITY
ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE
PROPOSED REVISIONS PRESENTED
AT JANUARY 13, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

ORIGINAL PROPOSED
ANIMAL CONTROL
ORDINANCE UPDATES
PRESENTED AT 8/26/2025
COUNCIL MEETING

PROPOSED REVISIONS
PRESENTED AT 1/13/2026
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
(NOT FINALIZED OR ADOPTED)

PET LIMITS
Limit of 5 cats and/or dogs per household (a) Grandfather clause: Citizens currently having more than the 5-pet limit may receive a one-time exemption, by providing information to be retained at the animal impound.
MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER
It shall be a violation to possess any unaltered dog or cat over the age of six (6) months old without an annual Breeding Animal Permit.
BREEDER PERMITS
All persons owing unaltered dog or cats over the age of six (6) months or who are selling, exchanging, or bartering animals pursuant are required to maintain a valid Breeding Animal Permit issued by the animal services.
MANDATORY MICROCHIPPING/REGISTRATION
The owner of a dog or cat six months of age or older shall have the dog or cat implanted with a microchip.



PET LIMITS
Pertain to cats and dogs only (5- Limit) Residents may obtain a <u>multi-pet permit</u> subject to meeting requirements in ordinance.
UNALTERED DOGS/CATS
All outdoor cats must be spayed or neutered. Enforcement of dogs/cats if found running at large 2x in 1 year must be spayed/neutered.
BREEDER PERMIT
Required to breed animals in the City to sell or exchange. Reduced permit fee if pure bred & micro-chipped.
IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS
Dog/cat <u>has option</u> to wear an ID tag if not micro-chipped Pet will not be released from pound without proper ID or Micro-Chip if found running at large

WHY WE'RE UPDATING OUR OUTDATED ORDINANCES

Current ordinance last updated in 2016, Increasing concerns regarding:

Stray Cat Population | Public Safety (animals on the loose) | Wildlife impacts

GOAL OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE UPDATES

Promote responsible pet ownership, improve community safety, & reduce the number of animals taken to the pound

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER TO DEVELOP UPDATES THAT ARE BALANCED + STRATEGIC

Reflects community input and Task Force collaboration

- **Balances public safety, compassion, and accountability**
- **Supports the City's Strategic Plan goals of quality of life, responsible growth, and community trust**
- **Provides clear, fair, and enforceable standards**
- **Positions Bay City for long-term, sustainable animal welfare solutions**

YOUR FEEDBACK MAKES A DIFFERENCE:

The Animal Control Ordinance (ACO) Task Force used information collected from the ACO Public Survey and from 12/16/2025 Public Input Session to revise the Proposed ACO Updates. Your questions, comments and concerns were used to revise and update the proposed ordinance.

These revisions were presented during the 1/13/2026 City of Bay City Council Meeting.

To review complete ACO Ordinance Revisions visit

<https://baycitytx.portal.civicclerk.com/event/903/files/agenda/1820>

PROPOSED ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE UPDATES TIMELINE

- **August 26, 2025** – Animal Control Ordinance Task Force presents proposed ordinance updates at City Council Meeting
- **September 23, 2025** – City launches Animal Control Ordinance Public Survey
- **September 26, 2025** – City Manager issues update to inform public and clarify no ordinance has been adopted.
- **October 17, 2025** – Animal Control Ordinance Survey closes
- **December 9, 2025** - Animal Control Ordinance Survey results presented at City Council Meeting
- **December 16, 2025** – City hosts Animal Control Ordinance Public Input Session
- **January 13, 2026** – Revised Proposed Animal Control Ordinance presented to City Council
- **January 27, 2026** – Updated Proposed Animal Control Ordinance revisions to be presented at City Council Meeting

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