



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Roberto C. Treviño, Councilmember District 1
COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Andy Segovia, City Attorney; John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to City Council
SUBJECT: Strengthening the Animal Fastening Ordinance
DATE: 9th December 2016

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

A directive to City staff to develop for Council consideration an ordinance that includes the following additions or amendments to Section 5-20 of the City Code: a ban on the use of tethers composed primarily of chain-link; a requirement that an animal's collar be at least the circumference of the animal's neck plus one inch; an amendment to the maximum weight tether to one-tenth the animal's weight; a ban on the tethering of puppies, as defined in Section 5-1 of the City Code; a ban on tethering sick or injured animals; a ban on tethering animals in unsafe or unsanitary conditions; a requirement that tethered animals have access to at least 150 square feet of unobstructed free space; a requirement that tethered animals have access to clean water and dry ground; and a limitation that animals may not be tethered for more than 14 consecutive hours. Additionally, the ordinance should include an amendment to Section 5-1 to include enforceable definitions for terms included in the measures above.

Brief Background

Confining animals by rope, chain, or cord remains a common practice in San Antonio, and Animal Care Services receives frequent requests for help for animals confined in cruel or unsafe conditions. These proposed amendments to Chapter 5 of the City Code are common-sense measures that will strengthen our existing ordinance and protect dogs and other animals from inhumane treatment. Education remains a core component of combating animal neglect and abuse in San Antonio, and these measures should not be construed as taking the place of ongoing or future responsible-ownership education efforts by the City and its partners.

Submitted for Council consideration by:


Councilman Roberto C. Treviño, District 1



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Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only)

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