From: Guillen, Jenorgen
To: Herbello, Evelyn
Subject: FW: Cat program

**Date:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:31:28 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

#### One more.

#### Feel free to reach me with any questions or concerns.

#### Kind Regards,

## Jenorgen M. Guillen City Clerk

City of Hallandale Beach | 400 South Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach, FL 33009 Tel: (954) 457-1469 | Fax: (954) 457-1454 | <u>iquillen@cohb.org</u> | <u>www.cohb.org</u>



From: London, Keith

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:02 PM

**To:** Guillen, Jenorgen <jguillen@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Merino, Jennifer <jmerino@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Rafols, Nydia M <nrafols@cohb.org>

**Cc:** cycab1@gmail.com; Butler, Michael <mbutler@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Dally, Richard <rdally@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Lazarow, Michele <mlazarow@hallandalebeachfl.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Cat program

### City clerk,

I believe I have received approximately three emails regarding this proposed ordinance I am forwarding all three of them to you.

Please make this an official part of the meeting minutes as public comments.

Thank you and advance and please confirm receipt of this email.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Mayor Keith S. London | City of Hallandale Beach | 400 S. Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach, FL 33009

| C: <u>954.494.3182</u> | O: <u>954.457.1315</u>

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 7:24 PM, Lazarow, Michele < mlazarow@hallandalebeachfl.gov > wrote:

Hi Cynthia.

I have copied Commissioners Butler and Dally.

I will read this and contact you tomorrow.

Michele Lazarow | City of Hallandale Beach | 400 S. Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach, FL 33009

Vice Mayor | Tel: 954-457-1320 | Mobile: 305-607-5683

Follow us on: Twitter | Facebook | www.cohb.org | Report a Concern via our MyHB App

<image001.jpg><image002.jpg>

On Jul 30, 2018, at 7:16 PM, Cynthia Cabrera < cycab1@gmail.com > wrote:

#### Commissioners.

I reached out to Commissioner Taub in the email below requesting information about her agenda item but have not received a response. In the absence of a response, I wanted to share my concerns with the rest of you, though I could not locate email addresses for Dally & Butler on the city's website.

- 1. What is the purpose of this agenda item? Creating more government regulations that also create the need for management of said registrations is unnecessary if there is no net benefit.
- 2. Why is city government intervention necessary when the private sector is already feeding and trapping and releasing cats?
- 3. The Ordinance is unclear.
- 4. The ordinance calls for financially penalizing "caretakers" who fail to register; implying to me that this a way of taxing residents who are already doing what this program purports to do.
- 5. What is the benefit disincentivizing residents who already spend their own money and resources to feed and support local cats?
- 6. This ordinance does not mention anything about a city-supported TNR program. Please note the comments below from Broward County's website on cat management programs:

It is important to note that community cat programs should be considered as just one component of a multi-pronged approach to cat issues in the community served. A comprehensive approach requires that community cat stakeholder groups be engaged and any program be implemented in partnership with other TNRM, RTF or relocation programs, and with low/no cost sterilization programs. Any cat program implemented in isolation is less likely to be successful and often will not efficiently utilize whatever resources are available to support cats, whether community cats or owned cats.

https://www.aspca.org/about-us/aspca-policy-and-position-statements/position-statement-community-cats-and-community-cat

- 7. What are the other components of this program?
- 8. Were residents consulted for input on this issue?
- 9. Have the potential unintended consequences been considered? Is there a white paper or document that explores this issue in depth?

Most residents support programs that help animals but this proposal does not appear to be fully fleshed out. It would be far more beneficial for the city to promote a comprehensive TNR program than to attempt to manage the feeding of cats. The value of the city implementing a solution to manage overpopulation far outweighs a half-baked plan that complicates something that is already working.

To be fair, I make these comments because I don't know more about the program but I plan to attend the meeting on Wednesday to, hopefully, learn more.

Sincerely, Cynthia Cabrera 954 646 1665

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cynthia Cabrera** <<u>cycab1@gmail.com</u>>

Date: Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 5:37 PM

Subject: Cat program

To: <ataub@hallandalebeachfl.gov>

Hi Commissioner,

I noticed that on the agenda for the upcoming city commission meeting there is an item regarding a cat management program and I was wondering where I could get more information about the proposed program.

Thanks in advance, Cynthia From: <u>Guillen, Jenorgen</u>
To: <u>Herbello, Evelyn</u>

Subject: FW: Urgent: Cat Feeding Ordinance

Date: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:02:22 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Please make the email below part of tonight's meeting.

Feel free to reach me with any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards,

## Jenorgen M. Guillen City Clerk

City of Hallandale Beach | 400 South Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach, FL 33009 Tel: (954) 457-1469 | Fax: (954) 457-1454 | <u>iquillen@cohb.org</u> | <u>www.cohb.org</u>



From: London, Keith

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:01 PM

**To:** Andi Kola <akol3154@gmail.com>; Guillen, Jenorgen <jguillen@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Merino, Jennifer <jmerino@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Rafols, Nydia M <nrafols@cohb.org>

**Cc:** Lazarow, Michele <mlazarow@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Butler, Michael

<mbutler@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Dally, Richard <rdally@hallandalebeachfl.gov>

Subject: Re: Urgent: Cat Feeding Ordinance

City clerk,

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Sincerely,

**Mayor Keith S. London** | City of Hallandale Beach | <u>400 S. Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach</u>, FL 33009

| C: <u>954.494.3182</u> | O: <u>954.457.1315</u>

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2018, at 9:31 PM, Andi Kola <<u>akol3154@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

**Dear Commissioner Taub:** 

My name is Andi Kola, I am a local cat rescuer / activist in Broward County. I am reaching out today regarding the proposed cat feeding registration ordinance.

As a fellow cat lover and community helper of 6 years, I hope you reconsider brining this ordinance up for a vote.

I believe the community would be very frustrated over this ordinance, as it is a step backwards for cats.

If passed, the ordinance would be critically detrimental to cats. Many residents will choose to stop feeding the cats and the cats will starve and die.

Furthermore, as has been demonstrated in the few other cities who have went down this route, the majority of feeders will not comply with the ordinance and will continue to feed.

This will cause unnecessary friction which cats do need right now. They are already attacked from many other angles as it is, and this ordinance adds on to the list of hardships cats face to their survival.

The most efficient and proven method to deal with resident complaints is to fix each of the very limited cases individually.

If you would like, I can ask someone from Best Friends, Alley Cats, or the ASPCA to reach out to you to discuss the specifics further.

Sincerely, Andi Kola 954-901-1309 From: <u>Guillen, Jenorgen</u>
To: <u>Herbello, Evelyn</u>

**Subject:** FW: Important information on Cat Feeding Ordinance

**Date:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:02:04 PM

Attachments: GREAT NON PROFIT 2014-top-rated-awards-badge4.png

2016 great\_nonprofit\_TRbadge-lg6.png Great\_Non\_Profit\_2017\_badge.png amazon\_smile\_logo.7.png amazon\_smile\_text8.png image001.png

### Evelyn,

Please make the email below part of the minutes for tonight's meeting.

Feel free to reach me with any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards,

## Jenorgen M. Guillen City Clerk

City of Hallandale Beach | 400 South Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach, FL 33009 Tel: (954) 457-1469 | Fax: (954) 457-1454 | jquillen@cohb.org | www.cohb.org



From: London, Keith

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:00 PM

**To:** rozmail@earthlink.net; Guillen, Jenorgen <jguillen@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Merino,

Jennifer <jmerino@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Rafols, Nydia M <nrafols@cohb.org>

Cc: Lazarow, Michele <mlazarow@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Butler, Michael

<mbutler@hallandalebeachfl.gov>; Dally, Richard <rdally@hallandalebeachfl.gov>

Subject: Re: Important information on Cat Feeding Ordinance

#### City clerk,

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Sincerely,

**Mayor Keith S. London** | City of Hallandale Beach | 400 S. Federal Highway | Hallandale Beach, FL 33009

| C | 054 404 2102 | C | 054 455

| C: <u>954.494.3182</u> | O: <u>954.457.1315</u>

## Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 1, 2018, at 9:21 AM, "rozmail@earthlink.net" <rozmail@earthlink.net" wrote:

#### Commissioner Taub,

I'm writing to with information concerning the feeding of community cats. Many national advocacy groups with years of scientific research behind them have evidence that such bans are not effective, waste tax dollars and actually create much bigger problems in the community. As a community we should support our feeders, as they are doing all they can to reduce population, and have taken on financial responsibility for the medical care of the cats and their food while implementing population reducing TNR with Broward County's support.

To date, Broward County has done over 13,000 free community cat spay/neuter surgeries and the program is fairly young. As it grows and more surgeries take place, its benefits including better cat behavior and population reduction will become more and more evident - while a feeding ban will only have a negative impact on proven science that solves community cat problems.

I am hopeful that armed with this kind of information, you will not pursue a feeding ban - and hopefully find ways to increase support for TNR in Hallandale Beach, which Broward County has already embraced as the best solution.

## Per **HSUS.org**: **Feeding Bans**

- Community cats are cared for by volunteer resident caretakers who
  happen upon them. These caretakers should not be penalized for
  their goodwill, and for volunteering their time and donating their
  resources. Policies that impose penalties on caretakers are barriers
  to sound community cat management.
- The logic behind banning the feeding of outdoor cats is that if no one feeds them, they will go away. However, this doesn't work because cats are strongly bonded to their home territories and will not easily or quickly leave familiar surroundings to search for new food sources. Instead, they tend to move closer to homes and businesses as they grow hungrier, leading to more nuisance complaint calls, greater public concern for the cats' welfare, and underground feeding by residents. People who feed cats will ignore the ban, even at great personal risk, and enforcement is extremely difficult, resource intensive, and unpopular.

"Bans on feeding feral cats do nothing to manage their numbers. Bans force feral cats to forage though trash cans and kill wildlife, such as birds,

squirrels, and rabbits. Establishing feeding stations ensures a healthier colony and allows a human being to interact with the colony and provide care for any cat that is under stress or who needs medical attention. Feeding stations also bring feral cats to a central location and help establish a trust, making trapping [for sterilization] an easier task."

—Wayne H. Thomas, Councilman, Hampstead, MD

"As a nation, we have over 50 years witnessing the ineffectiveness of trap and kill programs and their inability to reduce community cat numbers. It's time we try the only method documented to work—TNR."

—Miguel Abi-hassan, Executive Director, Halifax Humane Society, Daytona Beach, FL

### Per www.humanesociety.org:

## Why don't feeding bans eliminate community cats?

The logic behind bans on feeding feral cats is that if there is no food available, the cats will go away. This rarely happens.

First, cats are territorial animals who can survive for weeks without food and will not easily or quickly abandon their territory. As they grow hungrier and more desperate, they tend to venture closer to homes and businesses in search of food. Despite the effort to starve them out, the cats will also continue to reproduce, resulting in the deaths of many kittens.

Second, feeding bans are nearly impossible to enforce. A person who is determined to feed the cats will usually succeed without being detected. Repeated experience has shown that people who care about the cats will go to great lengths, risking their homes, jobs and even their liberty to feed starving animals. In addition, there may be more than one feeder and other sources of food, including dumpsters, garbage cans and other animals.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Per www.alleycat.org: (HTTPS://www.alleycat.org/resources/feeding-ban-position-statement/)

# Feeding Ban Position Statement Cats and

Position
Statement
Cats and
the Law

Alley Cat Allies opposes feeding bans for feral cats. These bans are inherently cruel and do not come close to achieving their intended goals. Feeding ban laws, ordinances, and policies are misguided policy and are wholly ineffective.

## Feeding bans do not work, and are not scientifically supported.

Attempts to eradicate feral cats by starvation fail because there are other food sources that are a by-product of urban and suburban environments. Feral cat populations' density and locations are not contingent on individuals intentionally providing food for the cats. <sup>1,2</sup> Studies have shown that other sources of food are always available – including food scraps in household trash and municipal garbage facilities. <sup>3</sup> Cats are territorial and bond to their surroundings. As scavengers, they can find food in garbage cans and dumpsters.

In certain situations, feral cats who have been fed on a consistent schedule can become dependent on their caregivers for food, and in these cases, to abruptly discontinue care is cruel and can lead to the death of some cats. But cats will not disappear simply because compassionate people can no longer legally feed them.

Feeding bans encourage cats to roam further to find food, making them more visible, which can actually increase calls to animal control. Managing a colony with a program that includes Trap-Neuter-Return and consistent, organized feeding discourages roaming because neutered males are no longer searching for mates, and there is decreased competition for dominance rank. Cats who are fed on a regular schedule tend to stay in close proximity to their feeding stations. Feeders can also exercise control over the behavior of feral cats, by gradually moving their feeding stations into less-trafficked areas.

Feeding bans discourage the practice of Trap-Neuter-Return, the only effective course of action for stabilizing the feral cat population. Scientific studies as well as decades of hands-on experience show that Trap-Neuter-Return programs work to end the breeding cycle, improve the cats' health, and make them better neighbors by ending mating behaviors. <sup>5</sup>

With a feeding ban in place, Trap-Neuter-Return is impossible to carry out, and the cats continue to have new litters of kittens.

Feeding bans punish the very people who are working to improve conditions for the cats and for the community. In the last 20 years, the number of local nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping feral cats in the community has grown to over 250 nationwide. Hundreds of thousands of Americans, spending their own time and money, organize low-cost spay/neuter clinics, carry out Trap-Neuter-Return programs and organize foster programs for adoptable cats and kittens. These Good Samaritans are an asset to the community. Feeding bans force their work into secrecy.

Feeding bans are difficult to enforce; compassionate people will continue to help the cats. They are also complaint-driven, and rapidly deteriorate

into a situation of extreme cruelty, with no net benefit to the community.

Feeding bans ignore the real problem—the lack of affordable spay/neuter services in the community. Feeding bans are punitive and tend to direct resources towards administrative tasks like enforcement and away from incentive-based programs that encourage spay/neuter. Ineffective ordinances, like feeding bans, are a waste of taxpayer dollars.

Alley Cat Allies encourages communities to reject cruel, punitive, and ineffective ordinances and instead to embrace humane programs that really work to stabilize the population and keep cats out of animal shelters, including Trap-Neuter-Return for feral cats and subsidize and low-cost spay/neuter for all cats.

Many thanks for your consideration if this information, and if I can be of service to help provide any other details or references on community cat management, please let me know.

Sincerely, Roz Harris

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Roz Harris, Founder

FRIENDS of Broward County Animal Care & Adoption, Inc.

A non-profit 501(c)3 organization registered with the I.R.S.

Federal Tax ID# 46-2985926 / Registration Number :CH39278

RozHarris@FriendsofBrowardAnimalCareandAdoption.com

321-229-1801 - Cell & Text

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<guidestar\_silver5.gif> <2016\_great\_nonprofit\_TRbadge-lg6.png>

<Great\_Non\_Profit\_2017\_badge.png>

FACEBOOK LINK:

https://www.facebook.com/FRIENDSBrowardCountyAnimalCareandAdoption

WEBSITE LINK: <a href="http://friendsofbrowardanimalcareandadoption.com/">http://friendsofbrowardanimalcareandadoption.com/</a>

TWITTER LINK: <a href="https://twitter.com/FriendsBrwdPets">https://twitter.com/FriendsBrwdPets</a>

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