



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
21st City Council

PO21CC-551

97th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- **3132**, S-2022

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE QUEZON CITY ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*Introduced by Councilors FRANZ S. PUMAREN and DONATO
"Donny" C. MATIAS.*

WHEREAS, it is one of the declared policies of the State, as stated under Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8485, otherwise known as "The Animal Welfare Act of 1998", aims to protect and promote the welfare of all animals in the Philippines by supervising and regulating the establishment and operations of all facilities utilized for breeding, maintaining, keeping, treating or training of all animals either as objects of trade or as household pets;

WHEREAS, Section 458 (4)(viii) of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, empowers the City Council of each city to regulate the keeping of animals in homes, or as part of a business;

WHEREAS, it is the declared policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people. Towards this end, a system for the control, prevention of the spread and eventual eradication of human and animal rabies shall be provided and the need for responsible pet ownership established;

WHEREAS, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9482, otherwise known as the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007", states that pet owners must keep their pets on a leash when they are in public in order to keep them from harm, as well as to keep them from harming others, and to prevent them from roaming around the streets;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9482 provides that "there shall be a National Rabies Prevention and Control Program to be implemented by a multi-agency/multi-sectoral committee chaired by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture". The program shall be a multi-agency effort in controlling and eliminating rabies in the country. Among its competent activities include: (1) mass vaccination of dogs; (2) establishment of a central database system for registered and vaccinated dogs; (3) impounding, field control and disposition of unregistered, roaming and unvaccinated dogs; (4) conduct of information and education campaign on the prevention and control of rabies and the program shall be implemented by the Local Government Units (LGU's), among others;

WHEREAS, Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9482 states that among the responsibilities of the LGUs, in their respective localities, are: to ensure that all dogs are properly immunized, registered and issued a corresponding dog tag for every immunized and registered dog; strictly enforce dog impounding activities and field control to eliminate roaming dogs; and ensure that dogs are leashed or confined within the premises of the owner's house or owner's fenced surroundings;

WHEREAS, under the same act, dog catchers and employees of the city pound are authorized to catch roaming and/or loose dogs running around in public using humane methods;

WHEREAS, owned dogs out in public that are not under the control and supervision of their owner (i.e. owned dog allowed to roam the streets without a leash and without his owner, owned dog is just outside the owner's gate but with no leash, accidentally ran out) are immediately considered roaming dogs and are to be rescued for the public's safety. Animal control officers and dog catchers will attempt to locate the rightful owners and issue appropriate citation tickets. Unidentified dogs are to be rescued and be brought to the government facilities;

WHEREAS, animals which are roaming, unleashed and/or unconfined, pose a public health hazard as exemplified by the intolerable incidence of rabies caused by animal bites;

WHEREAS, the city has an existing dog pound located at Barangay Payatas, a government funded facility where roaming cats and dogs are impounded for a certain period of time and where unclaimed dogs are cared for and later declared open for adoption or euthanized;

WHEREAS, Section 43 of Ordinance No. SP-2505, S-2016 states that impounded animals not claimed after three (3) days are euthanized and/or shall be open for adoption;

WHEREAS, the City has recently opened a new dog pound located at Empire View Subdivision in Barangay Payatas, where the Quezon City Animal Care and Adoption Center (QC-ACAC) shall be located;

WHEREAS, the City Veterinary Department shall train animal control officers on basic dog training and handling to facilitate the rehabilitation of impounded dogs or cats that will be selected for rehoming and be put up for adoption considering that every animal deserves a second chance and a loving family, especially since dogs and cats are known to be good companion animals, and they are classified as domestic animals that can live harmoniously with humans;

WHEREAS, the City Veterinary Department shall develop adoption and homing policies for impounded dogs and cats which has not been claimed for more than three (3) days after their capture;

WHEREAS, the City shall launch a city-wide campaign highlighting the program of "Adoption of Impounded Dogs and Cats from the QC-ACAC."

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known and referred to as the "Quezon City Animal Care and Adoption Center."

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS. - For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms are hereby defined:

- a. *Roaming Animals* - refer to domesticated or large cattle animal/s roaming or loitering around the streets and other public places not on leash, unattended, unrestrained or no longer under the effective control of its owner or handler.
- b. *Owner* - refers to any individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association or any other legal entity having the right of property, custody or possession over an animal; or who keeps or harbors an animal; or knowingly permits an animal to remain on or about any premises, occupied, owned or controlled by that individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association or any other legal entity.
- c. *Euthanasia* - animal euthanasia is the act of killing an animal or allowing it to die by withholding extreme medical measures.
- d. *Impound* - refers to the act of holding of an animal in the animal shelter.

- e. *Pound - refers to a government funded facility where roaming dogs and cats are impounded for a certain period until they are claimed by their owners, put for adoption or euthanized.*
- f. *Adoption - pet adoption is the process of taking responsibility for a pet that a previous owner has abandoned or released to a shelter or rescue organization.*
- g. *Rehoming - refers to the process of looking for a new home for the impounded animals.*

SECTION 3. IMPOUNDING OF ANIMALS. - The City Veterinarian, the City Health Officer or their designated agents shall rescue any roaming animals and be brought to the QC-ACAC. During the period of impoundment, the City Veterinary Department shall provide such veterinary care for an injured or ill impounded animal as may be reasonably necessary to sustain its life.

SECTION 4. ADOPTION OF DOGS AND CATS. - Unregistered, roaming, unvaccinated dogs and cats, whether tagged or untagged, shall be put in the City's pound or QC-ACAC. Rescued dogs and cats not claimed within three (3) days after capture or impoundment, if qualified to be tame and sound, shall be placed for adoption in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. SP-2505, S-2016, otherwise known as the Quezon City Veterinary Code, and R.A. No. 8485, otherwise known as the "Animal Welfare Act of 1998."

The City Veterinary Department shall develop adoption and rehoming policies and guidelines in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 5. DEVELOPMENT OF QC-ACAC. - The City Veterinary Department shall launch a program highlighting the new project of Adoption of Rescued Dogs and Cats from the QC pound. He/She shall appoint and train a staff that will handle social media accounts dedicated to rehoming of pets whose functions, among others, is to advertise each and every dog or cat that are ready for adoption, to screen adopters, and facilitate the entire adoption process.

SECTION 6. FUNDING. - The City shall appropriate an initial amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php1,500,000.00) for the initial operations of the Animal Care and Adoption Center from any available City Funds for the purpose of the implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance. For the succeeding calendar years, the budget for the implementation of this Ordinance shall be included in the appropriations of the City Veterinary Department.

SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - If any provision or part hereof is held to be invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof, which are not affected thereby shall remain valid.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE. - All Ordinances, Resolutions, Executive Orders, Memorandum Circulars and Administrative Orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. - The City Veterinarian and the City Health Officer shall jointly formulate the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED: June 27, 2022.


ERIC Z. MEDINA
Minority Floor Leader
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

APPROVED: JUL 25 2022


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on June 27, 2022 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading under Suspended Rules on the same date.


Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

9

