

Understanding the Public Animal Sales + Transfer Ordinance

Strengthening Consumer Protection and Community Resources



As Murfreesboro continues to grow, it's important that the city takes proactive steps to protect the community standards and quality of life that make it a desirable place to live, work, and raise families. With growth can come increased commercial activity, including certain animal-related sales practices that may raise concerns related to consumer protection, animal welfare, and strain on community resources.

This proposed ordinance is designed to address those concerns proactively by promoting responsible practices, supporting public trust, and helping ensure Murfreesboro remains a safe, stable, and well-managed community.

What the Ordinance Addresses

Public Animal Sales

Addresses high-risk animal sales occurring in temporary public spaces with limited oversight

Responsible Ownership

Supports clearer community standards that encourage responsible pet ownership practices

Retail Pet Store Sales

Would prohibit retail dog/cat sales in pet stores, helping prevent large-scale commercial pet retail operations

Overpopulation Prevention

Encourages practices that help reduce unwanted litters and long-term shelter strain

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lawssavingpaws.org/murfreesboro.

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What this ordinance is... and what it *isn't*

Animal overpopulation impacts shelters, rescues, neighborhoods, veterinary resources, and the wellbeing of animals throughout the community. Without stronger prevention efforts and greater public awareness, communities often remain stuck responding to the effects of overpopulation rather than addressing the causes.

The proposed ordinance is intended to support more sustainable, proactive solutions through education, accountability, and responsible ownership practices.

what it **is**

- ✓ Designed to support long-term community solutions
- ✓ Focused on prevention and responsible ownership
- ✓ A proactive approach to animal welfare
- ✓ Intended to help reduce shelter and rescue strain

what it **isn't**

- ✓ A punishment for responsible breeders
- ✓ A ban on ethical, responsible breeding
- ✓ An attempt to eliminate all animal transfers or rehoming
- ✓ A reactive short-term measure

Make your voice heard

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