

Recommended Policy Directions

- The following bylaw directions will guide future policy for the new Animal Licensing and Control Bylaw in the four key themes identified.
- The proposed bylaw will be presented on August 11, 2025, based on feedback to this report.
- This bylaw aims to establish a system of licensing and control for animals within the City while promoting responsible pet ownership.

Animal Welfare Offences		
Item	Bylaw	Direction for Bylaw
1.0	Part I	Include regulations for abandoned animals by incorporating and aligning with the standards of the <i>Animal Protection Act</i> , and advancing regulations to fill any gaps in existing welfare legislation in line with current practices across municipalities
1.1	Part I, Part V	Prohibit animals from being left unattended, or exposed to injurious temperatures, or health-threatening situations, including provisions for confined spaces, proper ventilation, and protection from the elements
1.2	Part I, Part V	Prohibit the transportation of animals on a roadway in an unsecured manner

Dog Attacks and Bites						
Item	Bylaw	Direction for Bylaw				
2.0	Part III	Adapt the following offence structure for dog attacks:	Dogs		Restricted Dogs	
			Base	Subsequent Offence	Base	Subsequent Offence
		A. Damage property or chase any person or animal	\$250	\$500	\$2,500	\$5,000
		B. Attack or bite any person or animal causing physical injury	\$500	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
		C. Attack or bite any animal causing serious injury	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
		D. Attack or bite any person causing serious injury, or animal causing death	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$10,000
2.1	Part III	Impose a mandatory reporting requirement for dog bite incidents by owners.				

Restricted Dog Regulations		
Item	Bylaw	Direction for Bylaw
3.0	Part I	Adapt a restricted dog classification threshold to include one conviction under offence C or D, or two convictions under B as per Item 2.0 Part III
3.1	Part III	Require all restricted dogs to be microchipped
3.2	Part III	Impose mandatory dog training for restricted dogs where appropriate
3.3	Part III	<p>Allow an internal review process for restricted dogs based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with all licensing requirements for a consecutive three-year period following the restricted dog designation • No history of other animal-related bylaw offences within a consecutive three-year period following the restricted dog designation • Proof of completion of training that is satisfactory to the City Manager or delegated authority • With an appeal process to the Community Standards and Licence Appeal Committee (CSLAC)

Cat Regulations		
Item	Bylaw	Direction for Bylaw
4.0	Part I	Include the following definitions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feral Cat - a cat found in the City of Edmonton that has no owner, is not socialized and is extremely fearful or resistant to humans Feral Cat Colony - a collective term, referring to a group of mostly or all feral cats in the City of Edmonton that congregate as a unit
4.1	Part IV	Include a definition to allow trap-neuter-return (TNR) programs for feral cats or other animals in the City
4.2	Part I, Part IV	Include a definition and regulations to allow the City to operate a return-to-field (RTF) program that may return unowned cats to the location where they were found following the provision of medical care and sterilization
4.3	Part IV	Include an exemption for unowned and feral cats from licensing requirements
4.4	Part I	Create a distinction between owned and unowned cats
4.5	Part IV	Amend the offence for cats roaming on private property to only apply to owned cats