

Bylaw 19553

Amendments to Prohibit the Feeding of Wildlife

Recommendation

That Community and Public Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That Bylaw 19553 be given the appropriate readings.

Purpose

To amend the Community Standards Bylaw 14600, Public Places Bylaw 14614 and the Parkland Bylaw 2202, to create a section and increase the fine for feeding wildlife or creating public safety, health risk or nuisance conditions on private and public property without permission.

Readings

Bylaw 19553 is ready for three readings.

A majority vote of City Council on all three readings is required for passage.

If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 19553 be considered for third reading.”

Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the December 7, 2020, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration prepare amendments to the Animal Control and Licensing Bylaw 13145 and/or the Community Standards Bylaw 14600 to implement amendments as generally outlined in Option 5 and Attachment 2 of the November 13, 2020, Citizen Services report CR_7849.

Report Summary

The City's current bylaws do not address complaints arising from inappropriate feeding of wildlife or other behaviours that create or lead to nuisance conditions. Amendments to the Community Standards Bylaw 14600, Public Places Bylaw 14614 and the Parkland Bylaw 2202 will create sections and set fine amounts ranging from \$250 to \$500 to regulate the feeding of wildlife and the creation of nuisance conditions. The proposed amendments will also allow Administration to remediate land or nuisance conditions and recover the costs of remedial actions as allowable under the *Municipal Government Act*.

Report

Research indicates that inappropriate feeding of wildlife in an urban setting can lead to a number of unintended consequences including habituation or food conditioning, harmful impacts to local ecosystems, creating public and private nuisance property conditions, and an increased likelihood of unsafe wildlife interactions for citizens and pets.

In December 2020, City Council directed Administration to bring forward bylaw amendments to address extreme situations where human interaction leads to cases where the inappropriate feeding of wildlife contributes to unsafe, unsanitary or nuisance property conditions.

Administration recommends that new sections be added to the Community Standards Bylaw 14600, Public Places Bylaw 14614 and the Parkland Bylaw 2202 to specifically deal with these types of activities, behaviours or conditions. The fines for these violations are recommended to be set at \$250, and \$500 as outlined in the attached bylaw. These amounts would be both proportional to the offence and consistent with other jurisdictions.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s): Edmonton is a Safe City			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Pursue operational excellence	Average ratio of the number of Wildlife (Bylaw) complaints compared to overall complaint volume	2018/2019: 6.78	Reduction of Wildlife complaints per total volume.
Understand citizen and City needs	Average ratio of coyotes sightings/aggressive coyotes/general coyote complaints received per 1000 citizens	2018/2019: 2.02	Reduction of sightings/complaints per 1000 citizens

Budget/Financial Implications

Administration anticipates that associated costs with increased education and awareness campaigns or enforcement efforts can be covered within existing budgets.

Legal Implications

Authority for these bylaw amendments is granted by the *Municipal Government Act*.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 19553

Others Reviewing this Report

- C. Owen, Deputy City Manager, Communications and Engagement
- M. Persson, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy City Manager, Financial and Corporate Services
- B. Andriachuk, City Solicitor