

From: Sue Myers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 7:44 AM
To: Heidi Hugdahl <HHugdahl@crgov.com>
Cc: Dave Corliss <DCorliss@crgov.com>; Bob Slentz <BSlentz@crgov.com>; Caryn Johnson <CJohnson@crgov.com>
Subject: Re: Goats and pot-bellied pigs

Hello Heidi,

Thank you for responding to my email note and for taking my phone call Monday morning. It is apparent that the council has done much work to research the potential animal code change and to educate Castle Rock residents regarding this consideration. Since our conversation, I have done some additional reading on the topic and have some follow-up questions and concerns.

First, on page 1 of the Open House recap, one of the bullet points states that the code amendment would require owners to keep goats or pigs confined to their yards. I didn't get that perspective when we spoke so could you please clarify? My primary concern is that when I go into Castle Rock to enjoy dinner, attend the fun events the town hosts, or stroll down the sidewalk I'd prefer not to be in subject to pet swine, livestock or ducks. If residents want to own these types of animals can they do so without bringing them into public areas as 6.02.320 of the current CR Animal Control Ordinance states? Would there be any reason to have these animals in our streets, parks, or other public areas?

Second, given the research that was conducted with the 45 HOA communities, how many of those communities allow pigs, goats, or ducks? What percentage of the Castle Rock population live in covenant-controlled communities and how does that compare to the number of residents who have requested the animal code change? I concur with the statement that people who want to own this type of swine or livestock should live in areas where they are permitted without subjecting neighbors and other town residents to the noise, smell and potential mess of these animals.

Third, twelve municipalities were highlighted as allowing or exploring pigs and or goats in certain zone districts. Are these zone districts rural residential or agricultural districts? Are the animals allowed in parks and public places? It's noted that no municipalities that prohibit these animals were identified in the Animal Code Open House notes. In 2014 Broomfield conducted a study in which 23 cities were surveyed. At that time 11 allowed keeping potbellied pigs and 12 prohibited them. Of the cities that allowed them, the pigs were limited to 70 pounds which is 30 pounds less than the proposed Castle Rock amendment. Some concerns from that study: *"The Broomfield Police Department has also expressed these same concerns. Although a potbellied pig is cute when young, many people neglect to research how large they can grow. It can be difficult and dangerous to try to remove large pigs if they have escaped or have been abandoned. Some animals can weigh 200 lbs. and present a hazard to animal officers trying to remove or capture them. When pigs grow too large, they are sometimes abandoned. No shelter or rescue facilities exist for pigs as they do for dogs and cats. Although these problems are not common, they are particularly difficult for cities when they are encountered. In Broomfield, the Animal Services Unit would likely face these same problems noted above. Pigs are not as easily captured as dogs. A ketch pole cannot be used on pigs – they need to be harnessed. Also, no holding facility exists for pigs in Broomfield or in the larger area."* http://broomfield.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=6&event_id=650&meta_id=30792 Does the current animal code proposal identify specific zone districts where these forms of swine or livestock would be allowed?

Finally, if there is additional cost to the city (i.e. us taxpayers), can the cost be borne by those wanting this change through licensing, vaccination fees or other fees rather than subjecting all residents to participate in covering the additional cost?

Thank you for the work you all do and for taking the time to review my questions and concerns.

Sue Myers
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