

ORDINANCE NO. 233

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DETROIT, OREGON, SUPPORTING TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN (TNR) AS THE ONLY HUMANE AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH TO FERAL CAT MANAGEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

THE CITY OF DETROIT, OREGON, ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: PURPOSE.

To permit implementation of a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program in Detroit, Oregon (“Municipality”) for the purpose of reducing the population of feral cats, benefitting public health, improving the quality of life for residents, and ensuring the humane treatment of feral cats.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS.

Animal Control Agency means any agency or person, including an animal control officer, authorized by law to implement animal control laws and provide animal care and control on behalf of the Municipality.

Caretaker means any person who regularly provides food and water to a feral cat colony.

Eartip means a mark identifying a feral or stray cat as having been sterilized, specifically, the removal of a quarter inch off the tip of the cat’s left ear in a straight line cut while the cat is anesthetized.

Feral cat means a cat that is not socialized to humans and is not an owned cat.

Feral cat colony and **colony** mean a group of feral or stray cats that congregate, more or less, together as a unit and share a common food source.

Kitten means a member of the species *felis catus* under the age of eight weeks.

Owned cat means a cat that is a companion to a person, is regularly fed and sheltered in that same person’s habitation, and carries visible indicia of ownership, including a collar or tag.

Shelter means a structure that provides feral and stray cats with protection from cold, rain and other weather-related elements.

Sterilize means to spay or neuter.

Stray cat means a cat that is socialized to humans and is not an owned cat.

TNR means the method of managing feral and stray cats known as Trap-Neuter-Return.

TNR Program means a program pursuant to which feral and stray cats are trapped, sterilized, vaccinated against rabies, ear-tipped, and returned to the location where they were captured and provided with long-term care by a Caretaker.

SECTION 3: COMMUNITY (FERAL) CAT INITIATIVE

1. The City of Detroit, Oregon, recognizes the need for innovation in addressing the issues presented by community (feral) cats. To that end, it recognizes that Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) is the only effective and humane method to manage, and over time, reduce the population of community cats. Trap-Neuter-Return shall be permitted, and community cat caretakers, organizations, city staff, and animal control officers, are encouraged to carry out Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR).
2. An eartipped cat received by local shelters will be returned to the location where trapped unless veterinary care is required. A trapped eartipped cat will be released on site unless veterinary care is required.
3. Community cat caretakers are empowered to reclaim impounded community cats without proof of ownership.
4. Community cat caretakers are empowered to provide or arrange for the provision of adequate food and water on a regular basis to colony cats and make reasonable efforts to ensure adequate shelter for colony cats.
5. Community cat caretakers are empowered to make reasonable efforts to trap and obtain proper medical attention for any colony cat that appears to require it.
6. Community cat caretakers are empowered to make reasonable efforts to remove and find permanent adoptive homes or foster homes for kittens born to colony cats.

SECTION 4: EMERGENCY CLAUSE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage by the Council.

First read before the City Council of the City of Detroit on July 12, 2014.

Second reading by title before the City Council of the City of Detroit on July 12, 2014.

Passed by the Common Council of the City of Detroit, Oregon, this 12th day of July, 2014.

Ayes____ Nays____ Absent____

Signed:



Sharyl Flanders, Mayor

Attest:



Christine Pavoni, City Recorder