



Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Humane Society

We, the undersigned, being all the Directors of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Humane Society, its principal place of business at 2685 Chanticleer Avenue, Santa Cruz, California, hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Humane Society held and convened on January 21, 2016, at which a quorum of the Board of Directors was present.

Whereas, discharge of fireworks is illegal in unincorporated Santa Cruz County, the City of Santa Cruz, and State Parks and Beaches, leading up to the July 4th holiday and for several weeks following; and

Whereas, lack of enforcement is responsible for an increased number of stray animals and reports of injuries to animals seeking refuge and safety from fireworks -- according to national statistics, animal shelters across the country see a 30-60% increase in lost pets each year between July 4th and 6th. Additionally, fireworks create a toll on people who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, Alzheimer's, dementia, and autism; and

Whereas, research studies show that fireworks have adverse effects on wild animals as well as domestic ones -- wild animals such as waterfowl can become entangled or ingest firework debris, which usually results in death; nesting birds and other small mammals flee the noise and are unable to return to their nests, leaving their defenseless babies behind; panicked animals flee into roadways, resulting in deaths, injuries, and vehicle damage; and

Whereas, besides human and animal safety concerns, illegal fireworks present further nuisance, health, and fire risks for our community; and

Whereas, the City of Santa Cruz and the County of Santa Cruz have experienced increases in illegal fireworks activity; and

Whereas, the people of Santa Cruz County are caring individuals who do not wish to inflict suffering and stress on humans or animals; and

Whereas, the mission of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Humane Society is to provide safe harbor for animals in need and promote an active humane community through adoption, advocacy, and education; therefore,

Be it resolved, the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Humane Society urges both the City of Santa Cruz and the County of Santa Cruz to do what is legally and morally required to enforce the policy on illegal fireworks, and further to set a positive example by declaring that the blatant disregard of the laws in place will not be tolerated in any form now or in the future.

Certificate of Secretary

The Secretary of the Corporation hereby certifies that she is the duly elected and qualified Secretary of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Humane Society and certifies that the above is a true and correct record of the resolution that was duly adopted by the Board of Directors on December 17, 2015.

Terrie Sima, Secretary of the Board