



Dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of homeless animals and the reduction in pet overpopulation in Clark County

July 31, 2016

City of Las Vegas Recommending Committee

Ref: Bill No. 2016-50 on Aug 1, 2016

Dear Members of the Recommending Committee:

The Las Vegas Valley Humane Society would like to express its disagreement with this bill. In a review of the changes, it appears that in 11.39.050 (A), more hours are allowed for this type of travel as the morning prohibition from 6 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. has been deleted; and, the boundaries of the area for allowed travel have been changed, although no map of the changes was provided (11.02.035). There are additional changes regarding picking up and discharging passengers. However, horse drawn conveyances are still allowed as seen in portions of this bill and references to Section 6.44-Horse Drawn and Other Animal Drawn Vehicles.

The Las Vegas Valley Humane Society has stated its opposition to horse drawn carriages in a previous request for licensing. This bill perpetuates a business, and expands the hours for operation of a business, that, so far as this organization is aware, does not even exist in the city of Las Vegas. The referenced Section 6.44 which defines the conditions for the horses drawing the carriages provides for highly questionable business practices; having the horses work six out of seven days and for 8 hours a day in up to 90 degree weather which means that the pavement in the sun is even hotter.

LVVHS proposes the Recommending Committee deny this bill and also suggest to the Planning Director to bring forth a proposal which deletes Section 6.44-Horse Drawn and Other Animal Drawn Vehicles in its entirety. It may also want to suggest that any reference to animal drawn conveyances be deleted from Section 11 other than to disallow them.

Some of the more pertinent sections of 6.44 are attached.

Cordially,

Karen Layne
President
702-354-8911

Submitted At Meeting

Date 8/1/16 Item 3

• **6.44.090 - Animal nuisance control.**

(A)

All animals shall have shoeing approved by the City.

(B)

Except with respect to animals and vehicles operating upon equestrian trails designated and approved by the City:

(1)

Each animal used to pull any vehicle shall be equipped with a manure-catching device approved by the City to hold the manure until the operator is able to place it in a standard wire-tie plastic bag which he shall carry with him for permanent disposal upon returning to the base of operations.

(2)

Each animal-drawn vehicle shall be equipped with a chemical approved by the City which is to be poured over horse urine by the driver so as to break down and eliminate accumulated agents and odor.

(3)

Each animal used to pull any vehicle must be treated with insect repellant.

(Ord. 5972 § 5, 2008; Ord. 3317 §§ 12 (part), 21, 1987)

• **6.44.120 - Animal working conditions.**

Except as otherwise specifically provided by and pursuant to a contract with the City to operate in City parks or other locations described in the contract, all persons licensed under this Chapter must provide the following working conditions for animals used pursuant to that license:

(A)

No vehicle pulled by an animal may hold more than five passengers, including the driver, unless otherwise approved by the Department.

(B)

No animal may be required to work more than eight hours in any twenty-four-hour period or more than six days in any seven-day period.

(C)

Each animal must be provided with a ten-minute rest period each hour and a one-hour rest period every four hours.

(D)

No animal may be required to pull a vehicle at a speed faster than a slow trot.

(E)

No animal may be worked with equipment causing an impairment of vision, other than normal blinders.

(F)

No animal may be subjected to any condition or treatment which will impair the good health and physical condition of the animal.

(G)

Each animal must be provided with its own custom-fitted harness, properly oiled and cleaned so as to be soft at all times. The harness must be kept free of makeshift wires, sisal ropes and rusty chains.

(H)

No animal may be whipped, unless the whipping is necessary for the safety of the animal or passengers.

(I)

Adequate water must be provided to each animal at hourly intervals.

(J)

No animal may be required to work when the temperature exceeds ninety degrees Fahrenheit as measured along the operational routes for the animal-drawn vehicles.

(K)

No animal may be equipped with devices intended to alter or impair its natural or normal movement.

(L)

Each animal must have reached its third birthday.

(Ord. 5972 § 8, 2008; Ord. 3317 §§ 12 (part), 24, 1987)

• **6.44.130 - Animal care.**

Each animal used in the operation of a animal-drawn vehicle business must be kept and maintained in accordance with the following conditions:

(A)

Adequate shade and ventilation must be provided for stalls.

(B)

Ceilings in the stalls or corrals must be at least ten feet high from the bedding and flooring.

(C)

Bedding in the stalls or corrals must be at least six inches deep and dry enough so as not to show wetness under the pressure of the animal's hooves.

(D)

Foot hazards and sharp surfaces are not permitted in any area where they may come in contact with the animal.

(E)

Roofs must be kept free of leaks where the animal is kept.

(F)

Each animal must have a stall large enough for the animal to turn around.

(G)

Food and water must be kept free of contamination, and adequate water must be available at all times.

(H)

Animal areas must be treated to destroy and repel insects.

(I)

Stalls and corrals must be kept in a clean, dry and reasonably sanitary condition.

(Ord. 3317 §§ 12 (part), 25, 1987)

• **6.44.140 - Animal harassment.**

It is unlawful for any person to harm, harass, tease, frighten or annoy any animal drawing a vehicle upon a public street within the City or to interfere with the driver of the vehicle in his management or control of the animal.