

Background

In 1994, Council passed the Agricultural Pests Bylaw to allow for the appointment of a committee of Council to hear and determine appeals of enforcement actions taken under the Agricultural Pests Act (“the Act”). Various amendments to the Bylaw were made over the years to vary the process for establishing the authority and delegations to appoint inspectors empowered to enforce the Act, but the governance of the appeal process and committee have remained unchanged since that time.

Through One Calgary 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budgets, Council directed Calgary Community Standards to revise the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw to bring insightful change based on engagement of pet owners and neighbours, in a way that was reflective of current trends and improves satisfaction. Stakeholders generally supported the use of a tribunal to resolve disputes of decisions made by City Administration under the new Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw. The mandate of the Licence and Community Standards Appeal Board (LCSAB) was therefore expanded so that it could hear and decide appeals of decisions made under the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw.

Previous Council Direction

On 1994 April 11, Council passed Bylaw 5M94, the Agricultural Pests Bylaw to establish a committee of Council to hear appeals of enforcement decisions made under the Act. On 1996 May 27, 1999 October 4, and 2004 November 22, Council passed subsequent amendments to Bylaw 5M94 to vary the authority and delegations for appointing inspectors empowered to enforce the Act on behalf of The City.

Through its consideration and adoption of One Calgary 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budgets, Council directed Administration to revise the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw to bring insightful change based on pet owners and neighbour engagement, to reflect current trends and improve satisfaction.

At its 2021 May 31 Combined Meeting, Council passed a new Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw, Bylaw 47M2021. Through a Motion Arising, Council also directed Administration to engage the dog walking industry and return with related amendments to the Bylaw no later than 2021 Q4. Council also passed further amendments to the LCSAB Bylaw, Bylaw 50M2011 as amended, to empower the LCSAB to hear and decide appeals of decisions made by City Administration under the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw.

On 2021 December 20, Council passed amendments to Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw 47M2021 to establish permits for qualified professional dog walkers to walk more than six dogs off-leash at a time. Council also directed, through a Motion Arising, that Administration develop specific criteria under which a Dogwalker Permit would be granted in consultation with business owners through the Business Advisory Committee.

At its 2021 December 20 Combined Meeting, Council considered report CD2021-1664 and amended the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw to allow qualified professional dog walkers with an appropriate permit to walk more than six dogs off-leash at a time. The report indicated that “proposed changes to Bylaw 50M2011 to accommodate [appeals respecting permits] will be presented to [the Community Development Committee] and Council in 2022 Q1.”



Timeline

DATE	REPORT NUMBER	DIRECTION/DESCRIPTION
2021 December 20	Motion Arising	That Council direct Administration to develop specific criteria under which a Dogwalker Permit would be granted in consultation with business owners through the Business Advisory Committee.
2021 December 20	CD2021-1664	Professional Dog Walker Permit within the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw That the Community Development Committee recommends that Council give three readings to the proposed bylaw amendment to the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw 47M2021 which will allow Administration to permit qualified professional dog walkers to walk more than six dogs off-leash at a time
2021 May 31	Motion Arising	That with respect to Report CPS2021-0740 the following Motion Arising be adopted: Direct Administration to engage in specific consultation with the dog walker industry and return to Council no later than 2021 Q4 with any recommended amendments to this bylaw.
2021 May 31	CPS2021-0739	Licence and Community Standards Appeals Board Adjudication of Nuisance and Vicious Animal Appeals That the Committee recommend that Council give three readings to the proposed Bylaw and, adopt amended qualifications for members of the Licence and Community Standards Appeal Board
2021 May 31	CPS2021-0740	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw Review That the Standing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services recommend that Council give three readings to Proposed Bylaw 47M2021, Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw (Attachment 1) to replace Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw 23M2006
2004 November 22	CPS2004-68	Agricultural Pests Bylaw Amendment The Agricultural Pest Bylaw 5M94 requires amendments to reflect changes in its procedure to appoint inspectors.
1999 October 04	C99-68	Implementation of Level I Corporate Restructuring Give three readings to Bylaw 52M99 (to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to appoint inspectors for The City of Calgary pursuant to the Agricultural Pests Act, and further delegate the authority to make such appointments.
1996 May 27	OE96-36	Agricultural Pest Inspectors Recommending giving three readings to Bylaw 30M96 to amend Agricultural Pests Bylaw 5M94
1994 April 11	CS94-15-01	Three Readings to Bylaw 5M94 Pest Control, to control any pest or disease from destroying or harming land, livestock or property.

Bylaws, Regulations, Council Policies

1. Licence and Community Standards Appeal Board (LCSAB) Bylaw, 50M201
2. Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO) Bylaw, 47M2021
3. Agricultural Pests Bylaw, 5M94
4. Agricultural Pests Act
5. Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation