

ORDINANCE NO. 530

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES PROHIBITING OVERNIGHT CAMPING WITHIN THE PALOS VERDES NATURE PRESERVE AND THE ABANDONMENT OF ANIMALS ON CITY PROPERTY, AND AMENDING THE RANCHO PALOS VERDES MUNICIPAL CODE.

WHEREAS, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes owns roughly 1,400 acres of open space known as the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve (the "Preserve"), which fulfills a variety of purposes that are important to the surrounding community, including (but not limited to) protection of sensitive natural habitat; providing opportunities for passive recreational use; preservation of natural watershed areas and drainage courses; and maintenance of open space buffers between and within developed areas; and,

WHEREAS, overnight camping within the Preserve is inconsistent with the foregoing purposes of the Preserve for a number of reasons, including (but not limited to) lack of adequate and appropriate sanitary facilities and shelters; adverse impacts upon sensitive plant and animal communities; increased risk of wildfire due to human activity; and limited emergency access to the Preserve; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes has experienced, and continues to experience, problems in several of its parks with the control of colonies of feral domestic animals and the abandonment of unwanted animals; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the safety, health and general welfare of both animals and the public, that the abandonment of unwanted animals on City property is prohibited.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Chapter 16 of Title 12 of the Rancho Palos Verdes Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding new Section 12.16.140 thereto to read as follows:

12.16.140 Overnight Camping within the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve Prohibited.

No person shall camp within the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. For the purposes of this section, "camp" shall mean to remain on site overnight, whether entirely out of doors or utilizing an enclosed or semi-enclosed temporary accommodation, including but not limited to, a tent, tarp, canopy, trailer, recreational vehicle, passenger car or truck.

Section 2: Chapter 16 of Title 12 of the Rancho Palos Verdes Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding new Section 12.16.150 thereto to read as follows:

12.16.150 *Abandonment of Animals Prohibited.*

No person shall willfully abandon any animal on any City-owned property. For the purposes of this section, "willfully abandon" shall not include the release or rehabilitation and release of native California wildlife by persons or agencies so authorized pursuant to State law or regulations of the California Department of Fish and Game.

Section 3: The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance, and shall cause the same to be posted in the manner prescribed by law.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY 2012.

/s/ Anthony M. Misetich
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Carla Morreale
City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss
CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES)

I, Carla Morreale, City Clerk of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, do hereby certify that the whole number of members of the City Council of said City is five; that the foregoing Ordinance No. 530 passed first reading on December 20, 2011, was duly and regularly adopted by the City Council of said City at a regular meeting thereof held on January 17, 2012, and that the same was passed and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Brooks, Campbell, Duhovic, Knight, and Mayor Misetich
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

City Clerk