

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE DRAFT**  
*SHOWING CHANGES FROM CURRENT CODE*  
NEW LANGUAGE IN UNDERLINE  
~~DELETIONS IN STRIKE OUT TEXT~~  
AUGUST 24, 2010 Meeting

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA  
BARBARA AMENDING THE  
MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING THE  
CITY LICENSING REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE KEEPING OF DOGS AND  
CATS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN  
SPAYED OR NEUTERED AND  
IMPOSING A NEW LICENSING  
REQUIREMENT FOR CATS.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA DOES  
ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION ONE.** Chapter 6.12 of Title Six of the Santa Barbara  
Municipal Code is amended to revise Section 6.12.050 and  
Section 6.12.060 to read as follows:

**Section 6.12.050 Dog License Requirement.**

**A. Mandatory License Requirement - Altered Dogs.** Any person  
owning or having custody or control of one or more dogs in  
the City shall obtain a license and pay the license fee for  
custody or control of each such dog over the age of four  
(4) months. The license fees authorized by this Chapter  
shall be established by resolution of the City Council and  
such fees shall be set a lesser amount for dogs which have  
been spayed or neutered. In the event the animal to be  
licensed has been spayed or neutered, prior to the issuance  
by the City of the first license to that dog, a written  
statement from a licensed veterinarian certifying the dog  
to have been spayed or neutered must be presented at the  
time the license is obtained in order to qualify for a  
reduced dog license fee.

**B. Mandatory License Requirement - Unaltered Dogs.** For  
those dogs which are to be licensed as non-spayed or non-  
neutered dogs, prior to the issuance by the City of the  
first license to that dog, the owner shall present to the  
City a copy of veterinary certificate (as such certificate  
is shown in the form attached to this Chapter) certifying  
that the owner has discussed the potential concerns and  
problems which may arise in owning and keeping a non-spayed  
or non-neutered dog with a duly-licensed veterinarian and

that the owner has been counseled by the veterinarian on how to properly avoid and prevent the potential problems related to keeping such a dog.

**C. License - Period of Validity.** The license period shall not extend beyond the remaining period of validity for the current rabies vaccination. A license shall only be issued if the rabies vaccine is current through the entire licensing period. A license shall be purchased for either a six (6) month period or twelve (12) month period. A license shall expire either six (6) months or twelve (12) months from the exact date the license was issued. The license fee shall not apply to any dog kept or maintained exclusively in any dog kennel in the City. No dog license required by this Section shall be transferable.

**D. Transfer of Ownership of Dogs.** Within thirty (30) days of the transfer of ownership of any licensed dog, the person receiving ownership shall obtain a license as set forth in Subsection A of this Section.

**E. Possible Penalties for Failure to Comply.** Failure to comply with the provisions of Subsections A and B of this Section may result in the impoundment of the dog or a fine or both.

**Section 6.12.060 Dog or Cat License Information.**

Each dog or cat license shall state the name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom such license is issued, the amount paid, the date when issued, the date on which such license shall expire, and in the case of an individual dog license, a description of the dog or cat for which such license is issued, and the number of the metallic tag accompanying the license. In the case of a kennel license, such license shall show, in addition to the above information, the maximum number of dogs or cats which may be kept in such kennel under authority of such license.

**SECTION TWO:** Chapter 6.12 of Title Six of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code is hereby amended to add a new section, Section 6.12.055 ("Cat License Requirement"), which reads as follows:

**Section 6.12.055 Cat License Requirement.**

**A. Mandatory License Requirement - Altered Cats.** Any person owning, keeping, or having custody or control of one or more cats in the City shall obtain a cat license from the City and pay the required license fee for having custody or control of each cat over the age of four (4) months. The license fees authorized by this Chapter shall be established by resolution of the City Council and such fees shall be set a lesser amount for cats which have been spayed or neutered. In the event the animal to be licensed has been spayed or neutered, prior to the issuance by the City of the first license to that cat, a written statement from a duly-licensed veterinarian certifying the cat to

have been spayed or neutered must be presented to the City at the time the license is obtained in order to qualify for the reduced license fee.

**B. Mandatory License Requirement - Unaltered Cats.** For those cats which are to be licensed as non-spayed or non-neutered dogs, prior to the issuance by the City of the first license to that cat, the owner shall present to the City a copy of veterinary certificate (as such certificate is in the form attached to this Chapter) certifying that the owner has discussed the potential concerns and problems which may arise in owning or keeping a non-spayed or non-neutered cat with a duly-licensed veterinarian and that the owner has been counseled by the veterinarian on how to properly the potential problems related to keeping such a cat.

**C. License - Period of Validity.** A license shall be purchased for either a six (6) month period or twelve (12) month period. A license shall expire either six (6) months or twelve (12) months from the exact date the license was issued. The license fee shall not apply to any cat kept or maintained exclusively in any kennel in the City. No cat license required by this Section shall be transferable.

**D. Transfer of Ownership of Cats.** Within thirty (30) days of the transfer of ownership of any licensed cat, the person receiving ownership of or now keeping a cat shall obtain a cat license as set forth in Subsection A of this Section.

**E. Possible Penalties for Failure to Comply.** Failure to comply with the provisions of Subsections A and B of this Section may result in the impoundment of the cat or a fine or both.