From: Rebecca Grill
To: Agenda

Subject: FW: Pet Store Ordinance

**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 10:50:45 AM

Please add to the file.

## Rebecca Grill, ICMA-CM, CPM, CMC, MBA

City Administrator/Clerk 7525 W. Greenfield Ave. | West Allis, WI 53214

Office: 414-302-8294 | Dept. 414-302-8292

West Allis Online Services

**From:** B. Foster <br/> **Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 10:23 AM<br/> **To:** Rebecca Grill <RGrill@westalliswi.gov>

Subject: Pet Store Ordinance

Dear Rebecca Grill,

My name is Brendan Foster and my address is 1105 S 117th St in West Allis. I am unable to attend the council meeting on Tuesday, but I wanted to reach out to let the council know that I am in support of a Humane Pet Store Ordinance in our community. Please pass this message to the alders.

This ordinance would prevent new businesses from selling dogs, cats, and rabbits. These animals are usually sourced from mills, which put profit above the well-being of animals. Dogs at puppy mills are often kept in tiny cages and don't receive proper socialization or medical care. I have fostered a few dogs that were rescued from puppy mills, and it was heartbreaking to see how terrified they were of people and unfamiliar situations.

Not only are puppy stores harmful to animals, but they also negatively impact the community. Many puppies in puppy stores are shipped from far away puppy mills and taken from their mothers too soon, so they may carry diseases that could harm both animals and people. Most customers who shop at these stores have no idea they're supporting a puppy mill.

There are plenty of ethical places to get dogs near West Allis, including rescues, shelters, and reputable breeders, so passing this ordinance won't prevent residents from getting a dog. This ordinance doesn't prevent pet stores from selling supplies, so pet supply stores are still welcome to operate in our community.

Please consider passing a Humane Pet Store Ordinance in West Allis so we can protect both people and pets.

Thank you, Brendan Foster