

13-1284
Related CF: 07-0218

MOTION

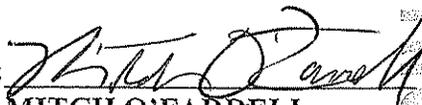
In the City of Los Angeles, it is illegal for the public to trap wildlife. However, residents can hire nuisance or pest control companies that have been issued trapping permits by the City's Department of Animal Services (Animal Services). State law requires that any set trap must include information identifying the permitted trapper and any trapped wildlife must be released on site or euthanized immediately.

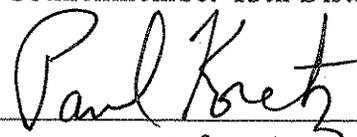
Animal Services advises that a trapper may be prosecuted for animal cruelty if an animal is injured or crippled by a trap. The Humane Society of the United States advises that an animal caught in an inhumane trap or a snare (wire noose) can suffer injuries resulting in excruciating pain and/or death. Animals caught in traps struggle to free themselves, some of which even chew off their limbs to escape. Trapped animals may struggle in pain for days, be killed by other animals, or suffer dehydration, blood loss, hypothermia, or drowning. California law requires daily monitoring of traps. Snares can strangle an animal or crush vital organs. Snares are particularly cruel to coyotes, foxes and wolves whose strong neck muscles can prolong their struggle and result in a slow and painful death. In addition, many animal traps indiscriminately kill or injure non-targeted animals such as dogs, cats, rabbits, birds or deer.

The Humane Society further advises that trapping should not be considered a wildlife strategy, in that trapping does not ensure a stable wildlife population, control disease or control nuisance wildlife. Animal Services states that its ultimate goal is to foster a relationship between wildlife and the community in which the two can coexist, and not necessarily to remove wildlife from residential areas.

Given that trapping can cause inhumane suffering in animals and that the department believes the community should coexist with wildlife, any animal trap or snare that maims, kills or causes the inhumane suffering of any animal should be outlawed in the City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Animal Services with the assistance of the City Attorney be instructed to propose and present a report on the feasibility of an ordinance to outlaw within the City of Los Angeles the use of animal traps or snares that maim, kill or cause inhumane suffering.

PRESENTED BY: 
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember 13th District

SECONDED BY: 



SEP 27 2013

