Polanco (Urtiz), Joanna

From: Joe Duncan <joeyparkside@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2025 7:39 PM
To: Polanco (Urtiz), Joanna
Cc: Moore, Sharlen; MKE Karen Sparapani
Subject: RE: Public comment in Support of File #: 250028

Public Safety and Health Committee Clerk,

Can you add my public comment below to the file? I didn't see it part of the record this evening.

Joe DUNCAN
1260 N. 43rd St.

On Friday, August 8, 2025, 9:34 PM, 'Joe Duncan' via Martin Drive Neighborhood <martin-drive@googlegroups.com> wrote:

> RE: Public comment in Support of File #:
> 250028 - A substitute ordinance relating to the ethical treatment and ownership of animals
>
> Dear Alderwoman Moore,
>
> As a resident of Milwaukee's 10th Aldermanic District, I want to thank you for sponsoring Substitute Ordinance Chapter 78 alongside Alderman Bauman. I fully support MADACC's position and urge you to continue championing this reform.
>
> Milwaukee is facing a crisis of unadoptable animals—entering MADACC in overwhelming numbers. In 2024 alone, MADACC took in 6,323 dogs. The proposed ordinance's provisions—including mandatory microchipping, spay/neuter requirements (with reasonable exceptions), and enhanced tethering restrictions—are not punitive. They are essential tools to reduce intake, improve adoptability, and prevent needless euthanasia.
>
> This crisis is not new. In 1996, the Wisconsin Humane Society withdrew from public animal control, citing the stigma of euthanizing animals for space. That decision led to the creation of MADACC by Milwaukee's 19 municipalities to ensure centralized, transparent, and humane oversight of stray and surrendered animals. MADACC now handles more animals than any other facility in Wisconsin and remains the only open-admission shelter serving the city.
>
> I support the ordinance's limits on outdoor tethering and agree with MADACC Director Karen Sparapani: the healthiest outcome for a dog is one that is socialized and housed inside a dwelling fit for human inhabitants. Long-term outdoor tethering—especially in extreme weather or without proper supervision—undermines both animal welfare and public safety. The ordinance's 3-hour daily tethering limit, along with requirements for anchor swivels and weather protections, reflects best practices in humane care.
>
> While the Wisconsin Humane Society raises concerns about equity, those concerns should lead to expanded support programs—not abandonment of reform. We can provide low-cost spay/neuter services and microchipping clinics while still holding pet owners to a basic standard

of care. MADACC has already implemented similar reforms in municipalities like Glendale, West Allis, and Cudahy. Milwaukee should not lag behind.

Your quote—"It's a huge responsibility having a pet… if you're not equipped to do that, then you probably shouldn't own a pet"—captures the heart of this issue. Responsible ownership must be the baseline, not the exception.

Please continue to advocate for this ordinance and ensure it returns to the Common Council with its core protections intact. Milwaukee's animals—and the communities they live in—are counting on it.

Sincerely,

Joe Duncan
1260 N. 43rd St.

LEGISLATIVE FILE: City of Milwaukee - File #: 250028

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By Granicus, Inc.

Title: A substitute ordinance relating to the ethical treatment and ownership of animals.

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