



From: lernerMichelle@aol.com [mailto:lernerMichelle@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2009 10:57 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Please forward to council

Dear Council members,

I was contacted tonight by a resident calling on behalf of several other residents at Hensyn Village, Eagle Rock, and Oakwood Village. She called me because she and other residents have noticed the Animal Control Officer setting traps in Eagle Rock, Hensyn Village, and Oakwood Village tonight (Wed, July 1), and they are all very upset. The ACO apparently has been circling around all 3 complexes and stopping to set or check traps, according to the residents. The last time residents contacted me about this kind of behavior was in March, and it did turn out that the ACO had conducted a mass trapping. He trapped 19 cats at 3 apartment complexes at that time, all of whom were killed at a cost of about \$3,000 to the town. That was 2 weeks before the Board of Health hearing on TNR. There was a newspaper article about it. Now it appears that the ACO is conducting another mass trapping, right before council considers passing a TNR ordinance. Given that a majority of council members have expressed an interest in passing a TNR ordinance within the next month, and Oakwood Village's manager has stated that she wants Oakwood Village to be the first complex TNR'd, why is the ACO doing mass trappings now? Why should these cats be killed when a solution is right around the corner-- a solution that the vast majority of town residents appear to want? And with this economy, can we really afford to pay thousands of dollars each month to Golub and also overtime/comp time for nighttime trapping?

I am contacting you on behalf of these residents and on behalf of the Mt. Olive TNR Project to ask you to look into this matter and ask the ACO to hold off on doing any mass trappings for at least a few weeks while the TNR issue is sorted out. Will you do this? At the very least in Oakwood Village where we know the management wants to make use of the TNR program once it is approved by the town? Residents are getting very upset, and trapping there at this point seems gratuitous.

Thank you for any help you can provide on this matter,

Michelle Lerner
Flanders
