

**CITY OF BRYAN, TEXAS  
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS AND  
SERVICE ANIMALS POLICY**

**I. PURPOSE**

- 1.1. The City of Bryan (“City”) recognizes the duty to provide access to City facilities and services for all citizens, including but not limited to individuals who have special needs due to a medical condition or disability. The City affirms its commitment to follow state and federal laws with respect to service animals providing support to people with conditions that interfere with a major life function.
- 1.2. The City also is committed to providing a safe, professional environment for citizens and employees to do public business. Consequently, it is imperative unnecessary disruptions, hazards, and nuisances be avoided.
- 1.3. Whenever animals are brought into a government facility, they can cause disruptions, hazards, or nuisances such as: triggering people’s allergies, interfering with Service Animals, or frightening people/children with animal phobias. To avoid unnecessary problems, City facilities are restricted to legally required Service Animals.
- 1.4. This policy sets guidelines to make City facilities accessible to individuals with needs, while maintaining a professional work environment.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1. “Activity/Special Event” means an event or activity put on by the City, or a special event authorized under a permit issued by the City.
- 2.2. “City Facilities” means City owned/leased buildings and adjacent property (to the property line), with the exception of the Bryan Animal Center, and including property owned or controlled by the City that prohibits pets by rule, ordinance, or authorized signage.
- 2.3. “Emotional Support Animal” means any animal prescribed by a mental health professional as a means to reduce stress, anxiety, or other mental impairment by virtue of companionship.
- 2.4. “Facility Use Violation” means a violation of rules set by the City for use of City Facilities as the term is intended in the City of Bryan Trespass Warning on City Property Policy dated August 28, 2020, as may be amended.
- 2.5. “Pet” means any animal that is not an Emotional Support Animal or a Service Animal.
- 2.6. “Service Animal” means a dog specially trained to perform a specific task to assist a person with a disability. It does not include Emotional Support Animals.

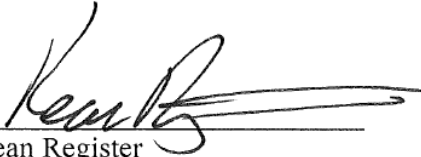
**III. EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS**

- 3.1. Emotional Support Animals are not permitted at City Facilities. Emotional Support Animals are not permitted at any Activity/Special Event that prohibits pets.
- 3.2. This provision may be enforced by any City employee or the organizer (or representative) of an Activity/Special Event.
- 3.3. A violation of this policy is a Facility Use Violation and is grounds for a criminal trespass warning.

- 3.4. Emotional Support Animals may not be tied, staked, or tethered outside of City Facilities, regardless of how short a duration. Animals found tied, staked, or tethered outside of City Facilities may be impounded by Bryan Animal Control, in accordance with Chapter 10 of the City of Bryan Code of Ordinances.

#### **IV. SERVICE ANIMALS**

- 4.1. A person with a disability may be accompanied by a Service Animal in any City Facility or at any Activity/Special Event. A person with a disability may be directed to leave the City Facility or Activity/Special Event if the person fails to prevent the Service Animal from making unnecessary noise, mess, or otherwise constituting a nuisance.
- 4.2. City employees may inquire if an animal is a Service Animal and what task the animal is trained to perform. A person's refusal or failure to respond is a Facility Use Violation and grounds for a criminal trespass warning.
- 4.3. City employees may not ask what disability the person has or require proof the animal is a Service Animal. A Service Animal does not need to have a vest. A person does not need to have written proof the dog is a Service Animal.
- 4.4. Service Animals are required to be licensed, tagged, and current on their rabies vaccinations.
- 4.5. The City is not responsible for enforcing this policy at Special Events organized by third parties.

  
Kean Register  
City Manager

01/07/2025  
Date