



TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY

TOWN COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Town Council **Date:** August 11, 2015

From: Carol Miller, Principal Planner **Item No:** 4
Planning Department

Subject: INITIATION OF A DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT REGARDING
SMALL CAGED ANIMALS AND THE KEEPING OF ALPACAS

T.M. Approval: _____ **Budgeted Item:** Yes No N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Initiate a Development Code Amendment and forward this issue to the Planning Commission for discussion and a recommendation.

SUMMARY:

The Town's Animal Services Department has requested changes to the Development Code with respect to the keeping of small caged animals and the keeping of Alpacas.

Currently, the Development Code allows small domestic animals as a permitted use within all residential land use districts. A small domestic animal is defined in the Development Code as follows:

Small Domestic Animals. Small domestic animals shall be allowed in districts as provided for in Table 9.28.030-A *Permitted Uses*. Small animals shall consist of non-exotic or wild animals such as domestic mice and rats, hamsters, guinea pigs, turtles, snakes, tropical fish, canaries, parrots, parakeets and other similar animals commonly sold in pet stores and kept as household pets.

The Animal Services Department is requesting an amendment to the Development Code that regulates the number of small domestic animals where there are currently none.

Currently, the Development Code allows one (1) Alpaca per lot within the Residential Equestrian (R-EQ) and Residential Estate (R-E). Given the potential uses for Alpacas (wool & pack animal); it is conceivable that an owner would require more than one (1). Staff is recommending that consideration be given to amend the Development Code to allow Llama & Alpacas similar to that of a horse or other equine.

Staff will evaluate the issues and provide suggestions to the Planning Commission for consideration. The recommendation of the Planning Commission will be returned to the Town Council for consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not Applicable