



City of North Port

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-R-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING A STATEWIDE PROHIBITION ON THE RACING OF AND WAGERING ON GREYHOUNDS OR OTHER DOGS; INCORPORATING RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, as of 2018, Florida is one of 10 states where wagering on dog races is legal and Florida is one of only six states where there are dog racing tracks for gambling; and

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Greyhound Association, Florida is home to 13 greyhound racing facilities; and

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, there were 269 greyhound injuries at Florida greyhound racing facilities between 2008 and 2017, including at least 90 dogs that died or were euthanized prior to May 2013 when statewide death reporting became mandatory; and

WHEREAS, according to Seminole County Animal Services, between May 2017 and May 2018, 68 greyhound injuries, including three deaths and 53 fractures, were reported at the Sanford Orlando Kennel Club in Seminole County; and

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, between October 2016 and July 2017, three Florida greyhound trainers had a combined 30 greyhounds test positive for cocaine; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2018 statewide survey by McLaughlin & Associates, 70 percent of Florida voters are expected to support the proposed Amendment 13 to the Florida Constitution that would prohibit the racing of and wagering on greyhounds or other dogs in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Amendment 13 to the Florida Constitution would prohibit the racing of and wagering on greyhounds or other dogs in Florida after December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a report commissioned by the Florida Legislature in 2013 documented that the state loses up to \$3.3 million a year on live greyhound racing because the cost of regulation exceeds tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, find that it is in the best interest of the residents of this state to end commercial greyhound racing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 – INCORPORATION OF RECITALS

1.01 The above recitals are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2 – RESOLUTION

2.01 The City Commission hereby declares its support of a statewide prohibition on the racing of and wagering on greyhounds or other dogs in Florida.

SECTION 3 – CONFLICTS

3.01 In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Resolution and any other resolution or portions thereof, the provisions of this Resolution shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4 – SEVERABILITY

4.01 If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

SECTION 5 – EFFECTIVE DATE

5.01 This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida.

PASSED and DULY ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida this ____ day of _____ 2018.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

VANESSA CARUSONE
MAYOR

ATTEST:

KATHRYN PETO

INTERIM CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

AMBER L. SLAYTON
CITY ATTORNEY