Republic of the Philippines
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
City Government of Naga

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-109
VVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVV

AN ORDINANCE FURTHER REVISING ORDINANCE NO. 97-092, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 2006-025, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'NAGA CITY ORDINANCE FOR ANIMAL CARE', AND PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ANIMAL WELFARE AND RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP FRAMEWORK:-

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, the City of Naga enacted Ordinance No. 97-092, as revised by Ordinance No. 2006-025, otherwise known as the "Naga City Ordinance for Animal Care," which established the foundational framework for regulating the ownership, care, and management of animals within the City;

WHEREAS, more than twenty years have passed since the last major comprehensive revision, during which time significant developments have occurred in veterinary science, animal welfare standards, digital governance systems, and public health policy;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9482, otherwise known as the "Anti-Rabies Act of 2007," mandates the registration and vaccination of all dogs and assigns Local Government Units the responsibility to enforce compliance through effective monitoring and identification systems;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8485, as amended by Republic Act No. 10631, otherwise known as the "Animal Welfare Act of 1998," strengthens the State's policy of protecting animal welfare and ensuring humane treatment of all animals, while discouraging unnecessary suffering, cruelty, and inhumane population control practices;

WHEREAS, the City of Naga has recently reaffirmed its commitment to responsible pet ownership and modern animal management systems through Ordinance No. 2026-021, otherwise known as the "Pet Dog Registration Ordinance of Naga City," which mandates the registration of all canine pets and establishes a centralized pet registry database utilizing dog tags, health cards, and microchip identification systems;

WHEREAS, said Ordinance No. 2026-021 recognizes that irresponsible pet ownership and the lack of a comprehensive identification and monitoring system contribute significantly to stray animal proliferation, sanitation issues, and public health risks within the City;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2001-005 further amended Section 13 of Ordinance No. 97-092 by emphasizing barangay initiative in the implementation of animal control measures, including the establishment of barangay dog pounds and the apprehension of stray animals;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that areas with high numbers of stray animals and documented rabies cases within the preceding two (2) to three (3) years should be prioritized for humane animal population management and rabies prevention interventions;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) may be utilized as one of several humane animal population management interventions, subject to technical feasibility, public health safeguards, animal welfare standards, and the availability of accountable custodians or implementing partners;

WHEREAS, there is a compelling need to harmonize existing ordinances with recent legislative developments, particularly Ordinance No. 2026-021, to ensure a unified, modern, and efficient animal management system that integrates registration, vaccination, identification, and humane population control strategies;

WHEREAS, strengthening barangay-level implementation mechanisms and improving coordination between the City Veterinary Office, barangay governments, and relevant stakeholders is essential for effective enforcement of animal welfare and public health policies;

WHEREAS, the City of Naga recognizes that an updated legal framework is necessary to integrate digital registration systems, humane animal control protocols, and modern public health strategies into one coherent and enforceable ordinance structure;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Naga, in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. ***TITLE.*** This Ordinance shall be known as the "Naga City Ordinance for Animal Welfare and Responsible Ownership."

SECTION 2. ***DECLARATION OF POLICY.*** It is hereby declared the policy of the City Government of Naga to:

a. Promote and protect the welfare of animals in accordance with Republic Act No. 8485, as amended by Republic Act No. 10631, and other applicable laws;
b. Safeguard public health and safety through effective rabies prevention and responsible pet ownership programs consistent with Republic Act No. 9482 or the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007;
c. Institutionalize a humane, science-based, and sustainable animal population management system, including but not limited to Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR), vaccination drives, and responsible ownership enforcement;
d. Strengthen animal identification, monitoring, and accountability systems through integrated registration mechanisms, consistent with Ordinance No. 2026-021, including digital databases, dog tags, health cards, and microchip identification systems;
e. Institutionalize a coordinated citywide implementation system for animal welfare and rabies control through the City Animal Welfare and Control System (CAWCS), ensuring execution of programs at the city and barangay levels;
f. Promote shared responsibility among the City Government, barangays, pet owners, and stakeholders in ensuring humane treatment of animals and minimizing stray animal-related risks in communities;

SECTION 3. ***DEFINITION OF TERMS.*** For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

a. **Abandonment** - the deliberate leaving, unauthorized surrender, relocation, or failure to retrieve an animal without reasonable arrangements for its continued care, resulting in the animal becoming stray, neglected, or exposed to harm.

b. **Animal Welfare** - the physical and psychological well-being of animals, including freedom from hunger, discomfort, pain, injury, disease, fear, and distress.

c. **City Animal Welfare and Control System (CAWCS)** - the citywide, integrated governance and implementation framework for animal welfare, rabies prevention, and humane population management, implemented through the City Veterinary Office, barangay units, and partner agencies. It includes operational programs such as TNVR, registration enforcement, vaccination programs, and animal response systems.

d. **Community Animal** - a free-roaming dog or cat that is not owned or permanently confined but may be managed through humane programs such as TNVR.

e. **Ear Tipping** - the humane removal of a small, uniform portion of the left ear apex performed exclusively by a licensed veterinarian while the animal is anesthetized during a sterilization procedure, serving as a visual identifier for a sterilized community animal.

f. **Euthanasia** - humane termination of life performed only by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with animal welfare standards and applicable laws.

g. **Impoundment** - the temporary custody of an animal only when necessary for public safety, animal welfare intervention, cruelty investigation, or lawful enforcement.

h. **Microchip** - an implanted electronic device containing a unique identification number linked to the owner's information in the official pet registry system.

i. **Pet Registry Database** - the centralized digital database established under Ordinance No. 2026-021 for recording ownership, vaccination status, sterilization records, and identification of registered pets.

j. **Responsible Pet Owner** - any person who owns, keeps, or harbors a domestic animal and complies with registration, vaccination, sterilization (when applicable), and proper care obligations under this Ordinance and applicable laws.

k. **Stray Animal** - any dog, cat, or domesticated animal roaming in public or private places without direct human control, supervision, or restraint.

l. **TNVR Program** - Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, and Return program implemented as a humane population control strategy for community animals.

SECTION 4. *SCOPE AND APPLICATION.* This Ordinance shall apply to all animals within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Naga, including but not limited to:

a. Domesticated companion animals such as dogs and cats;
b. Free-roaming or community animals found within public or private spaces;
c. All persons, households, establishments, and entities owning, keeping, harboring, breeding, selling, or otherwise responsible for animals within the City.

Provided that livestock animals shall be covered under this Ordinance only insofar as they pose public safety, traffic, sanitation, or environmental hazards, and shall not be subject to the Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) provisions of this Ordinance.

This Ordinance shall also govern all animal welfare, registration, impoundment, sterilization, vaccination, and population management programs implemented by the City Government and its barangays, including but not limited to programs under Ordinance No. 2026-021 and other related local issuances. All implementation, enforcement, and coordination of this Ordinance shall be carried out through the City Animal Welfare and Control System (CAWCS) in coordination with the City Veterinary Office and concerned barangay units.

All public and private establishments engaged in animal-related activities, including but not limited to breeders, kennels, veterinary clinics, animal shelters, boarding facilities, pet shops, and similar operations, shall comply with applicable registration, licensing, and accreditation requirements of the Bureau of Animal Industry and other competent authorities, where required by law.

SECTION 5. ***IMPLEMENTING STRUCTURE.*** The City Animal Welfare and Control System (CAWCS) shall be implemented through a multi-tiered and decentralized governance structure, consisting of the City Veterinary Office (CVO) as the lead technical authority, the barangay local government units as frontline operational partners, and other relevant city departments and stakeholders as support institutions.

A. CITY LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION

The City Veterinary Office (CVO) shall serve as the primary implementing and technical lead office and shall be responsible for:

a. Overall supervision of animal welfare, rabies prevention, and population management programs;
b. Implementation of vaccination, sterilization, and TNVR protocols;
c. Maintenance and updating of the Pet Registry Database in coordination with Ordinance No. 2026-021;
d. Provision of technical guidance and training to barangay personnel;
e. Issuance of animal welfare standards and operational guidelines; and
f. Coordination with national government agencies, veterinary organizations, and animal welfare partners.

B. BARANGAY-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION

Each barangay shall serve as the primary field implementation unit of CAWCS and shall:

a. Assist in the identification, reporting, and monitoring of stray and community animals;
b. Support barangay-level rabies vaccination and registration drives;

c. Coordinate with the CVO regarding requests for TNVR activities only in areas where an accountable caretaker, accredited organization, homeowners' association, academic institution, or barangay-designated community animal custodian has been formally identified and documented;
d. Maintain a designated focal person or team for animal welfare concerns;
e. Implement local information and education campaigns on responsible pet ownership;
f. Assist in humane animal response and containment in coordination with trained city personnel; and
g. Conduct animal catching and impounding operations within their jurisdiction in accordance with this Ordinance, Ordinance No. 2001-005, and applicable animal welfare standards.

Barangay responsibilities and corresponding city support obligations shall be further defined and operationalized through the Implementing Rules and Regulations, taking into account varying barangay capacities, resources, and local conditions.

C. INTER-AGENCY AND MULTI-SECTORAL COORDINATION

CAWCS shall operate in coordination with:

a. The City Health Office for rabies surveillance and public health response;
b. The City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) for emergency animal-related incidents;
c. The City Environment and Natural Resources Office (City ENRO) for environmental sanitation concerns;
d. The Department of Agriculture (DA) and Department of Health (DOH) for national program alignment;
e. Accredited animal welfare organizations and veterinary partners for TNVR, adoption, and advocacy programs; and
f. Law enforcement agencies for cases involving aggressive animals, cruelty, or public safety threats.

D. PRINCIPLE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

The implementation of this Ordinance shall be guided by the principle that animal welfare and public safety is a shared responsibility among:

a. The City Government;
b. Barangay Governments;
c. Pet owners and animal caretakers; and
d. Civil society and advocacy organizations.

SECTION 6. ***HUMANE ANIMAL POPULATION MANAGEMENT (TNVR PROGRAM).*** The City may implement Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) as a supplemental and controlled animal population management intervention, together with registration, vaccination, responsible ownership enforcement, impoundment, adoption, and other lawful animal control measures. TNVR shall only be implemented upon determination by the City Veterinary Office that post-operative management, monitoring mechanisms, and accountability requirements are available.

A. COVERAGE

TNVR shall apply to:

a. Dogs and cats classified as community animals;

b. Non-aggressive stray animals assessed by the CVO or authorized veterinary personnel as suitable for return;
c. Barangay-identified animal colonies or populations;
d. Areas identified by the CVO as priority areas based on high stray animal population, documented rabies cases within the preceding two (2) to three (3) years, public health and safety risks, and other relevant veterinary or community data; and
e. Other areas determined by the CVO to require humane population management intervention based on documented animal welfare, public health, or animal population concerns.

B. PROGRAM COMPONENTS

The TNVR Program shall include:

a. Humane trapping of target animals;
b. Veterinary assessment and medical screening;
c. Spaying or neutering procedures;
d. Rabies vaccination and basic treatment as needed;
e. Identification marking (ear tipping, tag, or equivalent humane identifier); and
f. Return of the animal to its original location or approved habitat.

C. IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY

The CVO shall lead TNVR implementation and may:

a. Deploy city personnel or accredited partners;
b. Prioritize barangays and specific communities with a high population or concentration of stray animals;
c. Give priority to areas with documented cases of rabies within the preceding two (2) to three (3) years, based on records available from the City Veterinary Office, City Health Office, barangays, and other competent authorities;
d. Consider, in determining TNVR priority areas, the number and density of stray animals, documented rabies incidence, frequency of animal-related complaints, public health and safety risks, and other relevant veterinary and community data;
e. Schedule periodic TNVR rounds in priority areas in coordination with barangay governments and identified accountable custodians; and
f. Engage NGOs, veterinary schools, private veterinary practitioners, and other qualified partners as resources allow.

The identification of priority areas shall be subject to available veterinary assessment, operational capacity, funding, and the availability of accountable custodians or implementing partners. Priority classification shall be reviewed periodically by the CVO based on updated animal population, rabies, and public health data.

D. LIMITATION AND HUMANE SAFEGUARDS

a. Aggressive, rabid, or severely ill animals shall not be returned under TNVR;
b. All procedures shall comply with Republic Act No. 8485 as amended;

c. Euthanasia shall only be allowed as a last resort under veterinary determination of incurable suffering or public safety necessity; and
d. TNVR implementation shall prioritize humane handling at all stages.

E. ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENT

No animal shall be released under the TNVR Program unless an accountable custodian has been identified, whenever practicable, to ensure post-operative monitoring and welfare responsibility. In all cases, all TNVR animals shall be permanently identified through microchip implantation or an equivalent identification system linked to the Pet Registry Database.

The accountable custodian may be:

a. An identified individual resident;
b. An accredited animal welfare organization;
c. A homeowners' association;
d. The concerned barangay through a designated resolution and focal person;
e. An academic institution operating under approved protocols; or
f. Another entity recognized by the City Veterinary Office.

The accountable custodian shall be responsible for:

1. Post-operative observation and recovery;
2. Reporting complications or illness;
3. Facilitating re-capture when necessary;
4. Coordinating vaccination updates where applicable; and
5. Monitoring and supporting minimum animal welfare conditions.

The City Veterinary Office may suspend or deny TNVR implementation where accountability, monitoring, post-operative management, or public safety safeguards cannot reasonably be ensured.

Return of TNVR-eligible animals shall only occur after veterinary clearance and completion of the prescribed post-operative recovery period in accordance with the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 7. *PET REGISTRATION AND DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.* In coordination with Ordinance No. 2026-021, the City hereby strengthens the integrated animal registration and identification system.

A. INTEGRATION OF DATABASE SYSTEMS

All pet registration data shall be:

a. Centralized under the Pet Registry Database;
b. Maintained and updated by the CVO;
c. Linked to vaccination, sterilization, and ownership records; and
d. Accessible to authorized barangay and city personnel.

B. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT

All pet owners shall ensure:

a. Registration of dogs and cats;
b. Annual rabies vaccination;
c. Proper identification through tag, health card, or microchip; and

d. Compliance with responsible ownership standards under this Ordinance.

C. ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT

Barangay officials shall assist in:

a. Verification of unregistered animals;
b. Reporting of stray or unvaccinated animals; and
c. Coordination of registration drives.

SECTION 8. ***IMPOUNDMENT AND SHELTERING FRAMEWORK.*** Impoundment under this Ordinance shall be strictly subsidiary to humane animal population management measures and shall be implemented only when necessary for public safety, animal welfare, or legal enforcement.

A. GROUNDS FOR IMPOUNDMENT

Animals may only be impounded under the following circumstances:

a. The animal poses an immediate threat to public safety due to aggressive behavior;
b. The animal is suspected of being rabid, exposed to rabies, or requires veterinary assessment for disease, injury, abnormal behavior, or other health-related concerns;
c. The animal is involved in a cruelty, neglect, abandonment, or animal welfare investigation;
d. The animal is subject to court order or lawful seizure; and
e. The animal is either a small or large ruminant causing road hazard or public nuisance (e.g., browsing or grazing crops or causing damage to property).

B. PREFERENCE FOR HUMANE INTERVENTION

Prior to impoundment, the following shall be prioritized where feasible:

a. Owner notification and retrieval;
b. Barangay-mediated resolution;
c. Temporary restraint and monitoring;
d. Adoption, rehoming, or transfer to accredited animal welfare organizations where appropriate; and
e. TNVR intervention for eligible community animals.

C. SHELTER AND HOLDING STANDARDS

All impounded animals shall be held for a maximum holding period prescribed under the Implementing Rules and Regulations, counted in calendar days, before disposition may be undertaken. During such period, the CVO shall exert reasonable efforts to identify and notify the owner.

Animals shall only be housed in facilities operated or recognized under CAWCS and compliant with applicable standards of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), where applicable.

Facilities shall provide:

a. Adequate food and clean water;
b. Humane housing and ventilation;
c. Daily monitoring;
d. Access to veterinary assessment and treatment when necessary; and
e. Protection from unnecessary prolonged confinement.

The foregoing standards shall be implemented subject to the availability of city resources and shall be supported by phased development of animal holding and shelter facilities under the CAWCS framework.

D. BARANGAY TEMPORARY HOLDING FACILITIES

Barangays may maintain temporary holding areas only for short-term custody, subject to:

a. Coordination with the CVO;
b. Compliance with minimum humane standards;
c. Registration or accreditation requirements of the Bureau of Animal Industry where applicable; and
d. Immediate turnover of animals requiring veterinary assessment, long-term sheltering, or specialized care.
e. Specific holding periods and operational procedures shall be prescribed under the IRR.

E. DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS

Disposition shall follow this order of preference:

a. Adoption or rehoming through accredited partners;
b. Return to owner upon compliance with registration and vaccination requirements;
c. Release under TNVR program (for eligible community animals); and
d. Humane euthanasia only as a last resort, and only upon veterinary certification of:
   - irreversible suffering, or
   - serious public safety risk that cannot be mitigated.

F. TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING

The CVO shall maintain monthly records of:

a. Number of animals impounded;
b. Disposition of each animal; and
c. Vaccination and sterilization statistics.

SECTION 9. *PENALTY CLAUSE.* Any violation of this Ordinance shall be penalized in accordance with applicable national laws and local issuances, without prejudice to the imposition of higher penalties under Republic Act No. 8485, as amended, Republic Act No. 9482, and other applicable laws.

A. PET OWNERSHIP VIOLATIONS

a. Failure to register pet animals (consistent with Ordinance No. 2026-021):
   - First Offense: ₱500.00
   - Second Offense: ₱1,000.00
   - Third Offense: ₱2,000.00 and mandatory compliance registration
b. Failure to vaccinate against rabies:
   - ₱2,000.00; and
   - Mandatory vaccination at owner's expense or city program participation
c. Allowing pets to roam without restraint in violation of responsible ownership:
   - ₱1,000.00; and
   - Mandatory counseling on responsible ownership

For purposes of this Section, violations recorded under Ordinance No. 2026-021 for failure to register shall be carried over and counted cumulatively in determining the offense level under this Ordinance.

B. ABANDONMENT AND NEGLECT

1. Any person found liable for abandonment shall be subject to:

   a. Fine of ₱300.00;
   b. Referral for prosecution under Republic Act No. 8485, as amended;
   c. Community service related to animal welfare, responsible pet ownership, or public education, to be rendered at the concerned barangay, City Veterinary Office, accredited animal welfare organization, or other location as may be designated by the implementing authorities and further provided under the IRR; and
   d. Issuance by the concerned barangay of a certification recommending temporary disqualification from owning, keeping, or registering pets within the City, subject to the procedures and period of disqualification provided under the IRR.

2. The Implementing Rules and Regulations shall establish the procedures for the imposition and duration of the temporary disqualification, including the grounds for lifting such disqualification upon compliance with responsible pet ownership requirements, community service, counseling, or other corrective measures.

C. ANIMAL CRUELTY

Acts constituting cruelty, abuse, or deliberate harm shall be subject to:

- Penalties under RA 8485 as amended by RA 10631
- Imprisonment and/or fines as determined by competent courts
- Immediate seizure of the animal under CAWCS authority

D. OBSTRUCTION OF ANIMAL CONTROL OPERATIONS

Any person who obstructs TNVR operations, interferes with CVO/barangay animal response, or prevents lawful impoundment or rescue shall be fined ₱1,000.00 to ₱3,000.00 per offense. Provided that the responsible feeding or caretaking of community animals by residents, community caretakers, or accredited animal welfare organizations shall not be construed as obstruction under this Section, so long as such activity does not impede access to public roads, sidewalks, or government operations.

SECTION 10. ***FUNDING.*** The funds necessary for the effective implementation of this Ordinance, including but not limited to the operationalization of the City Animal Welfare and Control System (CAWCS), TNVR programs, animal registration integration, rabies prevention activities, and barangay-level support mechanisms, shall be sourced from:

   a. The annual budget of the City Veterinary Office;
   b. Supplemental appropriations as may be authorized by the Sangguniang Panlungsod;
   c. Fees, fines, and charges collected pursuant to this Ordinance and Ordinance No. 2026-021; and
   d. Grants, donations, and assistance from national government agencies, non-government organizations, and private sector partners, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations.

The City Government may likewise allocate funds for capacity building, procurement of veterinary supplies, mobile clinics, and improvement of animal welfare facilities as may be necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance. Fines collected from Barangay-initiated enforcement shall be shared on a 50-50 basis with the apprehending Barangay, explicitly earmarked for the barangay's local CAWCS operations, animal welfare materials, and sterilization initiatives.

SECTION 11. ***IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.*** The City Veterinary Office, in coordination with the City Administrator's Office, concerned barangay governments, accredited animal welfare organizations, veterinary associations, relevant offices of the Department of Agriculture, including the Bureau of Animal Industry, and other relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Ordinance within ninety (90) days from effectivity. The IRR shall include, but shall not be limited to, operational protocols for TNVR scheduling and deployment, post-operative recovery requirements, release eligibility standards, disease screening procedures, emergency retrieval mechanisms, community monitoring protocols, accountability mechanisms for TNVR custodians, and complaint resolution procedures, standards for barangay-level holding facilities, procedures for inter-agency coordination under CAWCS, enforcement guidelines for field personnel, and appeal mechanisms for aggrieved pet owners. The IRR shall be submitted to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for notation prior to publication.

Failure to promulgate the IRR within the prescribed period shall not suspend the effectivity of this Ordinance. In such event, the CVO shall issue provisional operational guidelines within sixty (60) days from effectivity to govern operations pending full IRR promulgation, which provisional guidelines shall remain in effect until superseded by the duly promulgated IRR.

SECTION 12. ***SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.*** Should any section or part of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts that are not affected shall remain valid.

SECTION 13. ***REPEALING CLAUSE.*** All provisions of existing laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, and executive issuances inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Provided, that all provisions of Ordinance No. 97-092, as amended by Ordinance No. 2006-025, which are not inconsistent with this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. ***EFFECTIVITY.*** This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Naga, and posting in conspicuous places within the City, in accordance with applicable law.

ENACTED: October 13, 2026.

xxx xxx xxx

WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

LILIAN O. PASCUAL
Acting Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

CELSO B. JULIA
SC Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

GABRIEL H. BORDADO JR.
City Vice Mayor &
Presiding Officer

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SC City Vice Mayor
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APPROVED:

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