

Regular Council Meeting

July 17, 2025

FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



Public Comment Packet

ITEM(S)

RECEIVED
2025 JUL 16 P 12:20
CITY OF FRESNO
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

10:06 A.M. (ID 25-971)

Appearance by Christine Thornton regarding "Animal Crisis in Fresno County" (District 2 Resident)

Contents of Supplement: Public Comment Received

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

7/17/25

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2025 JUL 16 AM 11:52

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

To: The Fresno City Council
2600 Fresno St. #3620
Fresno, Ca 93721
(559) 621-8000

From: Christine Thornton

[REDACTED]
Fresno, Ca. 93704
[REDACTED]

Subject of Concern:

Fresno continues to have an overpopulated homeless animal crisis in both the city & county of Fresno. Where do healthy, non-violent, homeless animals go?

Basically, cats & dogs are still living on our streets being they have **nowhere to go**.

Here are questions I have come across in this past year either from myself or other people.

- 1) Do we in fact have enough animal shelters to house cats and dogs until they are adopted?
- 2) If animal control picks up a cat or a dog that is healthy, why are they being released a mile away from where they were picked up?
- 3) How are animals being dropped off on the streets benefitting both the animals or our community?
- 4) What options or efforts do we have as a city to continue to help homeless animals?
- 5) Why is Fresno so overpopulated with homeless animals?
- 6) Who is overseeing the breeding policy we have in place for Fresno?
- 7) How is Fresno overseeing the safety of our animals. Such as when they are abused?

(In your folder, I have presented some possible ideas of where we might be able to put, yet another no-kill shelter for homeless animals if the city budget allows us to.)

As of today, Fresno animal continue to be overcrowded with both dogs & cats...puppies & kittens. Animals who are picked up & not injured or vicious, are placed back on the streets a mile from where they were picked up.

Also to help protect our animals, **The Hayden Law** was enacted in California in 1998 by governor Tom Haden. It was a set of laws that aimed to transform the states animal shelter system to prioritize saving animals lives.

2)

The Hayden Law includes:

- 1) **Adoption Preferences:** Meaning finding suitable homes for the animal.
- 2) **Rescue Involvement-**Allowing animal rescue organizations to save animals that would save animals as an alternative to euthanizing.
- 3) **Humane treatment:** This mandates that shelters provide necessary & prompt veterinary care, nutrition, and shelter for animals and treat them humanely.
- 4) **No Convenience Euthanasia of animals:** simply to reduce shelter populations for convenience.
- 5) **Impact:** The Hayden Law is credited with transforming California's animal shelter system by prioritizing lifesaving efforts and reducing the number of animals euthanized in shelters.

Ongoing Debate: The Hayden Law, however, does face challenges including costs associated with increased holding periods and the need for additional funding support its mandates.

I ask the question: Are we following the guidelines of the penal codes in California for treating animals if necessary, and providing them with care needed until they are adopted? As well as following the guideline practices of the Hayden Law?

So where do healthy adoptable animals go in the city or county of Fresno?

While searching Fresno city budget for 2026, I read the city will have an estimated \$2.36billion dollars. I also understand we have a concerning deficit that we need to address. However.....can we agree that we need at least on more No-kill shelter in Fresno so that we are following the Hayden Law and the California penal code 599d for the treatment and safety of our cities' cats and dogs? Not to mention if a humane or child gets bit if these animals are free to roam out city streets.

Possible strategies to address our animal crisis issues:

If the city budget can not compensate financially for another no kill animal shelter, would it be possible to financially to help organizations or fosters as a temporary alternative?

Opening a new 'No-kill' Animal Shelter on Airways blvd., & mandating a breeding license permit if the owner of the dog decides to breed, is a great start tackling our animal situation. **But who is monitoring these mandates?**

I continuously see, (particularly on the Next-door Neighbors website,) both cats & dogs for sale, or worse....Free kittens or puppies (usually unspayed or neutered.) I only say 'worse' being unfortunately....Free has been an open invitation for a possibly abusive situation with the animal.....either for 'bait' or 'game.' I also come across several posts regarding found dogs or cats, or large dogs running in packs freely in our neighborhoods or these dogs who have attacked other dogs or cats.

3)

I am also wondering if the city can investigate who is abandoning these cats & dogs, that are dumped helpless in the middle of nowhere. Worse.....people are tossing kittens or other animals out of the car windows or throwing kittens in trash bags and throwing them away.

I do want to give a shout out however, to the accomplishments the city of Fresno has perused so far; Such as building our new Fresno Animal Shelter on Airways Blvd.

Thank-You!! I am also grateful to see funds going towards organizations such as TNR & the Kyle Kirkland Foundation. Awesome!!! I'm not 100% in regards to fosters, however.

Last....Sage Commons has been beneficial to the unhoused crisis in our city as well! However, residents at Sage Commons are also in need for care for their pets. The last I talked with the Sage Commons receptionist; there were **70 dogs** being sheltered.

Questions still remain:

- A. What can the city of Fresno live without, so we may use the funds to help with our animal crisis?
- B. Are we following the Hayden Law in Fresno? And how are we making sure we are abiding the penal code 599d?
- C. Where can healthy animals go if left on the streets?

Suggestions for helping may possibly include:

- Opening another no-kill shelter (commercial property ideas are in the folder.)
- Continue funding organizations for helping minimize our animal crisis such as TNR & the Kirkland Foundation & other foster programs such as Paws 4 a cause, or Angels 4 Paws, ect.,
- Reaching out to media or dropping off an advertisement to school districts & have them make copies to send home to parents.
- Funding fosters & possibly advertise to be a foster if another 'No-Kill' shelter is not an option financially.
- A possibly mandated policy to micro-chip animals in case they are lost.
- To mandate a spay and neuter policy.

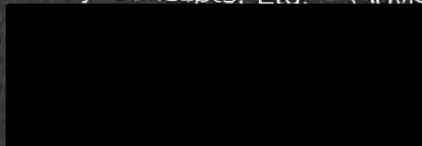
- To offer a low spay, neuter & vaccinate program less expensive for those who meet low-income requirements.

Thank-You for your time!

4)



Garret Giosa
Realty Concepts, Ltd. - Clovis



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**OP ZONE Industrial Facility with Excess
Land | 1485 Curtis Ave
Reedley, CA 93654**

\$7,000,000

FOR SALE

In Opportunity Zone [Census Tract 66.02]
Former Industrial Glass Fabrication Facility...



**2010 E Tyler Ave
Fresno, CA 93701**

\$1,150,000

FOR SALE

±21,546 SF clear-span freestanding Industrial
building on ±0.522 acres of land. This building
is...



**840 W Elm Ave
Coalinga, CA 93210**

\$1,200,000

FOR SALE

±16,538 SF clear-span freestanding industrial
buildings on ±1.96 acres of land with CA-198...



**2842 N Business Park Ave
Fresno, CA 93727**

\$25,150,000

FOR SALE

The campus was constructed and occupied by
Sunrise Medical since the first phase was
completed in...



**Bekins Storage | 301 Van Ness Ave
Fresno, CA 93721**

\$3,000,000

FOR SALE

The property, the iconic Bekins building, is
located in Downtown Fresno near the HWY 41
and Van...



**5741 E Central Ave
Fresno, CA 93725**

\$2,375,000

FOR SALE

±25,760 SF of office and warehouse on ±6.42
acres of land zoned M-1 Industrial located in
Fresno,...



**4630 E Olive Ave
Fresno, CA 93702**

\$4,950,000

FOR SALE

Brand New High-Exposure Industrial Buildings off Highway 180 in Fresno, CA. Multiple spaces...



**535 H Street & 507 Broadway | 1801 Santa Clara St
Fresno, CA 93721**

\$1,555,700

FOR SALE

Downtown Fresno Warehouse Building with Parking Lot & Storage For Sale. Priced separately: 1801...



Fresno, CA

Price Not Disclosed

FOR SALE



**2651 E Byrd Ave
Fresno, CA 93706**

\$8,500,000

FOR SALE

Prime opportunity in Fresno's highly sought-after industrial market: a 124,528 SF warehouse on...



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Listing Summary with Pics - Landscape

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Processing facility west of Fresno In Biola California. The property consists of a 45,900+- square foot processing facility co alone office, truck scale, two recessed loading docks and majority of the fenced area is paved. There is a solar system owr be verified with tax records, If important, buyer to verify.



Property Type: Commercial
Area: 654
APN/Parcel ID: 36827111
DOM/CDOM: 219/219
Listing Date: 12/05/24
On Market Date: 12/05/24

Property Subtype: Industrial, Other
County: Fresno
Cross Street: 13th
Square Footage: 1600
Lot Size SqFt: 9176
Lot Size Acres: 0.2107
Lot Size Source: TAXR
Price Per Acre: 1884195.54
Listing Price: \$397,000

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Attention Business Owners! Whether you're launching a startup or expanding an existing business, don't miss this fantasti office suite with a bathroom, a three-bay storage area with convenient roll-up doors, secure perimeter fencing, a spacious



Property Type: Commercial
Area: 654
APN/Parcel ID: 36832210
DOM/CDOM: 50/50
Listing Date: 05/23/25
On Market Date: 05/23/25

Property Subtype: Industrial, Office
County: Fresno
Region: Urban
Cross Street: 15th street
Square Footage: 1920
Lot Size SqFt: 7500
Lot Size Acres: 0.1722
Lot Size Source: TAXR
Price Per Acre: 2758420.44
Listing Price: \$475,000

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this commercial property has a 4 bay shop with an office in front. Clean ready to move in and start your business. There is consider buying both we can work on a lower price to buy both properties.



Property Type: Commercial
Area: 654
APN/Parcel ID: 36827113
DOM/CDOM: 179/179
Listing Date: 01/14/25
On Market Date: 01/14/25

Property Subtype: Industrial, Office
County: Fresno
Cross Street: 13th
Square Footage: 3000
Lot Size SqFt: 20426
Lot Size Acres: 0.4689
Lot Size Source: TAXR
Price Per Acre: 1667732.99
Listing Price: \$782,000

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Upscale Office Space with Bonus Rental & Additional Lot in Reedley!
This premium property now includes an adjacent lot, expanding the total land size by an additional 9,176 sq. ft. The well- area, a spacious conference room, two restrooms, and ample storageall situated on a combined 20,426 sq. ft. of land. Ad home, providing extra income potential. With even more space and versatility, this is an opportunity you won't want to mi



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Listing Summary with Pics - Landscape

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As of: 7/12/2025 11:52:26 AM

Search Criteria: • Property Type: Commercial • Include Property Subtype: Industrial • Transaction Type: Sale • C

LISTING SUMMARY WITH PICS - LANI

Active 05/30/25

\$1,100,000

ML#: 631222

Property Type: Commercial
Area: 611
APN/Parcel ID: 491140425
DOM/CDOM: 43/415
Listing Date: 05/29/25
On Market Date: 05/30/25

Property Subtype: Industrial, Showroom/Tech, Office
County: Fresno
Region: Urban
Cross Street: N Sunnyside & Sierra Ave
Square Footage: 3454
Lot Size SqFt: 16660
Lot Size Acres: 0.3825
Lot Size Source: TAXR
Price Per Acre: 2875816.99
Listing Price: \$1,100,000

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This is an M-1 (Light Industrial) Lot just under 17,000 sq in Clovis, north of Old Town. This lot consists of one large metal prior residential space converted office space which has 3 bedrooms, two bathrooms and a converted garage. The garage wrapped in concrete and gated which would be ideal for a car lot, auto rental or garage repair shop. The front building has and metal building space is 3,454 sq ft, buyer to verify. This sale would include land, buildings, fixtures, and in the garage Call Listing Agents for a private showing.



Property Type: Commercial
Area: 630
APN/Parcel ID: 016320065
DOM/CDOM: 71/350
Listing Date: 05/02/25
On Market Date: 05/02/25

Property Subtype: Warehouse, Industrial
County: Fresno
Region: Suburban
Cross Street: Howard Ave
Square Footage: 1634806
Lot Size SqFt: 1634807
Lot Size Acres: 37.5300
Lot Size Source: TAXR
Price Per Acre: 266453.50
Listing Price: \$10,000,000

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Processing facility west of Fresno in Biola California. The property consists of a 45,900+- square foot processing facility co alone office, truck scale, two recessed loading docks and majority of the fenced area is paved. There is a solar system own be verified with tax records, if important, buyer to verify.