



TO: Gahanna City Council  
Clerk of Council

FROM: Priya D. Tamilarasan, Esq., City Attorney

Cc: Mayor Laurie A. Jadwin  
Chief Jeff Spence

DATE: October 24, 2024

SUBJECT: Department of Law – Request for Council Action (October 28, 2024 Committee of the Whole)

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## ACTION ITEMS

### ACTION ITEM #1: REQUEST FOR ADOPTION

It has come to the Department of Law's attention that Section 505.14 of the Codified Ordinances of Gahanna needed review and revision. This section defines dangerous and vicious dogs and outlines responsibilities after designation but does not include language regarding contesting the designation or notification requirements. This section also included some scrivener's errors that needed to be corrected. The attachment reflects the proposed revisions to this section.

It is important to note that COG 505.14 differs from state code in that we do not include a category of "nuisance dog" separately and that is included as part of our definition of "dangerous dog." Specifically, state code states that "nuisance dog means a dog that without provocation and while off the premises of its owner, keeper, or harbinger has chased or approached a person in either a menacing fashion or an apparent attitude of attack or has attempted to bite or otherwise endanger any person." A nuisance dog under state code does not have any liability insurance or other restrictions, but if there are other violations involving a nuisance dog there is additional penalties and more than three violations would reclassify the dog as "dangerous."

#### Conclusion:

The Department of Law respectfully requests Council approve this ordinance and welcomes feedback regarding the nuisance dog category and whether it should be included in our ordinance.

Requested Legislation and Funding:

Legislation Needed:	Ordinance
Emergency/Waiver:	N/A
Vendor Name:	N/A
Vendor Address:	N/A
Already Appropriated:	N/A
Supplemental/Transfer:	N/A

Attachments:

LEG-ATT Dangerous and Vicious Dog Code Update – REDLINE  
LEG-ATT Dangerous and Vicious Dog Code Update - CLEAN