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Via Email: Michael Butler michael.butler@orangeburg.sc.us  
Jordan Hawkins jordan.hawkins@orangeburg.sc.us  
Kalu Kalu kalu.kalu@orangeburg.sc.us  
Jerry Hannah jerry.hannah@orangeburg.sc.us  
Annette Dees Grevious annette.grevious@orangeburg.sc.us  
L. Zimmerman Keitt liz.keitt@orangeburg.sc.us  
Sandra Knotts sandra.knotts@orangeburg.sc.us

Dear Mayor Butler and Members of City Council,

Alley Cat Allies is reaching out to thank you for postponing the reading of the ordinance to amend, restate, strike, and replace Chapter 12 of the city code. We appreciate the council taking this moment to pause, and we strongly urge you to collaborate with us on a modern, community-backed TNR framework that truly serves Orangeburg and its cats.

Alley Cat Allies is the leader of the global movement to protect and improve the lives of cats. As the leading advocacy organization for cats, we work with lawmakers, shelters, and the public toward humane, nonlethal, and effective laws and policies that serve the best interests of cats and the communities in which they live. We offer our expertise and resources to the City of Orangeburg.

Our organization is deeply concerned about this ordinance, particularly the inclusion of a feeding ban against cats in the City of Orangeburg. Banning the feeding of cats outdoors is not only cruel, but it does not achieve its intended goal and ultimately creates barriers to proven humane and effective approaches like Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR). A feeding ban will raise concern among community members and result in the needless penalization of local advocates who are simply performing a community service.

Beyond the feeding ban, the structural flaws of the proposed language create much wider issues; as currently written, the amended ordinance related to trapping represents a danger to cats and a liability to both the city and its residents.

### **Trap-Neuter-Return Is the Only Humane, Effective Approach**

The City of Orangeburg should enact a humane and effective approach that improves both cats' lives and the community. TNR is the only answer. Through TNR, community cats are humanely trapped; brought to a veterinary clinic to be spayed or neutered, eartipped (the universal sign that a cat has been spayed or neutered through a TNR program), and vaccinated; and then returned to their original outdoor homes.

TNR has been proven to stabilize community cat populations by stopping the cycle of reproduction; improve the cats' health through vaccinations; and benefit communities by reducing cat intake and calls of concern. Today, communities across the country have adopted TNR ordinances or policies, and advocates in thousands more communities worldwide are conducting grassroots, volunteer-led programs.

Alley Cat Allies stands ready to help provide insight on a more modern ordinance to serve everyone better. Thank you for your time, consideration, and your continued pause on this vote. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

Outreach Team  
Alley Cat Allies  
[www.alleycat.org](http://www.alleycat.org)