Alley Cat Allies

Dear Grand Bay Beach Condominium Board of Directors,

Alley Cat Allies is deeply concerned by and strongly opposes the Board's plan to remove community cats from the Grand Bay Beach property. We encourage you to work with the established caregivers of these community cats, or unowned cats who live outdoors, to pursue a more humane path forward.

Our team of experts can provide guidance and support in developing policies that humanely and effectively address concerns and needs while allowing the cats to continue thriving in their outdoor home.

Founded in 1990, 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 to the Grand Bay Beach Condominium Board of Directors.

Removal Doesn't Work, Community Cats Belong Outdoors

Removal of Grand Bay Beach's community cats is an ineffective approach to your concerns, a direct threat to the cats' well-being, and unfair to the compassionate residents who care deeply about the cats and spend their own time and money to support them.

Beyond being cruel to the cats, removal is proven ineffective. Removing cats from their established territories only creates a temporary void. Unvaccinated and unsterilized cats from surrounding areas will inevitably move in to utilize the available food and shelter, causing the population to rebound. This phenomenon is known as the vacuum effect.

Community cats, by definition, are unowned cats who live outdoors. They have coexisted alongside humans and wildlife for thousands of years and are not a threat to public health. Since they are generally not socialized to people, community cats are not candidates for adoption into indoor homes.

The personal meaning these cats hold for your community members who care for them also cannot be overstated. The cats' lives have inherent value, and they are loved and cared for. There is an opportunity to work collaboratively to ensure all needs are met, concerns are addressed, and the cats can remain where they belong: in their outdoor home.

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Is the Only Humane, Effective Approach

Science proves that TNR is the only answer. Alley Cat Allies understands that the community cats living on the property have all been humanely trapped, spayed or neutered, eartipped (the universal sign that a cat has been spayed or neutered through a TNR program), vaccinated, and returned to their original outdoor home at Grand Bay Beach. Through these efforts, the population has been stabilized.

Please Do Not Remove the Community Cats of Grand Bay Beach

Alley Cat Allies urges you to halt any plans for removing cats from the property. We are happy to provide any other information that would be helpful and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Daniel López, Director of Cruelty Prevention and Justice
Alley Cat Allies