DRAFT ORDINANCE NO. 26-489

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS AMENDING THE AGOURA HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 7 (GLUE TRAPS) TO ARTICLE V (SANITATION AND HEALTH) TO PROHIBIT THE USE AND SALE OF GLUE TRAPS AND MAKING FINDINGS OF EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO CEQA

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals.

A. The Agoura Hills City Council recognizes animal rights to prevent unnecessary suffering due to glue traps;

B. The City aims, whenever possible, to protect the public health and welfare, including local wildlife, all of which increases the sustainability and quality of life for Agoura Hills residents and visitors.

C. Because the City understands that education about and compliance with this Glue Trap Ordinance ("Ordinance") will take some time, the City Council desires to provide a grace period for enforcement of this Ordinance and therefore directs City to delay enforcing this Ordinance until December 1, 2026.

Section 2. Code Amendment. Article V (Sanitation and Health) of the Agoura Hills Municipal Code is hereby amended to add a new Chapter 7 (Glue Traps) to read as follows:

"Chapter 7: Glue Traps.

5700. – Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Animal" shall mean any vertebrate or invertebrate animal, such as rodents, birds, reptiles, and insects.

(b) "Glue Trap" shall mean a device that is designed to or is capable of being used to capture any animal by means of an adhesive substance or similar sticky substance.

(c) "Person" includes a natural person, a corporation, a partnership, limited partnership or other unincorporated association, a general partner of a partnership or limited partnership, a limited liability company, a public entity, a trust or any other corporate form cognizable under California law.

(d) "Sell" or "sale" shall mean any transfer, exchange, barter, gift, offer for sale, or distribute for a commercial purpose in any manner or by any means whatsoever.

5701. – Prohibitions.

(a) It is unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or display for sale glue traps within the City of Agoura Hills.

(b) It is unlawful to set, place, or otherwise use a glue trap or direct or permit another person to set, place, or use a glue trap to capture or kill any animal within the City of Agoura Hills."

Section 3. California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"). The City Council finds that this Ordinance is exempt from the CEQA for the following reasons:

A. The Ordinance is not subject to the requirements of CEQA because this Ordinance is not a "project" within the meaning of CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because prohibiting the use of sale of glue traps within the City is an administrative act of the City that does not authorize construction, does not change land use and does not cause any physical change to the environment and therefore has no potential for resulting in direct or indirect physical change in the environment, as other forms of pest control remain available.

B. Alternatively, even if the adoption of this Ordinance is found to be a project, it is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources) because it is an action taken by a regulatory agency to ensure the enhancement and protection of the environment by protecting animals from slow, cruel and inhumane death; and

C. This Ordinance is also exempt from environmental review under CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the Municipal Code amendments would have a significant impact on the environment. The Ordinance imposes regulations on a product that has other forms of pest control fully available, so there is no plausible pathway to a physical environmental effect.

Section 4. Severability Clause. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstances, is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Ordinance, or its application to any other person or circumstance. The City Council declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases hereof be declared invalid or unenforceable.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect thirty days after adoption.

Section 6. Certification. The Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same or a summary thereof to be published and posted in the manner required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ___ day of 2026, by the following vote to wit:

AYES: ( )
NOES: ( )
ABSENT: ( )
ABSTAIN: ( )

_____
Jeremy Wolf, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Kimberly M. Rodrigues, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Candice K. Lee, City Attorney