



## CITY OF SOUTH BEND

PETE BUTTIGIEG, MAYOR

Office of the Mayor

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### **CITY TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL ORDINANCE**

To celebrate the one-year anniversary of South Bend's revised animal care and control ordinance and recognize individuals and organizations making a difference for area animals, Bark and Howl for Hope and Second Chances will be held Friday, May 29 at The Emporium, 121 S. Niles Ave, from 6 to 8pm. The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to an award ceremony and light refreshments, a silent auction and 50/50 raffle will be held to raise funds for SBACC. Hambone, a dog adopted from South Bend Animal Care and Control, will be the honored guest.

"South Bend worked very hard to produce a law that has become a model for other cities," says Common Council member Valerie Schey (3rd District), who sponsored the ordinance. "We are a more humane community because of the support this ordinance provides to pet owners and animal care officials, and the sanctions it imposes on those who harm animals."

The new city ordinance governing animal care and control replaced breed-specific language with behavior-specific language, and provides for greater regulation and oversight of dog breeders, while strengthening enforcement and sanctions for those who mistreat animals. It also requires that pets caught running at-large more than once be spayed or neutered.

The ordinance also permits residents to have as many pets as they want, provided the animals are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and licensed. Previously, South Bend residents were only allowed to have a total of three dogs or cats.

"South Bend has made great strides in caring for animals," says Matt Harmon, manager of South Bend Animal Care and Control. "In just one year, the new ordinance has proven valuable in keeping South Bend's pets healthy and happy and protecting them from cruelty and abuse."

For more information on the new law, visit [southbendin.gov/government/division/animal-care-control](http://southbendin.gov/government/division/animal-care-control). For information on how to obtain a license for a dog or cat, visit [southbendin.gov/government/service/animal-licenses](http://southbendin.gov/government/service/animal-licenses) or call 235-9303.