



Ordinance Number: 996

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 OF THE ROCKY FORD
MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING ANIMALS AT LARGE**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Rocky Ford wishes to amend Chapter 7 of the Rocky Ford Municipal Code to the prohibition of animals at large in the City.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT HEREBY BE ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ROCKY FORD, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Section 7-7-50 of the Rocky Ford Municipal Code is hereby amended by the deletion of the definition for "Running at Large."

Section 2. Chapter 7, Article 8 of the Rocky Ford Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition of a new Division 5, entitled Animals at Large, as follows:

DIVISION 5 – Animals at Large

Sec. 7-8-610. – Animals at Large Prohibited.

(1) No person, as the owner of any animal, unless specifically exempted by this Code, shall fail to keep such animal off the premises of the owner and under the direct and competent control of the owner or the owner's authorized agent by means of a leash, except an animal within the automobile or other vehicle of its owner or owner's authorized agent. An owner also violates this section when an animal is on an unfenced portion of the premises of the owner or owner's authorized agent and the owner or authorized agent is not physically present and able to control the actions of such animal.

(2) For purposes of this Section, the *premises of the owner* shall not include common areas of condominiums, townhouses and apartment buildings; and any animal not in the effective control of its owner by means of a leash within the common areas of a condominium, townhouse or apartment building, or the grounds thereof.

(3) For purposes of this Section, *direct or competent control* does not include leashes anchored to the real property of the animal's owner, or authorized agent if such leash extends beyond the property line of the owner, or authorized agent.

Section 3. The City Council hereby finds, determines and declares that this ordinance is promulgated under the general police power of the City of Rocky Ford, that it is promulgated for the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and that this ordinance is necessary for the preservation of health and safety and for the protection of public convenience and welfare. The City Council further determines that the ordinance bears a rational relation to the proper legislative

object sought to be obtained.

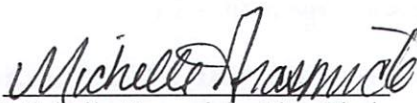
Section 4. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall for any reason be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction invalid, such judgment shall not affect application to other persons or circumstances.

INTRODUCED, APPROVED ON FIRST READING, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED IN FULL this 24th day of February 2026. A public hearing shall be held at the regular meeting of the Rocky Ford City Council on the 24th day of March 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the Rocky Ford City Hall.

By:


Duane L. Gurulé, Mayor

Attest:

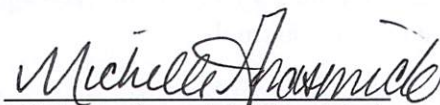

Michelle Grasmick, City Clerk

READ, ADOPTED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED on second and final reading by a vote of 6 to 0 on the 24th day of March 2026.

By:


Duane L. Gurulé, Mayor

Attest:


Michelle Grasmick, City Clerk