

Public Comment for Upcoming Commission Meeting

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Comments:

Dear County Commissioners,

We strongly OPPOSE the ORDINANCE TO BAN FEEDING OF WILD HORSES on public property. We humbly ask that you withdraw and/or REJECT the ordinance(s).

Our efforts should be focused on creating a positive impact in the community, not continually trying to tear it apart as this ordinance does. The ordinance is cruel and inhumane and there is no fact-based evidence behind the purported claims contained therein.

Did you know that wild horses play a crucial role in keeping our ecosystem balanced? HORSES HELP US.

FACTS:

1. While cattle do not have upper teeth and use their tongues to wrap around grass to pull it from the roots, horses only graze the tops of grass blades, allowing grasses to regrow in a healthier state.
2. Unlike cattle, horses are not ruminants and therefore, do not have four sections of their stomach. This means that their waste contains more nutrients.
3. Horses are respectful of their ecosystem. Instead of causing erosion and scaring away species diversity, horses tend to drink and move on, leaving minimal impact on stream habitats.
4. Horses are travelers and are also picky about what they eat and avoid consuming pretty flowers, allowing wildflowers to survive. If a horse consumes seeds, they can still germinate after being passed, and thus, horses act as important sources of dispersal for plant species.
5. In cold climates, many animals will follow the path of horses in order to find access to food and water. The powerful hooves of a horse have the ability to break through the ice, making streams once again potable for other animals. Furthermore, horses can make their way to grasses through deep snow, allowing other animals to also graze where horses have been.

LET'S HELP THE HORSES HELP US. This is the environment and landscape we chose to live in (Placitas is known, promoted, and celebrated for its wild horses), can't we as evolved human beings figure out a way to live in harmony with it, rather than adversity? Aren't we more civilized than a dictator invading territory and then subjecting the inhabitants to its rule?

I choose to live a life in balance with my surroundings. We must find a way to coexist with our environment, or we shall lose it forever.

Please Oppose this ordinance. Thank you.