MEMORANDUM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES L. BANKS, JR.
      CITY ATTORNEY

          CATHERINE R. CLEMENT
          ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

DATE: JUNE 8, 2010

SUBJECT: DOG TETHERING ORDINANCE

The Dog Tethering Ordinance was originally brought before the City Council for Introduction and First Reading on May 11, 2010. Subsequent to that meeting, members of the City Manager’s Office and the City Attorney’s Office met with Vice-Mayor Kerry Donley, former City Manager, Vola Lawson, Chairman of the Board of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (“AWLA”) Gordon Kromberg, Martha Armstrong, AWLA Executive Director and Chaun Gorden, Chief Animal Control Officer to receive comments and suggested changes/additions to the ordinance. These suggested changes/additions have been incorporated into the revised ordinance, which is attached for your consideration and Final Passage. Language that was removed from the ordinance is in Black and has been over struck. New language is in Red and is underlined.
ORDINANCE NO._____

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 5-7-31 (DEFINITIONS), and to add new
Section 5-7-36.1, (PROVISION OF ADEQUATE SHELTER AND SPACE,
TETHERING OF DOGS), all of Article C (DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS), Chapter 7
(ANIMALS AND FOWL), Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

(The following is all new language)

Section 1. That Section 3-7-31 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia,
1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5-7-31 Definitions.

(n) Adequate space. Means sufficient space to allow each animal to:

(1) easily stand, sit, lie, turn about, and make all other normal body
movements in a comfortable, normal position for the animal; and

(2) interact safely with other animals in the enclosure. When an animal is
 tethered, “adequate space” means a tether that permits the above actions and is
appropriate to the age and size of the animal; is attached to the animal by a
properly applied collar, halter or harness, configured so as to protect the animal
from injury and prevent the animal or tether from becoming entangled with other
objects or animals, or from extending over an object or edge that could result in
the strangulation or injury of the animal; and is at least three times the length of
the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, except when
the animal is being walked on a leash or is attached by a tether to a lead line.
When freedom of movement would endanger the animal, temporarily and
appropriately restricting movement of the animal according to professionally
accepted standards for the species is considered provision of adequate space.

(o) Adequate shelter. Means provision of and access to shelter that is suitable for the
species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; provides adequate space for each animal;
is safe and protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse
effects of heat or cold, physical suffering, and impairment of health; is properly lighted; is
properly cleaned; enables each animal to be clean and dry, except when detrimental to the
species; and, for dogs and cats, provides a solid surface, resting platform, pad, floor mat, or
similar devices that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner and can be
maintained in a sanitary manner. Under this chapter Section, shelters whose wire, grid, or slat
floors:

(1) permit the animals’ feet to pass through the openings;
sag under the animals' weight; or
otherwise do not protect the animals' feet or toes from injury are not adequate
shelter.

Sec. 5-7-36.1 Provision Of Adequate Shelter And Space, Tethering Of Dogs.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to provide any dog with adequate space
or adequate shelter. As used in this section, the terms "adequate space" and "adequate shelter"
have the meanings ascribed to them by City Code Section 5-7-31 (DEFINITIONS), subsections
n and o, respectively.

(b) Except when a dog's owner, guardian or custodian is physically within reach of
the dog, it shall be unlawful for any person to tether a dog to a chain, rope or line of any kind
that is too short to enable the dog easily to stand, sit, lie, turn about, and make all other normal
body movements in a comfortable, normal position for the animal and reach shade as necessary,
for more than onethree hours cumulatively within any twenty-four hour period, whether or not
the tethered dog has been provided adequate space.

(c) Notwithstanding any other part of this Section, a dog may be attached to a
running cable line or trolley system that allows it to reach shelter and water as necessary, except
that no dog may be confined to such a running cable line or trolley system for more than twelve
(12) hours cumulatively, within any twenty-four (24) hour period. A running cable line or
trolley system is defined as one that is at least twenty (20) feet in length and is mounted at least
four (4) feet, but no more than seven (7) feet, above the ground. Under no circumstances shall a
dog be attached to a running cable line or trolley system unless the tether attaching it to the
running cable line or trolley system is at least ten (10) feet in length or three times the length of
the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, whichever is longer.

(d) Penalties.
(1) A person shall be assessed a civil penalty of $50 for violating any provision of
subsections (a), (b) or (c) of this Section.
(2) A person shall be assessed a civil penalty of $100 for each subsequent violation of
any provision of subsections (a), (b) or (c) of this Section.
(3) If an animal control officer or law enforcement officer determines that a civil
penalty violation of this article has occurred, he shall issue and serve, or cause to be served, a
Notice of Violation on any and all persons committing the violation. The Notice shall provide
that the person served may elect to make an appearance, either in person or in writing by mail,
before the treasurer of the city, and admit liability for, or plead no contest to, the violation and
pay the civil penalty established for the violation, all within the time period set forth in the
Notice. If a person so notified does not elect to admit liability or to plead no contest, the
violation shall be tried in the Alexandria General District Court upon a Warrant in Debt or
Motion for Judgment, with the same right of appeal as provided in civil actions at law. A finding
or admission of liability or a plea of no contest shall not be deemed a criminal conviction for any
purpose.

Each violation of subsection (a) or subsection (b) of this Section constitutes a separate
violation of this subsection. The first violation of this subsection shall be punished as a Class 3
misdemeanor. However, a second violation of this subsection, whether or not involving the
same dog, within one year after conviction of the first violation, shall be punished as a Class 2
misdemeanor. The third and each subsequent violation of this subsection, whether or not
Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE
Mayor
ORDINANCE NO. 4662

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 5-7-31 (DEFINITIONS), and to add new Section 5-7-36.1, (PROVISION OF ADEQUATE SHELTER AND SPACE, TETHERING OF DOGS), all of Article C (DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS), Chapter 7 (ANIMALS AND FOWL), Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES), of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Section 3-7-31 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5-7-31 Definitions.

(n) **Adequate space.** Means sufficient space to allow each animal to:

(1) easily stand, sit, lie, turn about, and make all other normal body movements in a comfortable, normal position for the animal; and

(2) interact safely with other animals in the enclosure. When an animal is tethered, “adequate space” means a tether that permits the above actions and is appropriate to the age and size of the animal; is attached to the animal by a properly applied collar, halter or harness, configured so as to protect the animal from injury and prevent the animal or tether from becoming entangled with other objects or animals, or from extending over an object or edge that could result in the strangulation or injury of the animal; and is at least three times the length of the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, except when the animal is being walked on a leash or is attached by a tether to a lead line. When freedom of movement would endanger the animal, temporarily and appropriately restricting movement of the animal according to professionally accepted standards for the species is considered provision of adequate space.

(o) **Adequate shelter.** Means provision of and access to shelter that is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; provides adequate space for each animal; is safe and protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat or cold, physical suffering, and impairment of health; is properly lighted; is properly cleaned; enables each animal to be clean and dry, except when detrimental to the species; and, for dogs and cats, provides a solid surface (resting platform, pad, floor mat, or similar device) that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner and can be maintained in a sanitary manner. Under this Section, shelters whose wire, grid, or slat floors:

(1) permit the animals’ feet to pass through the openings;

(2) sag under the animals’ weight; or
(3) otherwise do not protect the animals’ feet or toes from injury, are not adequate shelter.

Sec. 5-7-36.1 Provision Of Adequate Shelter And Space, Tethering Of Dogs.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to provide any dog with adequate space or adequate shelter. As used in this Section, the terms “adequate space” and “adequate shelter” have the meanings ascribed to them by City Code Section 5-7-31 (DEFINITIONS), subsections n and o, respectively.

(b) Except when a dog’s owner, guardian or custodian is physically within reach of the dog, it shall be unlawful for any person to tether a dog to a chain, rope or line of any kind that is too short to enable the dog easily to stand, sit, lie down, turn about, and make all other normal body movements in a comfortable, normal position for the animal, and reach shade as necessary, for more than three hours cumulatively within any twenty-four hour period, whether or not the tethered dog has been provided adequate space.

(c) Notwithstanding any other part of this Section, a dog may be attached to a running cable line or trolley system that allows it to reach shelter and water as necessary, except that no dog may be confined to such a running cable line or trolley system for more than twelve (12) hours cumulatively, within any twenty-four (24) hour period. A running cable line or trolley system is defined as one that is at least twenty (20) feet in length and is mounted at least four (4) feet, but no more than seven (7) feet, above the ground. Under no circumstances shall a dog be attached to a running cable line or trolley system unless the tether attaching it to the running cable line or trolley system is at least ten (10) feet in length or three times the length of the animal, as measured from the tip of its nose to the base of its tail, whichever is longer.

(d) Penalties.

(1) A person shall be assessed a civil penalty of $50 for violating any provision of subsections (a), (b) or (c) of this Section.

(2) A person shall be assessed a civil penalty of $100 for each subsequent violation of any provision of subsections (a), (b) or (c) of this Section.

(3) If an animal control officer or law enforcement officer determines that a civil penalty violation of this article has occurred, he shall issue and serve, or cause to be served, a Notice of Violation on any and all persons committing the violation. The Notice shall provide that the person served may elect to make an appearance, either in person or in writing by mail, before the treasurer of the city, and admit liability for, or plead no contest to, the violation and pay the civil penalty established for the violation, all within the time period set forth in the Notice. If a person so notified does not elect to admit liability or to plead no contest, the violation shall be tried in the Alexandria General District Court upon a Warrant in Debt or Motion for Judgment, with the same right of appeal as provided in civil actions at law. A finding or admission of liability or a plea of no contest shall not be deemed a criminal conviction for any purpose.
Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE
Mayor

Final Passage: June 12, 2010
Mr. Mayor, and Members of City Council, my name is Gordon Kromberg and I am the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. I write this letter to notify you of my support, and that of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, for Council Docket Item 11, regarding the tethering of dogs.

None of us want dogs in our City to spend their days alone on a short chain. All of us want our dogs to have companionship, reasonable freedom of movement, and easy access to proper food, water, and shelter. I don’t know that we can legislate all that, but the proposed ordinance at least makes clear that, in this City, no one may keep a dog out on a short chain unattended for significant periods of time. At the same time, the proposed ordinance makes clear that tethering a dog may well be appropriate under certain circumstances, particularly including when the dog’s owner is within easy reach.

Last month, I met with Vice-Mayor Donley to discuss the proposed ordinance, along with members of the staff of the City Manager and AWLA Executive Director Martha Armstrong and Chief Animal Control Officer Chaun Gorden. I think that, on the basis of these discussions, the ordinance was improved. I think it does a good job of moving us toward a goal that we all share without being overly intrusive or frustrating the efforts of responsible dog owners to keep their pets safe.

I applaud the flexibility that Vice-Mayor Donley exhibited in the course of our discussions. I think that, as amended, the ordinance is one that will help the most vulnerable dogs in our City, and is one of which we all can be proud.

On behalf of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, I am grateful to Vice-Mayor Donley for focusing attention on this issue, and I ask that you approve it.

Gordon Kromberg

Chairman, Board of Directors
Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
Installing a Trolley System

Easiest Method | Real Cases | How to Sink a Post

A trolley isn't the best solution for helping a chained dog! Please consider building a fence or bringing your dog inside. Dogs need to be able to run free. You wouldn't want to live on a chain, and neither does your dog!

If your dog is a fence-jumper, there are alternatives to chaining your dog.

However, a trolley/dog run is better than a fixed chain. Your dog will be attached by a leash to a line like a clothesline. The leash is attached to the line by a rolling trolley. The dog can run back and forth the length of the line.

You can buy dog runs from Petsmart, Walmart and other pet and discount stores. Trolley kits include easy instructions. You can also buy the individual parts to a trolley (line, trolley, hooks for the posts/trees) at home improvement stores such as Home Depot or Lowe's.

We think the best trolley is: Prestige® Skyline Aerial Dog Run. The attachments are made of metal rather than plastic, so they are stronger and less likely to break. You can attach a stronger downline (leash), such as the Prestige Beast Tie-Out to the trolley for strong dogs.

The Easiest Method

The easiest way is to run the trolley between two trees. If you don't have two trees, you can easily sink posts into the ground and run the trolley between the posts. Or you can use a tree and one post.

Important!

Put the trolley in a place where your dog won't get tangled up or be able to jump a fence. If your dog jumps over a fence on his leash, he could be hung.

The trolley kit should include "stoppers" you can put anywhere on the line to stop the trolley. If you want the dog to stop four feet from one end of the line, put a stopper four feet from the end of the line. The trolley won't be able to get past the stopper.

You can buy extra stoppers at home improvement stores. Ask for rope clamps. Pick the size that works best for the size of your line. If the clamp is too big, it will slide around.

http://www.unchainyourdog.org/Trolley.htm
Real Cases: Lady and Maggie

Here's how Lady's and Maggie's lives were improved by installing a trolley.

Lady, before: Lady was chained to this clothesline post. Her yard is not fenced and the owner isn't planning to install one.

Lady, after: We ran the trolley between the two clothesline posts that were already in place. Now, Lady has about 10 times more area to run around in. She loves running on her trolley (though she would love a fenced yard a lot more!)

Maggie, before: Maggie was chained next to her doghouse for six years. Her chain was about six feet long. Maggie's guardian doesn't want her to have access to the entire yard.
Maggie after: We ran her trolley between a tree and a post we installed. Because Maggie can jump the fence, we had to keep her from getting too close to the fence. Otherwise, she could jump over and hang herself. We put a stopper (rope clamp) on the line a few feet from the fence. The stopper keeps Maggie from getting too close to the fence. Now, Maggie has much more room, and RUNS back and forth on her line. She seems to enjoy having her choice of spots to curl up and sleep now.

**How to Set a Post**

**Materials:**

- Strong wooden post. The post should be long enough to allow for about 1.5 feet under the ground, and 5-7 feet above ground. Ideally, the post should be tall enough for someone to walk under the trolley line. The post needs to be several inches thick so it won't snap.
- One 40 lb bag of concrete mix is plenty for one post. You can use quick-set.
- Stick or dowel.
- Water from a bucket or hose.
- Shovel or post-hole digger.

**Instructions:**

1. Dig a hole for the post. The post needs to be at least 1 1/2 or two feet underground.
2. Put a few rocks in the bottom of the hole, then set the post in the hole. It's easiest if you have someone to hold the post in the center of the hole.
3. Pour about one-third of the concrete mix into the hole (pour it around the post). Pour about half a gallon of water into the hole and stir the concrete around with the stick.
4. Keep adding concrete mix and stirring in water in until the hole is filled with the concrete mix. Refer to the directions on the package.
5. Cover the concrete with the dirt from the hole you dug. Pile dirt or rocks around the bottom of the post to keep it in place while the concrete sets.
6. In 24 hours, your post should be set with regular concrete. With quick-set, your post will be ready in an hour.
Chained Dogs are Loaded Weapons

August, 2005

Here's a chilling fact from government statistics: Chained dogs kill as many children as do firearms, and more than falls from trees, playground equipment and fireworks accidents put together. Since last July, 52 people, including 33 children, have been attacked by chained dogs or those who have broken their tethers. Four kids, one just 34 days old, were killed in the attacks.

These tragic statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, compiled for 2002, the last year for which complete statistics are available, prove what decent people have said all along: It's time to ban the dangerous, cruel practice of chaining dogs, for our children's sake as well as the dogs'.

In May, after a chained dog killed a Spartanburg County, S.C., child (the third such incident in two years in the county), one county official said that he considered a chained dog to be "just like a loaded gun" and suggested that their attacks are inevitable. He's right, and that's because tethering violates dogs' nature.

Dogs are pack and territorial animals, and — like us — they are "fight or flight" animals. Virtually every chained dog goes mad to some degree in solitary confinement. A chained dog grows more protective of the tiny plot that he or she is left to eat, sleep, defecate and urinate in. Prevented from fleeing by chains sometimes weighing half their body weight, these dogs respond in the only way they can when they believe someone is threatening their territory — they attack. When children, who are usually unaware of the danger, wander too close, their lives are in danger.

NEGLECTED DOGS, KIDS

A close look at the CDC's statistics shows that chaining dogs can transform backyards from a place of fun and relaxation for all family members — human and animal — into one of gruesome death and frustrated suffering instead. Dogs kept tied up killed 33 percent more children than did falls and fireworks accidents together. As many kids perished at the feet of ignored dogs as did the sum of those who died of bites by scorpions, hornets, wasps, bees, venomous snakes, lizards and spiders.

Forgotten dogs robbed just one less American child of his or her promising life in 2002 than did neglectful parents. Similarly, the hardships endured by neglected children — little food and water, inadequate shelter and care, and little or no love and attention — are suffered by millions of dogs outside American homes for their entire miserable lives. In many cases, these defenseless beings languish next to one another.

Our society works to keep children safe from many of these dangers. We have laws to protect children from neglectful parents and fireworks. Those who carelessly leave loaded firearms within kids' reach learn their lesson in court. Now we must be equally vigilant about the chaining of dogs. We must urge our municipal or county officials to ban or severely restrict this form of torture.

As a South Roxana, Ill., official said after the village discussed becoming the 70th American jurisdiction to pass such legislation, "This is something that needs to be done for the safety of the public and the animals."

We must commit to keeping dogs inside our homes for their entire 15-20 year lives or else not acquire them at all. We must diligently work with our neighbors and, if need be, law-enforcement officers to parole already-chained and innocent dogs from their life sentence in shackles.
If You Think I Want to Live Like This...

Think Again.

I Deserve Better than Life on a Chain/in a Pen

MAKE ME PART OF YOUR PACK

www.dogsdeservebetter.org
DOGS DESERVE BETTER THAN LIFE on a CHAIN OR in a PEN

Bring 'Em into the Home and Family

for help call 1.877.636.1408 or go to www.dogsdeservebetter.com
Animal Cruelty

As those who care about dogs' well-being are aware, keeping dogs chained, or "tethered," deprives these highly social pack animals of vital socialization, and when chains tangle or bunch up, dogs are often unable to reach shelter from bitterly cold weather or find shade and water in the summer. Tethered dogs grow aggressively protective of their tiny space, and there have been countless cases of chained dogs attacking children, adults, and animals who come near them and of dogs going after people and animals after breaking free.

In fact, attacks by chained dogs are often in the news. In the last year alone, several children have been fatally mauled. In response to such tragedies and criminal cruelty-to-animals cases that involved severely neglected chained dogs, more than 115 U.S. jurisdictions have passed laws that restrict or ban the cruel and dangerous practice of tethering.

PLEASE PASS A BAN ON TETHERING DOGS.
Mr. Mayor, and Members of City Council, my name is Gordon Kromberg and I am the President of the Board of Directors of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. I write this letter to notify you of my support, and that of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, for Council Docket Item 11, regarding the tethering of dogs.

None of us want dogs in our City to spend their days alone on a short chain. All of us want our dogs to have companionship, reasonable freedom of movement, and easy access to proper food, water, and shelter. I don't know that we can legislate all that, but the proposed ordinance at least makes clear that, in this City, no one may keep a dog out on a short chain unattended for significant periods of time. At the same time, the proposed ordinance makes clear that tethering a dog may well be appropriate under certain circumstances, particularly including when the dog’s owner is within easy reach.

Last month, I met with
Vice-Mayor Donley to discuss the proposed ordinance, along with members of the staff of the City Manager and AWLA Executive Director Martha Armstrong and Chief Animal Control Officer Chaun Gorden. I think that, on the basis of these discussions, the ordinance was improved. I think it does a good job of moving us toward a goal that we all share without being overly intrusive or frustrating the efforts of responsible dog owners to keep their pets safe.

I applaud the flexibility that Vice-Mayor Donley exhibited in the course of our discussions. I think that, as amended, the ordinance is one that will help the most vulnerable dogs in our City, and is one of which we all can be proud. On behalf of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, I am grateful to Vice-Mayor Donley for focusing attention on this issue, and I ask that you approve it.

Gordon Kromberg
President, Board of Directors
Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
Colleagues -

By way of information, the tethering ordinance on tonight's docket is a substitute ordinance replacing what was passed on first reading last month. If you recall, I asked that we defer action until we could get input for the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. The significant changes are:

- increased amount of time on a tether from one hour to three hours
- defined length of tether
- incorporation of a "trolley" system which allows for movement
- making a violation a civil penalty rather than a misdemeanor

These changes were incorporated at the suggestion of the Animal Welfare League and improve the proposal. Public hearing is still set for Saturday so there should not be a need for much debate tonight.

Thanks

Kerry
Hello,

I have recently learned that the The Alexandria City Council is considering a ban on the tethering of dogs outside for more than one hour at a time. I completely support this measure, as a resident of this neighborhood and as a new mom. I don't ever want my family in danger of a dog that has grown aggressive from excessive chaining and tethering.

115 U.S. jurisdictions have passed laws that restrict or ban the cruel and dangerous practice of tethering. I hope that Alexandria becomes the next success story.

Chained dogs, through no fault of their own, can be ticking time bombs: They often go mad from confinement and are nearly three times as likely to attack as dogs who are not chained, and children are the most common victims of attacks by chained dogs.

Thank you for
reading.

Sincerely,

Marcie Winitt
COA Contact Us: Please Ban the Practice of Chaining Dogs
william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley, alicia.hughes,
Gail Blatt to: council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka, linda.owens

Please respond to Gail Blatt

Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
Gail Blatt
5316 Dunsmore Road
Alexandria
Virginia
22315
7-3-922-8722
ebrockfish@aol.com

Please Ban the Practice of Chaining Dogs
I am writing to you today to urge that the City of Alexandria ban the
practice of chaining or tethering dogs. This has been shown too many times
to cause dogs to become vicious, causing them to bite or be aggressive.
Dogs, themselves are harmed by being tethered when their rope or chain
becomes too tight and chokes them, or gets wrapped around something and the
dog cannot escape the weather or get food and water. Please consider that
the statistics prove that children are most likely to be bite victims of a
tethered dog. It is not the dog’s fault, but the fault of the owner who
does not take the time to socialize the animal or teach it to be a loving
family pet.
Please consider my comments and ban this cruel
practice.
Thank you
Dear City Council Members,

I understand that the Alexandria City Council is considering a ban on the tethering of dogs outside for more than one hour at a time. As those who care about dogs' well-being are aware, keeping dogs chained, or "tethered," deprives these highly social pack animals of vital socialization. When chains tangle or bunch up, dogs are often unable to reach shelter from bitterly cold weather or find shade and water in the summer.

Tethered dogs grow aggressively protective of their tiny space, and there have been countless cases of chained dogs attacking children, adults, and animals who come near them and of dogs going after people and animals after breaking free. In fact, attacks by chained dogs are often in the news. In the last year alone, several children have been fatally mauled.

In response to such tragedies and...
Comments: criminal cruelty-to-animals cases that involved severely neglected chained
dogs, more than 115 U.S. jurisdictions have passed laws that restrict or
ban the cruel and dangerous practice of tethering. As Alexandria has always
been at the forefront of positive change, I sincerely hope that you will
help make our city the next success story on this important animal issue.

Please remember that chained dogs, through no fault of their own, can
be ticking time bombs: They often go mad from confinement and are nearly
three times as likely to attack as dogs who are not chained. Finally, our
children are the most common victims of attacks by chained dogs. We can
prevent future animal attacks by passing this ban. Pleas do not allow our
city dog's to be tethered more than one hour at time.

Thank you for your
consideration,

Wendy Maines
I Support the Ban on Tethering Dogs

Dear Madam or Sir,

I would like to show my support of the ban on tethering dogs in Alexandria. One of my favorite qualities of this city is it's love for dogs. Let's make it absolutely clear to everyone that Alexandria truly is a beautiful, dog-friendly city.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Sincerely,
S. Robertson