



La Palma City Council
September 18, 2018

Community Coyote Forum Update



Background

- ❑ City Council has received public comments regarding perceived increases in coyote and human interactions
- ❑ City Council directed staff to setup a community meeting:
 - ❑ To better educate the public about coyotes
 - ❑ Identify what options are available regarding urban wildlife



Community Coyote Education Forum

- ❑ Meeting held August 9, 2018 in Royal Palm Room of the La Palma Community Center:
 - ❑ Event was advertised in *The Source* and on social media
 - ❑ Approximately 20 residents attended the meeting
 - ❑ They received a presentation from animal representatives:
 - ❑ Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA)
 - ❑ California Department of Fish and Wildlife



Coyote Facts

- ❑ Overall decline in coyote-human bite incidents
- ❑ Coyotes generally fear humans
- ❑ They will attack for food or when pups are endangered
- ❑ Never run from a coyote, it may trigger predator instincts
- ❑ Most persons over estimate the size of coyotes
 - ❑ Average urban coyote is 17-24 pounds
- ❑ Coyotes are territorial animals, therefore cannot be trapped and relocated



California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Wildlife officials recommend eliminating food sources and encourage the public to haze encountered coyotes
- They will respond and investigate reports of humans being bitten
- Offending animals would be located and humanely euthanized



SEAACA's Role

- Limited role, mostly educational and advisory
- Will help educate residents about ways to reduce coyote attractions (food, water, shelter, etc.)
- Will respond to reports of injured or vicious animals, including wildlife
- However, SEAACA will not trap wildlife



Meeting Conclusions

- ❑ Most participants left the meeting with a better understanding of urban coyotes
- ❑ Some residents indicated that Police Department staff need additional training
 - ❑ The Police Department is preparing some basic training for staff about urban coyotes
- ❑ Other residents felt that more public education materials should be provided
 - ❑ The City's website has been updated with recommendations for coexisting with urban coyotes
 - ❑ Coyote flyers available in the Police Department lobby



Recommendation

- Receive and file the report
- Staff is available to answer any questions