

Councilman Calls for Mandatory Cat Licensing

System would help identify housecats from strays, according to a proposal.

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A councilmember in Rocky Mount, Va., is proposing that all cats living within the county limits be licensed.

Councilman Jerry Greer has said he wants Franklin County, Va., to set up a system that would ID pet cats from strays by requiring owners to license their cats.

"I'd like to see cats being vaccinated and have tags on them so we'd know that we're not in any kind of danger," Greer told WDBJ-TV in Roanoke, Va.

However, animal control officers in the county told the station that strays are not a big problem in Rocky Mount and that in the last year, they've only caught about 40 loose cats roaming the streets.

The decision to pass a cat licensing ordinance will ultimately be up to the Franklin County Board of Supervisors. Greer has suggested a \$3 to \$10 dollar registration fee, with the money going toward paying animal control workers' wages.

Thus far, the issue has not been scheduled on the Board of Supervisors agenda.