

CITY OF BALTIMORE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Health Department Finalizes Exotic Pet Regulations

BALTIMORE, MD (August 7, 2007)— After receiving public comment earlier this year, the Baltimore City Health Department has finalized regulations on pot-bellied pigs, pigeons, fowl, bees, wild and exotic animals, and reptiles.

In several instances, the regulations have been changed from the proposed regulations based on comments from the public. For example, the proposed regulations limited pigeons to 50 per person. The final regulations limit pigeons to 125 per person, with conditions that include a well-maintained coop or loft that prevents disease and odor.

The final regulations prohibit keeping bears, bats, ostriches, squirrels, cattle, monkeys, mongooses, and kangaroos as pets, among other types of animals.

Residents may obtain exceptions from regulations on wild and exotic animals if they qualify for a permit as an approved venue by the Bureau of Animal Control.

The regulations will take effect on October 6, 2007.

Attached please find a press release, responses to comments, and the final regulations.

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