



This document is a summary of the Sandy Police Department and Sandy Animal Services response to the proposed horse boarding business licensing requirement within the Bell Canyon Acres subdivision.

BOARDING BUSINESS LICENSES

When a business license application is animal related. Sandy Animal Services participates in the business inspection process prior to the issue. Just like the Fire Marshall, Animal Services inspects the property and discusses plans to address specific needs or concerns related to companion animals. If the business is livestock or agriculture related it is inspected by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

CONCERNS

- Police and Animal Services are not the primary departments to investigate business license violations, however they will be required to respond to these calls when Code Enforcement is unavailable.
- Business licensing in the residential setting is challenging. Brick and mortar commercial enterprises open to the public are easy to inspect and address violations. Private residences where business and personal space are not as clear to see or access present challenges. Due to these properties/businesses being residential there are stronger constitutional protections in place requiring the cooperation of the residents.
- When the boarding of animals, such as horses, is at question and the space is occupied by both owned and boarded animals, it can be almost impossible to gather evidence of violations.
- Any change in the number of horses on any property could result in further complaints regarding a resident's business license status. This may lead further disputes and complaints of harassment in the neighborhood.
- Licensing will not alleviate trespassing complaints of non-resident horse riders within the neighborhood, as boarders will likely ride their horses here.

CONCLUSION

The introduction of business licensing in Bell Canyon Acres would not prove effective in regulating horse boarding. Fourth Amendment challenges pertaining to searches and the gathering of evidence will prove extremely challenging when building a case.

Neighbors already at odds may see “business licenses” as an opportunity to request Sandy Police, Animal Services, and Code Enforcement to inspect the property. This will result in increased calls for service and complaints of harassment.