



CITY OF CHICO OFFICIAL PLANNING DIRECTOR INTERPRETATION

Authority: **Chico Municipal Code Section 19.02.030 (Procedures for interpretations)**

Applicable Code Sections: **19.76.040 (Animal Keeping) and 19.04 (Definitions – Animal Keeping)**

Discussion: Miniature potbelly pigs may be considered both “small animals” and “household pets”. Household Pets are described in CMC 19.76.040 A. as “an accessory use of residential property”. “Service animals” (not currently included in the CMC) often refers to household pets that serve people with physical challenges (such as the blind), but may also serve people with emotional challenges to provide not only companionship, but a calming effect. Miniature potbelly pigs are often kept as household pets and service animals, and would also fit under the category of “small animals” in Table 5-10 (Minimum site area required for animals).

Interpretation:

Pursuant to Section 19.02.020.E.1, it is hereby determined miniature potbelly pigs may be considered both “household pets” and “small animals” for purposes of implementing CMC 19.76.040 (Animal Keeping) and 19.04 (Definitions – Animal Keeping). It is recommended that CMC 19.04 (Animal Keeping) be amended to include sub-definitions for large and small animals, household pets, and service animals, with examples of each. CMC 19.76.040 should be similarly amended, including Table 5-10.

The Findings as required by this Code Section are hereby confirmed with respect to this determination.

This Official Interpretation is effective immediately and will require an amendment to Title 19 Land Use and Development Regulations.


Mark Wolfe, Community Development Director

Date: July 18, 2016