
Dog policy, bylaw and regional park access rules 2025

Q2 Policy and bylaw matters

**(Q2B. Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing
must be to neuter)**

Comments sorted by submitter's local board

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Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
ALBERT-EDEN LOCAL BOARD		
116	Support	By definition, intact males can be menacing regardless of breed. I've seen intact labradors that act like they want to tear the throat out of every dog they see, which is very difficult for the person walking the dog, and usually they are smart enough to stay away from off-leash areas.
176	Support	How will 'you' indentify such dogs and police the matter?
507	Support	Safety first and stop breeding menacing dogs for dog fighting
721	Support	More dog control rules required urgently
863	Support	Dogs can be a danger to people and particularly children. Dangerous dogs should not breed.
960	Do not support	I support a dog that is classed as menacing but not entire breeds being classed as menacing, plus harsher penalties need to be put on owner of menacing dogs or have the dog removed from that person
982	Do not support	This won't change anything. People who don't follow rules will still breed unruly dogs and train them to do unruly things.
1190	Do not support	Menacing dogs should be euthanised or, at the very least, have to wear a muzzle in public. Neutering doesn't fix the issue.
1622	I don't know	Which dog expert authority decides what dog is menacing?
1939	Support	a. they should not be able to breed. b. hopefully neutering should produce a calmer dog
1980	Support	There should also be a requirement for the owners to complete formal training for managing their dog if classed as menacing.
2352	Support	Absolutely any dog classified as menacing must be desexed. Further to this, any dog that has been reported as dangerous must be desexed regardless of breed.
2362	Support	I absolutely agree and support this. It is often owners who have no concept of training their dog or taking it to the vet for vaccinations that result in backyard breeding - this is truly unfair for both the dogs and their litter
2476	Support	I have had to call dog control more than once concerning threatening dogs in my local area. The culprit in each case has been an un-neutered off-leash or escaped male dog.
2871	Support	Heavier consequences for dogs biting other dogs, cats, poultry, and obviously people.! Asking owners to fix their fence for example, in order to keep everyone safe is not going to resolve the behavior of the offending dog.
3062	Do not support	its all about how the dog is raised not because their breed. A chihuahua can be a serial nipper too (less damage compared to "menacing dog" but still cause harm)
3404	Support	I would go further and have all menacing dogs destroyed/euthanised.
3598	Do not support	rules around dogs considered menacing should be based off of current statistics on what breeds have been reported in incidents where they have been menacing or a threat to another dog or human being regardless of the breed.
4154	Support	Certain dog breeds (e.g Pit Bulls) should be banned from ownership like in other countries as these dogs and their owners let down the vast majority of good owners (and their dogs).

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4182	Support	I was attacked and injured by a dog that later received a menacing classification. I don't know if neutered or not, but it makes sense that a dog who does this should not be able to be bred from.
4325	Support	All dogs who are menacing should be shot. Its their owners who ought to be neutered.
4368	Support	Of course they should be. It drives me nuts to see the Council 'inviting' owners of menacing dogs to get them desexed. Nice try, but does not go nearly far enough. If Council is not going to mandate compulsory de-sexing (I know council's focus is all conservation and no animal welfare, but just a reminder that the animal welfare implications of uncontrolled breeding are horrendous, and most emphatically do not make for a city that is a great place to live, work and play) then at the very least all the dogs belonging to an owner whose dogs have been classified as menacing should be compulsorily desexed.
4412	I don't know	The only question I have is how you classify a dog as menacing. Is it just based on its breed? Because that should not necessarily be a determinative factor. If it is based on behaviour of the dog, that seems more reasonable.
4520	Support	Some breeds without adequate training and care can and will be aggressive. I think internationally this may be documented. Unfortunately these cases do deem a need for security for the public and other dog owners. Some breeds do require specific environments to thrive and I think the council can support this through bylaws
4689	Support	Menacing dogs have no place in New Zealand. This must be evident from the number of dog attacks we have in this country each year.
4721	I don't know	This should not be council one decision for all menacing dogs - its should be informed by qualified veterinarian behaviourist.
5485	Support	I assume that 'good' dog owners will be subsidising the 'bad' owners. There are dog breeds that are classified as menacing. Take a look at Trademe and see how many menacing breed puppies are for sale...
6680	Support	I would like to know the criteria to classify a dog as menace. In addition there should be some government support for stray/abandoned dogs and dogs in ares where there's not enough education and provide low cost options for neutering dogs.
6749	I don't know	This could clearly become biased if the people making the decisions do not appreciate the breed of dogs that this concerns. Agree non breeding dogs should be neutered by a certain age again depending on breed for health reasons.
AOTEA/GREAT BARRIER LOCAL BOARD		
2952	Support	Because we do not need more menacing animals, I have children and I do not feel
DEVONPORT-TAKAPUNA LOCAL BOARD		
663	Support	For public safety reasons these dogs should not be bred from
985	Support	As not everyone has the capacity to train dogs, it would be best to ensure that the menacing ones are not able to continue breeding.
1452	Support	In my opinion menacing dogs should also be muzzled when out in public.

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1558	Do not support	You cannot class a dog as menacing due to there breed. It needs to be based on ever individual dog and a breeding license should be obtained for people who want to leave dogs not neautered. Then un neautered dogs ate registers and can be monitored.
1620	Support	there is no evident to say neutering a dog will stop menacing behaviour but if you feel there is some worth in doing, then knock yourself out, who will pay for this?
1852	Support	My dogs are neutered and are classified due to breed. Breed specific legislation is ***** - its down to owner management and training. I walk.both my dogs and its little dogs that are barking and lunging at mine that makes those owners look dumb
3590	Support	Menacing dogs should not be allowed to reproduce. Also, their behaviour can be less menacing if they have been neutered.
3643	Do not support	It should be analyzed case by case. What's the history of the dog in question, the breed of the dog, the situation that happened, how it happened. Analyze the case form the point of view of the animal and the point of view of the dog. Owners should be checked before getting a dog aswell to make sure if it's suitable to care for the animal. Not every breed of dog if for everyone. Some breed are very hard to maintain and educate. Some breed should be only be with an owner that it's hable to pay for professional training. There are difference. Possible owners should be educated before purchasing or adopting a harder temperament breeds.
3762	Do not support	Who defines menacing. That is so judgemental. A friend of mine is terrified of dogs and would class harmless dogs as menacing. It is none of the councils business if a dog should be neutered or not
4684	Support	About time, and any unregistered dogs impose an instant heavy fine.
5151	Do not support	Owners are the menacing not dogs. Apply enforcement to owners not to the animals.
6725	Support	ACC records show an increase in dog attacks. Decades ago when I was the public health nurse in Otara I was bitten by a dog on the pavement outside a property and I feel passionate about this. I am concerned that the SPCA advertises dogs to be rehomed during a recession when I think that many families would struggle to meet the needs of a dog - financially and in terms of time. However, they can also be a comfort although I worry that dogs of uncertain parentage may grow too large to readily have their exercise needs met in densely populated areas and the provision of large off leash areas would be too expensive for the dog owning community. It should not be provided by ratepayers who often struggle to pay their rates as it is. I think that dogs classified as menacing shoud all be neutered as this may have a behavioural impact if done early enough. I agree that there are exceptions, but I think that all dogs of risky or often aggressive breeds and not in the hands of a registered breeder should be neutered, especially if thsy live in a densely populated area such as a city or town. Judging by the SPCA, we have more cats and dogs than needed by the population

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FRANKLIN LOCAL BOARD		
51	Do not support	If classified menacing, should they even be alive!
62	I don't know	Whether a dog is menacing or not is on the owner of the dog, not the dog itself, dogs learn by behaviors they are taught, just like children, a dog could be classed as a menacing breed and be the sweetest natured. I don't feel that neutering should be put hand in hand with menacing brand
844	Do not support	Statement does not clearly specify what designates a menacing dog. Should not be breed focused as small dogs such as poodles etc can also be menacing and cause incidences. Any rules around neutering should specifically be related to incidences.
906	Support	Define Menacing? Is this any particular dog that has shown aggression /bitten people or is it classified by breeds of dogs?
1052	Support	Help with neutering costs for people who are financially struggling
1115	Support	Ma y who own menacing dogs don't register them, so how will this be policed & by whom?
1206	Support	It's good practice and common sense for dogs to be desexed, especially if classed as menacing. They should also be walked in a muzzle.
1336	Support	I find it unbelievable that obviously menacing dog breeds which were bred for fighting are even allowed, such as American Pit Bulls, Staffordshire Terriers, etc. As a dog owner, such dogs are the main risk to my dog, as fighting dogs are often too strong to control even on-leash.
1475	Support	Every dog has the potential to be dangerous or a threat- to neuter certain dogs will calm certain breeds down and stop the breeding of them to sell on.
1539	Support	that then needs to be put in place not just written on paper
1542	Support	So long as menacing is determined by a qualified trainer or similar. Not animal control or a vet. Similar to humans, if you are going to sentence to death, you better be darn sure there is not alternative.
1611	Do not support	Responsible breeders should be able to breed these dogs, however they should be certified and have clear rules around how many they can breed.
1624	Do not support	Do not agree with this as many are classed menacing on a whim that they may have a particular breed mix in them. Any dog can attack. If there are complaints about a dog then it should be labeled menacing I believe.
1726	Support	Unless you are a registered breeder, all dogs should be neutered/spayed by law not just menacing dogs.
1776	Do not support	I think the term 'menacing' is too broad to avoid uncertainty. There should be a clear explanation - not just the term menacing.
1922	Support	This is a huge issue and fixing them won't help...what does menacing mean anyway? Because the council decides something looks bad...I say make muzzles absolute like Hong Kong
2242	Support	Makes sense. Our teddybear dog is.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
2475	Support	My small dog was mauled in a dog park Feb 2024. I personally 2 other owners whose small dogs were killed while being walked in Auckland region 2024. Dangerous breeds should not be able to breed.
2739	Do not support	No dogs should be classed as menacing. It is not the dog that is menacing its the way the dog is raised/trained by the owners. If a dog is menacing that is the owners fault. Its not fair to punish whole breeds because of the way some dogs have been treated by owners.
2795	Support	I think there should be harsh penalties for people with menacing dogs that are not neutered, not controlled. I would prefer rhese breeds were actually banned.
2925	Support	This seems a very safe way to proceed and to eliminate menacing dogs in our community
3101	Support	Support with amendment. There have been numerous public incidents in the last two years involving large dogs attacking people and or children. Thus far there has been little justice for this and owners are allowed to offend repeatedly without consequence. https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/360551003/couple-80-and-74-suffer-serious-injuries-dog-attack-auckland-reserve https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/south-auckland-dog-attack-mother-of-six-mauled-by-pit-bulls-thought-she-would-die-on-sidewalk/YJZ3OUAYANDTRET4B4ZEMN7GS4/ https://www.neighbourly.co.nz/public/auckland/panmure/message/68795944 While neutering may change the behaviour of some animals it is not going to solve the problem. All dogs classified as menacing must have strict controls put in place in their appearance in public including: - They may not be walked off leash - If the dog escapes its enclosure and is found unattended in public it must be put down (to prevent reoccurrence and public endangerment) - If the dog escapes its enclosure, the owner must be prosecuted and face 6+ months prison time for endangering the public.
3293	Support	People shouldn't be allowed to own menacing dogs full stop, but at the absolute minimum they should not be capable of breeding.
3376	Support	Why are we even allowing menacing dogs full stop?
3378	I don't know	I think if they can be kept under control unless they attack and bite people or other dogs
3424	Support	Although neutering is known to decrease aggressive behavior, there are other factors such as when the dog was neutered e.g. the age of the neutering procedure takes place. As well as other environmental and behavioral factors. A question, why do we allow "Menacing" dog breeds in the country to begin with? Is a phase out approach something we should be pushing for e.g. approach adopted by Great Britian

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4342	Do not support	Should be a case by case decision. If you are requesting dogs to be neutered then you need to also offer support to allow people to afford this. I think many people would love to neuter their dogs but struggle to afford it. If Auckland council offered a subsidy then many rate payers would take advantage of this.
4428	Support	To "Clarify the Rule" won't make any difference to those irresponsible owners that
4557	Support	Must also be enforcement of this, I know that some people have had fines or whatever placed for menacing or worse dogs to be muzzled by they are not even registered dogs, who will follow up to ensure that the dog is actually neutered/goes out with a muzzle etc?
4690	Do not support	How will this be enforced?
4911	Support	I understand that there are some breeds classed as menacing. I am RDO and have my dog speyed, vaccinated, microchipped and registered. Why should others not?
5038	Support	Again fine the owners, have people on the ground patrolling the areas. Prevent these dog attacks from happening!
5042	Support	I had an incident here at Orere Point where I was walking my standard poodle on the footpath (I believed safe for all ratepayers) and one of those American bulldog crosses jumped its owners fence and attacked my poodle. It went straight for the throat and wouldn't let go, I was striking it with my walking stick but obviously not hard enough. The man next door to the dogs owner came out and booted it in the stomach to get it off my poodle. Finally the bulldog let go but it came straight back for my poodles throat as quick as lightening until another neighbour from down the road heard the crying and came to my rescue putting his hand down the dogs throat and getting him off my poodle. This was a most terrifying experience for both myself at 73 years of age and my dog, lucky I didn't have a heart attack. I reported it to the Council and the Dog Ranger came out, went to the wrong house the 1st day but found the correct property the second day. He told the owner his dog had to be kept at the back of the section so it couldn't jump the fence to get out and worry people on the footpath. The dog is still in the front of the property even now months later. I had vets bills to get my dog back to normal and the owner of the bull dog had nothing. I don't think its fair that these dogs can be kept on properties that are not fenced properly and I believe if you want to have one of those type of dogs there should be a law to say FENCE ME IN so everyone else in the area can walk around without being scared or intimidated on the public footpaths that the Council provides and that we ratepayers pay to keep maintained. There has to be serious consultation on these dogs and their owners and the environment they are living in and only the Council can fix this problem. Maybe if the dog fees are trebled or even more for those types of dogs it may deter that type of person who wants this type of dog to think again before purchasing one. My darling poodle had to be put down no doubt the consequences of this attack and I must say I was not happy with the whole Auckland Council Dog Ranger situation and the way this complaint was handled. After all our dog registration fees are supposed to help with these situations.
5116	Support	Unless the dog owner has a responsible dog, owner license and has papers for the dog

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5906	Support	Our shelters are FULL of menacing dogs. A lot of first time and uneducated dog owners rescue a dog from a shelter as they are cheaper, then have no idea of the needs and responsibility of a power breed (menacing dog breed). Obviously it is the unplanned breeding of menacing dogs filling our shelters. Our shelters do not have Bernese Mountain dogs, Newfoundlands, Great Danes, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Springer Spaniels, Labradors - they instead are full of power breed mixes; Bull Mastiff cross, staffy cross, pit bull cross. Menacing dogs are making up the majority of dogs in South Auckland due to irresponsible dog owners not neutering their dogs and letting them roam. I do however believe there should be exceptions to responsible registered owners (registered with the New Zealand Kennel Club) breeding some of the breeds; such as Purebred Staffordshire Bull Terriers, purebred Bull Terriers etc.
6073	Support	Thats fair
6746	Support	The owner of a menacing dog should also be impacted, ie future dogs owned must be neutered also. It is generally the owners actions/inactions that lead to a dog being classed as such.
HENDERSON-MASSEY LOCAL BOARD		
565	Support	Yes because I didn't know that. I think you need to recampaign about dog safety and menacing dogs
832	Support	Such dogs should be neutered and muzzled and never be allowed off leash in any public area. And if they are found wandering they should be euthanised.
891	Support	I am sick of constantly having to be vigilant when I am out with my children, because there are breeds like bull mastiff's and pit pulls (or cross breeds with pit bull in them) roaming around driveways or in parks off leash. My father was a vet, and I grew up with dogs, but I do not believe these breeds should even be legal. They are seriously unpredictable and can seriously injure and kill people. Generally speaking, the people who own these dogs say, "Oh, my dog is safe and would never hurt anyone." If you Google, 'people killed by pitbulls', the statistics facts don't lie.
918	Support	If this is in relation to the individual dog NOT by breed
1373	I don't know	Menacing and dangerous dogs have been a moral panic since the 1990s, therefore all laws around them reaffirming this panic should be treated carefully. While I am overall in favour for desexing dogs, provisions like this must come alongside the support for owners who cannot pay and higher scrutiny that the dog is living in conditions that do not put into harm. Any breed can be reactive, but dangerous dogs tend to reflect their previous/current living conditions.
1426	Do not support	All dogs, unless in a legal breeding program, should be neutered - regardless of breed or "menacing"
1606	I don't know	I believe there needs to be a fine to the owners, dogs adapt to bad habits due to lack of care or training

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1609	Support	This should be mandatory. Menacing dogs are classified for a reason. In light of the recent dog attack incidents (not to mention those that are not published), these often come from menacing and/or the same types of dogs (i.e. bully breeds). Preventing backyard breeding and the unregulated breeding of menacing dogs should be an absolute non-negotiable change. This change is beneficial for both the community and the welfare of dogs.
1666	Support	I don't think that this should be just for menacing dogs, I think all breeders should all be forced to spay and neuter their dogs and forced to adopt from shelters and rescues and not be able to buy dogs and puppies at all. It seems draconian but its the only effective way to reduce the number of unwanted litters. If we did this, then we could be stray free very quickly and only those people that wanted dogs to love and cherish them, rather than have them as a status symbol would have the privilege of having a dog. Of course, breeding would need to continue for specialist breeds like police dogs and guide dogs but I cant see any reason for the cruelty and pressure that the rescues are all facing at the moment when the issue can be resolved at the source.
1708	Support	Safe
1751	Do not support	Majority of the time the dogs are menacing cos the owners lack control and give no attention or take them on walks.. dog owners need to be punished severely
2293	Support	Dogs that are aggressive should not breed and pass on the personality traits.
2449	Do not support	Not all dogs are vicious . It's training that should be compulsory when owning a dog maybe an incentive to reduce yearly rates by 50% if the owners complete the puppy training and or adult dog training (behavioural training) in first 3 months of registering the dog .
2500	Support	Male dogs are harder to control when coming into reproductive age, specially complicated for owners who are not aware of the benefits of neutering at a n early age
2531	Do not support	Should be neutered after first litter.
3786	Support	Also if a dog is menacing then the owners need educating. A visit from a dog control officer with advice, but also providing very clear information on the consequences of not following correct procedures should be outlined.
3837	Do not support	Schedule 4 counts American Pit Bull Terriers as menacing (?) Some of the gentlest dogs I walk with are unneutered Pit Bulls.

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4381	Do not support	Having said that I do support all owners spey and neuter their pets. Enforcing it concerns me as an infringement on freedoms. Importantly, this should be evaluated on a case by case basis. * I do not agree that Auckland Council shall require dogs to be neutered if classified as menacing by another authority. Auckland Council does not control the circumstances, tests or expert assessors for other territorial authorities. Therefore, the consequences can not be enacted. Recommendation: The wording of the policy change should require dogs identifies as menacing by another authority to undergo assessment by Auckland Council. I'm unaware of the genetics research and behavioral evidence that would support the need of neutering. It appears arbitrary. Is the science behind this policy?
4924	Do not support	You need to remove menacing by breed. Instead, you must only use menacing by deed. I support all dogs menacing by deed to be neutered. It may not help their behaviour, in fact it could make some dogs worse, however we do not want these dogs to breed. Only dogs with good temperament (and sound conformation, free of health issues should be allowed to breed).
6681	Support	Need council staff to be empowered by numbers and facilities so that they are proactive in administering the rules. This includes more patrols in hot spots for roaming dogs.
HIBISCUS AND BAYS LOCAL BOARD		
319	Support	Menacing breeds are bred, bought and sold because they are menacing. There is no need to have an aggressive, unneutered dog in public.
351	Support	All dogs should be neutered !!!! There are too many unwanted puppies and dogs ... look at the pounds and rescues. People who want to breed should apply for a license . And those should only be issues for certain purposes . E.g working / service dogs . All Pet dogs for example should have to be neutered. If you made it harder for people to get dogs then you will find that only people who ReAlly want a dog will follow the process
566	Support	Suggest also muzzles for dangerous dogs and a rule to say no dog off leash is allowed to approach any member of the public - adult or child - without consent. Too many times a dog runs towards you with the owner calling their name and you are frightened as you do not know the nature of that dog. Even unharful dogs can cause harm with the owner describing them as just being 'playful'. If you did not desire that interaction with someone's animal in a public space it can be deeply distressing

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579	Support	Menacing dogs are a danger to everybody but in particular to young children who use the parks and reserves. The less around in public the safer we will all be.
607	Support	Require vets to record puppies MALE AND FEMALE on a database that states whether the dog is neutered/spayed. Stop the breeding of Putbolls or crosses of similar nature. Gradually as existing dogs grow old and pass away, numbers could be brought down if the breeding of them is stopped.
706	Support	if dogs are menacing they should be prohibited beyond peoples homes?
776	Support	Obligatory training for anyone wanting to own any dog that is identified as menacing.
864	I don't know	Dogs aren't menacing their owners are. It's not the breed it's how they raised.
1020	Support	Ensure only that menacing dogs are captured not just dog haters dobbling out owners to council
1153	Do not support	We are not children. Get in your lane.
1272	I don't know	Needs to be individual assessment to class a dog as menacing not just blanket a whole breed as menacing
1324	Support	The statement in the policy makes no sense. "Council must classify a dog as menacing where: • it has not been classified as dangerous" This would apply to all other dogs by default.
1367	I don't know	How do you establish if a dog is classified as "menacing"?
1634	Support	This is vital for public safety
2033	I don't know	I hope that this action will also apply to dogs that fall under the definition of a menacing dog but is a small breed. Many small dog who exhibit aggressive and dangerous tendencies are not held to the same standard as big dogs based on the premise that a small dog can't do as much harm. This is a false assumption and I would hope that small dogs classified as menacing also get the same penalties.
2084	Support	Who is going to decide whether a dog is menacing or not? One person complains because they don't understand dog behaviour and then the dog has to be neutered? However, I do support neutering and desexing for all dogs as there are far too many unwanted puppies and dogs already. My problem is with 'Who' is going to have the power to decide if a dog is menacing or not.
2268	Support	A dog owner register with a registered dog
2290	Do not support	Dogs are not normally dangerous it's poor ownership and training it's the people who should not be allowed to own a dog if they have trained a dog to be a menace.
2608	Support	I believe ALL dogs should be neutered (and microchipped) with the ability to apply for an exemption ONLY IF the owner wishes to breed from the dog. Such applications should be charged for and have conditions. A separate class of registration should apply.
2798	Support	I would prefer all dogs required to be neutered unless the owner applies for a special breeding license.

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2801	Do not support	I'm not sure what classified as menacing means - is it certain breeds or dogs which have attacked already? I don't support classifying an entire breed as menacing as their nature also depends on their training
2857	Support	Who will pay for the neutering?
3416	Do not support	There are no checks to prevent people reporting a dog as menacing out of spite.
3446	Support	It's not only dogs that are classified as menacing are a problem. There's so many mixed breeds & rescue dogs that have unpredictable natures
3450	Do not support	Menacing dogs should be destroyed. Neutering doesn't address the menacing behaviour - only prevents the menacing dog from reproducing.
3824	Support	I believe as a responsible dog owner your dog should be neutered and microchip and wear a collar with registration tag attached.
3842	Do not support	The law change is too broad. It is enacted purely on the decision of the council who can arbitrarily decide. There should be much tighter rules on what does or does not constitute menacing.
3978	Support	Pit bulls are bad news. And disproportionately owned by antisocial people.
3988	Support	Neutering improves hormonal tendencies to fight to prove they're top dog, improve tendencies to roam searching for mates, tendencies to dash across roads to follow a possible mate or possible rival. It generally calms the dog to get their personality without their bad behaviours as above
4082	Support	All dogs unless official breeder should be. Too many strays and irresponsible pet owners. Should be part of dog registration. Not just dangerous dogs, I see more problems with small dogs off lead on beaches
4354	Support	I was bitten by a medium size pet dog, dog last year off of leash
4435	Support	any dog has the capacity to alarm by barking or rushing or leaping up. we should not allow menacing breeds to produce more menacing dogs.

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4730	Do not support	I have an issue with your terminology of 'menacing'. This term seems to be breed biased. Your imagery is also breed biased (Rottweiler). Where's the picture of a snarling chihuahua\pomeranian? Historically, the biggest biter is the golden retriever, yet I don't see them on the 'menacing/nuisance list. This is because they are not a nuisance breed but, they are amazing assistance dogs, however, as always it's stupid people doing stupid things and the dog reacts to fight or flight. I believe that All dogs should be neutered. Not just the 'menacing' breeds. I believe there should be more emphases on control laws on the breeding in the known problem areas. Rescues are overwhelmed with the amount of neglected, abused pups that are found daily. Your answer is simply collect the nuisance breeds and destroy them. This is obscene. Find the irresponsible breeders and punish them not the dogs. Make the laws tougher on the breeders. Clearly the decision makers in council/government have never taken time out to understand the bully breeds and that they are in fact one of the most family friendly dogs, integrated well they are brilliant with other dogs, cats, and farm life, however, when mismanaged there can be problems but this is no different to poodles, chihuahuas and any other small snippy dog. I have witnessed more aggression from the smaller dogs than the larger breeds. We have rescued 5 dogs since being in NZ which you would class as nuisance breeds yet we are on the responsible dog owners list..... go figure!
4760	Support	Dogs have running up and jumping on me slobbering on my clothes, nearly knocked me off my feet a few times, owners are oblivious
4851	Support	All dogs should be neutered, especially the managing ones. And not only Dogs but all Cats should be neutered. Unless official breeding animals. There are too many dogs and cats in the shelter. Soon there will be issues with over population of strays.
5221	Support	The safety of others is important.
5712	Do not support	as a veterinary professional we are educated on the effects of desexing dogs. it is highly unusual that you only want to consider neutering but not spaying. overall I think it is a bad idea that could have effects in the dogs health if they are nurtured before they have reached a certain stage in their growth and development. there is alot to be said for the effects of hormones on a dog's development! the neutering of a dog is also in no way a garentie that behavior would change and it is in no way a solution to a problem. a better solution is dog training which dog walkers also provide!
5713	Do not support	Nutering seems inappropriate - unless it changes behaviour significantly. I'm not sure that it does.
5984	Support	All dogs and cats should be neutered when licensed. Animals should not be allowed to breed unchecked because of people's ignorance or indifference their threat to the environment is two large.
6396	Do not support	Is this an assumption on the breed or proven to be aggressive?
6485	Support	I think that dogs classed as menacing should be classed as such on a case-by-case investigated basis, not by breed or other rule that doesn't look at the individual dog.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
6494	Do not support	dogs classified as menacing??? Every dog has the potential to bite....isn't that one of your advertising campaigns, so who decides what dogs are menacing as they all can be if prompted, poked and antagonised. Council least of all should have the ability to be judge and jury on that. Councils ability to rule over such matters should be left to more experienced people not the bureaucracy of the Auckland Council.
HOWICK LOCAL BOARD		
407	Support	Ban pitbull type dogs
481	Support	There needs to be greater enforcement of roaming dogs and euthanize them
521	Support	Clarification of a simple rule is a good idea. However, blanket rules on breeds as menacing is not something i support as many pitbulls , for example, are lovely family dogs. Often menacing behaviour is a result of poor or unacceptable human care of the animal.
531	Support	Pit bulls and pit bull mixes have a track record of serious incidences and should be neutered routinely. All other breeds the neutering should only be if the dog initiates an incident that results in a complaint
541	Support	Make sure the Council is much more pro-active about targeting back-yard breeders, un-registered and wandering dogs and increase fines 10-fold on these.
1486	Support	This absolutely must happen due to the overwhelming numbers of this type of breed being born!
1752	Do not support	I don't agree with some breeds being closed as menacing when the majority would be socially acceptable had they been trained and socialized. It should be a case by case.
2135	Do not support	It should be more about the owner than the dog. A "menacing" dog that is trained properly by a respectable owner can be a wonderful gentle dog to own. If the owner does not train them, abuses them and punishes them, then they will become a menacing dog. Lots of NZ men think that dogs are to be abused.
2218	Do not support	again, tarred with one brush. what about the owner responsibility, it is not the breed that is the issue, it is education. We have a class of "menacing" breeds that are just lovable dogs that are looked after by educated owners or owners who breed dogs to fight. what classifies a menacing dog versus owner, shall we neuter humans who are menacing. who decides what a menacing dog is? how do we classify a menacing dog?
2464	Support	Unless registered for breeding, ALL domestic dogs (and cats!) should be neutered/spayed!
2516	Do not support	It's the owners right to decide this for their dog. Not because it causes issues for other people Owners who are reliable should have the right of choice
2561	Support	Because all dogs should be neutered unless owned by a registered breeder. There are far too many unwanted puppies being born sadly.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
2651	Support	They should also be muzzled in public. Also there is no use having any laws around dogs unless they are enforced. There needs to be dog enforcement officers patrolling these parks and walkways.
2692	Do not support	Dogs should not be classified as menacing based on breed alone. There should be a full and fair court process before this decision is made. There should be owner must be penalised not the dog. I support a requirement for all dogs to be neutered unless a person is a registered breeder. Funding should be provided to neuter dogs for free. Owners or neutered dogs should be rewarded and those dogs should be allowed to access all areas at all times - on leash if required at certain times or in certain areas.
2927	Support	Yes and No, less chance for roaming.
3911	Support	And enforce it
3987	Support	Ban the breeding of those breeds. Take a stand!
4099	Support	I would go further - menacing breeds (including crosses that a DNA test at the owner's cost will confirm positive or negative) desexed within 5-6 months of age or will be put down. We need to eliminate these breeds from NZ society.
4225	Support	100%!!!! Oh my gosh, why are we not addressing this issue with urgency. Bad humans are drawn to big bad cross breed dogs and they breed at will - I have witnessed this first hand, watching cross breed dogs in full mating situations, particularly when working in South Auckland. And it is getting worse, not better. We need Animal Management on the road, not in the office. Whenever I have collected a dog off the street and contacted Animal Management - they will only collect the dog if contained. Any reports made of roaming dogs is met with apathy and disinterest. Which makes me wonder if Council are more concerned with revenue rather than solving a problem. Maybe it is easier to sit at the more affluent beaches/parks and watch owners walk from the beach 5 mins over time off beach and hit them with fines. How many staff man the Animal Management side of Council? Not enough? I have heard instances also of Animal Management being intimidated and frightened (and rightfully so) of certain areas of Auckland where these bad dogs (and bad people) are situated. There should be more focus to bring Animal Management and Police together in these situations, and SPCA, who unfortunately, are the only rescue organisation with any lawful powers. In the UK, there is a great relationship between Police and RSPCA. Seeing this first hand, gives one hope. None of this is of course any dog's fault, it is all down to the humans who are breeding these dogs indiscriminately, being lazy and irresponsible.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
4357	Do not support	Dog discrimination. To support this i would have to understand exactly what metrics are put in place to determine a dog is menacing or are we just basing it on their breed. I agree majority of dogs should be neutered there are plenty with good homes, however its bad people/owners, not bad dogs. Any impounded or rehomed dogs are neutered anyway i just dont like the thought of policy putting an unjust bias on a certain breed or type of dog that may be unfounded. I have staffordshire terriers, beautiful loving family dogs, great with kids love cuddles. People think they look scary as they are medium sized and very defined muscles, They are discriminated against a lot, even though they are well trained and i am always respectful in public places of other people and also dog socialisation. This type of policy change i believe feeds into those bias. I think the policy should stay as it is so do not support this change.
5235	Support	The monitoring of this is essential. I suggest that new owners know what is required of them before purchasing a dog. It is necessary to state this before any attacks not afterwards.
6051	Support	Is neutering after a certain age and growth development proven to be beneficial in reducing aggression - its not in my experience. If the dog is still immature maybe but menacing is a learned behaviour or sign of distress.
6328	Support	I believe it is essential for human safety and dog safety. Should people who choose to own a menacing dog pay a higher registration fee and commit to dog training. Suppose that would be ignored by many
6555	Support	We must move more quickly towards 'No menacing dogs'. There is no need for them. Therefore Better, more restrictive controls, on movement, and licences/ownership etc for the dogs so defined - and the owner. When do dogs earn 'menacing' status. Should it also mean the owner..... therefore support that people can also be severely restricted in ownership/management (accidental breeding). 'Menacing' can be attained after just a few breaches of the policy (first offence = educative, second offence = restrictive. third = not allowed.....) But the label can be reversed (fees/restrictions reduced) after clear demonstration of issues resolved.
KAIPĀTIKI LOCAL BOARD		
186	Support	Why is anyone allowed to own a dangerous/menacing dog? It is frightening and absolutely appalling that it is even a consideration.. If a dog has been deemed menacing it should be euthanased humanely. Any risk is too high.
238	Support	This is a non-brainer. However, my greater concern relates to irresponsible owners who don't train their dogs, and those who treat them badly and/or use them as offensive weapons. Banning such owners from having dogs may not stop them, any more than banning recidivist motorists from driving always works, but it would be evidence in the case of further infractions.,

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
550	Support	All dogs should be neutered to reduce the amount of unwanted puppies and shocking animal abuse in our country. Legalized breeders only should have entire dogs.
572	Support	1) All dogs should be neutered as a default. And if you don't want that because you are a breeder you need an exception permit. 2) "menacing" must be redefined
939	Support	I think it needs to be very careful as to what is classed as "menacing". Some dogs have been incorrectly punished overseas in similar situations and I believe that you can't always apply a blanket rule to a breed.
1087	Support	Supportive, though would want to see clear actions that council will take to monitor that this is followed.
1353	Support	If this is based on BSL rather than documented acts of aggression this is a slightly different prospect. If BSL only, this should mitigate things like needing to wear a muzzle in public (*unless there is a history).
1523	Support	This can limit dogs that 'may' become aggressive in a pack environment.
1654	Do not support	Irresponsible owners and breeders should be punished not the dogs, and until Auckland council and SPCA start punishing and coming down bad on owners and animal abusers, nothing will change. You are only currently hurting the responsible owners who care about their animals.
1679	Do not support	who is determining a dog is a menace - open to abuse of power and does not allow for old dogs, ill dogs, rescue dogs and rehab
2072	Support	I would go as far as all dogs in an urban area that is not a working dog be de-sexed. There's a lot of unwanted puppies in the rescues and people just leave their dogs to breed.
2452	Support	All dogs should be neutered by law to prevent the needless breeding and unwanted puppies unless they are registered as responsible breeders
2465	Support	all dogs should be neutered unless you are a licensed breeder
2680	Support	this must be enforced strictly on menacing or aggressive dogs.
4167	I don't know	How a dog is defined as menacing is too vague and cannot just be because of a breed.
4523	Support	There needs to be an absolute certainty of this so that Karen's can't attack good people etc. Actual evidence etc not just he said she said
4806	Support	What is considered menacing needs to be very clear.
5363	Support	I think this needs to go further to a ban on all menacing dog breeds as these pose undue risk of injury to adults and children
5455	Do not support	Who decides what breeds and any dog even the little rat dogs attack!
5519	Support	My dog has been attacked down Shepherd's Park so I don't walk it there anymore
6092	Do not support	Neutering menacing dogs is a reasonable measure for public safety; however, it's important that owners have a clear, fair appeals process if their dog is misclassified. Additionally, education and responsible ownership programs should be prioritized over blanket enforcement.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
6179	Support	All dogs adopted/purchased out to the public should be neutered except for breeders etc who will go through the appropriate channels to breed there dogs. This is would mitigate and hopefully decrease the thousands of unwanted animals that flood the shelters each year. It would be the responsibility of the puppies owner to make sure the pups are neutered or booked to be neutered on purchase
MĀNGERE-ŌTĀHUHU LOCAL BOARD		
590	Do not support	All dogs should be neutered other than genuine breeders
2150	Support	These breeds should be discouraged from breeding due to their nature.
4270	I don't know	Its the owners who are menacing ...
4321	Support	I generally support that neutering of dogs should be more heavily promoted and resourced to deal with unwanted or menacing dogs. However I am not supportive with how widely applied the menacing category is applied, ie stafford terrier crosses are automatically included because of likeness to Pit Bull Terriers.
6024	Do not support	Overreach into the private lives. The people making menacing dog ruling are NOT suitably qualified in dog behaviour
6050	Support	I support this but how would council enforce this? How would council classified 'menacing dog'. It's always the owners' problem, the dogs are innocent. Obviously it's already been a failure in the current system as so many impounded dogs each day. What new measures and controls would be put in place and how would you measure success? There are so many 'underground' and unregistered breeders as well
6127	Support	Not only should large aggressive breeds be neutered, but banned from the country. Too many responsible dog owners and their dog have been viciously attacked and seriously hurt and even killed, this needs to stop NOW.
6154	Do not support	If dogs are classified as menacing based on breed alone, the neutering of these dogs is discriminatory and discounts work of responsible owners who love and care for these breeds. No dog should be neutered based on breed alone. This is barbaric. However, if a dog is declared as menacing based on behaviour, regardless of breed, I may vote differently on this matter.
MANUREWA LOCAL BOARD		
45	Support	And every other dog should be, there is a stray dog problem in Auckland. Also, better compliance on breeders
121	Support	As long as it's just not certain breeds because of their track records. All dogs "can be menacing" depending on the situation they are in
215	Support	Red nose pitbulls, or any pitbull related mixed dogs needs to be neutered. Too many strays of above breed freely roaming around my street (Manurewa) all the time & most of them aint friendly.
2063	Support	Menacing dogs should be confined to a fully fenced property at all times.
2076	Support	All dogs menacing should be neutered if this is a key reason to why they menace. There are too many strays and dogs having litters.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
2295	Support	All dogs should be neutered. South Auckland has far too unwanted litters. Owners should be prosecuted. Every domestic dog should be neutered and spayed. This will curb behaviour drastically..
2981	Support	All dogs should be neutered by default and people should apply for exclusions (e.g., breeders).
3341	Support	There should be mandatory provisions when these dogs present at the vet even as young as a puppy or as old as an aged dog.
3859	Do not support	Not all dogs classed as 'menacing' are bad dogs. We should have the option to have a litter through a professional breeder.
4166	Do not support	There is no justifiable reason for this, dogs of any breed can be menacing. The problem clearly lies with the owners, not the breed of dog.
4213	Support	Make it a condition of registration or similar.
4505	Do not support	All dogs who are not registered as breeding dogs must be de-sexed. People who want to breed should have a permit. If all dogs were well looked after and de-sexed, there would not be such a thing as a menacing dog.
4843	Support	All menacing dogs must be neutered at owner's expense at the earliest possible age. Failure to comply must result in hefty fine and dog seize, putting ex-owner on probation for minimum of 5 years, or (for repeated offences) imprisonment.
6319	Support	There is a significant irresponsible dog owner problem in Auckland where their dogs are roaming or not under any control
6340	Support	Hate dangerous dogs and roaming pack dogs
6513	Support	I think all dogs should be spayed or neutered unless they belong to a certified, registered breeder.
6659	Support	All dogs that are menacing should be banned, following multiple recent attacks
6735	Do not support	Redefine the definition of menacing. All dogs should be neutered, both large and small, unless they are registered breeders.
MAUNGAKIEKIE-TĀMAKI LOCAL BOARD		
18	Support	Any person that owns an intact dog or ***** that has displayed menacing behaviour should not want to breed from any such dog that carries temperament issues. And should be prohibited from doing so. I am a registered breeder of a pedigree breed, and any person breeding dogs should be doing so with 3 principles in mind: temperament, health & type (type being to meet the highest possible breed standard). I would never breed a dog with temperament faults.
265	Support	I would like to better understand how the classification of "menacing" is applied to a dog. In general I think if this was more clearly communicated with dog owners it would help reduce the "us vs them" mentality which I see a lot in dog owner communities.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
639	Support	This actually needs to be followed up with council action. There have been packs of unregistered dangerous dogs in Glen Innes area for years that need to be collected. The rule won't stop that. Action needs to happen from dog control.
840	Support	Come to Onehunga, Otara, South Auckland where Housing NZ tenants usually refuse desexing their staffies and pitbulls and mixes, female dogs with hanging breasts roam the streets and get pregnant over and over again by roaming male dogs. This need to end. They refuse desexing their dogs (and cats)
909	Support	You need to distinguish menacing?? Is it a breed or the owners of menacing dogs
993	Support	This doesn't go to the heart of the problem. Dangerous breeds should be dissuaded.
2181	Do not support	Dogs are not dangerous because of their breed but the training or lack of by the owners. Maybe the bad dog owners should be the neutered ones.
2202	Support	I live in one tree hill and there are too many unregistered and vicious dogs roaming the streets possibly breeding. This s a good first step
2410	Support	Difficult to enforce as this relies on these menacing dogs being registered in the first place. There are a number of unregistered dogs in my area, and when raised with the council they do absolutely nothing about it. So I am reluctant to believe that this will actually change anything, therefore seems like a waste of money, and potentially just a means to look like the council are doing something about dangerous dogs while not actually doing anything different.
3408	Support	Whilst I agree with this policy, the council needs to ensure there is adequate resourcing so that such dogs can be identified and be neutered. It is not enough to just say they must be neutered.
3559	Do not support	I believe that no specific dog breed is menacing. I think the rules should apply to the owner, not the dog
3760	I don't know	Not sure if neutering deals with the problem. Menacing dogs come from menacing owners and situations that create this behavior. Even if they claim down the behavior is still there, how does neutering fix this?? Owners need to be held accountable. Maybe they just can't handle the dog,
4313	Support	If this will make menacing dogs tamer than I'm all for it
4470	Do not support	Why does this need clarification? Are you seeking confirmation of the existing bylaw? I do not support this.
4672	Support	All dogs should be neutered if under the classification of menacing unless they are going to breed from that dog. They need papers to prove they are and how many are going to be for just pets. They need to be, to stop all the roaming dogs around possibly attacking or wanting to get out of their property being a nuisance to others.
4876	Support	This is absolutely crucial. There are a lot of dogs of breeds that are more likely to fall in this category that behave fabulously and I support focussing on individual dogs vs breeds
5169	Support	Must be neutered and living at fully fenced gated property they can't get out of. Outside of property on lease and muzzled

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
5265	Support	Canine behaviour is learned and genetic, if a dog displays behaviour which would deem the dog to be classified as menacing it should not be bred from. Furthermore any responsible breeder would never consider breeding any dog (regardless of other desirable characteristics) which displayed undesirable behavioural traits.
5382	Support	Clarify rule that all dogs classified as menacing (or found wandering off home site more than once) must be neutered
5500	I don't know	A better definition of menacing behaviour should be provided. Neutering doesn't always help with aggression and can make it worse, dogs should be referred to a vet for assessment as to the best action.
5522	Do not support	A breed isn't menacing, how a dog is brought up and treated is actually what you call menacing.
5572	Do not support	It's the dog owners responsibility to neuter the animal
6107	Support	Obviously menacing dogs are a huge concern but I think this is disproportionate to the everyday dog owners who do not do what they should for their animals eg pick up poo, walk on leash where it is on leash or be able to control their dog via verbal instructions. Menacing dogs are a far smaller proportion of the dog issue than entitled average dog owners.
6444	Support	I want proper policing and effective management of problem dogs. October 10 2024, my dog was attacked at an off leash dog park (Waiatarua) and my husband was bitten. Animal Control were notified and the attacking dog seized a week later. This dog had other verified complaints of aggression. On the 20 February 2025 I found out the dog was released back to the owner. This should NOT happen.
6581	Support	I do not agree with breed specific legislation. Menacing should only be applied by behaviour not breed.
ŌRĀKEI LOCAL BOARD		
363	Do not support	Who decides menacing and by what criteria? This has not been sufficiently elucidate.
412	Support	Increase fines for owners who don't follow rules
447	Do not support	I have a well trained large dog. Some people may regard it as menacing because it is large. Especially if they are uncomfortable or scared of dogs. For example I was in a dog park where 2-3 large dogs were playing, wrestling, growling barking. But tails were up, dogs were playing. But owner of a smaller dog felt the dogs were fighting. He was wrong.
495	Support	I think this would help control dog numbers going through the council facilities as well as minimise aggressive encounters
515	Support	Absolutely and I'd go further to suggest that dangerous breeds should be illegal.
519	Support	Shouldn't even have them around to be honest. Would you let a person dangerous to society left in the society. No, right?
535	Support	We do not want more meanacing dogs. A dog that is not nuetered will roam more creating risk to the public and other dogs.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
600	Support	Would prefer destruction of menacing dogs. Quite frankly I am horrified at the number of dog injuries I have to treat. I would support owners being held criminally liable for inflicted injuries as well as destruction of dogs that injure people.
610	Support	I believe neutering needs to be OPT OUT and not the current opt in system for all dogs. That is, only accredited breeders who apply for permits and get regular welfare checks and health checks of the dogs are able to opt out of neutering, while the cost might be higher up front, it would save money in the long run as less resources would be spent caring for and rehoming unwanted puppies and catching roaming dogs. I think to only make neutering mandatory for certain breeds is unfair to the hundreds of thousands of dogs who have litter after litter of puppies in backyard puppy mills.
691	Support	Menacing dogs are a problem, although it's more the owners who are the problem. The dogs should be neutered to prevent breeding. And this should've be followed up with inspections and enforced registration.
818	Do not support	All classified dogs? Who is to classify? is this a form of euthanasia? Get real.
952	I don't know	Who classifies the dog as menacing. IF the council is deciding then it is doesn't give the rate payers any options.
962	Support	More accountability for owners of menacing dogs.
1128	Support	There are plenty of great dogs that homes. Some breeds we can do without.
1135	Support	Anything to discourage back yard breeders and especially with breeds that need care
1265	Support	Only owners registered as breeders should have untethered of any breed.
1957	Do not support	Neutering does not necessarily change the behaviour issues. council training to change behaviour will potentially "fix" the menacing behaviours is the most effective approach.
2122	Support	It's the least (together with compulsory muzzles) that should be done. Menacing dogs have no place in public. They are lucky they aren't put down.
2665	Support	There is so many stray dogs. That is your main issue. Not limiting the options that responsible & caring dog owners have for dog care while at work. Focus on the strays and the irresponsible dog owners.
2752	Support	As long as it is well established that the menacing dog is as stated. Not just one person saying what is so. Evidence based and pear reviewed . By perhaps chained dogs advocate group,overseas reports, professional trainers ie Mark Vetie

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
3358	Support	It is well known that certain areas of Auckland have serious issues with unneutered and dangerous dogs due to the 'owners' being woefully neglectful at best and in the worst case scenarios, cruel and abusive. These dogs are victims of circumstance through no fault of their own. Rather than group all dogs and owners in your one size fits all policy you need to bring together Animal Management Control departments and various independent animal welfarists within our communities to push the message of DESEXING. I know through many years of being an animal rescuer that Animal Management Control will not interact with certain dog owning residents in Glen Innes due to intimidation and fear. It is far easier to go after residents within St Heliers and surrounding eastern bays suburbs for having a dog on one of our beaches ten minutes after the cut off time than it is to actually make someone accountable for their neglected dog when it's roaming and/or attacking other pets. These dogs are rarely desexed or registered but this issue is ignored until it becomes newsworthy and then we are all lumped in with the same group - a generic 'dog owners'.
3430	Support	All dogs except those for breeding should be neutered anyway
3745	Do not support	People should be assessed as to whether they can own a dog, and take the required steps to ensure they can continuously train and maintain their dogs behaviour. Painting every dog with the same brush is a gutless way of being able proactive with dog ownership rather than reactive.
3749	Support	The reality is that we have too many large dogs. These breeds top the list for attacks and aggressive behaviour. The Council should encourage the availability of medium and small dogs. One way to do this might be to allow these breeds and their owners greater access to cafes and other currently restricted areas.
3753	Support	Council should consider the following: 1. All dogs should be neutered/speyed at the appropriate age 2. Discount registration for neutered/speyed dogs with proof of procedure. 3. Require application to own a whole dog 4. Increased registration cost to own whole dogs and dog breeders. 5. Increase Gang/Stolen Dog breeding surveillance 6. Ban menacing dog breeds - i.e. American & Staffordshire Pit Bull
3990	Support	Unless dogs are for breeding purposes they should all be neutered automatically as it mostly stops them from being overly aggressive.
4117	Do not support	Menacing dog is a subjective matter. Dogs may be frightened by what they perceive as menacing behaviour by people or other dogs. They are frightened. Often the dog needs further socialisation training or therapy. It has nothing to do with neutering. This proposal is not based on scientific fact but prejudice.
4226	Do not support	Dogs should be treated with respect, you can't neuter a dog cos he is not well behaved. Owners should be fined for bad behavior just like parents are when a child's behavior is not acceptable.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
4604	Support	As a responsible dog owner and member of the community, I believe that the neutering of menacing dogs should be offered free of charge as an essential measure to safeguard public health and enhance safety in our neighborhoods. There are several compelling reasons for this, supported by international laws and successful public safety initiatives globally. 1. Prevention of Aggressive Behavior: Neutering is scientifically proven to help reduce aggression in male dogs, particularly when it comes to territorial and dominance-based behaviors. Dogs that are not neutered may exhibit heightened aggression, which increases the likelihood of attacks or menacing behavior. By neutering these dogs, we can help minimize this risk, leading to safer communities for children, other animals, and adults alike. 2. Reducing Overpopulation and Unwanted Litters: Neutering also plays a crucial role in controlling dog overpopulation. Menacing dogs that are allowed to breed contribute to a rise in unwanted dogs, many of which may not be properly socialized or trained. This increases the risk of aggression-related incidents and creates a strain on shelters, leading to overcrowded conditions. By offering free neutering, we can reduce the number of potentially dangerous animals entering the population and ensure that only responsible owners keep dogs. 3. International Precedents and Best Practices: Several countries have implemented policies that incentivize or require neutering as a measure to improve public safety. For example: The Netherlands: In the Netherlands, dog control laws emphasize the importance of sterilization to control aggressive behavior, especially in breeds considered to be potentially dangerous. Local municipalities often offer subsidies or even free neutering to encourage responsible pet ownership.
4762	Support	keeps dogs on leash unless its a dog only fenced park
4799	Do not support	If a dog is menacing why even allow it to be kept??? Destroy all menacing/dangerous dog breeds and prosecute any and everyone disobeying the rule/law
4831	Support	You need to be cautious how you define menacing, so you have the correct settings that are clear and address the issue.
4972	Do not support	do we also get to neuter every human that looks menacing?
5218	Do not support	Outdated and more researched needed on “menacing” breeds. 6 months for neutering is young.
5279	Support	Owning a dog is a privilege. If van owner continues to have menacing and dangerous dogs they need to be banned from owning dogs.
5520	Do not support	Should not be a general rule like this, not all dogs are bad. If you are going to review this policy, you need to understand that. Shouldn't classified it based on historical data, but should be based on owner responsibility. There are owners who are bad people and raised their dog to be like that, those the one you need to target.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
5619	Support	I appreciate the council's initiative to identify and neuter menacing dogs as a step toward improving public safety. However, I strongly believe that a more proactive approach is needed. A broader free neutering and spaying campaign would help reduce the number of roaming and unwanted dogs, which are often the root cause of dog attacks and overpopulation issues. By addressing the issue at its source, the council could prevent future cases of aggression rather than just reacting to them. Such a program would also ease the burden on shelters, reduce euthanasia rates, and contribute to a safer community for both residents and animals. I encourage the council to consider expanding its efforts to include free or subsidized neutering and spaying programs as a long-term solution.
6122	Do not support	Support majority of dogs being neutered. I do not support your classification of menacing based on breed. I do not support the disgusting amount of dogs put down at your shelters around NZ due to your 'classification' based on their looks, not even behaviour. Your shelters are putting down puppies that 'look' like a type of breed with no evidence of their breed. I think all roaming dogs and dogs that are ACTUALLY menacing dogs should be desexed but you need to make desexing available. Maybe some of our registration fees could actually go towards those costs because I am not sure what our fees are going towards.
6185	Support	The understaffed council rangers, wardens and animal control need support and by reducing the numbers of litters that seem to be raising the numbers of dogs this allows for a pause
6379	Support	While I do not believe, studies support this position, that aggressive dogs improve with neutering, in fact the opposite is sometimes the case, I do not believe they should be bred from.
6645	Do not support	I don't think that just because a dog is a certain breed, that it should be neutered. I do agree that dogs that have a history of menacing behaviour and/or violence should be neutered.
6687	Do not support	All dogs irrespective of breed could have the potential to be 'menacing' if they are not socialised properly. I do not believe in firmly labelling breeds and impacting the future of other dogs solely on their breed. It is a form of discrimination. In any case, any dog can be classified as menacing if they exhibit some 'aggressive' behaviour. People who do not have experience with dogs will have different levels of interpretation of what could be deemed menacing, and they could inadvertently report a dog just for merely barking. Barking for instance, is a dog's main form of communication and dogs that bark could potentially be feeling threatened or nervous. It doesn't necessarily signify a bad dog.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
6772	Support	This should have been already in practice. Probably do the same with the irresponsible owners of the dogs as it is the owners that are the main problem as they have dogs for wrong reasons. The dogs are not the problem, but unfortunately they pay for lack of their owners accountability
6785	I don't know	Do you count as menacing dogs a particular breed? Or do you mean dogs that have already come to the attention of dog control for menacing behaviour? Is it the breed that is the problem, or should some owners be banned from owning dogs because they abuse dogs?
6788	Support	Aggressive behaviour (like other kinds of behaviour) is influenced by the environment and genes. So aggressive dogs shouldn't be bred.
ŌTARA-PAPATOETOE LOCAL BOARD		
1729	Support	Also deal with dogs in public who are menacing.
1826	Support	All dogs should be neutered not just menacing dogs blanket rule for all. To much puppy breeding going on.
2245	Do not support	It is the owner at fault! Not the dog! All dogs are loving and caring. If a dog is violent to a random person for no reason it because they have been trained that way
2529	Support	Too many pitbull type of dogs being bred in the backyard just to become a roamer/stray and cause issues or be hit by car. We need to control this number.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
2530	Support	This change won't change the fact that dangerous dogs are still roaming around the suburban neighbourhoods harming people and other animals. There needs to be a change on how people are able to acquire dogs and a monitoring of people who breed dogs. I live in South Auckland and the amount of dogs that roam around freely is shocking. It's unsafe to walk around as these dogs don't get caught straight away and when they do there's nothing done about them. If the council knew the owners have had a history of not taking care of their dogs then they need to be fined and completely banned from ever owning a dog as a lot of these dogs are not trained either. Even they say that the dogs are on the property so the council can't do anything but literally I've seen dogs jump over their fence to attack people. While I was walking my dog recently a unleashed pitbull was with a group of young children aging around the youngest being about 6 or 7 to the others that were around 8-9 years old. That pit bull straight away saw my dog which was harnessed and on a leash, and tried to attack my dog who's quite small and is Maltese x Shih Tzu. I protected my dog as much as I could as she was crying from trying to be attacked and I had to shield her between a fence and my legs as the other dog was trying to get to my dog. I then had to grab the pitbull and throw it away onto the road and yell at him, then he ran off back to the children that it was walking with. This is the one of many cases around the country, especially in South Auckland where backyard breed pitbull/Staffy terriers are being left to roam around by themselves or roam around with people that don't seem to worry about their dogs' behaviour the fact that it needs to be on a leash. I mean look at this example. No dog should be ever left with children that young and if it has to be then the dog needs to be on a leash. It's a joke honestly the council needs to enforce better laws around roaming dogs in suburban areas before even thinking about putting rules in parks. Nowadays I see people that do walk their dogs in my area, carry something of a pole or stick with them just in case if they or their dog gets attacked by another roaming dog or a dog that's able to jump the fence and onto the pathway and attack. DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE ROAMING DOGS THAT ARE ATTACKING OTHER DOGS
2974	Do not support	only IF THEY'RE NOT ON LEASE IF THEY ARE ROAMING AROUND WITHOUT THEIR OWNER THEN THAT LAW SHOULD ABIDE
4740	Do not support	Then there will be ZERO left!!!! Import the 'menacing dog breeds' from another province or country?
4757	Support	Any dog attacks and the dog must be destroyed and owner prosecuted.
6691	Support	What is identified as "menacing"? Pending on breed, behaviour, and its history. eg: I've taken a rehomed dog; its previous owners' chained up the dog for approx 4yrs, with minimal socialisation and regular exercise. Hence, since late Sep 2024, to now, my 2nd dog gets to run around our backyard/front, however, I can not take him for walk leash/unleash in parks/beach because of his behaviour. He is neutered, his behaviour is improving... it takes time.
PAPAKURA LOCAL BOARD		

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
1282	Do not support	Menacing dogs are not all the same. More like meaning owners. Menacing dogs are able to show love and give love. I have seen first hand how much a menacing dog had been a close companion to someone that has needed there company. They are loyal and able to follow directions. I have been around 3 different menacing dogs for the past 16 years and not once has either dog attacked any human, but because there breed is classed as menacing they have the reputation of looking like they will attack.
1305	Support	I am for neutering dogs as this will also minimise abandoned dogs and it will help all the rescue places too
1617	Support	Entire dogs are generally more likely to be aggressive due to hormone levels. There is already overbreeding of dogs and so many stray or dumped. Let's not breed those that are not good natured/poorly managed.
1648	Support	All dogs should be neutered unless they have a registered breeder. It is no good after they hurt or threaten anyone. You need to help keep us safe. This law will not do it.
2103	Support	Not sure on the term menacing and what it's refers to whether it's breed specific (do not agree with that) or if it's roaming dogs in general . I do believe all dogs should be neutered there should be a license to breed to put an end to countless roaming and homeless dogs . It's dangerous walking your own dogs on leash in many places in south Auckland due to roaming dogs .
2109	Do not support	This classification does not necessarily take into account the dogs nature or potential health impacts of neutering. I believe there needs to be more clarity and potential accountability for the owners of dogs to get those who require it to be neutered.
2426	Support	how will you enforce this? so many dogs are not registered so how will you know? most dogs in this category are not sold legitimately at all, just passed around. Just look on the streets of Mangere
2436	Support	Menacing dogs are a real concern, particularly when they are not neutered and they are likely to try and get to other dogs due to wishing to fight or mate.
3072	Do not support	I do not believe neutering a menacing dog will not change the dogs behavior or influence the owner in managing the dog any better.
4455	Support	All dogs should be desexed due to the growing population of dogs that are out of control. This leads to the wrong people having dogs and abusing, neglecting and breeding them for money
4991	Support	Seems obvious!
6461	Support	There should be severe consequences for dog owners with menacing dogs not complying with this rule.
PUKETĀPAPA LOCAL BOARD		
262	Do not support	There is no such thing as a menacing breed, same was as there is no such human race/culture as menacing. The owners should be held accountable for properly training and socialising their dogs.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
687	Do not support	In my life I've seen multiple dog breeds identified as dangerous. First it was German Shepherds. Then it was Dobermans. Then Rottweilers. Currently the dog of choice for the aggrieved appears to be the pitbull. This is all rubbish. Small dogs are more likely to be aggressive and bite strangers than large dogs but nobody calls for a ban on the Yorkshire Terrier. It's not the dog, it's the owner. Dogs should be licensed and training required before a licence is issued just as with cars or motorbikes or guns.
2460	Do not support	I do not support the current clarification that all “menacing dogs” must be neutered, because the definition of a “menacing dog” is vague and highly subjective under the Dog Control Act 1996. The term “may pose a threat” allows overbroad classification of dogs based on minimal evidence or mere breed stereotypes. Before mandating neutering, the Council should require a clear, fair, impartial, evidence-based assessment by subject matter experts, such as veterinarians specifically trained in canine behaviour, to ensure a dog is genuinely menacing. Otherwise, responsible owners risk unjust classification and forced neutering without proper grounds.
2489	Do not support	I don't agree with this rule because “menacing” is defined too vaguely in the Dog Control Act 1996. If a dog “may pose a threat,” that could be based on very little evidence or even breed stereotypes. Before forcing neutering, the Council should require a clear, fair, and unbiased assessment by properly trained dog behaviour experts. To clarify, an expert would be someone with qualifications in dog behaviour recognised by independent veterinary professional bodies and academic institutions. Otherwise, responsible owners could face unfair classification.
2499	Do not support	Not all dogs classed as menacing are, and unfortunately public opinion on specific breeds doesn't automatically make them menacing.. i don't want to see these breeds become extinct just because they are misunderstood. Council could do a better job on public education, ie. How to approach a dog
2810	Support	Neutering a dog can be a big deal for the owner; any ruling here needs to be crystal clear, along with any assistance offered.
3653	Support	A simple way of attempting to reduce the one of the contributing factors that lead a dog to be classified as menacing
4377	Support	In Mt Roskill, we have too many roaming dogs. They are usually a mix of the dangerous types of dogs. They attack people, kids, other dogs, cats, resulting in death of dogs/cats, injured people and kids. They are classed as dangerous dogs for a reason and therefore should not be bred.
4433	Support	Menacing dogs are the issue in any off or on leash area for people with or without dogs. Until recently I walked our dog twice every day both at parks and beaches and some breeds are just a nuisance to those of us that have smaller dogs and have their dogs under control.
4594	Support	As someone who has lost a dog to a dog attack. All aggressive breeds should be desexed.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
5494	Do not support	It'll end up being that certain breeds get picked out and discriminated... there's no need to have this. Just enforce that all rescue animals are neutered to prevent more ending up in the pound.
5724	Support	Dogs can be trained. If the owner does not train their dog, or cannot control how they act. They should not be allowed off leash.
6201	Do not support	It is abhorrent that a 'bylaw' delegates everything to a 'policy which can be changed without consultation. In reality, the proposed bylaw actually is "the policy on dogs is the bylaw".
6425	Support	Given below is my submission regarding the proposed changes to the dog access rules applicable to Auckland's Regional Parks and Reserves. We (my wife and me – in our 60s) reside at 2 Haughey Ave, Three Kings, Auckland. The Monte Cecilia Park / Reserve is near our residence and alas, the council only consulted the dog owners and proposed an uncontrolled dog access area in the Natural Bowl section of Monte Cecilia Park about a decade back. It may be noted that no initial feedback was sought from the non-Dog owners regarding the proposal. The lack of inviting feedback from non-dog owners became obvious during the meeting to endorse the proposal chaired by Mr. Michael Wood, who was an elected representative at the Auckland Council. The proposal was rammed through at the meeting. This was done without putting in place some basic safeguards like fencing and demarking clearly the off-leash areas to ensure the dogs and their owners remain within those confines and do not take over the park / reserve. Also, there was no system of monitoring after the proposal was implemented to check whether post implementation the area continues to be safe for the elderly and children. We used to go to the park for our daily walk, to get some fresh air & exercise. But soon after the proposal was implemented using a flawed process that pandered to a selection of the population, we soon started encountering unrestrained dogs and their aggressive owners who showed no civic sense whatsoever. The Dog Owners actively encouraged their dogs to move all over the park, including the walking path unrestrained and doing their job all over, with the dog owners not bothering to pick up the dog poo. What used to be a peaceful walk soon turned into a nightmare. Even a polite reminder to the dog owner that the dogs can be off leash only within the confines of the designated area of the park were met with a snub at the best, and aggressive and threatening behavior at the worst. Feeling unsafe, we stopped
6500	Do not support	A vet or breeder should be the ones giving this information/recommendation, not a council, There should be guidelines that Council /Animal Control have to go through before this could be a determining factor for a particular dog that is causing harm.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
6618	Do not support	Monte cecilia is a sage place to allow dogs off leash. They are friendly dogs and friendly people. Who care about the Park and community. Go address the real concern. Going dogs. Neglected dogs.
RODNEY LOCAL BOARD		
68	Support	All pets should be neutered and only registered breeders, who are licensed, should be allowed breed our pets. I see so many unwanted animals. Anyone can breed with their cat or dog, no experience needed. By the way I have not vested interest in the industry.
972	Support	People who have menacing dogs are often irresponsible in other matters of their dogs. Having their pets neutered will reduce the risk of unwanted puppies.
1005	Support	As long as it is the owners punished, and not the dogs.
1185	Support	Support should be in place for people unable to financially afford these procedures. With that said, it is important that owners take full responsibility for the well-being of their animals. If they do not have the means to ensure their animals can live their best life and ongoing access to food, flea treatments, vaccinations, etc., then perhaps having animals is not best suited to them. Animals are not toys, and pets shouldn't be considered as such.
1252	Support	I think all dogs need to be desexed unless you are a registered breeder. Old male dogs that have not been desexed roam and fight against younger ones. Again this can't be managed unless you have more staff in the regions.
1283	Do not support	Neutering does not always solve the problem. 'Menacing' dogs should seek support from a qualified individual -
1568	Do not support	Menacing dogs are usually the way they are because of the way they are brought up or treated to make it a law to neuter all menacing dogs would be putting them all in one basket so no I don't agree
1589	Support	Need very clear explanation of what menacing means and how a dog becomes classified this way. In addition, a muzzle would likely do more good than neutered or spade (I dont think 'neutered' would apply to female dogs so wording should be checked to ensure both sexes are included).
1646	Support	However you need to be very clear how you define 'menancing" It cant be determined by a single interpretation.
1678	Support	'Menacing' dogs should have to wear muzzles in public. More importantly the owner should legally have to see a trainer for a set amount of time
1869	Do not support	A menacing breed may be a loved and well behaved dog. It's the owners who choose not to train. A small poodle can still bite and be aggressive but here you are singling out a breed which will never have a chance. Some dogs can't be fixed until they reach a certain age ie 2 years for their general health and wellbeing. It's an owners choice

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
1936	Support	My family have stopped going to Mathesons Bay (despite being from the Mathesons family) as there is a family that allow their pit bull dogs to roam freely on the beach during the summer holidays. When I pointed out the dogs should be on a lease they said 'they are harmless and friendly' I then witnessed one aggressively jumping on two children. There must be some clarification about high risk dog breeds.
2070	Support	Majority of dogs should be neutered to prevent unwanted dogs
2073	Support	All dogs should be neutered - and there should be registration for breeders
2087	Do not support	I don't think there is enough evidence that it reduces the dogs prey drive
2178	Support	They should be neutered unless owners have a breeding permit.
2537	Do not support	How can menacing be defined? Would you neuter a child at the age of 5 people they don't listen. Dogs also have stages and phases where they are growing up. This is a very narrow view to approaching this problem. People without dogs will define menacing as annoying, and will most likely be low level and non-violence or posing a risk. Therefore how will this be controlled and dogs not suffer the consequences of an overly vocal, non-dog loving person? Sounds like Karen's will be out in forces with no real evidence but your law to be abused.
2638	Support	Why must we wait till they are deemed to be "menacing" and how well defined in law is "menacing". If some dog breeds and cross breeds are known to be aggressive they must be neutered near birth not wait till deemed to be menacing.
2716	Support	Menacing dogs causing problems and left roaming by irresponsible owners is a major reason dogs get bad publicity. I think council should put more effort into controlling these dogs. Neutering is useful for curbing aggression in younger dogs but neutering may not make a major difference if the dog is older and set in its ways. Although it would help with reducing unwanted litters.
3252	Support	For a dog to be classed as menacing that would imply its more than a one off and therefore neuter is justified... HOWEVER... I do support the trial of Suprelin (chemical castration implant) prior to full neuter. Not every neuter surgery produces the desired result and can make menacing behavior worse so to trial with an implant that wears off gives a good indication of if full neuter is the best course of action.
3343	Support	There must be adequate evidence of the risk which a dog proposes to take such action as it is very significant and impactful.
3642	Support	*I think an age limit for having neutering should be stated *Any dog that is unneutered should be only allowed on leash as hormones can impact behaviours. Even if the unneutered dog is not classified as menacing they pee on every seat, on areas of the beach and will actively seek out other dogs urine to overspray. People going to the beach often do not realise that dogs have urinated often of the log they choose to sit.
3664	Do not support	Who is doing the menacing clarification? Have they ever owned that breed themselves. They have no idea if they have not. Not acceptable

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
4120	Do not support	I have had no bad experiences with dogs classified as menacing dog breeds. I have done a lot of dog sitting and have found that the bullie breeds often have the sweetest natures. Yet I have come across a lot of miniature breeds showing aggression. I think there should be great encouragement in general to de-sex dogs, all breeds, as there are lots of unwanted puppies. But to me it makes no sense to only force some breeds to be neutered.
4128	Support	Neutering is a tricky subject. Not all types of aggression are positively influenced by neutering - fear aggression in male dogs e.g. is not. The bigger issue is that the type of person who owns pitbulls, american staffies etc. will often not consent to neutering, and by making it compulsory you may inadvertently increase the number of unregistered dogs.
4175	Do not support	The 'menacing' nomenclature can be too easily cast onto almost dog if the complainant is vindictive, I have personally witnessed dog haters use this to their advantage.
4307	Support	Menacing dogs should of course be neutered to help ease aggression and roaming behaviors and help prevent more litters of Menacing dogs.
4350	Do not support	Who is doing the classifying? It is often poor training from the owner rather than the dog or breed.
4408	Do not support	What is classified as menacing? Is it something that can be changed with behavioural training from a professional? Have the professionals been talked with regarding this?
4602	Support	Menacing dogs should be neutered, muzzled and microchipped.
4631	Support	Neutered may not be enough. Dogs classified as menacing should be banned.
4640	Support	We should be looking at requiring all dogs not specifically registered for breeding to be neutered to reduce the number of wandering and dangerous dogs. Owners and properties should be registered rather than the dogs.
4899	Do not support	Should NOT be neutered as they do not determine their offspring's behavior, the environment in which they are raised should be individually assessed
5013	Do not support	This is a very uneducated topic with a lot of people blaming breeds and other issues when it's generally the owner's fault with lack of training etc. It would be much more effective making it that dogs that show aggressive behavior have to be muzzled outside their own properties and a fine penalty to enforce this with multiple offences or similar offences have the animal taken away until the owner has trained with skills to train aggressive animal behaviors. More advocate and campaigning for animal training would help all of these issues and more
5260	Do not support	People who have menacing dogs don't care about reading documents saying their dog should be neutered. Again, stop wasting taxpayer money
5275	Support	What is needed however is a better definition of menacing. The out of control Border Collies at Muriwai are menacing, though don't carry the same heat or branding as a pitbull. But the damage an out of control Border Collie inflicts on a puppy is devastating. That said the role of the owner needs to be considered and perhaps menacing dogs need to be euthanised.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
5483	Do not support	Neutering a dog is the responsibility of the owner, not the ratepayers. I also don't believe forcing neutering as it may not fix the problem. Menacing dogs are the result of the human owner.
5567	I don't know	Neutering or speying does not make much difference to a dogs temperament sadly its a bit of an old wives tale .
5901	Do not support	Dogs don't only show menacing behaviour just because they are 'full'. Have seen plenty of dogs get worse after being neutered.
5952	Support	All menacing dogs should not be allowed on parks as it poses danger to kids and other smaller dogs on leash
6102	Support	Absolutely support this but again reiterate that enforce is the key here and needs to better than it is currently
6387	Support	see below
6470	Do not support	I have far too often seen neutering proposed as a solution to these types of problems, it's rolling the dice. Training is always a better option with neutering applied if necessary. This is a topic which requires great discussion before everyone is on the same page about it. Again, breed specific training requirements for licensing would solve the issue.
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD		
83	Support	All dogs, no matter their classification, should be neutered.
138	Support	Pitbull type dogs are now being labelled as staffys or lab mixes to skirt the laws of having to have restrictions. I was attacked by a pitbull off leash while at the no dog part of muriwai between the flags with my assistance dog. I was told that by the owner it was a staffy not a pitbull as they ran off. It sure looked like a pitbull to me and was unneutered and aggressive.
179	Support	Provide examples as some people don't seem to be following this.
754	Support	Neutering dangerous dogs does not necessarily change their behaviour but they tend to be more submissive to other dogs and a little easier to train. Stops them passing on their agresive traits.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
846	Do not support	I do not support the requirement that all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered. The classification of certain breeds as inherently menacing lacks a strong evidence base. There is little convincing research to suggest that dogs are born menacing purely due to their breed. Behaviour is far more likely to be influenced by upbringing, training, and treatment by their owners. The issue of menacing behaviour is often the result of being neglected, mistreated, or lack of proper training. Instead of enforcing blanket rules such as neutering, I believe Auckland Council should invest more in: - Public education campaigns to promote responsible dog ownership. - Licensing requirements that ensure dog owners are adequately trained, ie make prospective dog owners to attend approved seminars, etc. - Increased funding for animal control staff to address specific problem cases effectively. Forcing neutering on animals is a blanket solution that does not address the root causes of aggressive behaviour. Responsible owners of well-behaved dogs may be unfairly penalised under such a rule. Neutering decisions should remain at the discretion of the owner in consultation with a veterinarian. I believe that to address menacing behaviour you should focus on prevention and rehabilitation rather than punishment. Targeted interventions, such as behaviour assessments and training requirements for identified problem dogs, would be a more equitable and effective solution.
1046	Support	I do support dogs being clipped due to aggressive behaviour however I don't believe that clipping will stop the issue and the dog will need numerous training to help them through this issue but also the owner to be trained on how to deal with the dog long term to avoid this issue again. Most of the time the dog acts aggressive due to poor training from the owner. Reactive dogs can be worked on correctly if the owner knows what to do etc
1166	Do not support	Just because you classify a dog as meanacing, doesn't mean it is. Usually it's the owners who need to be neutered not the dogs. Don't punish the dog for the bad behaviour if the human.
1209	Support	Agree they should be neutered, but need flexibility on the age at desexing. Currently 6mth seems to be the required age but veterinary recommendations are not to desex large breeds later than this for multiple health and behavioral benefits. Allow exemptions with letter from vet?
1218	Do not support	Bring the cats regulations!!! The cats must be registered, chipped, not allowed to wonder around without owners. Example: a cat came to our property, attacked 2 our dogs. One dog almost died, we paid over \$2000 of excess insurance costs for surgery and hospitalisation. No way to even find whose the cat was, why it was in our enclosed backyard.
1637	Support	All dogs and cats should be neutered unless they register as breeders

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
2662	Support	Makes sense - this may help reduce menacing dogs if they are neutered. Most pets are neutered as well. However whether the rules can be enforced is another question, especially if owner is non-responsive and unwilling, but setting rules is on the right track.
3652	Support	Of course for the obvious reasons and also muzzling of menacing dogs
3976	Support	Not just for "menacing dogs" for all DOGS !!! also its not dogs that are menacing - it's the uneducated humans that use them to make money by back yard breeding - dogs aren't born "menacing" they are raised that way !!! it comes down to this from your 2019 info - that is CLEARLY not being taught Responsible Dog Ownership "Educate and inform dog owners how to take care of their dogs."
4146	Support	All dogs should be neutered. Stop breeding and encourage adoption.
4172	Support	I think desexing should be compulsory unless you have a license to breed.
5447	Do not support	Council does not have fair and safe ways to label dogs as menacing- they are labelling many dogs as menacing when they are not.
5873	Support	They shouldn't be classified as menacing without a prior, whereas right now you are just labeling all "pitbulls" or bully breeds as menacing when that is NOT the case. It's all about the owners not the breeds. I work with animals and have seen more chihuahua's do damage than any bully breed
5880	Do not support	There are some studies to show that neutering dogs can increase aggression. So I would put more emphasis and responsibility on the owner rather than jump straight to such a drastic measure. License the owner!
6021	Do not support	Stop making rules about breed or dangerous classes, humans are way more dangerous than dogs.
WAIHEKE LOCAL BOARD		
420	Support	Sorry, but dogs ruled as menacing already have to be neutered and wear a muzzle under the current law as well as pay extra rego costs. 0
793	Support	How will people pay for the neutering of menacing dogs? And how will this be enforced? The proposal does not make this clear. There will be many people who will be unable to afford this service (who arguably shouldn't have dogs but they do).
4734	Support	S they cannot breed other dangerous dogs
4784	Support	I have been bitten and terrorised by menacing dogs at various times and it interrupts my right to peaceful enjoyment of my environment.
4893	Support	Dogs that are aggressive especially males are known to be less aggressive when neutered. And are less likely to wander. Good rule.
WAITĀKERE RANGES LOCAL BOARD		
433	I don't know	You need to be clear in this document about which dogs are classed as menacing. Hard to comment clearly without knowing the list
506	Support	Too many terrible dog owners in this city. Roaming pitbulls all over Auckland. I'm hoping I can make comments on this and changes will be made. Please ban pitbull ownership.
523	Do not support	The process for classifying dogs as menacing need a complete overhaul, its not working

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
634	Do not support	While I do not like menacing dogs, the classification process should be updated.
700	Support	All menacing dogs neutered. Only allowed to be sold or transferred by registered breeders. Ban all American Staffordshire Bull terriers and Pit Bulls.
1079	Support	With all the Kainga Ora houses going up in recent years, there have been owners who not only house their dogs in small backyard spaces, but have been notably unneutered with a number who have been found roaming the streets.
1291	I don't know	Classification neutering agreed. Any off leash aggression towards other dogs or people total confiscation. Maybe limit number of pitbull type dogs on one property to one. They are more likely to become pack animals if more than one.
1322	Support	While I've already stated i support it, i wish to emphasise that unless you are a REGISTERED breeder (with very strict guidelines) ALL dogs should be de sexed.
1519	Support	All household dogs must be neutered unless a license to breed is held.
1600	Support	Clear description of the term menacing. All dog breeds in the wrong hands can be menacing. All dogs should be neutered, especially in households known for, animal abuse, and violence towards family and others. Also to reduce the number of dumped and neglected puppies.
1665	Support	Makes sense to limit dangerous animals from breeding more. Stereotypes exist for a reason and usually the type of people who don't care about their dangerous dog are happy for them to have litter after litter; often selling or giving puppies to other unsuitable dog owners.
1930	Support	Please clarify how you classify a menacing dog.
2167	Support	Support this 100% its needs to be again controlled and owners held accountable.
2176	I don't know	I think a muzzle is going to be more effective at public safety than no genitals
3639	Do not support	Most dogs are neutered unless specifically being bred, it needs to be assessed on a case by case basis depending on the situation, owners and the dog.
4001	Support	I agree but i wish to ensure they are actually menacing. Who decides this? There needs to be more than just a council person. Introduce an appeal process- i may have a number of professionals who can attest to the dogs behaviour over years etc etc. worth hearing and contesting.
4220	Do not support	I do not support the neutering of animals based SOLELY on breed. If there is an individual dog deemed to be menacing, then that dog should be assessed and decision based on multiple factors like breed, training, demeanor, ect... Again, such blanket policy making is lazy and leaves open possibility of abuse.
4571	Support	They should have to be given these rules when they register their dogs and council should make sure they know the person UNDERSTANDS the rules
4827	Do not support	Please spend rate payer money on more important things.
4934	Support	I have a personal experience with menacing dogs and feel there should be a stronger response to these incidents. Not just neutering or euthanising dogs but penalties for the people responsible.
5480	Do not support	Dogs are not menacing. They are poorly trained with inadequate owners. Again target the owner. Not the dog

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
5579	Support	The classification of 'menacing' is based on opinion rather than fact. The criteria for this should be more clear, however I do support the neutering/spaying of all domestic animals.
6117	Support	I very strongly support this action.
6447	Do not support	Eugenics is discredited as a science long ago. This is just ignorant. Humans are the problem not dogs
6765	Do not support	Classifying dogs as menacing solely due to their breed (which is a subjective social category and not a scientific one) is counter to the principles of democratic government and counterproductive in practice. Classifying breeds as 'menacing' and mandatory neutering ensures that underground breeding will occur under inhumane conditions and that the owners of such breeds will be alienated from the entire dog control framework. Any designation of a dog as menacing should occur solely on the basis of antisocial behavior backed up by clear evidence, not hearsay or pseudoscientific judgments regarding 'inferior breeds'.
WAITEMATĀ LOCAL BOARD		
112	Do not support	Owners who do their work with the dog should not be penalised by idiots who don't train their dog. My personal dog is a large bully breed and is the softest creature who loves popping bubbles and swimming. He has never caused harm to any dog or human but looks like he is a menace. Don't judge a book by its cover
162	Support	Menacing dogs may be made more aggressive by their mating instincts.
366	I don't know	What criteria is considered menacing? I understand if it is a dog that has a previous record of bad behaviour. Or is it going to be specific breeds or un-neutered? It would be helpful to see the proposal's details before being asked to comment. I may be missing something, but the summary doesn't have these details. If there is somewhere else we need to go to read all the details please advise. I'm happy to make another submission.
370	Support	It is the dangerous breeds that should be addressed not well behaved dogs walking happily in groups
454	Support	I just think these dogs shouldn't be allowed to all. They are a risk to human safety, cost the public millions in ACC claims. Why do we need them?
560	Support	I'd like a vet to agree to it.
803	Support	I think any dog that goes on a structured dog walk should be neutered, regardless of classification. That is the reason I choose the dog-walking company I did.
957	Support	All dogs should be neutered. NZ (and Auckland specifically) needs to start working towards becoming cat and dog free to allow the native animal populations to recover.
1048	Support	All dogs should be neutered. More strict breeding laws are needed to reduce the huge amounts of unwanted dogs going to shelters.
		These dogs need to be less dangerous for the general population if owners wish to have such dogs in public spaces.

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1474	Support	all dogs should be neutered, unless it is designated for breeding. strict regulations need to be in place to allow breeding and stop puppy mills/unwanted pregnancies. the care and well-being of the dogs is critical , we don't want to see unwanted puppies left for dead and dogs getting pregant in the first place. neutering needs to be accessible to encourage this to be done in the first instance.
1510	Support	If you create this law you must actually have a team /the manpower to action it or it will be pointless. People should be allowed to 'dob in' unregistered and unfettered dogs without giving their own personal details for fear of retribution from the dog's owner.
1544	Do not support	???????
2184	Do not support	Dog owners should be involved in this matter
2369	Support	Dog owners overall need to be held accountable for the behaviour of their animals and unfit owners should not be able to breed even more menacing animals
2418	Do not support	It is never the dog's fault, it's the owner. If you cannot control/train your dog, that should be the legal guardian dispute not a problem that the dog has to suffer for! The dog should not be taken from their guardian either, they would be fined with not training/caring for their dog properly. They are losing not only their ability to have pups, but their energy, their spark, their 'dopamine'.
2611	Support	Not all dogs are registered which, other than the animal attacking another animal or a human, is how council will learn of its existence. The cost of registering a dog is prohibitive. Only responsible owners are likely to do this and they are hit for this cost more than once. First the registration, then the neutering (cheaper if your pup is neutered) and then the cost of going on a course to prove that you are a responsible owner. Which you have already done, registering your dog. This system of fee taking is not managing menacing dogs, unneutered dogs or irresponsible owners.
3031	Support	I already thought this was a policy nothing new here
3364	Do not support	I think this should be dealt with on a case by case basis as menacing can be different to different people and situations
4064	Support	In order to have access to fenced dog areas, owners of large breed dogs should be neutered, this would help to stimulate dog owners to fix their dogs.
4582	I don't know	To be honest, i dont like menancing dogs, but often its the owners who are the problem not the dogs. Classify the breeds if you want, but you should probably make the owners register and pass tests to see if they are capable of owning and handling them.
4584	Do not support	if the dog owner and dog is well behaved and managed then it should be ok that there dog is not neutered
5125	Support	Enacting dogs must be muzzled.
5310	I don't know	I am not convinced the link is strong enough to impose neutering, and whether it will work - especially after a certain age. Although I would say I am in favour of neutering in general, unless there is a clear intention to breed.

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5788	Support	Agree, so long as the classification is logical. eg A non-neutered lab is not menacing
5812	Do not support	While I understand the intent behind requiring the neutering of dogs classified as menacing, I am concerned about who determines this classification and on what basis. Currently, dogs can be classified as menacing either based on breed (under the Dog Control Act 1996) or behaviour, often at the discretion of council officers. This subjective classification process lacks transparency and may unfairly penalise responsible owners and well-behaved dogs. Breed-based classifications are particularly problematic, as they fail to consider individual temperament and responsible ownership. Instead of a blanket neutering requirement, there should be a fair and evidence-based assessment process that allows owners to challenge or appeal an unfair classification before irreversible actions like neutering are mandated.
6133	Support	Assume they also must be muzzled in public and under owners control at all times or will be impounded. If already classifies as menacing the risk is too high to do anything else. I would destroy any dog officially classified as menacing and I like dogs.
6182	Do not support	This wording is too broad and could be mismanaged.
6445	Do not support	I believe "menacing" behaviour in dogs is primarily down to its upbringing and what its owners have done during training. The dogs I find most troublesome at the dog park are not these breeds. I believe some breeds have a bad reputation, and do not get an unbiased opportunity, so looking at stats does not provide an objective view. I do not support compulsory neutering of particular breeds. There is however a massive issue with unwanted dogs (from unplanned breeding) that puts a lot of strain on rescues and councils. At a general level, supporting de-sexing of ALL breeds is important.
WHAU LOCAL BOARD		
522	Support	Some clarity on what a menacing dog would be great, so people can identify a menacing dog and report it if it ain't neutered
774	Support	Too often we hear reports of an innocent member of the public being seriously injured by these breeds,, when off leash (even on leash, if owners react to slowly)and unmuzzled, particularly children, who initially have no fear of strange dogs
2289	Support	This will benefit the dog and keep dog from harming others - owners really should consider this always.
2338	Support	I do not support that dogs classified as "menacing" are born menacing but due to those certain breeds being popular among people who want to use them in a menacing manner, such dogs should be neutered to prevent backyard breeding.
2339	Support	All dogs should be neutered unless you are a breeder! Not just menacing breeds

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2819	Support	As above all information needs to be clear concise easily accessible for all. In my opinion the menacing Classification is often used incorrectly by staff which leads to more confusion and is not followed up once a dog has been labeled menacing. Breed specific labeling is also hopeless.
3432	Support	I think all dogs should be neutered, period. Too many rescue dogs in need of homes, the last thing we need is more breeding.
4025	Do not support	Should be Assessed case by case or room to appeal and change
4157	Support	The neutering of dogs, I feel should be mandatory across the board unless they are registered to a licensed breeder or registered as a security dog. Whole dogs are by nature more aggressive.
4879	Do not support	All dogs classified as menacing must be banned!
5023	Support	I think that all dogs must be neutered and spayed if there is no agreement between a dog-owner and breeder. All dogs, when they reach a certain age, must be neutered if it doesn't imply any health problems. Any wandering and roaming will be minimised and there will be a lot less puppies.
5294	Support	A full/partial subsidy for rescued dogs of these breeds. Many owners are low income. Also would propose allowance to delay neutering if clinically indicated by vet.
6077	Support	as a responsible dog owner I believe there is no need for any male dog to be entire if it is not specifically for breeding purposes. I believe the fines and penalties for dangerous dogs should be far more than it currently is and both the dogs and owners should be seized and put down rather than the dogs
UNDECLARED LOCAL BOARD		
474	I don't know	Without knowing the definition of menacing, generally support this idea.
903	Do not support	Owners should be held responsible if they can't control their dog. Dangerous dogs wear a muzzle in public.
1806	Support	I don't think neutering solves the issue. Confiscation of animal is needed to be followed strictly.
1914	Support	If this rule has been unclear until this point the date of change should be taken into account for enforcement of it.
2102	Support	Doesn't matter what rules are applied as there will always be a group that won't comply with rules. Just makes it clearer for the responsible dog owners.
2183	Support	I would only support this if the dog was known to roam due to owner neglect. Rather than attacking the dog, why are we not working on a more comprehensive dog ownership policy. Dogs are sentient beings - they have bad days too. Menacing is also subjective- there would need to be extremely clear definitions of menacing to protect respectful dog owners and their pets against biased individuals and should only be conducted on the recommendation by a vet after a full assessment.
2235	Support	All dogs classified as menacing must be muzzled when not within the confines of a secured property.

Sub #	Q2B Neutering menacing dogs	Q2B Tell us why
2423	Support	Certain breeds of dogs that have commonly attacked humans should be banned from being bred in NZ, i.e. where a breed on average has harmed more than 10 people p.a. Certainly any breed that has killed a human should be banned in New Zealand. Too many undesirable people are using certain types of dogs to menace people. This needs to be stopped.
2584	Do not support	A menace dog owner must be educated! This is all you can do! Instead of using money for this nonsense, use this money to enforce mandatory training for specific breeds that you believe may cause issues!
4150	Support	We need tougher restrictions on roaming and menacing dogs. Neutering and banning are ways this can help
4468	I don't know	You need to clarify what menacing means, don't classify a dog breed as menacing because someone say so, it up to the individual dog. Don't just put dogs down because they don't pass a multi choice questionnaire, work with actual dog trainers to classify menacing dogs
5466	Do not support	That is absolutely absurd. I have two dogs and yes they can be classified as menacing but that doesn't mean they are, that is a stupid stereotype which cannot classify one breed as menacing when every single dog is different and depends on how they are brought up! It is good to have dogs neutered but not just because they are menacing! That's so stupid! Adopt don't shop
5884	Do not support	Who is the authority on what "menacing" means? This is very vague and can lead to a lot of instances where people feel they have control over other people's dogs as they may have the idea that they can report any and every dog, that they believe is a menace, to the authorities. People love to feel power and I feel that this change opens up the doors to vigilante justice which always creates more problems than what is aims to fix.
6931	I don't know	At 3.4 the Council has the ability to consider dogs to be dangerous or menacing. When walking up a hilly park footpath a long time ago, an Alsatian dog running down the hill jumped up and put his front paws on my chest, while the owner called out "he's friendly". If I had been shorter and lighter, I'd possibly have fallen over and been hurt. I was not impressed. If I had reported the dog would it have been seen as "menacing"? It was the dog owner who was at fault, as she did not have effective control. I am unclear whether the policies and bylaws can require such a dog owner to undertake training until such time that they can prove they have effective control of their dog? I would like to see the Council require them do so, as this would help prevent the situations that give people, including me, cause for concern. It should not be an optional extra!

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6954	Support	See attached Summary of attachment: Responsible Ownership: Supports Auckland Council's approach to encouraging responsible ownership for menacing dogs. Critique of Breed-Specific Legislation: Highlights issues with visual identification and genetic overlap in breed classification Opposition to Breed-Specific Legislation: Opposes Auckland Council's interpretation of Schedule 4 of the Dog Control Act 1996
OUTSIDE AUCKLAND		
932	Do not support	Neutering does not alter behaviour. Training alters behaviour. If a dog is entire and menacing it will also be neutered and menacing. Making dogs undergo a painful and unnecessary invasive surgical procedure is not the answer for being menacing. Responsible ownership is, would you suggest ear cropping because my dog doesn't listen? I don't think so.
1671	Support	I think any dogs classed as menacing should also have to go through a check that the owner is capable of dealing properly with a menacing dog.
2114	Do not support	Some dogs have medical conditions that is shown if left entire their condition can stabilise. Again punishing respond dog owners
4517	Support	If a dog is an issue- it not being desexed is going to make it an even bigger issue. And overall in a case like this I think the welfare of the dog needs to be looked at
REGIONAL ORGANISATION		
6364	Support	We strongly recommend that the Council implement mandatory desexing requirements for dogs classified as menacing, along with their household companions, and dogs in general. The current voluntary approach to desexing dogs is inadequate. Uncontrolled breeding remains a fundamental driver of many dog-related issues in Auckland, including roaming, aggressive behaviors, and attacks on people, other dogs, and wildlife. The growing trend of off-leash and roaming dogs suggests a concerning loss of awareness about existing regulations, highlighting the need for a comprehensive public education campaign about responsible dog ownership.