

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN
PORTOLA VALLEY URGING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND
RESIDENTS TO DISCONTINUE THE SALE AND USE OF
RODENTICIDES, AND PROMOTING INTEGRATED PEST
MANAGEMENT OF RODENTS ON TOWN PROPERTIES
AND THROUGHOUT PORTOLA VALLEY**

WHEREAS, rodenticides are poisons used to exterminate a variety of rodents, including rats, gophers, and ground squirrels; and

WHEREAS, rodenticides contain lethal substances that pose a danger to children, domestic animals, and wildlife and put them at grave risk if rodenticide is ingested; and

WHEREAS, studies carried out by the National Park Service, by WildCare, and by the University of California at Davis find significant poisoning and death of wildlife in California by rodenticides; and

WHEREAS, in July 2014, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) imposed a statewide ban on second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide use by consumers, restricting use of them to professional applicators; and

WHEREASE, in April 2016, the California Depart of Fish and Wildlife advised that even after the 2014 CDPR ban on consumer use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide went into effect, wildlife continue to be exposed because of use by pest control companies; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the threat of rodenticides to wildlife, in 2014, the State of California banned all second-generation rodenticides from California state parks, state wildlife refuges, and state conservancies; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Portola Valley has placed a strong emphasis on sustaining the natural environment and maintaining a rural ambiance, and has a rich abundance of wildlife within and traveling through the town; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Town of Portola Valley, whenever practicable, to manage pest problems through prevention and physical, mechanical, and biological controls and contract only with pest control providers that possess; and

WHEREAS, several entities in town, including Portola Valley Ranch and The Sequoias, have discontinued use of rodenticides because of the dangers they pose; and

WHEREAS, other towns and cities in California have adopted resolutions discouraging the sale and use of rodenticide, and have acquired experience they can share about controlling rodents on athletic fields.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Portola Valley does **HEREBY RESOLVE** as follows:

1. The Town of Portola Valley urges local businesses to discontinue the sale and use of, and residents to discontinue the use of rodenticides, and instead use safer and more effective integrated pest management to control rodents.
2. The Town of Portola Valley will undertake a pilot program to use non-rodenticide methods of rodent control on one or more Town properties through such means as mechanical trapping and, where suitable, installation of barn owl nest boxes, or other integrated pest management approaches.
3. The Town of Portola Valley reserves the option to use rodenticide if deemed necessary in a circumstance of extreme risk of rodent damage to public infrastructure or of danger to public health and safety.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of March, 2017.

INTRODUCED:

PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

By: _____
Craig Hughes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Hanlon, Town Clerk