#### AMBUJA ROSEN'S SPEECH IN PUBLIC FORUM 5/1/07

We've been campaigning for 16 months to get a law limiting the tethering of animals at their homes. Three of the councilors still oppose this. I've been told that Ashland doesn't have the resources to enforce it.

I've been told that the police won't have the time. I called 12 communities with similar tethering laws. One animal control officer told me that the law only takes about an hour to enforce. Based on the number of complaints these 12 communities get, I expect that after a brief flurry of complaints for the first few months or year, Ashland will only get a handful of complaints a month, if that.

Do the police have four or five hours a month to enforce this? I think so. I and at least one other citizen have seen three or more police cars pile up at a minor incident, such as a fender bender. I'm not saying the police are sitting around twiddling their thumbs. But they have their slow periods. Recently I called about my stolen bicycle which I discovered parked outside the food co-op. Within ten minutes, an officer was there.

If the police have time for minor incidents like that, surely they have time to rescue a dog or other animal from the misery of living on a chain.

I don't think we need an animal control officer to enforce this. Our former police chief, Ron Goodpaster, looked into getting one, and told me there isn't funding available. I believed this—until I read about the proposed city charter. The same three councilors who oppose the chaining ordinance are the three who voted to put the new charter on the ballot.

This charter allows the councilors and mayor to set their own salaries. If it passes, you can bet those salaries won't remain at a few hundred dollars a year.

Now, I'm not saying that our hard-working mayor and councilors don't deserve good salaries. But clearly, if they're willing to pull money out of the budget to bolster their own salaries, they could easily pull money out for an animal control officer.

If what Art Bullock says is accurate, if this charter passes, our city administrator, who already makes \$125,000 a year—several times as much as the average American—will get a \$15,000 raise.

This same amount of money could fund a part-time animal control officer. Cities even smaller than Ashand have one.

So after seeing the proposed charter, I no longer believe there isn't money to enforce a chaining ordinance. I know that if there were enough commitment on council to help these animals, the money would be allocated.

But again, I believe the Ashland police alone can enforce the simple ordinance I'm proposing. And if some councilors don't think so, I say

to them. "Why not pull money out of the same place it would come to increase your salaries? If you think we need an animal control officer, then let's care enough about the animal family members of Ashland to fund one."

Thank you.

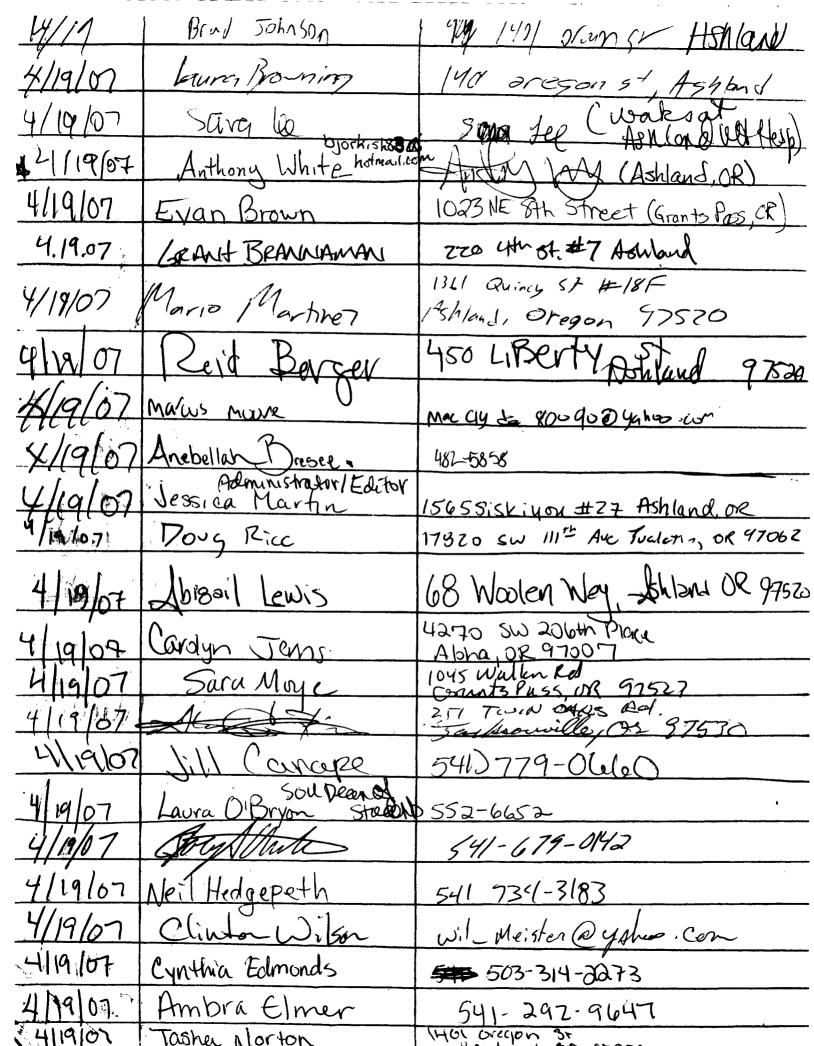
May 1, 2001 Dear Councilors, Mayor, Police Chiet, City & Administrator and City Attorney: you for this law. Here are 328 new signatures, intentionally mis represented I've never intentionally mis represented this petition to anyone. I describe it briefly and answer any questions, and briefly and answer any questions, and everyone is also welcome to read it before everyone is also welcome to read it before their sign. Many people sign with just a verbal explanation and don't read the verbal explanation and don't read the petition. Yet of the thousands who have signed, only two or three people, to my recollection, have told me later that they're sorry they did, to me later that who live on help the animals in Ashland who live on chains. My plea on their behalf is the same as always: Please pass this laws Kindly, ambuje toon please pass the tethering ordinance noco. I want to fly with the autumn feaves come october,

I'm concerned about the animals in Ashland who are tied up at their homes for excessive periods. They suffer loneliness, frustration and boredom. They also run the risk of strangling to death, getting abused by kids or adults, getting attacked by animals, or dying of heatstroke.

Jackson County allows animals to be tied for their entire lives on short chains. This is not a life that anyone in Ashland, including pets, should have to endure. Please pass a law to make this kind of animal abuse illegal. Please heavily restrict the tethering of dogs and other animals at their homes.

By doing this, you will also help people. Chained dogs are often a barking They're also more likely to bite people than other dogs are.

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