



**For Immediate Release  
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## **CITY MARKET ISSUES NEW ANIMAL POLICY**

**KANSAS CITY, MO** –City Market management made the announcement that dogs will no longer be allowed within the City Market square, pavilions, building walkways or retail locations unless serving in an official ADA capacity. City Market management regrets having to make a broad stroke policy by banning pets, however this decision was made after careful consideration of issues both on and off the property over the 2006 calendar year.

Several reasons were cited for the decision including:

- the number of pets in the Farmers' Market sheds and concessions areas
- the number of pet owners not cleaning up after their pets
- the number of aggressive behavior and dog bite incidents on property
- the number of pet owners taking animals into food establishments (a violation of City of Kansas City Health Code)

“We hope pet owners will respect and comply with the policy change”, said Deb Churchill, Property Manager for the City Market. “We are dog enthusiasts and have strongly supported animal advocates such as Wayside Waifs over the years; however the City Market is a place of business that has to provide a safe and enjoyable environment, while complying with ordinances, health codes and policies. We ask that if pet owners bring their pets to the area, they utilize the City Market Park located at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Main.”

Stephanie Spatz-Ornburn, Director of Marketing and Events added, “When vendors attempting to conduct their business witness pet owners allowing their dogs to relieve themselves next to or in some cases, directly on the products they are attempting to sell, it is a problem that can not be overlooked.”

The new Animal Policy states: Due to health and safety of food products and Market patrons, dogs are not permitted within the City Market square, pavilions, building walkways or retail locations unless serving in an official ADA capacity. Your cooperation is appreciated.

KCMO Food Code 6-501.115  
Effective January 1, 2007

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Celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary season in 2007, the City Market is the largest farmers' market in the region with over 140 vendors and 590,000 annual visitors. In addition, over 30 City Market merchants offer a wide variety of fresh produce, meats, seafood, flowers and other specialty food items from America, Africa, Europe, the Middle and far East. Located at 20 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in the heart of the River Market Neighborhood, The City Market is open seven days per week year 'round.

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