



For Immediate Release
January 16, 2007

For Additional Information Contact:
Anthony Butler
Office Administrator
816-842-1271

CITY MARKET ISSUES NEW ANIMAL POLICY

KANSAS CITY, MO – City Market management has made the announcement that dogs will no longer be allowed within the City Market square, sheds, building walkways or retail locations. 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 an increase in the number of aggressive behavior and dog bite incidences on property, an increase in the number of pet owners not cleaning up after their pets, an increase in the number of pets in the Farmers' Market sheds and concessions areas, and an increase in the number of pet owners taking animals into food establishments, which are 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 3rd 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 do their business next to or in some cases, directly on the products they are attempting to sell, it is a problem that can not be overlooked. Some owners bring their pets to a public place where thousands of people mill about, which can be overwhelming for any pet causing sometimes unforeseen incidents and it is time to take responsibility."

The new Animal Policy states: "Dogs are not permitted within the City Market square, sheds, building walkways or retail locations unless serving in an official ADA capacity." This policy is effective immediately and patron cooperation and understanding is greatly appreciated.

In operation since 1857, The City Market is the largest farmers' market in the region. In addition, over 25 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. The Market also provides a unique selection of freshly prepared foods, distinctive gifts, free advice and personable service. Located at 20 E. 5th Street in the heart of the River Market Neighborhood, The City Market is open seven days per week year 'round.

#####



20 East 5th Street • Suite 201 • Kansas City, Missouri 64106 • Tele. (816)842-1271 • Fax (816)471-6168