

# *Preserve Chicago Carriages*



*Save Horses  
Save Jobs*

## **Please Say NO to a Chicago Carriage Horse Ban**

- Chicago Carriage horses are already strictly regulated to ensure welfare and safety standards.
- Chicago carriage companies have a perfect safety record.
- Chicago carriage horses are overseen by an equine veterinarian to ensure their health.
- Studies have revealed health benefits to children and adults when experiencing contact with animals.
- Carriage horses are bred to work and they love their jobs.
- A carriage ban supports the ELIMINATION of JOBS for both horse and owner.
- A carriage ban promotes the radical animal rights non-use animal agenda which establishes new precedents to restrict animal ownership.
- We operated our carriages under very strict protective measures to ensure happy, healthy horses.
- Horse drawn carriages were present on Chicago city streets long before motor vehicles existed. We must preserve the last vestiges of our city's heritage.



## Myths De-bunked about Carriage Horses:

**Lie No. 1:** Carriage horses have half the lifespan of other horses.

**Truth:** Carriage horses routinely work until their late teens or early 20s and live well into their 20s or even early 30s — the normal, full lifespan for horses.

If anything, because they get good steady work and lots of hands-on care, carriage horses live longer than other horses. Dr. Jay Baldwin, a veterinarian employed by the city Health Department, says he's found zero evidence that carriage horses have shortened lifespans.

**Lie No. 2:** Carriage horses live in tiny stalls too small to turn around or lie down in.

**Truth:** All city carriage horses live in box stalls. **Is there a city Administrative Code for Chicago?**

**Lie No. 3:** Carriage horses never get any turnout or pasture time.

**Truth:** Horses get rotated from the farm regularly during the full time work week. Carriage horses work a 5 day work week 5 months out of the year, 3-4 day work week 4 months of the year and 3 months off vacation

**Lie No. 4:** Carriage horses live in abandoned tenement buildings, warehouses or parking garages.

**Truth:** There is no such thing as stable zoning in Chicago. The city of Chicago allows carriage companies to use facilities that are zoned for manufacturing and industrial. Our buildings are converted into stables with plenty of light and ventilation and comply with Animal Care & Control's strict multi point inspections

**Lie No. 5:** Asphalt damages carriage horses' hooves and legs.

**Truth:** Asphalt was designed for horses to walk on to make their jobs easier. Carriage horses wear special horse shoes to protect their hooves and give them traction. Because they work at a walk or a trot on a firm surface, they generally have fewer tendon and joint problems than horses ridden or jumped on uneven, soft surfaces.

**Lie No. 6:** Carriage horses live a "nose-to-tailpipe" existence and suffer from respiratory problems.

**Truth:** Vets who've actually examined our horses remark at their lack of respiratory problems, compared to other stabled horses.

**Lie No.7:** After carriage horses are finished working in Chicago, they're sent to auction, then sent to slaughter.

**Truth:** No, we don't send our horses to auction, let alone slaughter. We love our horses and want to have a hand in picking who'll give our work partners their next home. Retiring city carriage horses make wonderful family horses or beginning pleasure driving horses, and are often sold or given to private homes or smaller carriage companies that have a lighter workload.

**Lie No. 8:** Carriages are banned in London, Paris, Las Vegas, Toronto and Beijing.

**Truth:** None of those cities have banned horse-drawn carriages. Do a Google-image search for "paris carriage," and you see carriages parked in front of the Eiffel Tower.

## About Antique Coach & Carriage Company

Our herd at Antique Coach & Carriage is made up of 16 draft and draft cross horses. The average age is 15 years old. Our herd is homebred working horses, raised and extensively trained at our farm in the southwest suburbs of Chicago. Our barn in the Old Town neighborhood in Chicago holds up to 30 horses.

Antique Coach & Carriage complies with the most comprehensive carriage animal welfare ordinance in the country and our carriage horses average 21 weeks per year at our farm in the southwest suburbs. A veterinarian examines the horses a minimum of 4 times each year, and they have their hooves examined and shod a minimum of every six (6) weeks by a licensed farrier to ensure they are sound.

We love our horses and love our jobs serving the people and tourists of our great city of Chicago.

**Antique Coach & Carriage**

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