

## To stop street dogs from chasing or barking

- Stay calm and still
- Walk away very slowly, and if possible, while talking in a soothing tone to the dog(s).
- Slow down the vehicle when approaching street dogs
- Stop the vehicle (the dogs will stop and move away shortly)

## In the case of street dogs that you encounter regularly/in your neighbourhood

- Consider talking to them in a friendly tone (this reassures them that you are not a threat)
- Consider familiarizing them to you/your vehicle (for e.g., by talking to them, providing them with treats occasionally, or petting them)

## To stop street dogs from following or coming too close to you

- Say 'No' in a firm but gentle tone and repeatedly
- Hold a long thin stick and point it towards them or tap it on the ground to warn them (you don't need to hit them)
- Pretend to pick up or throw a stone at them to scare them off

**Appearing calm is critical. Dogs get excited when they sense excitement in people or when they see fast-moving objects.** Consistent and regular use of these measures will extinguish undesired behaviours from resident street dogs (*towards you*) over several days.

## Why do resident street dogs exhibit these behaviours? Some reasons

1. They (incorrectly) assume that all people like street dogs (e.g., following; jumping)
2. They are curious about the person (e.g., smelling; coming close without growling/ barking)
3. They perceive some people as strangers (e.g., barking/growling/chasing)
4. They perceive noisy objects as threats (e.g., loud vehicle engines)
5. They are being playful and/or acting on their instincts to chase after fast-moving objects (especially chasing of vehicles)

## Resident street dogs in many neighbourhoods are typically:

- Socialised with people
- Quick to stop frightening behaviours on being reassured

## For safe neighbourhoods

- Request neighbours and residents who are familiar with the local street dogs to get them neutered and annually vaccinated and to practise '[smart' caregiving or feeding](#)
- Install well-marked speed breakers close enough to each other to prevent motorists from even starting to gather speed. Install 'no speeding' signboards.
- Do not relocate or remove resident street dogs as this leads to ***influx of new dogs and repeated cycles of conflict***
- Maintain a stable population of neutered, vaccinated and socialised street dogs
- Become familiar with street dog behaviour and safety around street dogs