



NEWS RELEASE



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LA Animal Services Announces Three Milestones on the Road to No-Kill

Los Angeles – LA Animal Services is announcing three milestones in its quest to end euthanasia as a means to control pet overpopulation. Fiscal Year 07 statistics reveal LA Animal Services took in 25,419 dogs and 20,898 cats and was able to reunite nearly 16% (4,037) to their very grateful guardians, reminding Angelenos that **if you love your pet you will license your pet**. Licensing or microchipping your pets can save their lives. **LA Animal Services maintains one of the highest “return to guardian” rates in the country.**

Dog and cat adoptions were up 6.8% (15,098 from 14,125). Dog adoptions were up nearly 12% (from 8,772 to 9,813) and cat adoptions were down about 1% (5,285 from 5,353). New Hope placements were down 1.7% (5,918 from 6,023). However, the combination of adoptions and New Hope placements reached a record 21,016 – **making LA Animal Services the highest-volume pet adoption agency in the nation.** (New Hope is an LA Animal Services program that partners with more than 150 animal welfare organizations who help place about 6,000 pets into loving homes annually.)

LA Animal Services euthanized (or killed) 17,314 dogs and cats; **this is the fewest number of dogs and cats euthanized in LA in a one year period.** This is an 11.25% decrease from the previous Fiscal Year in which 19,508 dogs and cats were euthanized. LA Animal Services has consistently reduced euthanasia over the past five years in the double digits. 15% in 02/03. 12% in 03/04. 16% in 04/05. 10% in 05/06. 11.25% in 06/07. This is a 50% decrease over the past five years from 34,329 to 17,314.

“Despite this success”, said Ed Boks, general manager of LA Animal Services, “our department consistently rescues over 45,000 lost and homeless animals each year. So, while we are achieving unprecedented success in saving lives, it will continue to be a struggle until we turn off the faucet that is flooding our city and state with unwanted animals. Spay and neuter is the only way to achieve ‘no-kill!’” LA Animal Services sponsors AB 1634, The California Healthy Pet Act that requires pets to be spayed or neutered by six months of age.

(No-Kill is defined by LA Animal Services as using the same criteria a compassionate veterinarian or loving guardian would use to decide when euthanasia is appropriate. That is, pets would not be euthanized due to a lack of shelter space or limited medical resources.)

**For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at
1-888-452LA-PET/1-888-452-7381
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.**

We create happiness by bringing pets and people together!