

NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, California 90012 / www.LAAnimalServices.com

CONTACT: Kathy Davis/213.923.3440

Teri Austin/888-349-7388

Lori Weise/213.683.1963

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 15, 2009

LA Animal Services Announces Pits and Pals Day in South LA a HUGE SUCCESS!

Los Angeles – Saturday, June 13, was a great day for Pits and Pals in South Los Angeles. Councilmember Herb Wesson, Jr. and the Department of Animal Services joined forces to host a free sterilization day to income-qualified dog owners.

In our continuing quest to reduce pet overpopulation, LA Animal Services partnered with **The Amanda Foundation** and **Downtown Dog Rescue** to **sterilize 101 bully breed dogs and their four-legged friends**. The Pits and Pals Spay Day event occurred at the South Los Angeles Animal Care Center located at 3612 11th Street. The Amanda Foundation brought in their mobile van and utilized LA Animal Services' spay/neuter clinic to sterilize the 101 dogs. (For more information about The Amanda Foundation, please visit http://amandafoundation.org/.)

Downtown Dogs has long been active in the neighborhoods surrounding the South LA Animal Care Center delivered flyers and encouraged dog owners to call for an appointment. All surgeries were done by appointment.

Dog trainers and other dog care professionals were on hand at the South LA Animal Care Center to discuss training and other issues of interest to bully dog breed owners.

Councilmember Wesson, Jr., a longtime responsible pet ownership advocate, remarked, "We are fortunate to partner with The Amanda Foundation and Downtown Dog Rescue on an event that greatly benefits our dog owners, especially in these difficult economic times. We extend our deepest thanks to Teri Austin, The Amanda Foundation, whom we credit with performing thousands of sterilization surgeries in the City of Los Angeles. We also extend our thanks to Lori Weise, Downtown Dog Rescue. Her organization works directly with pit and bully breed dog owners guiding them towards responsible pet ownership through programs such as "Pit 4 Life" dog training, which is offered free of charge." (For more information about Downtown Dog Rescue, please visit www.downtowndogrescue.org).

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at 1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381 (TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.