

## **BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS**

CITY OF LOS ANGELES Monday January 26, 2008 10:00 A.M.

## LOS ANGELES CITY HALL 200 N. Spring St. Room 1060

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Vacant, President
Kathleen Riordan, Vice-President
Tariq Khero
Irene Ponce
Archie J. Quincey, Jr.

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For information please call (213) 482-9501.

Si require servicios de traduccion, favor de notificar la oficina con 24 horas por anticipado.

Public Comments: The Brown Act prohibits the Board and staff from responding to the speakers' comments. Some of the matters raised in public comment may appear on a future agenda.

## **COMMISSION MEETING**

## 1. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

## 2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the Commission Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2009
- B. Oral Report by the Commission on Meetings and Events attended.

### 3. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION

A Proposed Ordinance to Limit Roosters in the City of Los Angeles

Review of draft Rooster Limit Ordinance language. Discussion and possible action.

B. Letter of Agreement for a Pilot Project with <u>The Puppy Store</u> to Adopt Dogs for Resale in Lieu of Selling Puppy Mill Dogs

That the Board approve a Letter of Agreement, substantially as on file in the Board office, setting out expectations and responsibilities with The Puppy Store for collaboration on an experimental, short-term pilot program to determine the feasibility of working with private pet stores to adopt animals for resale, for the purpose of increasing adoptions and reducing the inflow of animals, and subject to review as to form by the City Attorney; and, direct the General Manager to sign the Letter of Agreement subsequent to review by the City Attorney.

## 4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion Regarding Field Statistics

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction and on items not on the Agenda.)

### 6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Requests from Commissioners for future Agenda Items.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 6:00 P.M., February 9, 2009, East Valley Shelter 14409 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406

**AGENDAS** - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Monday of each month at 10:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. The agendas for Board meetings contain a brief general description of those items to be considered at the meetings. Board Agendas are available at the Department of Animal Services (Department), Administrative Division, 221 North Figueroa Street, 5th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Internet users may also access copies of present and prior agenda items, copies of the Board Calendar, as well as electronic copies of approved minutes on the Department's World Wide Web Home Page site http://www.laanimalservices.com/CommissionAgendas.htm

Three (3) members of the Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Board may consider an item not listed on the Board Agenda only if it is determined by a two-thirds (2/3) vote that the need for action arose after the posting of an Agenda. Some items on the Agenda may be approved without any discussion.

The Board Secretary will announce the items to be considered by the Board. The Board will hear the presentation on the topic and gather additional information from Department Staff. Once presentations have finished, the Board President will ask if any Board Member or member of the public wishes to speak on one or more of these items. Each speaker called before the Commission will have one (1) minute to express their comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda.

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<u>PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS</u> – Public Participation on Agenda Items. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on agenda items after the item is called and before the Board takes action on the item, unless the opportunity for public participation on the item was previously provided to all interested members of the public at a public meeting of a Committee of the Board and the item has not substantially changed since the Committee heard the item. When speaking to an agenda item other than during Public Comment (see Public Comment below), the speaker shall limit his or her comments to the specific item under consideration. California Government Code Section 54954.3.

**Public Comment.** The Board will provide an opportunity for public comment at every regular meeting of the Board. Members of the public may address the Board on any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as part of Public Comment.

**Speaker Cards.** Members of the public wishing to speak are to fill out one speaker card for each agenda item on which they wish to speak and present it to the Board secretary before the item is called.

**Time Limit for Speakers.** Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item except in public comment which is limited to three (3) minutes. The Chairperson, with the approval of a majority of the Board, may for good cause extend any speaker's time by increments of up to one (1) minute. Total speaker time on any agenda item will be limited to ten (10) minutes per item and fifteen (15) minutes for Public Comment, unless extended as above.

**Brown Act.** These rules shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section § 54950 et seq.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.** Speakers are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from personal attacks or use of profanity or language that may incite violence.

All persons present at Board meetings are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from disrupting the meeting, interfering with the rights of others to address the Board and/or interfering with the conduct of business by the Board.

In the event that any speaker does not comply with the foregoing requirements, or if a speaker does not address the specific item under consideration, the speaker may be ruled out of order, their speaking time forfeited and the Chairperson may call upon the next speaker.

The Board, by majority vote, may order the removal from the meeting of any speaker or audience member continuing to behave in a disruptive manner after being warned by the Chairperson regarding their behavior. Section 403 of the California Penal Code states as follows: "Every person who, without authority of law, willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor".

**VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS** – Most items require a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board (3 members). When debate on an item is completed, the Board President will instruct the Secretary to "call the roll". Every member present must vote for or against each item; abstentions are not permitted unless there is a Conflict of Interest for which the Board member is obliged to abstain from voting. The Secretary will announce the votes on each item. Any member of the Board may move to "reconsider" any vote on any item on the agenda, except to adjourn, suspend the Rules, or where an intervening event has deprived the Board of jurisdiction, providing that said member originally voted on the prevailing side of the item. The motion to "reconsider" shall only be in order once during the meeting, and once during the next regular meeting. The member requesting reconsideration shall identify for all members present the Agenda number and subject matter previously voted upon. A motion to reconsider is not debatable and shall require an affirmative vote of three members of the Board.

When the Board has failed by sufficient votes to approve or reject an item, and has not lost jurisdiction

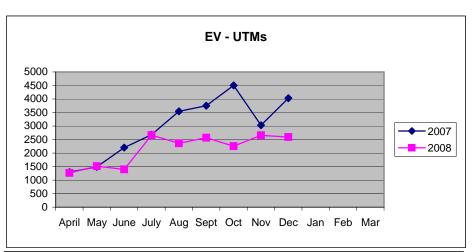
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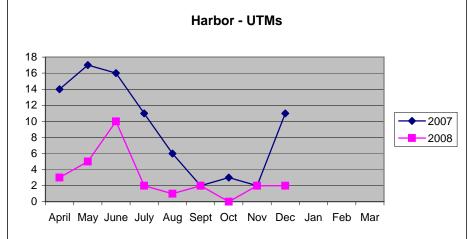
over the matter, or has not caused it to be continued beyond the next regular meeting, the issue is again placed on the next agenda for the following meeting for the purpose of allowing the Board to again vote on the matter.

## **UTMs** by Center

EV		
	2007	2008
April	1294	1267
May	1492	1513
June	2200	1395
July	2683	2662
Aug	3542	2358
Sept	3752	2568
Oct	4504	2254
Nov	3029	2658
Dec	4030	2592
Jan		
Feb		
Mar		

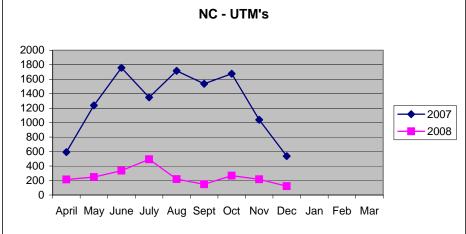


Harbor		
	2007	2008
April	14	3
May	17	5
June	16	10
July	11	2
Aug	6	1
Sept	2	2
Oct	3	0
Nov	2	2
Dec	11	2
Jan		
Feb		
Mar		

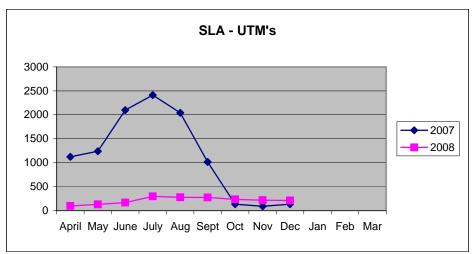


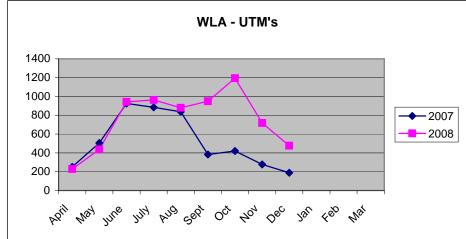


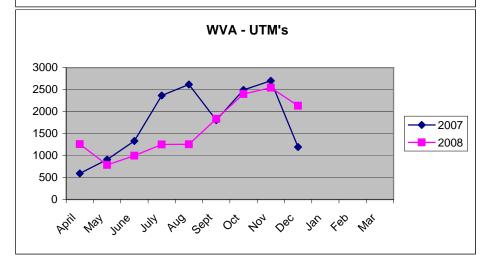
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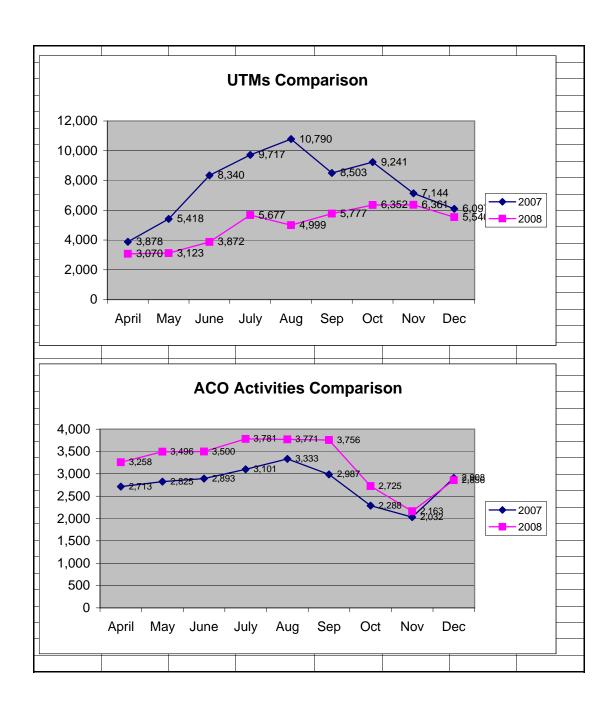


SLA **April** May June July Aug 

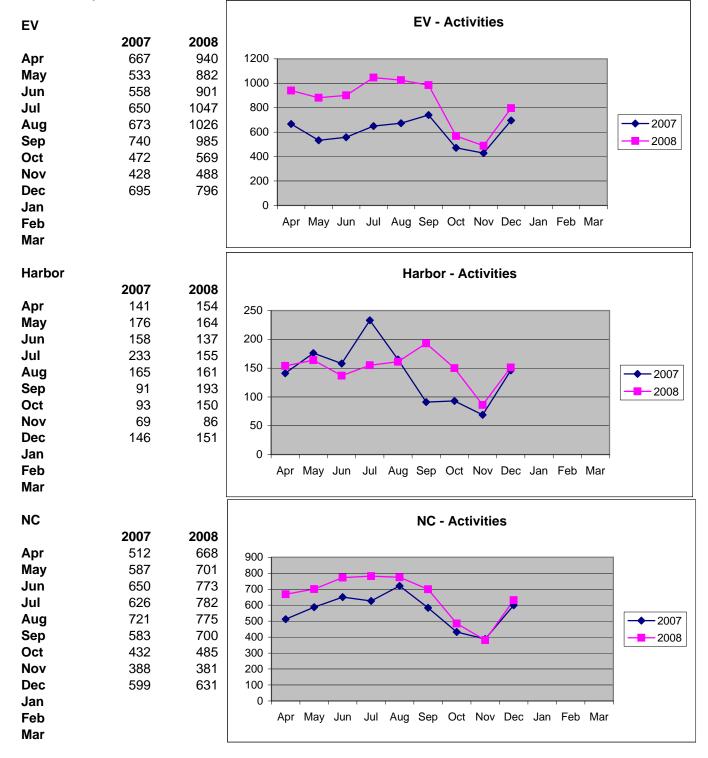


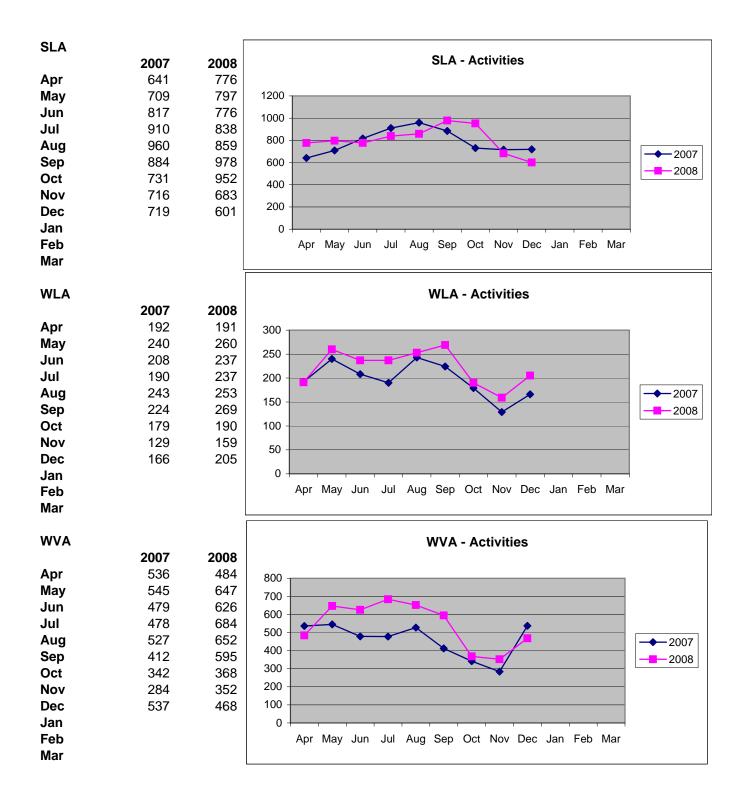






## **Activities by Center**





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## City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services

## **Activities Received Comparisons Statistics**

	10/1/07 to 10/31/07	10/1/08 to 10/31/08		
ACTF				
CRUELTY46A	66	22	Û	66.7 %
DIST_46A	0	1	Û	100.0 %
OWNERS	2	0	Û	100.0 %
PERMIT_46A	0	1	Û	100.0 %
Total ACTF Received:	68	24	$\mathbb{I}$	64.7 %
AST VALLEY				
ASSIST	11	10	Û	9.1 %
BK DOG_46A	4	5	Û	25.0 %
CRUELTY46A	170	213	Î	25.3 %
DAI_46A	121	157	Î	29.8 %
DIST_46A	21	27	Î	28.6 %
DISTRESS	9	10	Î	11.1 %
EXOTIC	1	2	Î	100.0 %
GRD DG 46A	8	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	5	24	Û	380.0 %
OWNERS	56	30	Û	46.4 %
PERMIT_46A	14	19	Î	35.7 %
PERS PROP	1	1	Î	- %
STRAY	217	269	Û	24.0 %
TRAP	7	13	Î	85.7 %
WILD	62	81	Û	30.6 %
Total EAST VALLEY Received:	707	861	Û	21.8 %
HARBOR				
ASSIST	3	10	Û	233.3 %
BK DOG_46A	1	0	Û	100.0 %
CRUELTY46A	28	65	Î	132.1 %
DAI_46A	33	16	Û	51.5 %
DIST_46A	3	2	Û	33.3 %
DISTRESS	0	1	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	2	5	Û	150.0 %
OWNERS	4	1	Û	75.0 %
PERMIT_46A	4	2	Û	50.0 %
PERS PROP	1	0	Û	100.0 %
STRAY	42	63	Û	50.0 %
TRAP	1	0	Û	100.0 %
WILD	10	14	Û	40.0 %

Total HARBOR Received:	132	179	Û	35.6 %
NORTH CENTRAL				
ASSIST	1	2	Û	100.0 %
CRUELTY46A	148	145	Û	2.0 %
DAI_46A	86	95	Û	10.5 %
DIST_46A	27	35	Û	29.6 %
DISTRESS	12	14	Û	16.7 %
EXOTIC	1	1	Û	- %
GRD DG 46A	2	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	16	12	Û	25.0 %
OWNERS	27	38	Û	40.7 %
PERMIT_46A	15	14	Û	6.7 %
PERS PROP	6	2	Û	66.7 %
STRAY	205	241	Û	17.6 %
TRAP	1	4	Û	300.0 %
WILD	56	55	Û	1.8 %
Total NORTH CENTRAL Received:	603	658	Û	9.1 %
SOUTH LA				
ASSIST	8	19	Û	137.5 %
BK DOG_46A	2	0	Û	100.0 %
CRUELTY46A	97	129	Û	33.0 %
DAI_46A	87	90	Û	3.4 %
DIST_46A	24	17	Û	29.2 %
DISTRESS	4	4	Û	- %
EXOTIC	1	0	Û	100.0 %
GRD DG 46A	0	4	Û	400.0 %
LSH LAW46A	0	7	Û	700.0 %
OWNERS	53	49	Û	7.5 %
PERMIT_46A	19	14	Û	26.3 %
PERS PROP	6	2	Û	66.7 %
S_N OR 46A	0	5	Û	500.0 %
STRAY	405	452	Û	11.6 %
TRAP	1	2	Û	100.0 %
WILD	34	32	Û	5.9 %
Total SOUTH LA Received:	741	826	Û	11.5 %
WEST LA				
ASSIST	3	4	Û	33.3 %
BK DOG_46A	1	1	Û	- %
CRUELTY46A	21	26	Û	23.8 %
DAI_46A	34	11	Û	67.6 %
DIST_46A	1	3	Û	200.0 %
DISTRESS	10	3	Û	70.0 %
EXOTIC	2	1	Û	50.0 %
LSH LAW46A	4	5	Û	25.0 %

Total Activities:	2,873	3,220	Î	12.1 %
Total WEST VALLEY Received:	425	482	Û	13.4 %
WILD	70	59	Û	15.7 %
TRAP	1	1	Û	- %
STRAY	150	147	Û	2.0 %
PERS PROP	4	2	Û	50.0 %
PERMIT_46A	14	16	Û	14.3 %
OWNERS	24	24	Û	- %
LSH LAW46A	11	18	Û	63.6 %
EXOTIC	0	1	Û	100.0 %
DISTRESS	5	11	Û	120.0 %
DIST_46A	13	12	Û	7.7 %
DAI_46A	65	73	Û	12.3 %
CRUELTY46A	62	107	Û	72.6 %
BK DOG_46A	2	0	Û	100.0 %
ASSIST	4	11	Û	175.0 %
VEST VALLEY				
Total WEST LA Received:	197	190	$\hat{\mathbb{T}}$	3.6 %
WILD	73	72	Û	1.4 %
STRAY	28	49	Û	75.0 %
PERS PROP	0	3	Û	300.0 %
PERMIT_46A	9	1	$\mathbb{I}$	88.9 %
OWNERS	11	11	Û	- %

## City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services

## **Activities Received Comparisons Statistics**

	11/1/07 to 11/30/07	11/1/08 to 11/30/08		
ACTF				
CRUELTY46A	36	20	Û	44.4 %
PERMIT_46A	0	1	Û	100.0 %
STRAY	1	1	Î	- %
Total ACTF Received:	37	22	$\hat{\mathbb{T}}$	40.5 %
EAST VALLEY				
ASSIST	9	13	Û	44.4 %
BK DOG_46A	5	5	Û	- %
CRUELTY46A	128	189	Û	47.7 %
DAI_46A	145	166	Û	14.5 %
DIST_46A	11	21	①	90.9 %
DISTRESS	8	17	①	112.5 %
EXOTIC	2	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	8	43	Û	437.5 %
OWNERS	39	31	Û	20.5 %
PERMIT_46A	11	20	Û	81.8 %
PERS PROP	3	11	Û	266.7 %
STRAY	210	222	Û	5.7 %
TRAP	4	0	Û	100.0 %
WILD	41	47	Û	14.6 %
Total EAST VALLEY Received:	624	785	Û	25.8 %
HARBOR				
ASSIST	1	3	Û	200.0 %
CRUELTY46A	29	19	Û	34.5 %
DAI_46A	17	15	Û	11.8 %
DIST_46A	2	3	Û	50.0 %
DISTRESS	1	4	Û	300.0 %
LSH LAW46A	6	8	Û	33.3 %
OWNERS	2	5	Û	150.0 %
PERMIT_46A	2	1	Û	50.0 %
STRAY	26	32	Û	23.1 %
WILD	9	13	Û	44.4 %
Total HARBOR Received:	95	103	Û	8.4 %
NORTH CENTRAL				
ASSIST	1	0	Û	100.0 %
BK DOG_46A	0	6	Û	600.0 %
CRUELTY46A	147	145	Û	1.4 %

DAI_46A	78	77	$\hat{\mathbb{T}}$	1.3 %
DIST_46A	17	25	Û	47.1 %
DISTRESS	6	13	Û	116.7 %
EXOTIC	6	0	Û	100.0 %
GRD DG 46A	1	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	2	7	Û	250.0 %
OWNERS	27	29	Û	7.4 %
PERMIT_46A	15	10	Û	33.3 %
PERS PROP	3	3	Û	- %
STRAY	198	182	Û	8.1 %
TRAP	9	0	Û	100.0 %
WILD	32	43	Û	34.4 %
Total NORTH CENTRAL Received:	542	540	$\mathbb{\hat{U}}$	0.4 %
SOUTH LA				
ASSIST	23	9	Û	60.9 %
BK DOG_46A	3	3	Û	- %
CRUELTY46A	78	74	Û	5.1 %
DAI_46A	76	64	Û	15.8 %
DIST_46A	16	7	Û	56.3 %
DISTRESS	2	3	Û	50.0 %
EXOTIC	0	3	Û	300.0 %
GRD DG 46A	0	1	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	0	4	Û	400.0 %
OWNERS	45	43	Û	4.4 %
PERMIT_46A	6	14	Û	133.3 %
PERS PROP	3	5	Û	66.7 %
S_N OR 46A	0	6	Û	600.0 %
STRAY	396	330	Û	16.7 %
TRAP	6	0	Û	100.0 %
WILD	27	33	Û	22.2 %
Total SOUTH LA Received:	681	599	$\mathbb{I}$	12.0 %
WEST LA				
ASSIST	1	3	Û	200.0 %
BK DOG_46A	1	0	Û	100.0 %
CRUELTY46A	17	41	Û	141.2 %
DAI_46A	32	39	Û	21.9 %
DIST_46A	1	8	Û	700.0 %
DISTRESS	6	4	Û	33.3 %
EXOTIC	2	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	1	6	Û	500.0 %
OWNERS	5	6	Û	20.0 %
		6	Û	200.0 %
PERMIT_46A	2	6	_	=00.0 /0
PERMIT_46A PERS PROP	2 1	5	Û	400.0 %

TRAP	3	1	Û	66.7 %
WILD	38	47	Û	23.7 %
Total WEST LA Received:	147	217	Û	47.6 %
WEST VALLEY				
ASSIST	2	8	Û	300.0 %
BK DOG_46A	2	3	Û	50.0 %
CRUELTY46A	57	122	Û	114.0 %
DAI_46A	61	81	Û	32.8 %
DIST_46A	12	10	Û	16.7 %
DISTRESS	4	5	Û	25.0 %
EXOTIC	2	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	6	20	Û	233.3 %
OWNERS	20	32	Û	60.0 %
PERMIT_46A	8	12	Û	50.0 %
PERS PROP	3	3	Û	- %
S_N OR 46A	0	1	Û	100.0 %
STRAY	119	155	Û	30.3 %
TRAP	0	7	Û	700.0 %
WILD	49	48	Û	2.0 %
Total WEST VALLEY Received:	345	507	Û	47.0 %
Total Activities:	2,471	2,773	Û	12.2 %

## City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services

## **Activities Received Comparisons Statistics**

	12/1/07 to 12/31/07	12/1/08 to 12/31/08		
ACTF				
CRUELTY46A	46	4	Û	91.3 %
Total ACTF Received:	46	4	$\mathbb{I}$	91.3 %
AST VALLEY				
ASSIST	13	17	Û	30.8 %
BK DOG_46A	4	11	Û	175.0 %
CRUELTY46A	138	212	Û	53.6 %
DAI_46A	133	132	Û	0.8 %
DIST_46A	16	20	Û	25.0 %
DISTRESS	5	12	Û	140.0 %
EXOTIC	1	1	Û	- %
GRD DG 46A	4	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	31	37	Û	19.4 %
OWNERS	26	30	Û	15.4 %
PERMIT_46A	10	24	Û	140.0 %
PERS PROP	6	10	Û	66.7 %
STRAY	242	243	Û	0.4 %
TRAP	18	4	Û	77.8 %
WILD	48	43	Û	10.4 %
Total EAST VALLEY Received:	695	796	Û	14.5 %
HARBOR				
ASSIST	4	3	Û	25.0 %
CRUELTY46A	45	28	$\mathbb{I}$	37.8 %
DAI_46A	25	31	Û	24.0 %
DIST_46A	0	2	Û	200.0 %
DISTRESS	3	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	6	3	Û	50.0 %
OWNERS	6	6	Û	- %
PERMIT_46A	1	1	Û	- %
PERS PROP	0	1	Û	100.0 %
STRAY	42	54	Û	28.6 %
TRAP	2	0	Û	100.0 %
WILD	12	22	Û	83.3 %
Total HARBOR Received:	146	151	Û	3.4 %
NORTH CENTRAL				
ASSIST	3	1	Û	66.7 %
BK DOG_46A	1	5	Û	400.0 %

CRUELTY46A	161	154	Û	4.3 %
DAI_46A	114	124	①	8.8 %
DIST_46A	18	15	Û	16.7 %
DISTRESS	2	5	①	150.0 %
EXOTIC	3	1	Û	66.7 %
GRD DG 46A	2	0	$\mathbb{I}$	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	5	10	Û	100.0 %
OWNERS	26	32	Û	23.1 %
PERMIT_46A	14	16	Û	14.3 %
PERS PROP	2	5	Û	150.0 %
STRAY	190	224	Û	17.9 %
TRAP	9	3	Û	66.7 %
WILD	49	36	Û	26.5 %
Total NORTH CENTRAL Received:	599	631	Û	5.3 %
SOUTH LA				
ASSIST	17	6	Û	64.7 %
BK DOG_46A	3	2	Û	33.3 %
CRUELTY46A	64	86	Û	34.4 %
DAI_46A	63	91	Û	44.4 %
DIST_46A	10	12	Û	20.0 %
DISTRESS	2	1	Û	50.0 %
EXOTIC	1	0	Û	100.0 %
GRD DG 46A	28	0	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	2	0	Û	100.0 %
OWNERS	49	40	Û	18.4 %
PERMIT_46A	3	16	Û	433.3 %
PERS PROP	5	3	Û	40.0 %
S_N OR 46A	0	1	Û	100.0 %
STRAY	433	321	Û	25.9 %
TRAP	2	0	Û	100.0 %
WILD	37	22	Û	40.5 %
Total SOUTH LA Received:	719	601	Û	16.4 %
WEST LA				
BK DOG_46A	2	3	Û	50.0 %
CRUELTY46A	33	36	Û	9.1 %
DAI_46A	28	43	Û	53.6 %
DIST_46A	2	2	Û	- %
DISTRESS	4	1	Û	75.0 %
EXOTIC	0	1	Û	100.0 %
LSH LAW46A	6	10	Û	66.7 %
OWNERS	10	17	Û	70.0 %
	-			
PERMIT_46A	0	6	Î	600.0 %
PERMIT_46A PERS PROP	0	6 0		600.0 % 100.0 %

Total Activities:	2,908	2,856	Û	1.8 %
Total WEST VALLEY Received:	537	468	$\mathbb{I}$	12.8 %
WILD	39	32	Û	17.9 %
TRAP	1	1	Û	- 9
STRAY	152	135	Û	11.2 %
PERS PROP	6	2	Û	66.7 %
PERMIT_46A	20	11	Û	45.0 %
OWNERS	16	18	Û	12.5 %
LSH LAW46A	12	27	Û	125.0 %
EXOTIC	1	1	Û	- %
DISTRESS	6	3	Û	50.0 %
DIST_46A	21	19	Û	9.5 %
DAI_46A	149	127	Û	14.8 %
CRUELTY46A	101	88	Û	12.9 %
BK DOG_46A	5	0	Û	100.0 %
ASSIST	8	4	Û	50.0 %
WEST VALLEY				
Total WEST LA Received:	166	205	Û	23.5 %
WILD	41	42	Û	2.4 %
TRAP	2	2	Û	- 9



## CITY OF LOS ANGELES LA ANIMAL SERVICES



Date: January 26, 2009

To: Animal Services Commissioners

From: Edward A. Boks, General Manager

Subject: Field Enforcement Statistics

At the meeting of January 12, 2009, the Board requested field statistics illustrating at least the last three months of operations. Attached are reports for October, November, and December of all field activities uniquely captured in the Chameleon database, grouped by animal care center district, comparing performance in 2007 to 2008. In addition, we are providing summaries and graphs, also by district, comparing 2007 and 2008, for the period of April through December. The summaries and graphs focus on total activities versus calls that were not handled, called "Unable to Make" (UTM). The data shows a substantial increase in 2008 over 2007 in activities accomplished by our officers, which include cruelty calls, leash law violations, and calls for stray animals. Even given the increase in calls during this timeframe, our officers have done a remarkable job in reducing the unable to make (UTM) calls. However, in the past two months, our UTMs are gradually beginning to climb.

The gradual increase in UTMs is attributed to our dwindling number of Animal Control Officers (ACO). Currently, we have assigned:

South LA - 12 ACOs North Central - 11 ACOs East Valley - 11 ACOs West Valley - 9 ACOs West LA - 6 ACOs Harbor - 4 ACOs

During the holiday season, vacation leave is normally higher, which also impacts UTMs. We are continuing to watch our field resources and our call levels to insure we provide good service to our citizens.

#### **BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES** COMMISSIONERS

PRESIDENT

KATHLEEN RIORDAN

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## City of Los Angeles

**CALIFORNIA** 



**DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES** 221 North Figueroa Street 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012

(888) 452-7381 FAX (213) 482-9511

EDWARD A. BOKS

## **Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners** Edward A. Boks, General Manager

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: January 26, 2009 PREPARED BY: Linda Barth

**REPORT DATE:** January 23, 2009 TITLE: **Assistant General** 

Manager

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Agreement for a Pilot Project with The Puppy Store to Adopt

Dogs for Resale in Lieu of Selling Puppy Mill Dogs

## **BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

### That the Board:

- Approve a Letter of Agreement, substantially as on file in the Board office, setting out expectations and responsibilities with The Puppy Store for collaboration on an experimental, short-term pilot program to determine the feasibility of working with private pet stores to adopt animals for resale, for the purpose of increasing adoptions and reducing the inflow of animals, and subject to review as to form by the City Attorney; and,
- 2. Direct the General Manager to sign the Letter of Agreement subsequent to review by the City Attorney.

## **SUMMARY:**

The owner of a local pet boutique, The Puppy Store on Melrose near West Hollywood (formerly Orangebone), has elected to stop acquiring puppies and dogs for sale through breeders or wholesalers, and instead to turn exclusively to animal shelter and rescue organizations to obtain puppies and dogs for resale. The non-profit group Last Chance for Animals has been collaborating with The Puppy Store on this initiative, and providing guidance and support in this ground-breaking effort. There is no model in Los Angeles

Subject: Letter of Agreement for a Pilot Project with The Puppy Store to Adopt Dogs for Resale in Lieu of Selling Puppy Mill Dogs

proving this concept, but if The Pupppy Store can successfully execute and sustain a high-end pet store and achieve a reasonable financial return by selling only pets from shelters and rescues, it may become the model for other pet stores to follow. The Department fully supports this concept, which at once lowers demand for puppy mill puppies, demonstrates to a new client base that shelter pets are terrific pets, and of course results in more animals adopted.

The Los Angeles Municipal Code does not preclude an individual or a business (except New Hope Partners are precluded) from adopting a pet from the Department and reselling that pet for the same cost or higher cost, so long as they comply with all other applicable laws (for example, paying any appropriate taxes). However, in order to aggressively support this venture, so that a successful model can be established for other pet stores to emulate, the Department proposes laying out the framework of the program, its limits, and all parties' responsibilities in the attached Letter of Agreement. In this way, the program is transparent in its operation, and inadvertent violations of the law can be avoided. Also, it authorizes the Department to cross-publicize so that both The Puppy Store and the Department benefit from media activity. The key elements spelled out in the Letter of Agreement are:

- This is a pilot program for eight months, from February 1, 2009, through September 1, 2009, with termination possible by either party on 30-days notice.
- The Puppy Store will select puppies and dogs from any one or more of the LAAS
  animal care centers and pay the standard public adoption, spay/neuter, and
  microchip fees, and participate in an auction if another party states interest in
  adopting a puppy or dog that The Puppy Store also selected.
- All pets adopted must be spayed or neutered. If a puppy or dog is deemed unfit for spay or neuter by medical staff at the time of adoption, The Puppy Store will receive a refund.
- New owner information must be given to the Department for licensing follow-up, and applications will be given out with each sale.
- The Department offers exclusivity and will not engage in a similar pilot program with any other pet store during the term of this Letter of Agreement.
- The Puppy Store will be able to adopt up to ten puppies or small dogs weekly to maintain inventory, if available from the Department's animal care centers.
- The Department can refuse an adoption to The Puppy Store in order to maintain a balanced variety of animals in our animal care center for public adoptions.
- The Department will promote this pilot program in connection with other adoption publicity and awareness-raising strategies and provide to the public Internet links and other information about The Puppy Store's pilot program, and The Puppy Store will reciprocate with promoting the Department in various materials.
- Any puppy or dog adopted from the Department but not sold will be turned over to a rescue organization from the New Hope program for further adoption efforts.

Subject: Letter of Agreement for a Pilot Project with The Puppy Store to Adopt Dogs for Resale in Lieu of Selling Puppy Mill Dogs

- Last Chance for Animals will assist and advise The Puppy Store in the treatment of animals and general operations of this pilot program.
- The Puppy Store will indemnify the City of Los Angeles in regard to this program and the animals adopted.

The Department has seen an increase of over 20% in the number of pets relinquished to animal care centers or picked up as stray in 2008. Although pet adoptions in 2008 were also ahead of 2007 levels, they did not fully compensate for the increase in animals admitted, and the supply of available pets in our animal care centers still exceeds the number of homes to be found for them. Solving this pet overpopulation in our community of course requires a multi-pronged approach. This pilot program encompasses several of our strategies and connects directly our core mission: it attacks one of the causes of pet overpopulation, puppy mills; it contributes to reducing the cruel practice of puppy mill breeding; and it will increase adoptions. Approving this program and authoring execution of the Letter of Agreement allows the Department to work with The Puppy Store and Last Chance for Animals to develop the parameters of a successful partnership that can copied nationwide.

FISCAL IMPACT:	
There is no impact on the general fund, except a poten increased adoptions .	tial for additional revenue due to
Approved:	
Edward A. Boks, General Manager	
BOARD ACTION:	
Passed	Disapproved
Passed with noted modifications	Continued
Tabled	New Date

#### BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS

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EDWARD A. BOKS

# Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners Edward A. Boks, General Manager

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: January 26, 2009 PREPARED BY: Linda Barth

**REPORT DATE:** January 22, 2009 TITLE: Assistant General

Manager

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Ordinance to Limit Roosters in the City of Los Angeles

## **BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the Board recommend to the City Council, in connection with consideration of a proposed ordinance limiting roosters, that the Council strike any provisions for exemptions that require a permitting process and not consider adding any provisions that would establish an administrative process for lodging and resolving rooster crowing complaints in the City.

### **SUMMARY:**

Complaints about roosters are most likely to be made to the Department and to various elected officials when more than one rooster is involved on a property. Generally, the problems with roosters that engender complaints are related to the noise of crowing, or of concerns that the birds are being used in cockfighting. Constituent and law enforcement complaints have been the cause of a number of motions introduced into City Council to limit or control the numbers of roosters which can be kept in the City. Most recently, two such motions were introduced. Council File 07-3491 requested a report from the Department about establishing an administrative process, like that for barking dogs, to handle rooster noise complaints. Council File 07-3492 requested a report and a draft ordinance from the City Attorney that would limit the number of roosters on a property to one bird and establish a permit program for persons to have additional roosters up to three. Both motions were made by Councilmember Janice Hahn and seconded by Councilmember Tony Cardenas.

On May 7, 2008, the Council approved both motions, essentially asking the City Attorney for a draft ordinance limiting roosters, and for reports from the Department and AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Subject: Proposed Ordinance to Limit Roosters in the City of Los Angeles

City Attorney. Review by staff of the proposed ordinance (attached) and the two motions has raised serious concerns about the impacts on the resources of this Department and of the potential complications of any proposed hearing process.

The draft ordinance provides that persons can only keep one rooster, unless permitted to keep up to three. Establishing a rooster limit will create a demand on the slim number of Animal Control Officers to respond, cite, and perhaps impound when there are excessive roosters. Los Angeles Animal Services has received no additional enforcement staff since 2001, despite passage of several new laws. Establishing a set limit, however, is at least a straightforward demand on resources: officers would respond and leave notice, then return and cite. The result of enactment is solely an overall reduction in response to all residents of the City because additional demand has been placed on the limited number of officers to also deal with roosters.

There is no agricultural or other reason that would make it necessary to allow residents to have up to three roosters, outside the various existing permit categories such as petting zoos or butcher shops that are exempted in the draft ordinance. However, creating an allowance for more than one rooster unnecessarily compounds the Department's current resource shortage problem by adding additional work of developing and administering another category of permit, and making more complex the actions that officers and residents must navigate to determine compliance. That is, each case must have a chance to get permitted rather than simply complying by reducing roosters to one bird on the premises. This exception deviates from the stated goal of reducing noise nuisances. We strongly recommend that the ordinance create a limit of one rooster, or none, and provide no exceptions except the existing permit categories that might include roosters. There should be no provision for grandfathering.

As further comment on the concept of an administrative hearing process to adjudicate rooster noise complaints, note that the Department has lost most of the positions formerly budgeted to conduct our existing administrative hearing program for dog licensing. Currently, one Senior Animal Control Officer II and one clerk typist handle a hearing workload of about 150 cases a year, and are backlogged at least three months in scheduling hearings for dangerous dog and barking dog cases. No resources exist to develop, implement, and conduct any hearing program for rooster noise complaints. Limiting roosters to one or none is the least resource-demanding alternative to achieve the goals of the motions. However, the Department will only be able to effectuate the ordinance to the extent the Council directs us to ignore calls for dangerous or injured animals, or provides more resources.

With direction of the Board, the Department will provide this feedback to the Council for their consideration prior to adopting any ordinance.

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Subject: Proposed Ordinance to Limit Roosters in the City of Los Angeles

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Any fees assessed to issue permits for more than three roosters would by State Law be no greater than the true cost of providing the permit service, however without experience in this area of permitting, it is not known what the volume would be or the actual cost of processing a permit. The fine assessed for violations would result in some increased revenue to the Department, but the amount is unknown because again, the volume of violation and the ability of our stretched resources to respond to and cite violators cannot be estimated at this time. The Department has six officers assigned to do permits inspections and handle spay/neuter and breeding violations. We issue over 500 breeding permits a year and 900 or more other permits for pet stores, circuses, filming, and so on, each of which requires inspection prior to issuing the permit. Revenues are low but should increase to cost recovery once Council approves the final ordinance changing the Department's fee structure.

Approved:						
Edward A. Boks, General Manager						
BOARD ACTION:						
Passed	Disapproved					
Passed with noted modifications	Continued					
Tabled	New Date					

### DRAFT – PROPOSED LAMC SECTION 53.71

No person shall own, possess or have custody of more than one rooster on any lot, building, structure, property or premises within the City of Los Angeles, subject to the following exceptions:

- a) This section shall not prohibit butcher shops, petting zoos or any other commercial, agricultural or industrial establishments or lawful exhibitions that are located in lawful zones for the activity and possess appropriate and valid business permits and licenses from the appropriate City departments, from having or maintaining roosters when they are an integral and otherwise lawful part of such business or activity.
- b) A producer, director or other person in authority in a film, television or other media production holding a valid filming permit from FilmLA or its successor agency, may apply for and receive a permit allowing a rooster or roosters to enter and remain in the City during the permit period, for the limited purpose of being used in a film, television or other media production.
- c) A person owning two or more roosters as pets at the time of the enactment of this ordinance has ninety days to apply for a permit for up to three (3) of the roosters, which would allow such person to retain no more than three specific pet roosters for the remainder of the roosters' natural lives, providing that a permit is issued by the Department, the pet roosters are microchipped or are fitted with an accepted legband approved by the Department for permanent identification and are maintained in accordance with other laws governing the possession of fowl within residential zones of the City. No replacement roosters shall be allowed under this permit.
- d) A notice to correct or citation shall be issued by the Department of Animal Services for the first violation of this section at any one location or for anyone owning or possessing more than one rooster per property without the appropriate permits, imposing a \$50.00 civil penalty for the first violation, a \$100.00 civil penalty for the second violation and a \$250.00 civil penalty for the third violation. Repeated failure to comply or continuing violations of the section may also be prosecuted as a misdemeanor.