

## Follow-Up Review of the Audit of Animal Services

Madison Rorschach
City Auditor
City Auditor's Office
October 14, 2025



### Purpose of the Follow-Up Review

- Provides a progress update on audit recommendations.
- Audit project evaluated the City's animal services, including animal care activities, officer response, asset management, and fee accuracy & appropriateness.
- Review found significant animal monitoring and live outcome improvements; most recommendations in progress.



# Animal Care Staffing has Increased; Animal Care Monitoring has Significantly Improved

- Recent staffing additions should allow Animal Services to provide minimum care to all animals without regularly needing field officer support
  - Addt'l staff may be needed for increased care levels directed by City management.

Est. Full-Time Shelter Staffing Needs

Service Level	Avg. Mins. Per Animal	Daily Staff Needed	Total Shelter FTE Needed	
Minimum Care	15	8	15	
Advanced Care	25	13	24	
Enhanced Care	35	18	33	

- Implemented Daily Health and Wellness (Animal) Monitoring system
  provides significantly more assurance that all animals receive minimum
  care and improves shelter population monitoring and management.
  - Additional refinement of the system and related-care SOPs would further ensure consistency.

DENTON

### Medical Care and Drug Documentation Consistency Remains Similar to the Original Audit

- Documentation of vaccines has improved for cats but remained similar for dogs.
- Animal Monitoring system ensures animals with long-term stays receive adequate medical attention.
- Inventory controls over non-euthanasia drugs have not been implemented due to resource constraints.
  - Animal Services remains compliant with Federal drug control regulations.

#### Percent of Required Vaccines Documented

Vaccine/Med	Kittens	Cats	Puppies	Dogs	Change
FVRCP/HCPCH	100%	89%	NA	NA	1
DAPPv	NA	NA	90%	82%	-
Dewormer 1	100%	89%	90%	82%	1
Dewormer 2	87%	NA	80%	NA	_
Heartworm*	NA	NA	90%	82%	<u> </u>
Flea/Tick	100%	89%	90%	79%	_
Bordatella	NA	NA	90%	79%	-
Boosters	89%	76	80%	, )	1
Overall Change:	1	`	_		

<sup>\*</sup>Heartworm administration consistency decreased, but not as significantly as DAPPv and Bordatella.

# Live Release Rate has Significantly Improved; Addt'l Resources being Developed for the Public

- While the shelter's live release rate was high originally, it has significantly increased.
- Likelihood of returns to owners has been increased.
  - New microchipping program and website information should help owners find lost pets.
  - Potential operating hours changes delayed till after the shelter remodel.

Live Release Rate Changes

	Original Audit (FY24)	Follow-Up (2025)	
Cats	87%	92%	
Dogs	83%	92%	
All:	83%	91%	

 Community cat trap-neuter-release and owner-requested sterilization programs in beginning stages of development.



### **Euthanasia Documentation has Improved**

- A Euthanasia Policy has been implemented that requires additional review before an animal is euthanized.
  - Euthanasia SOP was updated to correct small errors.
- Documentation of performed euthanasia procedures has improved.
- The euthanasia drug usage documentation has improved. Preeuthanasia, sedation drug usage is not recorded consistently.

#### **Euthanasia Documentation Review**

	% Completed Appropriately			
Requirement	Original Audit (FY24)	Follow-Up (2025)		
Authorizer Doc. In Sys.	58%	100%		
Two Staff Completed	42%	74%		
Reasoning Clearly Doc.	13%	95%		
Microchip Doc. In Sys.	6%	30%		
Weight Doc. In Sys.	42%	30%		
Kennel Card on Body Bag	0%	NA		



## New Field Operations Manual Should Improve Clarity

- Officer training requirements now centrally tracked.
- Process for entering calls for service is spread out over several functions.
  - Communication between functions has increased to help ensure consistent information is provided to the public.
  - Formal call-taking practices for Animal Services front-desk staff have not been created.
- Field Operation Handbook recently implemented.



## Addt'l Access Guidance Needed; Fee Schedule Recently Updated

- Written criteria for animal management and monitoring systems and shelter staff and volunteer access have not been created.
  - No access issues were identified. Tracking of volunteer access has improved.
- Documentation of facility and vehicle inspections is improved; the Continuity of Operations Plan should be further updated.
  - Additional security cameras will not be added until the remodel is complete.
- Animal Services fee schedule was updated in July 2025.
  - Accuracy of charged fees under new schedule will be assessed during next follow-up review.
  - Discount program expanded and now requires documentation of approval; periodic review would further reduce risk of misuse.
  - Accurate fee information is now readily available online and in the shelter.



### Animal Services Follow-Up Summary: Significant Improvements Made; Addt'l Refinement Needed

Audit Area	Re	ecommendations	Implemented	In Progress	Not Implemented
Daily Care Activities		4	25%	75%	0%
Medical Care		5	0%	80%	20%
Education & Outreach*		6	0%	100%	0%
Euthanasia Procedures		2	0%	100%	0%
Officer Response		5	0%	100%	0%
Asset Management		7	29%	71%	0%
Fees		3	67%	33%	0%
	All:	34	15%	82%	3%

#### **Recommendation Not Implemented:**

9. Work with the veterinary care contractor to establish inventory management procedures over non-euthanasia drugs to reduce the risk of loss or theft.

ID 25-1537

g

### **Questions?**

Madison Rorschach
City Auditor
City Auditor's Office

