



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney St.  
Denton, Texas 76201  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

## Meeting Agenda

### Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

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Wednesday, March 6, 2024

10:00 AM

Animal Services Training Room

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After determining that a quorum is present, the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee will convene in a meeting on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Animal Services Training Room at the Linda McNatt Animal Care & Adoption Center, 3717 N. Elm Street, Denton, Texas at which the following items will be considered:

#### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. [ASAC24-002](#) Consider approval of minutes for January 10, 2024.

Attachments: [January 10, 2024 Minutes](#)

- B. [ASAC24-003](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Department updates.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2 - Presentation](#)

- C. [ASAC24-004](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Shelter Operations.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2 - Presentation](#)

- D. [ASAC24-005](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Field Operations.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2 - Presentation](#)

#### 2. CONCLUDING ITEMS

A. Under Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, respond to inquiries from the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee or the public with specific factual information or recitation of policy, or accept a proposal to place the matter on the agenda for an upcoming meeting and under Section 551.0415 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, provide reports about items of community interest regarding which no action will be taken, to include: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; information regarding holiday schedules; an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; a reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; or an announcement involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the official website (<https://tx-denton.civicplus.com/242/Public-Meetings-Agendas>) and bulletin board at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, on February 29, 2024, in advance of the 72-hour posting deadline, as applicable, and in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

NOTE: THE CITY OF DENTON'S DESIGNATED PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE CITY WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION, SUCH AS SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, IF REQUESTED AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. PLEASE CALL THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT 940-349-8309 OR USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF (TDD) BY CALLING 1-800-RELAY-TX SO THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION CAN BE ARRANGED.



# City of Denton

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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** ASAC24-002, **Version:** 1

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### AGENDA CAPTION

Consider approval of minutes for January 10, 2024.

**City of Denton Animal Shelter Advisory Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**January 10, 2024**

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After determining that a quorum of the City of Denton, Texas, Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was present, the Committee convened in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the training room at Linda McNatt Animal Care and Adoption Center, 3717 N. Elm Street, Denton, Texas.

**Present:** Chair Kathleen Duffy, Members Monica Benavides, Jonathan Birden, Diana Leggett, Charlie Hunter, and Emily McComas

**Absent:** None

**1. PRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

- None

**2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

A. ASAC23-013: Consider approval of the minutes of November 28, 2023

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

Following discussion, Member Birden moved to adopt the item as presented; Member Diana Leggett seconded. Motion carried.

AYES (4): Members Benavides, McComas, Duffy, and Hunter.

ABSENT (0): None

NAYS (0): None

B. ASAC23-016: Receive a report, hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Department updates.

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

C. ASAC23-015: Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Shelter Operations.

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

D. ASAC23-014: Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Field Operations.

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

**3. CONCLUDING ITEMS**

- Member Leggett asked that agenda items be shared two weeks in advance of the meeting.
- Member Leggett asked for an update on rescue placement and partnerships
- Member Leggett requested EU statistics as well as associated costs.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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KATHLEEN DUFFY  
CHAIR  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

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BELINDA HAWKINS  
ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

MINUTES APPROVED ON: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** ASAC24-003, **Version:** 1

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### **AGENDA CAPTION**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Department updates.



## City of Denton

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### AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Animal Services

**ACM:** Frank Dixon, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** March 6, 2024

**SUBJECT**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Department updates.

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Animal Services Department staff to provide periodic updates to the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regarding general department programs, operations, and updates.

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2: Presentation

Respectfully submitted:  
Nikki Sassenus  
Director of Animal Services



# Denton Animal Services Department Update

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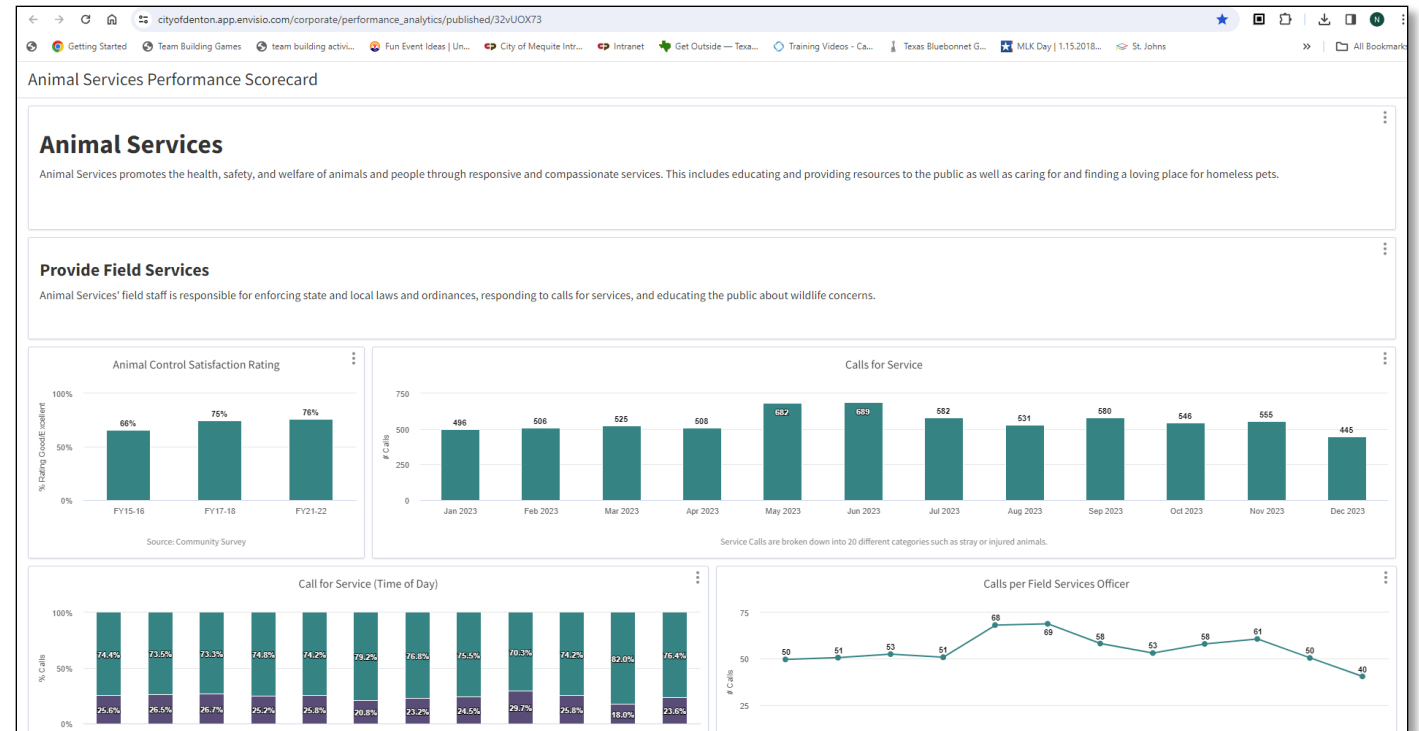
March 6, 2024





# Animal Services Performance Scorecard

- Data dashboard
  - Field Services
  - Intake
  - Outcome
  - Euthanasia
  - Live Release Rate
- Will be available for public viewing via City website



# Chapter 6 Updates

- Work Session presented to City Council on December 5, 2023
- Hosted three (3) public meetings to solicit public feedback on the proposed updates
  - January 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
  - February 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
  - Development Services Center (401 N. Elm Street)
  - February 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. \*Virtual
- 2nd Work Session with Council to share feedback is scheduled for March 19, 2024



# Input from Public

Meeting Date	Type	Attendance
January 11, 2024	In-person	7
February 1, 2024	In-person	15
February 13, 2024	Virtual	0
Comment/Response Forms Received		5

- Overall support for proposed changes
- Desire some type of regulation of retail pet stores
- Would like to explore in the future
  - Mandatory Spay and Neuter
  - More public education and outreach




# Bond Project Update

- Project kick-off meeting held 12/4/23
- Shelter tours of Grand Prairie, Operation Kindness, North Richland Hills, Mesquite, Fort Worth North Campus, and Garland
- Architect selection in progress- pending Council contract approval
- Projected Timeline
  - Design 12 months
  - Construction 18 months

## Linda McNatt Animal Care & Adoption Center



<b>PROJECT INFORMATION:</b> Project Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand shelter capacity</li> <li>• Replace heating &amp; air system</li> <li>• Relocated veterinary services</li> <li>• Relocated exercise yards</li> </ul> <b>Status:</b> Design <b>Architect:</b> awaiting Counsel approval <b>Construction Manager:</b> Kristine Stewart	<b>BUDGET RECAP:</b> FY 2023-24: \$15,850,000	
<b>ACHIEVEMENTS:</b> ✓ Design Professional Selected	<b>NEXT STEPS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Review Scopes of work with Stakeholders <input type="checkbox"/> Upcoming Meetings	<b>RISKS/ NEEDS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Long lead items





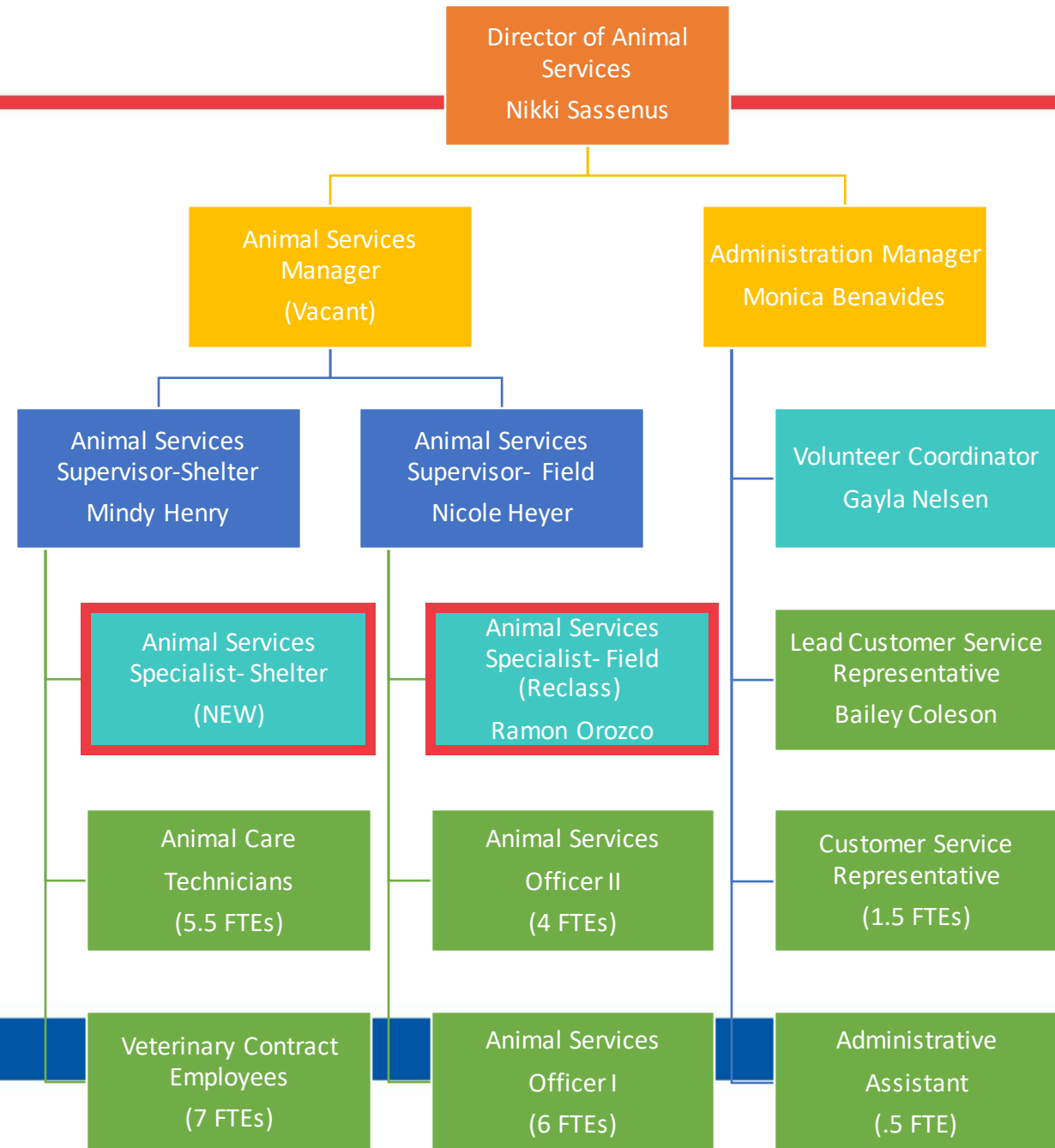
# Budget FY 25

- Budget kick-off 2/5/24
- Development of Capital Maintenance Plan program
- Supplemental requests
  - Lead position (Animal Services Specialist)
  - CMP Program Funding



# Staffing Updates

- Animal Services Manager
  - posting in progress
- Animal Services Specialist\*



***\*Proposed Org Chart***



# Updated Operating Hours

- Wednesday closures began 2/21/24
- Notified public via fliers, posts, website
- Focus on Staff development and training
- Cleaning and maintenance projects
- Enrichment activities, behavior assessments, play groups
- Outreach and education





# Turf installation project

- \$1,000 DASF grant for enclosures October 2020
- \$3,500 in enclosures donation account
- Turf installation project cost \$4,140

*Outdoor runs for dog isolation (sick dogs) area*





# Volunteer Program

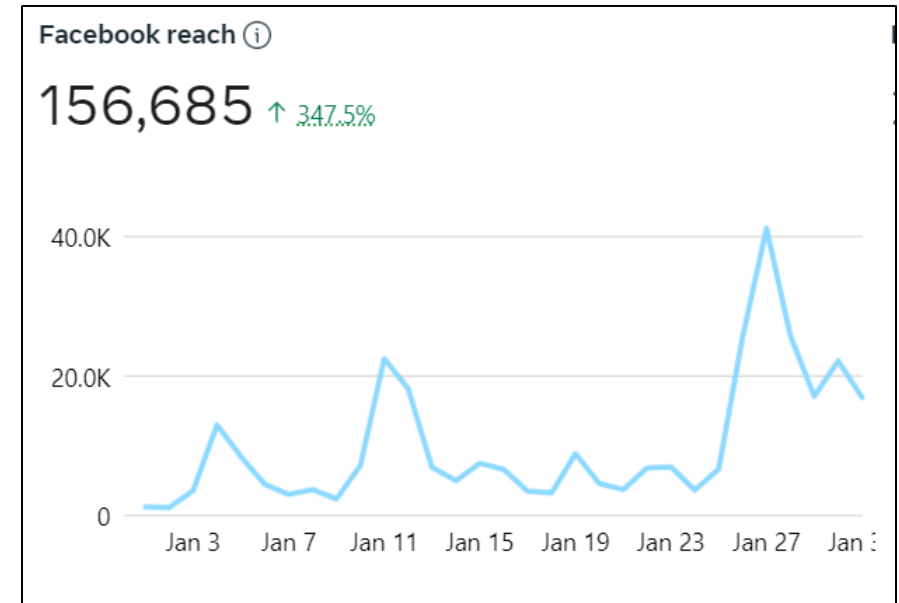
- Created & distributed volunteer feedback survey to assess the current program and gauge feedback on how it can be improved.
- Changing software from VOMO to Galaxy Digital to align with what other City departments are using and better track volunteer metrics.
- Exploring the potential for implementing a tiered "paw" system for volunteers- similar to Operation Kindness.



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# Marketing & Outreach

- Increased social media presence resulted in a 300% + reach in January 2024
  - Volunteer spotlights
  - Did-you-know facts
  - Adoption success stories
  - Adoptable animals
- Targeted ad campaigns
  - Looking Fur Love adoption special (subsidized by DASf)
- Participated in Police ribbon-cutting by hosting an informational booth.



# Questions





# City of Denton

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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** ASAC24-004, **Version:** 1

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### **AGENDA CAPTION**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Shelter Operations.



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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Animal Services

**ACM:** Frank Dixon, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** March 6, 2024

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Shelter Operations.

### **BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Animal Services staff to provide an update on the Shelter Operations division of the Animal Services Department.

Updates will be given to the Denton Animal Services Advisory Committee regarding:

- Intake and Outcome statistics
- Vetting statistics
- Events and programs
- Additional information regarding the Shelter Operations Division of the Animal Services Department.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Presentation

Respectfully submitted:  
Nikki Sassenus  
Director of Animal Services

Prepared by:  
Mindy Henry  
Animal Services Supervisor





# Shelter Operations Update

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**Animal Services Advisory Committee**

**March 6th, 2024**



# Intake by Species

## December/January

Species	FY 24 (Dec & Jan)	FY 23 (Dec & Jan)	FY 22 (Dec & Jan)
Cats	277	268	199
Dogs	501	431	392
Sm. Mammals	8	20	26
Wildlife	37	25	18
Other	0	4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>647</b>

10% Increase over same time period last year and 27% increase from FY '22



# Intake by Type December/January



Intake Type	FY 24 (Dec & Jan)	FY 23 (Dec & Jan)	FY 22 (Dec & Jan)
Abandoned	7	0	0
Stray	393	358	337
Bite Quarantine	31	39	43
Born in Care	17	0	0
Cruelty Investigation	57	0	4
Dangerous Dog	0	0	0
Disposal (Public)	2	0	0
DOA	17	29	12
EU Request	23	31	31
Wildlife	34	31	26
Clinic	38	0	0
Transfer In	1	0	0
Protective Custody	25	26	14
Owner Surrender	150	207	136
Rabies Shipment	0	3	11
Returned Adoption	28	27	33
<b>TOTAL INTAKES</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>647</b>



# Outcomes Data December/January

Total Live Outcomes = 727

Total Live Intake = 781

**\*Live Release Rate= 93%**

*\*(Live Outcomes/Live Intake)*



Outcome Type	FY 24 (Dec & Jan)	FY 23 (Dec & Jan)	FY 22 (Dec & Jan)
Adopted	463	431	428
DOA	19	32	14
Euthanasia	85	54	50
EU – Owner Request	23	29	33
EU - Wildlife	19	13	13
Return to Owner	110	118	119
Wildlife Release	11	3	NA
Rabies Shipment	8	10	13
Rescue/Transfer	81	60	19
Missing/Escaped	3	0	0
Clinic	40	0	0
Died	7	5	6
Service Out	19	7	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>695</b>
<b>Live Release Rate (LRR)</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>95%</b>

# Euthanasia by Breed (Dogs)

## December /January

BREED	FY 24 Dec & Jan	FY 23 Dec & Jan	FY 22 Dec & Jan
Australian Cattle Dog	3	2	1
Australian Shepherd*	1	1	
Basenji		1	
Belgian Malinois	1		
Hound	3	2	
Bichon Frise		1	
Border Collie	2	1	1
Boston Terrier			1
Boxer	1		1
Bulldog		1	
Catahoula	2		
Chihuahua	2	4	9
Cur – Black Mouth	2		
Dachshund		2	1
Doberman Pinscher	1		
German Shepherd	2	3	4

BREED	FY 24 Dec & Jan	FY 23 Dec & Jan	FY 22 Dec & Jan
Blue Lacy	1		
Lhasa Apso			1
Maltese			1
Mastiff	2	1	
Labrador Retriever	14	7	7
Rhodesian Ridgeback			1
Rottweiler	3	1	1
Schnauzer			1
Shepherd (other)	2	6	5
Husky	3	3	
Shih Tzu	2	1	1
Spaniel	1		
Terrier	2	2	4
Pitbull	26	21	17
Scottish Terrier	1		

# Vet Clinic Spay/Neuter Stats

Species	FY '24 YTD Dec & Jan	FY '23 YTD Dec & Jan	FY '22 YTD Dec & Jan
Cat	287	133	188
Dog	185	191	154
Other	2	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>345</b>

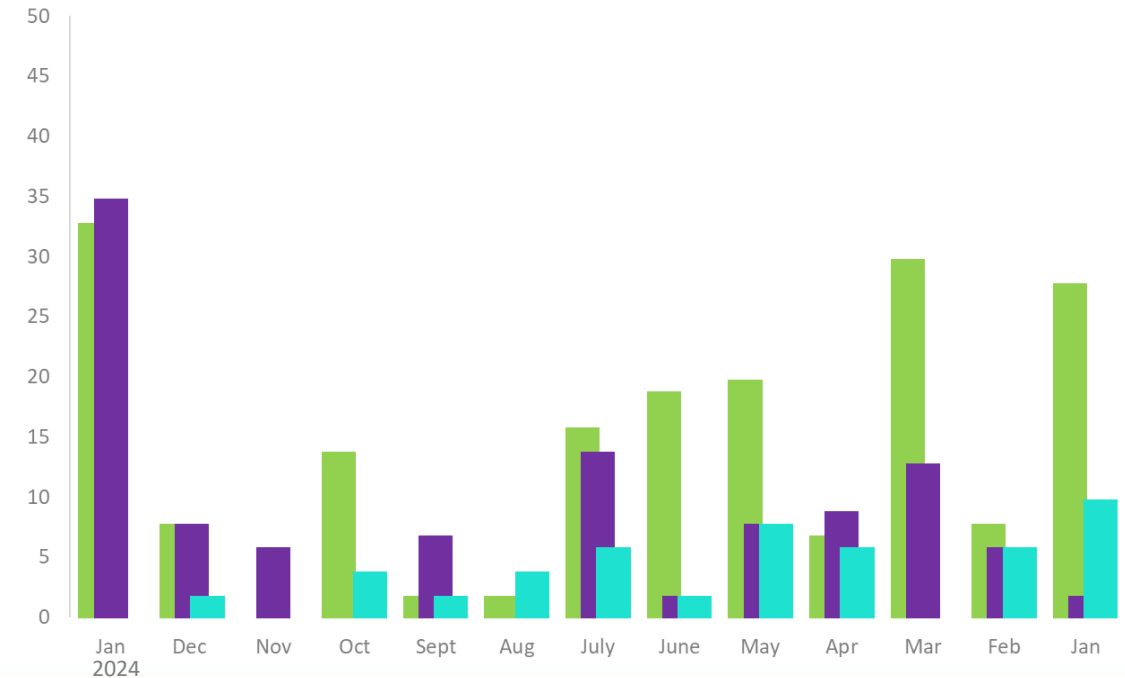


# News & Updates – Rescue Partners

Rescue Transfers  
Jan. 2023 – Jan 2024

■ Cats ■ Dogs ■ Other

- Rescue Partner Application Updated
- Rescue Transfers up 35% from same time frame - FY '23
- Rescue Transfers up 285% from previous reporting period

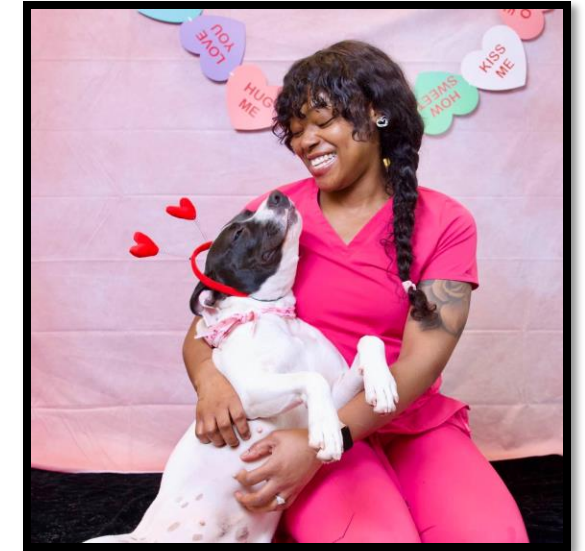
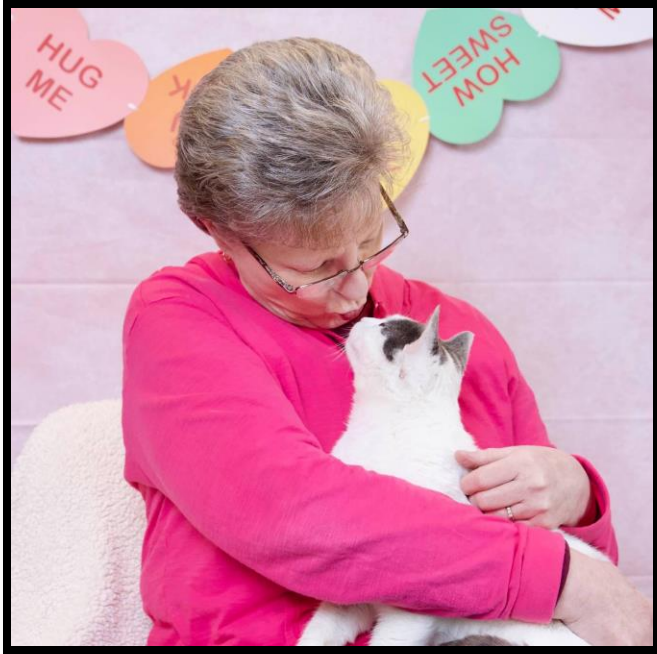


# Recent Events & Promotions

*Volunteer  
of the  
Year,  
Byron Woods*



# Recent Events & Promotions



- 30 dogs adopted from Feb. 1st – 17th during our Looking Fur Love adoption special sponsored by DASF.

122 Pets total for this time frame. That's 23% more than last month!





# Recent Events & Promotions

Las Tamaleras  
Donation Drive  
Raised \$293!



# Recent Events & Promotions

## Starbucks Donation Drive





# Questions?





# City of Denton

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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** ASAC24-005, **Version:** 1

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### **AGENDA CAPTION**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Field Operations.



# City of Denton

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Animal Services

**ACM:** Frank Dixon, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** March 6, 2024

**SUBJECT**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding Animal Services Field Operations.

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Animal Services staff to provide an update on the statistics and call data for the Field Operations division of the Animal Services Department.

Updates will be given to the Denton Animal Services Advisory Committee regarding:

- Number of calls for service received
- Type and frequency of calls received
- Additional information regarding the field division of the Animal Services Department.

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Presentation

Respectfully submitted:  
Nikki Sassenus  
Director of Animal Services

Prepared by:  
Nicole Heyer  
Animal Services Supervisor



# Field Operations Update

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**Animal Services Advisory Committee**  
**March 6, 2024**

## Call Stats (Dec - Jan 2024)

Call Types	FY 23/24	FY 22/23	FY 21/22
Stray Animal	203	227	169
Contained Wildlife/ Skunk	28	51	63
Contained Domestic	75	100	86
Services Call	125	119	108
Dead Animal	65	84	84
Barking Dog/Noise	48	52	95
Bite/Vicious Animal	105	108	104
Injured Animal	58	75	66
Waste Issue	5	5	3
Livestock/Livestock Housing	70	33	35
Welfare	74	62	60
Cruelty	19	36	54
Wild/ Wild Snake	29	30	19
AS Patrol	14	8	7
Tethering	4	6	15
Fowl Concern	12	4	6
Quarantine	23	17	11
Assist Other Agency	4	3	4
Release to Center	2	0	0
Other	17	8	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>1028</b>	<b>994</b>



# County Intake Data (Dec - Jan)

Dec-Jan	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	FY 23/24
Total Intake	647	751	823
County Intake	101	113	46
% County	16%	15%	6%
County Payment	\$3,385	\$3,210	\$1,490





# Added Vehicle to Animal Services Fleet

- Mid-January acquired a sprinter van
  - Transporting animals and supplies



# Coyotes – Focus on Public Education

- Increased number of calls regarding coyotes
  - Arlington attacks in the news
- Put out Coyote Safety Tips



**DENTON  
ANIMAL  
SERVICES**



**CONTACT US**  
(940) 349-7594 - During business hours  
(940) 349-8181, option 1 - After hours

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
Additional information about coyotes and hazing can be found by visiting the [Humane Society webpage](#)

Coyote sightings are common in communities in North Texas. While most coyotes fear people, coyotes who associate people with food may become habituated to our presence. These tips will help keep pets and people safe.

**Coyote Safety Tips**

**DON'T FEED WILDLIFE**  
As much as some may want to help, it is best to refrain from feeding wildlife in order to keep them wild. If food is regularly available from humans, wildlife will lose their ability to hunt and forage for food, becoming dependent on humans for food, which is detrimental to them.

**DON'T LET PETS RUN LOOSE**  
Do not leave your pets unattended outside especially small dogs and cats. Pets left outside even in a fenced in backyard are at risk for predation and unnecessary conflicts. Coyotes are very agile and can scale even a 6ft fence. To help keep coyotes out of your yard (and to keep your fence climbing dog in) you can install a roll bar across the top of the fence. This prevents the coyote from being able to get traction as the bar will roll.

**DO REPORT AGGRESSIVE OR FEARLESS COYOTES**  
If a coyote does not respond to hazing techniques or approaches you or your pet acting aggressively contact Animal Services immediately. Signs of aggression include agitated barking (unprovoked), raised hackles, snarling, growling, and lunging.

**DO USE HAZING TECHNIQUES**  
Hazing is a technique used to move an animal out of a particular area or discourage undesirable behavior or activity. Hazing helps maintain a coyote's fear of humans and deters them from entering backyards. If you encounter a coyote, stand tall, yell, wave your arms until they run away. You can also use noise makers such as a whistle, air horns, or bang together pots and pans. Coyotes may run away a short distance and stop and look at you. Continue hazing until the coyote leaves the area.



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# Questions?

