



City of San Marcos

630 East Hopkins
San Marcos, TX 78666

Work Session - Final City Council

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

3:00 PM

City Council Chambers

630 E. Hopkins St. - Work Session

This will be an in-person and online meeting. To view the meeting please go to <http://sanmarcostx.gov/421/City-Council-Videos-Archives> or watch on Grande channel 16 or Spectrum channel 10.

I. Call To Order

II. Roll Call

III. 30 Minute Citizen Comment Period

Persons wishing to participate (speak) during the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting must email citizencomment@sanmarcostx.gov the day prior to the meeting between 8:00AM and 5:00PM. A call in number to join by phone or link will be provided for participation on a mobile device, laptop or desktop computer. Those wishing to speak in person may sign up in person in the City Clerk's office before 12:00PM the day of the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Receive an update from City staff on the City's Animal Services programs and hold discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOTE: The City Council may adjourn into Executive Session to consider any item listed on this agenda if a matter is raised that is appropriate for Executive Session discussion. An announcement will be made of the basis for the Executive Session discussion. The City Council may also publicly discuss any item listed on the agenda for Executive Session.

2. Executive Session in accordance with the following:
 - A. Sec. §551.072 of the Texas Government Code: Real Property: Deliberate on facility lease agreements with non-profit organizations
 - B. Sec. §551.071 of the Texas Government Code: Consultation with Attorney: To seek legal advice from the City Attorney regarding a San Marcos Regional Airport facility lease at 2049 Airport Drive

IV. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.

This is an opportunity for the Press and Public to ask questions related to items on this agenda. Persons wishing to participate remotely in the Q&A session must email citizencomment@sanmarcostx.gov the day prior to the meeting between 8:00AM and 5:00PM. A call in number to join by phone or link will be provided for participation on a mobile device, laptop or desktop computer. If attending in person, no sign up is

required.

V. Adjournment.

POSTED ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 @ 3:00PM

ELIZABETH TREVINO, CITY CLERK

Notice of Assistance at the Public Meetings

The City of San Marcos does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to its services, programs, or activities. Individuals who require auxiliary aids and services for this meeting should contact the City of San Marcos ADA Coordinator at 512-393-8000 (voice) or call Texas Relay Service (TRS) by dialing 7-1-1. Requests can also be faxed to 855-461-6674 or sent by e-mail to ADArequest@sanmarcostx.gov



Legislation Text

File #: ID#22-698, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION:

Receive an update from City staff on the City's Animal Services programs and hold discussion.

Meeting date: September 20, 2022

Department: Neighborhood Enhancement - Animal Services

Amount & Source of Funding

Funds Required: N/A

Account Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Funds Available: Click or tap here to enter text.

Account Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Fiscal Note:

Prior Council Action: N/A

City Council Strategic Initiative: [Please select from the dropdown menu below]

N/A

Choose an item.

Choose an item.

Comprehensive Plan Element (s): [Please select the Plan element(s) and Goal # from dropdown menu below]

- Economic Development - Choose an item.
- Environment & Resource Protection - Choose an item.
- Land Use - Choose an item.
- Neighborhoods & Housing - Choose an item.
- Parks, Public Spaces & Facilities - Choose an item.
- Transportation - Choose an item.
- Core Services
- Not Applicable

Master Plan: [Please select the corresponding Master Plan from the dropdown menu below (if applicable)]

Choose an item.

Background Information:

In 2019, a multi-disciplinary committee developed the Pawsitive Outcomes Implementation Plan to guide the San Marcos Regional Animal Shelter (SMRAS) to achieve and sustain a 90% or higher live outcome rate within five years. Much attention and resources have been devoted to Animal Services and its achievement of a 92% live outcome rate in each of FY20 and FY21. In 2022, a Council Committee on Animal Services was formed. This work session update will provide the full City Council with points of progress, challenges, and next steps to support community-wide animal solutions.

Animal overpopulation and responsible pet ownership must be addressed comprehensively to keep cats and dogs out of the animal shelter. Staff are proposing additions, deletions, and revisions to the City's ordinance (Chapter 6, Animals) with the intent of solving known animal issues. The draft ordinance revision has been provided to the Council Committee on Animal Services and has also been made available for comment by the public as well as individuals and organizations concerned with animal welfare.

Council Committee, Board/Commission Action:

The Council Committee on Animal Services has previewed this presentation and requested that the full Council receive it.

Alternatives:

N/A

Recommendation:

N/A

ANIMAL SERVICES UPDATE

September 20, 2022



Implementation Plan Background

In 2019, a multi-disciplinary committee developed an implementation plan to guide the San Marcos Regional Animal Shelter (SMRAS) to achieve and sustain a 90% live outcome rate within five (5) years, or by the end of FY24. ***We are happy to report a live outcome rate of 92% in each of FY20 and FY21!***

Documentation of the implementation plan development process can be found online at www.sanmarcostx.gov/implementationplan

Animal Services History



New facility
2001

ILA – Hays
Co. and Kyle
2006

Renovation
2007

ILA – Buda
2012

Current ILA / partnership with Hays County, City of Kyle, and
City of Buda
2019

Animal Services Improvement Timeline

Implementation plan created



FY19 (85% LOR)

Status quo due to COVID

No new funding except \$15k contractual obligation for veterinary services



FY21 (92% LOR)

FY20 (92% LOR)



FY22 (est. 90% LOR)

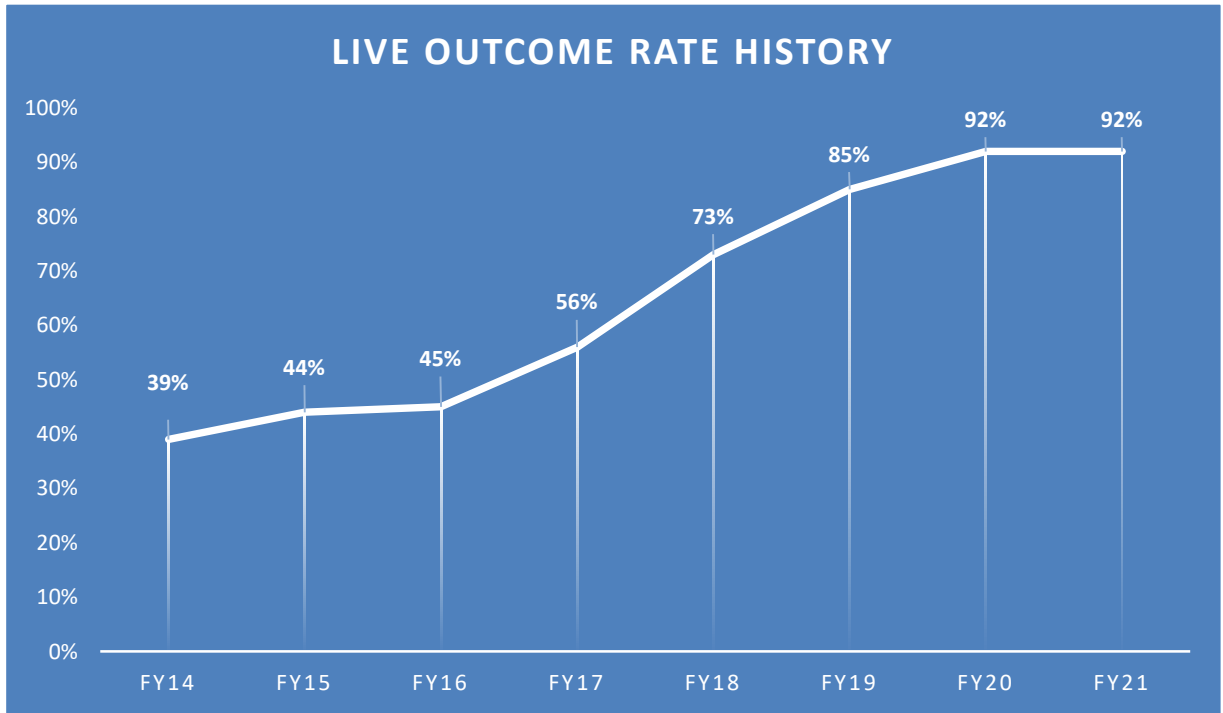


Reinforce core services

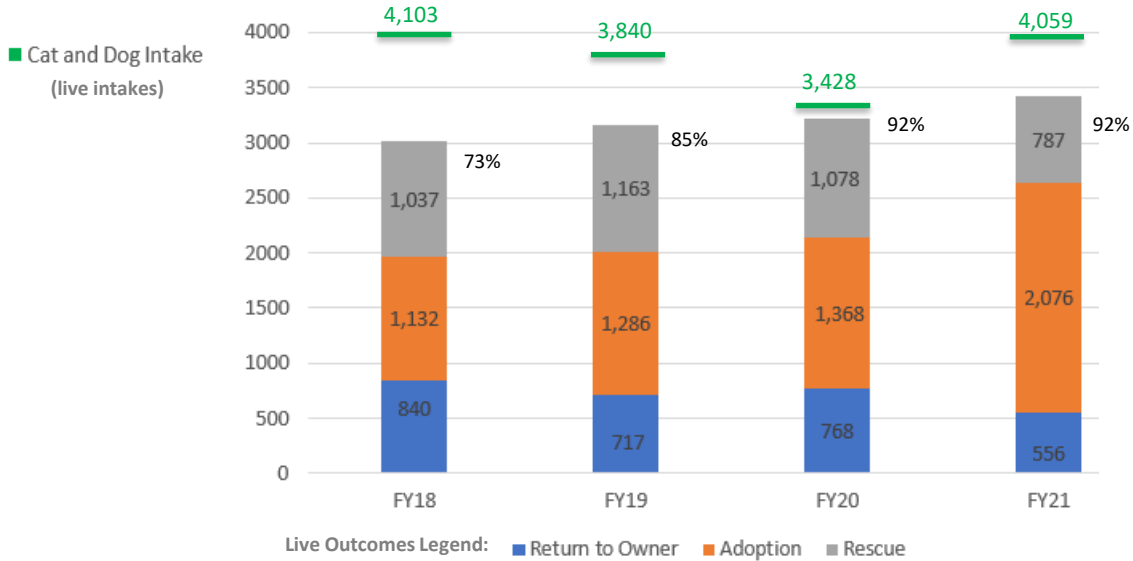
\$10k volunteer/foster program; \$22k veterinary services; \$48k medical supplies; \$15k temp labor; \$25k replace washers /dryers; \$78k facility repair/ improvements; add Shelter Tech and Program Coordinator positions

Additional programs

\$80k intake diversion / owner assistance efforts; \$45k animal enrichment and training resources



Statistics Overview



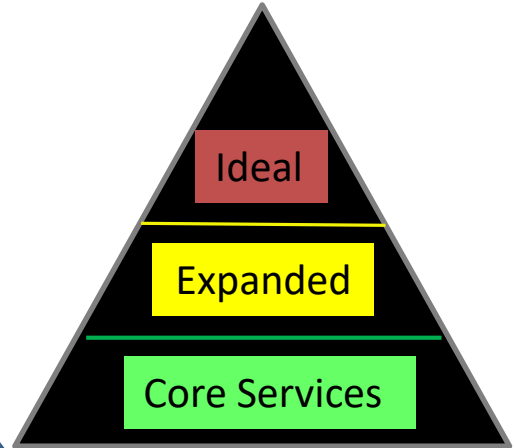
	Live Out	Non-Live Out	Total Outcomes
FY18	3,009	1102	4,111
FY19	3,166	580	3,746
FY20	3,214	199	3,413
FY21	3,419	316	3,735

A Foundation to Build Upon

New facility, staffing levels, animal training, outreach & events

Ambitious rescue, adoptions, fosters, high-volume spay/neuter, intake reduction, cat solutions, chip updating, volunteer task forces, donations, grants, collaborative partners, engagement

Animal control, safety, clean/sterilize, microchip, adoptions, pet licensing, stray intake, rabies control, owner surrender, owner reclaim, ill/injured animals, spay/neuter, rescues/transfers, community education



12 Implementation Plan Objectives

1. Ambitious spay/neuter efforts
2. Progressive adoption initiatives
3. Reduce animal intake / shelter diversion strategies
4. Transparency
5. **Un-socialized cat solutions(including TNR/SNR programs)**
6. Increase rescue/transfer outcomes
7. Control/prevent illness and disease at the shelter
8. Robust volunteer program
9. Unified/countywide vision and strategic partnerships
10. Robust foster program
11. Community involvement and empowerment
12. Target safety net programs

Objective 1

Ambitious Spay/Neuter Efforts

a.	Provide responsible owner assistance (for s/n, training, fencing, food, vet care, etc.)	
b.	Keep free-roaming cats out of the shelter ** (pending participation from other government partners)	
c.	Develop a consortium of partners (for education/awareness, S/N voucher distribution and acceptance)	
d.	Increase public awareness	
e.	Analyze data to target strategies (target areas where the most strays/litters are found)	
** = controversial issue		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 2

Progressive Adoption Initiatives

a.	Create/hire 3 new positions (Adoption Initiatives Coordinator and two Adoption Techs)	
b.	Streamline the adoption process* (policy/procedure revisions)	
c.	Foster and finder to foster program	
d.	Create a large dog program	
e.	Animals to be showcased even while on stray hold or awaiting medical, with an adopter waitlist *	
f.	Animal behavior/training program (better prepare animals to be adoptable; train the trainer, use volunteers)	
g.	Increase public awareness	
h.	Analyze data to target strategies	
* = low-cost/high-impact		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 3 Reduce Animal Intake / Shelter Diversion Strategies

a.	Provide responsible owner assistance for pet retention (referrals/resources for s/n, training, fencing, food, vet care)	✓
b.	Encourage microchipping, data updates, and use of scanners throughout the county *	✓
c.	Keep free-roaming cats out of the shelter ** (pending participation from other government partners)	✓
d.	Create a large dog program	✓
e.	Update “Animal Control” to “Animal Protection”	✓
f.	Increase awareness/use technology to provide owner tips, online tutorials, online posting/network of lost/found	✓
g.	Finder to foster program	✓
h.	Analyze data to focus efforts	✓
* = low-cost/high-impact		
** = controversial issue		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 4 Transparency

a.	Post photos upon intake	
b.	Keep intake open/expand capacity (improvement/expansion at current facility and possible satellite centers)	
c.	Use technology to make intake and details accessible online	
d.	Moratorium on euthanasia for certain reasons	
e.	Open selection adoptions/waitlist	
f.	Ensure accurate record-keeping	
g.	Count every cat and dog euthanized	

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 5 Un-Socialized Cat Solutions (Including TNR/SNR Programs)

a.	Keep free-roaming cats out of the shelter TNR/SNR/RTF** (pending participation from other government partners)	✓
b.	Barn cat program	✓
c.	Analyze data to target strategies	✓
d.	Increase public awareness on the benefits of barn cats, SNR/TNR/RTF *	✓
e.	Increase Vet Tech staffing	✓
* = low-cost/high-impact		
** = controversial		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 6 Increase Rescue / Transfer Outcomes

a.	Use technology to coordinate efforts (online forums, email, networked system)	
b.	Develop a consortium of rescue/transfer partners	
c.	Implement an animal behavior/training program	
d.	Increase Vet Tech staffing	
e.	Ensure disease control and vaccinations	

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 7 Control / Prevent Illness and Disease at the Shelter

a.	Make building/environment improvements and expand capacity	✓
a.	Increase Vet Tech staffing	✓
c.	Expand/involve Veterinary partners	✓
d.	Incorporate Veterinary interns	✓
e.	Partner with drug companies	✓
f.	Refine protocols and procedures	✓
g.	Expand foster program (foster, finder to foster, and train fosters to take medical cases) *	✓
* = low-cost/high-impact		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 8 Robust Volunteer Program

a.	Tiered volunteer program *	
b.	Create job descriptions (ex: volunteer photographers) *	
c.	Volunteers post pictures (if allowed) *	
* = low-cost/high-impact		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 9

Unified / Countywide Vision and Strategic Partnerships

a.	Keep intake open/expand capacity (improvement/expansion at current facility and possible satellite centers)	
b.	Develop a consortium of partners to involve and empower the community	
c.	Network with surrounding shelters for available space	
d.	Analyze data countywide to target strategies	

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 10

Robust Foster Program

a.	Use technology/social media to recruit and train fosters	
b.	Add a dedicated position (Foster Coordinator)	
c.	Foster to adoption program *	
d.	Focus on at-risk/special needs populations (large dogs, neonatal kittens, medical cases, seniors)	
e.	Add dedicated position to develop foster program	
f.	Finder to foster program *	
g.	Animal behavior/training program specific for fosters	
h.	Analyze data to target strategies	
i.	Develop a foster medical fund	
* = low-cost/high-impact		



= fully/mostly implemented



= partially implemented



= not yet implemented

Objective 11

Community Involvement and Empowerment

a.	Use technology for community involvement	
b.	Provide responsible owner assistance for pet retention (referrals/resources for s/n, training, fencing, food, vet care)	
c.	Update “Animal Control” to “Animal Protection”	
d.	Develop a consortium of partners	
e.	Increase public awareness	
f.	Encourage microchipping, data updates, and use of scanners throughout the county *	
g.	Analyze data to target strategies	
h.	Tiered volunteer program	
* = low-cost/high-impact		

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= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Objective 12

Target Safety Net Programs

a.	Bottle feeding volunteers and fosters	
b.	Create a large dog program	
c.	Promotions of the long-stay animals *	
d.	Fundraising for medical cases	
e.	Partner with rescues and vets	
f.	Train volunteers to work with unsocial and fear-based animals ** (pending liability/risk assessment by all partners)	
g.	Add dedicated positions (Foster Coordinator and Rescue Coordinator)	
* = low-cost/high-impact		
** = controversial		

= fully/mostly implemented

= partially implemented

= not yet implemented

Proposed Ordinance Revisions

Significant changes for consideration:

- >Section 6.017 Feral cat management; transitioned to community cat program
- >Section 6.030 Impoundment and redemption:
 - } limited impoundment of visually healthy cats
 - } no stray hold requirement for animals less than three (3) months of age
 - } no stray hold requirement for cats of any age without identification
- >Section 6.031 Disposition of animals; refined language for legal purposes
- >Section 6.044 Registration required; deleted in its entirety

Proposed Ordinance Revisions

Significant changes for consideration, continued:

- >Section 6.050 Dog and cat microchipping required; new section to require microchips, registered with current owner information, for all pets 4+ months old
- >Section 6.051 Dog and cat sterilization required; new section to require sterilization of a pet upon first impoundment OR all dogs and cats
- >Section 6.065 Pet shop/pet store requirements; new section to restrict source of pets, require certain conditions, and notifications to consumers

Survey for community input closes 9/22/2022; responses will be compiled for City Council review.



QUESTIONS?



Legislation Text

File #: ID#22-320, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION:

Executive Session in accordance with the following:

A. Sec. §551.072 of the Texas Government Code: Real Property: Deliberate on facility lease agreements with non-profit organizations

B. Sec. §551.071 of the Texas Government Code: Consultation with Attorney: To seek legal advice from the City Attorney regarding a San Marcos Regional Airport facility lease at 2049 Airport Drive

Meeting date: September 20, 2022

Department: Public Works/City Manager's Office/Airport

Amount & Source of Funding

Funds Required: NA

Account Number: NA

Funds Available: NA

Account Name: NA

Fiscal Note:

Prior Council Action: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

City Council Strategic Initiative: [Please select from the dropdown menu below]

Choose an item.

Choose an item.

Choose an item.

Comprehensive Plan Element (s): [Please select the Plan element(s) and Goal # from dropdown menu below]

Economic Development - Choose an item.

Environment & Resource Protection - Choose an item.

Land Use - Choose an item.

Neighborhoods & Housing - Choose an item.

Parks, Public Spaces & Facilities - Well maintained public facilities that meet needs of our community

Transportation - Choose an item.

- Core Services
- Not Applicable

Master Plan: *[Please select the corresponding Master Plan from the dropdown menu below (if applicable)]*

Choose an item.

Background Information:

Council Committee, Board/Commission Action:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Alternatives:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Recommendation:

Click or tap here to enter text.