

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
TO THE
BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE MONTH OF
JANUARY 2007**

At the meeting of January 22, 2007, the General Manager provided the following updates, summary of activities, and information about events.

January Highlights: The hiring of Assistant General Manager (AGM) Deborah Knaan to oversee Department Operations has completed the formation of the executive team. Together with AGM Linda Barth, the executive team will lead the Department in bringing about positive change. The focus during the month of January was on enhancing the programs and services offered to the public. The Department's management staff began reviewing the Animal Cruelty Task Force to make improvements; Volunteer Coordinators were appointed in each of the shelters to recruit and manage volunteers; nine potential veterinarians were added to the prospect list in the hiring process with the Department; staff began moving into the new East Valley facility offices to anticipate the shelter's opening, and the Systems team unveiled the newly improved Department Website.

Announcements: The Mayor interviewed a new potential candidate to serve as a Commissioner for the Department to replace Deborah Knaan. The Mayor planned to move forward with the candidate in the selection process with the plan to have the candidate serve as a Commissioner by the second Commission Meeting in March.

The Department of Recreation and Parks approved a Board Report that formally adopted rules for conduct in off-lease dog parks.

Dog and Cat Statistics for 2007 Calendar Year to Date: 19,200 dogs and cats were euthanized (6.6% decrease from 2005). The Department averaged 4.8 animals euthanized per 1,000 residents, compared to the national rate of 17.0 animals euthanized per 1,000 residents. Of the 25,045 dogs taken in by the shelters, 6,947 were euthanized (14.2% decrease from 2005). Of the 21,373 cats taken in by the shelters, 12,278 were euthanized (1.3% decrease from 2005).

The New Hope Program has undergone several new enhancements. These enhancements were brought about in response to helping the rescue community determine those animals most at risk of euthanasia. In terms of its alert features, the program now involves two steps. The first step involves placing animals on the Green Alert List. Animals placed on the Green Alert List are free to all New Hope members at no cost and come with free spay/neuter surgery, microchip, and vaccination. Green Alert listed animals are not animals at risk of euthanasia, but animals that have been difficult to place. The public is still allowed to adopt these animals at the regular adoption fee. The

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second step involves placing animals on the Red Alert List. Animals that are sick and/or injured and have not responded to two regimens of medical treatment, but are not irretrievably suffering, animals that have been in the shelter for over 45 days, and animals that are very aggressive not wanted by any New Hope Partner are candidates for the Red Alert List. Animals posted on this list are time-stamped, and given seven days to be adopted out by rescuers. These changes help rescue partners identify where their resources are needed most, and give them seven days, rather than 24 hours to mobilize for difficult-to-adopt pets. Both lists are updated hourly on the Department's website. It is a goal of the Department that rabbits and pocket pets soon be added to the New Hope Program.

Department Events ahead is the February 10-11 weekend, in which the Department is partnering with the Rescue and Humane Alliance in declaring a "No Kill" weekend and promoting an adoption event called the "Paw-fect Match." The Best Friends Animal Society held an art exhibit at the M.J. Figgins Fine Art & Furnishings on Saturday, January 20, 2007. The art exhibit continued thru February 8. The Department announced it would be participating in the Big Sunday Adoption Event on April 28-29.