

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
TO THE
BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE MONTHS OF
MARCH 2008**

At the meeting of March 24, 2008, the General Manager or his designee provided the following updates, summary of activities, and information about events in February and March.

Announcements: The Department is moving forward with plans for a second South Los Angeles Animal Care Center facility. The architect who will work on designing the new South Los Angeles facility hopefully will be joining the General Manager and others on a tour of the recently opened Maricopa County Animal Care & Control facility in Phoenix, AZ. The new Maricopa County facility is considered to be the new standard for animal care centers throughout the country in terms of a pragmatic, yet attractive, functionality.

The Department is working with the staff at the South Los Angeles Animal Care Center to plan adoption events for the community to address the overcrowding problem with the large dogs at the current facility. The Department has been in contact with Cesar Millan from "The Dog Whisperer" television show about his possible appearance at weekend adoption events. The South Los Angeles Animal Care Center has also been actively seeking transfer opportunities for their animals to help manage the situation.

The Department's **Strategic Planning Process** has been ongoing for the past several weeks. Strategic planning is an organization's process of defining its strategy, or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to pursue this strategy. The focus of the process will be determining where the Department is going over the next five years, with emphasis and specific goals for the next fiscal year that will help prioritize resource use in the very difficult budget year ahead. Staff at all levels of the Department have been participating, forming several focus groups to compile gather as much input as possible. The Department is also in discussion with City Councilmembers and the Mayor's Office about conducting a series of public workshops to gather input from the community at-large on all of the particular topics that are included in the format called the "No Kill Equation." The workshops will help the Department evaluate and realize what more it can possibly do to address all of the programs that are critical to achieving the goal of ending euthanasia as a methodology of controlling pet overpopulation.

The **Assistant General Manager of Operations** selection process continues to move forward. The General Manager hopes to select a new Assistant General Manager and make an offer within the next two weeks.

Department Events: Grand Openings for the new Northeast Valley and the Harbor facilities are scheduled to possibly take place in June and July. However, no actual dates for the Grand Openings have been officially determined.