

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

At the meetings of July 9, 2007, and July 23, 2007, the General Manager or his designee provided the following updates, summary of activities, and information about events.

**Announcements:** After having gone through the Assembly, and having been waived by one Senate Committee, AB1634 was scheduled to be heard by the Local Government Committee on July 11, but was withdrawn without a vote. On July 22, the General Manager met with Assembly member Lloyd Levine to discuss revisions that need to be made to address concerns regarding AB1634. The Bill then would be brought back to the Assembly in January 2008. KCET recently aired a profile on the Department's role in AB1634, and the Department has continued to receive positive feedback from the community.

The Grand Opening of the new **East Valley Animal Care Center** has been scheduled for September 15, 2007. In regard to reuse of the old East Valley Facility, conceptually, the City's Municipal Facilities Committee has agreed to keep the old East Valley facility available for extended use. A partner organization would be selected through an RFQ process to occupy and operate the facility, providing rescue and adoption services to the community. The Department is currently waiting for General Securities to provide an estimate of the costs to bring the facility up to code. Also, the General Manager responded to misinformed emails circulating that animals are dying at the new East Valley facility due to heat prostration and exposure to the sun as untrue.

Using **media outlets** to improve the image of the Department, the General Manager and Dr. Steve Feldman did an hour-long interview segment on 106.7 KROQ, answering questions from the community on various animal related issues. The General Manager also met with the Daily News Editorial Board to talk about the Department and the proposed Best Buddies Program.

**Conversations with Western University** about partnering with the Department to establish an internship program have continued. Associate Dean Robert V. Mason, DVM, agreed to meet with the Commission in August to discuss ideas.

The Department is working to complete a comprehensive report on the **Humane LA Program**, with the goal of finalizing and submitting the report to the Mayor's Office in August.

The Department has met with the Mayor's Office, the Personnel Department, and the CAO to discuss ways to improve the Department's **organizational structure**.

**FixNation has begun performing spay/neuter surgeries** at the North Central facility. Discussions regarding a neonate clinic have continued to move forward. The Department has yet to determine a site for the clinic. The community room at the East Valley facility remains a possibility.

Ms. Erica Meadows completed her report on the **Department's Volunteer Program**. The Department would be reporting to the Board soon on her evaluation.

**Final Dog and Cat Statistics for July 2007:** Dog and cat adoptions are up 26% compared to June 06 (1,552 from 1,233). Dog adoptions are up 14% (839 from 733) and cat adoptions are up 43% (713 from 500). The increase in cat adoptions appears to be the result of the community rallying to our calls for help with this year's influx of cats.

New Hope Placements for dogs and cats is down slightly, 5.5% (344 from 376). New Hope placements for dogs are down 14% (291 from 340) but up 8% (235 from 217) for cats.

Where adoptions and the New Hope program's synergistic efficiency truly reveals itself is in the euthanasia numbers. Dog and cat euthanasia in June 2007 is down 30% (1,847) compared to June 2006 (2,647). Dog euthanasia is down 30% (523 from 752) and cat euthanasia is also down 30% (1,323 from 1,895).

This year, the Department implemented an aggressive orphan neonate kitten foster program. Neonates are kittens too young to survive on their own, and in need of intensive foster care in order to survive. In June 2007, neonate kitten euthanasia decreased 59% (328 from 804). These life saving results are being achieved by the work of the Department employees and the 100 volunteer foster caregivers who refuse to let these animals die.

**Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Statistics:** In Fiscal Year (FY) 06/07, the Department took in 25,419 (55%) dogs and 20,898 (45%) cats. 34% (15,808) of all dogs and cats were owner relinquished. Of all the dogs and cats taken in, 66% (30,686) were rescued by citizens or the Department's Animal Control Officers who found them lost, roaming the streets, uncared for and unwanted.

32% (6,634) of all cats taken (20,898) in were orphaned neonates. 25% (5,408) of all dogs taken in (25,493), 15% (1,463) of all dogs adopted, 4% (408) of all dogs placed through New Hope, and 41% (2,574) of all dogs euthanized were pit bull and pit bull mixes.

In FY 06/07, dog and cat adoptions were up 6.8% (15,098 from 14,125). Dog adoptions were up nearly 12% (from 8,772 to 9,813). However, cat adoptions were down about 1% (5,285 from 5,353).

New Hope placements were down 1.7% (5,918 from 6,023).

Board of Animal Services Commission  
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In FY 06/07, the Department euthanized (or killed) 17,314 dogs and cats. This represents the fewest number of dogs and cats euthanized in Los Angeles ever for a one year period. This is an 11.25% decrease from the previous Fiscal Year in which 19,508 dogs and cats were euthanized.

The Department returned nearly 16% (4,037) of all incoming animals to their grateful guardians, consistently maintaining the highest return rate in the country.

**Department Events:** Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus held their annual Elephant Walk on July 17 and on July 22, signaling their return to Los Angeles. 8-10 elephants walked the three and half mile course thru downtown Los Angeles. Prior to the events, the Department met with representatives from LAPD and the Mayor's Office to establish the restrictions for the annual walk. A debriefing for the individuals involved with the Elephant Walk was conducted July 24.

Saturday, August 4 is the Grand Opening of the Pit Bull Training Academy. The Department will be working with Villalobos Rescue Center in rehabilitating pit bulls.