

Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, Animal Welfare Report, 1-11-2018

Two very good pieces of news, one not so good. They're set forth in my emails with GM Brenda Barnette, attached.

Good news 1. We have achieved No-Kill for dogs at the City Shelters. The live-save rate for dogs was 93.14% in November. Over 90% is considered No-Kill. This is fantastic, and I highly congratulate Brenda and Los Angeles Animal Services. Now we must maintain this.

Bad news, but expected. We have not achieved No-Kill for cats. The live save rate for cats in November was 83.85%. As set forth in the emails, I believe this difference in the live-save rate compared to dogs is mostly due to the TNR injunction. A very high priority is getting the TNR injunction lifted, so the City can resume its assistance in Trap, Neuter, Return.

More details on implementation of No-Kill are set forth in the attached emails.

Good news 2. The CAO (City Administrative Officer) approved leasing the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter to Best Friends and sent its recommendation to City Council. See

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=15-1041-S4>.

The Tarzana Neighborhood Council will be considering a resolution to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of this, and I urge your Neighborhood Councils to do the same. Our Animal Welfare Committee is considering the following resolution at its meeting tomorrow night (January 12):

Discussion and possible motion: **City Council File 15-1041-S4.**

Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee (TNC AWC) requests that the TNC Board pass a resolution to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) supporting Council File 15-1041-S4, to lease the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter facility to the Best Friends Animal Society (Best Friends), upon the terms set forth in Inter-Departmental Correspondence from CAO Staff to the Municipal Facilities Committee dated December 21, 2017. Pursuant to that Correspondence, among other things, Best Friends and its co-located partners will provide animal rescue, low cost veterinary care, kitten nursery, working cat program, overflow shelter for dogs, education and training for community residents,

and other services from that facility. This will help to save the lives of cats, dogs, and other animals in the City and achieve the goal of the City Council and Mayor of making Los Angeles No-Kill. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate the TNC's support to City Council and other interested parties.

As stated in her email, Brenda expects a contract to be signed with Best Friends to run the Shelter within the next month.

Thank you to everyone at VANC, particularly Jill Banks Barad, Len Shaffer, Tony Wilkinson, Judy Daniels, Linda Gravani, Kathy Delle Donne, Glenn Bailey, the Executive Committee, and all the NCs, for your support for Animal Welfare.

Best regards, Jeff

Jeffrey Mausner

Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee
Neighborhood Council Liaison to Los Angeles Animal Services Department
Volunteer, West Valley Animal Shelter

Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; J.Mausner@TarzanaNC.org

Cell phone: [\(310\) 617-8100](tel:3106178100)

Jeffrey Mausner

Subject: FW: Fw: Questions for Animal Welfare Reports

From: Brenda Barnette [mailto:brenda.barnette@lacity.org]

Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 3:57 PM

To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>

Subject: Re: Fw: Questions for Animal Welfare Reports

Hi Jeffrey,

Question 1: Has No-Kill (90% live-save) been reached for rabbits and other small animals?

Dara is totally underwater with the move out of North and into the mobile units and can't add special reports right now. Generically, I'd guess yes for rabbits and say that we have added rescues for hamsters/pocket pets and for chickens. Nationally, no kill is a compilation of numbers for dogs and cats.

Question 2: Do you know what role the Vanderpump Dog Foundation will play at the Jefferson Park Shelter?

I don't know. We tried to show them the facility several times. I'm not sure they are still interested. They have had some staff changes and I do expect to meet with them in the future.

Question 3: Do you have an approximate date when the Jefferson Park Shelter will open for cats? ...

We are hopeful that the facility will be under contract within the next month.

Happy New Year!

Brenda

Brenda F. Barnette
General Manager
LA Animal Services

On Tue, Jan 9, 2018 at 5:19 PM, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi Brenda. Reminder to please update if there is information available for December for live-save rate. Also, please answer the questions in the email below:

Question 1: Has No-Kill (90% live-save) been reached for rabbits and other small animals?

Question 2: Do you know what role the Vanderpump Dog Foundation will play at the Jefferson Park Shelter?

Question 3: Do you have an approximate date when the Jefferson Park Shelter will open for cats? ...

Thank you. Best regards, Jeff

Jeffrey Mausner

Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council

Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee

Neighborhood Council Liaison to Los Angeles Animal Services Department

Volunteer, West Valley Animal Shelter

Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; J.Mausner@TarzanaNC.org

Cell phone: [\(310\) 617-8100](tel:3106178100)

From: Jeffrey Mausner

Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 8:47 AM

To: Brenda Barnette

Cc: Dana Brown; William Tranzow; Jeffrey Mausner

Subject: Re: Questions for Animal Welfare Reports

Thank you Brenda. **That is fantastic that we have achieved a 93.14% live-save rate for dogs!!! You and everyone at Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) who have worked for No-Kill deserve a lot of credit for that.** Good job!!! Of course that has to be maintained, and if possible, even improved to 95%, since every dog's life counts. But for dogs, the goal of No-Kill (at least 90%) has been achieved and exceeded, and that is wonderful!

I agree that No-Kill for cats has not been achieved because of the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) injunction. That is the fault of the Urban Wildlands Group, Endangered Habitats League, Los Angeles Audubon Society, Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society, Santa Monica Bay Audubon Society, and American Bird Conservancy, who sued the City to get an injunction against City participation in TNR, the humane way of dealing with free roaming cats. Those organizations are responsible for the deaths of those cats who could have been saved, but for the injunction. I hope LAAS and the City Attorney's Office will continue to work to get the injunction lifted as quickly as possible, and we will do so as well. Thank you for your efforts in that regard.

I and the Volunteers who work with the small animals are very glad to see that rescues that take chickens, rabbits, and small animals have been added. *Question 1: Has No-Kill (90% live-save) been reached for those animals?*

It's good to see that Best Friends will be involved with Jefferson Park. *Question 2: Do you know what role the Vanderpump Dog Foundation will play there? Question 3: Do you have an approximate date when the Shelter will open for cats?* As you can see from the Agenda, we will be voting on a resolution requesting the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to expedite finalization of an agreement with a Rescue Organization or Rescue Organizations to run the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter, and the opening of the Shelter. (Agenda Item 4.)

Regarding the air-conditioned trucks, please continue to push to get as many of those as possible before the hot weather is upon us.

Thank you again for your work to make Los Angeles No-Kill.

Best regards, Jeff

Jeffrey Mausner
Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee
Neighborhood Council Liaison to Los Angeles Animal Services Department
Volunteer, West Valley Animal Shelter
Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; J.Mausner@TarzanaNC.org
Cell phone: [\(310\) 617-8100](tel:3106178100)

From: Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 4:13 PM
To: Jeffrey Mausner
Cc: Dana Brown; William Tranzow
Subject: Re: Questions for Animal Welfare Reports

Hello Jeff and Happy New Year to you!

I'll take a stab at your questions. We may have some updates (especially on Woofstat) after January 10th so please remind me to update this for you.

1. Jefferson Park Animal Shelter: Finalizing the agreement with a Rescue Organization or Rescue Organizations to run the Shelter, and the opening of the Shelter. When do you expect that will be completed? Are there any issues or difficulties that have arisen?

Best Friends is working with the City to secure Jefferson Park. The plan, as I understand it at this point, is to start with services for cats, kittens, offer spay/neuter for the community and then to add dogs within the first 3-6 months. I believe that Jefferson Park will be operated somewhat like the NKLA facility to allow use by a variety of New Hope Partners who are also NKLA Coalition Members. You may want to check with Jose Ocano at Best Friends for any details (<joseo@bestfriends.org>).

2. No Kill: Since we are past December 31, have we achieved 90% live/save rate and no killing of healthy adoptable animals? What is going on regarding dogs, cats, and other animals?

I don't have the December Woofstat (will have around January 10th) but I do not believe that we will be at 90% for both dogs and cats together. From the November reports I can tell you that our live-save rate for dogs was 93.14% and 83.85% for cats with an overall of 88.45%. I think that it is important to note that:

- Since 2011 we have increased the live-save rate by over 31%,
- No other city or community has an injunction preventing them from implementing programs to reduce the overall number of cats,
- Our live-save rate for dogs is amazing considering that we get dogs from all parts of the City and many in horrible condition,
- No other City has the number and quality of public-private partnerships that we have here in Los Angeles,
- We have great cause to celebrate the accomplishments we have made together.

We have added rescues that will take pocket pets and chickens. Despite the brutality of Kaparot, I believe it focused the spotlight on chickens in a way that has been helpful to chickens in general if not the ones used in the ritual.

3. Status of the EIR for the Community Cat Program.

Best Case scenario we could turn all of the information over to the City's Attorney's Office to prepare the case later in 2018. Likely that we will not be able to get back to court before 2019. One complicating factor is the large number of articles written on the topic that must be reviewed and any questions asked or remaining as a result of the literature must be answered.

4. Status of delivery of the air-conditioned trucks.

We have received one and should get an additional unit every 4-6 weeks until the order is complete.

Brenda

Brenda F. Barnette

General Manager

LA Animal Services

Administrative Office

Department of Animal Services

221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 600

Los Angeles CA 90012

[\(213\) 482-9558](tel:(213)482-9558) (office)

[\(213\) 435-0815](tel:(213)435-0815) (cell)

[\(213\) 482-9511](tel:(213)482-9511) (fax)

On Tue, Jan 2, 2018 at 8:30 PM, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi Brenda. Happy New Year. We wish everyone at LAAS a great, No-Kill year.

I will be giving Animal Welfare Reports to the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee, and the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) within the next few weeks. Could you please let me know the status, and if there are any new developments, regarding the following:

1. Jefferson Park Animal Shelter: Finalizing the agreement with a Rescue Organization or Rescue Organizations to run the Shelter, and the opening of the Shelter. When do you expect that will be completed? Are there any issues or difficulties that have arisen?
2. No Kill: Since we are past December 31, have we achieved 90% live/save rate and no killing of healthy adoptable animals? What is going on regarding dogs, cats, and other animals?
3. Status of the EIR for the Community Cat Program.
4. Status of delivery of the air-conditioned trucks.

Anything else you would like to comment on regarding the attached Agenda? The meetings are on the following dates: VANC-January 11; TNC Animal Welfare Committee-January 12; TNC-January 23.

Thank you. Best regards, Jeff

Jeffrey Mausner
Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee
Neighborhood Council Liaison to Los Angeles Animal Services Department
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Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; J.Mausner@TarzanaNC.org
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Brenda F. Barnette
General Manager
LA Animal Services
Administrative Office
Department of Animal Services
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 600
Los Angeles CA 90012
(213) 482-9558 (office)
(213) 435-0815 (cell)
(213) 482-9511 (fax)
www.laanimalservices.org