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July 2, 2013

Honorable Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
200 North Spring Street, Room 395  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: Adam Lid, Legislative Assistant I

**COMBINED REPORT ON PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP WITH BEST FRIENDS  
ANIMAL SOCIETY (C.F. 13-0600-S2) AND PROGRESS TOWARDS A "NO-KILL"  
CITY (C.F. 13-0600-S3)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The General Manager of the Department of Animal Services respectfully requests that the Mayor and City Council:

1. NOTE AND FILE this report relative to CF 13-0600-S3 and progress towards a "no-kill" city; and,
2. NOTE AND FILE this report relative to CF 13-0600-S2 and Best Friends Animal Society.

**SUMMARY**

Pursuant to the adoption of the Mayor's 2013-14 Budget on May 23, 2013, the Department of Animal Services was instructed to report to the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee on two items:

1. The progress of achieving a "no-kill" City (C.F. 13-0600-S3); and,
2. How the public-private partnership is working out with Best Friends Animal Society at the North East Valley (NEV) shelter (C.F. 13-0600-S2).

Because these two items are linked, the Department prepared one report to address both issues.

"Creating a Humane LA"

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Visit our website at [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com)

**ANIMAL SERVICES REPORT ON BEST FRIENDS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS “NO KILL”  
PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE  
JULY 2, 2013**

**1. C.F. 13-0600-S3 Progress towards “No-Kill” city**

There were 4,200 fewer dogs and cats killed in Animal Services shelters than were killed in 2011. It is the lowest number of deaths since 2007.

When comparing fiscal years 2010-11 and 2011-12, the Department showed only a slight 1% increase in its live-save rate<sup>1</sup>. However, for the month of December 2012, Animal Services experienced an all-time high live-save rate of 84%. Moreover, when comparing the first 10 months of this fiscal year to the same period last year, the Department’s live-save rate has increased by 6.3%, or from 58.8 % to 65.1%. Here are the figures comparing this fiscal year with the same period last year:

<b>METRIC</b>	<b>JULY 2012 – APRIL 2013</b>	<b>JULY 2011 – APRIL 2012</b>	<b>CHANGE</b>
<b>LIVE-SAVE RATE</b>			
• Cats	44.3%	38.5%	+5.8%
• Dogs	76.8%	70.1%	+6.7%
• <b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65.1%</b>	<b>58.8%</b>	<b>+6.3%</b>
<b>IMPOUNDS</b>			
• Cats	15,669	16,435	-766
• Dogs	27,898	29,412	-1,514
• <b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43,567</b>	<b>45,847</b>	<b>-2,280</b>
<b>SHELTER DEATHS</b>			
• Cats	7,956	9,514	-1,558
• Dogs	5,304	7,660	-2,356
• <b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,260</b>	<b>17,174</b>	<b>-3,914</b>

This success is due in part to strategic partnerships with Best Friends Animal Society, the “No-Kill LA” (NKLA) Coalition, and 220 New Hope partners<sup>2</sup>. Animal Services manages these relationships ensuring that all spay/neuters are completed and tracking the animals that leave the City shelters.

Animal Services is part of the 50+ member coalition of animal welfare organizations dedicated to ending the killing of healthy and treatable pets in shelters. This NKLA coalition was launched in 2012. (See Attachment A for the list of coalition members.)

<sup>1</sup> In 2010-11, the live-save rate was 57.1%, which increased to 58.8% in 2011-12.

<sup>2</sup> The New Hope program was implemented to eliminate obstacles that might prevent saving the lives of the animals most at risk of euthanasia due to space or treatable conditions. These animals are placed on the New Hope “Alert” list which waives all adoption and microchips fees for New Hope partners.

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The 220 New Hope partners have staff ranging from three to over 30 employees who pull animals for their respective organizations, which make coordination efforts with Animal Services staff laborious and challenging.

Some innovative and creative animal adoption initiatives that will help us get to "no kill" include the following:

- Each year, the Department holds discount adoption events to provide an incentive for the public to adopt. (These discount adoption events are approved in the City Budget.) For 2012-13, Animal Services was allotted five discount days in the months of December, February, May and June, plus 21 days at the discretion of the General Manager. The Department held 11 discount adoption events throughout the year resulting in 4,152 adoptions, an increase of 197 more lives saved compared to 2011-12.
- The Department also works closely with The Pet Care Foundation to hold adoption events. The Foundation pays for a portion of the adoption fees. For 2012-13, the Department and The Pet Care Foundation held seven events with the following results:
  1. "MY BUDDY" - September 1-2, 2012: 28 adoptions, \$1,169 in donations.
  2. "THE FUR IS FLYING" - October 20-21, 2012: 36 adoptions, \$1,150 in donations.
  3. "BASIC BLACK" - November 23-25, 2012: 78 adoptions, \$2,325 in donations.
  4. "WHISKER WONDERLAND" - December 8-9, 2012: 204 adoptions, \$5,100 in donations.
  5. "MY FURRY VALENTINE" - February 10, 2013: 102 adoptions, \$2,550 in donations.
  6. "SPRING 'EM" - April 20-21, 2013: 140 adoptions, \$3,500 in donations.
  7. "CAT-A-PALOOZA" - June 15-16, 2013: 140 adoptions, \$3,500 in donations.

In total, these discount days resulted in 728 adoptions and \$19,294 in donations.

- The Department was part of a select number of agencies to be awarded a grant through the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals named, The Carroll Petrie Project grant. The grant paid \$50 for each dog adopted above

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the prior year's totals in four categories: rescue adoptions, foster adoptions, adoptions through another agency, and off-site adoptions. The Department started in September 2012 and the grant ended in May 2013. This participation resulted in 1,866 more dogs placed than in the previous year and a total of \$93,300 grant funds received.

The Department also partnered with a nonprofit that operates a cat/dog adoption site in the Westside Pavilion. Pets are delivered in the morning by Animal Services staff from the West Los Angeles shelter to the Pavilion and returned to the shelter at the end of the day if not adopted.

Animal Services is slightly ahead of schedule to be “No Kill LA” by 2017, though we are seeing a sudden increase in unplanned kitten births. This could cause a setback, but we are working closely with our partners to save as many kittens as possible.

**1. CF 13-0600-S2 and Best Friends Animal Society.**

The City of Los Angeles executed a contract with Best Friends Animal Society in January 2012. Best Friends is investing approximately \$4 million per year through 2017 to end the needless killing of shelter animals.

**North East Valley (NEV) Shelter Operations: \$2.3Million+**

Best Friends invested close to \$2.4 million in the North East Valley (NEV) operation as a pet adoption and spay/neuter center. Their budget for 2013-14 is about the same.

In 2012, Best Friends pulled 3,115 dogs and cats from LA shelters and are on track for 3,800 in 2013. In addition, they created a neonatal<sup>3</sup> nursery that has a goal of saving 1,800 kittens in 2013 and have already pulled and saved over 100 kittens year-to-date.

**Adoption Subsidies Paid by Best Friends to New Hope Partners: \$243,000**

Here's how this works: Every NKLA coalition partner must first be a “New Hope” partner with the Department. In 2012, Best Friends paid NKLA partners a \$150 subsidy for every adoption of a City shelter dog or cat *above* the number of adoptions that they accomplished in the corresponding month in 2011. So, if a partner placed 10 shelter dogs in homes in April of 2011 and increased that total to 15 in 2012, Best Friends paid that group \$750 in adoption subsidies. That means that, with the help of Best Friends' adoption subsidies, our NKLA partners placed over 1,600 more LA shelter dogs and cats in 2012 than they did in 2011.

**Targeted Spay / Neuter Grants: \$490,000 for 7,000 surgeries**

Best Friends awarded spay/neuter grants to NKLA partners to provide 7,000 free surgeries for dogs and cats belonging to low-income residents in targeted zip codes.

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<sup>3</sup> Neonatal kittens constitute the largest category of animals dying in LA shelters.

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The grants started in June 2012 and at year-end, 4,400 procedures had been accomplished. Best Friends will issue \$490,000 in additional spay/neuter grants in 2013.

To help NKLA partner organizations increase their capacity to save the lives of shelter animals, Best Friends issued grants for four full-time and four part-time positions to either increase adoptions or increase their ability to deliver spay/neuter services. The grant enables qualified organizations to hire staff at \$35,000 for a full-time position or \$20,000 for a part-time position.

**Total Spay/Neuter Surgeries Accomplished: 11,000**

In addition to spay/neuter surgeries performed by Best Friends at the North East Valley location, their sponsored grants through NKLA and their "Free Fix LA" program (overseen by Best Friend's national team) will provide 7,000 procedures. Best Friends provided spay/neuter surgeries to 4,000 community cats in Pacoima.

Other key achievements are:

- **\$493,000** for local adoption promotion advertising and transport costs to out-of-state adoption guarantee organizations. (All animals transported out of state are microchipped to Best Friends and any animal that cannot be adopted is returned to Best Friends.)
- **\$50,000** for "Super Pet Adoption" events for local shelters and rescue organizations.
- **\$400,000** in NKLA promotional media buys; and,
- **\$391,000** in 2012 fundraising for local rescue organization generated by "Strut Your Mutt," a Best Friends-sponsored and produced community dog walk.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

*Brenda F. Barnette*

BRENDA F. BARNETTE  
General Manager

Attachment A: List of NKLA coalition members

BFB:JDC:jf

## **ATTACHMENT A: NO-Kill LA Coalition**

2nd Chance Dog Rescue

Boxer Rescue LA

English Springer Rescue America

K9 Connection

Much Love Animal Rescue

Peter Zippi Fund

Ace of Hearts Dog Rescue

Cage Free K-9 Rescue

Fixnation

Karma Rescue

Mutt Match LA

Red Nose Lucy Foundation

All The Same Wild and Tame

California German Short-haired Pointer Rescue

Found Animals Foundation

Kinder 4 Rescue

Mutt Scouts

Shelter Animal Advocacy Fund LA

Angel City Pits

Caring Friends Cat Rescue

Golden Retriever Club of Greater LA Rescue

Kitten Rescue

National Brittany Rescue &  
Adoption

Spay/Neuter Project LA

Angel Dogs Foundation

Coastal German Shepherd Rescue

Happy Angels Dog Rescue

Kitty Bungalow Charm School for Wayward Cats

Network Inc

Spay4LA

Barks of Love

Dawg Squad

Heaven on Earth Society for  
Animals

Labs and Friends.Org

New Life K-9 Rescue

Stella's Hope

Basset Hound Rescue of So. Calif.

Dogs on Death Row

Holly's Garden Rescue

Lhasa Happy Homes

No Stray Left Behind

Stray Cat Alliance

Border Collies In Need

Dogs without Borders

JJ Woofin Paws

LIFE Animal Rescue

One Dog Rescue

Wags and Walks Rescue

Boston Buddies

Downtown Dog Rescue

K9 Compassion

Lu Parker Project

Pet Orphans of So Cal

Westside German Shepherd Rescue