

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jody Paul

**Date Submitted:** 11/04/2022 10:18 AM

**Council File No:** 22-1175

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Department of Animal Services needs to make Spay/Neuter accessible for all and allow intake of cats to help control the overpopulation situation. Currently, they're sending mixed messages and not doing the job Animal Services was set up to do. They're currently turning cats away from the shelter and telling the public to release them where they found them and that they can fend for themselves-- they're "free roaming" which is contributing to one of the worse cat overpopulation crisis's in the city's history. How can you promote Spay/Neuter if you're not doing intake to help control the population? How are you offering support for people finding stray cats? The public can't afford to spay/neuter cats they find nor should they have to. They're not equipped for that. Additionally, how can you euthanize animals in the shelter for space if you're turning them away to fend for themselves and not helping to control the overpopulation? Essentially, this means the shelter is not a safe space for animals and that's what the majority of the public has come to believe.