

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
TO THE
BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE MONTHS OF
NOVEMBER 2007**

At the meeting of November 13, 2007, the General Manager or his designee provided the following updates, summary of activities, and information about events in October and November. The Board did not meet on November 26, 2007, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Announcements: The Department is now more than halfway thru with the interviews for the Assistant General Manager of Operations position. The Department is hopeful that the interview process will conclude in early December and that a candidate will be chosen and appointed to the position of Assistant General Manager.

In regard to illegal animal sales in the Santee Alley of Downtown Los Angeles, as mentioned by the Mayor's Office, an Anti-Piracy Task Force has been formed to deal with all illegal sales there. The group recently met, and will continue to discuss ideas and make recommendations on how to better patrol and eliminate illegal animal sales in the Santee Alley area.

The General Manager attended the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators National Conference in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida from November 3-6, 2007. Many organizations across the country consider the Department as the national model for our commitment in providing animal care.

The General Manager clarified that an Aggressive Animal Acknowledgement Statement Form found at the South Los Angeles Animal Care Center was not developed or approved by the Department's management team. There had been conversations with the City Attorney to move in a direction in which the Department stopped holding dangerously aggressive animals longer than necessary, but nothing had been made official as a result of those conversations. Center Managers claimed that the form was not being used at any of the shelters. An investigation is underway to find where the form originated.

Department Advertising: The Pet Care Foundation funded a full-page advertisement to appear in the November 15 edition of the Los Angeles Times, featuring the adoptable animals of the West Los Angeles Animal Care Center. Friends of Animal Care and Control, a fundraising organization founded by the General Manager while working in New York, has offered to share their "Victims of Circumstance" advertising campaign with the Department at no cost. The advertising campaign involves presenting a series of animal mug shots along with the common reasons the animals are turned over to the shelters.

Statistics for 2007 Calendar Year to Date: Comparing the first ten months of 2007 with the same time period in previous years, we see LA Animal Services has reduced dog and cat euthanasia over 61% compared to 2001. In the first ten months of 2007, dog and cat euthanasia was reduced by another 24% compared to the same time period in 2006. In a community of four million people, if the Department maintains its effectiveness in reducing euthanasia at this rate until the end of the year, it will translate into 11,400 fewer animals euthanized, with a rate of 2.9

Board of Animal Services Commission
General Manager's Report
November 2007

animals euthanized per 1,000 residents. The current national average is 12.9 animals euthanized per 1,000 residents.

Comparing the first ten months of 2007 with the same time period in previous years, LA Animal Services reduced dog euthanasia nearly 74% compared to 2001 and nearly 15% compared to 2006.

As has been explained in previous reports, cats are a more challenging species when attempting to achieve no-kill as they are allowed to free roam with no licensing regulations. However, over the past six years, LA Animal Services has reduced cat euthanasia over 41% and over 29% in 2007 compared to the same ten month time period in 2006.

Department Events: On November 29, the Department will host the Grand Opening of the new West Valley Animal Care Center at 10:00 A.M. The Department has already moved into the new West Los Angeles Animal Care Center. However, the Grand Opening of the West Los Angeles facility will not be scheduled until after January 2008.