

Agenda Item #7

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager  
**FROM:** Pat DiGiovanni, Deputy City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Animal Care Services Strategic Plan Briefing  
**DATE:** June 29, 2006

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

On February 7, 2006, through a Council Consideration Request, Mayor Hardberger directed staff and the Animal Care Services Advisory Board to begin the process of developing a five-year Animal Care Services Strategic Plan. Board Chair, Kathie McGowen will present a briefing of the plan and provide an update regarding progress and outstanding issues regarding the development of the five-year strategic plan.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In beginning the process of developing the strategic plan, the Animal Care Advisory Board participated in Strategic Planning Work Sessions on Monday, May 8, 2006 and Tuesday, May 9, 2006. Facilitated by Tim Fallon, President of TSI Consulting, Inc., the Advisory Board identified central challenges, defined key strategic priorities, and developed a strategic map to outline key objectives that must be reached to accomplish each strategy point.

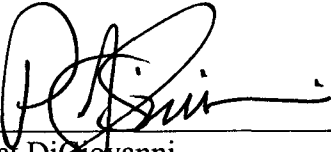
The Advisory Board secured community input, both from leaders of animal care organizations and the community at large, through a series of meetings. An animal care stakeholders meeting was conducted on May 24, 2006 at the Ferrari Learning Center. Four community meetings were conducted on June 6, 8, 13 and 15, 2006 at locations throughout the City.

Input, feedback and suggestions from the stakeholders and community members are being utilized as the Advisory Board continues to develop and finalize the strategic plan. Currently, the Advisory Board is building upon the identified strategic priorities and objectives with action plans and timetables for implementation.

The Advisory Board will continue to meet through July to finalize the five-year strategic plan and to develop the first year plan and operating budget for Animal Care Services.

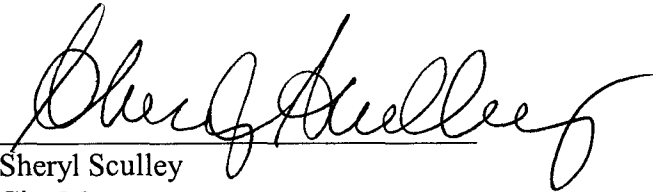
**COORDINATION**

This item has been coordinated with the Animal Care Services Advisory Board.

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Pat DiGiovanni  
Deputy City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:

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Sheryl Sculley  
City Manager

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**Office of the Mayor**

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**Interdepartmental Memorandum**

**TO:** San Antonio City Council

**FROM:** Mayor Phil Hardberger

**COPIES TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Michael Bernard, City Attorney;  
Sam Sanchez; file

**SUBJECT:** Reducing the Number of Unwanted Animals

**DATE:** February 7, 2006

Your consideration is respectfully requested to direct City staff and the Animal Control Advisory Board to develop a five-year strategic plan to significantly reduce the number of unwanted animals in this community.

Last year, City Council took decisive steps to implement new policies to end gas euthanasia of animals and to increase funding for spay-neuter programs. However, the fact remains that over 48,000 animals are abandoned and euthanized, each year. It is now time to address this issue.

This strategic planning effort should involve advocacy organizations that support this goal, as well as concerned citizens. Programs for adoption, spay-neuter, pet owner education and other strategies should be pursued throughout the entire community. The plan should specifically address how supportive non-profit organizations might implement these strategies and programs.

In 2003, voters approved bond funding for a new \$10 million animal control facility, which will be located on west U.S. 90. The new facility is expected to open in mid-2007. However, rather than providing animal support services only at that location, the strategic plan should address how current or new programs might be provided *throughout* San Antonio, at locations convenient to citizens and neighborhoods, utilizing partnerships and non-profit organizations.


The recent success of pet adoption efforts at community events demonstrates that outreach strategies can work and should be pursued first. The use of existing community centers, parks, retail space at shopping centers, and other accessible public facilities should also be considered for permanent or weekend programs.

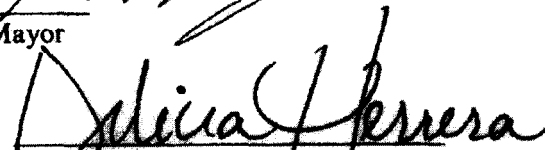
Some organizations have proposed using the existing Animal Care facility in Brackenridge Park for such services. The existing facility now appears to be impractical in achieving the above goals. Staff has indicated that reuse of the existing facility will require major capital modifications to meet current building codes, likely costing in excess of \$1 million. Given the new center, funds should instead be focused on effective programs and community-wide outreach rather than renovating a City-owned facility.

Finally, the plan should also address funding needs for direct program implementation, with an emphasis on partnerships, mobile services, and community fundraising. As such, to incorporate the strategies into budget discussions, the strategic plan should be substantially complete by July 1, 2006.

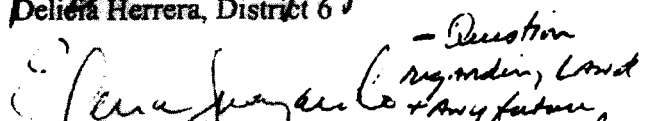
Your favorable consideration is requested.


  
Phil Hardberger, Mayor

  
Roger O. Flores, District 1


  
Delicia Herrera, District 6


  
Sheila D. McNeil, District 2

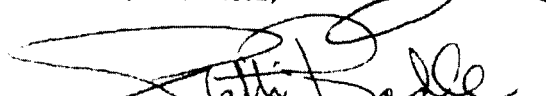
  
Elena K. Guajardo, District 7  
- Question regarding land transfer of land

  
Roland Gutierrez, District 3

  
Art A. Hall, District 8

  
Richard Perez, District 4

  
Kevin A. Wolff, District 9

  
Patti Radle, District 5

  
Chip Haas, District 10

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