

Lead Agency: Community Services
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs: 91005, 91006, 91007
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Program Contact: Mike Oswald

Executive Summary

Animal Services protects people and pets in the community. Now more than ever, the public expects a higher level of service from Animal Services, particularly in regard to saving animal lives. Nationwide, animal shelters are expected to be leaders in implementing strategies to increase healthy animals lives. With leading edge programs, MCAS has increased the live release rate for dogs to 86% over the past 5 years. However, cats remain at an alarming 60% live release rate. The pilot program is designed to reduce the overpopulation of cats. The desired result is a higher live release rate for cats. This program offer is targeted to cost less than the average cost to care for a cat until it's adopted.

Program Description

The majority of Multnomah County residents live in one of the most pet-friendly cities in the U.S. Portlanders expect us to provide the highest standards of care. Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) programs for feral cats is the nationally accepted humane means of managing feral cats.

ACT (Apartment Cat TNR) is an approach to managing the challenge of the cat overpopulation by neutering 100% of the cats in low-income apartment complexes or mobile home parks. The goals of ACT are to provide education about spaying/neutering and TNR, and to remove community obstacles such as transportation, cost, and awareness. ACT currently has access to Spanish and Russian speaking assistance so that language is not a barrier to residents in the community.

Through education and access to spay/neuter surgeries, ACT gives community members tools to help manage and reduce the an estimated 23,000 cats cared for by area shelters every year. If intake numbers drop, more resources become available to each cat entering the shelter and more lives will be saved. The program is delivered by trained volunteers, guided by one staff member, the program coordinator.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY10-11)	Current Year Purchased (FY11-12)	Current Year Estimate (FY11-12)	Next Year Offer (FY12-13)
Output	Number of Cats Altered	0	0	0	600
Outcome	Reduction in cat intake at shelter	0	0	0	1,000
Output	Pet owners served through outreach activities	0	0	0	1,000

Performance Measure - Description

Numbers of cats altered is a short-term measure of success. ACT started as a pilot program the middle of October 2011 and has TNR'd more than 100 cats by January in 2012. This has been accomplished with a group of volunteers and a staff person who added this as an additional duty. Once up and running, the program should be able to alter at least 50 cats per month.

The Reduction in cat intake at the shelter is a long term outcome measure of success and may not show visible change for a year.

Pet owners served through outreach activities is a measure of the program's contact with people in need of services.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

ORS 609.010 to 609.190 pertains to Animal Control mandates. Includes: Dogs running at large prohibited; Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous Dogs regulations; Dogs as Public Nuisance prohibited; Impoundment and shelter requirements for violations; Dog License requirements; Impoundment of Dogs harming livestock requirements. ORS 609.205 pertains to prohibitions against keeping wild or exotic animals. ORS 433.340 to 433.390 pertains to Rabies Control - includes: requirement to report animal bites; impoundment, quarantine and disposition requirements; inoculations against rabies requirements; records requirements; and requirement for all fees to go to the County dog control fund. Multnomah County Code Chapter 13 provides local regulations for ownership.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2012	2012	2013	2013
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$70,221	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$23,550	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$103,771	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$103,771	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The division will pursue private grants and individual donation to supplement the operating costs.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was:

New one-time-only program