



REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: January 20, 2009

SUBJECT: Status Report on Animal Control Services

Report in Brief

At the October 7, 2008 meeting the City Council discussed the contract for Animal Control Services with the County of Yolo. The City Council directed that staff seek additional information regarding the increasing costs for animal control and methods to contain that cost. During this period, Animal Services staff has been working with Police Department to gather information on the causes of the costs increases and disproportionate use of services within Woodland. Additionally staff has looked for ways to better contain costs while providing quality services to the Woodland community. Staff has completed this study which is attached for the Council's review. In addition, staff has received the proposed terms for the FY 2009-10 Animal Services agreement.

Staff recommends that the City Council review, comment and accept the report on Animal Control services and the strategies to contain further cost increases as described herein.

Background

The County of Yolo, through the Sheriff's Department/Animal Control Division and under an agreement with the City of Woodland, provides animal control services to the Woodland community. Section 3.1.1 of the Woodland Municipal Code adopted in 1974, delegates animal control responsibilities and authority to the County. The shelter facility and administrative offices are located at the Sheriff's facility, 2500 East Gibson Road, Woodland.

For the past ten years or more the costs of providing the services has been allocated between the County and the cities based on a proportional formula of the number of patrol hours consumed by each jurisdiction and the number of animals housed at the shelter. The County collects and retains all fees (license fees collected from pet owners in the cities and unincorporated county, redemption fees, neutering fees, etc.) for the animal control program. The proportional formulas are applied, after all revenues generated by the program have been subtracted, to the costs of animal control services.

On December 3, 2009 the County hosted a meeting with all the jurisdictions having contractual service agreements for Animal Control Services. At this meeting, the County presented its proposed 2009/2010 Animal Services budget. Included in this material was an explanation of the anticipated program costs. The principal factor associated with the increase was contractual employee salary and benefit adjustments. Overall the budget was increased by 6.6%. Woodland's proposed FY 2009-2010 contractual cost is \$572,948, a 6.8% increase over the FY 2008-2009 contract. Prior to and after the December 3, 2009 meeting, Police Department staff reviewed information provided by Animal Control Services covering the fiscal years 06/07, 07/08 and the 1st quarter FY 08/09 detailing Animal Control Field and Shelter activity for all participating agencies. This review also encompassed discussions and explanations of field and shelter practices.

Discussion

The December 3, 2008 meeting did address several of the objectives set forth in the October 7, 2008 staff report. Animal Control staff provided a comprehensive information sheet and the analysis used to establish agency costs for FY 09-10. It also restated the goals and activities needed to ensure better animal control services and contain costs. The revised Animal Services fee schedule adopted by the County in October 2008 was presented. Although fees were increased, they were not adjusted to fully recover the cost of the services provided. This was done purposely to limit the negative effect of increased fees on responsible animal ownership. Simply stated, raising fees can increase the number of abandoned animals and non-compliant animal owners overall, posing greater health and safety risks to the general public.

Animal Control services and charges are essentially divided into two components, field services and sheltering. A preliminary review of the information sheet indicated that Woodland residents place a significant demand on both field services and sheltering. An in-depth analysis of data provided by Animal Control services from their internal database provided more specific information as to which services and how much were delivered to Woodland residents.

The review indicated that Woodland residents and their animals accessed sheltering services at a much higher rate than other jurisdictions. Animals enter the shelter in two ways, either brought in by field services personnel or brought into the shelter by residents. The cities of Woodland and Davis have the largest percentages of animals brought to the shelter by its residents. In fact, of all the animals brought into the shelter by residents from all jurisdictions, over 50% came from Woodland. Using US Census population estimates as of July 1, 2007, the per 1000 person rate of animals brought in by citizens using 07/08 data is as follows: Woodland 21.04, W. Sacramento 5.16, Davis 4.75, Winters 2.72 and Yolo County 13.30. The County wide average was 10.80 animals per 1000 persons.

Shelter staff had refined their business practices and linked their data collecting software to a geographic database that verifies the origin of these animals. It is, therefore, unlikely that there is any significant error in determining the origin of the animals. To further improve animal tracking, the Shelter also closed its night drop facility effective July 1, 2008. This functionally eliminated the

ability for animals to be left at the Shelter anonymously. It is currently unknown what effect, if any, this change will have on the number of animals sheltered that will be charged to Woodland.

After subtracting these over the counter (OTC) animals from the total of animals sheltered, it was apparent that the number of animals brought in by field service Animal Control officers from Woodland was in line with other jurisdictions. Animals charged to Woodland that were brought in from the field accounted for 25.4% of animals brought in from the field in FY06/07, 27.1% in FY07/08 and 32.1% during the 1st quarter of FY08/09. In comparison, this was fewer animals than were collected in West Sacramento during all three periods.

The data indicates that animals are not illegally abandoned or found stray in Woodland at a significantly different rate than other jurisdictions in the county. Actually the data analysis strongly suggests that the location of the animal shelter in Woodland greatly increases the likelihood animals are going to be brought to the shelter by Woodland residents. This impact does increase the number of animals sheltered and related costs for the City of Woodland and will not likely be reduced as long as the shelter is located in the City.

As stated in the October 7, 2008 Council Communication, the current practice is that all revenues collected by Animal Service, regardless of their jurisdictional origin or purpose, are pooled and used to off-set operational cost. However, many over-the-counter services such as owner surrender and euthanasia services have associated service fees. It would seem logical that fees collected for these services should directly reduce the contract costs of the jurisdiction. This was discussed during the meeting with Animal Service personnel. Animal Services is not opposed to exploring this approach of revenue tracking; however, any cost required to develop and implement a tracking process would result in passing those costs onto the participating jurisdiction. No immediate action has been taken toward implementation of this type of revenue accounting. A preliminary inquiry about the current database's ability to track fees was going to be made by Animal Services. The Police Department will continue to explore an alternate revenue tracking process with Animal Control Services although neither agency has committed to pursue this strategy.

A review of field service calls showed Woodland being charged for a high number of "maintenance and service" calls. Maintenance and service calls include activities such as shift briefings, vehicle maintenance, vehicle fueling, and meal breaks. Also a significant portion of these calls simply did not provide sufficient details. In FY 07-08 this category of calls accounted for 44% of all Woodland's calls for service and in the 1st quarter of FY 08-09 they accounted for 31% of Woodland's calls for service. In discussion with Animal Services supervisory staff, it was determined that activities that could not be specifically linked to an agency and/or necessary for the general animal control operation would in the future be apportioned to each agency based upon the percentage of their other "field services".

Another significant portion of Woodland's calls for service is in the categories of barking dogs/animal noise complaints and roaming animals. Over the three data time periods, these calls averaged 15.6% of all the calls attributed to Woodland. This percentage was calculated including maintenance and service calls as previously counted.

In discussing ways to mitigate the number of barking dogs/noise complaints with Animal Services personnel, it was learned that the City of Davis internally handles all animal related noise complaints. Davis has a specific noise ordinance which includes animals. These calls are forwarded by a message on the Animal Control phone line or handled directly if called into Davis Police Department. The City of Woodland could take a similar approach and have a message forwarding animal noise calls and roaming animal calls to our Dispatch Center. These calls, as well as calls directly to the Dispatch Center could be added to the on-duty patrol officer's responsibilities. Although this would reduce the calls for service charged to Woodland by Animal Services, it would increase the service demand on Woodland police officers. Such a shift of responsibilities would have a negative impact on the officer's public safety duties to a degree that would likely be disproportionate to any financial benefits the City might gain. Therefore, staff does not recommend any changes to how these calls are addressed.

Ultimate stabilization or reduction of animal services cost is dependent upon reducing the unwanted pet animal population. This is directly linked to aggressive spay and neutering programs. Currently there are no low-cost programs in Yolo County. Animal Services is interested in promoting and working with participating jurisdictions and private organizations to seek grants to fund low-cost spay and neuter services. The success of these efforts will depend upon support from all parties throughout the County. If such programs are established, it will be several years before any benefits are likely to be seen. It is recommended the City participate with Animal Control Services to promote such programs.

Licensing of dogs has many benefits. Although Animal Services estimates a County wide licensing rate of about 75% overall, this is most likely not true in each jurisdiction. Based upon vaccination reporting, it would appear the City of Davis has a very high licensing compliance rate compared to other jurisdictions. Several joint initiatives could be undertaken to increase local compliance. The Police Department is proposing to distribute, through a utility bill, information encouraging pet licensing, provide an overview of general pet regulations (leash law, requirements to pick up animal waste, etc.), and promote spay and neutering of pets. Additionally, although not taken on as a primary enforcement activity, police officers could, in connection with other enforcement activities, verify dog licensing and issue citations or make referrals to Animal Control for follow up.

In summary, the Police Department is pleased with the discussions with Animal Services regarding the status of the current agreement, cost containment associated with the proposed FY 2009-10 agreement and commitment to further explore ways to fairly and accurately assess costs and deliver services in the future. This assessment will likely generate a recommendation to approve the agreement when it is presented to the City Council.

Fiscal Impact

As described herein, the proposed FY 2009-2010 Animal Services Contract at a cost of \$572,948 would require a \$38,910 increase allocation in the 2009/2010 City budget. Once received, the FY 2009-2010 Animal Services Agreement will be returned to the City Council for approval. Potential cost savings measures that have been discussed between Animal Services and the jurisdictions

served by the County present the possibility for containing or reducing future contract costs. It is unlikely that these measures will have an impact in FY 2009-10.

Public Contact

Public notice of this agenda item occurred with the posting of the City Council agenda. A copy of the agenda and report has been provided to the Sheriff's Department Animal Control Division.

Recommendation for Action

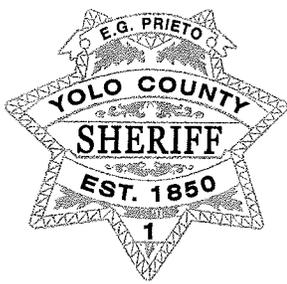
Staff recommends that the City Council review, comment and accept the report on Animal Control Services and the strategies to contain further cost increases as described herein.

Prepared by: Charles Wilts
Lieutenant

Reviewed by: Carey F. Sullivan
Chief of Police

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachments: Attachment A - Yolo County Animal Services Information Sheet (12/03/2008)
Attachment B - WPD Report on Animal Services



Yolo County Sheriff's Department

2500 East Gibson Road, Woodland, CA 95776

(530) 668-5280

Fax (530) 668-5238

(916) 375-6493

E.G. Prieto
Sheriff ~ Coroner

Tom A. Lopez
Undersheriff

Administration
(530) 668-5280

Finance
Personnel
Planning & Research

Cameron Training Facility
Commissary

Inmate Education
Inmate Programs
Inmate Training

Coroner's Section
(530) 668-5292

Field Operations
(530) 668-5280
Civil

Community Resources
Crime Prevention
Department Training
Investigations
Marine Patrol
Patrol
Search & Rescue
Aero Squadron
Cadets
Posse Reserves
STARS

Animal Services
(530) 668-5287

Leinberger Detention
(530) 668-5254
Corrections
Inmate Work Programs

Monroe Detention
(530) 668-5245
Corrections
Court Services
Foods Services
Records
Transportation

ANIMAL SERVICES MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2008
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
CAMERON CONFERENCE ROOM
~ AGENDA ~

Meeting called by: Captain Robin Faille and Chief Officer Vicky Fletcher
LaVonne Slaton-Amey, Manager Finance Section

Attendees: Davis, Winters, West Sacramento, Woodland, UC Davis, Selena Hobbs Sheriff's Analyst, Don Hoff CAO

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Introductions

Welcome - Captain Faille, Chief Fletcher, Finance Manager LaVonne Slaton-Amey
▶ Round Table introduction of agencies.

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. FY 2009-10 Contract Amounts & Calculation

LaVonne Slaton-Amey

- ▶ Budget Changes: Salary & Benefits, Services & Supplies, Equipment and Revenue.
- ▶ SB90 Funds Distribution.
- ▶ Purpose FY 2009-10 Budget and Contract Amounts for Shelter & Patrol Cost.
- ▶ FY 2007-08 Statistics used to calculate FY 2009-10 purposed contract amounts.
- ▶ Purpose a 5% increase for Non Standard call out hourly rate of \$59.00 for FY09/10. The current rate is \$56.20 FY08/09.
- ▶ Cost not included: CAO Overhead \$400k, Use of inmates, and Admin. Cost hourly rate.
- ▶ Discuss final year of contract option to extend terms of agreement for some agencies.
- ▶ Contracts will be sent out in February tentative **Due Date of Friday, March 6, 2009.**

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. FY 2008-09 Budget Status and Statistics

Chief Vicky Fletcher

- ▶ Current Statistics number of animals, number of calls, and drop box.

11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Program Changes and Goals FY 2009-10

Captain Faille and Chief Vicky Fletcher

- ▶ Animal Services and Animal Shelter program changes and goals.

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Questions and Discussion

- ▶ Questions and discussion.
- ▶ Wrap-up and Shelter Tour.

“Service Without Limitations”

**Sheriff-Coroner
Animal Services
Four Years Budget 2006/07 – Purposed 2009/10**

Budget Category	Budget 2006/2007	Budget 2007/2008	Budget 2008/2009	Purposed Budget 2009/2010	Change	% Change
APPROPRIATIONS						
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,318,078	\$1,354,086	\$1,481,671	\$1,620,063	\$138,392	9.34%
Services & Supplies	\$366,114	\$450,514	\$602,186	\$614,234	\$12,048	2.00%
Other Charges	\$2,429	\$0	\$2,300	\$2,328	\$28	1.23%
Fixed Assets-Equipment	\$105,000	\$104,400	\$42,000	\$32,000	\$-10,000	-23.81%
Total Appropriations:	\$1,791,621	\$1,909,000	\$2,128,157	\$2,268,625	\$140,468	6.60%
REVENUES						
Fees & Charges	\$329,614	\$343,200	\$237,700	\$281,700	\$44,000	18.51%
Local Government Agencies	\$1,124,812	\$1,176,402	\$1,220,966	\$1,280,599	\$59,633	4.88%
Other Revenue	\$61,966	\$71,463	\$258,158	\$266,983	\$8,825	3.42%
General Fund	\$275,229	\$317,935	\$317,935	\$439,343	\$121,408	38.19%
General Fund – Other			\$93,398	\$0	\$-93,398	-100. %
Total Revenues:	\$1,791,621	\$1,909,000	\$2,128,157	\$2,268,625	\$140,468	6.60%
POSITIONS (FTE)	22					
Increase		\$117,379	\$219,157	\$140,468		
Increase percentage		6.55%	11.48%	6.60%		

Source: See Detail Budget 2009/10 on page 7

SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

Salaries & Benefits projected increase of 9.34% or \$138,392 is related in equity, COLA and retirement cost. There will be equity increases of .96% to 5.9% and COLA increases of 2.2% to 4% during the year. The retirement rate will also be increasing from 2% @ 55 to 2.5% @ 55 effective January 1, 2009. Savings – Extra help has been eliminated and inmates are being used effective fiscal year 2007/08 to reduce cost. The estimated savings is between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

Services & Supplies projected increase of 2% is due to cost of living and inflation factors as well as items listed: Hired full time veterinarian \$75,000 FY2007/08. Vehicle Replacement Charges are for Fleet Maintenance Program cost \$29,918. Public Liability Insurance \$29,934. Medical, Dental & Lab Supplies increase \$12,000 for micro chips of animals adopted program.

Fixed Assets-Equipment has been reduced as a result of purchasing trucks without the animal boxes.

Revenues from Fees & Charges and Other Revenue are estimated to increase due to fee increases effective November 1, 2008 related to the cost study and master fee updates completed.

All agencies benefit from SB90 Mandated Cost Reimbursement revenue distribution as shown below with approximate amounts agencies received. We are currently working on the year 2007-008 claims.

**Yolo County
Animal Services
SB90 Distribution**

Year	Woodland	Davis	Winters	W. Sac	UCD	County	TOTAL
2006-007	119,024	36,999	12,047	88,782	723	142,154	399,729
2005-006	102,741	43,254	10,549	104,928	1,922	69,288	332,682
2004-005	155,120	46,115	14,157	121,233	2,596	94,961	434,182
Total	376,885	126,368	36,753	314,943	5,241	306,403	1,166,593

Yolo County Animal Services

Budget Summary Comparisons by Shelter and Patrol Program Cost

FY 2009/10 Purposed Budget

						2009-10	
		Total \$	Shltr v. Patrol	Shelter	Patrol	Total Costs	
Animal Services Officer II	9.00	\$638,213	11% 89%	\$70,203	\$568,010	\$638,213	
Sheriff's Records Clerk II	4.00	\$237,128	87% 13%	\$206,301	\$30,827	\$237,128	
Business Services Manager	1.00	\$131,404	50% 50%	\$65,702	\$65,702	\$131,404	
Suprv Animal Services Officer	2.00	\$159,056	50% 50%	\$79,528	\$79,528	\$159,056	
Animal Care Attendant	4.00	\$171,564	100% 0%	\$171,564	\$0	\$171,564	
Animal Care Technician	2.00	\$117,413	95% 5%	\$111,542	\$5,871	\$117,413	
Salary Savings		\$0	50% 50%	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Extra Help		\$0	100% 0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Overtime		\$60,000	40% 60%	\$24,000	\$36,000	\$60,000	
Benefit Cashout		\$4,000	40% 60%	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$4,000	
Standby Pay /Bi Ling		\$11,902	0% 100%	\$0	\$11,902	\$11,902	
Workers Comp/Unemploy		\$89,383	50% 50%	\$44,692	\$44,692	\$89,383	
SALARIES & BENEFITS	22.00	\$1,620,063		\$775,133	\$844,930	\$1,620,063	
SERVICE & SUPPLIES		\$616,562	70% 30%	\$431,593	\$184,969	\$616,562	
FIXED ASSETS		\$32,000	0% 100%	\$0	\$32,000	\$32,000	
Total		\$2,268,625		\$1,206,726	\$1,061,899	\$2,268,625	
REVENUES		-\$568,683				\$503,220	22%
FEES & CHARGES OTHER		-\$479,220	70% 30%	-\$335,454	-\$143,766	-\$479,220	
OTHER REVENUE		-\$4,000	100% 0%	-\$4,000	\$0	-\$4,000	
AFTER HOURS REIMB		-\$20,000	0% 100%	\$0	-\$20,000	-\$20,000	
STATE MANDATE SB90 not allocated		-\$65,463					
NET PROGRAM COST		\$1,699,942		\$867,272	\$898,133	\$1,765,405	
NET PROGRAM PERCENTAGE				49%	51%		78%

**Yolo County Animal Services
Budget Summary Comparisons by Program
FY 2008/09 Budget**

						2008-09	
		Total \$	Shltr v. Patrol	Shelter	Patrol	Total Costs	
Animal Services Officer II	9.00	\$580,327	11% 89%	\$63,836	\$516,491	\$580,327	
Sheriff's Records Clerk II	4.00	\$221,834	87% 13%	\$192,996	\$28,838	\$221,834	
Business Services Manager	1.00	\$120,248	40% 60%	\$48,099	\$72,149	\$120,248	
Suprv Animal Services Officer	2.00	\$150,522	50% 50%	\$75,261	\$75,261	\$150,522	
Animal Care Technician	6.00	\$259,828	100% 0%	\$259,828	\$0	\$259,828	
Salary Savings		-\$14,482	50% 50%	-\$7,241	-\$7,241	-\$14,482	
Extra Help		\$0	100% 0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Overtime		\$68,503	0% 100%	\$0	\$68,503	\$68,503	
Benefit Cashout		\$4,000	33% 67%	\$1,320	\$2,680	\$4,000	
Salary Savings		\$0	0% 100%	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Workers Comp/Unemploy		\$90,891	50% 50%	\$45,446	\$45,446	\$90,891	
SALARIES & BENEFITS	22.00	\$1,481,671		\$679,544	\$802,127	\$1,481,671	
SERVICE, Supl, Other		\$604,486	70% 30%	\$423,140	\$181,346	\$604,486	
FIXED ASSETS		\$42,000	0% 100%	\$0	\$42,000	\$42,000	
Total		\$2,128,157		\$1,102,684	\$1,025,473	\$2,128,157	
REVENUES		-\$459,264				\$459,264	22%
FEES & CHARGES		-\$426,395	70% 30%	-\$298,477	-\$127,919	-\$426,395	
OTHER REVENUE		-\$4,000	100% 0%	-\$4,000	\$0	-\$4,000	
AFTER HOURS REIMB		-\$40,000	0% 100%	\$0	-\$40,000	-\$40,000	
OTHER COUNTY REV. ADJ		\$11,131			\$11,131	\$11,131	
NET PROGRAM COST		-\$1,668,893		\$800,208	\$868,685	\$1,668,893	
NET PROGRAM PERCENTAGE				48%	52%		78%

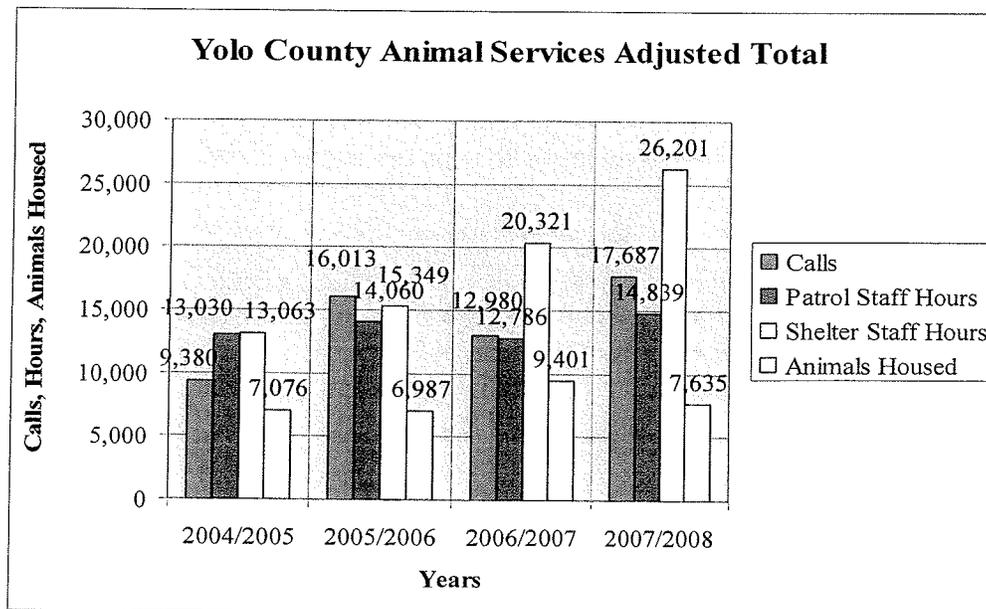
Change FY 2009/10	\$31,049	\$67,064	\$29,448	\$96,512
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**Yolo County Animal Services
Purposed Contract Amounts FY 2009-10**

PROGRAM SOURCE OF FUNDS

Agency	12 hrs/7 days				Change Amount	% Increase/Decrease
	Agency Base Cost 2006-07	Agency Cost 2007-08	Agency Cost 2008-09	Purposed Agency Cost 2009-10		
Davis	\$151,356	\$186,272	\$211,126	\$172,086	-\$39,040	-18%
West Saramento	\$338,316	\$385,882	\$415,726	\$447,326	\$31,600	8%
Winters	\$51,303	\$49,842	\$43,825	\$50,969	\$7,144	16%
Woodland	\$387,436	\$461,942	\$534,038	\$572,948	\$38,910	7%
UC -Davis	\$13,310	\$14,854	\$16,251	\$17,326	\$1,075	7%
Yolo County	\$314,887	\$317,935	\$447,927	\$504,751	\$56,824	13%
Total	\$1,256,608	\$1,416,727	\$1,668,893	\$1,765,405	\$96,512	6%
Other Revenues	\$61,996	\$81,200	\$44,000	\$24,000	-\$20,000	-45%
Fees & Charges	\$329,614	\$333,000	\$415,264	\$479,220	\$63,956	15%
	\$1,648,218	\$1,830,927	\$2,128,157	\$2,268,625	\$140,468	7%

**Animal Services
Calls, Patrol Staff Hours, Shelter Staff Hours, and Animals Housed
Fiscal Years 2004/2005 to 2007/2008**



Yolo County Sheriff's Department Animal Services Statistics Fiscal Years 2004/2005 to 2007/2008

Table: Source Yolo County Sheriff's Animal Services

	Davis		Woodland		Winters		West Sacramento		UCD		Rural		County Total	Night Deposit	Adjusted Total
2004/2005															
Total Calls	1,664	17.7%	2,992	31.9%	283	3.0%	3,110	33.2%	87	0.9%	1,244	13.3%	9,380	n/a	9,38
Total Patrol Staff Hrs	1,842	14.1%	3,928	30.1%	598	4.6%	4,231	32.5%	188	1.4%	2,244	17.3%	13,030	n/a	13,03
Total Live Animals	320	5.8%	1,264	23.0%	246	4.5%	1,279	23.2%	27	0.5%	1,130	20.5%	4,266	1,236	5,50
Total Animals Housed	611	8.4%	2,112	29.0%	257	3.5%	1,548	21.2%	31	0.4%	1,281	17.6%	5,840	1,236	7,07
2005/2006															
Total Calls	2,345	14.6%	5,793	36.2%	409	2.6%	4,783	29.9%	135	0.8%	2,548	15.9%	16,013	n/a	16,01
Total Patrol Staff Hrs	2,008	14.3%	4,853	34.5%	339	2.4%	4,179	29.7%	150	1.1%	2,531	18.0%	14,060	n/a	14,06
Total Live Animals	558	9.3%	1,663	27.8%	250	4.4%	1,347	22.5%	22	0.4%	954	15.8%	4,794	1,187	5,98
Total Animals Housed	752	10.8%	2,145	30.7%	270	3.9%	1,549	22.2%	26	0.4%	1,058	15.0%	5,800	1,187	6,98
2006/2007															
Total Calls	1,759	13.6%	4,120	31.7%	331	2.6%	3,739	28.8%	12	0.1%	3,019	23.2%	12,980	n/a	12,98
Total Patrol Staff Hrs	1,183	9.3%	4,142	32.4%	265	2.1%	3,383	26.5%	57	0.4%	3,756	29.3%	12,786	n/a	12,78
Total Live Animals	658	9.6%	1,966	28.8%	193	2.8%	1,459	21.4%	12	0.2%	1,135	16.6%	5,510	1,320	6,83
Total Animals Housed	2,173*	23.1%	2,653	28.2%	215	2.3%	1,724	18.3%	14	0.2%	1,302	13.8%	8,081	1,320	9,40
2007/2008															
Total Calls	1,658	9.4%	5,181	29.3%	384	2.2%	4,293	24.2%	80	0.5%	6,091	34.4%	17,687	n/a	17,68
Total Patrol Staff Hrs	1,391	9.4%	4,347	29.3%	322	2.2%	3,602	24.2%	67	0.5%	5,110	34.4%	14,839	n/a	14,83
Total Live Animals	575	9.5%	2,024	33.4%	205	3.4%	1,500	24.7%	7	0.1%	1,038	17.1%	5,349	719	6,06
Total Animals Housed	716	9.4%	2,419	31.7%	224	2.9%	1,693	22.2%	7	0.1%	1,281	16.7%	6,340	1,295	7,63

*Increase City of Davis Petco deceased animals Reg. 658 and Petco 1,515

Animal Services Contracts Revenue and Other Revenue Fiscal Years 2006/2007 to 2008/2009

Tables: Source Yolo CAO contract estimates worksheets, agencies contracts and animal services billings

Agencies	Contract	Increase	%	Contract	Increase	%	Contract	Increase	%	Contract
	2006/2007	(Decrease)		2007/2008	(Decrease)		2008/2009	(Decrease)		2009/2010
Davis	\$151,356	\$34,916	23%	\$186,272	\$24,854	13%	\$211,126	(\$39,040)	-18%	\$172,086
W. Sacramento	\$338,316	\$47,566	14%	\$385,882	\$29,844	8%	\$415,726	\$31,600	8%	\$447,326
Winters	\$51,303	(\$1,461)	-3%	\$49,842	(\$6,017)	12%	\$43,825	\$7,144	16%	\$50,969
Woodland	\$387,436	\$74,506	19%	\$461,942	\$72,096	16%	\$534,038	\$38,910	7%	\$572,948
UC Davis	\$13,310	\$1,544	12%	\$14,854	\$1,397	9%	\$16,251	\$1,075	7%	\$17,326
Agencies	\$941,721	\$157,071		\$1,098,792	\$122,174		\$1,220,966	\$39,689		\$1,260,655
County	\$314,887	\$3,048	1%	\$317,935	\$129,992	41%	\$447,927	\$56,824	13%	\$504,751
Other & County	\$391,610	\$22,590		\$414,200	\$45,064		\$459,264	\$43,955		\$503,219
Total	\$1,648,218	\$182,709		\$1,830,927	\$297,230		\$2,128,157	\$140,468		\$2,268,625

**Animal Services 280-1
for 2009-2010 County Budget**

Account	Classification	Actual 06/07	Budget 07/08	Actual 07/08	CY 08/09	BY 09/10	Difference BY - CY	Comments
861101	Regular Salaries	659,960	799,025	798,486	862,679	949,676	86,997	Salary Savings
861102	Extra Help	89,909	50,000	101,980	-	-	-	Eliminated extra help and use inmates fy2008
861103	Overtime	72,436	60,000	70,847	60,000	60,000	-	
861104	Standby	7,096	10,000	8,833	10,000	10,000	-	
861105	Shift Diff	152	902	253	902	902	-	
861106	Bilingual	376	1,788	-	1,000	1,000	-	
861107	Payoff/Vac Buy	3,446	3,500	3,726	4,000	4,000	-	
861201	Co Cont Retire Sys	116,640	134,807	139,663	159,429	182,744	23,315	
861202	Co Cont O.A.S.D.I.	51,987	51,489	61,255	60,900	64,673	3,773	
861203	Co Cont Medicare Tax	12,158	12,044	14,326	14,241	15,166	925	
861300	Co Cont EMP. Group Ins	102,746	119,152	164,996	182,755	201,563	18,808	
861400	Unemployment Ins	3,237	2,911	3,142	3,204	3,300	96	3% increase over prior year budget
861500	Workers Comp. Insur	108,935	76,549	76,410	77,938	80,276	2,338	3% increase over prior year budget
861600	Management Benefits	37,560	31,919	41,971	44,623	46,763	2,140	
	Salaries & Benefits	1,266,637	1,354,086	1,485,889	1,481,671	1,620,063	138,392	9.34%
862010	Agricultural Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-	
862050	Clothing	14,258	13,699	14,897	15,800	15,800	-	
862090	Communications	15,499	16,044	16,151	16,044	16,636	592	Additional cost 3% increase
862130	Food	-	-	75	-	-	-	
862170	Household	26,805	28,183	20,775	29,000	29,000	-	
862171	Household Exp - Contracts (Opt)	-	-	749	-	-	-	
862202	Public Liability	10,457	-	29,062	29,643	29,934	291	CAO additional cost 3% increase
862271	Maint of Equip	22,573	15,000	20,324	24,700	24,700	-	7.3k Form B & 2.4k mobile support 6B
862272	Maint of Bldgs/Improv	5,899	18,000	4,070	11,000	11,000	-	
862277	Maint - Vehicle O&M	-	-	-	-	-	-	
862300	Med, Dental, & Lab Sup	35,482	40,000	43,809	43,000	52,000	9,000	micro chips for animals adopted
862330	Memberships	404	400	594	1,050	1,050	-	
862361	Misc Exp - CC Service Charges	-	-	975	-	-	-	
862365	Cash Shortage	-	100	-	100	100	-	
862390	Office Expense	9,533	7,392	9,542	9,200	9,787	587	Additional cost 3% increase
862391	Office Expense - Postage	15,079	14,387	17,621	15,000	10,650	(4,350)	Licensed billing to postcards from .42 to .27
862392	Office Expense - Printing	2,043	5,112	7,810	2,500	2,500	-	
862420	Ind Cost/ Admin A-87	-	-	-	-	-	-	
862422	Information Technology Service	13,789	13,856	14,134	11,002	14,558	3,556	Additional cost 3% increase
862425	Prof Medical Serv	1,097	17,508	-	5,000	5,000	-	
862429	Prof Spec Serv	88,560	138,061	141,804	226,000	226,000	-	75k, 75k, 22k, 50k 4k Contracts Vets
862491	Rents/Leases-Equip	1,542	3,434	358	2,000	2,000	-	
862493	Computer Leases-WB	-	-	-	-	-	-	
862520	Small Tools & Equip	44,354	34,937	19,255	36,600	36,600	-	3 Desktop computers Form6A
862548	Training Expense	2,822	2,575	3,329	3,500	5,000	1,500	
862552	Law Enforce Supply	959	1,950	1,753	2,000	2,000	-	
862553	Books & Periodicals	-	-	-	-	-	-	
862559	Spec Dept Exp - Other	20,173	25,075	23,297	30,000	30,000	-	Animal Shelter Food & Supplies
862610	Transportation/Travel	4,033	1,288	2,129	5,000	5,000	-	
862613	Vehicle Fuel - Only	54,678	53,513	60,364	55,000	55,000	-	remain the same
862614	Veh Repl Charge	-	-	-	29,047	29,918	871	CAO additional cost 3% increase
	Services & Supplies	390,039	450,514	452,876	602,186	614,233	12,047	2.00%
863102	Payment To Other Govt Instit	-	-	22,193	-	-	-	
863360	Capital Lease Payments	1,740	-	1,872	1,900	1,928	28	Copier
863500	Interest Exp Long Term Debt	342	-	210	400	400	-	
	Other Charges	2,082	-	24,275	2,300	2,328	28	
864200	Bldgs & Improve	17,913	-	-	-	-	-	
	Fixed Assets-Structures	17,913	-	-	-	-	-	
864300	Equipment	-	5,000	-	15,000	5,000	(10,000)	Equipment for vehicle
864311	Equipment - Software	-	-	-	-	-	-	
864310	Equipment - Vehicle	117,057	99,400	105,533	27,000	27,000	-	1 Ford F250 Ext Cab & Chassie w/8'bed
	Fixed Assets	117,057	104,400	105,533	42,000	32,000	(10,000)	
866100	Operating Trans Out	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Operating Trans Out	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Expenditures	1,793,728	1,909,000	2,068,572	2,128,157	2,268,625	140,467	6.60%
822100	Animal Licenses	211,709	209,000	204,229	235,000	279,000	44,000	
822200	Business Lic - Kennels	1,600	2,000	1,400	2,700	2,700	-	(remain same)
826240	Humane Services	122,653	122,000	128,567	176,495	185,320	8,825	
826250	Law Enforcement Serv	927,633	1,176,402	1,109,238	1,220,966	1,280,599	59,633	City Contracts increase & 20K in call-out fees
826399	Other - Other	390	700	6,691	700	700	-	
827600	Other Sales	24	-	175	-	-	-	
	Fees & Charges	1,264,008	1,510,102	1,450,300	1,635,861	1,748,319	112,458	Cost Study - Fee Increases effective 11/01/2008
825800	Other Gov't Agencies	-	-	(3,818)	-	-	-	
825812	Other Gov't Agencies - Yolo	436,605	317,935	343,707	411,333	439,343	28,010	Gen Fund obligation \$504,806 less SB90 \$65,463
	Intergovernmental	436,605	317,935	339,889	411,333	439,343	28,010	
824199	Investment Earn - Restricted	6,057	4,500	6,558	4,500	4,500	-	
825460	State Disaster	-	-	-	-	-	-	
825630	Federal Disaster	-	-	-	-	-	-	
825502	State Mandated Cost	64,010	65,463	234,967	65,463	65,463	-	Anticipate receiving SB90 fund 65k FY0910
827700	Other Income	4,065	4,000	7,219	4,000	4,000	-	
827705	Stale Dated Warrants	-	-	-	-	-	-	
827715	Donations	8,482	7,000	9,640	7,000	7,000	-	
827725	Empl Reimb - Jury Duty	-	-	-	-	-	-	
827730	Seized Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	
827745	Unclaimed Property (Trust)	10,500	-	20,000	-	-	-	
	Other	93,115	80,963	278,384	80,963	80,963	-	
	Revenue	1,793,728	1,909,000	2,068,573	2,128,157	2,268,625	140,468	6.60%

**Animal Services Budget Increases
Four Years Budget 2006/07 - Purposed 2009/10**

Budget Category	Budget 2006/2007	Budget 2007/2008	Budget 2008/2009	Purposed Budget 2009/2010	Change	% Change
APPROPRIATIONS						
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,318,078	\$1,354,086	\$1,481,671	\$1,620,063	\$138,392	9.34%
Services & Supplies	\$366,114	\$450,514	\$602,186	\$614,234	\$12,048	2.00%
Other Charges	\$2,429	\$0	\$2,300	\$2,328	\$28	1.23%
Fixed Assets-Equipment	\$105,000	\$104,400	\$42,000	\$32,000	(\$10,000)	-23.81%
Total Appropriations:	\$1,791,621	\$1,909,000	\$2,128,157	\$2,268,625	\$140,468	6.60%
REVENUES						
Fees & Charges	\$329,614	\$343,200	\$237,700	\$281,700	\$44,000	18.51%
Local Government Agencies	\$1,124,812	\$1,176,402	\$1,220,966	\$1,280,599	\$59,633	4.88%
Other Revenue	\$61,966	\$71,463	\$258,158	\$266,983	\$8,825	3.42%
General Fund	\$275,229	\$317,935	\$317,935	\$439,343	\$121,408	38.19%
General Fund - Other			\$93,398	\$0	(\$93,398)	-100.00%
Total Revenues:	\$1,791,621	\$1,909,000	\$2,128,157	\$2,268,625	\$140,468	6.60%
POSITIONS (FTE)				22		
Increase		\$117,379	\$219,157	\$140,468		
Increase percentage		6.55%	11.48%	6.60%		

Animal Services Budget Increases

Account	BY 2006/2007	BY 2007/2008	Increase	FY 2007/2008
	1,318,078	1,354,086	\$36,008	Salaries & Benefits
862272	5,899	18,000	\$12,101	Maint. Building
862300	35,482	40,000	\$4,518	Med. Dental & Lab- Butler Animal Health Supp and Merial LLC
862425	1,097	17,508	\$16,411	Prof Medical Serv- Animal Wellness
862429	88,560	138,061	\$49,501	Prof Spec. Serv 1/2 year vet contract \$50,000
862559	20,173	25,075	\$4,902	Spec Dept Exp Other- Hill's Pet, Snap Logistics, and C-Specialties
			\$123,441	

Account	BY 2007/2008	BY 2008/2009	Increase	FY 2008/2009
	1,354,086	1,485,889	\$131,803	Salaries & Benefits
862202	-	29,643	\$29,643	Public Liability Insurance
862271	15,000	24,700	\$9,700	Maint Equip- Vehicle Maint.
862300	40,000	43,000	\$3,000	Med. Dental & Lab
862429	138,061	226,000	87,939	Prof Spec Serv full year vet contracts \$75,000, UCD Srvs
862614	-	29,047	\$29,047	Veh Repl Charge / Fleet Maint Program
			\$291,132	

Account	BY 2008/2009	BY 2009/2010	Increase	FY 2009/2010
	1,485,889	1,620,063	\$134,174	Salaries & Benefits
862300	43,000	52,000	\$9,000	Med. Dental & Lab - Micochips
862422	11,002	14,558	\$3,556	Information Technology Service
862548	3,500	5,000	\$1,500	Training
			\$148,230	

**Sheriff-Coroner Animal Services
Discussion Topics
December 3, 2008**

This meeting is to discuss methods to contain cost increases in future years. Several actions have already been taken that will reduce cost in future years. These actions include:

- ▶ Returning to the use of inmates to assist with animal care at the shelter. This action eliminated \$50,000 from the personnel budget for “extra help.”
- ▶ The purchase of the last replacement “box” (the compartment installed on a truck body to transport animals) was made in FY 2007-2008. The replacement boxes were made of stainless steel and expected to last longer than the three rotations the previous boxes did thus reducing vehicle and equipment replacement for FY 2007-2008 by \$80,000.
- ▶ Enhanced software which has an address verification component to more accurately account for the responsible jurisdictions.
- ▶ Prepared an updated fee schedule and purposed new Non Standard Call Out hourly rate of \$59.00.

Other measurements to help provide better animal services and contain cost will be implemented include:

- ▶ Public education to increase licensing, vaccinations, and responsible pet ownership.
- ▶ Conduct a cooperative staff study of rate of animals services comparing each agency.
- ▶ Discuss with partner agencies a fee recovery target for animal control services.
- ▶ Research other methods to increase animal services cost recovery.
- ▶ Increase the use of microchip implants in recovered animals to reduce recidivism.
- ▶ Hold pre-budget meetings with partners to identify service initiatives and reductions to insure delivery of needed services and control costs.
- ▶ Be proactive in sharing information with partner agencies to keep them informed about any changes that affect contracted services and costs.
- ▶ Discuss future contract options.



WOODLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

Date: January 12, 2009

To: Chief of Police Carey Sullivan

From: Lieutenant Charles E. Wilts

Re: Animal Services – Potential Cost Saving Strategies

Background:

The City of Woodland has contracted with the County of Yolo for animal control and animal sheltering services for over a decade. All of the other municipal jurisdictions within the County also contract for these services. The contracts between the County and Cities all contain the same terms and conditions. The individual jurisdiction's cost for services are determined by the percentage of total services (Field and Shelter) the jurisdiction requires to fulfill the contract obligations.

In the case of Field Services, time spent by personnel in delivering services is divided by the number of calls for service. This produces a percentage of operational demand generated by the agency. The calls for service are collected from two separate systems. CAD is used to collect calls when the officers are dispatched. These are then transferred to the internal tracking software (Chameleon). Chameleon is also used to collect data entered by the field officers documenting both their dispatched and non-dispatched activities. Self reported activities not connected to a field response are classified as "Service and Maintenance" calls.

In the case of shelter services the number of live animals sheltered by each jurisdiction is divided by the total live animals sheltered to determine a percentage of animals sheltered by the jurisdiction. This percentage is then applied to the total cost of Sheltering determining the jurisdictions cost.

A jurisdictions' total cost is then calculated by the sum of the representative percentage costs for each of these separate operations, Field and Shelter.

The jurisdictions currently contracting with Yolo County for Animal Services under the above stated formula are the cities of Woodland, West Sacramento, Davis and Winters. The University of Davis is charged a flat rate percentage increase based upon the prior years cost. This formula was established by the County due to the low volume of animals generated by the University.

Data Collection and Analysis:

The County relies upon two sources of data to determine jurisdictional distribution of cost. These are CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) and their internal data base Chameleon. Both of these systems have limitations on their stand alone reporting capabilities. The Data used for

this study were reports produced by Yolo County Animal Services drawing information from these systems.

Patrol – Field Services:

CAD has a very limited search capability and because the classification of animal control related calls is very broad only a limited analysis of these calls is possible. There are only seven call types used to classify all animal control calls. The majority of the calls are classified in two call types, ANI-1 a priority call and ANI-2 a non-priority call. These categories accounted for 2,767 or 98% of all the animal control calls entered into the CAD system for Woodland in 07/08. In addition to the dispatched calls 2,283 Service and Maintenance calls were tracked in the Chameleon system as generated by the City of Woodland. These Service and Maintenance calls accounted for 44% of all the calls used to determine Woodland's percentage of field services.

Shelter Services:

As stated earlier, contract cost is based upon the number of total shelter hours apportioned to each live animal linked to a jurisdiction. Tracking of animals processed in the shelter is done through the Chameleon database. This system allows for a greater degree of analysis but is still limited in its capabilities. Animal Control Services provided intake data for the fiscal years 06/07 and 07/08 as well as first quarter 08/09, in the form of Chameleon reports. These reports differentiate animal types into cat, dog and other (includes wildlife). The categories of Stray, Owner Surrender, Euthanasia Request and Wildlife account for the largest portion of the live animals processed through the shelter. Owner Surrender and Euthanasia Request are almost all over the counter transactions in which the owner brings the animal to the shelter. Effective July 2008 the night drop at the animal shelter has been closed. This operational change has resulted in eliminating animals being legally, anonymously left at the shelter. Any person leaving an animal at the shelter as an OTC transaction must present some type of identification which indicates their residence address and the source of the animal. All animals which are classified as Owner Surrender or Euthanasia Request are charged a fee for service. Persons bringing in stray animals are not assessed a fee.

Information provided by Animal Services does indicate Woodland as having more animals processed through the shelter than any other participating jurisdiction. A closer examination of the data shows Woodland has consistently accounted for more than 50% of all the OTC animal transactions at the shelter. (06/07 1145 animals 50.1%, 07/08 1155 animals 54.6%, 08/09 1st qtr 374 animals 51.9%) Of these OTC transactions by Woodland over 50% have been cats. Although one could question the validity of Woodland as the source of all these animals it is highly unlikely a significant percentage of these animals have been miss-identified due to the Shelter policy as stated above. Additionally there is no financial incentive to miss-identify the source of the animal. It is therefore difficult to believe animals sheltered as OTC transactions are being inaccurately recorded. Recently the County has incorporated a GEO validating system in their software which eliminates miscoding at the time of data entry.

Cost Reduction:

Cost reduction strategies face a significant implementation challenge inasmuch as the County is currently unwilling to customize its operations to any one jurisdiction. Any changes in policies effecting field services, shelter operations or animal regulations/licensing would require the willing participation of all contract jurisdictions.

In reviewing the call for service data provided by the County it would appear a disproportionate number of non-service calls are being charged to Woodland. These are in particular meal breaks, briefings, shift prep, fueling and servicing of vehicles. A realignment

of the accounting of these calls should directly benefit the City of Woodland and distribute these activities more equitably. I have discussed this service tracking/accounting with Sheriff's Department personnel and they have agreed to proportionately redistribute all Service and Maintenance activities which cannot be specifically link to an individual jurisdiction. It is currently unknown what the financial contract impacts will be for Woodland. It is possible we will experience a reduction in Field Services costs.

The only way to reduce the base cost of Field Services would be to across the board reduce the availability of animal control officers. A change from the current 12 hour per day seven days a week coverage to 8 hours per day five days a week would allow for the reduction in staff of approximately 3 personnel. This would result in an increase in overtime charges, but would be unlikely to exceed the overall savings. As stated earlier this would have to be a contractual change agreed upon by all agencies. Currently there is no group interest in making this change.

As a reduction in service approach the City could opt to not contract with the County for these services and field its own animal control officers. This approach was considered last fiscal year and has both positive and negative implications. On the positive side this would give us the ability to give more direction to the activities of the Animal Control Officers. Once in place and fully operational it may be less costly as a stand alone program than what we currently pay the County. It would also give us greater ability to manage cost increases associated with the program. On the negative side we would still be contracting with the County for sheltering services the terms and conditions of which may present other additional costs not currently a part of our sheltering agreement. Operationally the County has already indicated they would institute some type of animal screening process before animals could be placed at the shelter. This means we would be incurring veterinary costs already a part of the current contract. Initiation of a City Animal Control Officer program would involve significant direct cost associated with program start up. These would include recruiting, hiring, training and equipment purchases in addition to ongoing program support. Indirect costs of supervision and management would also be present. A temporary sheltering facility to hold animals collected after shelter hours would need to be established. The handling of pet animals is a very sensitive topic, any program developed to assume field services needs to assure the animals will be properly handled and cared for, meeting all current industry standards for animal services. This approach also has supervisory and managerial impacts on the department responsible for its operation.

In reviewing the Call for Service data it was evident the animal control officers are responding to significant number of "roaming", "barking" and "noise" animal complaints. Shifting these calls from Animal Control to the Police Department would result in an approximately a 19% reduction in Animal Service Calls. (07/08 call data). This could be accomplished through a voice message on the Animal Control phone number and adjusting our dispatching guidelines and agreement with YECA. This would result in a proportionately small increase in Dispatch costs but more importantly would divert limited police resources to non-crime related activities. Because of this we do not see this as a recommended service reduction strategy.

Both animal sheltering services and field services are directly impacted by the number of animals coming into contact with animal control. This may sound like a rather simple and rhetorical statement but it sets the necessary premise for reducing animal control cost. The driving force behind Animal Services costs are people's attitudes about and willingness to be responsible pet owners. Uncontrolled, unwanted pet (mostly cats and dogs) overpopulation must be addressed. Programs providing consequences which are incentives for responsible ownership are most likely to be sustainable and have a longer term effect on reducing pet

populations. Along with these programs there is the need to institute regulatory measures to track, monitor and encourage responsible pet ownership.

Numerically cats are the largest segment of animals likely to enter the shelter. In the fiscal years 06/07 and 07/08 they exceeded 50% of animals processed by the shelter. In the first quarter of 08/09 they exceeded 60%. Woodland's contribution to these numbers mirrored these percentages. Cats being much more difficult to confine are more likely to be bred indiscriminately if not spayed or neutered. A licensing system including both cats and dogs, with a tiered fee schedule providing lower fees for altered animals would encourage cat owners to have their pets spayed or neutered. It would also produce a revenue stream which would offset animal services related to cats. Including cats in a licensing program would require amending the current County Animal Control Ordinance and would most likely need the support of all the Cities. There is not currently a strong group interest in cat licensing.

The cost of spaying and neutering can be a significant disincentive to pet owners who otherwise see these procedures as part of responsible pet ownership. A phone survey of three local veterinary clinics for spay and neuter services showed the average costs for these services to be: Cat – spay \$205, neuter \$141; Dog (under 50 lbs.) – spay \$270, neuter \$227. In many cases this amount exceeds the cost of the initial purchase of the pet. Instituting subsidized spay and neuter programs would provide a significant incentive for owners to alter their animals, ultimately resulting in a reduced unwanted pet population. This approach may initially increase rather than reduce current program costs and would take several years before overall sheltering services would see a decrease in animal numbers. The money spent in this program to offset altering cost for owners would be expected to have a proportionate effect on the rate of decrease in animal numbers. Implementation of a voucher or rebate system would facilitate a relatively short start up period for such a program. Low cost spay and neuter programs are strongly supported by animal advocacy groups. These programs are also often eligible for grant funding from private sources. Information gathered by groups promoting no-kill sheltering claim it is possible to see a 70% reduction in shelter populations within five years of establishing such programs. There are currently no low cost spay and neuter clinics or programs in Yolo County.

In discussions with Animal Services personnel there was a strong interest in exploring and developing low cost spay and neuter programs in Yolo County as a whole. To this end we have committed to work collectively with Animal Control Service to develop County wide support and exploration of these programs. Although it may take some time to see the benefits of these efforts they have the greatest potential for an overall reduction in animal control related costs.

Although licensing does assist in identifying an animal's owner current technology provides for a much more efficient and reliable method. The procedure is commonly referred to as "chipping". A micro chip with information about the owners of the animal is referenced by way of a unique chip code. This number is linked to a computerized record providing the identity of the owner. The information is available to anyone with a micro-chip reader and a computer having internet access. When paired with licensing as a requirement for all cats and dogs this insures the owners of stray animals are readily identifiable and in cases of rabies control vaccination information can be located and verified. This also re-enforces the ownership commitment and responsibilities of pet owners. As with cat licensing this strategy would require changes to the current County ordinances and political support from the participating Cities. There is not currently a collective interest in mandatory micro-chipping.

Perhaps the most vital and most difficult barrier to limiting the unwanted pet population and therefore the demand for Animal Services is personal attitudes about pet animals and the

obligations ownership places on the pet owner. For a variety of reason a significant portion of the population may not view controlling indiscriminant pet breeding as an issue of concern. Some even go so far as to view spay and neutering as a negatively impacting the image they wish to project through pet ownership. In a recent conversation with Sheriff's Department Animal Services personnel, they commented how they had offered all of the school districts the opportunity to have Animal Services Officers make presentations on responsible pet ownership to students. Only the Davis school district took them up on the offer. This demographic aspect of each jurisdiction's population, although difficult to assess and measure, directly contributes to each jurisdiction's demand for animal services.

Revenue from fees assessed by Animal Control Services are currently pooled regardless of the jurisdiction from which they are generated. These are fees associated with activities such as licensing, animal surrender, euthanasia, animal redemption, boarding, quarantine, late licensing, animal pick up, adoption, spay and neutering. We have proposed to the Sheriff's Department there maybe more equity in a process which offsets individual contract cost in direct relation to any revenue an animal placed at the shelter from that jurisdiction might generate. The Sheriff's Department stated they would be willing to explore tracking revenue by jurisdiction but any cost associated with development and tracking would be passed along to the responsible jurisdiction. We are currently in the preliminary stages exploring this approach and it is unclear what financial impact this might have on future contract costs if implemented.

Licensing of animals as previously stated has many benefits. Although Animal Services estimates we have a County wide licensing rate of about 75% overall, this is most likely not true in each jurisdiction. Based upon vaccination reporting it would appear the City of Davis has a very high licensing compliance rate compared to other jurisdictions. Several initiatives could be undertaken to increase local compliance. A water bill insert encouraging licensing as well as spay and neutering in addition giving an overview of general pet regulations (leash law, requirements to pick up animal waste etc), could be done each year at a time to coincide with low cost vaccination services at the Animal Shelter. Additionally, although not taken on as a primary enforcement activity, Police Officers could in connection with other enforcement activities verify dog licensing and issue citations or make referrals to Animal Control for follow up.

As a final comment, it is hard to resist the desire to link the location of the Animal Shelter with the large number of animals attributed to Woodland. When considering the four major categories for sheltered animals, (Euthanasia, Owner Surrender, Stray and Wildlife), Woodland consistently is responsible for more than 50% of the total OTC animals. Although numerically consisting of many fewer animals, only Davis has the shared characteristic of a greater percentage of animals being brought to the shelter over the counter than collected in the field (06/07, 07/08, 1stQtr 08/09). The convenience of having the Animal Shelter located in Woodland may be a contributing factor we cannot mitigate.

I feel it is important to state, as a part of the process of gathering the information for this report, I have had to work with and relied on Sheriff's Department personnel, in particular Chief Animal Services Officer Vicki Fletcher and Captain Robin Faille for data and clarification on shelter and field operations. They have always been very open and receptive to discussing operations and potential cost savings strategies. At the same time it is my assessment there is not the organizational energy or resources within the Animal Services Operation to champion changes in animal regulations to require cat licensing, pet animal micro chipping or low cost spay and neutering initiatives. To move forward with these efforts they will need assistance from all the participating jurisdictions.