



Annual Internal Review

**This report covers the time period of 7/1/2017 to 6/30/2018
Animal Advisory Commission**

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) **is:** *The purpose of the board is to advise the City Council and the Travis County Commissioners Court on compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 823 (Animal Shelters);advise the city council on animal welfare policies and on budget priorities identified by the commission and the community, except on issues related to the administration of the Animal Services Department; Advise the Travis County Commissioners Court on animal welfare policies; promote collaboration between the City and private citizens, institutions, and agencies interested in or conducting activities relating to animal welfare in the city; identify proactive, creative approaches to engage and facilitate communication within the animal welfare community; and foster and assist the development of animal welfare programs in the community. The commission may study, advise, and report on policy recommendations it deems effective to promote animal welfare outcomes consistent with City goals and objectives as outlined by city council and the city manager.*

Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.

- Received quarterly reports from staff on issues directly related to Chapter 823 compliance at the Austin Animal Center and TLAC.
- Received monthly Animal Services Reports.
- Received monthly Austin Animal Center Reports.
- Provided a forum for public comment and discourse.
- Received briefing on dogs off leash in city parks and enforcement of leash laws from APD and PARD.
- Received briefing from Wildlife biologist doing a coyote study on City of Austin land. Study done in conjunction with Huston Tillotson University.

The commission created or carried over the following work groups;

- Animal enrichment workgroup
- Cat declawing stakeholders group

The Commission made the following recommendations to Council/Travis County;

- Recommendation to Travis County regarding wild animal acts at the Expo Center.
- Recommendations to Travis County regarding the contract with Texas Wildlife Services for coyote trapping.
- Letter of support for Austin Animal Center Management and Staff.
- Recommendation to Council in support of ASO 2018-2019 budget requests.
- Recommendation to council regarding animal protection at the Austin Animal Center.

- **Live Release rates;**
 - July 2017, 98%**
 - August 2017, 98.1%**
 - September 2017, 97.5%**
 - October 2017, 97.7%**
 - November 2017, 98.2%**
 - December 2017, 98.6%**
 - January 2018, 98.2%**
 - February 2018, 96.9%**
 - March 2018, 98%**
 - April 2018, 96.4%**
 - May 2018, 97.2%**
 - June 2018, 99%***

***June 2018 reflects the highest live release rate in the history of Austin Animal Center**

Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

Yes

List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

- Support staff in their efforts to maintain and improve No-Kill status at the Austin Animal Center. The Live Outcome rate at the Austin Animal Center for 2017 was 97 %
- Actively support Animal Services 2018/2019 budget requests to the city and Travis county including additional Animal Protection staff.
- Receive monthly Austin Animal Center reports.
- Receive monthly Animal Services Reports.
- Receive quarterly reports from Austin Animal Center staff on issues related to compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 823 at the Austin Animal Center.
- *Participate in the Chief Animal Services Officer hiring process as requested by the City Manager.

*This item was also included in the 2016-2017 internal review.

Respectfully submitted,

David Lundstedt

David Lundstedt, AAC Chair