

# December 2020

## ANIMAL SERVICES REPORT



### Animal Services News

- A total of 523 animals were adopted (242 dogs, 270 cats)
- A total of 107 dogs and cats were returned to their owners (RTOs).
- A total of 766 animals were brought to the shelter (506 stray, 196 owner surrender, 16 abandoned, 48 public assist).

### Animal Protection

- Animal Protection Officers (APOs) returned 78 animals to their owners in the field during the month of December.
- Officers handed out 36 fencing assistance applications, implanted 7 microchips and impounded 130 injured animals.
- Officers entered 203 rabies exposure reports and submitted 27 specimens for rabies testing. One bat and one raccoon tested positive for rabies.
- 112 total coyote related activities
  - 55 sightings
  - 33 wild sick reports of mange
  - 13 wild injures
  - 4 incidents involving a pet
  - 3 encounters involving a pet
  - 2 wild speaks
  - 1 observation
- Out of 112 coyote related activities, 55 fell within the reported behavior types (sighting, encounter, and incident).
- Incidents: Pets were a factor in 3 out of the 4 activities
  - 1 incident involved coyote injuring unattended dog, but was saved by owner.
  - 1 incident involved two coyotes chasing a dog up to a back door.
  - 1 incident involved a coyote with mange, growling at the caller.
  - 1 incident involved a coyote taking an unclaimed cat into the greenbelt
- Encounters: Pets were a factor in 2 out of the 3 activities
  - 2 encounters involved a coyote following a resident and their dog
  - 1 encounter involved a coyote approaching the caller aggressively.

### Volunteer, Foster and Rescue Programs

- A total of 81 volunteers donated 1,475 hours during December to cat kennel cleaning, socialization, dog walking, recovery, ringworm treatment, bed and toy



making and fostering.

- At the end of the month, the City of Austin moved to Stage 5 on the COVID Risk Based Guidelines and closed to the public. Fortunately, we were able to allow volunteers to continue their service to the shelter pets by walking dogs and helping with cat treatment and recovery. Without volunteer help, these services would otherwise have fallen on our limited staff. .
- Volunteers ensured a very merry Christmas for the shelter pets by handing out stockings to each and every animal, hanging it on their kennel and giving out Christmas treats on Christmas Eve.
- A total of 280 families provided foster care, and a total of 238 animals were adopted directly from foster care.
- There are 2343 approved fosters in GivePulse, and 146 new foster applications were processed.
- There are currently 322 animals in foster homes.
- 199 live outcomes were attributed to 23 AAC partners:
  - 61 cats
    - 28 to Spay-Neuter-Return program with Austin Humane Society (AHS)
    - 31 to Austin Pets Alive! (APA!), approximately 5 of which are neonatal kittens
    - 1 to small partners
  - 129 dogs
    - 62 to APA!, approximately 9 of which are neonatal puppies
    - 13 to AHS
    - 57 to Small partners
  - 10 Other Species
    - 9 rabbits for housing
    - 1 Guinea pig for housing
- Large partner engagement and pulls were down significantly in December compared to December 2019. Pulls decreased by 13 percent for APA! and 65 percent for AHS. Small partner dog pulls increased by 27 percent as compared to December 2019.
- In-person partner evaluations have been reinstated as of December, which allows partners the opportunity to evaluate animals onsite. The process was put on hold in March 2020 due to COVID.

