

# Council Committee Agenda Item Referral

Council Member or Executive Sponsor: **Mayor and Council**

**Description of Item:**

Discuss and obtain information and public input on strategies to reduce animal shelter intake.

**Actions taken to date:**

The City of Austin's City Council adopted the "No Kill Resolution" with the intent of ending the killing of healthy adoptable cats and dogs at the Animal Shelters. Recently Mayor and Council Offices have been getting calls regarding animal control issues, stating that both the new and old animal shelter are filled beyond capacity with stray and abandoned cats and dogs. Analysis of 3-1-1 data by City Council Districts show that animal issues are among key issues, especially in districts in East Austin. Some constituents are requesting consideration of a spay/neuter ordinance to manage the population of dogs and cats; while other constituents are concerned that such an ordinance would result in increased intakes at the animal shelters and undue burdens on people unable to afford spay/neuter services.

**NOTES:**

The following data and issues should be considered by the committee:

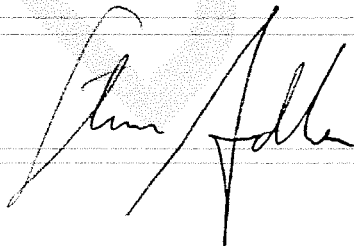
1. Current data on intakes at City of Austin's animal shelters and 3-1-1 calls related to animal issues (loose dogs, injured/sick animals, dead animal collection, animal control, and request for services).
2. City of Austin measures planned and taken to date to control the population of cats and dogs in Austin/Travis County, manage animal shelter intakes and adhere to the "No Kill Resolution".
3. The pros and cons of instituting a spay/neuter ordinance including enforceability and fiscal impacts.
4. The types of ordinances adopted by other communities such as (but not limited to) Waco and Los Angeles and associated impacts, i.e. animal shelter intakes, fiscal impact, enforceability challenges, and overall animal population control.

**Council Committee Assigned:**

- ☐ Audit and Finance  
☐ Austin Energy Oversight Committee  
☐ Economic Opportunity Committee  
☒ Health and Human Services Committee  
☐ Housing and Community Development Committee

- ☐ Mobility Committee  
☐ Open Space, Environment and Sustainability Committee  
☐ Planning and Neighborhoods Committee  
☐ Public Safety Committee  
☐ Public Utilities Committee

Mayor Signature & Date:



8/3/15