

## **Item 4 - Letter to Austin CM and CFO concerning SD28**

Dear City Manager Spencer Cronk and Chief Financial Officer Ed Van Eenoo:

We recommend that the City of Austin include information about our many programs for Austin citizens and their companion animals, as well as all of Austin's valuable and iconic wildlife, in the upcoming Strategic Development 28 Plan (SD28).

The Animal Advisory Commission, as well as Austin Animal Center leadership and staff, were disappointed when no mention was made of Austin's many programs for helping Austin's animals in the last Strategic Development Plan. There is a tremendous amount of hard work done every day of the year for the animals of Austin by Shelter Staff, supported by the hard work of many Austin citizens who volunteer their time and donate their money to help make the lives of Austin's companion and wild animals better. This extends out to our many Austin governmental organizations, such as APD, and all of our partner non-profits, all of whom contribute to our goal of the best No-Kill Shelter in the world.

It is an unfortunate omission that such hard work on such an important City function is lacking from a Strategic Plan for our City. Animals are family to many Austin residents, and to others, Austin's wildlife is simply a part of home. Let us be more inclusive in the upcoming Austin Strategic Plan!

Thank you for your attention to this matter.