



## News from: Oakland Animal Services

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2014

#### Oakland Animal Services Launches Home for the Holidays Campaign

*Shelter offers free pet adoptions this December, invites the public to a holiday open house with new Director, Saturday December 20*

*Oakland, CA — Oakland Animal Services has launched the **Home for the Holidays** campaign to spur more adoptions, and to welcome the community to Oakland Animal Services. The shelter will waive all adoption fees, starting Saturday, December 13. Healthy dogs, cats and rabbits will be free to qualified homes\* through January 1, 2015, and can go to their new homes once they are spayed or neutered.*

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Members of the public and the media are invited to a special **Holiday Open House at the shelter, Saturday December 20** from 1 until 4 p.m. This is a chance to meet adoptable animals and the shelter's new director as well as the incredible staff and volunteers at OAS, and enjoy homemade holiday baked goods, music, and a festive family photo booth. Members of the public are also encouraged to bring an approved toy to donate to the shelter pets as a special holiday gift.

The Shelter's new director, Rebecca Katz, arrived in her role on November 17, 2014. Effective January 2, 2015, the shelter will be transferred from the Oakland Police Department to the Office of the City Administrator. Katz and her team will be implementing several policy changes, and plan to expand the skeleton staff. "Dedicated shelter staff and committed volunteers have done an amazing job caring for these animals and finding them homes with very few resources," explains Katz. "Next week we have several dozen dogs leaving on a plane to Idaho for new homes just in time for the holidays; the staff and volunteers are amazing advocates!"

"I'm thrilled to be in this new role," continues Katz. "I'm so excited about improving the lives of animals in our care—and all the animals in Oakland. OAS has some exciting changes and new programs in store for 2015."

Oakland Animal Services is located at 1101 29th Avenue in Oakland. The shelter is open Monday 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.; Tuesday 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.; Closed Wednesday; Thursday 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.; Friday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday Noon - 5 p.m. Photos of some of the shelter's adoptable animals can be viewed at:

<http://oaklandanimalservices.org/adopt/animal-list/>, but more are available, so come down in person to really see who's there!

\*Learn more about adoption qualifications at <http://oaklandanimalservices.org/adopt/how-to-adopt/>.

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