

**MEMORANDUM****TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL**FROM:** Interim Chief Sean Whent**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Oakland Animal Services
Director **DATE:** December 23, 2013

City Administrator

Date

Approval **/s/ Deanna J. Santana****12/23/13****INFORMATION**

I am pleased to announce Mr. Gary Hendel as the new Oakland Animal Services Director, effective January 6, 2014. Mr. Hendel comes to the City with over 19 years of experience in animal care services, having worked as a Director in variety of local governments, including: San Antonio, Texas; Washington County, Oregon; Montgomery County, Ohio; and, Multnomah County, Oregon. He also served as the Executive Director of the Maui Humane Society in Hawaii.

During his time as Director of Animal Care Services for the City of San Antonio, Mr. Hendel was responsible for the management of the San Antonio Animal Care Services, where he led a staff of 124 employees, 300 volunteers and managed a budget of just under \$10M. Some of his accomplishments during his time in San Antonio included developing a specialized animal court and a court diversion program for animal violations. Using a public input process, Mr. Hendel conducted an evaluation of city animal codes for the City Council's consideration.

In addition to his work at the Director level, Mr. Hendel also has experience in most areas of animal services, including adoption, kennel maintenance, and fundraising. Mr. Hendel will work collaboratively to care for Oakland's animals and to provide quality services at the shelter.

Mr. Hendel holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from St. Mary's College and an Associate's Degree in Fire Science from Chabot College.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Hendel on his appointment. I would like to thank David Cronin for assisting with this process and for serving as Interim Oakland Animal Services Director during this period of transition.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

SEAN WHENT

Interim Police Chief

Oakland Police Department