

Annual Management Report - 2009

Oakland Animal Services – Org 103130

1. **Staffing** (authorized versus actual, sworn and professional staff) This section details changes to staff and staffing challenges, i.e., long-term injury/illness absences, temporary reassignments, hiring freezes, promotions, retirements [(identify name, rank, years of service, and type of retirement (service or disability))].

Director: 1 FTE (New Director – Megan Webb began April 2009)
 Animal Control Officers: 8.5 FTE, 0.5 FTE vacancy, 3 FTE on injury
 Part Time ACO's: 1 Vacancy
 ACO Supervisor: 1 Vacancy (two ACO's are sharing Acting duties)
 Volunteer Manager: 1 Vacancy
 Police Record Specialists: 3 FTE
 Veterinary Technicians: 1.5 FTE, 0.5 Vacancy
 Veterinarians: 3 Part Time
 Animal Care Attendants: 12 Part Time

2. **Fiscal Management Report**
 (1 Jul 08-30 Jun 09)

Org 103130			
Appropriation Categories	FY08-09 Budget Appropriation	FY08-09 Actual Expenditures	Difference
Salaries/Personnel	\$ 1,983,745	\$ 1,990,356	\$ (6,611)
Overtime	\$ 121,606	\$ 90,929	\$ 30,677
O&M	\$ 216,822	\$ 204,842	\$ 11,980
Grants (Non GPF)	\$	\$	\$

- 3 **Training Received and/or Provided by Unit Personnel**

This section includes the subject of the training, number of persons trained, and the length of the training (in hours).

April 2009 – Child Protective Services, Mandated Reporters – 2 hours
 April 2009 - Use of Force, DC Eric Breshears – 2 hours
 April 2009: Webstaff – 2 hours
 April/May 2009 - Small Dog Temperament Testing, Adam Parascandola – 5 hours
 May 2009 – CAD Training, Ametrius Sidney – 2 hours
 May 2009: Investigations Basics – CID, Sergeant Robert Muniz – 1 hour
 May 2009 - Basics of Disease Transmission, Dr. Jyothi Robertson – 2 hours
 June 2009 - Radio – Protocols and Procedures, Willeen – 1 hour
 June 2009 – Basics of Bite Cases and Testifying at Hearings, Barb Killey – 2 hours
 July 2009: Driving Training, Officer John Mendez – 2 hours
 July 2009 – Cultural Diversity, Sergeant Eric Lewis – 3 hours
 Sept 2009 – Oakland Housing Authority, given by ACO Nicole Frede – 1 hour X 3
 Sept 2009 – Report Writing and Taking Statement, Sergeant James Bassett – 3 hours

Oct 2009 – Basics of LRMS, Cassandra Lane, 2 hours
Dec 2009 – SAFER Dog Aggression, SFSPCA, 8 hours

4. **Significant Accomplishments**

In 2009, Oakland Animal Services:

- Was featured in November 24, 2009 San Francisco Chronicle article with the headline: “Once-dismal shelter now called one of nation’s best....Now the shelter might rank among the top municipal shelters in the country, according to Maddie’s Fund, a nonprofit that tracks shelters nationwide.” <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/11/25/BABV1AILRA.DTL>
- Launched a newly designed website – www.oaklandanimalservices.org. This site is easier to navigate and features information about our services and highlights news, success stories and happy tails. OAS’s website is also integrated into OPD’s new site.
- Significantly improved the Potentially Dangerous / Vicious Dog process. Every Animal Control Officer is now assigned a case load of bite cases to follow from beginning to end. The ACO investigates the case, makes a recommendation for PDD/Vicious determination, notifies the owner and victim and attends/participates in a hearing if the owner contests the designation. Sergeant David Cronin now serves as the PDD/Vicious Hearing Officer.
- Trained ACO’s on writing crime reports, taking statements and using FBR. This has improved our ability to charge animal abuse/neglect cases;
- Worked closely with CID to charge four felony animal abuse/neglect cases:
 - i. Cock fighting. On Saturday, February 28, 2009, Oakland Police Department (OPD) raided an East Oakland warehouse where a cockfight was in progress with approximately 100 spectators. Oakland Police arrested 69 individuals, impounded five cars with roosters, seized \$4,400 in cash from the yard and from spectators, and gathered boxes of cockfighting paraphernalia. Oakland Animal Services handled the 118 birds found on the property, many of whom were severely injured or dead.

In May, OAS responded to another cock fighting call and euthanized over 100 roosters on scene. The owner of the fighting cocks participated in the February fight and this influence the prosecution of his case.

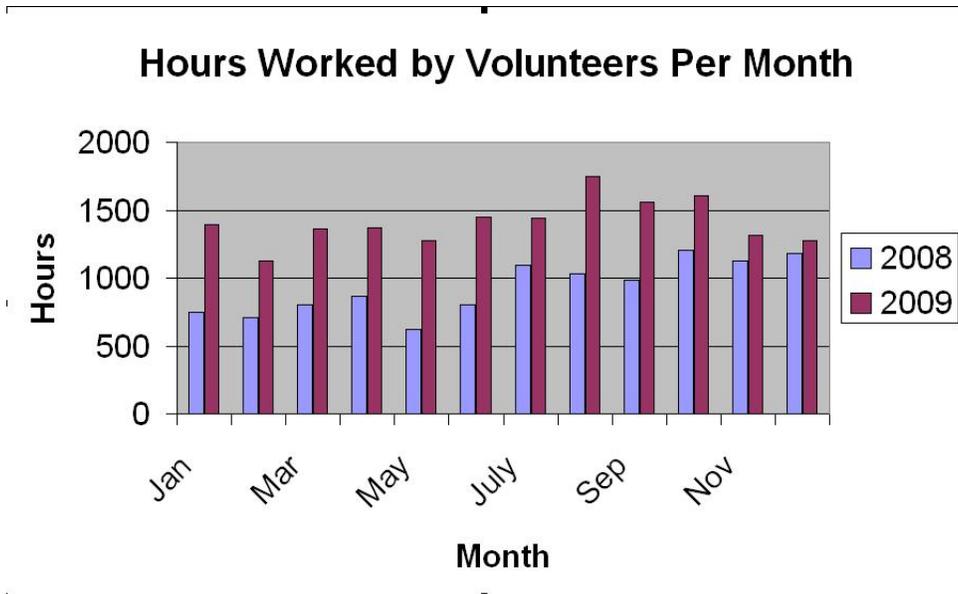




- ii. Oakland Animal Services investigated an 18-year-old man who was accused of having slashed the throat of his neighbor's cat on two separate occasions. He was charged with felony animal abuse.
 - iii. The Oakland Police Department arrested Kem Eap on February 20, 2009, for breaking both front legs of a four-month-old Pomeranian puppy. The Alameda County District Attorney's office has charged Eap with two felony counts of animal abuse.
 - iv. After months of joint investigation by the Oakland Police Department's Oakland Animal Services (OAS) and the Crime Investigation Division (CID), La Preda Thomas of Oakland was arraigned on Friday, October 9, on two felony counts of animal abuse charged by the Alameda County District Attorney's office. Thomas is accused of severely injuring more than 15 cats and kittens in incidents dating back to 2006. Thomas remains in custody awaiting a preliminary hearing.
- Oakland police responded to a call of two injured dogs on the side of the road on August 1st. When they arrived, one dog—a female, miniature pinscher—was dead, and a small male mixed breed dog, we named Little Lance, was lying on the ground severely injured and in pain. Neighbors in the area said they had heard several loud gunshots, a car door open, then a dog screaming, and the sound of a car racing off. A local resident stated that she went outside immediately after she heard the commotion and found the two dogs in the gutter. OAS garnered a large amount of local media attention about Little Lance's story and the community responded! \$10,000 reward fund was raised by community members/businesses for any information leading to the prosecution of the individual(s) involved in this case. Donations were also raised to pay for the major surgery and physical therapy Little Lance would need to repair his multiple broken bones. Little Lance has had surgery and has made a full recover. Little Lance was recently adopted.



- Created a phone hotline and an online form / database for dead animal removal calls. We now have a half time Animal Control Officer who is responsible for ensuring these calls are handled quickly.
- Increased the “live release rate” by 55% to 60%.
- Number of volunteer hours has grown significantly in 2009. Volunteers donated 11175 hours in 2008 and 16922 in 2009!



- Obtained funding for a marketing campaign on BART about the services provided by OAS:



RESCUE · ADOPT · EDUCATE

Make the world a better place, every day.



Oakland's Place for Animals

1101 29th Avenue, Oakland • OaklandAnimalServices.org

- Worked closely with UC Davis' Shelter Medicine program to make additions/improvements within the Shelter to improve the quality of care of the animals, decrease the incidence of illness among the population, and increase the movement of animals through the Shelter. For example:
 - i. The Coop – a large outdoor area for dogs
 - ii. Mini-Coop – an outdoor area for small dogs
 - iii. Euthanasia room – the Shelter's euthanasia room was moved to a much smaller area so that the old area can be converted to a veterinary area/surgery room.
 - iv. Runs – a local company donated the building of runs in our courtyard for animal exercise.
- Worked closely with UC Davis Veterinary Medicine program to provide dogs and cats to be spayed/neutered by their student veterinarians. We provide over ½ of the animals for this program. This program makes our animals more adoptable by making it possible for them to be spayed/neutered before they go into adoption and to have multiple veterinary exams to ensure they are healthy.
- Partnered with Oakland's historic Dunsmuir Mansion to participate in "Holidays at Dunsmuir" throughout December for OAS volunteers to show animals for adoption;

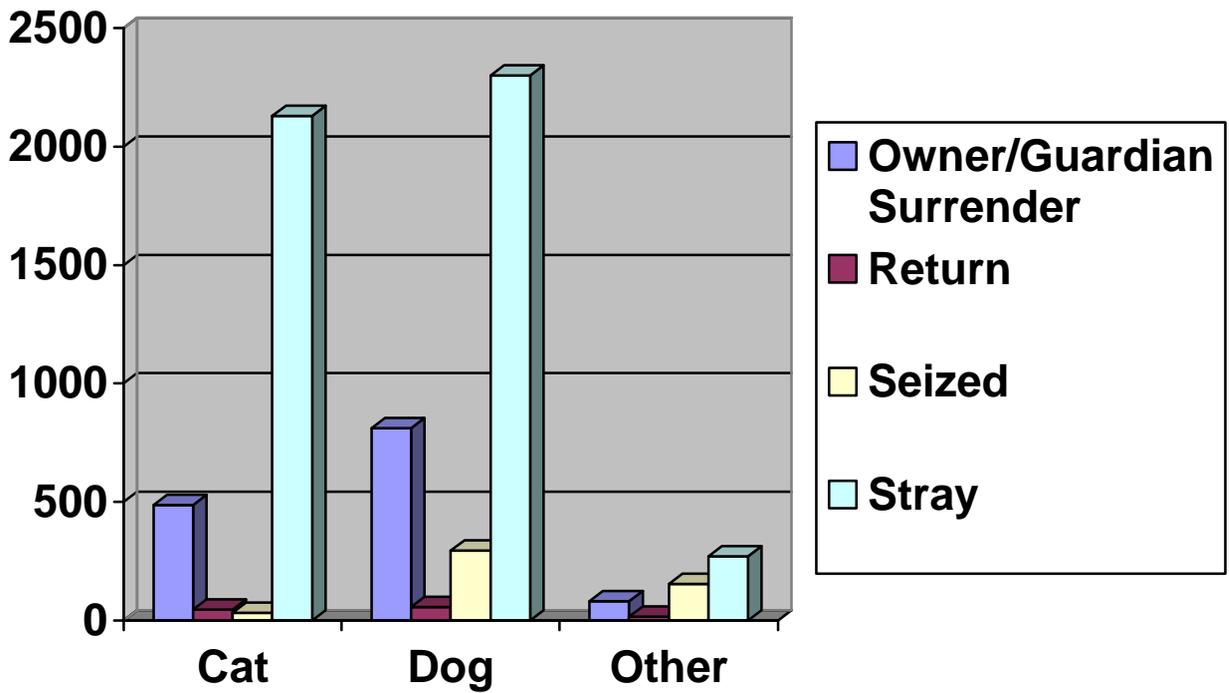


- Responded to the major increase in its small dog population. OAS' data from 1998-2006 shows that OAS' dog population was only about 1.5% chihuahuas during those years. This year, nearly 13% of OAS' dog population has been chihuahuas! We've also seen a large increase in the number of small dogs in the Shelter – they now comprise over 34% of the dog population at the Shelter. Whatever the reason, we now often have 75 small dogs in the Shelter at any given time! The Shelter was not designed for small dogs. We've had to make major changes in our dog housing to accommodate these little guys, such as converting an entire room of kennels for small dogs. We are also working with Shelters out of State who are willing to take some of our small dogs since they can place them quickly. In October, November, and December, we sent over 100 small dogs to Shelters in Arizona, Oregon and Washington.
- Received national attention for significant increase in its Chihuahua population – SF Chronicle Article, AP Article and Primetime Segment on OAS flying 35 small dogs to Denver, Colorado;



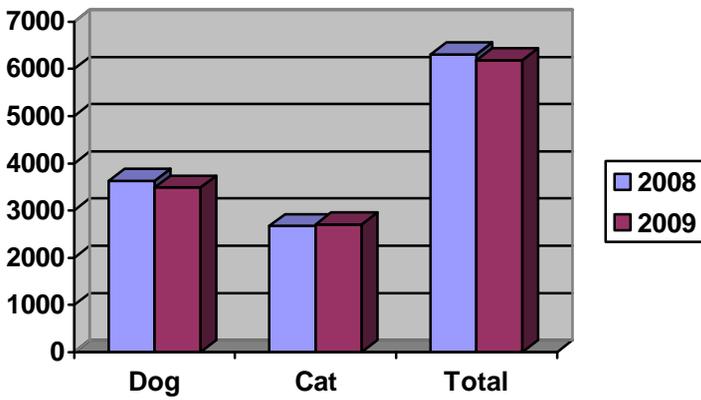
Productivity Performance Data This section contains specific unit-related output statistics, such as citations issued, vehicles towed, warrants cleared, arrests, and attendance at community meetings.

	Cat	Dog	Other	Total
Owner/Guardian Surrender	488	811	80	1379
Return	45	56	16	117
Seized	33	295	155	483
Stray	2130	2299	270	4699
Total	2707	3480	577	6764



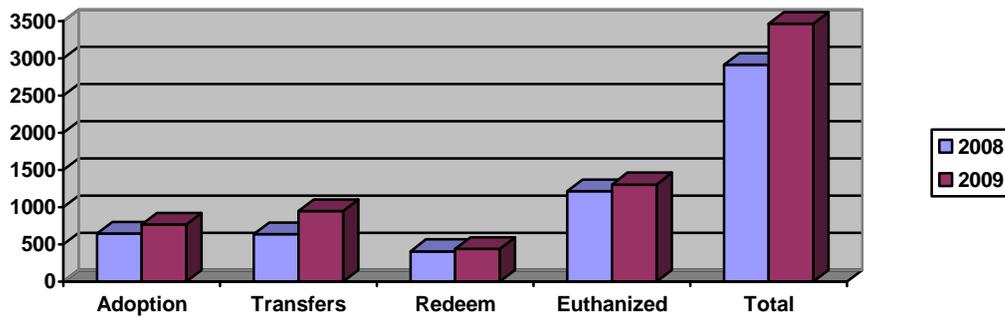
Animal Intake

	Dog	Cat	Total
2008	3633	2671	6304
2009	3485	2701	6186



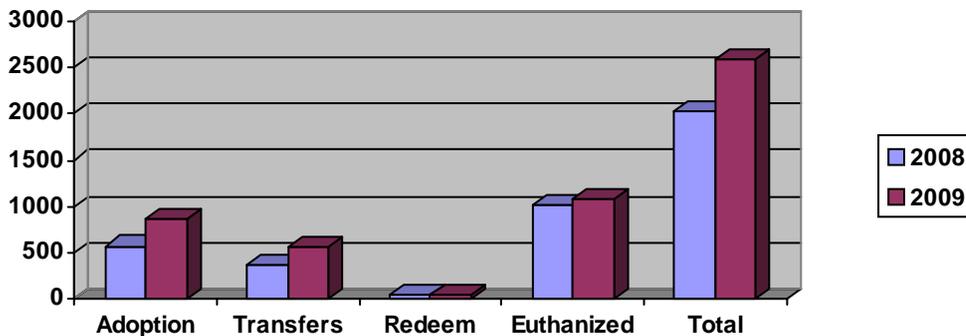
Dogs

	Adoption	Transfers	Redeem	Euthanized	Total
2008	649	640	409	1213	2911
2009	770	951	439	1306	3466



Cats

	Adoption	Transfers	Redeem	Euthanized	Total
2008	574	373	54	1024	2025
2009	872	566	55	1087	2580



7. **Plans, Expectations, and Goals** This section contains a narrative of the unit commander's current "State of the Unit," and his/her plans, expectations, and goals for the coming year.

In 2009, OAS will:

- Expand its ability to investigate and take both misdemeanor and felony animal abuse and neglect cases to the DA to be charged:
 - Meet with the City Attorney to identify evidence they will need to prosecute misdemeanor cases;
 - Work with OPD to implement additional training for ACO's on crime report writing and taking statements;
 - Work with UC Davis to give a training to ACO's on signs of animal abuse / cruelty;
 - Train all ACO's on using FBR;
 - Close the large number of cases in LRMS;
 - Determine a method to access CRIMS and other OPD tools at the Shelter.
- Provide training to other divisions of the OPD regarding animal laws:
 - Create a bulletin on identifying animal abuse/neglect and local/state animal laws, including laws against chaining;
 - Provide a training at OAS, including a tour of the Shelter, for OPD Sergeants.
- Expand our partnership with other OPD divisions to address serious animal related crimes that are often related to other serious crimes, such as gambling, guns and drugs:

- Provide training to POS's on dog and cock fighting.
- Work with the City Attorney to learn how to obtain search warrants for the many situations that we encounter that need warrants;
- Start up "stand by" for Animal Control Officers to handle serious animal cases at night so that patrol has more time to handle other calls;
 - Develop a budget plan for stand by to be reviewed by the Assistant Chief;
 - Create and distribute an information bulletin for when to "call out" Animal Control officers.
- Restructure the scheduling of ACO's and Animal Care Attendants to enable ACO's to be in the field more frequently
 - Train Animal Care Attendants to assist at the front counter and perform temperament testing;
 - Create a later shift for Animal Control Officers.
- Continue to train ACO's on a variety of topics, including:
 - Safe handling of dogs/cats and other animals;
 - Oakland wildlife – handling and exclusion;
 - Crime reports/statements
 - Local and state animal laws
- Continue to work on disaster preparedness:
 - Train all mentors on ICS 200/300
 - Obtain grants for, purchase and store disaster preparedness equipment;
 - Identify and create MOU's for community partners to help in a disaster;
 - Identify locations for emergency animal shelters.
- Expand relationships with local veterinarians:
 - Obtain rabies certificates from every local veterinary clinic every month;
 - Hold a meeting with all veterinarians in Oakland at OAS.
- Improve OAS' facility to improve the quality of life and efficiency of OAS' work:
 - Convert OAS' former euthanasia room into a new veterinary/surgery room;
 - Build a cover on the Coop;
 - Move the laundry room into the Sally Port.
- Increase OAS's live release rate from 57% to 65%
 - Research additional community organizations / shelters locally, regionally and out of the state to transfer animals to;
 - Recruit additional volunteers to take and post animals for adoption on the internet and to take to community events.
- Expand the volunteer program from 175 volunteers to 250 and 16000 hours / year to 200000 hours / year volunteered
 - Hire a full time volunteer manager;
 - Revise and improve the online and in person volunteer training program.

8. **Optional Information**

- San Francisco Chronicle Article
- Letter from Vector Control
- Postings on YELP
- "Happy Tails"