

# **City of Lubbock Animal Services**

# Current Issues

- Over population of domestic animals
- Over crowding of animals at the Shelter
- Euthanasia of healthy, unwanted animals

# **Options for Addressing Issues**

# Over population of domestic animals

- **Mandatory Spay/Neuter**
  - Some cities have instituted “mandatory” spay/neuter programs to help reduce the number of unwanted litters as a result of loose, unrestrained or stray dogs as well as free roaming cats.

# Mandatory Spay/Neuter

## Pros and Cons

### Pros

- Reduces the number of unwanted litters
- Reduces the number of euthanized animals by Animal Services
- Helps control roadside pet sales
- Reduces aggression in animals
- Promotes healthier and better tempered animals

# Mandatory Spay/Neuter Pros and Cons

## Cons

- Regulates responsible pet owners
- Mandates the manner of keeping pets
- Results in a one-time financial investment by the owner
- Enforcement by complaint or impoundment only

# Mandatory Spay/Neuter

## Cities with Mandatory Spay/Neuter

- Fort Worth, TX (Sec 6-22.1)
- Dallas, TX (Sec 7-42)
- Durango, CO (Sec 4-63)

# Mandatory Microchipping

## Pros

- Assists Animal Services in reuniting pets and owners
- Reduces euthanasia of healthy animals
- Assists owners in search of missing pets
- Allows Animal Services to recognize repeat "at-large" animal violations

# Mandatory Microchipping

## Cons

- Regulates responsible pet owners
- Mandates the manner of keeping pets
- Results in a one-time financial investment by the owner
- Enforcement by complaint or impoundment only

# Mandatory Microchipping

## Cities with Mandatory Microchipping

- Huntington Beach, CA
- Riverside, CA
- Laredo, TX
- Albuquerque, NM

# Private Pet Sales

- Litter permit
  - May require owners of animals who have new litters (10 days or less) to obtain a permit prior to selling
  - May limit the number of litters allowed per year
- Seller's permit
  - May require owners of litters to obtain a permit to sell, trade or give away pets
  - May require the pet owner to attend an educational course regarding pet ownership
  - May require owner to issue guarantee of "good health"

# Private Pet Sales

## Pros

- Allows the City of Lubbock to track litter sales/pet sales
- Over time, will reduce the number of unwanted litters by encouraging spay/neuter programs
- Over time, will reduce the number of animals euthanized by the City of Lubbock
- Helps control roadside pet sales

# Private Pet Sales

## Cons

- Regulates responsible pet owners
- Mandates the manner of keeping pets
- Results in a financial investment by the owner
- Enforcement by complaint or impoundment only

# 30-day Isolation Hold

Animal Service's goal is to place healthy, adoptable animals in adoption programs at the end of the Owner Redemption holding period.

# 30-day Isolation Hold

## Pros

- Increase animal health by more quickly placing animals in adoption homes
- Reduce the number of healthy animals euthanized by more quickly placing animals in adoption homes

# 30-day Isolation Hold

## Cons

- Potentially reduces reuniting of animals with original owners
- May result in an undetected sick animal being adopted

# Other Options

- Ban animal sales in the city
  - Austin, TX
  - San Francisco, CA
  - Albuquerque, NM
- Increased redemption fees for “unaltered” animals
  - Amarillo, TX
  - Corpus Christi, TX
- Increased Registration fees based on intact status
  - Dallas, TX

# Other Options

- Breeder's Permit/Intact Animal Permit
  - Pros
    - May limit the number of litters per year
    - Monitors the community for "puppy mills"
    - Over time, will reduce the number of unwanted litters by encouraging spay/neuter programs
    - Over time, will reduce the number of animals euthanized by the City of Lubbock
    - Helps control roadside pet sales

# Other Options

- Breeder's Permit/Intact Animal Permit
  - Cons
    - Regulates responsible pet owners
    - Mandates the manner of keeping pets
    - Results in a financial investment by the owner
    - Enforcement by complaint or impoundment only

# Other Options

## Cities with Breeder's Permits/Intact Animal Permit

- Dallas, TX
- San Antonio, TX
- Waco, TX (proposed)