



## ***Memorandum***

To: San Marcos City Council

From: DerryAnn Krupinsky, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Enhancement

Date: June 10, 2019

Re: Animal Services – FY19 positive budget impact

I am happy to report positive outcomes provided by the budget increase provided by Council to the Animal Services division in FY19. Additional funding allowed for the hiring of a second Veterinary Technician, a Program Coordinator, the conversion of a part-time Shelter Technician to full-time, and an increase to our contracted Veterinary services. These represent the first steps in attempting to right size the core service components we discussed in the first work session on November 7, 2018. In addition, these have helped in our continued lifesaving efforts.

The additional Veterinary Technician has been crucial in facilitating the medical needs and health of the animals in our care. This position, coupled with the additional veterinary services funded, has allowed us to prepare more animals for placement by adoption and rescue. Additionally, we have been able to save more medical cases that would have been euthanized in years past.

By converting one of our part-time Shelter Technicians to full-time, it gave us enough flexibility to extend our adoption hours to 7:00 p.m. four days per week. As a regional shelter, we strive to accommodate all of our customers, including those that live or work a great distance from San Marcos. Additionally, Shelter Technicians assist us in the daily cleaning and care of the facility and animals. This position is crucial to sheltering and saving more animals, as well as, sanitizing for disease and odor control.

Last, the funding and hiring of our Program Coordinator has been one of the most impactful budget improvements for FY19. This position has been instrumental in re-launching our foster, rescue, and volunteer programs, all of which are basic requirements of a shelter's lifesaving efforts. With the right energy and passion, this dedicated position can make huge strides in placing animals. In fact, on June 8, 2019, we sent five dogs to Canada where they are more likely to find a forever home... Currently, this position is doing adoption, rescue and fostering so with future coordinators in each of these areas will increase our outreach.

Continued right sizing of the core components will keep us on the path towards increasing live outcomes and while our live outcome rate has fluctuated this year due to illness and seasonal/situational issues, we have also had some outstanding months and are hopeful that we can meet or exceed our live outcome rate of 73% in FY18.

As we have made great strides this past year, we look forward to future capital outlay expenditures of additional kennels, administrative and adoption area improvements which will strengthen our core services and move us closer to our goal of increasing live outcomes, more volunteering and fostering programs, as well as, collaboration with our rescue partners and the community.

We look forward to presenting the work of the Implementation Team and our regional partners to continue to move forward in our goal to increase more live outcomes.

Thank you for your continued support.