1974-75

ANNUAL REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL REGULATION

Robert I. Rush
General Manager

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GENERAL MANAGER

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Honorable Tom Bradley
Mayor of the City of Los Angeles

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles

Greetings:

I am pleased to submit the annual report of the Department of Animal Regulation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975.

In the City of Los Angeles, the animal control program is a prime responsibility of the City Department of Animal Regulation. However, residents in the City have a share in the control responsibility as an integral part of the ownership privilege because the involved animals for the most part are owned by City residents. To exercise this control responsibility, animal owners must understand the necessity for participation in control programs, and hopefully enter into these programs with confidence in the system.

In pursuit of this objective, the Department, with increasing emphasis, is stressing public education at two levels:

1. The adult education level wherein adult pet owners are informed of regulations and services pertinent to animal control, and

2. The juvenile education level wherein youngsters, who will be future legal owners of animals, are taught the basics of animal control through the channels of the Humane Education Program in the City's Unified School District.

That adult pet owners, as a result of accelerated public education, are conforming, in larger numbers, to animal control ordinances, and are participating, in larger numbers, in animal control programs, is evidenced in the decreasing numbers of animals impounded and animals destroyed. For example, through adult education, pet owners have been made aware of the opportunity provided them to have their pets

altered at a minimal fee at the City's public low-cost Spay and Neuter Clinics.

Since the inception of the City's public low-cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program in February, 1971, impoundment of animals (mostly dogs and cats) has declined 18.9 percent in the City's six animal shelters. Department statistics also reveal a 21.7 percent decline in the number of animals destroyed in the four-year period.

Within a numbers framework, in the past fiscal year the Animal Regulation Department impounded 117,280 animals, compared to 144,530 animals impounded in 1970-71, the fiscal starting date of the public Spay-Neuter Program.

In a correlative area of animal control, 86,799 animals were destroyed in the City's shelters in the past fiscal year, compared with 110,835 in 1970-71.

Of the current 245,000 licensed dogs in the City, 81,182 have been altered. This figure represents an increase of 53,498 altered dogs (surgeries performed by public and private Veterinarians) since the establishment of the public clinic concept in 1971.

This increase is attributed mainly to adult public education and the dog license fee differential legislated into law in 1971, fixing the licensing fee for unaltered dogs at $7 and the fee for altered dogs at $3.50.

The fruits of adult education are measurable as attested above. However, the benefits accruing from the Humane Education program as applied in the Unified School District must be constrained to a category labelled "projected and potential".

During each school year, four specially selected animal control officers visit in excess of 100 schools and talk to about 70,000 youngsters at learning levels ranging from kindergarten to junior high school. The objective of the instruction is to instill in as many youngsters as possible a basic appreciation for all living things, a regard for life, and a proclivity for the humane protection of all living creatures.

Assuming, hopefully, that the seeds of these concepts will germinate in young, fertile minds, a sense of pet ownership responsibility will result as the child matures to the adult stature of a potential legal pet owner.

By-product benefits accrue on the classroom teacher level (from the Humane Education Program) as the teachers, themselves,

become more aware of humane considerations, and discuss these matters with their friends. As the children talk to their parents at home, and the parents, thereafter, talk to their neighbors, additional by-product benefits accrue. The benefits are secondary and environmental, and immeasurable, but it is reasonable to assume they are real, nevertheless.

In summation, education on the adult level is reducing traffic in the animal shelters, as of now. Humane education at the school level is intended to intensify this trend.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Mayor and members of the Los Angeles City Council for the support and encouragement extended to the Department, myself and all personnel engaged in the humane care and control of animals in the City. I also wish to thank the Department's Board of Commissioners for its support of Department programs, as well as Volunteer Services to Animals whose membership has worked diligently to improve service and environment in our City animal shelters.

Very truly yours,

Robert I. Rush
General Manager

RIR:JM:pb

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ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT
(1974-75)

MAYOR

Tom Bradley

CITY COUNCIL	DISTRICT
John S. Gibson, Jr. President	15th
Louis R. Nowell	1st
Joel Wachs	2nd
Donald D. Lorenzen	3rd
John Ferraro	4th
Zev Yaroslavsky	5th
Pat Russell	6th
Ernani Bernardi	7th
Robert Farrell	8th
Gilbert W. Lindsay	9th
David Cunningham	10th
Marvin Braude	11th
Robert M. Wilkinson	12th
Peggy Stevenson	13th
Arthur K. Snyder	14th

CITY ATTORNEY

Burt Pines

CITY CONTROLLER

Charles Navarro

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL REGULATION
(1974-1975)

BOARD OF ANIMAL REGULATION

Joan Peck	President
Saul Reider	Vice-President
Nancy Avery	Commissioner
Philip L. McClave, D.V.M.	Commissioner
Doris Silverton	Commissioner
Peggy Bodfish	Secretary

ADMINISTRATION

Robert I. Rush	General Manager
Elza A. Lee	Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

Section 155 of the City Charter provides that the Department of Animal Regulation shall have the power and duty:

(1) To enforce all ordinances of the City of Los Angeles and the Penal Laws of the State relating to the care, treatment or impounding of dumb animals or for the prevention of cruelty to same;

(2) To provide and maintain a public pound wherein animals may be impounded;

(3) To enforce the ordinances of the City requiring the payment of money for licenses for animals within the City.

To fulfill the responsibilities of the Department established by Charter, Municipal Code, Executive and Legislative directives, the following objectives and their means for fulfillment have been established:

Objective I

To prevent or reduce potential harm to persons and/or property by controlling the number of unrestrained animals, the Department:

(a) operates and supervises a public low-cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program;

(b) impounds and disposes of stray and unwanted animals not adopted or sold at public auction;

(c) issues dog licenses, equine licenses and cat identification tags;

(d) patrols the City to enforce the Leash Law and other ordinances pertaining to unrestrained animals;

(e) issues citations to violators of State and City animal regulation laws;

(f) requires permits for harboring wild animals;

(g) controls (by humane trapping) wildlife; and implements wildlife conservation by relocating small wild animals in natural habitat;

(h) participates in canine anti-rabies inoculation clinics;

(i) conducts a Humane Education Program in the Los Angeles City Unified School District.

Objective II

To assure the reasonable care and use of animals, the Department:

(a) inspects commercial establishments and private residences within the City which are required to have a permit;

(b) inspects medical research laboratories using animals;

(c) investigates cruelty, poisoning and other complaints;

(d) rescues animals in danger or distress;

(e) enforces ordinances relative to animal nuisances - barking dogs.

Objective III

To enforce City ordinances requiring the payment of money for licenses for animals within the City, the Department:

(a) effects proper licensing and registration of dogs, collects fees therefrom and issues dog licenses, equine licenses and cat identification tags;

(b) issues citations to violators of the rabies inoculation and dog licensing regulations.

The General Manager is head of the Department with the five-member Board of Animal Regulation acting in an advisory capacity.

Reporting to the General Manager through the Executive Officer are the Senior Public Relations Representative, Administrative Services, Veterinary Medical Services, Animal Care and Control, and License Enforcement Divisions. The primary objective of the Senior Public Relations Representative is to carry on a citizen education program designed to inform the public, and particularly animal owners, about State and City laws pertaining to animals. The Administrative Services Division (17 employees) provides staff services and administrative control including: accounting, budgeting, personnel supplies, statistics, administrative analyses, records management and forms control. The Animal Care and Control, Veterinary Medical Services and License Enforcement Divisions are the three operating divisions. The Animal Care and Control Division (113 employees) performs all field activities (except license enforcement) and operates and maintains six animal shelters. The Veterinary Medical Services (17 employees) operate three public low cost Spay and Neuter Clinics located throughout the City. The License Enforcement Division (49 employees) enforces ordinances requiring the licensing of dogs within the City. A more detailed

discussion of activities of each division follows. In general, the Department of Animal Regulation is responsible for the humane care and control of all animals residing in the City of Los Angeles. There are approximately 400,000 dogs, 400,000 cats and 6,000 horses, in addition to hundreds of head of livestock, profuse wildlife and imported exotic animals in the City. The welfare of these animals is a prime responsibility of the Department.

ACTIVITY REPORT

Acceleration of service to meet growing demands of the populace together with improvements in personnel, programs and program execution keynoted the activities of the Department for the fiscal year 1974-75.

During the period, the Department:

(1) Staffed and operated the Los Angeles City public low cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program through clinic facilities located at 215 West Ann Street (adjacent to Civic Center); 3612 Eleventh Avenue (south central Los Angeles); and 13131 Sherman Way (North Hollywood);

(2) Supervised 45 public low cost Anti-Rabies Clinics in the interest of public health and welfare;

(3) Improved the automated dog licensing system;

(4) Recorded a decrease in animals impounded, destroyed and sold to medical research;

(5) Maintained and improved training curriculums and training facilities for Animal Control Officers and Kennel Workers. Upgraded standards of personal qualifications to produce the well-balanced and public service-oriented individuals needed for field work and animal shelter activity;

(6) Pursued a streamlined system of personal citation for violators of Municipal Codes governing the conduct, care and control of animals. The citation system is aimed at penalizing the animal owners and not the animals;

(7) Maintained an Animal Airlift in the interest of local and national wildlife conservation programs.

(8) Coordinated Volunteer Services to Animals (VSA) as volunteer community service adjunct to Department;

(9) Educated and informed public, through public relations via the press and electronic media, of animal control concepts with emphasis on public low cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program;

(10) Increased Department revenues through the sale of animals, licensing of pet shops, and the issuance of dog licenses, equine licenses and cat identification tags; and through the issuance of permits for wild animal custody, pet shows, animal acts and exhibitions.

DIVISIONS OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

The following division summaries of activity delineate Department accomplishments and programs in areas of animal control during the fiscal period 1974-75.

Public Low Cost Spay and Neuter Clinics

The first Los Angeles public low cost Spay and Neuter Clinic was opened February 17, 1971, at the Ann Street Animal Shelter, 215 West Ann Street. The clinic, opened as a pilot program, was the first municipally owned facility of its kind in the country and had been approved by the Los Angeles City Council, August 1970. A low cost price scale of $17.50 for spaying and $11.50 for neutering dogs and cats was established.

In fiscal 1972-73, two additional clinics were opened. One was dedicated May 18, 1973, at the East Valley Animal Shelter, 13131 Sherman Way in North Hollywood; the other was dedicated June 1, 1973, at the Eleventh Avenue Animal Shelter, 3612 Eleventh Avenue in south central Los Angeles.

The operational cost for the three Los Angeles Spay and Neuter Clinics for fiscal 1974-75 was $249,451. The recorded revenue was $215,654.60. Five clinic-based veterinarians performed 13,015 surgeries (9,707 spays, 3,308 neuters). The animal loss factor amounted to less than one-half of one percent. (See page 20 of this report for surgical statistics.)

The low cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program is gaining stature as a popular municipal service. Since 1971, almost 41 percent of the dogs spayed or neutered in the City of Los Angeles received surgeries in the low cost clinics. Translated into numbers, the percentage is equivalent to 21,910 dogs.

In conjunction with the increase in pet sterilization at the public clinics, private veterinarians also show an increase in spaying and neutering activity. Until 1970-71, prior to the inception of the public low cost sterilization program, only 27,684 (or ten percent) of the City's licensed dogs had been spayed or neutered by private veterinarians. The volume in three years jumped an additional 31,588 surgeries performed by private veterinarians.

The City's public low-cost Spay-Neuter Program has been viewed with a critical eye by humane groups, as well as governmental legislators, in all sections of the country. All seek a level of zero pet population growth. Requests for progress reports on the Los Angeles pilot program have been voluminous. The replies have been factual. The resultant reaction has been encouraging.

Animal Control Officers and Kennel Workers

Animal Control Officers and Kennel Workers occupy the most sensitive positions in the Department as they represent the Department's physical and personal contact with the public. To assure maximum performance of personnel in the field, Animal Control Officer training methods and aids were improved. Personal qualifications were upgraded to produce the well-adjusted and public service-oriented individuals needed for field work and kennel service.

In a major innovation in the ranks of Animal Control Officers and Kennel Workers, female personnel were recruited, tested, trained and accepted in 1974-75. The addition of female Officers and female Kennel Workers exploded the traditional theory that these positions could be filled only by male personnel. The female recruits were integrated smoothly into the operation, and proved capable of working side by side with male employees, equitably sharing the responsibilities of animal control.

All applicants seeking employment as Animal Control Officers are closely screened concerning physical, mental and moral qualifications before acceptance as candidates for these key positions. To shape personnel for maximum performance in the field, a training period of ten weeks is provided for all new employees. At the Kennel Worker level, a four-week training program is required. A training center facility, complete with modern educational aids, is located at the Ann Street Animal Shelter.

The Animal Control Officer training curriculum embraces all conceivable aspects of animal care and control. The training agenda includes thorough indoctrination in humane methods of handling all types of animals, domestic and wild; instruction in first aid treatment to animals; care of animals in the shelters; and the judicious exercise of human relations with the public. Animal Control Officers are thoroughly schooled in some 40 facets of animal care and control incorporated in City ordinances. The officers also must qualify as experts on State codes relating to animal problems. The officers must be proficient in their interpretation of the rights of animal owners, as well as the rights of those not affiliated with animals.

The Animal Control Officer is sharply uniformed, well trained, responsible, and dedicated to a chosen field of public service.

Animal Impoundment

For the fourth successive year a reduction of animals impounded and destroyed by the Department was recorded in fiscal 1974-75. An 8.5 percent decrease in impoundment was recorded in 1971-72; a 3.6 percent decrease was reflected in 1972-73; a 6.7 percent decrease in 1973-74; and a .9 percent decrease was reported in 1974-75. A 6.2 percent decrease in animals destroyed was shown in 1972-73; a 9.7 percent decrease in unwanted animal destruction was recorded in 1973-74; and a .9 percent decrease was reported in 1974-75.

Figures for the past seven years show that the shelter system processed 118,082 animals in 1968-69; 133,040 in 1969-70; 144,530 in 1970-71; 132,254 in 1971-72; 127,554 in 1972-73; 118,964 in 1973-74; and 117,280 in 1974-75.

Of the total impounded animals in 1974-75, 68,154 were strays.

TABLE I

ANIMALS HANDLED
SHELTER OPERATION

SHELTER	ANIMALS HANDLED 1973-74	ANIMALS HANDLED 1974-75	PCT TOTAL ANIMALS HANDLED
East Valley	29,627	30,661	26.1
South Central	24,055	23,028	19.6
West Valley	24,099	24,495	20.9
North Central	20,386	20,236	17.3
W. Los Angeles	12,576	11,391	9.7
Harbor	8,221	7,469	6.4
TOTAL	118,964	117,280	100.0

Citation System

Animal Control Officers are invested with a Public Officer status and have the power to issue citations to any persons violating City ordinances pertaining to the humane care and control of animals. The citation system expedites law enforcement, particularly in reference to dog leash law violators. No longer is it necessary to impound a stray dog, and then wait to file a request for complaint against the errant owner when he claims

the dog. Now, court citations can be issued at the scene of legal infraction. When the loose dog is returned or followed to the home of its owner, the dog is not impounded, but the owner is issued a citation. Under the provisions of the on the spot citation system, the owner is not separated from his pet. The owner also is accorded an early opportunity to plead his case in court.

During 1974-75, 5,003 citations were issued, as compared to 6,268 issued in the preceeding year. The decrease is attributed primarily to a reduction of Federally funded positions and because dog owners are exercising tighter control over their pets. In this exercise of pet ownership responsibility, which relates to compliance with the Leash Law, the need for citations diminishes.

Dog Licenses and Cat Identification Tags

A City Ordinance requires that dogs, four months and older, must be licensed if they reside in the City. In the 1974-75 Fiscal Year, 245,321 licenses and applications were issued through the automated licensing system. This volume represented an increase of 21.9 percent over 1973-74.

An increasing number of dog owners are taking advantage of the license fee discount ($3.50) afforded those who have their pets spayed or neutered. In Fiscal 1971-72, licenses issued for altered dogs numbered 27,634. As the public low cost Spay and Neuter Program gained momentum, the number of licensed altered dogs escalated -- 59,231 in 1972-73; 62,265 in 1973-74; 81,182 in 1974-75. In 1971-72 only 16 percent of the licensed dogs were altered. In 1974-75, 33.1 percent of the licensed dogs in the City were spayed or neutered.

A cat Identification Program for owned cats was introduced January 20, 1972. A voluntary $5 identification tag fee, valid for the life of the cat, was made available to pet owners.

The identification tag, bearing an identification number and the words, "L.A. City", denotes ownership of the animal and serves as a means of cat protection. The tag number, with the cat's description and the name and address of the cat owner, is placed on permanent file with the Department of Animal Regulation. Cats, wearing the tag, are considered to be private property. In the event the cat becomes lost and is impounded, the owner is notified of the location where the cat is held. The tag is described as the "best possible cat insurance". During the 1974-75 Fiscal Year, 212 cat identification tags were issued.

Equine License Tax

In June 1973, a $10 Equine License Tax was reduced to $6 by action of the Los Angeles City Council. In Fiscal 1974-75,

4,657 equine licenses were issued. Revenue from the tax is earmarked for the improvement of the Los Angeles City riding trail system and associated equine activities. There are an estimated 6,000 horses in the City of Los Angeles.

Veterinary Medical Services

The Department determines that all services and activities within the Animal Temporary Care and Shelter Program are absolutely necessary at all times to assure continued orderly life in the City. In the Fiscal Year 1974-75, the Department impounded 117,280 animals, 15,076 of which required veterinary treatment within shelter facilities. Under the direction of Dr. Walter Ziegler, Chief Veterinarian for the Department, 2,610 animals were treated by private Veterinarians (at Department expense) when Department Veterinary service was unavailable.

The Los Angeles County Department of Health required this Department to quarantine 1,405 animals that had bitten humans. Of the animals impounded, 23,361 were redeemed by their owners or placed in new homes. The Department hopes to increase the number of animals sold by providing an additional dog/cat immunization service (requested in 1976-77 budget).

Barking Dog Complaints

Since November 1974, the Department has successfully implemented and conducted a program in response to the new Barking Dog Noise Ordinance. Approximately 12,000 such complaints are received annually, however, more than 90% of these complaints are resolved without need for criminal (court) action. The Department's procedures have been most successful in abating the problems while maintaining friendly neighborhood relations.

Humane Education Program

The Department annually provides a Humane Education Program for approximately 75,000 students in grades kindergarten through sixth in the Los Angeles City Unified School District.

The program's objective is to teach humane pet care and responsibility to the next generation of pet owners. Multi-media educational materials are used by Animal Control Officers to teach simplified techniques in pet health,care, responsibility and laws pertaining to the ownership of animals. The humane education instruction is presented by a team of four Animal Control Officers who are assigned full time to this project. The program, under the supervision of Joseph Von Slomski, Project Coordinator, is designed to instill in

youngsters a basic appreciation for all living things, a regard for life, and a proclivity toward the humane protection of all living creatures. It is hoped from this effort that a sense of pet ownership responsibility will result.

Affirmative Action

With the assistance of increased Federal funding, and the resultant creation of new positions, the Department assumed a positive role in the Affirmative Action plan.

Impressive hiring gains in the area of female and minority groups in field and clerical positions were registered. In the category of field positions, traditionally filled by male personnel (Animal Control Officers, License Inspectors, Kennel Workers) female hiring jumped from 1.6 percent to 5.3 percent (9 positions). The hiring of Spanish surname persons, in field positions, increased from 10.9 percent to 15.4 percent.

Keynoting affirmative action in the administrative echelon of the Department, Mrs. Elza Anne Lee was appointed Executive Officer. Of Asian descent, Mrs. Lee became the first female Executive Officer in the history of the Department.

In the office/clerical category, the hiring of blacks increased from 17 percent to 24.1 percent (13 positions), and Spanish surname persons increased from 10.7 percent to 18.5 percent (10 positions).

At the close of Fiscal 1974-75, 29.4 percent of the Department personnel was black, 14.1 percent bore Spanish surnames, and 3.9 percent was Asian. Female workers comprised 25.1 percent of the Department personnel.

Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) Personnel

Because of the CETA program, the Department was able to initiate and conduct heretofore unfinanced/vital programs such as wildlife conservation, beach enforcement, permit enforcement, in-service training and humane education. These programs are important as they have permitted the Department to raise the level of law enforcement and public service in the entire spectrum of animal care and control throughout the City.

The additional personnel authorized under CETA has made it possible for this Department to respond to requests for service that approximate 50,000 calls a year.

Zero Pet Population Growth

At a January press conference at the Ann Street Animal Shelter, Mayor Tom Bradley, as Honorary Chairman of Zero Pet Population Growth, called for a voluntary moratorium on pet breeding in Los Angeles. The Mayor emphasized the importance of pet ownership responsibility and animal control education. He urged pet owners to participate in the City's public low cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program and to exercise pet control in seeking a halt to pet overpopulation. He deplored the fact that thousands of unwanted animals must be destroyed annually because of excessive births, and stressed that a moratorium on pet breeding would reduce the volume of animal destruction.

Public Low Cost Anti-Rabies Clinics

The Anti-Rabies Clinic Program is a prime protector of public health and safety. Conducted by the License Division of the Department of Animal Regulation, in conjunction with the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association, the quarterly clinics are held in February, May, August and November. In the 45 clinics conducted in the 1974-75 Fiscal Year, 22,796 dogs were vaccinated against the infectious disease at local parks and recreation centers. The inoculation cost is $2 per dog. A total of 6,791 dog licenses was issued at the clinic sites.

The impact of the expanded clinic program is reflected in the fact that a rabid dog has not been recorded in the City since 1962. A State law (in addition to the City Ordinance) requires that all dogs, four months and older, must be vaccinated against rabies every 30 months in areas declared rabies endemic by the State Department of Public Health.

A large measure of credit for the success of the clinic program belongs to the many civic clubs and social organizations that are participating in the program. Volunteers of these groups, located in every part of the City, process the necessary paper work related to the vaccination certificates. Without the assistance of these unselfish volunteers, the clinics would be unable to function.

Animal Airlift

The City of Los Angeles, under the supervision of the Department of Animal Regulation, has given some 2,500 wild animals a second chance for survival.

The "second chance" animals are those which have been humanely trapped in the City of Los Angeles, loaded aboard a helicopter and flown to Angeles National Forest for relocation. The

unique conservation program, called "Animal Airlift", was initiated September 11, 1969. The first wild animal cargo was flown out of Van Nuys Municipal Airport. The point of flight origin now is the West Valley Animal Shelter in Chatsworth.

Since the inception of the program, originated by Robert I. Rush, General Manager of the City Department of Animal Regulation, small wild creatures displaced by expanding urban projects have been transported to the national forest in flights scheduled virtually each week.

The animals, including raccoons, opossums, foxes, squirrels, rabbits, owls, hawks and nonpoisonous snakes, are generally trapped in outlying areas of the City at the request of harried home owners, who, for some reason or another, find the animals a nuisance. Humane box traps are set by Animal Regulation Department wildlife officers. The trapped animals are placed in safe, comfortable cages at a neighboring animal shelter and held a few days, at most, before departing on the Airlift for new homes in the wilderness.

For the 35-mile flight to the forest, the animals are placed in ventilated boxes and secured to the frame of the helicopter. Flying the airlift are George W. Mason, District Supervisor of the West Valley Animal Shelter, and Ray Schutte, City helicopter pilot.

Game management personnel of Angeles Forest assist Mr. Mason and Mr. Schutte in selecting release sites for the animals. Availability of food, water and shelter are priority factors in selecting the sites.

Only animals native to California are released back to the wilds. Other wild animals found in the City are given sanctuary in zoos or similar facilities. Deer, frequently found in Los Angeles urban areas, are corralled and returned to a native habitat by vehicle.

Volunteer Services to Animals (VSA)

A volunteer organization of responsible citizens, interested in the care, control and welfare of animals, was activated as a public service adjunct to the Department, March 31, 1972. Known as the Volunteer Services to Animals (VSA), this dedicated group of humane workers has contributed substantially to the improvement of service and environment in the City's animal shelters.

In a major 1974-75 project, VSA sponsored a cat adoption campaign from City animal shelters which resulted in the adoption of 400 cats in a 60-day period. VSA raised sufficient funds to contribute $10 toward the spaying fee of female cats, and $5 toward the neutering fee of male cats. The program received attention in the press media, and the public took

advantage of the offer. The success of the program in the City shelter system prompted plans for future projects of the same nature.

In daily routine, VSA workers in the shelters continue to play a prominent role in reuniting lost pets with owners and in the placement of available shelter animals in homes where humane care is assured.

St. Francis of Assisi Award

The founder of a Los Angeles based humane society, Mrs. Ella Cummings, 73, of West Hollywood, was named the winner of the 1974 St. Francis of Assisi Humane Award.

Mrs. Cummings, founder of Pet Assistance Foundation in 1953, was selected by the Board of Commissioners of the Los Angeles City Department of Animal Regulation to receive the award for superior achievement on behalf of animal welfare.

Forty-five persons were nominated by public ballot for the third annual award, established by Mayor Tom Bradley in 1971 in the interest of encouraging humane treatment to all animals.

Mrs. Cummings was selected for the St. Francis honor because of her work in many diversified areas of animal welfare, according to Joan Peck, President of the judging Board of Commissioners.

The humane leader was described in a letter of nomination as a woman "for whom no (humane animal) task was too small for her attention, nor too great for her undertaking. She pursued every avenue of diligence, from rescuing a tiny kitten to fighting for better legislation for animals."

The award, traditionally presented by the Mayor during Easter Week, is an oak plaque embellished with rolled bronze and featuring a silver medal of St. Francis with an inscription extolling humane treatment of animals.

Public Relations

Because new pet owners appear daily on the Los Angeles scene, public relations in the interest of humane animal welfare is a never ceasing operation. Repetitious emphasis, through the press media, regarding animal control regulations and services available to pet owners must be provided to the public so that all City residents -- especially the ever increasing number of new pet owners -- will be aware of the rules governing animal conduct.

The Department's public relations effort in the 1974-75 Fiscal Year was aimed at acquainting the public with the following programs and services:

1. The public low-cost Spay and Neuter Clinic Program.

2. The Humane Education Program.

3. The Animal License Program.

4. The public low-cost Anti-Rabies Clinic Program.

5. Special projects promoting pet ownership responsibility.

In this Annual Report, the Public Relations section of the Department takes the opportunity to formally express appreciation to the press media for the fair and generous coverage of Department activities. Through the trust and cooperation of the media, more effective humane animal control has been possible.

Receipts and Expenditures:

A 14.9 percent increase in revenue was reported for the 1974-75 Fiscal Year, compared to the prior fiscal year. Gross receipts for 1974-75 totalled $1,859,142 compared with the previous fiscal year total of $1,618,546. Expenditures of City funds for 1974-75 amounted to $2,716,182, an increase of 11.3 percent over the preceding year. A detailed accounting follows.

COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

REVENUES

	1974-75		1973-74		Percent Variance
RECEIPTS					
Dog Licenses		$1,432,935		$1,190,379	20.4
Duplicate Tags		736		317	132.2
Cat Identification Fees		1,060		1,900	(44.2)
Equine Licenses		16,766		17,252	(2.8)
Pound Fees - Total		104,958		105,366	(0.4)
Dogs	$97,416		$96,282		1.2
Cats	3,397		2,635		28.9
Other Animals	4,145		6,449		(35.7)
Veterinary Med. Service Fees*		225,523*		159,978	41.0
Feed and Care		50,957		49,118	3.7
Advertising		11,762		10,000	11.8
Permits		17,507		18,389	(4.8)
Miscellaneous**		21,826		61,748	(64.7)
Sales Tax		5,112		4,099	24.7
GROSS RECEIPTS		$1,889,142		$1,618,546	16.7
Refunds		(8,116)		(7,396)	9.7
Checks Written Off		(3,031)		(3,125)	(3.0)
Sales Tax		(5,112)		(4,099)	24.7
NET RECEIPTS		$1,872,883		$1,603,926	16.8

DISBURSEMENTS

EXPENDITURES			
Salaries***	$2,455,025	$2,162,451	13.5
Expense	247,900	252,995	2.0
Equipment	13,257	23,948	(44.6)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$2,716,182	$2,439,394	11.3

* Increased Spay and Neuter Clinic Volume
** Includes Delinquent License Fees
*** Emergency Employment Act Salaries Not Included

COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS AND RECEIPTS BY CATEGORY

	1974-75 Number	1974-75 Receipts	1973-74 Number	1973-74 Receipts	Percent Number	Variance Receipts
Dog Kennel	101	$ 2,806.41	102	$ 2,862.82	(1.0)	(2.0)
Cat Kennel	99	1,097.25	107	1,193.50	(7.5)	(8.1)
Pet Shop	158	4,411.08	169	4,725.97	(6.5)	(6.7)
Zoo	2	30.00	2	30.00	--	--
Animal Rental	12	202.96	14	240.92	(14.3)	(15.7)
Animal Show, Act	73	1,458.00	60	1,200.00	20.0	21.5
Wild Animal	263	4,023.75	320	4,856.25	(17.8)	(17.1)
Misc. Animals (Reptiles)	--	--	1	27.50	(100.0)	(100.0)
Circus	1	95.00	1	95.00	--	--
Rodeo	10	755.00	5	505.00	100.0	49.5
Pigeons	51	577.50	51	565.95	--	2.0
Riding Academy, Stables	72	2,050.23	73	2,085.99	(1.4)	(1.7)
TOTAL APPLICATIONS	842	$17,507.18	905	$18,388.90	(7.1)	(4.8)
Permits Denied	26		54		(39.5)	
Refund	--		1		(100.0)	
Lapsed	5		--			
Under Invest.	3		--			
TOTAL PERMITS	808		850		(4.9)	

TOTAL SURGERIES - SPAY AND NEUTER CLINICS
(2/17/71 - 6/30/75)

Year		Dogs	Cats	Total	Total Dogs and Cats	Cumulative Totals from 2/71 Dogs	Cats	Total	Total Dogs and Cats
2/71 - 6/71	Male	27	74	101		27	74	101	
	Female	231	149	380	481	231	149	380	481
7/71 - 6/72	Male	246	255	501		273	329	602	
	Female	1,527	598	2,125	2,626	1,758	747	2,505	3,107
7/72 - 6/73	Male	331	229	560		604	558	1,162	
	Female	1,797	424	2,221	2,781	3,555	1,171	4,726	5,888
7/73 - 6/74	Male	1,333	873	2,206		1,937	1,431	3,368	
	Female	5,757	1,873	7,630	9,836	9,312	3,044	12,356	15,724
7/74 - 6/75	Male	1,996	1,312	3,308		3,933	2,743	6,676	
	Female	6,936	2,771	9,707	13,015	16,248	5,815	22,063	28,739

The operational cost for the three Los Angeles City Spay and Neuter Clinics for fiscal 1974-75 was $249,451. The recorded revenue was $215,654.60. Five clinic based veterinarians performed 13,015 surgeries (9,707 spays, 3,308 neuters). The animal loss factor amounted to less than one-half of one percent.

ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL DIVISION STATISTICS
IMPOUND AND DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS

ANN STREET

IMPOUNDED	Dogs	Cats	Other	1974-75 Total	1973-74 Total
On Hand	106	31	11	148	182
Caught	1,799	33	537	2,369	2,946
Pickup by Request	3,713	1,739	1,306	6,758	6,185
Brought for Exchange	37	6	--	43	40
Brought in by Public	5,631	4,556	216	10,403	10,559
Dead Animal Pickup	306	156	53	515	474
Total	11,592	6,521	2,123	20,236	20,386
DISPOSITION					
Sold	1,787	291	6	2,084	1,631
Sold-Medical Research	243	23	--	266	568
Redeemed	1,107	21	18	1,146	1,456
Released	118	42	146	306	615
Exchanged	43	6	--	49	55
Transferred	3	--	8	11	22
Died	180	100	26	306	366
Stolen	--	--	--	--	--
Escaped	9	5	1	15	10
Destroyed	7,671	5,821	1,858	15,350	15,041
Disp Dead An Pickup	306	156	53	515	474
Carried Forward	126	56	7	188	148
Total	11,592	6,521	2,123	20,236	20,386

WEST LOS ANGELES

Dogs	Cats	Other	1974-75 Total	1973-74 Total
79	33	8	120	121
976	17	65	1,058	1,646
1,733	967	560	3,260	3,647
43	15	--	58	64
3,267	2,888	364	6,519	6,749
163	157	56	376	349
6,261	4,077	1,053	11,391	12,576
1,608	648	17	2,273	1,814
124	57	--	181	412
1,626	101	16	1,743	1,953
162	27	244	433	565
23	7	--	30	28
10	9	9	28	16
32	88	48	168	174
2	--	--	2	8
10	8	20	38	8
2,431	2,942	636	6,009	7,129
163	157	56	376	349
70	33	7	110	120
6,261	4,077	1,053	11,391	12,576

ELEVENTH AVENUE

IMPOUNDED	Dogs	Cats	Other	1974-75 Total	1973-74 Total
On Hand	143	16	1	160	283
Caught	3,424	7	4	3,435	3,273
Pickup by Request	6,863	1,279	98	8,240	7,778
Brought for Exchange	41	1	1	43	47
Brought in by Public	8,141	2,816	116	11,073	12,453
Dead Animal Pickup	62	9	6	77	221
Total	18,674	4,128	226	23,028	24,055
DISPOSITION					
Sold	1,531	150	3	1,684	1,469
Sold-Medical Research	84	23	--	107	256
Redeemed	779	30	2	811	741
Released	44	2	8	54	187
Exchanged	78	4	--	82	76
Transferred	--	1	--	1	8
Died	94	25	4	123	251
Stolen	--	--	--	--	3
Escaped	19	13	1	33	13
Destroyed	15,802	3,860	202	19,864	20,670
Disp Dead An Pickup	62	9	6	77	221
Carried Forward	181	11	--	192	160
Total	18,674	4,128	226	23,028	24,055

HARBOR

Dogs	Cats	Other	1974-75 Total	1973-74 Total
42	12	1	55	102
738	12	4	754	1,144
1,187	484	121	1,792	1,906
21	1	--	22	22
2,466	2,247	108	4,821	5,025
19	4	2	25	22
4,473	2,760	236	7,469	8,221
546	56	5	607	473
220	49	--	269	161
521	13	3	537	610
14	--	19	33	152
19	2	--	21	16
--	--	6	6	3
18	10	7	35	39
--	--	--	--	--
5	8	1	14	7
3,028	2,597	187	5,812	6,683
19	4	2	25	22
83	21	6	110	55
4,473	2,760	236	7,469	8,221