



**LODI CITY COUNCIL**  
Carnegie Forum  
305 West Pine Street, Lodi

**"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION**

**Date: March 18, 2008**

**Time: 7:00 a.m.**

For information regarding this Agenda please contact:

**Randi Johl**

**City Clerk**

**Telephone: (209) 333-6702**

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**Informal Informational Meeting**

- A. Roll Call by City Clerk**
- B. Topic(s)**
  - B-1 Update on Animal Shelter Facility (PD)
- C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items**
- D. Adjournment**

Pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code of the State of California, this agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting at a public place freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day.

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Randi Johl  
City Clerk



# CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

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**AGENDA TITLE:** Update on Animal Shelter Facility  
**MEETING DATE:** March 18, 2008 (Shirtsleeve Session)  
**PREPARED BY:** Interim Police Chief

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Presentation only.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Interim Police Chief David Main and Special Services Manager Jeanie Biskup will make a presentation before the City Council regarding the Animal Shelter. The presentation will include the following areas:

- Historical perspective
- Staffing and hours
- Housing capacities/space limitations
- Laws related to operating a shelter
- Statistical data
- Accomplishments
- Challenges to operating a shelter
- Possible remedies

**FISCAL IMPACT:** N/A

**FUNDING AVAILABLE:** N/A

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David Main  
Interim Police Chief

DM/jmp

Attachments

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Blair King, City Manager

# City of Lodi Animal Shelter

Lodi Police Department



# Historical Perspective

- Built in 1960's as a "pound" not shelter
- Not designed for animal welfare
- City of Lodi Population 26,000
- Built to house 10 dogs no cats
- Employed two "pound masters" for 30 years
- Small addition in 1985
- City Council appointed Animal Shelter Task Force 2000
- Temporary portable structure added in 2001 for office space. Converted old office space to animal housing.

# Historical Perspective Continued

- Regional Animal Shelter Study completed in 2000
- Recommended county wide facility with city satellites
- Animal Shelter Task Force appointed in 2000 to explore short and long term needs
- Task Force recommended new Animal Shelter 2001
- Project plan presented in 2003 for new city shelter
- 2005 PALS proposes opening an adoption Center at the facility to be funded and staffed by PALS volunteers
- PALS opened the adoption center in 2006
- 2007 City Council appoints Animal Advisory Commission

# Staffing and Hours

- 1 Working ASO Supervisor
- 2 Fulltime ASO's
- 1 Part time ASO
- Part time kennel aids (3)
- Attempting to add office staff using county funding
- Monday thru Saturday 8-5
- 2007-2008 Budget \$293,000

# 2007 Animal Services Field Calls

Dog contained/stray	643
Cats contained	187
Welfare Check	261
Dog Bite Calls	36
Deceased/Hit by car	233
Wildlife Call/Bats	215
Assist PD Officer	20
Dog locked in Vehicle	29
Barking Dog	26
Livestock call	103
<b>Total Field Calls</b>	<b>1,820</b>

# Animal Shelter Housing

- 24 Dog Runs
- 40 cat cages
  
- Average daily population
  - 35 dogs
  - 70 cats

# Hayden Bill (1999)

- Requires shelters move toward lower Euthanization rates
- Increased holding periods for animals (from 3 days to 5 days)
- Requires medical care be provided for treatable animals
- Mandatory adoption programs
- Increased record keeping requirements

# 2007 Animal Shelter Statistics

	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Dogs</u>
Impounded	219	414
Surrendered	1,314	545
Adopted from Shelter	309	383
Redeemed	46	273
Euthanized	953	155

**Total intake of animals for 2007 = 2,492**

# 2007 Shelter Pulls & Transfers

- PALS (transfers) 446 Animals
- Animal Friends Connection 33 Animals
- Sacramento SPCA 101 Dogs
- Purebred Rescue Groups 6 Dogs
- Rescuing Animals in need 5 Dogs
- Abandoned Cat Team (ACT) 13 Cats

# Accomplishments

- 2004 all animals vaccinated on intake (vaccines purchased by PALS)
- Implemented City low cost spay/neuter program 2007
  - **\$5,000 Allocated by City Council from Spay/Neuter Account**
  - 38 Dogs and 254 cats altered with vouchers
  - Staff has collected \$2,000 in private donations to help fund this program
- Increased outreach to additional rescue groups to place animals
- PALS and staff worked to generate donations for a Dog Yard to be completed in 2008
- Implemented a temperament testing program to assist in placing dogs
- PALS secured grant funding for a mural at the Shelter
- Ongoing improvements to web page to promote education, spay/neuter and adoptions
- New Pet Tracking software installed 11/2007 - not yet fully functional

# Challenges

- Population Control
- Disease control – No sick ward for animals
- Facility not designed for animal welfare and adoption purposes
- Lack of on-site staff/Increase in staff responsibilities
- Lack of room for expansion
- Lack of educational programs for responsible pet ownership
- Financial support for spay and neuter programs
- Lack of commitment from citizens to license pets
- Increase in calls for service
- Increasing demands for staff in both enforcement and adoptions
- People do not consider Animal Shelter as first option for adoption
- New facility is costly
- Volunteers and volunteer resources are limited

# Possible Solutions

- Operate as usual
- New facility
- Expand existing facility
- Increase use of volunteers and non profits
- Explore an agreement with a non profit assume operation of shelter
- Explore ordinances addressing pet population