

## **Resolution Urging the DeKalb County Governing Authority to Support the DeKalb County Animal Services Advisory Board's *Plan for a Better Tomorrow***

- Whereas,** DeKalb County Animal Services Advisory Board (DCASAB) advances humane and healthy treatment of animals; and,
- Whereas,** DCASAB advises DeKalb, the Governing Authority and Animal Services on the welfare of animals; and,
- Whereas,** DCASAB assists Animal Services with implementation of a long-term plan that improves practices, services delivery, efficiency, and facilities; and,
- Whereas,** DCASAB identifies strategies to improve the lives of animals; and,
- Whereas,** DCASAB has provided the *Plan for a Better Tomorrow* that outlines 5 goals to address the current challenges of DeKalb Animal Services such as space, staff training, family and pet support, prevention of homeless pets, and reducing length of stay for court-held dogs as detailed below:

### **Goal 1: Create More Space to Meet DeKalb Needs**

- Secure temporary space to meet current needs
- Expand shelter to meet projected needs

### **Goal 2: Staffing for Excellence**

- Raise compensation and benefits
- Provide effective training and professional development
- Increase staffing levels to meet community needs

### **Goal 3: Support for People and Families with Pets**

- Set-Up Pop-Up clinics for microchipping, vaccinations, s/n, affordable vet care
- Build fences and shelters to meet adequate care for pets
- Establish community cat resource center
- Establish a pet food and medication bank

### **Goal 4: Prevent More Homeless Pets**

- Enforce existing ordinances related to pet care and sales/transfers
- Require licenses/bond for breeding through new ordinance
- Institute new ordinance to ban unlicensed breeding and sales

### **Goal 5: Address Lengthy Shelter Stays of Court-Held Dogs**

- Institute policy for animal services staff and prosecutors to urge animal surrender

- Clarify status of animals and create an animal advocate
- Establish 15-day impoundment fee bond
- Utilize motion to dispose after first failure to appear
- Utilize costs of care in all cases not resolved within 30 days of impoundment

**Now, therefore be it resolved, that We, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners** urge the administration to adopt the DeKalb County Animal Services Advisory Board plan and to work to attain the goals outlined in the *Plan for a Better Tomorrow*.

Resolved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

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**Robert Patrick**  
 Presiding Officer  
 Board of Commissioners  
 DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

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**Michael Thurmond**  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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BARBARA SANDERS  
 County Clerk  
 Board of Commissioners and  
 Chief Executive Officer

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Viviane Ernstes  
 County Attorney  
 DeKalb County, Georgia