

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

Robert Patrick
 Presiding Officer
 Board of Commissioners
 DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer, this _____ day of _____ 2023

Michael Thurmond
 Chief Executive Officer
 DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BARBARA SANDERS
 County Clerk
 Board of Commissioners and
 Chief Executive Officer

Viviane Ernstes
 County Attorney
 DeKalb County, Georgia