



KATY TANG
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SUPERVISOR KATY TANG TO INTRODUCE AMENDMENT TO CITY'S TEN YEAR CAPITAL PLAN TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR ANIMAL SHELTER

Funding will support vital animal welfare and public safety services through the construction of a modern, seismically safe animal shelter

Supervisor Katy Tang today joined the Director of Animal Care and Control, Virginia Donohue, Supervisor Scott Wiener, as well as community supporters to announce an amendment to the City's Ten Year Capital Plan that will fund construction of a new animal shelter in San Francisco.

"Animal Care and Control provides vital services, and a new facility is essential to animal welfare and public safety," said Supervisor Tang. "It is estimated that the number of dogs rivals the number of children in San Francisco. A modern and safe shelter will go a long way to ensuring that the facility remain open and operable after a major earthquake to continue providing animal control services and to prevent the spread of disease."

The project to construct a new animal shelter was originally included in the proposed Public Health General Obligation Bond, slated for voter approval at the June 2016 ballot. The animal shelter project was removed from the bond proposal, and the amendment introduced by Supervisor Tang will allow the project to be funded through the City's Certificates of Participation program, pending additional legislation to be voted on by the Board of Supervisors in the spring.

"Every year we take in more than 10,000 animals, who are currently crammed into spaces that don't meet modern animal welfare standards," said Virginia Donohue, Executive Director of SFACC. "It's critical that we work from a building that will remain operable after the next earthquake so that we can continue aiding San Franciscans and their pets who may be displaced as well as the animals who are under our care."

The services provided by SFACC aren't limited to adoptions, but include enforcing state and local animal welfare laws, providing veterinary services such as vaccinations and micro-chipping, and even sheltering animals for individuals displaced by a natural disaster or other unexpected circumstance.

"SFACC provides critical services not just for animals, but also for the families who may need to have their animals in temporary care due to a guardian who is suffering from hospitalization, an eviction, incarceration, domestic violence at home, or loss of their home," said Supervisor Tang.



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SFACC is an open admission shelter, which means it accepts any animal in any condition, including wild animals, farm animals and exotic pets. Some shelter services include providing basic nourishment and medical care for wild, exotic, stray and surrendered animals; vaccinating animals against diseases; adoption services; adoption counseling; and licensing.

SFACC takes in around 10,000 animals each year. Of that number, about 1,300 are pets who are briefly lost and eventually returned to their guardians.

SFACC collects approximately 1,700 animals, predominantly wildlife, who die on our streets. SFACC's Animal Control Officers are responsible for patrolling San Francisco and enforcing animal cruelty and neglect laws, responding to animal-related emergencies, and investigating reports of animal abuse. SFACC also provides 24-hour service for picking up seriously sick or injured strays and bringing them in for emergency treatment.

For more information, please contact Supervisor Tang's office at 415-554-7460 or Katy.Tang@sfgov.org.

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