



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: County Health Department
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: October 21, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Mouhanad Hammami, County Health Department
Contact: Sarah Aguilar, Animal Services Director
SUBJECT: Animal Services Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Signed by:

Mouhanad Hammami
CD0E0674C89245C...

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Accept and file the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annual Report (Attachment A) summarizing operational levels of Santa Barbara County Animal Services (SBCAS) and highlighting the accomplishments of those engaged in the support of animals and people across the county; and
- b) Determine that the recommended action is not a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is exempt per CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), because the recommended action consists of organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to summarize and highlight the essential operations of SBCAS during Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in support of pets, animals, and people across the county. The Annual Report provides an at-a-glance overview of animals brought into care within the county, highlights the increase in adoption and foster placements during this past year, and commends the significant volunteer efforts and partnering organization support that has been provided to assist with animal welfare and sheltering countywide.

Discussion:

This report provides an overview of the operational highlights and achievements for FY 2024-2025, year three of the current five-year fair-share contracts with our jurisdictional partners. This annual report focuses on three key areas: sheltering summary, foster programming, and community engagement, with strategic planning updates for each of these focus areas.

To summarize the key statistics, during FY 2024-2025:

- SBCAS brought 6,475 animals into care, an increase of 327 over FY 2023-2024, and 727 more than FY 2022-2023.
- Adoptions surpassed 3,000; more than ever in recent history.
- Traditional foster placements continue to increase with nearly 3,000 pets spending time out of the shelter during recovery from a medical condition, while awaiting alteration surgery, or for a short break.
- The Doggy Day Trip program (allowing the public to easily foster a shelter dog for the day to provide opportunities for dogs to take a break from shelter life) facilitated over 3,200-day trips, demonstrating continuing expansion in our community's involvement.
- Over 22,000 volunteer hours were generously provided by individual community members; a 16.7% increase from the prior fiscal year.

SBCAS will continue to publish monthly data and narrative reports online (at <https://www.countyofsb.org/1434/Statistics-Reports>), and will provide your Board an annual report following the close of each fiscal year of the five-year contracts to share updates on strategic directives, accomplishments, and the scope and scale of animal services countywide.

Background:

Beginning in FY 2022-23, Santa Barbara County entered a new five-year, fair-share (per capita) contracts with each of the seven city partners and the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. This report provides an overview of the operational highlights and achievements of SBCAS during the third year of those contracts.

Special Instructions:

Please email the minute order to the County Health, Contracts Unit at phdcu@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Animal Services Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Contact Information:

Sarah Aguilar, CAWA, CACO
Animal Services Director
saguilar@sbcphd.org