



# Governance of Animal Services Program

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# Introduction

- ▶ Key finding of the American Humane Association assessment was “The present model of governance may not be the best business model to operate animal services.”
- ▶ “Investigate financial implications of Privatization and Joint Powers of Authority versus County oversight of animal services.”

# Current Program

- ▶ Provides mandated services including rabies control, stray animal shelters, emergency care...
- ▶ Three shelters with 35 FTE and 6 – 7 extra help
- ▶ Adopted budget of \$4,900,000, GF contribution is \$1,418,000 (29%)

# Initial Research

## Four models identified

- ✓ County
- ✓ Hybrid
- ✓ Contracted
- ✓ Independent Agency

**Each model can provide essential animal services**

**Joint Powers Agreement could be implemented with any of the models**

# County Model

- ▶ Our current model of governance
- ▶ Generous support by volunteers and community partners
- ▶ No current contracts with many of our community partners

# Hybrid Model

- ▶ Components of services are provided by different entities
- ▶ Clark County, Nevada is an example where the County provides field services and shelter services are provided by non-profit
- ▶ The non-profit has contracts with cities to provide shelter services

# Contracted Model

- ▶ All aspects of field and shelter services provided through non-profit or private provider
- ▶ Marin County, California is an example. Marin Humane Society is the contracted provider
- ▶ Contract with government agency

# Independent Agency Model

- ▶ Separate government agency, such as some water districts
- ▶ Southeast Area Animal Control Authority in Downey, CA is an example
- ▶ Overseen by an Independent Board



# Considerations

- ▶ Differences in communities significant in how programs funded, resources, capabilities
- ▶ Lack information about level of interest and capacity locally
- ▶ Lack information about potential costs of different models locally
- ▶ Contracting cities have not been approached about alternative models

# Possible Next Steps

- ▶ Conduct further research on models
- ▶ Provide community outreach to seek input and feedback on governance
- ▶ Disseminate RFI to seek suggestions and potential partners
- ▶ Continue current County model of governance

# Continuous Community Body

Board asked PHD to consider different models, options include:

- ✓ Countywide commission focusing on broad issues of animal welfare
- ✓ Animal Services Advisory Committee focused on our Animal Services program
- ✓ Continue current Oversight Team