

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION (AHA) ASSESSMENT OF THE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES PROGRAM



- Dr. Takashi Wada, PHD

# BACKGROUND

- ◉ AHA performed an assessment of our Animal Services program January through April 2015
- ◉ In June, AHA presented 14 key findings and many recommendations
- ◉ Today we provide an initial 3 month report on the process and approach for addressing recommendations

# OVERSIGHT TEAM

- Team with County staff and community stakeholders was created to advise through the prioritization and implementation of the recommendations
- Separate meetings were held with key partners and a neutral facilitator to work through longstanding tensions and additional members were added to the Oversight Team

# OVERSIGHT TEAM MEMBERS

- ◉ Charlotte Alexander, SMV Humane Society
- ◉ Jill Anderson, Shadow's Fund
- ◉ Dr. Barnes, Veterinarian
- ◉ Amy Black, Volunteer
- ◉ Chris Erskine, Volunteer
- ◉ Robbie Filkorn, CAPA
- ◉ Jan Glick, Animal Services
- ◉ Linda Greco, Animal Care Foundation
- ◉ Shirley Jansen, DAWG
- ◉ Susan Klein-Rothschild, PHD
- ◉ Pete Miller, Animal Services
- ◉ Dr. Relly Nadler, Facilitator
- ◉ Angela Rockwell, ASAP
- ◉ Phil Seymour, BUNS
- ◉ Nancy Vasquez, Project Manager
- ◉ Dr. Takashi Wada, PHD
- ◉ Janelle Ward, K-9 PALS

# OVERSIGHT TEAM PROCESS

Review of each of the recommendations listed in the assessment and categorize as:

- ⦿ Already being done
- ⦿ Quick win (within 3 months with no new resources)
- ⦿ Implement in the future
- ⦿ Will not implement
- ⦿ More discussion

There are some recommendations that fall into more than one category.

# ALREADY BEING DONE

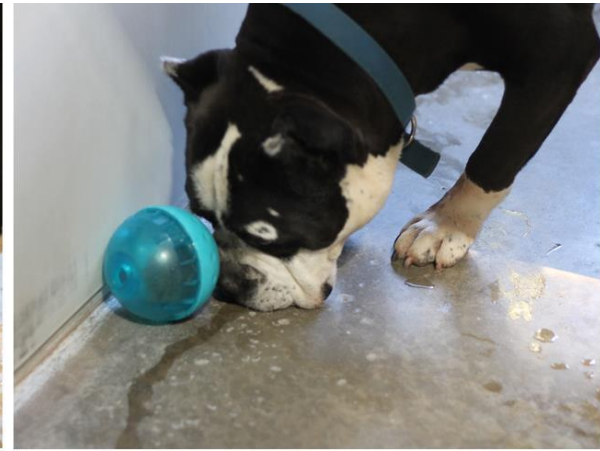
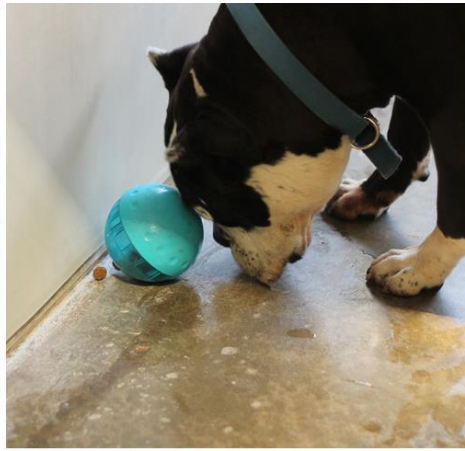
Many in this category relate to the area of safety and new positions including:

- Conduct OSHA training
- Conduct hazards assessment
- Initial spring cleaning of all outdoor areas
- Install surveillance system
- Ensure employees handling wildlife have rabies vaccines

# QUICK WINS

Many in this category are facility and organizationally related including:

- Weigh animals on intake
- Promote overlooked animals
- Devise a robust rabbit adoption program
- Start an active discussion regarding dogs exhibiting severe emotional distress and create action plan
- Improve medical care to alleviate suffering and improve adoptability



# NEXT STEPS

- ◉ Continue categorization and prioritization
- ◉ Continue to build relationships with partners
- ◉ In depth discussion of some recommendations
- ◉ Develop an integrated plan for implementation of recommendations, including future role of Oversight Team