



The Executive Summary should be interpreted within the context of the complete engagement report.

July 2019

## BACKGROUND

City Management requested that Internal Audit review the live release rates for the Animal Shelter. The Animal Shelter calculates the live release rate in accordance with the Asilomar Accords.

## Animal Shelter Live Release Rate Review

### SCOPE

Our audit work covered the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2018.

### OBJECTIVES

- Review and confirm the accuracy of the live release rate calculations
- Determine compliance with established policies and procedures related to Shelter Data and the live release rate
- Compare processes for shelter data and live release rates to best practices and identify any opportunities for improvement

### OBJECTIVE CONCLUSIONS

- The live release rate is accurate as calculated and reported.
- The Shelter complied with its policies and procedures related to the live release rate.
- We believe that the Aurora Animal Shelter is effectively applying best practices.



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## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESPONSE

### Recommendations

- The Animal Shelter should report additional performance information in addition to the Asilomar Live Release Rate to Management to provide a more holistic view of shelter operations.
- For each use of pre-euthanasia (sedation) solution and Fatal-Plus the technician documents the initials of the technician and animal holder in the physical log books. The *Logging Fatal Plus* SOP should be updated to reflect this change.
- Management creates an SOP that documents the Asilomar Accords as the guidance used for Live Release Rate calculations and that the SOP also addresses how to account for pregnant euthanized animals.

### Management's Response

- We have identified the following additional performance information to be tracked on-going: Length of stay, monthly intake numbers and types, monthly outcome numbers and types, monthly completed evaluations, monthly surgeries completed, quarterly vaccination clinic statistics-i.e. number of people served, animals vaccinated.
- Authorized staff will attend training for a new euthanasia policy and SOP that will reflect that for each use of pre-euthanasia (sedation) solution and Fatal-Plus the Euthanasia Technician will document the Technician's initials and animal holder's initials in the physical log books. The *Logging Fatal Plus* SOP was updated on May 1, 2019 to reflect this practice.
- The Shelter Supervisor along with the Shelter Veterinarian will create an SOP that documents the Asilomar Accords as the guidance used for live release rate calculations. The SOP will also address how to account for pregnant euthanized animals.

View complete audit report: [Link](#)