



Animal Control Unit Transition & Wildlife Exclusion Program Implementation



Transition & Program Implementation

- Transition the Animal Control Unit from the Sheriff Department to Animal Care Services on or prior to July 1, 2022.
- Implement a Wildlife Exclusion Program which Animal Care Services and the newly transitioned Animal Control Unit would be responsible for providing Wildlife Exclusion services for the citizens within Mendocino County on or prior to July 1, 2022.

Job Description & Class Specifications



- The current Animal Control Officer & Supervisor job descriptions would have to be updated and approved by Human Resources to include the Wildlife Exclusion duties & responsibilities.
- Time Table – 3 to 6 months

Animal Control Officer Salary Adjustment



- With the added Wildlife Exclusion duties & responsibilities the salary for the Animal Control Officers & Supervisor will have be reviewed by Human Resources to see if a salary increase is warranted.
- Time Table – 3 to 6 months

Review & Edit



- Conduct a review & edit of the Animal Control Policy & Procedures.
- Conduct a review & edit of the Animal Control Field Training Program Manual.
- Incorporate Wildlife Exclusion duties & responsibilities in the Animal Control P&P and Animal Control Field Training Program Manual.
- Time Table – 3 to 6 months

Hiring Process



- Meet with Human Resources and determine the possible testing, interviewing and hiring process & timeline for the Animal Control Officers & Supervisor positions.
- The Animal Control Unit is currently approved for (3) Animal Control Officers and (1) Animal Control Supervisor. ACS would request an additional 4th Animal Control Officer be added due to the increased workload from Wildlife Exclusion calls for service and the large geographic size (3,878 square miles) of Mendocino County.
- Time Table – 6 to 9 months

Required State of CA Training



- Currently the State of California is not offering the required Law Enforcement training for Animal Control Officers. The training will most likely be offered in late 2021 or early 2022.
- Time Table – 6 to 12 months

Animal Control Unit Office Space



- There is currently no additional office space that can be used to place the Animal Control Unit at the Ukiah Animal Shelter.
- Recommend that a mobile office trailer be rented or purchased.
- Install security fencing around the mobile office trailer & Animal Control vehicle parking area in the back of the Animal Shelter facility.
- Time Table – 6 to 9 months

Vehicle Improvements



- The current Animal Control Unit vehicle's caging is not able to be properly sanitized for diseases under industry standards due to their older deteriorating metal surfaces.
- The current Animal Control Unit vehicle's with enclosed & open caging are not equipped with interior doors thus causing a safety issue when attempting to remove aggressive animals.
- Time Table – 6 to 9 months

Vehicle Improvements



- The current Animal Control Unit vehicle with open caging allows impounded animals to be exposed to extreme weather conditions while being transported and subject to citizens possibly placing their hands & fingers into the caging where animals are kept when the vehicle is parked and the Animal Control Officer is working calls for service thus posing a liability.
- With the request to add an additional Animal Control Officer, ACS would be requesting an additional 4th vehicle. This would permit more Animal Control Officers to be working calls for service throughout the county at one time.
- Time Table – 6 to 12 months

MOU & Hours



- Create & implement and MOU that will determine how the Sheriff Department & Dispatch will assist Animal Care Services in providing animal related services.
- When the Animal Control Unit transitions to Animal Care Services the intended daily hours of service will be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily if ACS is able to obtain the (4) Animal Control Officers and (1) Supervisor.
- Time Table – 6 to 9 months

Firearms



- Meet with County Council to determine if Animal Control Officers could carry firearms on duty.
- Due to the remoteness of the work and dealing with aggressive wild or domesticated animals, ACS is requesting that the Animal Control Officers retain the ability of having a firearm while on duty.
- Currently Animal Control Officer's under the Sheriff Department carry firearms and receive routine training by the Sheriff Department.
- Time Table – 6 to 9 months

Firearms



- Under CA Penal Code Chapter 4.5 (Peace Officers) 830.9 – Animal Control Officer's can carry firearms if permitted by their employing agency and they attend the CA PC832 courses.
- Time Table – 6 to 9 months

MOU – Sonoma Wildlife



- Establish and approve by the BOS an MOU with Sonoma Wildlife for the training of the Animal Control Officer's & Supervisor on Wildlife Exclusion procedures, duties and responsibilities that also offers support for a predetermined amount of time after the program implementation.
- Time Table – 6 to 12 months



Wildlife Exclusion Fee Schedule



- Establish a fee schedule for Wildlife Exclusion services.
- Have BOS approve fee schedule.
- Time Table – 6 to 12 months



Short Term Wildlife Housing



- Have Sonoma Wildlife conduct an assessment of the current Ukiah Animal Shelter “animal housing-caging” regarding what type of improvements may be needed to house wildlife animals for short durations of time.
- Time Table – 6 to 12 months



Wildlife Exclusion Program Web-Page



- Create an educational Wildlife Exclusion Resource Web-Page that Mendocino County residents can utilize for a solution to the nuisance wildlife animal problems they're experiencing at their residence or properties.
- Time Table – 6 to 12 months