

From: Santa Fe Animal Shelter | Jackie Roach CEO philanthropy@sffhumanesociety.org
Subject: ⚠️ Important Msg ⚠️ Temporary interruption of our City Contract
Date: November 14, 2024 at 7:07 AM
To: bweiss@aol.com



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Dear SFAS Supporter,

This is going to be a long message and I appreciate your attention to the details as it will affect our community.

I'm reaching out to provide an update on our pending contract with the City of Santa Fe Animal Services Division. We have been actively negotiating an updated agreement while operating on a month-to-month basis. However, **we were informed last night that we have reached the financial limit the City can pay under these temporary terms, resulting in an interruption of services with the City of Santa Fe Animal Services.**

The City will soon issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for animal sheltering services, and we fully intend to respond. **Given our longstanding and positive partnership with the City, we are optimistic that a resolution will be reached soon.**

These negotiations have been ongoing for several months, and we were close to alignment. However, the City's most recent draft included new language that had not appeared in previous versions or in our prior contract. We believed these unilateral additions could place the Shelter at risk. We had requested that the language be revised or removed and were prepared to renew the contract as soon as those changes were agreed

upon. This was not able to occur before reaching the financial limit.

Residents within the city limits should continue to contact Animal Services as necessary during this time, which are typically lost pets or bite-quarantined animals. Please understand, until our contract is renewed, Santa Fe Animal Shelter cannot accept animals from City Animal Services. We will, however, continue to respond to owned animal emergencies as usual.

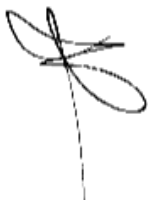
Note that our contract with Santa Fe County Animal Control is renewed, so this update pertains solely to the City of Santa Fe Animal Services Division.

For more information on the impact of this pending contract on the Shelter and our community, please see the FAQs below.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued support.

Jackie Roach

CEO, Santa Fe Animal Shelter



FAQS

What should I do if I need an animal picked up within City bounds?

- Contact City of Santa Fe Animal Services Division at 505-955-2701.

What would constitute an owned animal emergency?

- Santa Fe Animal Shelter (SFAS) defines an emergency as an immediate threat to life or limb of owned animals as determined by conversation with the

to the or time of owned animals as determined by conversation with the owner.

What kind of contract do we have with City & County?

- While we share a small portion of a building, the Santa Fe Animal Shelter (SFAS) and both the City of Santa Fe Animal Services Division and the County of Santa Fe Animal Control are three separate organizations. Santa Fe Animal Shelter is a private non-profit organization, funded mostly by community contributions. We are contracted to provide services to animals that local Animal Services agencies pick up. The three entities are entirely separate outside of this contractual relationship, and while we work closely and respectfully together to better the lives of animals in our community, we have different approaches and abilities.
- Santa Fe Animal Shelter is a private, nonprofit organization, and the City of Santa Fe Animal Services Division is an entity of the Santa Fe Police Department; the County of Santa Fe Animal Control is an entity of the Santa Fe Sheriff's Department. We lease office space to local Animal Service agencies (Santa Fe City and County) to serve the community more efficiently, knowing that it is in everyone's best interest to have the care and reunification of animals happening under the same roof.
- Because the City and County's Animal Services departments don't operate a shelter and care facility, those duties are contracted out to Santa Fe Animal Shelter. The Animal Services departments are responsible for code enforcement (complaints, compliance with laws, etc.) and investigations regarding animal neglect, cruelty and animal bites. Santa Fe Animal Shelter is responsible for all shelter operations and programs, including housing and care for shelter animals; lost and found; pet licenses; adoptions; volunteerism; foster care; rescue efforts; providing resources to families with pets in need; and low-cost vaccination and microchip clinics.
- Once Animal Services brings an animal to the Shelter, SFAS is contracted to provide basic care for these animals for the mandated stay hold, which is approximately five days. SFAS exceeds these standards with the care and support we offer our residents. After the legal hold period (stray hold) expires, SFAS assumes ownership and responsibility for the care of these animals.
- As capacity and the needs of the Animal Services agencies allows, Santa Fe Animal Shelter also houses and cares for animals being held for any Animal

Services hearings and investigations.

What is the status of the contract with Santa Fe County?

- We have recently renewed an annual contract with Santa Fe County Animal Control. There is no change or interruption in services.

Does this temporary pause in services from City Animal Services open up more kennels in the Shelter?

- Unfortunately, no. We have had a 15% increase in admissions in 2024 and the current length of stay for our animals is 30% longer than past average lengths of stay, putting us over capacity.



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