

Companion Animals and
Chicago Communities:
A Strategic Assessment
for the City of Chicago

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This strategic planning study is the product of a collaboration between the Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development and Best Friends Animal Society. The Chaddick Institute, located at DePaul University in downtown Chicago, works to advance the principles of effective land use, transportation and community planning by fostering collaboration between a variety of stakeholders, including planners, developers, community leaders and residents. Best Friends Animal Society is a nonprofit, membership organization building no-kill programs and partnerships that will bring about a day when there are No More Homeless Pets. The research team is listed below.

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I. Introduction

The prevalence of pets in American cities has left municipal officials searching for solutions to a variety of problems related to owned and unowned animals, ranging from concerns about stray animals transmitting diseases to the relationship between dog fighting and gang violence. Many facilities devoted to animal care and control and charged with addressing these issues are stretched to the limit. Some city ordinances have become outdated; others are lacking in proper enforcement or are too narrow in scope to counteract the problems that spurred their creation. Similarly, coordination between city departments is often lacking, resulting in piecemeal strategies that are often ineffective or vulnerable to budget cuts during difficult economic times. Cooperation and collaboration with the private sector are often lacking.

This report seeks to put the City of Chicago on a different path with a fact-based understanding of the homeless, abused and at-risk pet population. The effort is an important first step in documenting how companion-animal issues influence quality of life and how stakeholders can work together to create and maintain safe and healthy communities. This report seeks to bring together elected officials, city departments, nonprofit organizations, and pet-related businesses and professionals to comprehensively solve a variety of companion-animal issues. It summarizes the status of notable animal-related problems in the city and recommends ten initiatives that stakeholders can take to achieve a set of clearly defined goals in a fiscally responsible manner.

Research behind this effort began in late 2008 when Best Friends Animal Society (Best Friends) started working with the Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development at DePaul University (Chaddick). These organizations drew upon the principles of effective municipal planning to develop an understanding of the factors affecting the companion-animal population that is homeless, abused or at risk and to identify how these factors affect city residents. The team sought to identify comprehensive solutions that, through the development of a strategic plan involving the entire community, could be implemented through both public and private initiatives.

On February 10, 2009, the Chicago City Council unanimously passed a resolution introduced by Alderman Gene Schulter (47th Ward) supporting the effort. Between January and November 2009, the team collected extensive data from numerous city departments and local nonprofit organizations. During the latter half of that year, the team spent considerable time systematically analyzing the data, talking to stakeholders, reviewing the municipal costs associated with companion-animal-related issues and examining the strategies being used by other cities so that the City of Chicago could learn from their experience.

The principal findings are reviewed in the five sections below. Section II describes the “urban-planning framework” that Chaddick employed and provides an overview of the data the research team collected. Section III compares Chicago’s policies with those in other cities and large metropolitan areas, seeking to extract lessons about how these other cities can inform local policy. Section IV summarizes key findings from the data-collection and analysis process and makes general observations about the status of companion-animal issues in the city. Section V provides recommendations for the Chicago City Council, city departments and various private stakeholders. These recommendations were based on the

data analyzed, feedback from a day-long strategic planning session with stakeholders and input from elected officials and the study's advisory panel. The final section, Section VI, offers concluding remarks. Taken together, these sections lay the groundwork for creating a collaborative initiative in Chicago that could serve as a template for other cities to use.

We do not attempt to present this document as an exhaustive summary of all of the animal-related issues facing Chicago. Rather, the report focuses primarily on pressing issues and the underappreciated interrelationship among the issues. The recommendations, while targeting only some of the issues related to companion animals, begin to position companion animal issues as larger community issues and point the way toward policy improvements that could influence quality of life in Chicago communities.

II. Research Goals and Data Collection

Adhering to an "urban planning framework" means giving primacy to policies that enhance the quality of life for urban residents, promote economic development, and advance the principles of good governance. Rather than focusing on how particular policies affect the welfare of animals, which is a worthy goal in its own right, this framework concentrates on how policies related to the animal population affect human inhabitants and city government. With these goals in mind, the study reviews the municipal resources available to solve problems and strives to expand public understanding of the role of companion-animal policy. The recommendations leverage partnerships between city departments and stakeholders in the animal welfare sector that already exist and also identify new ones that would minimize the financial burden on the municipal government.

Previous research on companion animal issues, while often poignant and relevant, is generally aimed at promoting private action or educating the general public. Research conducted by the animal welfare sector -- that by private animal-welfare organizations, for example -- is often produced to sway public opinion in particular directions with hopes that policy changes will follow. In some instances, the findings are intended to advance the goals of the sponsoring organization. For instance, research produced by the veterinarian medicine sector is often aimed at practicing veterinarians or other individuals functioning in the animal-care sector; research produced by the animal shelter community is often aimed at animal shelters or other individuals functioning in the animal-rescue or welfare sector. The findings of these studies are important, but they are often not easily transferable to agendas of municipal officials, who must strike a balance between competing budgetary and social concerns.

For these reasons, this report sets out on a different course, limiting its recommendations to those that administrative leaders in the City of Chicago and their counterparts in the nonprofit sector could feasibly implement. We assume that readers already have acquired a basic understanding of the ethical and cultural issues that accompany the safe and humane treatment of animals.

The task of organizing the data and surveying professional opinion was shared between Best Friends and Chaddick, with some of the principal data-collection efforts summarized below (Table 1).

Table 1
Methods of Data Collection and Surveying Expert Opinion

Period	Data Collection Task
2008	Preliminary research regarding data collection selection and methodology
Jan. – Oct. 2009	Data collected from Chicago's Commission on Animal Care and Control (CACC) and various city departments and nonprofit organizations
Apr. – Dec. 2009	A national review of best practices and municipal initiatives
March – Nov. 2009	Interviews and discussion sessions held with community and organizational leaders and city aldermen and officials
Oct. – Nov. 2009	Geographic analysis and mapping performed by another urban-research center at DePaul, some of which is featured in the body of this report as well as a separate appendix of exhibits
Nov. 2008 – Feb. 2010	Quarterly meetings at City Hall of the Companion Animal Study Advisory Panel, chaired by Alderman Schulter and including the City Clerk's office, the Chicago Police Department, Chicago Animal Care and Control and the community. Additional input and suggestions were provided by aldermen, animal-care professionals and stakeholders in the community.
October 7, 2009	A day-long strategic planning retreat with local animal welfare experts held at DePaul University
March 2010	Presentation of findings to the City Council (pending)

The analysis conducted for the study involves data collected mainly from the following entities, four of which are units of Chicago's municipal government.

1. Chicago's Commission on Animal Care and Control (CACC). The research team reviewed paper records at the David R. Lee Animal Care facility, located at 2741 South Western Avenue, to build a data set encompassing records on 6,278 animals (28.8% of the 21,836 annual total) coming into and leaving the public shelter between January and December 2008. The recorded data included the type of intake (i.e., why and how dogs and cats entered the public shelter), the source of the intake (i.e., what areas of the city), the outcome (i.e., how animals left the public shelter) and, if the animal was euthanized, the reason for that action. Much of this was obtained from inventory cards (paper cards used to track individual animals) at the CACC facility that had not previously been systematically analyzed, thus providing baseline data that will be useful in trend analysis in the future. To gain

additional understanding of the reasons for euthanasia, information on 14,703 euthanized dogs and cats was obtained from the complete 2008 Controlled Substance Log.

2. Private Shelters in Chicago. The research team obtained information on intake and outcomes from the private animal welfare organizations that belong to the Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance (CASA). This information has been collected annually since 2006 as part of a larger effort to secure financial support from Maddie's Fund, a national organization that provides grant funding to coalitions of animal welfare groups working to reduce the number of animals euthanized.

3. Chicago Police Department. The research team obtained statistics on crimes and arrests from police records related to companion-animal issues. This data helped us to develop a more thorough understanding of the geographic distribution of some of the problems related to companion animals. It allowed us to identify neighborhoods that are disproportionately affected by these issues.

4. Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC). The research team obtained statistics on the prevalence and geographic distribution of 911 (emergency) and 311 (non-emergency) calls for service related to animals throughout the city.

5. Office of the Clerk of the City of Chicago (City Clerk). The research team obtained a record of the number and type of licenses issued to animal-related businesses in Chicago as well as dog licensing data and the city budget.

6. Cook County Animal and Rabies Control. The research team obtained information on rabies tags, managed feral cat colonies and subsidized spay/neuter procedures.

7. Federal agencies. The research team utilized U.S. Census data as well as IRS Federal 990 data on the budgets of private shelters in the city.

A summary of the data collected appears in Table 2 on the following page.

Concerns over the quality of some of the data were dealt in a variety of ways. For example, many of the paper records at CACC were incomplete or unreadable. In these instances, our use of random sampling assured that the missing observations did not result in biased estimates. Another problem was that the information collected by animal welfare organizations and the definitions of certain categories of animals have changed over time, making trends in intake or outcomes difficult to measure or identify. In these instances, we dealt with the changes systematically. However, we believe it is important to create standardized guidelines for data collected in the future to limit the severity of this problem.

Our research also incorporates key-informant interviews. Throughout 2009, the team conducted interviews with various stakeholders, including animal business owners, veterinarians, members of the private animal welfare community and community residents in order to gauge perceptions and better understand the probable success of the policies being advocated by various groups. These efforts provided perspective on the environment in which companion animal issues occur. Although the sample of participants was non-representative (too few respondents), the

comments highlighted some general perceptions of the stakeholders and other community members who were living in parts of the city disproportionately affected by companion-animal issues.

Table 2
Summary of Data Collected

Data Item	Description	Source
Inventory Cards	Sample Data (2008)	Chicago's Commission on Animal Care and Control (CACC)
Controlled Substance Log	Mandated record that includes date of intake/outcome, breed of animal and reasons for euthanasia (2008)	CACC
Adoption Contracts	Completed by individuals adopting animals from shelter (2008)	CACC
Transfer Contracts	Completed by shelters transferring animals out of public shelter (2008; unable to locate contracts from March-May)	CACC
Return-to-Owner (RTO) Contracts	Completed by owners retrieving their lost animals from the shelter (2008)	CACC
Annual Reports	Source of monthly intake data (2008)	CACC
Maddie's Fund Data	Data reported to Maddie's Fund by shelters belonging to the Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance with information on animal intake and disposition (2006 - 2008)	Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance (CASA)
CASA Shelter Budgets	Annual budgets of the non-profit shelters belonging to the Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance (2008)	990 Tax forms as submitted to the IRS
Dog Licensing Data	Record of dog licenses issued by the City of Chicago (2007 – 2009)	Office of the Clerk of the City of Chicago (City Clerk)
Rabies Vaccinations	Record of Rabies Vaccinations issued by Cook County	Cook County Animal and Rabies Control
Arrest Records	Animal related arrests made by the Chicago Police Department (2007-2008)	Chicago Police Department
Crime Reports	Animal-related crime reports filed with the Chicago Police Department (2007-2008)	Chicago Police Department
311 calls for service	Record of animal related-calls for non-emergency service made to 311 (2004-08 by call type and year; 2007-09 combined by call type and zip code).	Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC)
911 calls for service	Record of animal-related calls for emergency service made to 911 (2004-2008)	OEMC
Business Licenses	Record of current business licenses issued to animal related businesses in Chicago (2009)	City Clerk
Dog Parks	Listing of dog parks and dog friendly areas operated by Chicago Park District (2009)	Chicago Park District
Demographic data	Information on race, ethnicity, income, household size, education and other demographic data for the City of Chicago (2007 projections/estimates)	Census Bureau ⁱ

III. Comparing Chicago to Other Cities

The research team explored the policies being pursued and implemented by other municipalities. This investigation encompassed 16 municipalities (15 in the United States and one in Calgary, Alberta, Canada), including: i) those that are similar to Chicago with respect to population, demographics, and historical municipal and economic development patterns; ii) those that are identified in the professional literature about animal welfare for having unique solutions to companion animal issues or unusually high/low rates of euthanasia, and iii) those that devote considerable resources to grappling with animal-related challenges due to rapid growth. Some of the most notable results of our investigation are summarized in Tables 3 and 4.

The following sub- sections summarize some of the key differences among municipal governments.

Public Funding and Earmarking

On a per-capita basis, funding in Chicago's animal shelter is well below the mean. Spending by the CAAC is about \$1.70 per capita, compared to \$5.30 in Los Angeles and \$4.36 in Miami, putting its rate well below most other cities that have large, publicly operated shelter systems. Among the cities surveyed with populations of more than one million, only two, Houston and New York, rank lower. Of the 16 cities surveyed Chicago ranks third from the bottom.

New York spends only \$1.20 per capita, substantially less than Chicago. The significance of the spending differential, however, is deceiving. Animal care and control efforts in New York are the responsibility of a non-profit organization that has substantially more flexibility than the typical city department. Whereas Chicago's animal shelter spends a full 90% of its annual budget on costs related to city employees (many of whom are unionized and governed by rigid collective bargaining agreements), the nonprofit in New York works in a more collaborative non-unionized environment and spends only about 60% of their budget on staffing.

Non-profit organizations are also responsible for both animal care and animal control efforts in Philadelphiaⁱⁱ and animal care efforts in Baltimore (animal control is the responsibility of the city's Health Department), which also rely heavily on volunteers to supplement the efforts of paid staff. The nonprofits are free of some of the difficult political forces and bureaucratic restraints that face government agencies. Another advantage is that all contributions made to these entities are tax deductible, which has created a tradition of philanthropic giving that does not exist at Chicago's public shelter, with the exception of the private, non-profit organization Friends of Animal Care and Control. The flexibility provided by this approach could give cities the ability to launch initiatives that are not possible in other cities.

Our national survey shows that many other municipalities, including Albuquerque, Los Angeles and New York, actively use earmarked funds to support both programs and services (Table 4, column c). These funds are typically earmarked for low-cost or free spay/neuter services, educational initiatives and general financial support for the public shelters. In addition to securing a revenue stream for companion animal initiatives, earmarking can serve to entice responsible pet owners to participate in licensing efforts, marking compliance as a moral act that helps mitigate animal issues within the city.

Table 3
Rates of Animal Intake, Per Capita Spending and Euthanasia

(a) Municipal Government	(b) Animal Intake (2008)	(c) Per Capita Animal Intake	(d) Euthanasia Rate (2008)	(e) Per Capita Public Spending	(f) No. of Muni. Adoption Facilities (2007)	(g) Pop. Served (2008)	(h) Median Hshold Income (2007)
Chicago	21,836	.008	57%	1.71	1	2.8 M	\$45,505
Albuquerque	27,197	.052	43%	2.09	3	522,000	\$43,677
Atlanta (DeKalb Co.)	5,673 (dogs)	.008	67% (dogs)	3.37	1	740,000	\$51,753
Atlanta (Fulton Co.)	8,851	.009	40%	N/A	1	1 M	\$58,052
Baltimore	11,008	.017	48%	2.07	1	637,000	\$36,894
Charlotte	18,977	.021	66%	5.49	1	891,000	\$56,114
Dallas	36,616	.028	76%	5.38	1	1.3 M	\$40,986
Denver	7,070	.011	41%	4.63	1	599,000	\$44,444
Houston	26,243	.012	80%	1.45	1	2.2 M	\$40,856
Los Angeles	54,191	.014	36%	5.30	6	3.8 M	\$48,882
Louisville	15,920	.022	59%	2.53	3	713,877	\$31,624
Miami	34,524	.014	65%	4.36	1	2.4 M	\$43,495
New York	42,248	.005	35%	1.20	3	8.4 M	\$48,631
Philadelphia	33,801	.024	45%	N/A	2	1.4 M	\$35,365
Phoenix, AZ (County)	54,751	.014	47%	3.06	2	4 M	\$54,733
San Antonio	40,572	.029	82%	5.50	1	1.4 M	\$41,593
San Francisco	9,131	.011	26%	3.75	1	800,000	\$68,023

*All data listed is self reported and was obtained in October-November 2009. Euthanasia data is for 2008 and includes dogs and cats unless otherwise noted. The number of municipal adoption facilities noted only includes government entities. The per capita spending for **Atlanta (DeKalb County)** is based on 2007 data. **Baltimore**'s public shelter is operated by a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. **Dallas** Animal Intake totals and per capita rate are calculated using fiscal year 2009 data. **Denver**'s Intake and Euthanasia rates are based on 2007 data. **Houston**'s intake number and euthanasia rate are based on 2005 data; their per capita spending was calculated using 2004 budget figures. **Los Angeles**' Median Household Income is based on 2008 data. **New York**'s Public Shelter is operated by a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. **Philadelphia** public funding is reported on a state-wide basis, so we were unable to calculate per capita public spending. **Phoenix** Intake numbers are based on 2007 data. **San Antonio**'s intake and euthanasia rates are based on 2007 data.

Table 4
Selected Municipal Practices for Animal Care and Control*

(a) Municipal Government	(b) Differential License fee for altered dogs	(c) Revenue Earmarked for Companion Animal Initiatives	(d) Total Hours per week for adoption at Public Shelter(s)	(e) Available Animals for Adoption listed or pictured on municipal website	(f) Municipal funding of Mobile Spay/ Neuter Unit
Chicago	Yes	No	42 to 16.75	No	Yes
Albuquerque	No	Yes	174 (3 sites)	Yes	Yes
Atlanta (DeKalb Co.)	Yes	No	42	Yes	No
Atlanta (Fulton Co.)	Yes	Yes	53	Yes	No
Baltimore	Yes	No	30	Yes	No
Calgary	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	No
Charlotte	Yes	No	52	Yes	No
Dallas	Yes	No	42.5	Yes	No
Denver	No	No	40.5	Yes	No
Houston	Yes	No	38	Yes	Yes
Los Angeles	Yes	Yes	246 (6 sites)	Yes	Yes
Louisville	Yes	No	48	Yes	No
Miami	Yes	No	54.5	Yes	Yes, partial
New York	Yes	Yes	147 (3 sites)	Yes	Yes
Philadelphia	Yes	Yes	49	Yes	No
Phoenix, AZ (county)	Yes	Yes	91 (2 sites)	Yes	Yes
San Antonio	Yes	No	35.5	Yes	No
San Francisco	Yes	No	43	Yes	Yes

***Chicago**'s Adoption Hours varied during the course of this study, from 42 hours at the end of 2008 to 16.75 hours in December 2009. The **Albuquerque** Humane and Ethical Animal Rules and Treatment (HEART) Ordinance Fund allows 60% of all net License and Permit fees to be deposited into a fund for free low and moderate income microchipping and spay/neuter. Revenue from **New Mexico**'s Spay/Neuter license plates also goes toward funding these services. **Calgary**'s licensing fees funds a wide variety of animal related services. **Calgary** does not have open adoption hours; instead, potential adopters are contacted to schedule an appointment to view adoptable animals. **Houston**'s free mobile spay/neuter is available through a city-based program managed by a non-profit organization. **Miami**'s mobile spay/neuter is only available during the summer months. **Philadelphia**'s municipal operations are contracted out to a non-profit organization, Pennsylvania SPCA, which operates one adoption facility in the city. **San Antonio** has a mobile spay/neuter program offered through a non-profit organization but not affiliated with the city.

Cook County does earmark funds collected from veterinarians who provide rabies vaccinations. (In 2009, the county's Department of Animal and Rabies Control issued 112,934 rabies tags for dogs, cats and ferrets residing within Chicago). These funds help pay for the low-cost rabies vaccine and microchip clinics, about one-third of which were conducted within Chicago during 2009 (1,548 rabies vaccinations out of 4,532 countywide). Chicago residents also participate in the county's annual spay/neuter rebate program, where any citizen of the county who has their animal spayed or neutered by their veterinarian can receive a rebate of up to \$40. In February 2009 alone, animal owners in Chicago received \$66,340 in such rebates, representing about 35% of all rebates issued.

Some municipalities, such as Albuquerque, Calgary and Los Angeles, and some states collect various earmarked fees or taxes in other ways to subsidize identified programs. Since 2005, for example, the state of Maine has imposed a fee on large-scale pet food distributors, which is used to support spay/neuter programs throughout the stateⁱⁱⁱ. Several other states, such as Washington and West Virginia, have submitted similar proposals for the 2010 legislative session. Other municipalities have imposed a tax on unaltered animals purchased from pet stores.

Intake per capita and Euthanasia

Animal intake into Chicago's public shelter is lower than the median among large cities when expressed on a per capita basis. Chicago's intake rate of 0.008 per capita (or eight animals taken into the shelter annually per one thousand residents) is well above New York's rate (.005) but lower than that of Los Angeles (.014) and the majority of other cities we evaluated. Of the 16 cities we studied, Chicago ranks second from the bottom (tied with DeKalb County, Atlanta) in terms of the rate of animal intake. As noted in section IV, part of the reason for the relatively lower ranking is the vital role of private shelters in Chicago. Moreover, whereas Los Angeles has six intake locations and New York has three, Chicago's public shelter has only one. It should be noted, however, that three *private* shelters in Chicago (Animal Welfare League, Harmony House for Cats, and Tree House Humane Society) are authorized to accept stray animals on behalf of the city. (In 2009, PAWS Chicago also received authorization.)

The rate of euthanasia is relatively high in Chicago. CACC's rate (57%) is appreciably higher than public shelters in New York (35%) and Los Angeles (36%), the two cities closest to Chicago in population. San Francisco has a rate of only 26%, less than half that of Chicago. As previous noted, the role of a nonprofit organization in New York's shelter system has allowed that city to reduce euthanasia rates to a level more than 20 percentage points below that of Chicago. Overall, of the 16 cities we studied Chicago ranks 7th highest (excluding DeKalb County, Atlanta, which only reports euthanasia rates for dogs). Euthanasia is discussed in more detail in Section IV.

A notable method for reducing animal intake is developing and implementing a robust feral cat program. These programs aim to reduce the number of stray cats being euthanized through the establishment of community care takers through a process by which feral cats are "Trapped, Neuter/spayed, vaccinated and Returned" (TNR) to specific colonies. In 2008, the municipal shelter in Jacksonville, Florida, partnered with First Coast No More Homeless Pets (FCNMHP, a local non-profit) to implement a program called "Feral Freedom". The program, partially funded by Best Friends Animal Society, allows FCNMHP to pick up feral cats from animal care and control. The cats are altered, vaccinated and microchipped before being returned to the area near where they were picked up.

Educational materials about the Feral Freedom program are distributed to residents living near the return site to provide residents information on how they can keep unwanted feral cats away from their property. According to data collected by FCNMHP, the impact of the Feral Freedom program on feline shelter deaths is shown by comparing year end 2007-2008 to year end 2008-2009: in that comparison, feral cat and kitten euthanasia was reduced from 84% to 19%, and overall cat euthanasia was reduced from 79% to 47%.

Legislative Initiatives

Our research found that most municipal ordinances and legislative initiatives involving companion animals are designed to reduce the pet population and animal control costs, protect the public or animals, protect the public's health and enhance the quality of life. Within these broad categories, however, there are tremendous differences in the strategies that municipalities employ. We also found striking differences, for example, in policies governing spaying/neutering (sterilization) as well as dangerous dog/reckless owner legislation.

Pet Population Control. Many cities require all animals adopted from a shelter or purchased from a pet store be sterilized prior to being transferred to private ownership. Some cities even require that strays found running "at large" be sterilized before being returned to their owners. Other cities prohibit unsterilized cats from being allowed outside, while still others embrace the concept of "community cats" (or feral cats) through allowing - and in some cases subsidizing – TNR (trap, neuter, return) programs. Illinois enacted Anna's law (Public Act 95-0639, the Illinois Public Safety and Animal Population Control Act), which makes funding possible so feral cat caretakers recognized by a city or county can get their community cats sterilized for only \$15.

Mandatory spay/neuter ordinances are nonetheless controversial. Some have been reported to have resulted in increased euthanasia. For example Los Angeles, which saw a year over year decrease in their euthanasia rates in the 7 years prior to a mandatory spay/neuter program, saw an increase in euthanasia rates for 2008 and 2009, the first two years the mandatory legislation was in place^{iv}. It is unknown how external factors impacted the euthanasia rate. Although the impact of mandatory spay/neuter remains unclear (studies routinely report mixed findings), Los Angeles' mobile spay/neuter program has been hailed by some as one of the most successful in the country. The city implemented mandatory spay/neuter legislation in February 2008. Roughly six months after the legislation took effect; the city stopped issuing vouchers entitling low-income residents, disabled residents and senior citizens to sterilization services at veterinarians or animal shelters. Presently, all free or low-cost sterilization is offered by two mobile clinics operated by private nonprofit foundations but largely funded by the city. These two mobile clinics offer sterilization services in various neighborhoods almost every day of each month. This mobile spay/neuter model is discussed in further detail in the recommendations section of this report.

City ordinances requiring that all animals adopted from a shelter or purchased from a pet store be sterilized, of course, are motivated by this same goal. Mandatory microchipping helps reduce the pet population in animal shelters by reuniting pets with their owners. Some cities, including Albuquerque, Dallas and Los Angeles, use this type of ordinance in place of licensing and/or in an effort to increase redemption of found/lost animals. Closer to Chicago, Kankakee County, Illinois, is similarly noteworthy for requiring both microchipping and licensing.

Another municipal strategy is to restrict the number of dogs and cats a person can own. Legislation in this area varies widely between municipalities. Typically, limits on the number of animals are based on the size of the residence's lot. Some cities also set different limits for altered versus non-altered animals and others restrict how many animals a kennel can house. Other municipalities do not limit the number of dogs but have strict guidelines about how long animals can be kept outside. In general, these legislative efforts seem to be aimed at mitigating complaints from neighbors rather than lowering the risk of animal surrender or release onto the streets. Unfortunately, there is little research on the benefit or cost of these types of ordinances: we could find no documented connection between companion animal household limits and the number of unwanted animals found in the community. Nor did we find a connection between limits and the number of complaints made by residents.

Reckless Owner/Dangerous Dog Legislation. Reckless owners are often recidivists. That is, if one dog is removed from them, they simply acquire another. A recent trend to enhance public safety is to prohibit proven reckless owners from maintaining pets. Tacoma, Washington, has a problem-pet-owner ordinance, and St. Paul, Minnesota, prohibits reckless owners from owning pets. Illinois prohibits convicted felons from owning unsterilized dogs, dogs not microchipped, or dogs that have been found to be "vicious" under the Illinois Animal Control Act.

According to the American Bar Association's Animal Law Committee, the most effective dangerous dog laws, consequently, tend to be "generic" ones: they do not single out specific breeds on the premise that dogs from all breeds can bite and that it is often impossible to determine the heritage of a mixed breed dog without DNA testing^v. Instead, effective dangerous dog legislation targets individual animals that have a history of aggression. Illinois has a comprehensive "potentially dangerous", "dangerous", and "vicious dog" law, although enforcement is not consistent. Some cities, such as Knoxville, Tennessee, require DNA samples from all dangerous dogs for identification as well as microchipping.

Other municipalities have legislated specific guidelines or rules for a variety of breeds of dogs (sometimes referred to as "canine profiling"). The majority of such legislation for dogs is currently aimed at pit bulls (a somewhat ambiguous term used to refer to dogs that have a certain combination of characteristics but do not belong to just one breed) and so-called "bully breed" dogs. Such "breed discriminatory legislation" ranges from bans on keeping the animals within the municipality, to mandatory sterilization, to limits on the number of animals or animals capable of reproduction that can be kept at one residence. This type of legislation is motivated by the belief that certain breeds of dogs pose a greater threat to public safety than others. However, because breed discrimination interferes with property rights and has not proven to be effective in protecting the public, twelve states now prohibit breed-discriminatory provisions^{vi}. The National Animal Control Association has also withheld its support for the use of breed specific legislation, stating in their policy report:

Dangerous and/or vicious animals should be labeled as such as a result of their actions or behavior and not because of their breed. Any animal may exhibit aggressive behavior regardless of breed. Accurately identifying a specific animal's lineage for prosecution purposes may be extremely difficult. Additionally, breed specific legislation may create an undue burden to owners who otherwise have demonstrated proper pet management and responsibility^{vii}.

Nonetheless, discriminatory legislation against particular breeds remains common. As previously noted, there is no conclusive evidence that these efforts reduce dog bites or enhance public safety. It does appear, however, that breed restrictions imposed by municipalities (or, in the case of pit-bull-type dogs, a set of characteristics) can be expensive to implement and difficult to enforce. Also, the legality of such breed-discriminatory legislation continues to be challenged in courts across the country.

Many municipalities or governments restrict the amount of time or conditions under which dogs can be tethered outside. One of the goals of this legislation is to reduce aggressive (territorial or fear-based) behavior and to discourage dog fighting—an illegal form of “entertainment” commonly linked with gang activity. According to the National Canine Research Council since the 1960s, 25% of all fatal dog attacks have involved tethered or chained dogs. Texas, for instance, restricts the amount of time and conditions when a dog can be tethered.

Community Policing Approach to Animal Control. Perhaps no North American city has had more documented success in protecting the public from dangerous dogs as Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The city takes a problem-solving or community-policing approach to animal control and works hard to educate the public. Its animal control wardens have degrees in criminal justice and mediation training. The city reports that it has reduced aggressive dog incidents by an estimated 56% in just two years and has a 92% licensing compliance. Its programs for companion animals are also financially self-supporting.

Quality-of-Life Legislation. Many cities prohibit the tethering of dogs unsupervised from 10 pm until 6 am to reduce barking complaints. Some cities, like Chicago, enact nuisance ordinances that include excessive barking. Building code statutes can be used to address complaints about unhealthy or unsightly living conditions. The Illinois Animal Control Act prohibits dogs from running at large and requires that dogs have rabies vaccinations. In addition, any dog impounded on two occasions for running at large must be sterilized. The Animal Welfare Act regulates kennels and catteries. The Humane Care for Animals Act contains the neglect and cruelty statutes. Dog fighting and bestiality are contained in the criminal code.

Licensing Programs

Virtually all cities require dog licenses and all but a handful of these cities have differential fees for altered versus unaltered dogs (Table 5). The rate of compliance, however, tends to vary widely across U.S. cities (see Exhibit 1). Although compliance is difficult to measure, largely due to uncertainty in the size of the pet population, some of the estimates that have been provided in recent years provide insight into this issue. Chicago, with an estimated compliance rate of 4 percent^{viii}, appears to be lagging behind other most cities and metropolitan regions. Los Angeles (14%) has a compliance rate exceeding that of Chicago. Miami, Albuquerque and Phoenix show calculated compliance rates above 30%.

The experience of other cities suggests that public education and enforcement are critical to achieving high rates of compliance. The success of Calgary, Canada, is particularly instructive. Calgary has achieved a self-reported 92% compliance rate thanks in large part to the implementation of a new model of enforcement and promotion. Six weeks before licenses are scheduled to expire, a letter is sent to the pet owner explaining how to re-register their animal. Two weeks after expiration, the owner is sent a reminder notice. If the owner fails to respond within four weeks of license’s expiration, a customer service agent places a telephone call to this person.

The penalties for further noncompliance are high. Six weeks after a license expires, the pet owner will receive a ticket in the mail for failing to comply with licensing requirement. This formalized system has allowed Calgary to achieve extraordinary results. The standard penalty of not licensing a pet is \$100, with the maximum fine set at \$250. There is also a penalty for dogs not wearing their license – a minimum of \$50 and maximum of \$75. Using this system, Calgary recently offered a free six-month license period during which almost 7,000 dogs were brought into compliance.

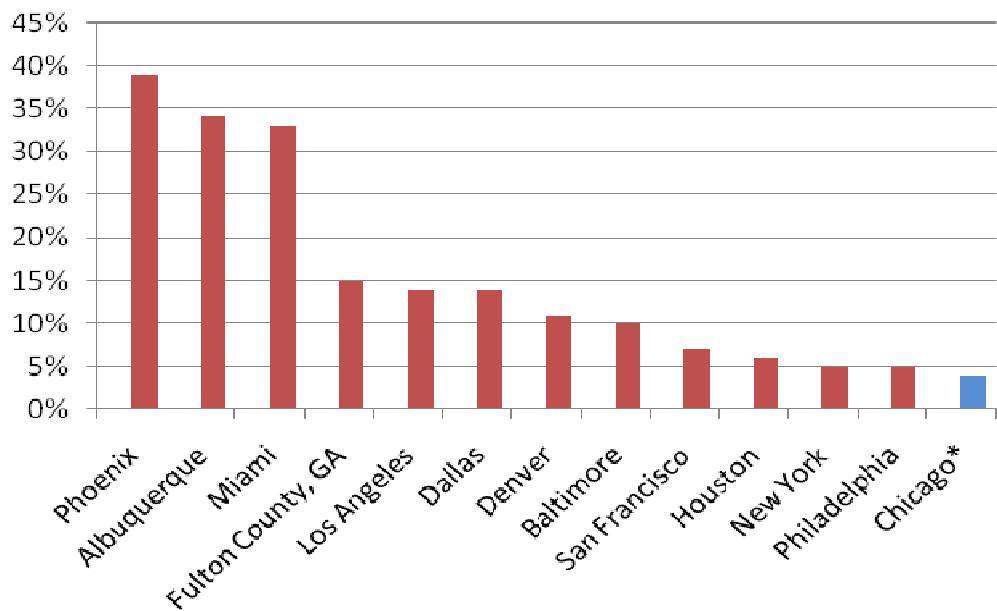
Finally, Calgary has created a concentrated media outreach campaign. As in other Canadian cities, the city places great emphasis on the message that “a dog’s license is their ticket home”. This is a message that has proven itself to appeal to responsible pet owners, who might not be aware of the dog licensing requirement, but who will participate if they feel it is in the best interest of their pets. Increasing licensing compliance not only helps to reunite pet owners with their lost pets, it also generates much-needed funds for the city. For a discussion of Chicago’s licensing efforts, please see Section IV, Principal Findings.

Table 5
Dog License Fees and Penalties

Municipal Government	Fee for Altered Dog	Fee for Unaltered Dog	Non-compliance Fine
Chicago	\$5	\$50	\$100 - \$1,000
Albuquerque	\$6	\$6	\$15
Atlanta (DeKalb Co.)	\$5	\$15	\$234 - \$1000 (Judge Discretion)
Atlanta (Fulton Co.)	\$10	\$25	\$50 - \$500 (Misdemeanor; Judge Discretion)
Baltimore	\$10	\$30	\$25
Calgary	\$31 ^{ix}	\$52	\$250
Charlotte	\$10	\$30	\$50
Dallas	\$7	\$30	\$10
Denver	\$15	\$15	\$75, \$100, \$200
Houston	\$10	\$50	\$100
Los Angeles	\$15	\$245 (1st year); \$200 for additional years	Judge discretion (usually about \$160)
Louisville	\$9	\$50 ^x	\$45 + \$15/mo for each month expired
Miami	\$25	\$50	\$160 unaltered; \$60 altered
New York	\$8.50	\$11.50	\$120
Philadelphia	\$8	\$16	\$25
Phoenix, AZ (county)	\$16	\$40	\$2/mo altered; \$4/mo unaltered
San Antonio	Free Microchip	\$50 Intact permit	\$150+ (Misdemeanor)
San Francisco	\$15	\$28	\$12

Exhibit 1

Reported Dog Licensing Compliance Rates (2008)



Note: These estimates are subject to considerable error but illustrate the apparent variances between cities. The licensing compliance rates above are calculated using the number of dog licenses reported by the municipality for 2008 divided by the estimated size of the dog population based on the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) equation. Charlotte, N.C., Louisville, Ky., San Antonio, Tex., and DeKalb County, Ga., did not report dog licensing rates.

Posting Photographs of Adoptable Animals

Virtually all cities have online resources that provide photographs of specific animals available for adoption (Table 4, column e). Until recently, however, Chicago has been an exception to this rule. Beginning in late 2009 new software allowed CACC to post animal pictures and descriptions online through PetHarbor.com. At the time of this report, however, there is no link provided to the relevant nonprofit website.

Mobile Spaying/Neutering

Chicago is noteworthy for having a mobile spaying/neutering unit. As previously noted, Los Angeles, which provides mobile spay/neuter service free of charge for low-income residents, is a leader in this area. Each month, the city offers almost 30 unique opportunities for low-cost or free spay/neuter, for a total of about 300 unique opportunities per year. (At the time of our research, one of the mobile units was no longer accepting appointments due to over scheduling.) Chicago's mobile unit is currently advertised as operating weekly but constraints on resources have reduced operations. Chicago's "Big Fix" program offers low-cost spay/neuter (\$25) on twelve days a year at their facility at 2741 S. Western Avenue.

IV. Principal Findings

This section reviews some of the principal findings from the data analysis. This discussion is divided into five sections – municipal practices, animal intake, animal disposition, safety and humane issues, and resource and policy effectiveness – each of which discusses different aspects of companion-animal issues. The figures presented are derived from 2008 data unless otherwise noted.

Municipal Practices

- i. Chicago could improve its approach to companion-animal related issues by learning from the best practices and policies of other municipalities. Some of these practices could be implemented at low-cost or generate new funding for service improvements.
- ii. Simple changes in data collection at Chicago Animal Care and Control could be made to ensure that the City has sufficient information to draw firm conclusions about all of the factors contributing to companion animal related issues or their solutions. In addition, animal welfare and animal care stakeholders do not currently have a standard format for data collection that would lend itself to data aggregation and analysis.
- iii. Chicago does not earmark funds from animal-related revenue streams, such as dog licensing, to support companion animal related initiatives.

Animal Intake

- iv. Based on the sample of animal live intake at Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC), an estimated 60% of dogs and cats are strays and about 35% are surrendered by their owners. In general, the origins of stray dogs brought into CACC tend to be more heavily concentrated on the west side, than stray cats which have origins more evenly distributed across zip codes south and west of downtown. Housing issues were the most commonly cited reason for surrendering both cats and dogs. The error margin associated with this estimate is +/-0.8%. Of these stray animals, about 52% are cats and 48% are dogs. Of the live intake of cats, 67.5% were strays. Based on animal data obtained from the Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance (CASA), strays and owner surrenders account for approximately 90% of all animals being cared for by CASA shelters, which includes CACC, in 2008. (The total intake is 36,777, including owner-requested euthanasia.)

According to the CACC sample data, housing issues are the most commonly cited reason for surrendering both cats and dogs (Exhibits 2 and 3). Included in this category, for example, are animals surrendered because their owner was moving and presumably could not take their animal with them and renters who were prevented by their landlord from keeping a pet in their home. In 2008, out of all the known reasons for relinquished animals, housing issues accounted for 25.8% and 25.5% of cat and dogs entering the shelter, respectively. The next four most commonly cited reasons for owner surrender for dogs were “euthanasia request” (13.4%), “unable to care for” (10.3%), “no time for animal” (8.8%) and “behavior issues” (8.2%). Among cat owners, the four most common reasons provided, after housing issues, were “too many animals” (15%), “behavioral issues” (7.3%), “allergic” (7.3%) and “unable to care for” (7%). It should be noted that of the CACC

sample data, 49.7% of the animals relinquished to CACC had unknown reasons or no reason provided for surrender.

The geographical origins of stray animals entering the shelter are relatively similar for dogs and cats. As a general rule, however, the origins of stray dogs brought to the shelter tend to be more heavily concentrated on the west side than stray cats, which have origins more evenly distributed across zip codes south and west of downtown. See Map 1 for a spatial representation of stray intake.

- v. Slightly more than half (52%) of stray animals and owner-surrendered animals came into CACC from neighborhoods on the south and west sides, despite the fact that these areas account for only about one-fourth of the city's population. The link between income and animal intake is particularly robust. In addition, there is a dearth of for-profit business activity devoted to companion-animal care in the areas that have the highest rates of intake.

A confluence of factors, some of which are loosely related to race and ethnicity, appear to account for these differences. For example, we found a relatively high correlation (.46) between the share of the population that is Hispanic in a zip code area and the rate of animal intake. Hence, the more residents that identify themselves as Hispanic ethnicity, the more likely the area is to have a high rate of animal intake. There is a slightly lower, but still sharply positive, correlation (.39) between the share of the population that identifies their race as Black and the rate of intake. Conversely, there is a strong *negative* correlation (-.56) between per capita income and the intake rate. In other words, as per capita income increases, the intake rate decreases. Unfortunately, our analysis is limited by the fact that the city does not collect information about the ethnicity of residents who relinquish animals to the shelter, which made it necessary for us to look at neighborhood-wide statistics when exploring the differing rate of CACC animal intake.

Neighborhoods with large minority populations tend to have lower household income, educational attainment, average age, and rates of home ownership. Similarly, neighborhoods with large minority populations tend to, on average, have higher crime and unemployment. The link between income and animal intake is particularly strong. Residents in these areas have fewer resources to devote to companion animal concerns, such as the cost of veterinary care, food, supplies and training, and are more likely to suffer from housing problems. As a result, these pet owners do not have alternatives other than CACC when problems arise.

Some of these same relationships are evident in the data we analyzed regarding the presence of animal-services businesses, such as pet supply stores, boarding facilities, training facilities, animal shelters and veterinarian offices. The data suggest that there is a dearth of for-profit business activity devoted to companion-animal care in the areas that have the highest rates of intake. The differences in the level of business activities between neighborhoods cannot be explained by differing population levels and race; instead, the evidence suggests that the geographic imbalance in animal-services businesses across the city is heavily influenced by household income and educational attainment. Fifteen zip codes on the South and West side, for example, have 24% of the city's population but only 7% of the animal-related business licenses (see Map 2).

Exhibit 2

Reason for Owner Surrender-Dogs

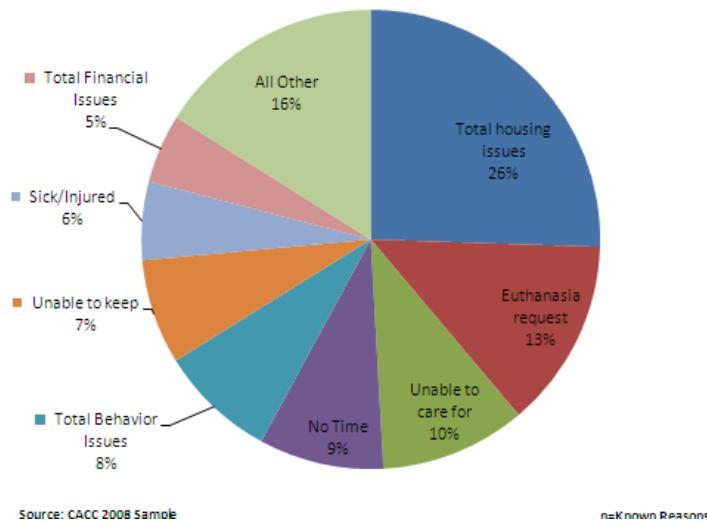
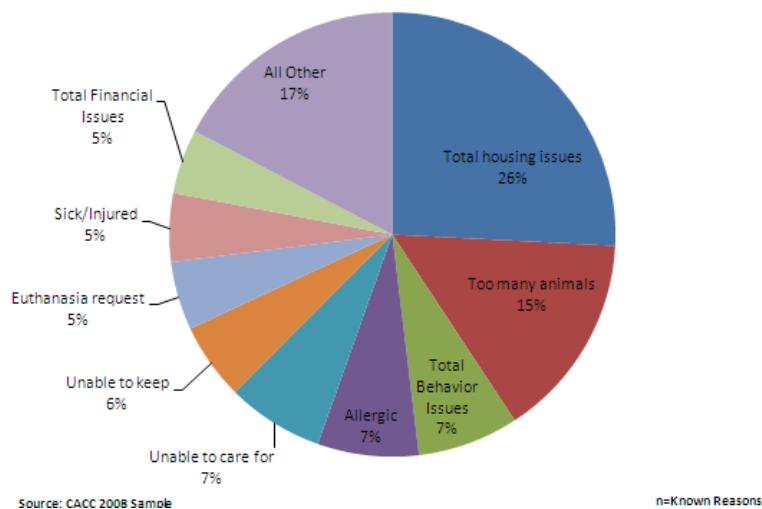
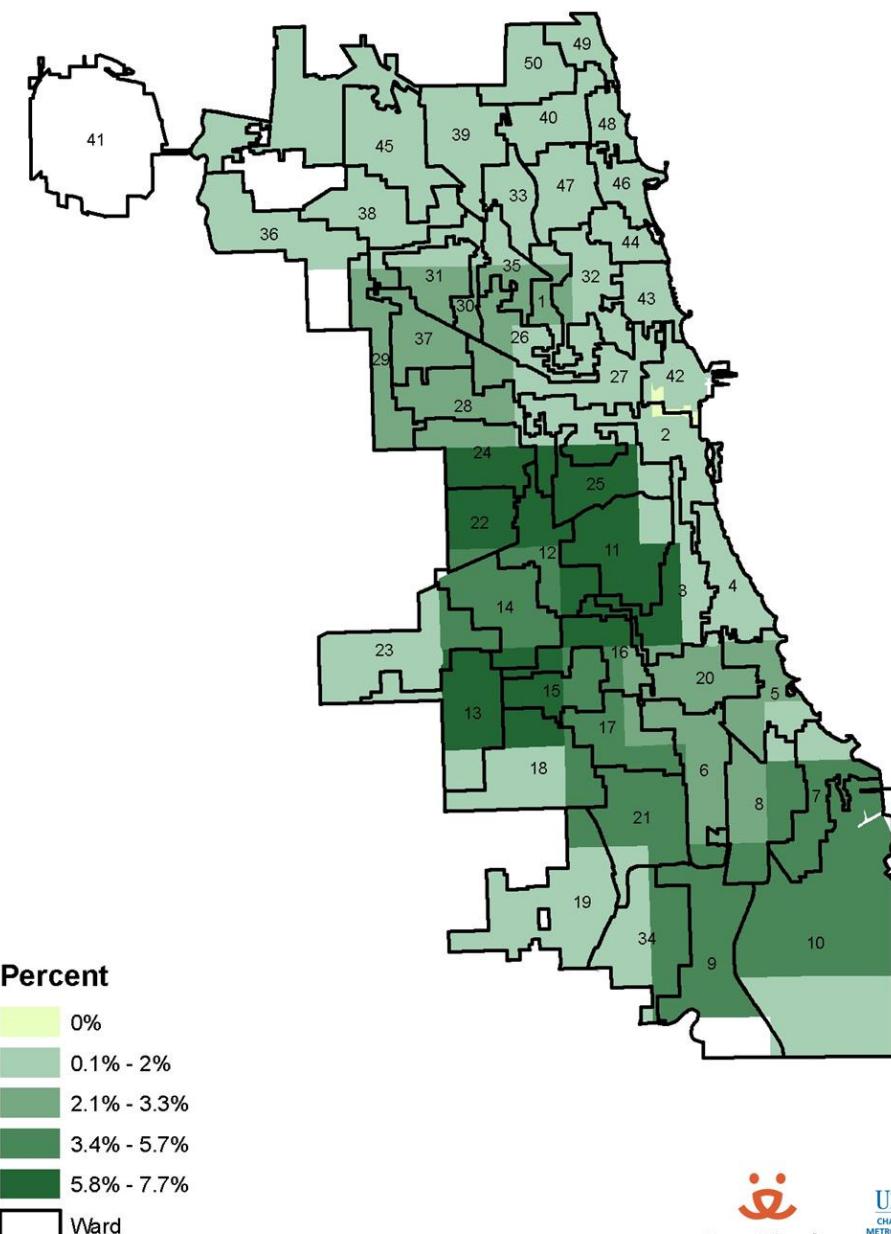


Exhibit 3

Reason for Owner Surrender-Cats

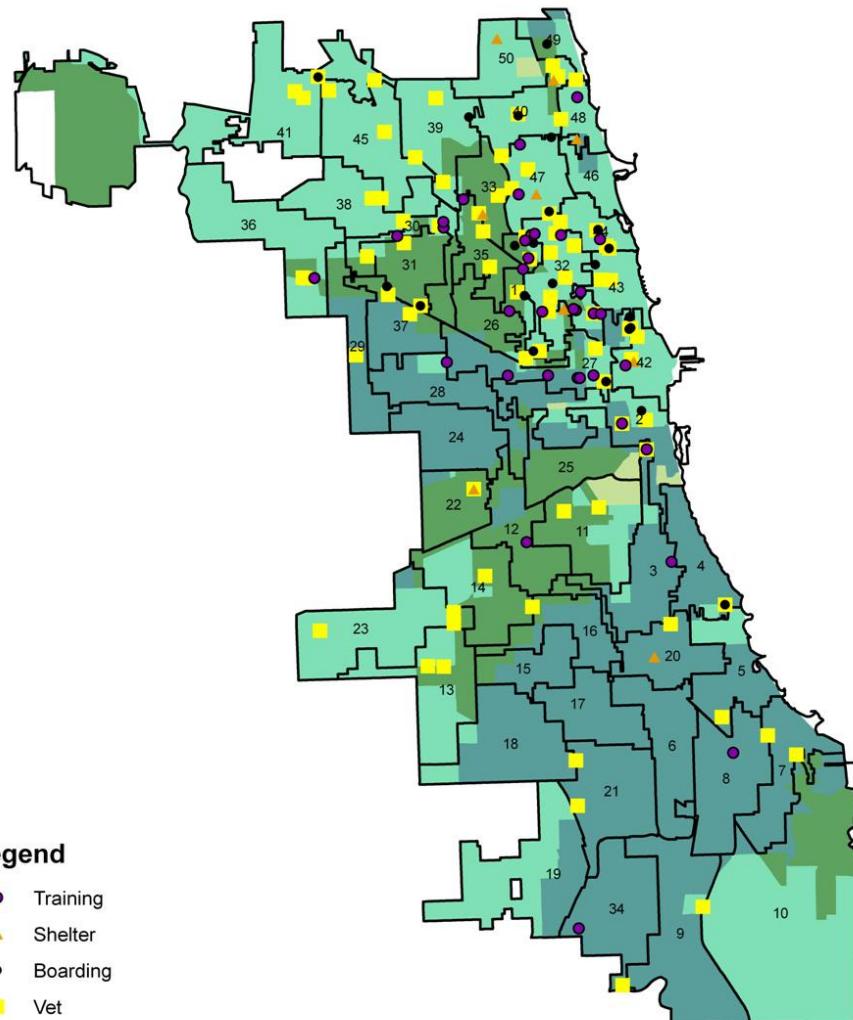


Map 1
**Total Stray Intake with
Aldermanic Ward Boundaries (2008)**



Map 2

Animal Businesses by Services Offered with Major Ethnicity of Population



Based on 2009 Business License Data obtained from the city of Chicago
Ethnicity Data obtained from 2008 American Community Survey (ACS)

vi. Although the number of animals entering CACC follows a sharp seasonal pattern, with the highest rates of intake occurring during the summer months, the number of “live release” animals from the public shelter tends to remain relatively flat throughout the year. More animals enter the shelter during summer months than other months of year. As noted in Exhibit 4, intake is more than 50% higher in August than in February, for example. Despite the seasonal pattern, however, live release does not follow the same seasonal trends as that of intake (see exhibit 5). The public shelter has few targeted initiatives to increase adoptions during periods of abundant supply and, as a result, does not see the number of live animals released rise in a manner consistent with the rise in intake. Some private shelters, conversely, seize the opportunity to collaborate during this time of year by hosting numerous off-site adoption events or offering adoption incentives.

Exhibit 4 **Dog and Cat Intake into CACC**

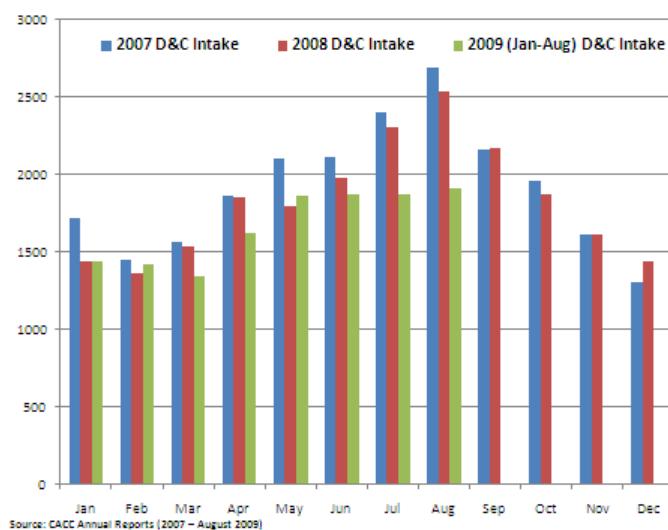
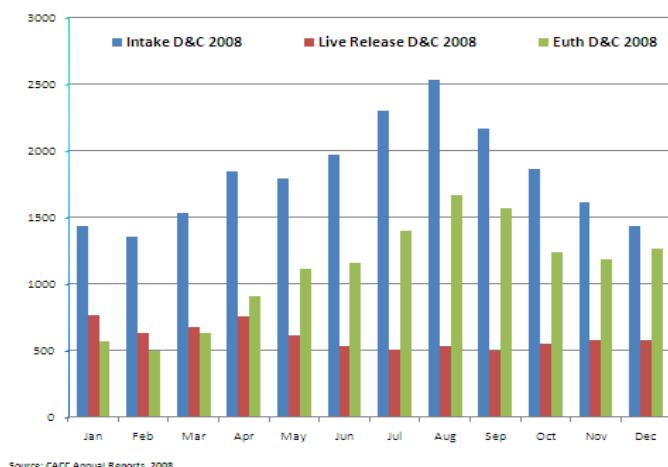


Exhibit 5 **Dog and Cat Intake and Disposition at CACC (2008)**



vii. Evidence from both Chicago and other cities suggests that spay/neuter programs can decrease the number of animal entering the public shelter. In 2008, 39,349 spay/neuter surgeries were performed by animal shelters veterinarians. Of those, the majority were performed by veterinarians in private shelters (34,010); CACC veterinarians performed 5,339.

Animal Disposition

viii. In 2008, 5% of animals that entered CACC were returned to their owners.

A variety of factors are responsible for this low percentage. As previously noted, appreciable shares of animals (35%) are voluntarily surrendered by their owners (CACC sample data). The enormous size of the city makes returning animals from a centralized shelter to owners more difficult than in small towns. Moreover, because the Chicago region has shown relatively little progress in having owners register their dogs or in microchipping animals, it continues to be difficult to contact owners of lost animals.

It is clear that reuniting animals with owners only accounts for a small portion of CACC's live release rate. CACC has specific "tour times" throughout the day that people can visit the shelter and look for lost animals. During 2009 those hours changed at least twice, not providing a consistent customer friendly schedule. Municipal shelters in other cities allow owners an opportunity to look for lost pets anytime during open shelter hours.

Table 6
Animal Disposition CACC (Dog and Cat)

Type of Disposition	2006	2007	2008
Euthanasia	14,627	11,803	12,544
Adoption	3,160	2,984	2,390
Transfer Out	2,182	3,155	3,515
Return to Owner	1,137	1,137	1,133
Unknown	2,314	3,821	2,254
Died/Lost in Shelter	944	Not Reported	Not Reported

ix. Based on data in the CASA annual report, 57% of the animals entering CACC are euthanized.^{xi}

As noted in the previous section, the euthanasia rate is somewhat higher at the public shelter in Chicago than its counterparts in most other cities, including the shelter systems in Los Angeles and New York. In total, CACC euthanized more than 12,000 animals in 2008, while the other, private shelters in CASA euthanized a little more than 6,000 animals. On average, it costs the city about \$26 to euthanize a canine and \$12 to euthanize a feline. It should be noted that this is the cost of euthanasia and disposal and does not reflect the ancillary costs associated with caring for animal prior to euthanasia.

According to the CACC Controlled Substance Log, the main reason cited by CACC for euthanizing cats was upper respiratory infection (51%), which is a highly communicable but treatable disease for

which there are emerging remedies. (We discuss this issue further in Recommendation 9 later in this report). For dogs, however, “not adoptable” was the most often-cited reason (39%). Dogs with behavioral issues, particularly those of certain breeds, are often given this designation, even when the problems may be correctable or manageable.

- x. Of the more than \$220,000 the city spent on euthanizing animals in 2008, roughly one-half was spent for animals considered “adoptable.”^{xii} As a best case scenario, if these 5,887 dogs and cats had been adopted without further cost to the shelter, it would have saved the city the expense of euthanizing and brought in about \$382,655 in adoption fees (at \$65 per animal). If the mechanism had been in place to have these animals adopted, it would have improved CACC’s financial position by about \$495,000.

The city spent an estimated \$110,000—about 50% of the total amount spent on euthanizing animals—on animals that are potentially adoptable. These animals generally fell into one of three categories: “healthy”, “treatable – rehabilitatable” or “treatable – manageable.” These categories are subjective determinations made by staff. The remaining 50% of euthanized animals were considered “unhealthy” and thus deemed non-adoptable.

Safety and Humane Issues

This set of findings is the result of reviewing data on “311 calls” and “911 calls” provided by the Chicago Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC). 311 calls are generally made when an issue does not require emergency assistance (such as the fire or police department) while 911 calls are made because an emergency situation is in progress and needs immediate attention. The findings below are also based on a review of animal related arrests and crimes obtained from Chicago Police Department.

- xi. The most common “animal related” 911 calls that originate from communities on the north side of Chicago are for “Animal Abuse” and “Animal Fighting”. This portion of the data suggests that there is a relationship between the level of income (and by inference, the level of educational attainment and rates of employment) and the propensity for residents to alert authorities about a perceived threat to an animal.

Of particular note are Police Districts 14 and 19 which were 2 of the top 6 Police Districts that experienced the most “Animal Abuse” calls during 2008. (Police Districts 14 and 19 are adjacent to one another and loosely correlated with parts of the Lincoln Square, North Center, Lakeview, Lincoln Park Avondale, Logan Square and the northern section of the West Town community areas of Chicago) These two districts, however, did not even rank in the top 10 Police Districts for all other 911 “animal related” calls (District 14 did not rank in the top 10 while District 19 did not rank in the top 20). These areas have a higher median household income than communities on the south and west areas of the city that had high incidents of animal related 911 calls.

- xii. Neighborhoods generating large numbers of calls about animal abuse, dog fighting and vicious animals also apparently experience large numbers of violent crimes. This can be seen by comparing the maps showing the distribution of animal abuse, dog fighting and vicious animal calls with the Chicago Police Department’s maps of the distribution of violent crime in Chicago. (See Appendix

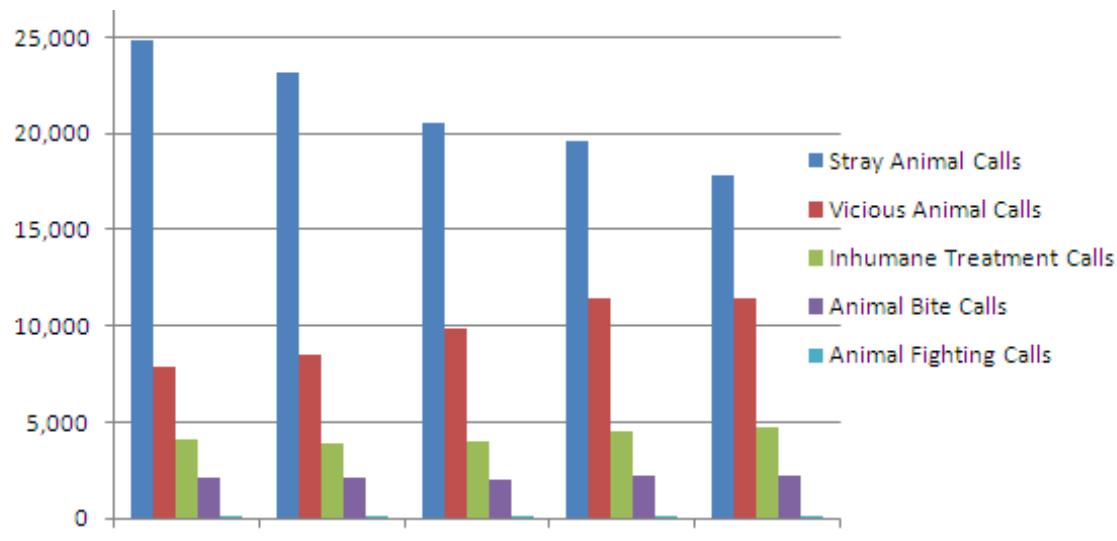
Exhibit D and the “Safety and Humane Issues” exhibits in the Appendix.) The Chicago Police Department notes that where there are gangs, illegal weapons and illegal drugs, there is dog fighting and related animal abuse.

xiii. There is a high concentration of 311 calls from lower-income areas on such matters as dog fighting and dog bites suggesting that there is a clear need for more public education about responsible pet ownership in these areas. 311 calls related to animal bites tend to be more concentrated in specific areas than animal related 911 calls. More than 50% of 311 calls between 2007 and 2009 originate in 12 zip codes that account for less than 35% of the city’s population. Similarly, 311 calls related to dog fighting are heavily concentrated in poorer areas. 65% of these calls originate in 12 zip codes on the west and south sides of the city.

The most common animal-related 311 call, however, relates to concerns over stray animals. These concerns account for approximately 49% of all calls. Overall, we found a positive correlation between the number of animal-related 311 calls and the rate of animal intake in a zip code. Unfortunately, the data does not allow us to determine the share of these calls specifically related to companion animals. According to CACC, a small portion of these calls are related to concerns about wildlife.

Although the number of “vicious animal” calls has been increasing since 2005, the number of “stray animal” calls to 311 has been decreasing since 2004. In 2008, the city received 17,844 calls about stray animals, down from 19,617 in 2007.

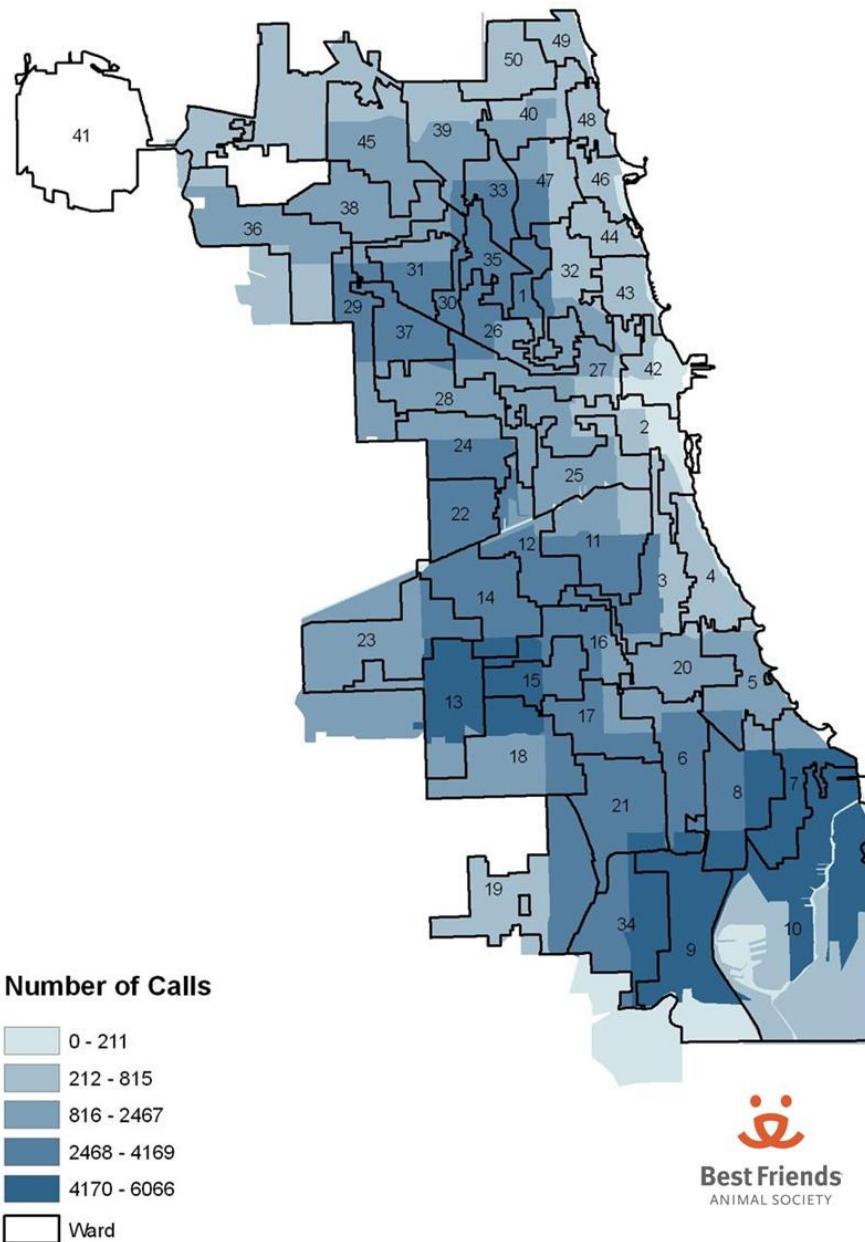
Exhibit 6 **Animal Related 311 Calls** **By Call Type, 2004 – 2008**



Source: Office of Emergency Mgmt. and Communication

Map 3

**Total Animal Related 311 Calls by zip code
with Aldermanic Wards (2007-2009)**



Best Friends
ANIMAL SOCIETY



DEPAUL
UNIVERSITY
CHADDICK INSTITUTE FOR
METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT

Resources and Policy Effectiveness

This final section reviews some of the principal findings regarding municipal resources and policy effectiveness.

xiv. Cook County Animal and Rabies Control reports that they issued about 85,000 rabies tags for dogs in Chicago. As of December 2009, the Chicago City Clerk's Office reports more than 25,000 dog licenses issued in Chicago. Based on the formula used by the American Veterinary Medical Association for estimating dog population, there were more than 650,000 dogs in Chicago in 2008. This suggests that roughly 13% of the dogs living in Chicago received rabies tags from Cook County, and approximately 29% of those had Chicago dog licenses. Overall, an estimated 4% of dogs were licensed with the City of Chicago. As noted in the previous section, the rate of licensing compliance in Chicago tends to lag behind that of other major cities.

According to the City Clerk's office, however, licensing compliance in Chicago is rising due to recent improvements instituted by the city. These include the new online dog registration, making it more convenient and easier for people to register their dogs with the city; the "Dog Day on the Green" summer festival to promote dog registration; the assistance of the City Clerk's task force in spreading the word about dog registration in partnership with animal organizations; and monthly renewal notices to dog owners with expiring dog rabies tags using the Cook County rabies database. Specifically, the number of dog licenses issued increased by about 21% between 2008 and 2009. As we note in the recommendation section, increased dog licensing could bring the city upwards of \$3 million annually, a conservative estimate^{xiii}. Increasing rabies vaccination rates provides protection for the public as well as the animals.

Table 7
Number of Dog Licenses Issued by the City of Chicago

2007	19,957	% Increase
2008	20,745	3.7%
2009	25,030	20.7%

In Chicago, as in other municipalities, enforcement of rabies vaccinations and dog licensing is a key issue contributing to the compliance rates. Municipalities with higher rates of licensing compliance often employ a strategic approach to increasing and maintaining compliance among residents. Communities of note were discussed earlier in this report in Section III: Comparing Chicago to Other Cities.

xv. The City of Chicago has not fully tapped into the resources of the extensive network of stakeholders devoted to companion-animal issues (e.g., veterinarians, non-profits, animal business owners). Private organizations belonging to the Chicago Area Shelter Alliance (CASA), without including CACC, spend about \$20 million annually on companion-animal issues—more than four times the budget of the public shelter. These organizations report that they have more than 10,000 volunteers within the city, about 3,400 of whom are active.

These resources can help offset some of the inadequacies of the \$4.8 million in annual funding (2008) that the City of Chicago provides to CACC. (Funding for the public shelter rose slightly in 2008 from \$4.6 million in 2007). As noted in the previous section, about 90% of this is spent on employee salaries and benefits and payments to contractual employees. The next largest expense is for “drugs, medicine and chemical materials”, which accounts for less than 5% of the total costs. CACC has been relatively slow with entering collaborations with nonprofit organizations that have access to interns, volunteers and in-kind services that could help stretch its budget.

In addition to funds provided to the public shelter, other city entities/departments, such as the Chicago Police Department, the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (311 and 911 call centers), the Office of the City of Clerk, the Streets and Sanitation Department, and the Department of Public Health, also incur expenses addressing companion-animal issues. These departments, however, do not explicitly break out animal-related expenses. The same is true for Cook County, which is responsible for rabies control. Revenues from the sales of rabies tags go directly to the county. Revenue brought in by CACC for services offered to the public (such as payments for adopted animals) are similarly deposited into a general fund.

xvi. Most interviewees and discussion groups point to the need for public education about responsible pet ownership, humane treatment of animals, and resources available to pet owners.

Although education is a core responsibility of CACC, it lacks sufficient staffing to do more than minimal work in this area. Many feel strongly that with adequate training of CACC staff and volunteers, pet owners could be better counseled about available resources, thus reducing the number of pet surrenders at CACC. In addition, the need for coordinated comprehensive programs that provide education, training and resources, particularly to neighborhoods disproportionately affected by issues related to companion animals, was often cited. One such set of existing programs is managed by Safe Humane Chicago, a community-wide alliance that combats violence by promoting compassion and caring for people and animals through education, training and access to needed resources.

V. Recommendations

Chicago needs an enhanced collaborative, cooperative effort between animal welfare organizations, veterinarians, animal business owners, law enforcement officials, policy makers, community leaders, pet owners, residents, and stakeholders. This effort should rely on data (both quantitative and qualitative) to better diagnose the issues, craft solutions and monitor success. This research effort is only the first-step in positioning companion animal issues as part of the larger policy discussions regarding public health, welfare, safety and quality of life in Chicago.

Based on the outlined research tasks and key findings, sixteen private and public initiatives defining ten broad actions emerged as most important. Because this report is for the Chicago City Council, recommendations below are grouped in five sections: *actions requiring aldermanic initiative; actions requiring aldermanic support; actions benefiting from aldermanic support; actions requiring the participation of city agencies, and actions requiring outside support.*

Actions Requiring Aldermanic Initiative

1. Institutionalize a task force that would be responsible for monitoring companion animal and related quality-of-life-issues in Chicago. Tasks would include reviewing and recommending changes to animal-related City ordinances, monitoring county and state laws, and examining issues related to public safety, public health, stakeholder collaboration and efficiencies within the public shelter.

Aldermen and community leaders routinely propose new legislation related to managing companion animal issues in the City of Chicago. In the past year, proposed ordinances have covered a wide range of topics, including mandatory spay/neuter, limits on the numbers of animals per residence and increasing the penalties for owners of “dangerous dogs” who fail to comply with the set guidelines. Although these initiatives are crafted with good intentions and motivated by specific complaints, they are not always practical to enforce and/or they duplicate ordinances and laws already on the books.

This recommendation encourages the License Committee to pass a resolution for City Council that would create an institutionalized task force to do the following: monitor the current package of companion-animal-related ordinances in Chicago, Cook County and the State of Illinois; examine issues related to public safety (e.g., dangerous dogs, animal abuse), public health (e.g., disease control), consumer protection, stakeholder collaboration, efficiencies within the public shelter, and other companion-animal quality-of-life issues (e.g., microchipping cats and dogs to increase the return to owner rate) and monitor the impact of initiatives. This task force should include a wide ranging, diverse group of public and private representatives and experts, including but not limited to animal welfare stakeholders, animal-care professionals, animal-related business owners, elected officials, representatives from appropriate city and county departments and other community and professional organizations. We strongly encourage City Council to have this task force established within six months of this report to move these recommendations forward.

2. Establish an annual summit on companion animal issues which would bring together representatives from the animal welfare community, animal-care professionals, community leaders throughout the city (especially from areas with highest animal intake rates), and elected officials.

The summit would foster collaboration between animal welfare stakeholders and community leaders, thereby positioning animal welfare issues as “quality of life” issues. Spearheaded by an institutionalized version of the City Council License Committee’s ad hoc Task Force on Companion Animal Welfare and Public Safety, with participation from a variety of stakeholders (see Recommendation 1 above), it would serve a variety of functions. The summit would be a forum for providing suggestions for new community partnerships to support education and spay/neuter initiatives, giving updates on the progress of initiatives, developing new initiatives, and identifying community issues related to companion animals. To encourage Chicago to adopt innovative and progressive solutions, the summit should allow for a presentation of “best practices” being used by other municipalities.

Actions Requiring Aldermanic Support

3. Develop a targeted public-education strategy on the west and south Sides of the city in conjunction with nonprofit organizations, animal-care professionals and aldermanic offices that are able to provide resources and expertise. Continue and expand training for government employees.

This effort would focus on areas identified as being most challenged with respect to companion animals and would consist of both a “media strategy” as well as “neighborhood stakeholder presentations” at schools, aldermanic offices and community organizations. The targeted zip codes for these education efforts would be: 60608-09, 60617, 60619-21, 60623-24, 60628-29, 60632, 60636, 60639, 60647, and 60651 (based on 2008 CACC sample intake data). Emphasis would be placed on responsible pet ownership, humane treatment of animals and accessibility and affordability of resources. This recommendation also encourages city departments to work with non-profits to provide training to law enforcement officials and other city employees who may deal with animal related issues as part of their position.

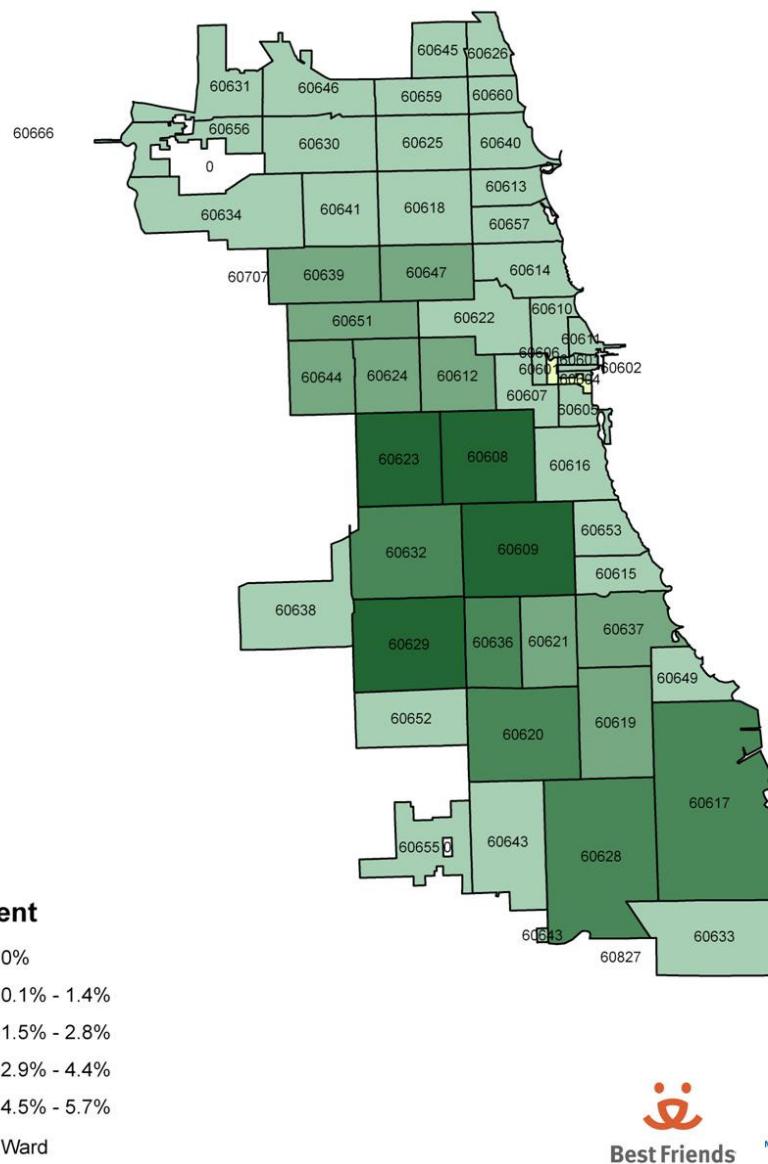
The municipal role could be limited primarily to in-kind support and providing space for the programs. The initiative would set specific educational guidelines and targets (set by the Institutionalized Task Force), initially calling for a limited number of interactive learning activities per month. For example, in each selected zip code, there could be a specific number of presentations in public schools per month, each aldermanic office, and as a result of collaborative efforts with religious, community, or social service organizations. These presentations would be facilitated by the Institutionalized Task Force, perhaps in collaboration with Chicago’s community policing effort CAPS, with input from community leaders, to ensure that educational initiatives are speaking the language of the target population and at the educational level of the audience. Such a comprehensive strategy is already piloted through Safe Humane Chicago, an alliance of numerous organizations and agencies focused on stopping violence and providing education, positive alternative activities and access to resources. Table 8 provides descriptions of some of the programs, which also have established metrics of success.

Table 8
Sample Program Descriptions from Safe Humane Chicago

Programming	Goals
For children, “Kids, Animals and Kindness”: interactive educational sessions with adult presenters, trained dogs and skilled dog handlers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper techniques for approaching and handling animals, including how to avoid being bitten by a dog • Humane treatment and proper care of animals • Awareness of pet population issues and solutions • Less animal neglect, abuse, fighting
For teenagers, “Youth Leaders for Safe Humane Chicago”: leadership program for high school students who mentor peers and educate elementary school students; interactive sessions with trained dogs and skilled dog handlers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth leaders in animal welfare issues in Chicago • Proper techniques for approaching and handling animals, including how to avoid being bitten by a dog • Viable role models for children for the humane care, proper treatment and needs of animals • Interns in animal-related professions and businesses • Less animal neglect, abuse, fighting
For adults, “It’s All Connected”: presentation for adults on impacts of violence versus compassion and respect in our communities; access to needed resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish connection of violence toward animals and violence toward people and impact of respect • Understand benefits of human-animal bond • Report dog fighting and animal abuse to law enforcement • Provide needed resources
For communities challenged by crime, lack of resources: “Lifetime Bonds” programs, including dog training classes, interactive educational sessions for at-risk youth and at-risk animals, access to needed resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Humane messengers within the community • Community informed about animal laws and consequences • Positive bonds between youth and dogs • Socialization, training and proper care for dogs • More adoptions of shelter dogs • Effective dog training skills; transferrable skills for building lifetime relationships
For criminal justice system: education, training and court advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper interventions for animal neglect, abuse, fighting • Community members seeking justice for animals and communities plagued by animal abuse of all kinds • Educational materials and information that promotes understanding and effective intervention

Map 4

Total Animal Intake by Zip code (2008)



Based on sample obtained from Chicago Animal Care and Control (2008)
Includes Stray and Owner Surrender animals relinquished to Animal Care and Control



Note: The map above shows zip codes instead of aldermanic wards because that was how the data on stray animals was collected. Zip codes are suggested as the way to identify areas for educational initiatives although efforts should be facilitated in partnership with the alderman.

4. Modify the municipal ordinance or develop regulations governing policies and practices, as appropriate, impacting the intake and disposition of companion animals at Chicago Animal Care and Control.

a. Modify the municipal ordinance to develop regulations governing the use of the Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC) mobile unit to allow non-profit organizations to use the “AniMobile” resource for spay/neuter.

Through a partnership with nonprofit organizations, Chicago could gradually increase the number of mobile spay/neuter offerings by at least two per month. In addition, the focus of 2010 would be to make adjustments that allow non-profits to utilize the AniMobile (a mobile unit which is owned by the city) and foster relationships with community groups so that so-called “Big Fix” services could be offered at neighborhood events (and not in isolation, as the current program does). We strongly encourage Corporation Counsel to facilitate this recommendation by investigating what needs to be done in order for non-profit organizations to utilize a city-owned vehicle in the manner described above.

In 2011, the program would aim to increase offerings to a level that stakeholders agree upon at the end of 2010. Emphasis would be placed on leveraging outside funding through Maddie’s Fund, a national grant-making animal welfare organization, or some other foundation. Maddie’s Fund is already providing funds to animal shelters in Chicago to collect new data that will allow them to better measure progress and establish realistic goals.

b. Modify the municipal ordinance governing the “Big Fix” program, which provides free and low-cost veterinary services for spay/neuter to Chicago residents, so that “Big Fix” services can target low-income residents throughout the city, not just those residing in the zip codes identified as having the highest stray populations.

This recommendation supports modifying the current ordinance so that “Big Fix” services can target low-income residents throughout the city, not just those residing in the zip codes identified by ordinance as having the highest stray populations. Cities with the most proactive spay/neuter programs, such as Albuquerque and Los Angeles, do not restrict participation to residents living in particular geographical areas. Currently, Chicago’s AniMobile is dispatched only to neighborhoods with the most 311 calls for stray animals. This seems unnecessarily restrictive given the scope of the problem. (Additionally restrictive is the current Animal Care and Control ordinance limiting the number of days that the sterilization fee can be waived to no more than 5 days in one month (MC 7-12-115)).

We propose that the ordinance be amended to allow the commission to waive the sterilization fee for low-income city residents who can provide proof of enrollment in Medicaid, Medicare, Food Stamps, or similar poverty assistance programs. We recommend that the amendment be made as soon as possible to allow the program to begin by summer.

- c. Develop incentives for the private sector that would allow for a gradual rise in spaying/neutering services provided at a low rate or free.

In addition to the two previous recommendations, this recommendation seeks to increase the number of spay/neuter surgeries offered by encouraging the city to develop incentives for private organizations. All incentive programs should be developed with the consent and support of those organizations seeking incentives. Animal welfare stakeholders have expressed interest in developing incentives that would help them fulfill their mission while providing low-cost or free spay/neuter for low-income residents, in areas of the city where demand is greatest and resources are lacking, and for at-risk animals. The city would benefit greatly, for example, by working more closely with the Cook County government to provide low-income residents who participate in spay/neuter programs with free rabies vaccinations. The program would also look for donations of leashes, food, toys, and other items to participants. These efforts could leverage the plans that CACC is considering to work with more closely with Cook County on subsidized/free rabies vaccinations in the neighborhoods with high rates of intake. This program is set to begin in 2010.

The relationships developed during this program could provide avenues for further expansion of community-based spay/neuter options. Incentives should be developed that encourage private action. Among the possible incentives suggested by stakeholders were: allowing organizations to obtain free or low-cost dog licenses/rabies vaccinations if they provide low-cost/free spay neuter service in the neighborhoods, a reduction in business license fees for animal shelters or private clinics that offer these services, and providing transportation services for citizens wanting to access the resources/groups providing the resources.

In order to provide incentives for the professional community, this recommendation encourages the Institutionalized Task Force (recommendation #1) to explore efforts at the state level to offer Continuing Education credits for Veterinarians. Proposed changes to the State of Illinois' Department of Professional Regulation could encourage veterinarians to perform low-cost or free spay/neuter services in areas identified as needing additional service. The goal would reward veterinarians who participate in mobile spay/neuter efforts and support other community efforts with "CE credit", mirroring a program that is underway in New Jersey^{xiv}.

- d. Provide for transferring vulnerable companion animals to designated shelters or rescues without impounding those animals in a CACC facility.

A long-term solution for treating vulnerable animal populations should be devised for a large-intake facility such as CACC. The current municipal ordinance requires that all animals be held for at least five days after arriving at the shelter if unclaimed. This rule is intended to provide owners adequate time to collect their animals and applies even if the animals arrive as an entire litter without a mother. This affects litters of puppies and kittens which are vulnerable to disease. Other special-needs animals also suffer from this rule.

A temporary solution, which would be crafted through the guidance of the institutionalized task force, should codify the actions being taken by non-profit organizations to transfer vulnerable populations and utilize foster homes and volunteers.

e. Enhance programs and protocols regarding feral cats and partnerships with TNR (trap-neuter-return) sponsors and veterinarians to vaccinate and manage the feral population.

Our research makes clear that the city needs to focus more resources on issues surrounding feral cats: 67.6% of the live intake of cats were strays (CACC sample data), 49% of the 311 calls were regarding stray animals (OEMC), and “feral” was the second leading reason provided for euthanasia (controlled substance log). According to “State of Managed Feral Cat Colony Program” (a report issued by Dr. Donna Alexander, DVM, Administrator of Cook County Animal and Rabies Control) sponsored colonies have been able to trap/neuter/vaccinate approximately 1,700 feral cats per year over the last 2 years.

Enhanced partnerships and procedures, such as the efforts in Jacksonville, Florida, mentioned earlier in Section III of the report, should be created to build upon the TNR program currently in place, including opportunities to involve other animal-care professionals. Potential intervention could be provided at the time of a 311 call, for instance, by re-directing callers to TNR sponsor groups who could provide additional resources.

5. Develop a standard for collecting data that would allow stakeholders, municipal officials and the public to track companion animal issues and determine the success of initiatives.

In order for municipalities and organizations to develop sustainable and effective initiatives and programs, it is necessary to have the ability to measure the success of current programs and tailor future programs to fit the needs of the community. We feel strongly that animal welfare stakeholders and public stakeholders should agree on a standard format for data collection that would lend itself to data aggregation and analysis. For instance, to facilitate geographic analysis, private or public shelters should record the address of people surrendering animals, the reasons for relinquishment, and the locations where strays are found. This would allow for more thorough assessment of patterns of relinquishment which could help with designing initiatives to better meet community needs. (See table 9 for a recommendation of data to be collected at shelters). Ideally this would be an effort spearheaded by the Institutionalized Task Force. This data collection should also include efforts to document community perceptions of animal-related issues and community knowledge about available resources.

In order to properly diagnose the issues related to companion animals and to better adapt to meet those issues, Chicago Animal Care and Control should place a high value on collecting data when animals enter the shelter. Such data collection and its corresponding analysis would allow the shelter to scientifically monitor and document the population entering the system and the process by which animals exit the public shelter. In partnership with non-profit agencies, who would also track data on animal entering and leaving the shelter system, policy makers would be best positioned to devise initiatives that speak to the problems evident in the community.

Table 9
Recommended Data to be collected
on each animal by all shelters

<u>Intake</u>
Date
Species
Breed [if known; use "mix" as appropriate]
Is animal "pure bred"?
Sex
Age
Weight (Range)
Intake Type (Owner Surrender, Stray, Court Case, Dead, etc.)
If Owner Surrender, reason
If Owner Surrender, original source of animal
Spay/Neuter status
Microchip
Licensed
Vaccinations
Zip code
Known medical or behavior issues
<u>During stay at shelter</u>
Date of Assessment
Outcome of assessment(s)
Date vaccinated
Date spay/neuter
<u>Outcome/Disposition</u>
Date
Outcome Type (Adoption, Transfer, Euthanasia, etc.)
If Transfer, to what organization
If Euthanasia, reason
Zip code

Actions Benefiting from Aldermanic Support

6. Support the expansion of the City Clerk's Dog Task Force, which now includes animal welfare organizations and pet businesses, and its path of developing and implementing a plan to increase dog licensing by about 33% per year over the next three years. The goal would be more than 30,000 dog licenses by the end of 2010; more than 40,000 by the end of 2011; and more than 55,000 by the end of 2012.

The City Clerk's Dog Task Force should work closely with Cook County and veterinarians to ensure that an increase in licensing results in an increased rate of rabies vaccinations. Increased licensing

compliance would generate new revenue for the city. Private partners, such as animal business owners, animal welfare organizations and animal-care professionals, would be encouraged to help promote rabies and licensing compliance. The city would continue the City Clerk's new system for notifying dog owners with expired licenses. The task force should also survey efforts by other municipalities and monitor financial impact of initiatives in Chicago.

The Clerk's Office would base its educational campaign around the principles that "responsible pet owners vaccinate and license their dogs" and "your dog's license is their ticket home." This builds on the benefits of dog registration listed in City Clerk Miguel del Valle's published *Dog Guide*, which includes access to Chicago animal care facilities and Chicago Park District dog-friendly areas, which require rabies vaccinations and dog licenses, among other things.

7. Finalize an Animal Disaster Plan for Chicago, working through Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC), the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC), and other local organizations and governmental entities.

Although the data collected does not address the impact of an animal disaster plan in the principal findings section of this report, it is our recommendation that the process that has begun in Chicago be completed. In May 2009 Chicago's Commission on Animal Care and Control distributed a community pet planning survey stated to be based on guidance from both local and national resources and designed to assist CACC in complying with the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-308), which amends the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency. CACC should be encouraged to complete this effort and distribute the results. In 2006, San Francisco created the San Francisco Disaster Preparedness Coalition for Animals (SFDPCA) which employed a citizen outreach campaign to encourage and assist residents with creating disaster plans that include companion animals. In addition to a comprehensive mailing, the SFDPCA maintains disaster preparedness resources and information on the Animal Care and Control website.

In addition to planning for potential future problems and working to mitigate the influence a catastrophe might have on the companion animal population, this recommendation continues the efforts to position companion animal issues as key factors in enhancing the quality of life for Chicago residents.

Actions Requiring the Participation of City Agencies

8. Develop companion-animal-related summer internships that provide enrichment opportunities for Chicago youth and provide assistance to Chicago Animal Care and Control.

By providing opportunities for youth, this recommendation would better position companion animal issues in the larger context of the community and provides adolescents with a practical learning experience. The program could be administered in conjunction with activities already being conducted by private stakeholders and would be aimed at providing assistance to the public shelter, which experiences a spike in intake and euthanasia rates during the summer months when kids are away from school. Interns could be responsible for socializing the animals and could also help with adoption efforts both at and away from the shelter.

9. Use data and data analysis from the study to improve and monitor operational and procedural efficiencies at Chicago Animal Care and Control.

Although standardized data collection policies and procedures are needed, as discussed in a previous recommendation, the data and analysis from this study should be used to review and update procedures and protocols to address the largest population of animals and their specific needs. For example, with better data CACC could develop targeted protocols to address the following: common reasons for surrender, the large percentage of cats euthanized, origin of stray or surrendered animals, reasons for identifying dogs as “not adoptable,” and effective cage utilization among other things.

CACC should also re-examine the October 2008 “Needs Assessment, Feasibility and Building Study” prepared by Shelter Planners of America and funded by Friends of Chicago Animal Care and Control. It should also consider the possibility of inviting a third party to conduct a “shelter evaluation”. Private organizations in Chicago, such as PAWS Chicago and Anti-Cruelty Society, have engaged veterinary experts – for instance, from the University of California - Davis – to conduct similar evaluations. Both shelters reported receiving incredibly useful, practical feedback on how to improve shelter efficiencies and increase the healthy pet population.

a. Expand current adoption hours at Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC).

During 2009, Animal Care and Control was open for adoptions between 42 hours a week at the beginning of the year to less than 17 hours per week in December 2009. To expand the number of adoptions, which would both generate revenue and get animals out of the shelter and into the lives of prospective owners, it should take meaningful steps to make the process more convenient. Municipalities with lower euthanasia rates than Chicago, such as New York, Calgary, and San Francisco, are open for adoptions 40 or more hours per week. Because the Chicago’s hours changed mid-year a direct correlation between euthanasia rates and adoption hours could not be derived. It is, however, important to eliminate schedule-related obstacles to adoption posed by the existing hours of operation. Our analysis also suggests this could be done at low cost through the use of volunteers or student interns (during summer hours)^{xv}.

b. Employ creative solutions for increasing adoptions, particularly when intake rates spike and for at-risk animals.

Because intake rates vary by time of year, it would be beneficial to use different tactics during different times of the year. This could include (a) developing and implementing a staffing plan that allows for more assistance during the summer months and less during times of lower intake; (b) increasing adoption hours during times of high intake; (c) using non-traditional methods to increase adoption such as holding more events off-site in conjunction with community organizations and offering free cat adoptions for a set period and (d) increasing the use of foster homes. As an example, Salt Lake County (Salt Lake City, Utah) implemented a program whereby adult cat adoption fees were waived. In 2009, the county reported an 81% increase in adult cat adoptions over previous annual averages.

Actions Requiring Outside Support

- 10. Use the resources of non-profit organizations and CACC to construct a centralized clearinghouse for information on animal-related resources, including a new dedicated website that would increase the visibility of the array of services available to pet owners.**

The new website could be a modified version of the existing CASA website. It would provide links to information being made available by all participating animal welfare groups and animal-care professionals and include interactive material on animal care and humane issues as well as links to relevant government resources. The city could enlist volunteers from animal-welfare organizations to construct and maintain the website. Efforts would also be made to appeal to Friends of Chicago Animal Care and Control or other nonprofit organizations or foundations to purchase a kiosk for CACC that would provide visitor access to a free informational service for those considering adopting a pet. A kiosk would be installed at the David R. Lee Animal Care facility on South Western Avenue, shortly after the website goes live. Information would also be made available through other outlets.

VI. Conclusion

This study seeks to establish Chicago as a leader in the policies related to companion animals through the development of a municipal agenda that respects the interconnectedness of these policies and the city's urban planning agenda. In this report, we have attempted to make the case that companion-animal policies be viewed within the larger context of municipal policies related to public health, welfare, safety and quality of life in the city. We have tried to support the need for policy initiatives by providing statistical information on the performance of existing policies, outlining the need for greater cooperation within the community and developing a framework for measuring success.

All of our recommendations are intended to meet the goals outlined in the City Council resolution approved on February 11, 2009. This resolution notes the following:

The City of Chicago desires to reduce the overall population of stray, homeless and at-risk animals; to increase save rates of impounded animals, thus saving lives and reducing costs; to improve the quality of life for domesticated dogs and cats; to eliminate brutal dog attacks and the phenomenon of dog fighting; to provide access to resources in communities that are most in need; and to protect the public health, safety, morals and welfare of the City with a safer, more humane environment through community education, animal welfare programs, resources, and progressive regulations and policies.

We recognize that this report and the supporting appendix are only a beginning. A sustained effort will be necessary before Chicago enjoy the fruits of truly effective public-private cooperation between those with a stake in the outcome, including animal welfare organizations, veterinarians, animal business owners, law enforcement officials, policy makers, community leaders, pet owners, residents, and other stakeholders. It is our hope that the City Council will review our findings and institutionalize a task force that, in turn, creates an effective timeline for action—with measureable goals—before the end of the 2010 calendar year.

Notes

ⁱ Obtained from www.demographicsnow.com

ⁱⁱ Beginning in January 2009, the Pennsylvania ASPCA took over responsibility for Animal Care and Control in the city of Philadelphia, running the shelter and providing field services for dangerous animals and other assorted animal welfare. The city remains responsible for animal licensing, using the petdata.com system

ⁱⁱⁱ In 2008, Maine received \$127,750 for spay neuter funding from this commercial pet food fee.

^{iv} Based on Los Angeles Animal Services Outcome Totals for Dogs From 1/1/01 to 12/31/09

^v Schaffner, Joan. *A Lawyer's Guide to Dangerous Dog Issues*. American Bar Association Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section Animal Law Committee, 2009.

^{vi} CAL. AGRIC. CODE §31683 (West 2009); COLO. REV. STAT. ANN. §18-9-204.5(5)(b) (West 2009); FLA. STAT. ANN. §767.14 (West 2009); 510 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/24 (2009); MINN. STAT. ANN. §347.51 (West 2009); N.J. STAT. ANN. § 4:19-36 (West 2009); N.Y. AGRIC. & MKTS. LAW §107(5) (McKinney 2009); OKLA. STAT. ANN. tit. 4, §46(B) (West 2009); PA. CONS. STAT. ANN. § 459-507-A(c) (West 2009); TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE ANN. § 822.047 (Vernon 2009); VA. CODE ANN. §3.2-6540(C) (West 2009)

^{vii} National Animal Control Association Guidelines, Extended Animal Control Concerns-Dangerous/Vicious Animals, <http://www.nacanet.org/guidelines.html#dangerous> (last visited Jan. 27, 2010)

^{viii} Based on data obtained from the City Clerk's office: Number of licensed dogs as of June 13, 2009 divided by the sum of the number of dogs with expired licenses and the number of dogs who received rabies vaccinations but did not receive licenses.

^{ix} Altered fee is charged for dogs and cats up to 6 months old.

^x Includes \$35 spay/neuter voucher

^{xi} Maddie's Fund Annual Data

^{xii} Calculated by multiplying the # of dogs and cats euthanized during 2008 (Maddie's Fund)

^{xiii} Based on the number of dogs not licensed (according to AVMA estimates of dog population) multiplied by the \$5 licensing rate for altered dogs. If you consider that some of these dogs are unaltered, with a licensing fee of \$50, this number could increase 10 fold. Estimates of dog population vary widely by up to 100,000 based on formula used by the research team. This study used the AVMA formula with specific municipal statistics to determine the dog population.

^{xiv} State of New Jersey, 213th Legislature; Adopted May 21, 2009.

^{xv} Claim based on analysis of municipal budgets from other cities, including New York which spends considerably less on staff costs by supplementing paid staff with volunteers and student interns.

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Best Friends
ANIMAL SOCIETY

Companion Animals and Chicago Communities:
A Strategic Assessment for the City of Chicago
Annotated Appendix

Definitions

The following terms are used repeatedly in the annotated appendix. Although these terms are explained in detail in the final report, we have provided brief definitions below for the ease of the reader.

311 Calls-Request for service calls received through (OEMC) Office of Emergency Management and Communications. For the purpose of this study they are for non emergency, Companion Animal (dogs and cats) related calls only. Calls to Chicago's non-emergency center (311) are tracked in thirteen categories. For the purpose of this study, call types obtained and referred to are in bold. **Stray animal, Vicious animal (may include wildlife, usually raccoons),** Injured animal, Animal in Trap, Animal Trap Request, Nuisance Animal , Agency assist, **Animal fighting, Animal bite, Inhumane treatment**, Animal abandoned, Animal business and **Dangerous Dog**. 311 calls are routed to Chicago's Animal Care and Control agency. Calls involving crimes against animals (e.g., many of the calls about animal fighting and some about inhumane treatment) are in turn routed to the Chicago Police Department's Animal Crimes Team. Calls about vicious animals have been found by both the Police Department and Animal Control to have much to do with animal fighting or other related crimes.

911 Calls-Request for service calls received through (OEMC) Office of Emergency Management and Communications. For the purpose of this study, they are for emergency, Companion Animal (dogs and cats) animal related calls only. Calls to Chicago's emergency center (911) on animal-related matters are tracked in four categories: Animal abuse, Animal fighting, Vicious animal and Animal bite. 911 calls are routed to the Chicago Police Department for disposition and prioritized by general order. As with the 311 calls, calls about vicious animals have been found by the Chicago Police Department to have much to do with animal fighting and are an important indicator of abuse and fighting.

Best Friends Animal Society (BFAS)-A nonprofit, membership organization building no-kill programs and partnerships that will bring about a day when there are No More Homeless Pets. The society's leading initiatives in animal care and community programs are coordinated from its Kanab, Utah, headquarters, the country's largest no-kill sanctuary. This work is made possible by the personal and financial support of a grassroots network of members and community partners across the nation. In 2009, Best Friends celebrated its 25th anniversary.

Big Fix-Every last Wednesday of each month, Chicago Animal Care and Control provides low cost spay/neuter surgeries for residents of Chicago zip codes with the highest stray animal populations. CACC medical staff also go out to perform low cost spay/neuter surgeries in the targeted areas every Thursday in the Animobile, a 30' state of the art mobile surgical vehicle. Two days per month CACC provides low cost spay/neuter surgeries for ALL zip codes.

Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC) - The public animal shelter operated by the City of Chicago and located at 2741 S. Western Avenue.

Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) - A partnership between police and community is the foundation of Chicago's own philosophy of community policing.

Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance (CASA)-A coalition of Chicago shelters who realized that by working together, they could consolidate our efforts to reach a wider audience, and make a greater impact. The organization includes the entire shelter community in Chicago and much of the veterinary community as well. CASA members (as listed on website); **Animal Welfare**

League, The Anti-Cruelty Society, Chicago Animal Care and Control, ARFhouse Chicago, Chicago Canine Rescue, D.A.W.G., Felines, Inc., Harmony House, HSUS, Lake Shore Animal Shelter, New Leash on Life, P.A.C.T., PAWS Chicago, Puppy Love/Love Cats Pet Rescue, Red Door Animal Shelter, Tree House Animal Foundation, Windy City Animal Foundation. CASA Associate Members are Chicago Veterinary Medical Association. *(For the purposes of this report when referring to CASA the organizations that reported data to Maddie's fund were used are in bold text above)*

Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development-Located at DePaul University in Chicago advances the principles of effective land use, transportation and community planning.

City Clerk's Dog Task Force: a task force of representatives from animal welfare organizations, companion animal businesses and city dog owners assembled by the City Clerk to provide advice on dog licensing and related issues

City Council Committee License and Consumer Protection's Task Force on Companion Animal Welfare and Public Safety: a task force assembled for Chairman Gene Schulter comprising representatives from companion-animal-related organizations to provide advice on issues concerning companion animals, particularly on legislative initiatives

Companion Animal Study Advisory Panel: Chairman-Alderman Gene Schulter (47th Ward), Cherie Travis, Executive Director and Sandra Alfred, Deputy Director, Commission on Animal Care and Control, City of Chicago. Cynthia Bathurst, Ph.D., National Director Project Safe Humane, Best Friends Animal Society, Sandra Brode, J.D., Office of Legal Affairs Chicago Police Department. Miguel del Valle, Clerk of the City of Chicago, Reverend Dr. Walter B. Johnson, Jr., Executive Director, Alliance for Community Peace, Senior Pastor, Greater Institutional A.M.E. Church, Director of Faith-Based Outreach Safe Humane Chicago, James F. Rodgers, Ph.D., Economist, Policy Consultant, Joseph P. Schwieterman, Ph.D., Director Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development, DePaul University, Professor, Masters of Public Service Program, DePaul University.

Companion Animals-for the purpose of this study dogs and cats (including feral or free-roaming cats).

Controlled Substance Log: Regulated by DEA, any facility dispensing controlled substances (this includes substances used for euthanasia of animals). All inventories have to be logged and tracked. This report lists the amount of substance used, the date used and an identifying number for the animal that received the substance.

Disposition/Outcome-refers to how dogs and cats leave one of the shelters. These categories include Return to Owner, Adopted, Transferred Out, Euthanized and other misc. categories.

Euthanasia – an act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die, as by withholding extreme medical measures, an animal suffering from an incurable, esp. a painful, disease or condition. The term is used in this report to refer to the act of putting to death an animal.

Intake-refers to how animals enter one of the shelters. These categories include Stray, Owner Surrender, Transfer in, and other misc. categories.

Live Release-For the purposes of this report, this category includes dogs and cats that left one of the shelters in one of the following three categories; Returned to their Owners, Transferred out to another organization or were adopted.

Low Income Residents- Refers to 1) A single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is less than 80 percent of the median family income in Chicago. Or
2) Individuals eligible for and participating in city, state or federal public assistance programs, including but not limited to Medicare, Medicaid, Food Assistance Programs or Chicago Public Housing

Maddie's Fund- is a pet rescue foundation established to help fund the creation of a no-kill nation. To achieve this they invest resources in community collaborations, veterinary colleges to help shelter medicine become part of the veterinary curriculum and to help implement national strategies to collect and report shelter statistics. For the purpose of data collection and monitoring, Maddie's Fund uses specific euthanasia categories. These categories are defined below and are based on information provided on the Maddie's Fund website in January 2010.

Maddie's Fund Euthanasia Categories:

Healthy: The term "healthy" means and includes all dogs and cats eight weeks of age or older that, at or subsequent to the time the animal is taken into possession, have manifested no sign of a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that could pose a health or safety risk or otherwise make the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and have manifested no sign of disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the animal or that is likely to adversely affect the animal's health in the future.

Rehabilitatable: The term "rehabilitatable" means and includes all dogs and cats who are not "healthy," but who are likely to become "healthy," if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community. (Treatable-rehabilitatable conditions are generally considered to be curable.)

Unhealthy & Untreatable: The term "Unhealthy & Untreatable" means and includes dogs and cats who, at or subsequent to the time they are taken into possession, 1) have a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that poses a health or safety risk or otherwise makes the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and are not likely to become "healthy" or "treatable" even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; or 2) are suffering from a disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the animal's health or is likely to adversely affect the animal's health in the future, and are not likely to become "healthy" or "treatable" even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; or
3. are under the age of eight weeks and are not likely to become "healthy" or "treatable," even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.

Treatable: The term "treatable" means and includes all dogs and cats that are considered "rehabilitatable" and all dogs and cats that are "manageable."

Manageable: The term "manageable" means and includes all dogs and cats who are not "healthy" and who are not likely to become "healthy," regardless of the care provided; but who

would likely maintain a satisfactory quality of life, if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care, including long-term care, equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; provided, however, that the term "manageable" does not include any dog or cat who is determined to pose a significant risk to human health or safety or to the health or safety of other animals. (Treatable-manageable conditions are generally considered to be chronic.)

Feral cats are descended from domestic cats but are born and live without human contact.

Owner Requested Euthanasia: Dogs and cats turned in or surrendered to a shelter or animal group by their owners/guardians for the purpose of euthanasia.

Safe Humane Chicago-Is a community-wide alliance that combats violence by promoting compassion and caring for people and animals. The program focuses on education through early intervention and community involvement, training mentors and community leaders to take the message of compassion to animals into their own communities.

Species-for the purpose of this report, dogs and cats only.

Transfers- refers to animals leaving one shelter and entering another shelter or organization. As it relates to this study, when referring to "Transfers to outside CASA" it refers to organizations that are not listed as part of the CASA organization. The same is true for "Transfers in from Outside CASA."

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), also known as Trap-Test-Vaccinate-Alter-Release (TTVAR), is a method being promoted as a humane alternative to euthanasia for managing and reducing feral cat and dog populations. TNR relies on sterilization of the cats or dogs so that they don't breed. *(For the purposes of this study TNR will refer only to cats)*

Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)-Feline Upper Respiratory Infection is similar to a common cold in humans. It is especially common in cats that have been exposed to a lot of other cats, such as at an animal shelter. URI is very rarely fatal, and usually resolves within one to three weeks. Treatment generally consists of supportive care. In addition, antibiotics are sometimes given to treat possible bacterial infections.

Chicago Overview

The exhibits in this section are based on information provided by government agencies and are included to provide the reader with relevant general information about the city of Chicago.

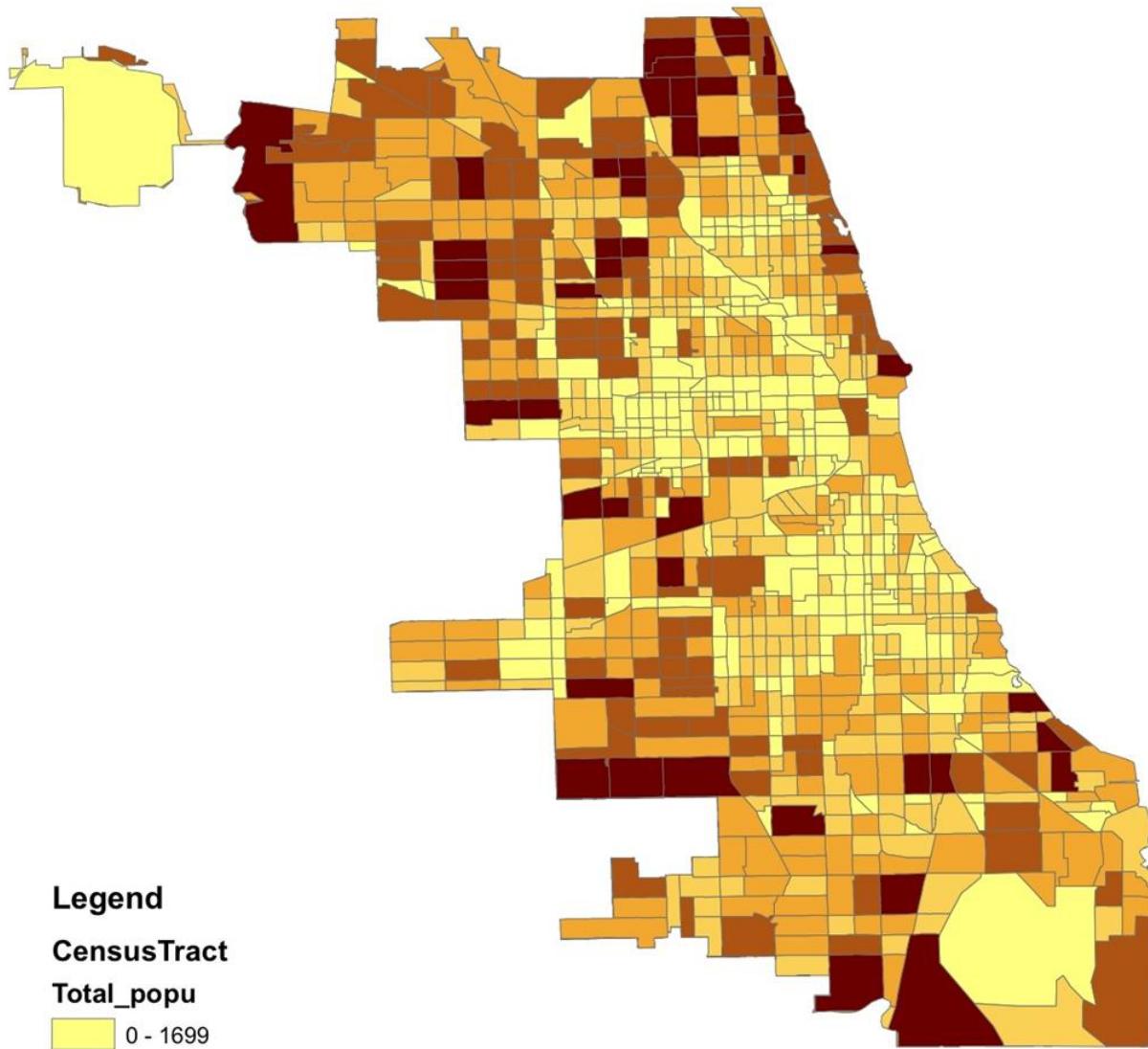
Exhibit A: Map of Chicago Population Distribution by Census Tract (2008)

Exhibit B: Map of Income Distribution in Chicago (2008)

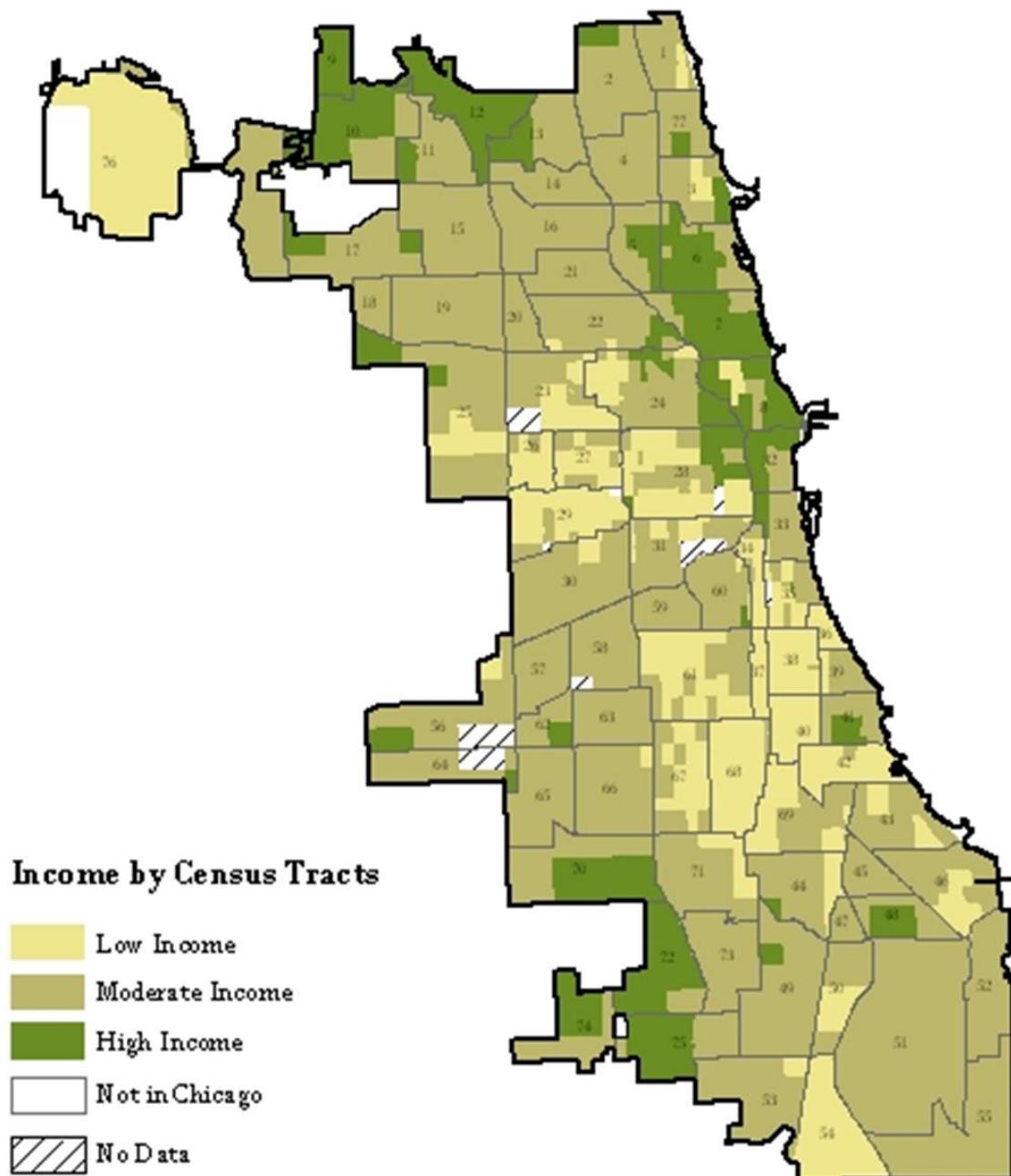
Exhibit C: Map of Aldermanic Wards for the City of Chicago

Exhibit D: Map of 2008 Violent Crime Index

Exhibit A:
Chicago Population Distribution by Census Tract (2008)



Exhibits B:
Income Distribution in Chicago (2008)



Created by Institute for Housing Studies, DePaul University, August 2008

The low-income submarket includes all census tracts in Chicago where median household income in 2000 was less than 150% of poverty level income for a family of four in 2000 (\$26,405). The moderate income submarket includes all census tracts where 2000 median income for the tract was between 150% and 300% of poverty level income (up to \$52,809), and high income submarket includes all tracts where median income was higher than 300% of household income (above \$52,809).

Exhibit C: Aldermanic Wards for the City of Chicago

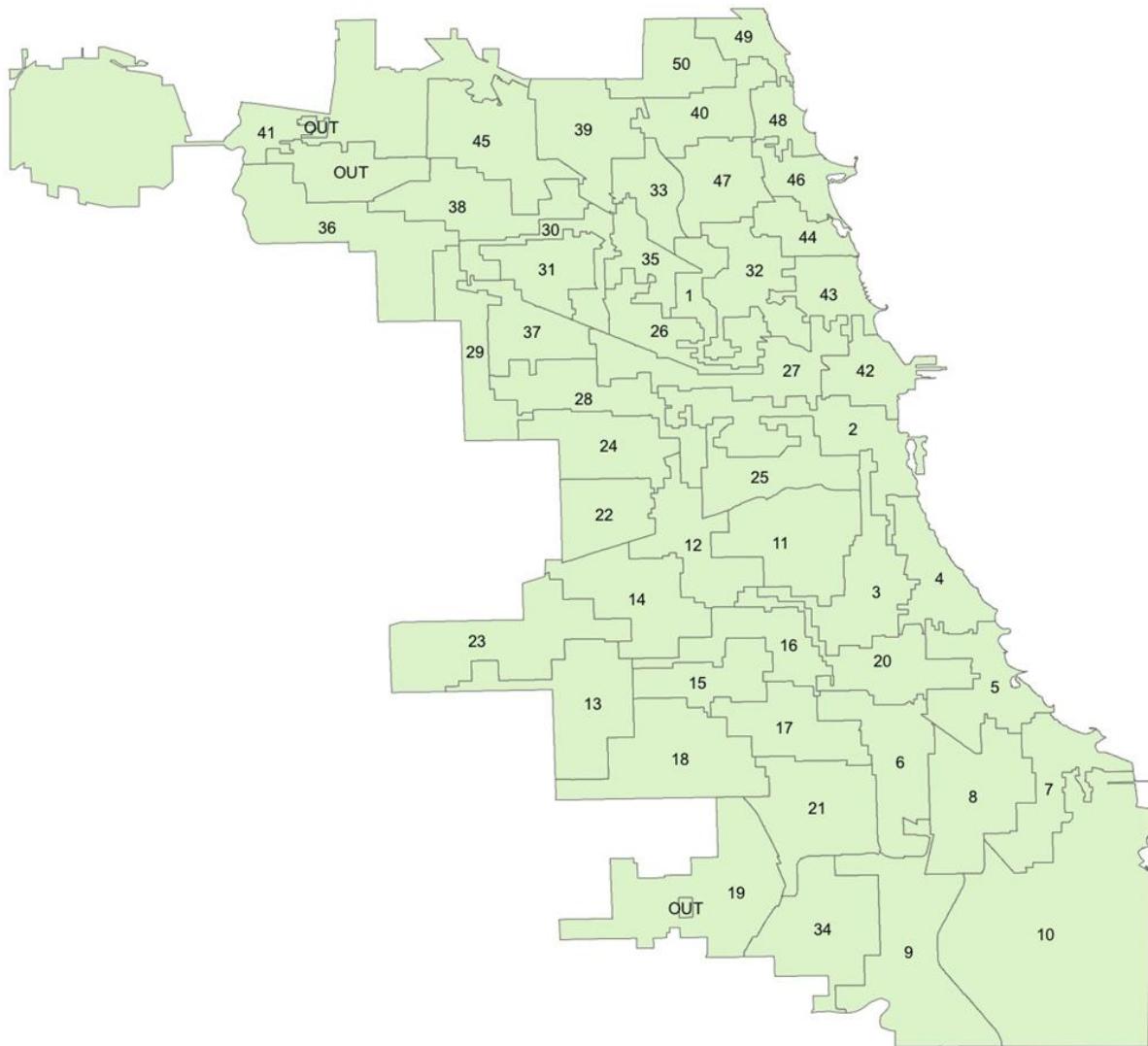
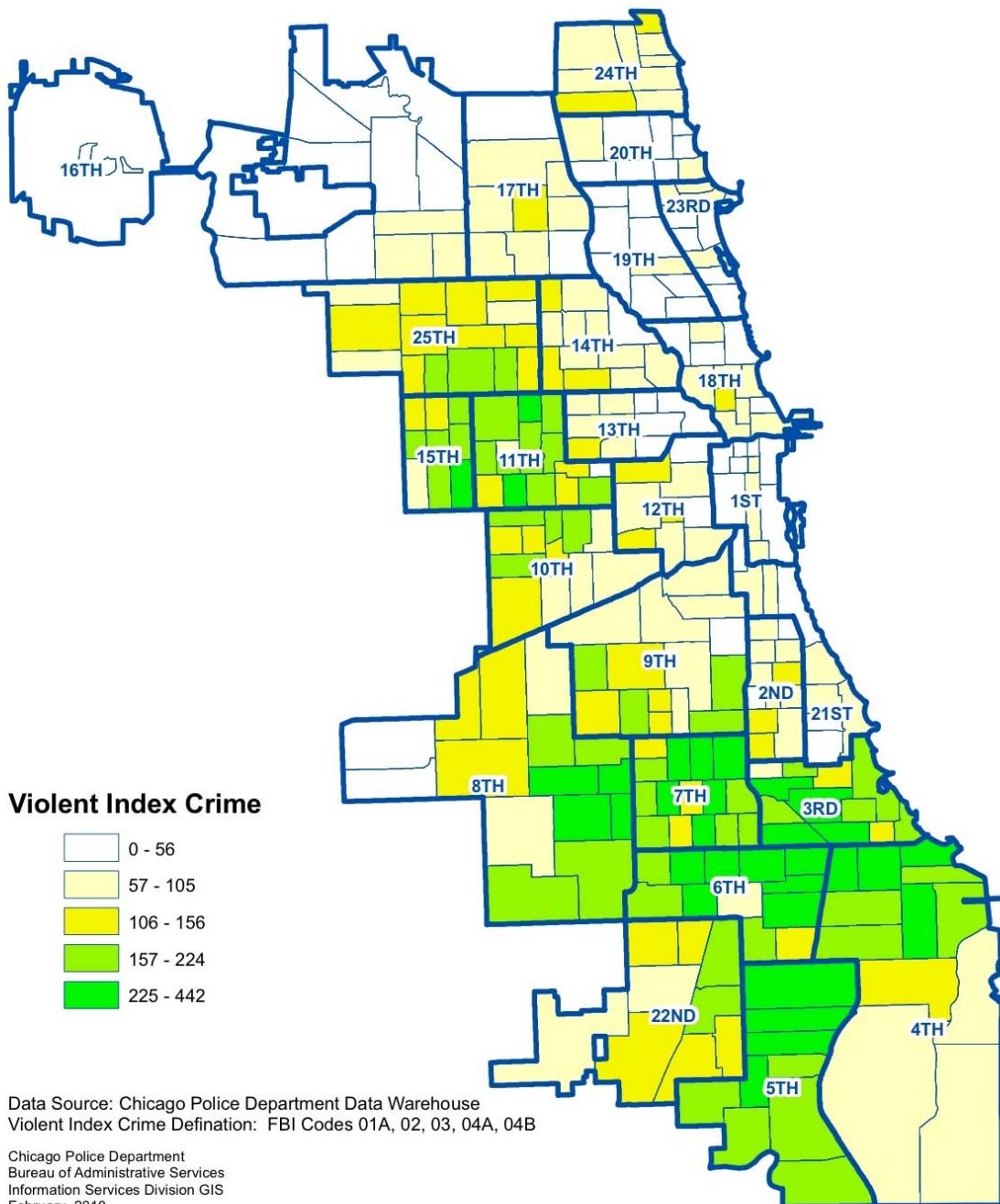


Exhibit D:



2008 Violent Index Crime

Richard M. Daley, Mayor
Jody P. Weis, Superintendent



Animal Intake

The exhibits in this section document data related to “Animal Intake”. The following exhibits show intake rates at CACC and other CASA shelters, including intake by species, by source and reasons provided at CACC for the surrendering of animals by city residents. This information is useful for understanding how and why companion animals enter private and public shelters in Chicago.

Exhibit E: CASA Intake (2006-2008)

Exhibit F: CASA Intake by species (2006-2008)

Exhibit G: CASA Intake by source (2006-2008)

Exhibit H: Intake Comparison CACC vs. other CASA (2006-2008)

Exhibit I: Intake Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA by Species
(2006- 2008)

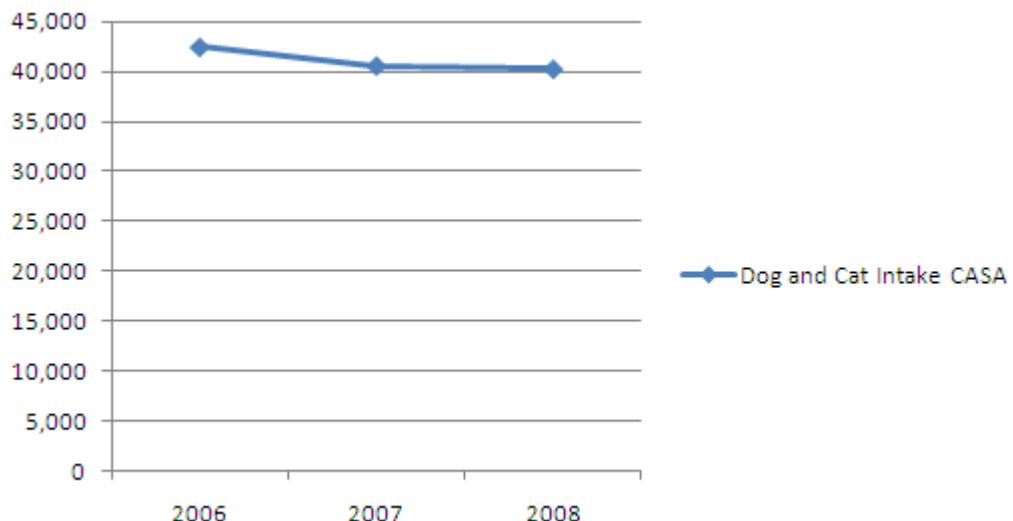
Exhibit J: CACC Stray Intake by species (2008)

Exhibit K: CACC Live Intake by type (2008)

Exhibit L: CACC Live Intake by Species and Type (2008)

Exhibit M: CACC Reason for Surrender – Dogs and Cats (2008)

Exhibit E: CASA Intake (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
CASA Intake	42,479	40,555	40,233

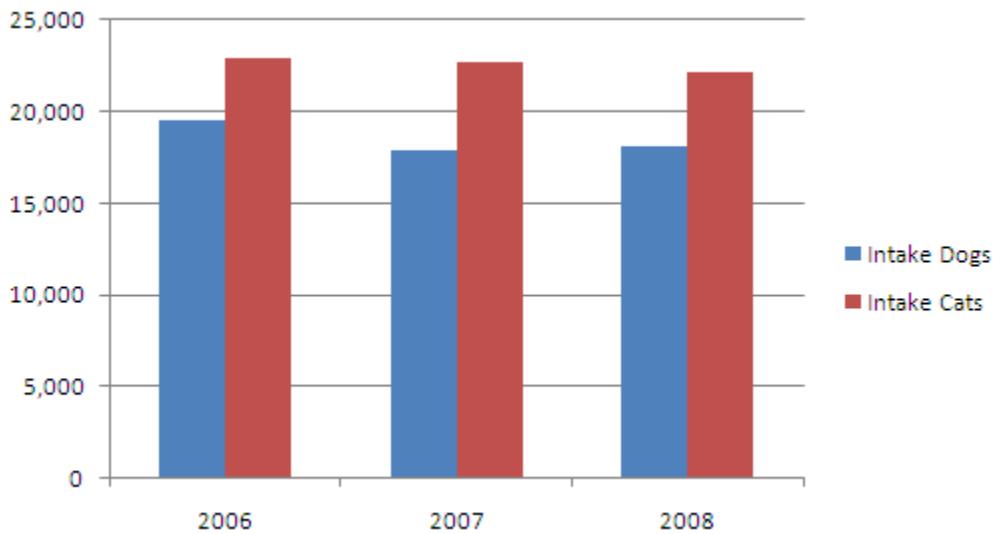
Commentary

This graph shows the number of dogs and cats that entered brick and mortar shelters belonging to the Chicago Animal Shelter Alliance from 2006-2008. The numbers above include Chicago Animal Care and Control. In the graph above, it appears that between 2006 and 2008 the number of animals entering Chicago shelters decreased slightly, although it is difficult to establish any sort of trend, given the limited time period of the data obtained. In 2008, 40,233 dogs and cats were cared for by Chicago shelters.

Notes

Data above includes animals entering shelter system for "Owner Requested" euthanasia. The numbers above also include animals transferred between CASA shelters, refer to Appendix G for more details regarding intake source.

Exhibit F:
CASA Intake by species (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Dogs	19,544	17,904	18,125
Cats	22,935	22,651	22,108

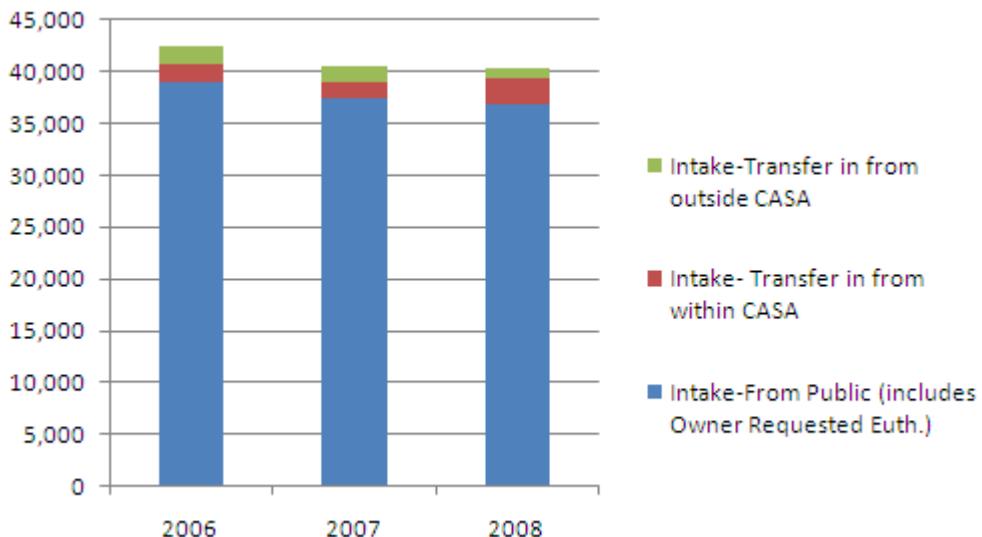
Commentary

This graph uses the same data as Exhibit A, but provides a breakdown of how many dogs and cats were cared for by Chicago shelters between 2006 and 2008. The chart shows that more cats than dogs were cared for by Chicago shelters during this three year time period. Dog intake within CASA fell from 19,544 in 2006 to 17,904 in 2007 and remained relatively the same from 2007 to 2008 (18,125). Cat intake within CASA held relatively stable over the same time period.

Notes

Data above includes animals entering shelter system for "Owner Requested" euthanasia. The numbers above also include animals transferred between CASA shelters.

Exhibit G: CASA Intake by source (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

<u>Source of Intake</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
From Public	38,949	37,468	36,777
Transfer from within CASA	1,762	1,585	2,588
Transfer from outside CASA	1,768	1,502	868

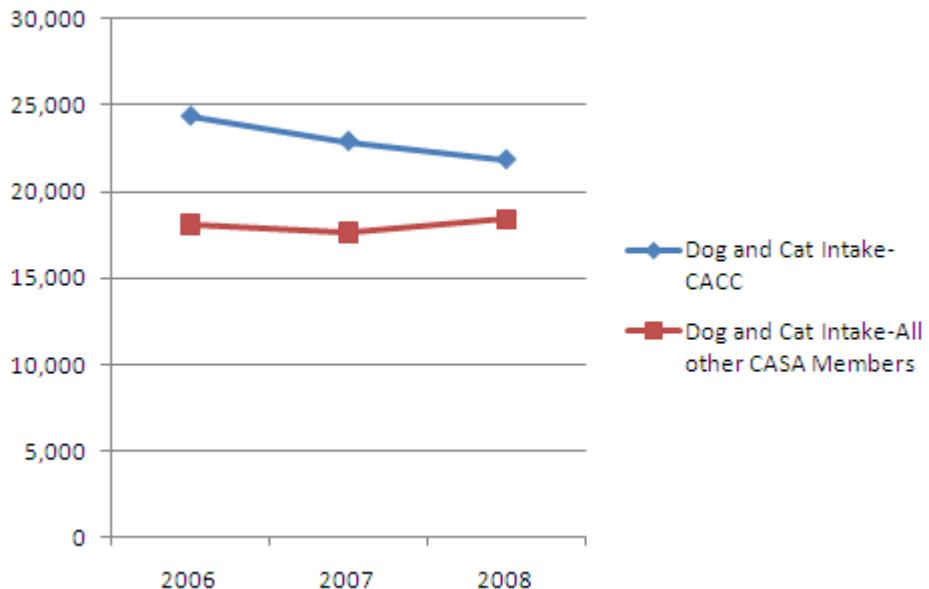
Commentary

This graph represents the source of dogs and cats entering CASA shelters from 2006 – 2008, (includes owner requested euthanasia). For each year, the vast majority of animals (over 90%) entering the shelter system came from the public. Between 2006 and 2008, the number of animals transferred into the shelter system from outside CASA decreased while transfers between CASA shelters increased.

Notes

Data above includes animals entering shelter system for “Owner Requested” euthanasia.

Exhibit H:
Intake Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

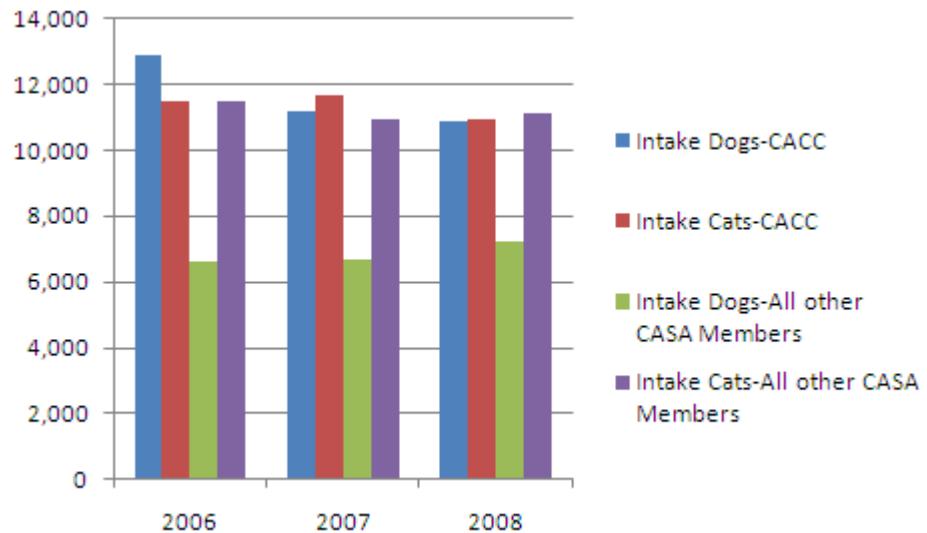
Commentary

This graph shows that the dog and cat intake at CACC decreased from 24,364 in 2006 to 21,836 in 2008. Dog and cat intake through all other CASA members remained relatively stable during this same time period.

Notes

Data above includes animals entering shelter system for "Owner Requested" euthanasia. The numbers above also include animals transferred between CASA shelters.

Exhibit I:
Intake Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA by Species (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

<u>Intake</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Dogs - CACC	12,903	11,209	10,881
Cats – CACC	11,461	11,691	10,955
CACC Total	24,364	22,900	21,836
Dogs – Other CASA	6,641	6,695	7,244
Cats – Other CASA	11,474	10,960	11,153
Other CASA Total	18,115	17,655	18,397

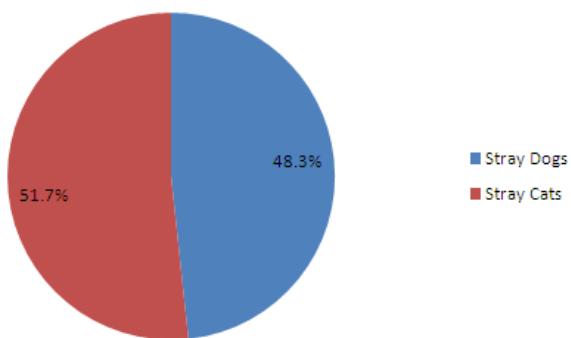
Commentary

This graph shows a comparison between the number of dogs and cats entering CACC and the number entering other CASA shelters from 2006 – 2008. For all three years, CACC had a higher dog intake than all other CASA shelters combined, while Cat intake was relatively similar for CASA shelters and CACC. The number of dogs entering CACC declined from 12,903 in 2006 to 10,881 in 2008, a change that is not accounted for by a corresponding increase in CASA dog intake during this same time period.

Notes

Data above includes animals entering shelter system for "Owner Requested" euthanasia. The numbers above also include animals transferred between CASA shelters.

Exhibit J:
CACC Stray intake by Species (2008)

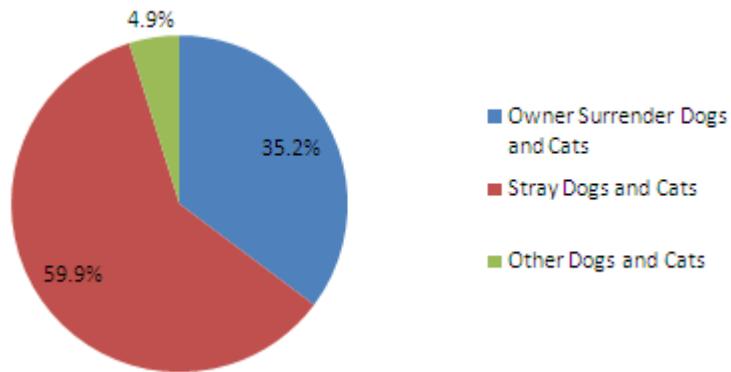


Source: CACC 2008 sample

Commentary

The chart above provides a breakdown of the stray dogs and cats that entered CACC in 2008 sample. The percentage of stray dogs and cats entering the shelter is relatively similar.

Exhibit K: CACC Live Intake by Type (2008)



Source: CACC 2008 sample

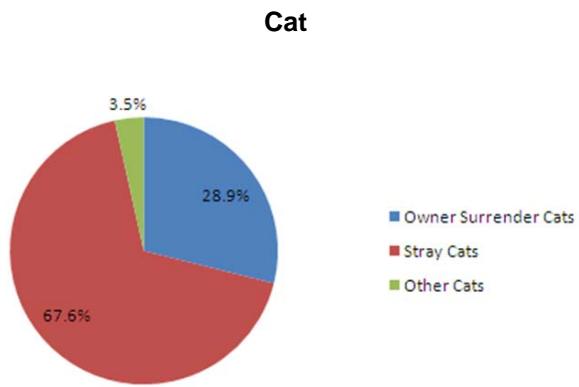
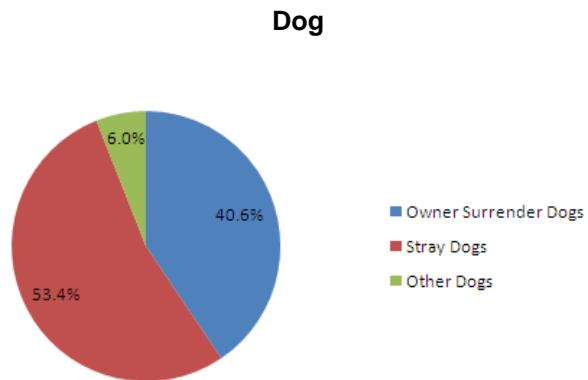
Commentary

The chart above shows the source of animals entering CACC during 2008 (sample). Almost 60% of animals entering the shelter were strays but an appreciable amount (35%) were surrendered to the shelter by their owners.

Notes

The “Other” category includes animals that fit in one of the following categories (determined by CACC staff upon intake): deceased or sick person’s property, prisoner’s property, biter, eviction, sick or injured, born at CACC, animal fighting investigation, court case pending, cruelty investigation, abandoned, and unknown.

Exhibit L:
CACC Live intake by species and type (2008)



Source: CACC 2008 sample

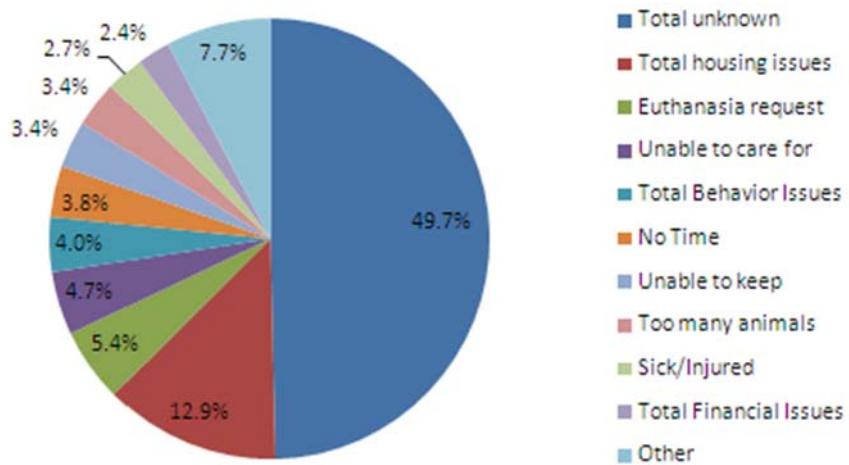
Commentary

Based on CACC sample data, the top chart shows that in 2008, slightly over half of the dogs entering CACC were strays. In comparison, the bottom chart shows that 67.6% of the cats entering CACC during this time period were strays. Dogs were more likely than cats to enter CACC as owner surrenders.

Notes

The “Other” category includes animals that fit in one of the following categories (determined by CACC staff upon intake): deceased or sick person’s property, prisoner’s property, biter, eviction, sick or injured, born at CACC, animal fighting investigation, court case pending, cruelty investigation, abandoned, and unknown.

Exhibit M: CACC Reason for Surrender-Dogs and Cats



Source: CACC 2008 sample

Commentary

Based on CACC sample data, the chart above shows the reasons provided by owners surrendering their cats and dogs to CACC in 2008. As you can see, available data does not allow us to draw conclusions about 49.7% of the owner surrendered animals entering CACC because there was either no answer provided or the answer provided was not legible on the intake forms. The next most frequently cited causes for owner surrender were housing issues (12.9%), euthanasia request (5.4%) and "unable to care for" (4.7%). Reasons provided for owner surrender vary between dogs and cats, which is discussed in further detail in the full report.

Notes

There were over 80 different reasons provided by owners when surrendering their animals to CACC. Similar reasons for surrender were combined into major categories (i.e. all housing related issues). There were however, multiple reasons provided that did not fit into these larger categories (i.e. "going on vacation").

Animal Disposition

The exhibits in this section document data related to “Animal Disposition”. The following exhibits show animals’ outcomes for CACC and CASA, including outcome by species, by type and reasons provided for euthanasia. This information is useful for understanding how and why companion animals leave the private and public shelters in Chicago.

Exhibit N: CASA Outcome (2006-2008)

Exhibit O: CASA Outcome by percentage (2006-2008)

Exhibit P: CACC Outcome (2006-2008)

Exhibit Q: CACC Outcome by Type and Species (2006-2008)

Exhibit R: CACC Outcome by percentage (2006-2008)

Exhibit S: Disposition Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA (2006-2008)

Exhibit T: Animal Disposition Shelter Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA (2008)

Exhibit U: CACC Euthanasia (2006-2008)

Exhibit V: CACC Euthanasia by Species (2006-2008)

Exhibit W: CACC Euthanasia – Top 11 reasons by species (2008)

Exhibit N: CASA Outcome (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Euthanasia	23,165	18,969	19,228
Adoption	11,378	11,460	11,385
Transfer Total	4,962	4,662	5,370
Transfer Outside	2,908	3,140	2,782
Transfer Within	2,054	1,522	2,588
Return to Owner	1,220	1,215	1,189
Died/Lost in Shelter*	1,157	204	243
Other	597	4045	2818

Commentary

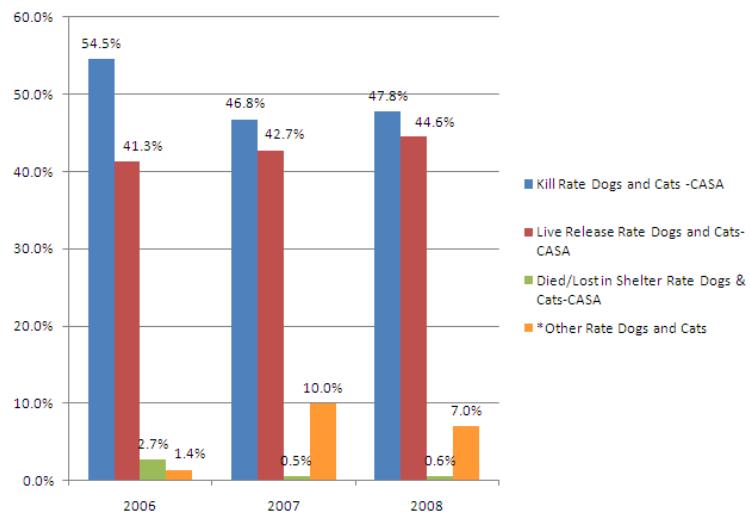
The charts above show how dogs and cats left CASA shelters between 2006 and 2008. For all three years, the most common outcome was euthanasia, although there was a marked decrease in the total number of animals euthanized between 2006 (23,165) and 2008 (19,228). The next most common release type was adoption, which remained relatively consistent for all three years. The chart on the right provides a more detailed breakdown on whether transferred animals left the CASA system, or were transferred to another CASA shelter.

Notes

*CACC only reported statistics for "died/lost in shelter" to Maddie's Fund in 2006.

"Other" category is variance between total intake and total outcome. A portion of this variance can be attributed to current shelter population while the remainder is unknown. Animal Welfare League reports adoptions as "transfers to outside CASA".

Exhibit O: CASA Outcome by percentage (2006-2008)

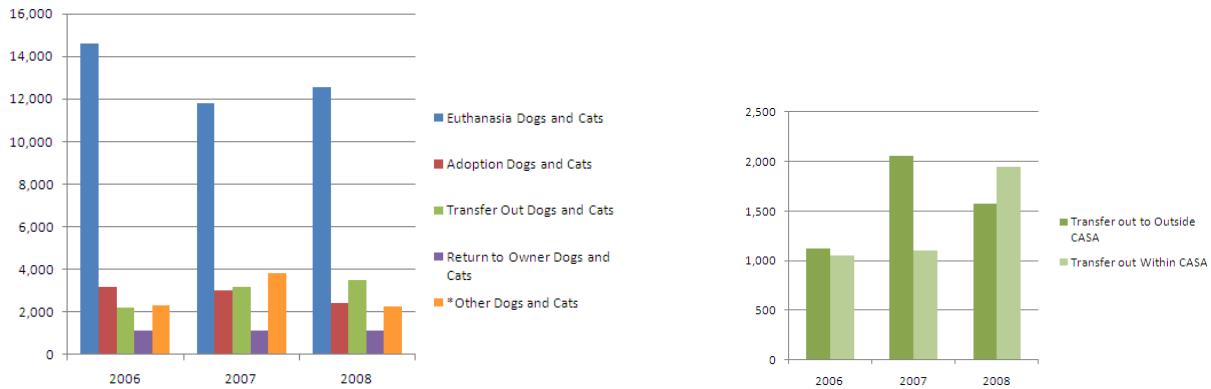


Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Commentary

The chart above shows how animals left CASA shelters between 2006 and 2008 and compares the “kill rate” (euthanized animals) with rates of “live release” (which includes adoptions, transfers and return to owner), animals that “died/lost in shelter” and animals whose outcome is “unknown”. In 2006, there was a greater disparity between euthanized animals and live release animals than in 2007 or 2008, when kill rate and live release rates were more similar.

Exhibit P: CACC Outcome (2006-2008)



Data Summary

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Euthanasia	14,627	11,803	12,544
Adoption	3,160	2,984	2,390
Transfer Total	2,182	3,155	3,515
Transfer Outside	1,126	2,056	1,572
Transfer Within	1,056	1,099	1,943
Return to Owner	1,137	1,137	1,133
Other	2,314	3,821	2,254

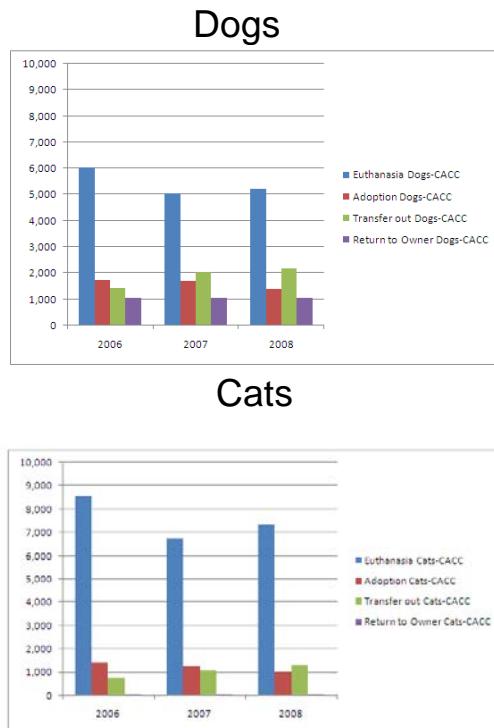
Commentary

The charts above show how dogs and cats left CACC between 2006 and 2008. For all three years, the majority of animals were euthanized, although there was a marked decrease in the total number of animals euthanized between 2006 (14,627) and 2007, (11,803) but increased again in 2008 (12,544). In 2006, more animals were adopted (3,160) than transferred (2,182) while in 2008, more animals were transferred (3,515) than adopted (2,390). The exhibit on the right provides a more detailed breakdown on whether transferred animals left the CASA system, or were transferred to another CASA shelter.

Notes

**"Other" category is variance between total intake and total outcome. A portion of this variance can be attributed to current shelter population while the remainder is unknown. Excludes "died/lost in shelter" statistics, which were only reported to Maddie's Fund in 2006

Exhibit Q:
CACC Outcome by Type and Species (2006-2008)



Source: Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Euthanasia – Dog	6,039	5,054	5,218
Adoption – Dog	1,737	1,698	1,383
Transfer – Dog	1,418	2,050	2,194
Return to Owner -Dog	1,054	1,054	1,056
Euthanasia – Cat	8,588	6,749	7,326
Adoption – Cat	1,423	1,286	1,007
Transfer – Cat	764	1,105	1,321
Return to Owner - Cat	83	83	77

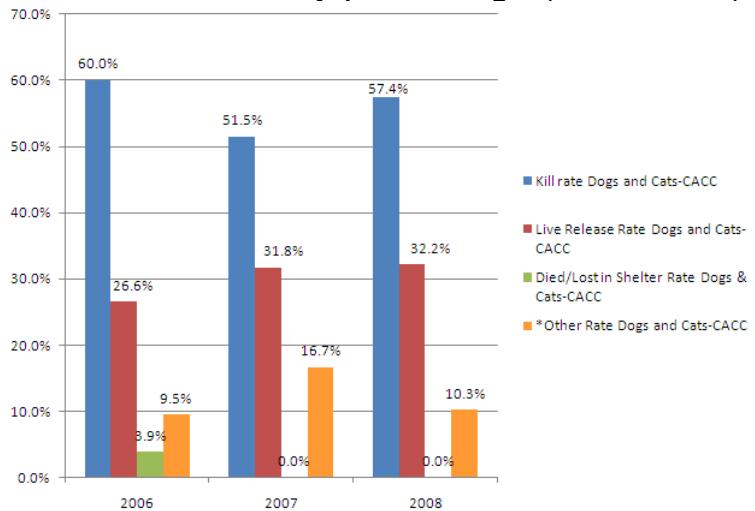
Commentary

The charts above show the difference between outcome for dogs and cats in the CACC shelter. For all three years, more cats were euthanized than dogs. More dogs were returned to their owners, with almost none being returned to their owners during this same time period.

Notes

Does not include "Unknown" outcome. Excludes "Died/Lost in Shelter" which was only reported in 2006 (944).

Exhibit R: CACC Outcome by percentage (2006-2008)



Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

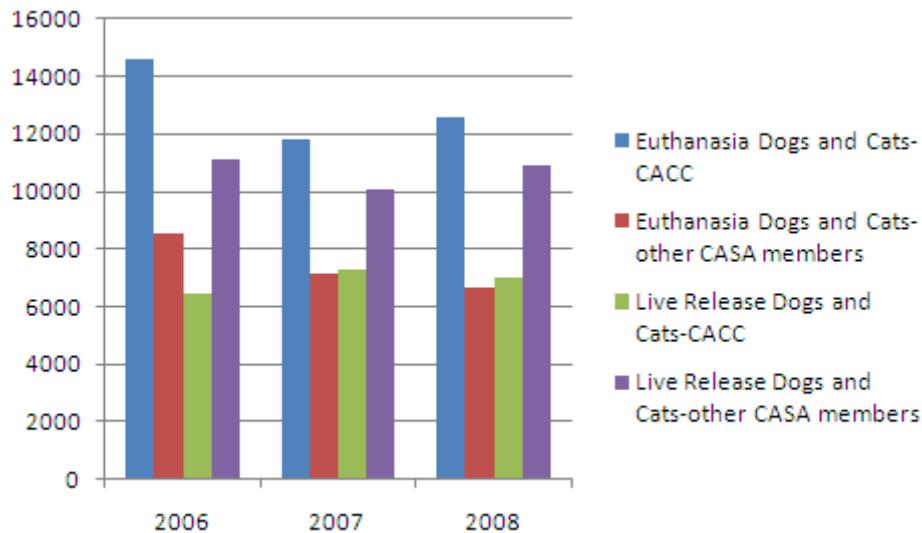
Commentary

The chart above shows how animals left CACC between 2006 and 2008 and compares the “kill rate” (euthanized animals) with rates of “live release” (which includes adoption, transfers and return to owner), animals that “died/lost in shelter” and animals whose outcome is “unknown”. For all three years, the majority of animals were euthanized. The live release rate increased slightly between 2006 and 2008. There is a substantial percentage of animals whose outcome is unknown; part of this could be attributed to current population however the percentages of unknown are more than the shelter’s capacity.

Notes

“Other” category is variance between total intake and total outcome. A portion of this variance can be attributed to current shelter population while the remainder is “unknown”. Percentage calculations are based on total intake. Live release includes adoptions, transfers and return to owner. CACC only reported statistics for “died/lost in shelter” to Maddie’s Fund in 2006.

Exhibit S:
Disposition Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA (2006-2008)



Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Euthanasia – CACC	14,627	11,803	12,544
Euthanasia – Other CASA	8,538	7,166	6,684
Live Release – CACC	6,479	7,276	7,038
Live Release – Other CASA	11,081	10,061	10,906

Commentary

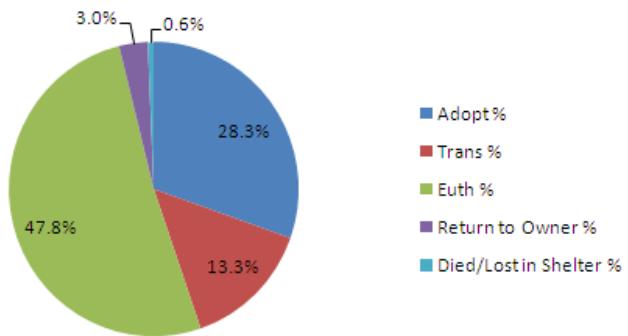
The chart above compares euthanasia and live release for CACC and all other CASA shelters. For all three years, animals at CACC were more likely to be euthanized while animals at CASA shelters were more likely to experience "live release".

Notes

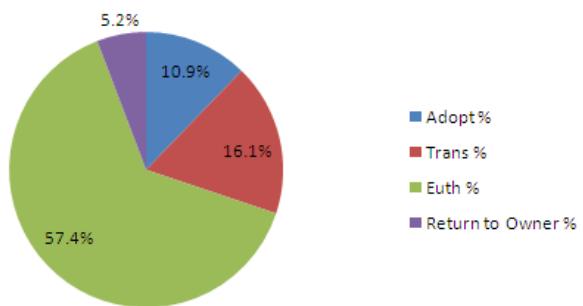
Live release includes adoptions, transfers and return to owner. Does not include "other" or "died/lost in shelter".

Exhibit T:
Animal Disposition Shelter Comparison CACC vs. Other CASA (2008)

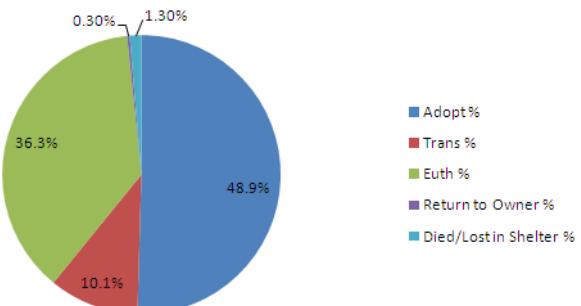
ALL CASA (2008)



CACC (2008)



Other CASA (2008)



Based on Maddie's 2008 data

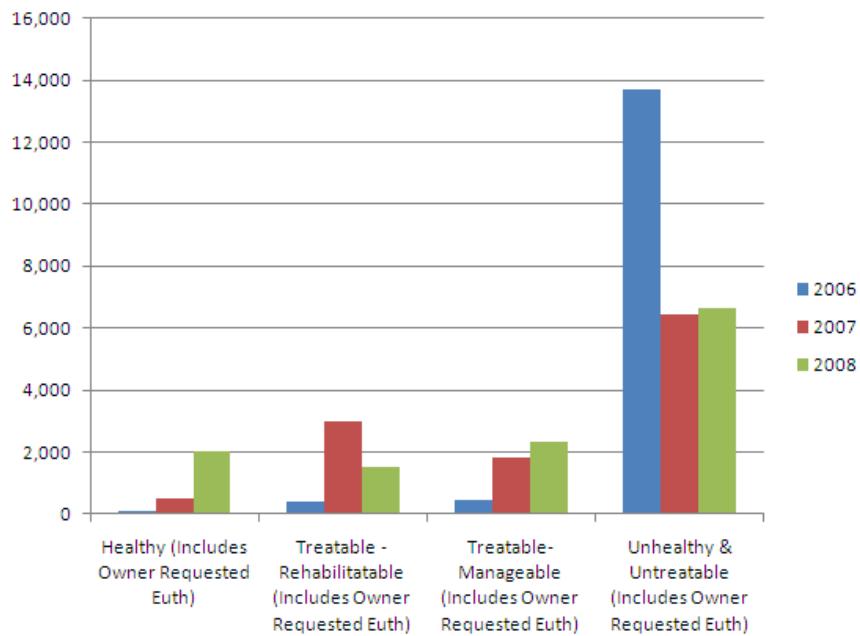
Commentary

The top chart shows animal disposition for all members of CASA, including CACC. The other two charts compare animal disposition at the private CASA shelters with animal disposition at CACC. In 2008, the majority of the animals at CACC were euthanized while animals at private shelters were more likely to be adopted. CACC had a greater transfer rate, most likely the result of concerted efforts by private shelters to transfer animals from CACC to CASA shelters as often as possible.

Notes

CACC only reported statistics for "died/lost in shelter" to Maddie's Fund in 2006.

Exhibit U:
CACC Euthanasia by Maddie's Fund Category (2006-2008)



Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Data Summary

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Healthy	71	520	2,021
Treatable – Rehab.	408	2,997	1,529
Treatable – Manage.	453	1,824	2,337
Unhealthy & Untreatable	13,695	6,462	6,567

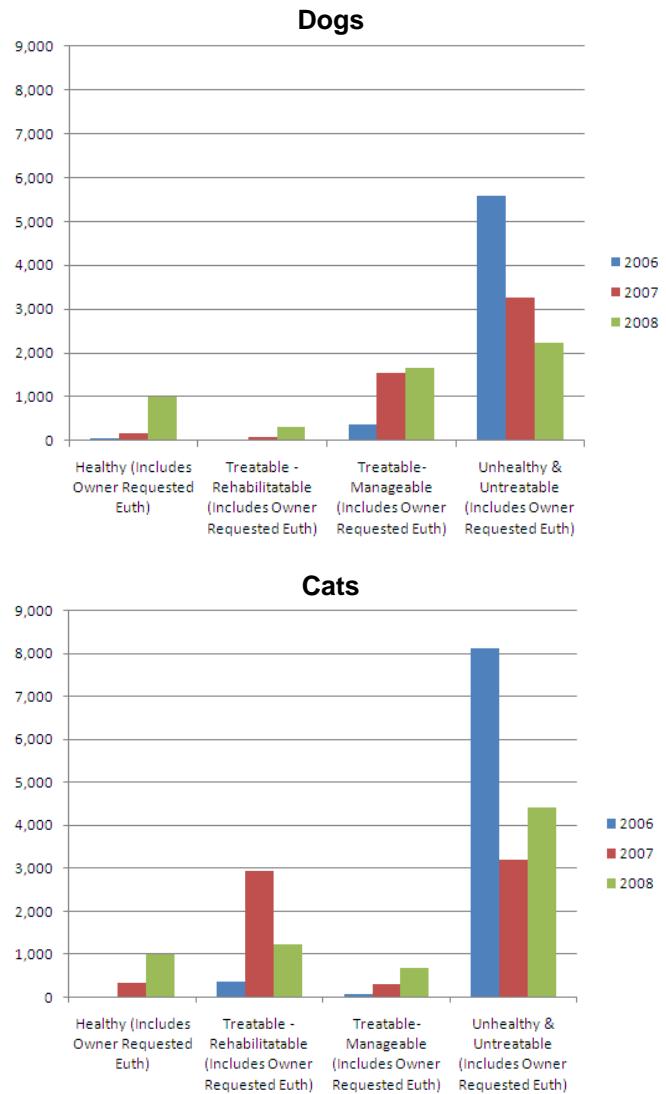
Commentary

The chart above shows reasons for euthanasia at CACC. The data was collected in four categories used by Maddie's Fund. For all three years, the majority of animals euthanized were categorized as "Unhealthy and Untreatable". During 2008, more animals categorized as "Healthy" were euthanized than in the other two years.

Notes

Data above represents how the organizations categorize the animals that are euthanized, as defined by Maddie's Fund. Categorization of animals was done by each shelter

Exhibit V:
CACC Euthanasia by Maddie's Fund Category and Species (2006-2008)



Maddie's Fund Data, 2006-2008

Commentary

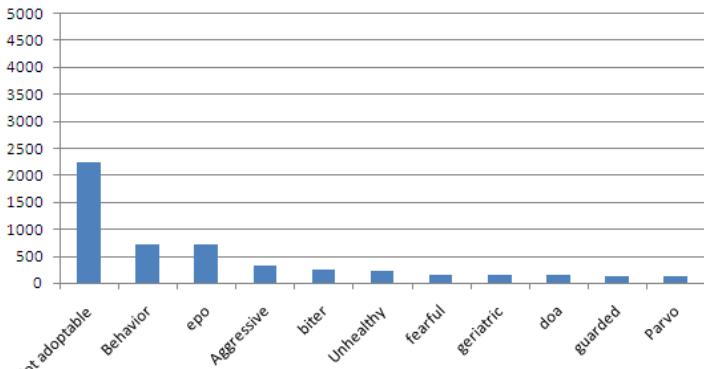
The charts above compare reasons for euthanasia at CACC from 2006-2008 for dogs and cats separately. For both dogs and cats, the majority of animals euthanized were categorized as "Unhealthy and Untreatable". For all three years, more euthanized cats than dogs were categorized as "Treatable – Rehabilitatable" while more dogs than cats were categorized as "Treatable – Manageable".

Notes

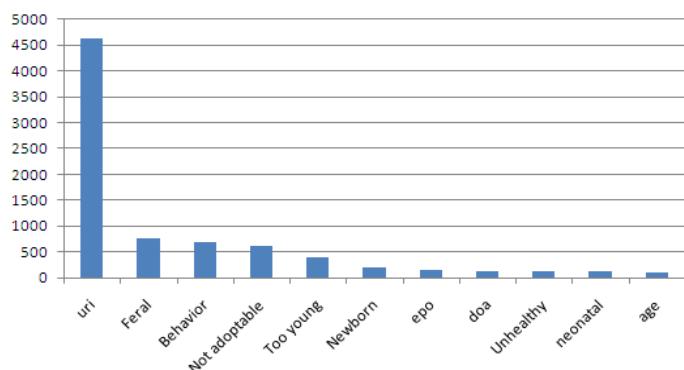
Data above represents how the organizations categorize the animals that are euthanized, as defined by Maddie's Fund. Categorization of animals was done by each shelter.

Exhibit W: CACC Euthanasia – Top 11 reasons by species (2008)

Dogs



Cats



CACC Controlled Substance Log 2008

Commentary

In comparison to previous charts that used Maddie's Fund, the exhibits above show the reasons for euthanasia provided in CACC's euthanasia log by species. The main reasons provided for the euthanasia of dogs were "not adoptable", "behavioral" and "Euthanasia Per Owner Request". For cats, the main reasons provided were "Upper Respiratory Infection", "Feral", "Behavioral" and "Not Adoptable".

Notes

Categorizations in the Controlled Substance Log were determined by CACC staff.

Safety and Humane Issues

The exhibits in the following section present data on Safety and Humane Issues covered in the final “Companion Animal Strategic Report” These issues document how companion animal issues influence the quality of life in communities throughout the city by documenting animal related issues that include calls to 311 and 911 for animal related issues, arrests and crime reports for animal related crimes,

Exhibit X: Animal Related 311 Calls (2004-2008)

Exhibit Y: Animal Related 311 Calls by type (2008)

Exhibit Z: Map of “Stray Animal” 311 Calls by Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2007-2009)

Exhibit AA: Map of “Vicious Animal” 311 Calls by Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2007-2009)

Exhibit AB: Map of “Animal Bite” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2007-2009)

Exhibit AC: Map of “Dangerous Dog” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2007-2009)

Exhibit AD: Map of “Animal Fighting” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2007-2009)

Exhibit AE: Map of “Inhumane Treatment” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2007-2009)

Exhibit AF: Animal Related 911 Calls (2004-2008)

Exhibit AG: Map of Animal Related 911 calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2008)

Exhibit AH: Map of 911 Animal Abuse Calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2008)

Exhibit AI: Map of 911 Animal Fighting Calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2008)

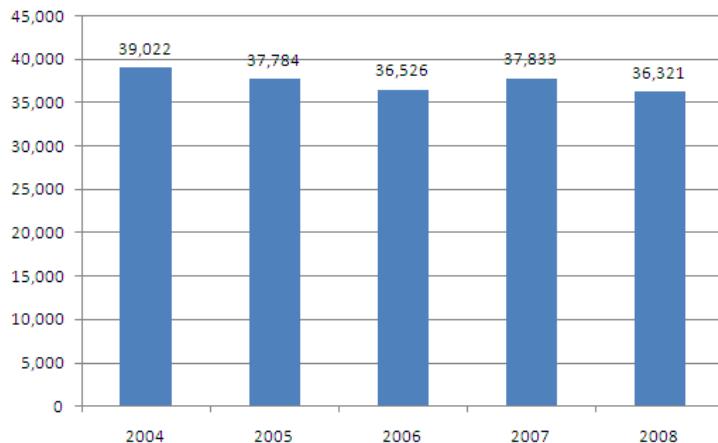
Exhibit AJ: Map of 911 Animal Bite Calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2008)

Exhibit AK: Animal related Arrests and Crime Reports (2008)

Exhibit AL: Animal Related Crimes by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2008)

Exhibit AM: Animal Related Arrests by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay (2008)

Exhibit X:
Animal Related 311 Calls (2004-2008)



Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

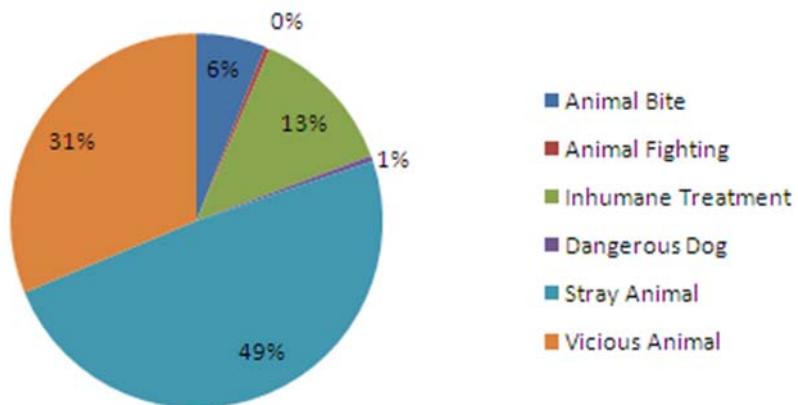
Commentary

The above bar graph shows the total number of animal related 311 calls made between 2004 and 2008. The number of calls remained relatively consistent over this time period

Notes

Animal related calls refer to calls in the following categories: Animal Bite, Animal Fighting, Inhumane Treatment, Stray Animal, and Vicious Animals. Excludes Dangerous Dog Calls (Dangerous dog data calls were only provided for 2007 (153) and 2008 (186)).

Exhibit Y:
Animal Related 311 calls by call type (2008)



Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

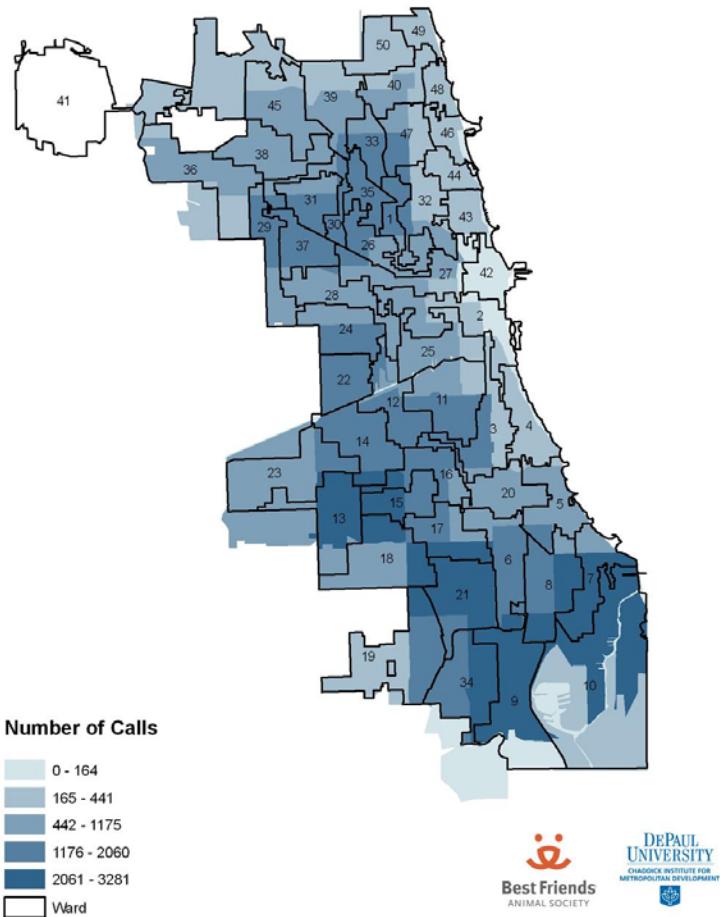
Commentary

The above pie graph shows us that the majority of animal related 311 calls in 2008 were related to Stray Animals (49%). The next most common animal related calls were for Vicious Animals (31%), Inhumane Treatment (13%) and Animal Bite (6%).

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone.

Exhibit Z:
“Stray Animal” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Office of Emergency Management and Communications; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

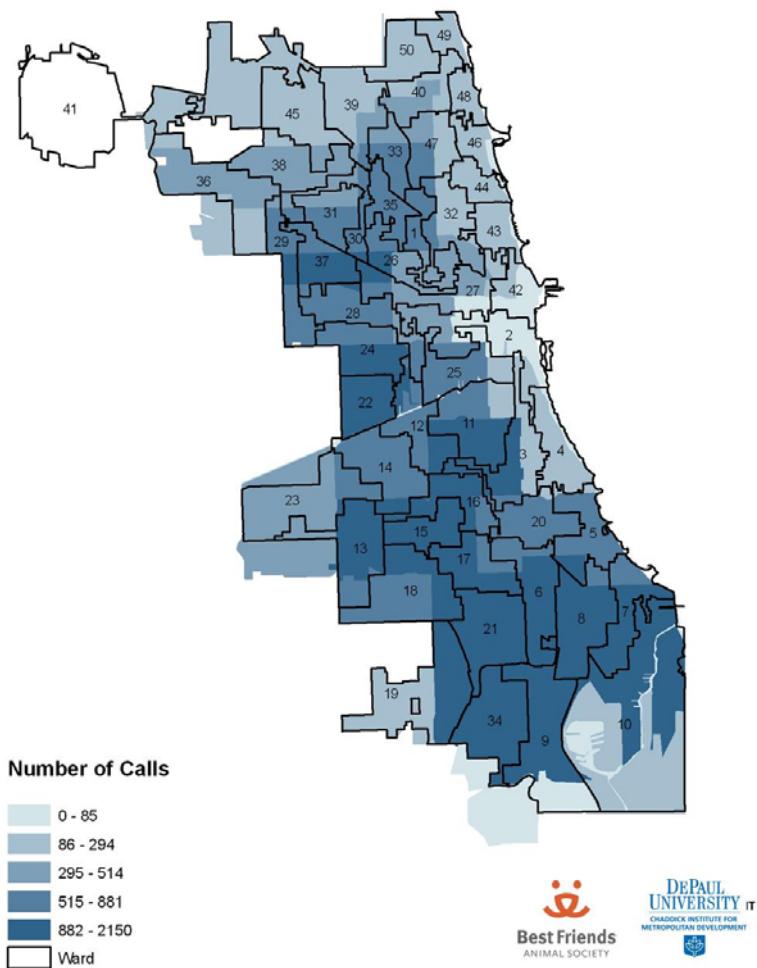
Commentary

The map above shows the origin of “Stray Animal” calls made to 311 between 2007 and 2009. More “Stray Animal” calls were placed from communities on the west and south side than from communities on the north side near the lakefront or downtown.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone.

Exhibit AA:
“Vicious Animal” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Office of Emergency Management and Communications; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

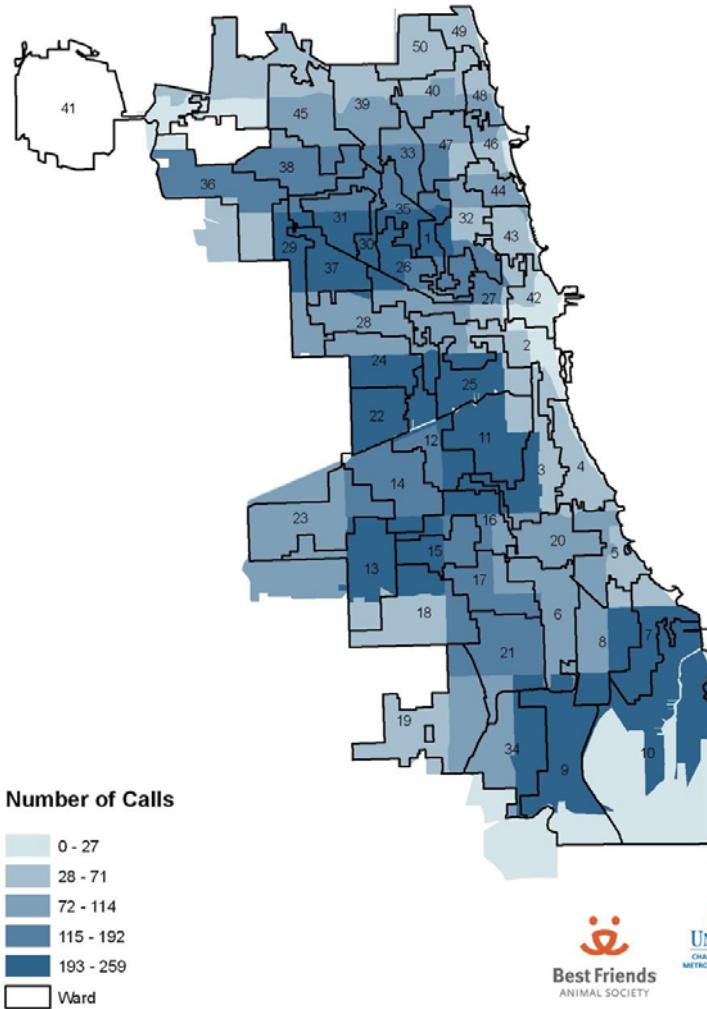
Commentary

The map above shows the geographical origin of “Vicious Animal” calls made to 311 between 2007 and 2009. Very few of these types of calls originated in the downtown area or in communities close to the lake on the north side. In contrast, the majority of vicious animals calls made to 311 were from south and west side communities.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone

Exhibit AB:
“Animal Bite” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Office of Emergency Management and Communications; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

Commentary

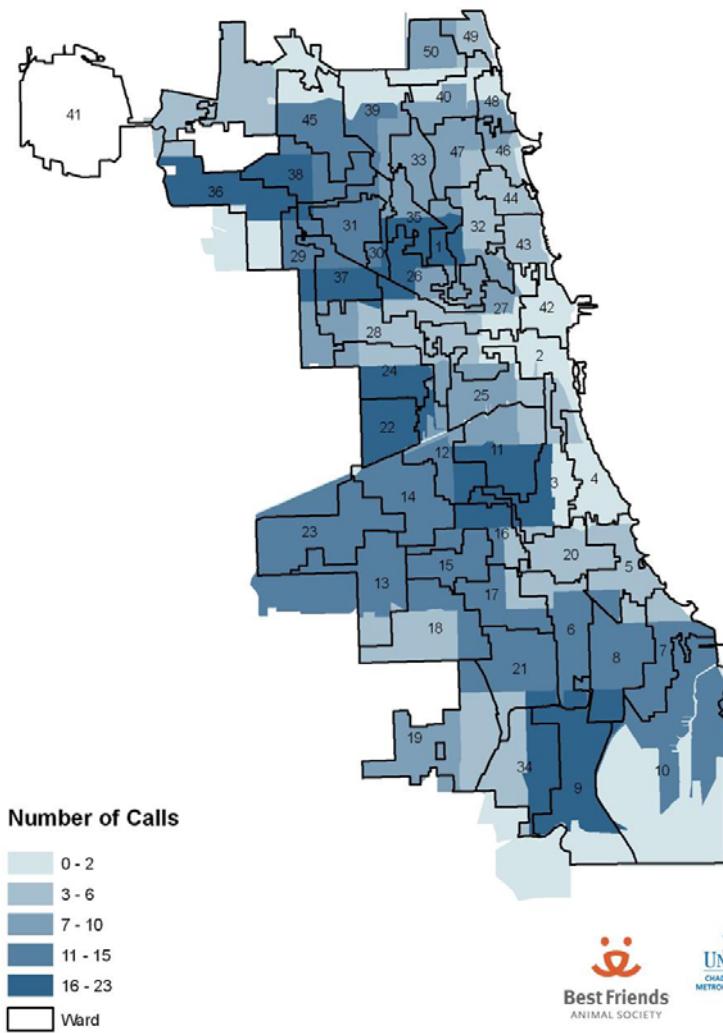
The map above shows the geographical origins of “Animal Bite” 311 calls made between 2007 and 2009. “Animal Bite” calls were more likely to come from communities located on the southeast, west and northwest sides of the city.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone.



Exhibit AC:
“Dangerous Dog” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Office of Emergency Management and Communications; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

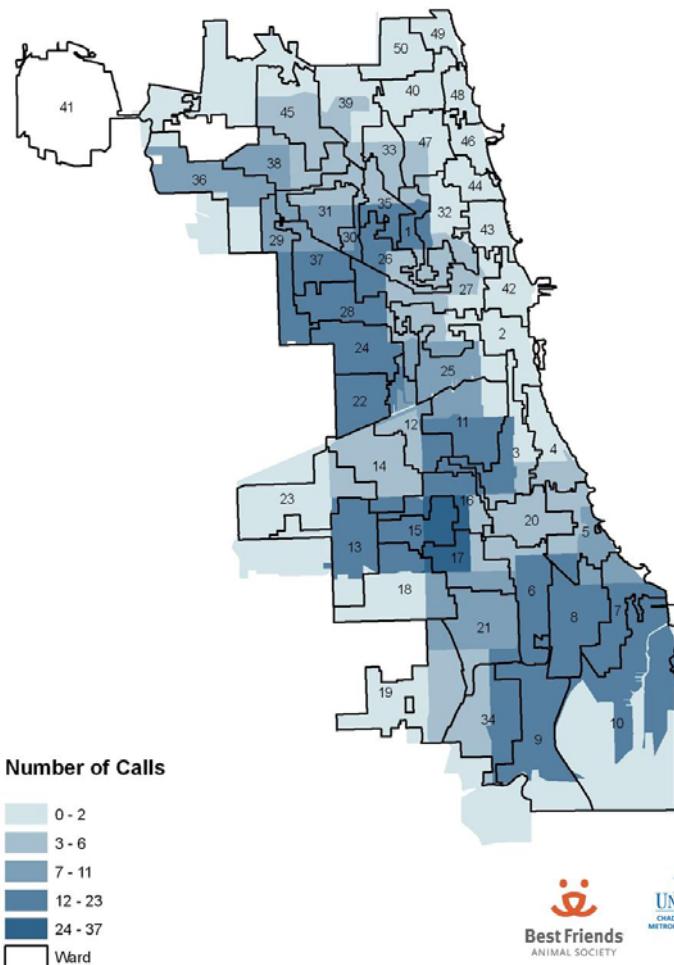
Commentary

Dangerous Dog calls made to 311 between 2007 and 2009 were more likely to come from communities located on the south, west and northwest sides of the city than from communities located downtown or along the lakefront on the north side.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone

Exhibit AD:
“Animal Fighting” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Office of Emergency Management and Communications; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications



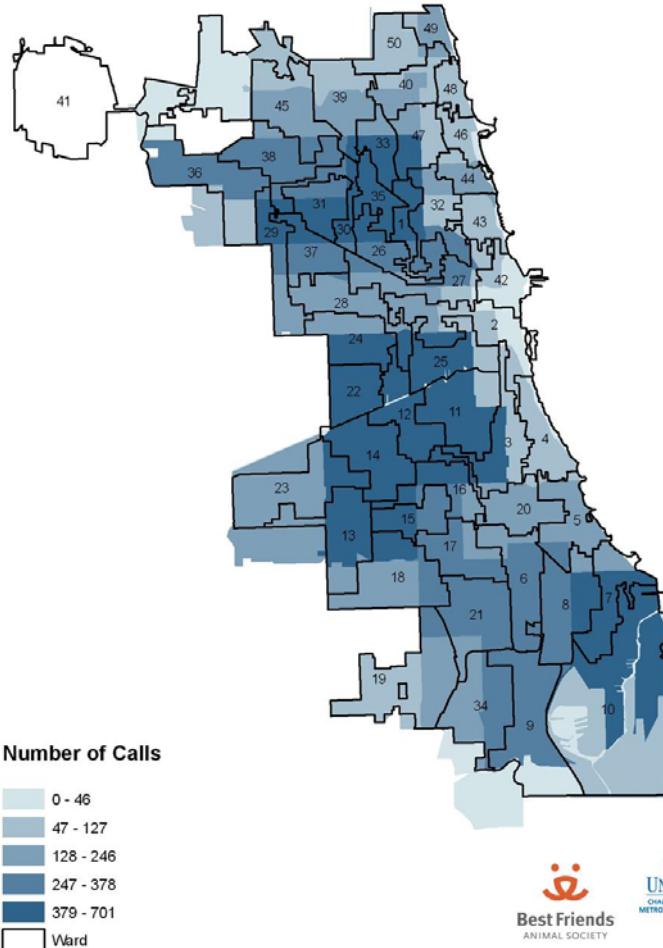
Commentary

“Animal Fighting” calls made to 311 between 2007 and 2009 were concentrated in several zip codes on the west, and southeast areas of the city. There were very few “Animal Fighting” calls made by residents living in north side or downtown areas. These are the same sections of the city that showed a high number of 311 calls related to “Animal Bites” and “Dangerous Dogs”.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone

Exhibit AE:
“Inhumane Treatment” 311 calls by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Office of Emergency Management and Communications;
Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

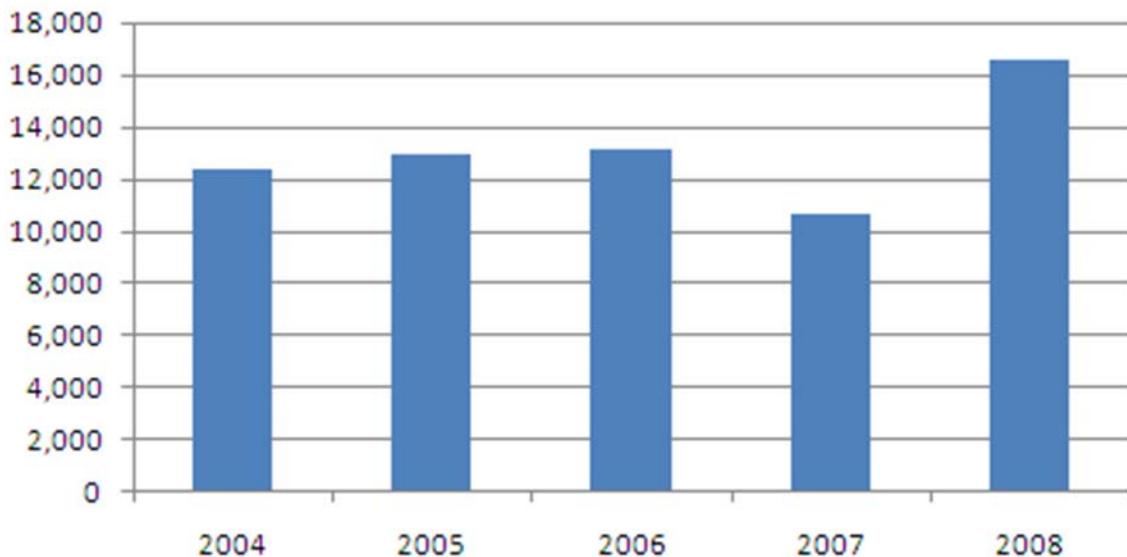
Commentary

The map above shows the number of “Inhuman Treatment” calls made to 311 between 2007 and 2009. These calls resided in three main areas: communities on the northwest side, the west side and the southeast area of Chicago.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone.

Exhibit AF:
Animal Related 911 Calls (2004-2008)



Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

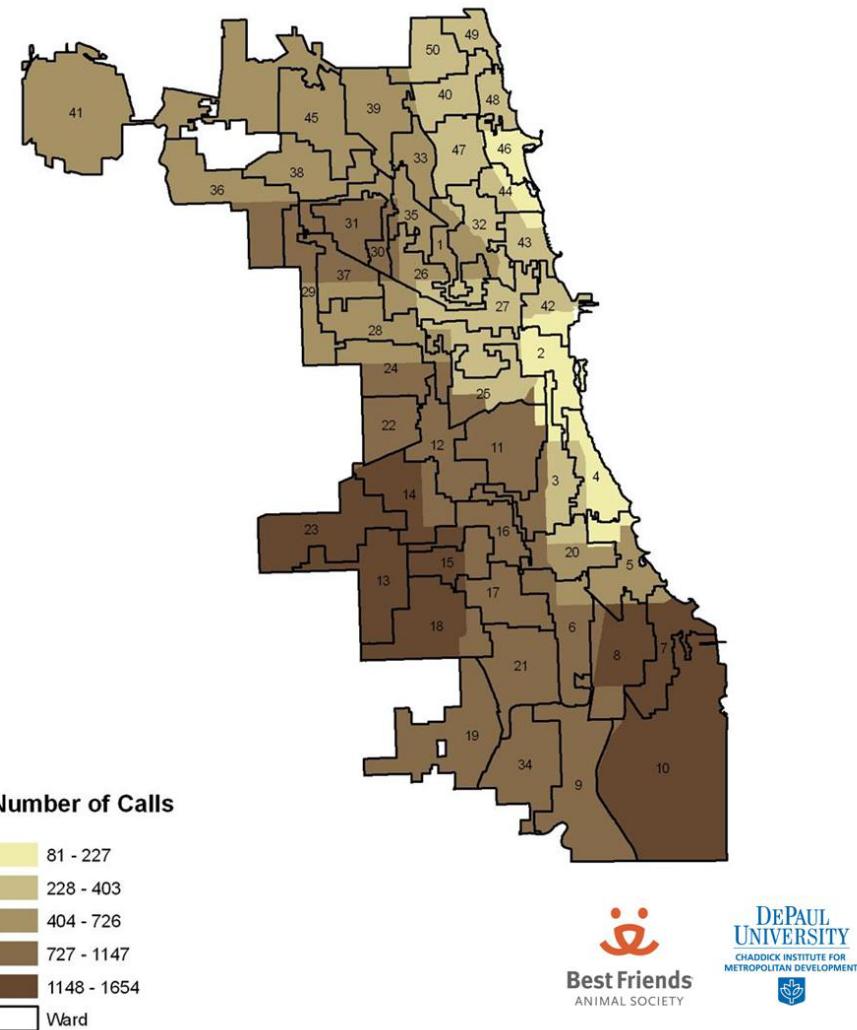
Commentary

The above bar graph shows the total number of animal related 911 calls made between 2004 and 2008. The number of 911 calls remained relatively consistent for the first three years but experienced a reduction in 2007 and a five year high for calls in 2008.

Notes

Analysis of the many factors to consider must be made to understand the 2008 spike in animal related 911 calls (e.g. The total numbers and types of arrests, changes in state law, and both public awareness campaign and law enforcement training initiatives.

Exhibit AG:
Animal Related 911 calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Chicago Police Department; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

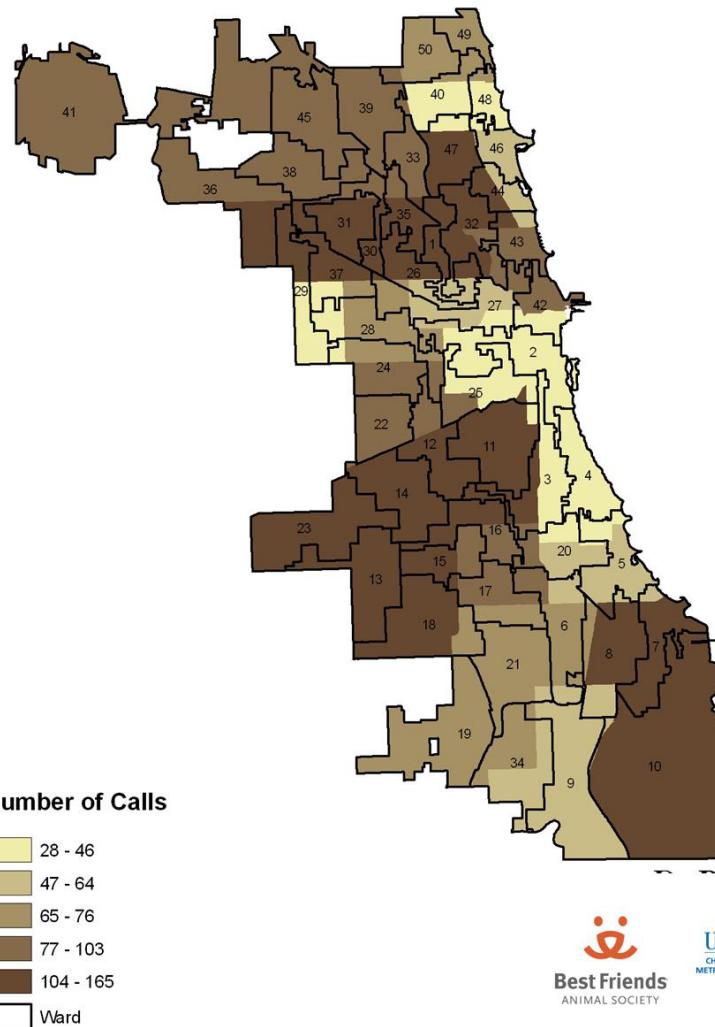
Commentary

The above map shows us that the majority of animal related 911 calls in 2008 took place on the south and southwest areas of Chicago, particularly the 4th and 8th police districts. The downtown, loop area in addition to Lincoln park and Lakeview experienced the least amount of animal related 911 calls during this time period.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone
 See exhibits AH, AI, AJ for more information the geographical source of different types of 911 calls.

Exhibit AH:
911 Animal Abuse Calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Chicago Police Department; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications

Commentary

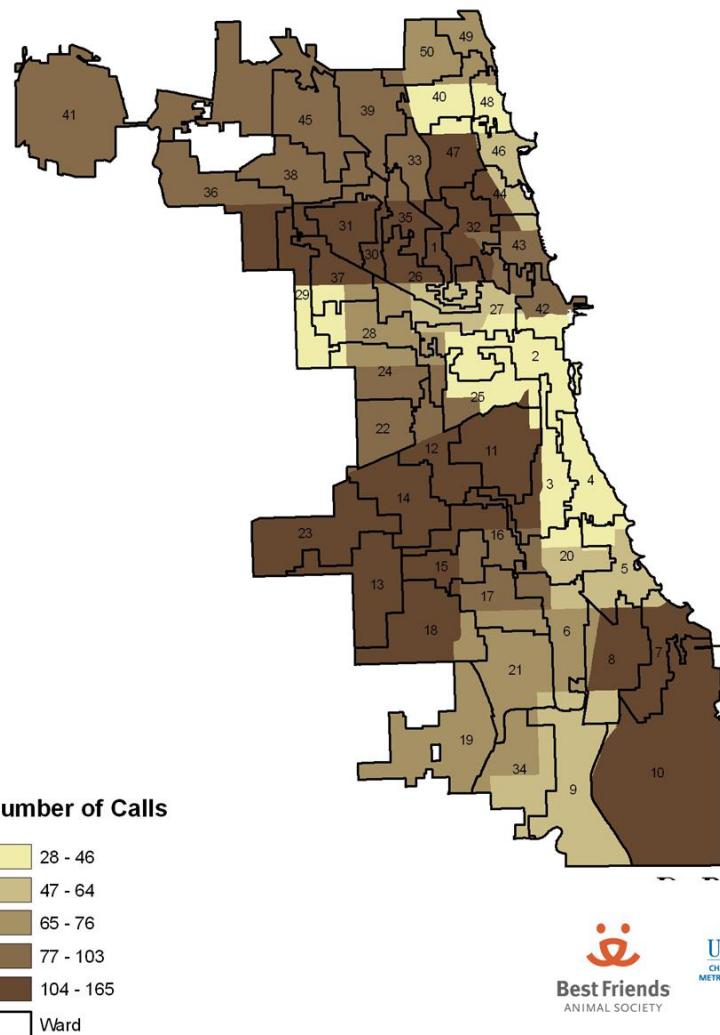
The map above shows “Animal Abuse” calls made to 911 during 2008. The most “Animal Abuse” 911 calls made during this period came from communities on the south, southwest, and northwest areas of Chicago. The downtown (loop, west loop, south loop) area experienced the lowest numbers of “Animal Abuse” 911 calls.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone



Exhibit A1:
911 Animal Fighting Calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Chicago Police Department; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications



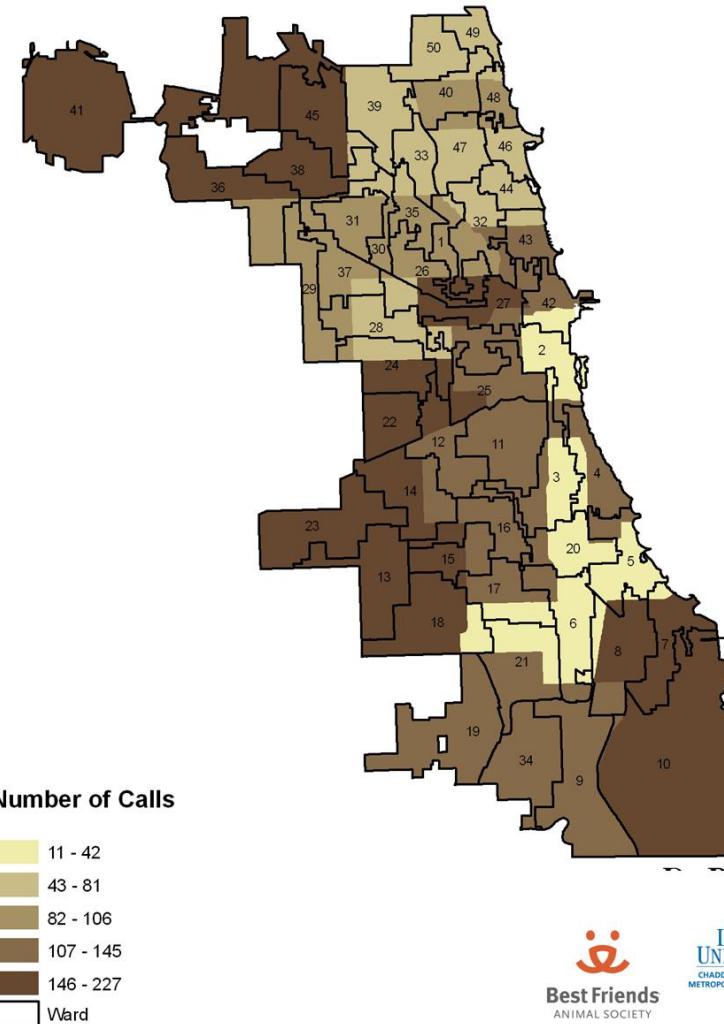
Commentary

In 2008, the majority of “Animal Fighting” 911 calls were from communities on the south, west, and southwest areas of Chicago. During this same period, the north side of the city experienced extremely low numbers of 911 calls for “Animal Fighting”.

Notes

Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone

Exhibit AJ:
Animal Bite 911 Calls by Police District with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Chicago Police Department; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center

Source: Office of Emergency Management and Communications



Commentary

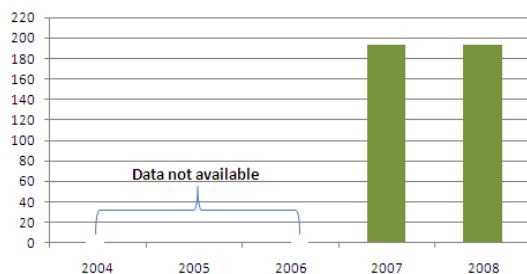
911 calls for "Animal Bites" in 2008 were highest on the south, southwest sides of Chicago. The near south side and the far north side of the city experienced the lowest numbers of 911 calls related to "Animal Bites".

Notes

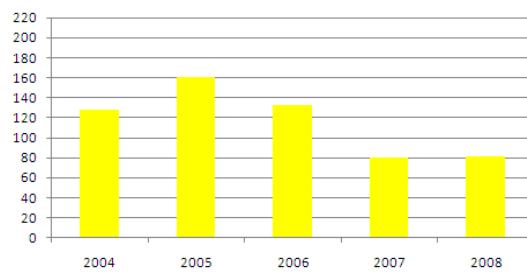
Categories of calls are determined by staff at OEMC answering the phone.

Exhibit AK: Animal Related Crime Reports and Arrests

Animal Related Crimes



Animal Related Arrests



Crime and Arrest data, Chicago Police Department (2004-2008)

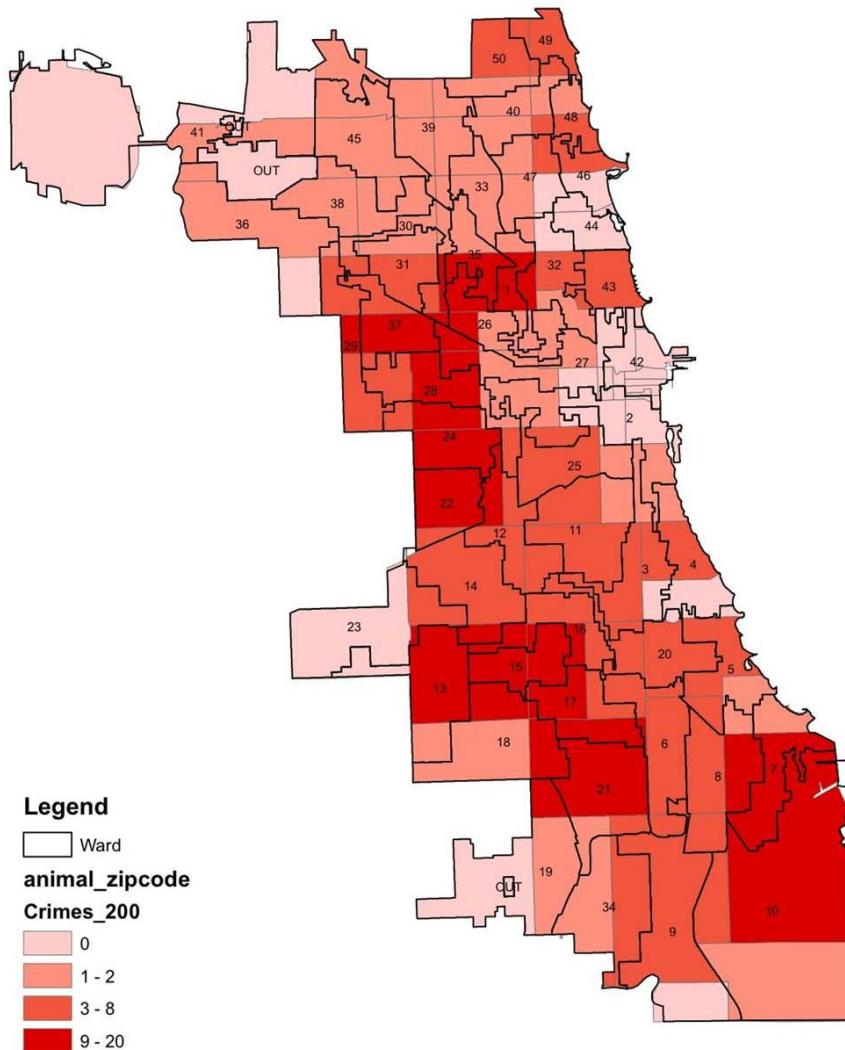
Commentary

The top bar graph shows that the number of crimes remained the same from 2007 to 2008. The bottom graph shows us that arrests experienced an overall decrease from 128 in 2004 to 82 in 2008.

Notes

Data on Animal Related Crimes represents the number of crime reports filed for the following: animal neglect, animal abuse, and animal fighting. Data on Animal Related Arrests reflects actual arrests made for infractions of Illinois state law in the following areas: animal neglect, cruel treatment, torture, fighting, and other related state laws, including injury to specific animals.

Exhibit AL:
Animal Related Crimes by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Data provided by the Chicago Police Department



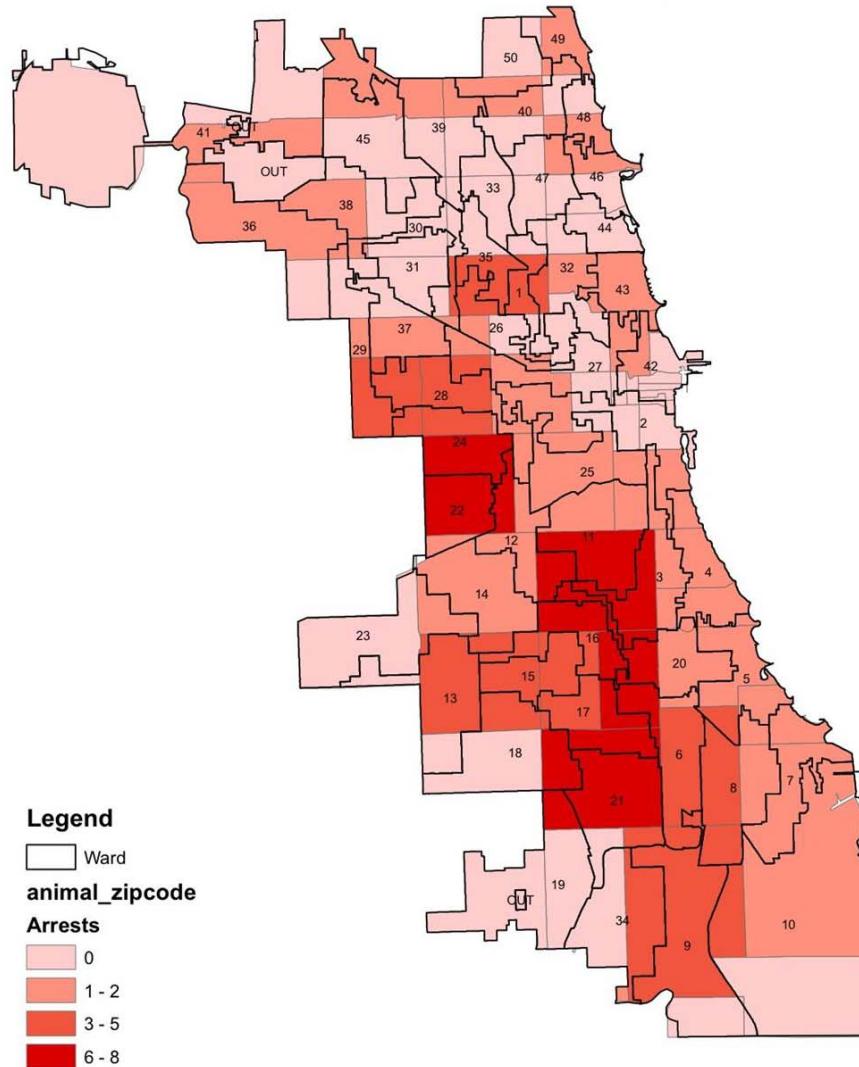
Commentary

This map shows the number of Animal Related Crimes investigated by the Chicago Police Department in 2008. The majority of crimes were committed in communities on the south, southwest and west sides of the city. There were also a notable number of crimes near the lake on the north side (an area that experienced low rates of animal intake and 311/911 calls).

Notes

Data on Animal Related Crimes represents the number of crime reports filed for the following: animal neglect, animal abuse, and animal fighting.

Exhibit AM:
Animal Related Arrests by Zip code with Aldermanic Ward Overlay



Obtained from Chicago Police Department; Designation of call type determined by staff at call center



Commentary

The map above shows the number of Animal Related Arrests made by the Chicago Police Department in 2008. Animal Arrests are more concentrated on the west and south areas of the city than Animal Related Crimes (see exhibit AL), which were more evenly dispersed throughout the city.

Notes

Data on Animal Related Arrests reflects actual arrests made for infractions of Illinois state law in the following areas: animal neglect, cruel treatment, torture, fighting, and other related state laws.

Animal Related Resources

The exhibits in the following section document the animal related resources that are available in the city of Chicago. This includes resources provided by animal shelters but also animal related resources provided by the private business community.

Exhibit AN: CACC vs. Other CASA spending (2008)

Exhibit AO: CASA Adoption hours (2009)

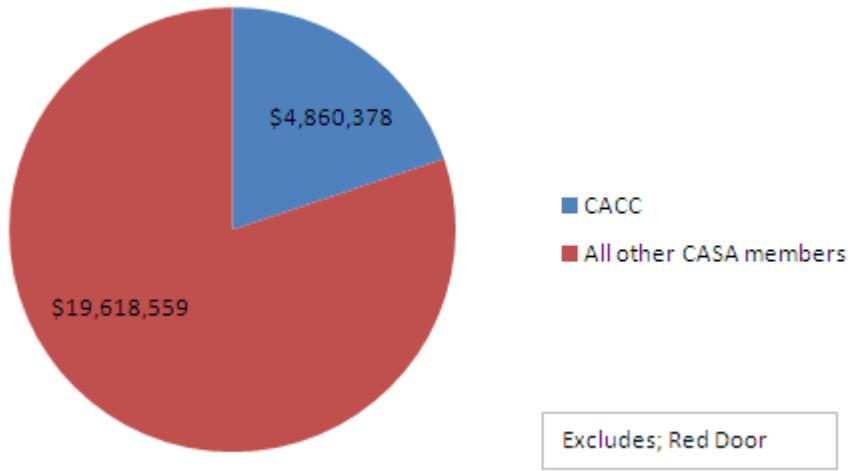
Exhibit AP: CASA housing Capacity (2009)

Exhibit AQ: CASA housing Capacity by species (2009)

Exhibit AR: Spay/Neuter Surgeries CACC vs. Other CASA (2008)

Exhibit AS: Animal Businesses by Services Offered, with Population
Human Population Distribution (2008)

Exhibit AN: CACC vs. Other CASA spending



Source: As reported by shelters June 2009 – August 2009.

Commentary

The pie graph above compares annual spending for CASA shelters with CACC. On average, private shelters contribute about 20 million dollars annually toward addressing companion animal related issues. In 2008, the public shelter spent less than 5 million addressing animal issues. This cost does not include other animal related expenditures made by the city, including the costs involved with investigating and prosecuting animal related crimes, managing animal related calls at the 311 and 911 call centers.

Notes

This does not include resources spent by organization or individuals not affiliated with members of the CASA alliance as referenced at the beginning of this appendix.

Exhibit AO:
CASA Adoption hours (2009)

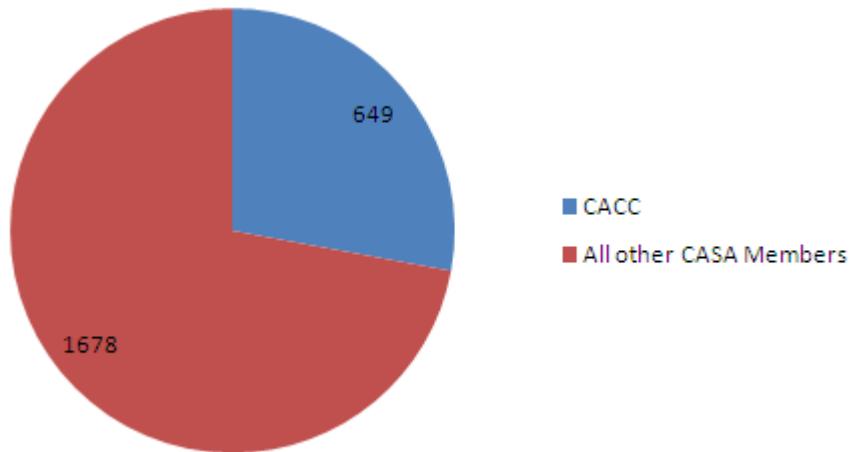
<u>Organization</u>	<u>Mon – Thurs.</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Total (hrs/wk)</u>
CACC (2008)	12 – 7pm	12 – 7pm	12 – 7pm	12 – 7pm	49
CACC (2009)	3 – 6pm Tues – Thur	3 – 6pm	12 – 1:45pm; 3 -6 pm	None	16.75
Anti-Cruelty Society	12 -7pm	12 – 7pm	12 -5pm	12 -5pm	45
Chicago Canine Rescue	5 -7pm	5 – 7pm	1 – 5pm	1 – 5pm	18
Felines	12:30 – 6pm	12:30 – 6pm	12:30 – 6pm	12:30 – 6pm	38.5
Harmony House	None	4-7pm	12-4pm	12-4pm	11
Lakeshore	None	None	12 – 3pm	None	3
PAWS Chicago	12-7pm	12-7pm	11-5pm	11-5pm	47
Treehouse	12-8pm	12-8pm	12-6pm	12-6pm	52

Source: As reported by shelters June 2009 – August 2009.

Notes

Only includes public adoption hours at the facility. Does not include adoptions conducted off-site or special events. CACC hours reflect those available when researchers visited the site in 2008. The 2009 CACC hours reflect those posted on CACC website.

Exhibit AP: CASA housing capacity



Source: As reported by shelters June 2009 – August 2009.

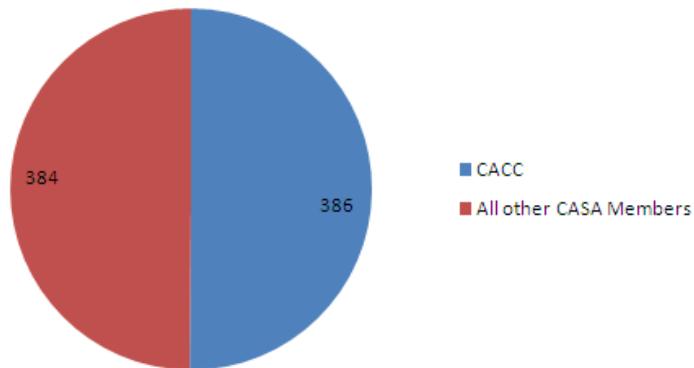
Commentary

The pie graph above shows the housing capacity for CASA shelters and CACC. CACC has the greatest capacity of all the shelters individually and accounts for about 28% of the housing available in the CASA alliance.

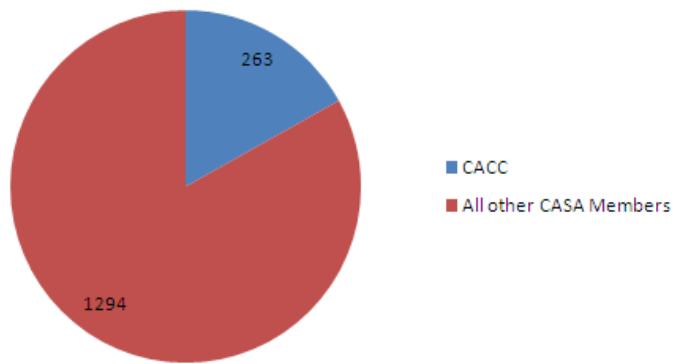
Notes

Capacity for CACC is based on the number of cages. For all other groups the above data reflects the answer to the question "What is your housing capacity?" but does not include foster homes.

Exhibit AQ:
CASA Housing Capacity by Species
Dogs



Cats



Source: As reported by shelters June 2009 – August 2009.

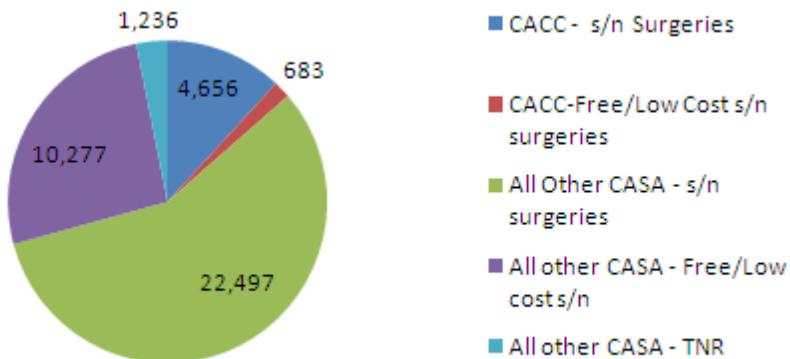
Commentary

The exhibits above compare the housing capacity for dogs and cats at CACC with other CASA shelters. CACC has less capacity for cats than all other CASA shelters combined, probably due to the existence of several cat-only shelters. CACC provides half the housing capacity for dogs. Overall, there is less housing available for dogs than for cats at Chicago shelters, both private and public.

Notes

Capacity for CACC is based on the number of cages. For all other groups the above data reflects the answer to the question "What is your housing capacity?" but does not include foster homes.

Exhibit AR: Spay/Neuter Surgeries CACC vs. Other CASA (2008)



Excludes: Lake Shore and Chicago Canine Rescue

Source: As reported by shelters June 2009 – August 2009

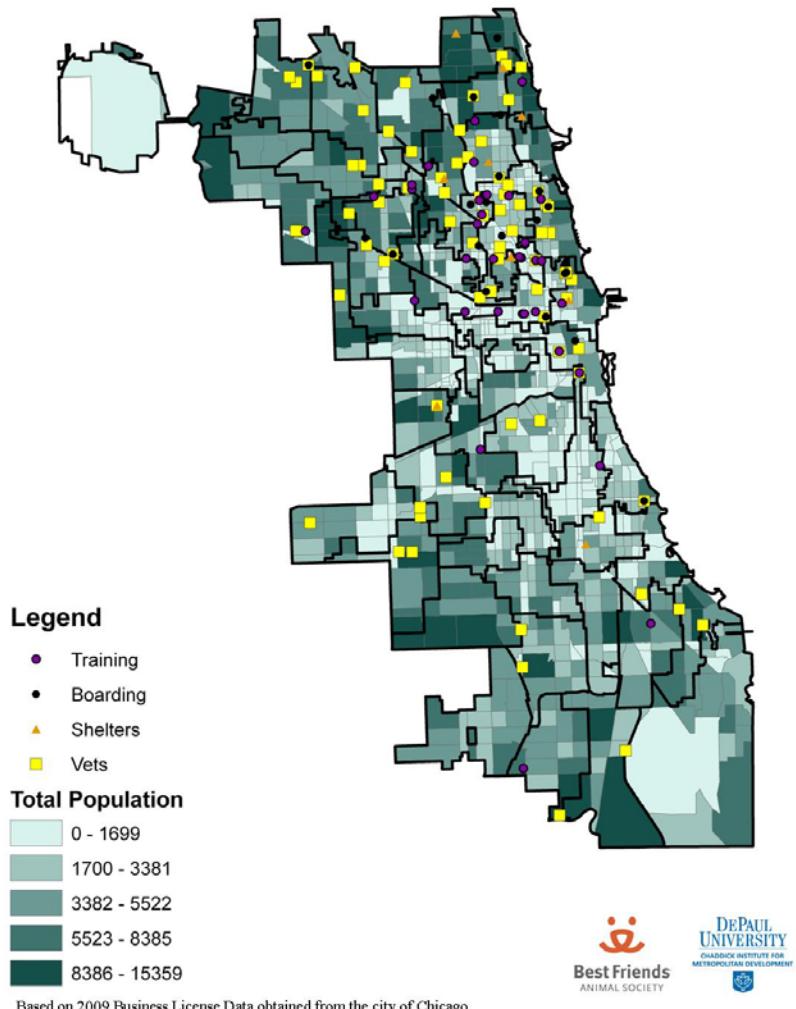
Commentary

The chart above shows the number and type of spay/neuter surgeries performed by CACC and other CASA members in 2008. In total, CASA members performed almost 40,000 surgeries, the majority of which were provided by private shelters. 10,960 of these surgeries were provided free or at a low cost (683 of these free/low cost services were provided by CACC, the majority were provided by private shelters). 1,236 cats were altered through the existing TNR program. The numbers above do not include surgeries performed by private veterinarians.

Notes

Excludes surgeries performed as part of the Cook County TNR program.

Exhibit AS:
Animal Businesses by Services Offered,
with Human Population Distribution



Commentary

The map above shows the animal related businesses by services provided, located in the City of Chicago. The coloring on the map shows population distribution. The map shows that even areas of the city with high populations do not have access to the same animal related services as residents in similarly populated areas. Notice the lack of animal related businesses located on the south and southwest areas of the city, areas that experience high rates of stray and owner surrendered intake and high numbers of 311 and 911 animal related calls.