

Salt Lake County Animal Services

Community Cat Program

Overview of the Community Cat Program within Salt Lake County.



### **Talia Butler**

**Division Director** 

Salt Lake County Animal Services

### **Methods For Controlling Free Roaming Cat Population**



#### Catch & Kill

Remove cats from community through animal control and public removal. Euthanize animal after stray wait period has been met.

#### No Control

Remove cat related items from ordinances. Do not respond to cat issues and do not impound cats into the shelter. Cats treated similar to wildlife.



#### Community Cat Program

Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) appropriate cats and utilize several resources to control feline population.

## Catch & Kil

# **No Control**

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 Reactive with no measurable benefit.

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- Expensive and discourages grants/donors/partnerships.
- Employee morale, quality, & retention.
- Public safety & nuisance concerns.
- Not great for cats

- Not successful in urbanized, high density areas.
- Doesn't meet the needs & expectations of the public.
- Provides no measurable & sustainable population control.

### Community Cat Act, 11-46-301

- (1) A cat may be released prior to the five-day holding period for a community cat program.
- (2) A community cat is exempt from licensing and feeding bans.
- (3) Caretakers do not have custody.
- (4) Records maintained for three years.





### **Solution**

**Community Cat Program** 

### No perfect solution.

#### **Proactive & results driven.**

**Cost effective & community support based.** 

**Reduces public safety and nuisance issues.** 

Happier, talented. long-term employees.



## In Combination With:

Barn Cat Program

Company Companions

Deterrents

Rescue Partners

Microchips

## **Other Keys to Success**

- Full commitment.
- Follow up.
- Identifying multiple caregivers.
- Take advantage of resources available.



### Statistics: Salt Lake County Animal Services 1995 - 2020

## 1995

Population: 800k

Shelter Cat Intake: Over 6,000

Cat Euthanized/Live Release Rate: Close to 4,000, 35%

Cat Related Calls: 8K

Grant/ Donor Funding: Less than \$1,000

# 2006

Population: 1M Shelter Cat Intake: Over 6,000

Cat Euthanized/Live Release Rate: Over 3,000, 51%

Cat Related Calls: 8K

Grant/ Donor Funding: Less than \$10,000

# 2019

Population: 1.2M Shelter Cat Intake: 4,500 Cat Euthanized/Live Release Rate: Less than 200, 95% Cat Related Calls: 6K Grant/ Donor Funding: Over \$550,000



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## Thank You

Talia Butler 385.468.6031 tbutler@slco.org