



Stockton Animal Services Overview

Council Legislation/Environmental Committee
July 27, 2026

Purpose and Goals

Inspire and educate our community to embrace responsible pet ownership and to join us in safeguarding the rights of animals.

Enforce and champion animal protection laws to prevent inhumane treatment of animals and ensure that all animals are treated with dignity and respect.

Collaborate with other animal agencies, animal lovers, and progressive organizations to create forward-thinking practices to improve the quality of life of all companion animals.

**Shelter
Intake and
Outcomes
2025**

Total intake: 8,149 animals

Adoptions: 1,954

**Transferred to rescue
partners: 2,489**

Returned to owners: 547

**Annual statistics are publicly
posted for transparency.**

Field Services Duties

Operation of the City's animal shelter, including intake, housing, medical care, and outcomes

Field response to animal related calls for service, including stray, injured, aggressive, and abandoned animals

Investigation and enforcement of animal cruelty, neglect, hoarding, and dangerous animal cases

Rabies exposure response and legally mandated bite quarantines

Emergency response for animal related incidents and disasters

Enforcement of municipal animal ordinances and applicable California statutes

Call Prioritization Process

PRIORITY 1 Immediate Response	PRIORITY 2 Same-Day Response	PRIORITY 3 Within 24 Hours	PRIORITY 4 As Resources Allow
Person Bitten by an Animal	Stray Animal at Large	Follow-Up Investigations	Deceased Animal (No Traffic Hazard)
Dangerous/Vicious Animal	Roaming Pack of Dogs	Barking/Noisy Animals	
Aggressive Pack of Dogs	Confined Stray Animal	Sanitation Complaints	
Sick or Injured Animal	Assist Stockton Police	Bees Swarming	
Emergency Animal Cruelty	Non-Emergency Animal Cruelty	Deceased Animal Creating a Traffic Hazard	
	Animal Fighting		

***Calls are prioritized based on public safety, animal welfare, and available staffing-not simply in the order they are received. Priority levels may change as additional information is received or circumstances evolve.**

Animal Services Municipal Codes

6.04.120- Dogs as Large

- Owned dogs must always remain under the control of their owners
- Dogs in public must be securely restrained by a leash held by a competent person
- Owners may not allow dogs to trespass onto private property

6.04.130- Animal at Large

- Applies to all animals, excluding cats
- Prohibits animals from roaming uncontrolled
- Provides enforcement authority
- Supports the ability to impound an animal when appropriate

Animal Services Municipal Codes

- 6.04.090-6.04.110
 - Licensing Requirements
 - Owned dogs must be licensed
 - Rabies vaccination is required
 - Microchip required for licensing
 - License tags must remain with the dog

Impound Authority



Progressive Enforcement



Education is the preferred first approach



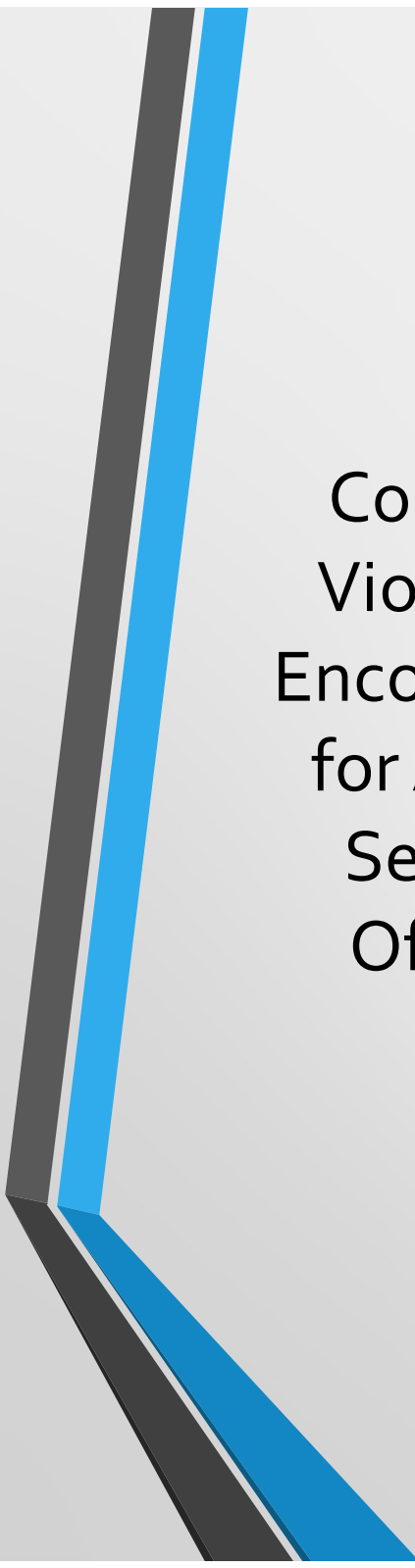
Voluntary compliance promotes long-term success



Warnings may be issued when appropriate



Citations are used as an enforcement and educational tool when violations occur



Common Violations Encountered for Animal Services Officers

Situation	Applicable Stockton Municipal Code
Dog loose in neighborhood	§ 6.04.120
Dog off leash in a park	§ 6.04.120
Dog repeatedly entering neighbors' yards	§ 6.04.120
Dog without a current license	§ 6.04.110
Dog without rabies vaccination required for licensing	§ 6.04.100
Animal roaming at large (non-dog not including cats)	§ 6.04.130

Beyond Enforcement

Investing in prevention

Supporting Responsible Pet Ownership Through Access to Care

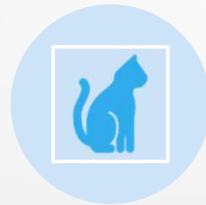
Investing in prevention to keep pets healthy, families together, and animals out of the shelter



LOW-COST/FREE
VACCINATIONS AND
MICROCHIPPING



PET FOOD
ASSISTANCE
THROUGH PET
PANTRY PROGRAM



COMMUNITY CAT
TRAP-NEUTER-
RETURN (TNR)



VETERINARY
PARTNERSHIPS AND
NONPROFIT
COLLABORATIONS



AFFORDABLE SPAY
AND NEUTER
SERVICES



City of Stockton Pet Wellness and Adoption Center

- Expands access to affordable veterinary care for Stockton residents
- Serves as the hub for community spay and neuter initiatives
- Strengthens partnerships with veterinary and nonprofit organizations
- Address pet overpopulation through proactive prevention
- Keeps pets healthy, in their homes, and out of the shelter

Partnerships

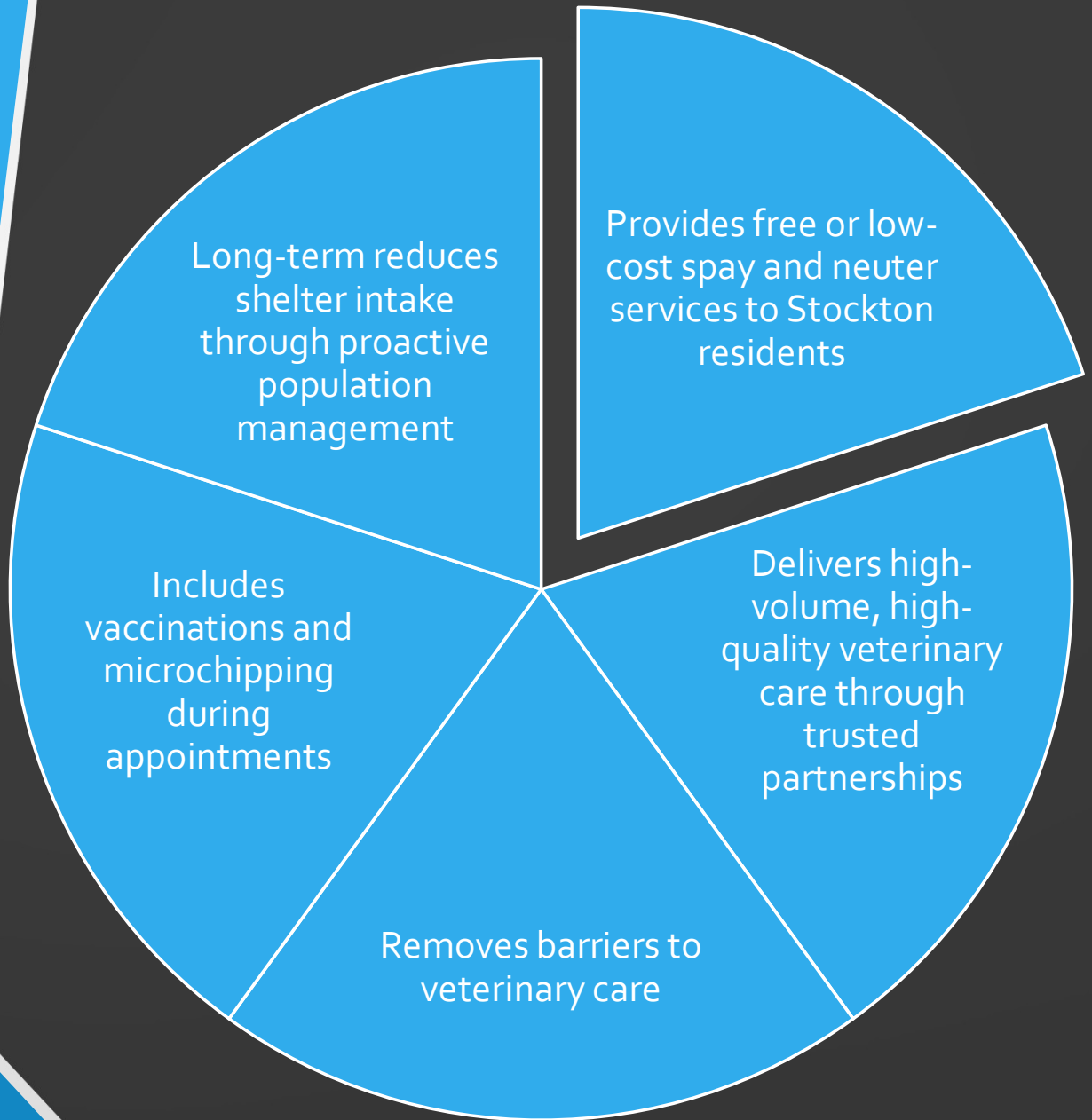


SF SPCA

**Hard Luck Animal Welfare
Advocates**

Animal Balance

High-Volume, High-Quality Community Spay and Neuter Program



Strategic District Prioritization for Spay and Neuter Clinics



Data-driven approach to clinic placement



Focus on districts with the highest shelter intake



Prioritize areas with the greatest call volume



Target resources where they will have the greatest impact



Expand to remaining districts as resources allow

Community Outreach & Demand for Spay/Neuter Clinics

Clinics promoted through social media and printed flyers. Flyers displayed at the Stockton Animal Shelter

Animal Services Officers conduct direct community outreach

Appointments fill rapidly after registration opens

Hundreds of pet owners remain on waitlists

Growing demand highlights the need for affordable veterinary care

Key Takeaways



**PROVIDES
ESSENTIAL
PUBLIC SAFETY
AND ANIMAL
WELFARE
SERVICES UNDER
HIGH DEMAND**



**MANAGES RISING
INTAKE AND
COMPLEX
OPERATIONS
WITH LIMITED
STAFFING**



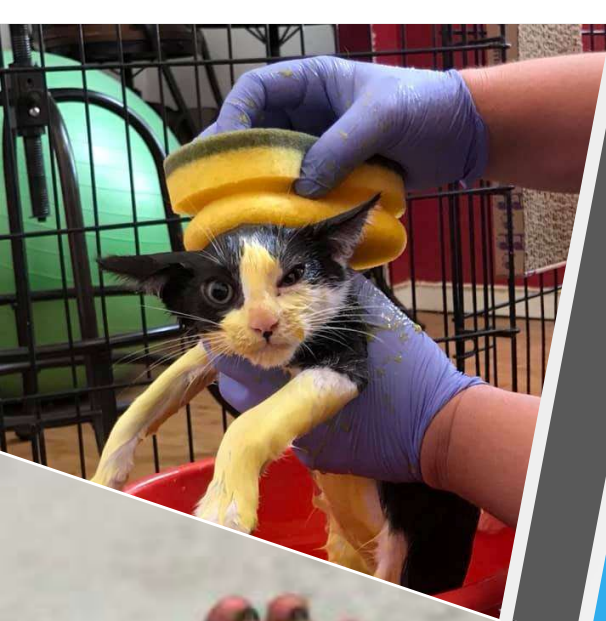
**EXPANDS
LIFESAVING
OUTCOMES
THROUGH
PARTNERSHIPS
AND PREVENTION
FOCUSED
PROGRAMS**



**BALANCES
ENFORCEMENT
WITH
COMPASSIONATE
COMMUNITY
SUPPORT**



**STOCKTON
ANIMAL SERVICES
REMAINS
COMMITTED TO
PROFESSIONAL,
TRANSPARENT,
AND HUMANE
SERVICE**



Thank you