

Program #90006 - Animal Services Field Services

Program Contact: Wade Sadler 7/6/202

Community Services Department: Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program Program Offer Stage: As Adopted

90005, 90007, 90008, 90009 **Related Programs:**

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Multnomah County Animal Services (MCAS) Field Services program is responsible for enforcement of a broad range of city, county and state laws, and provides 24-hour public safety emergency response to calls concerning animals attacking and injuring people and animals, as well as 24-hour emergency animal rescue for injured, sick and abused animals. Field Services also provides investigation services for animal bite cases, animal abuse and neglect cases, and other animal nuisances. Field Services supports the community with education and assistance in helping resolve neighborhood animal issues, supports owners with tools and resources to ensure appropriate care and management is provided, and coordinates with other departments in the county to encourage holistic support of issues and concerns.

Program Summary

The Field Services program delivers comprehensive, 24-hour animal control services with the primary function of ensuring public safety relating to animals to all cities and unincorporated areas in Multnomah County. Such services include, but are not limited to, responding to dangerous dog attacks, investigating reports of animal bites, quarantining animals due to suspected rabies exposure, picking up stray animals and assisting law enforcement agencies as first responders for situations that impact pets in the community such as house fires, emergency hospitalization, vehicle accidents, and evictions. Service is provided to the community seven days a week. This program serves all cities and unincorporated areas in Multnomah County.

Field Services is also responsible for ensuring the welfare of the animals in the County by responding to and investigating all cases involving suspected animal abuse/neglect/abandonment, investigating reports of dog fighting activities and ensuring that humane standards of care are provided to all animals in licensed animal facilities (boarding facilities, breeding kennels, retail stores, rescue entities, etc.). Additionally, Field Services responds to calls regarding animal nuisance complaints (barking dogs, free-roaming cats, etc.) and provides community education and information related to responsible pet ownership and compliance with city, county, and state laws involving animals. Lastly, this program is responsible for handling all public records requests and for the coordination of all administrative hearings involving animal-related county ordinance violations.

Field Services provides extremely important service to many disadvantaged pet owners who would not be able to retain their animals without the assistance of these services. This includes direct support for residents experiencing low-income or homelessness, as well as marginalized communities that have historically been underserved. Such services often include, but are not limited to, responding to dog bites within homeless camps, facilitating both emergency and non-emergency veterinary care, providing education and resources for stray dog issues due to limited secure enclosures or leash compliance, and providing for temporary boarding needs due to unanticipated emergency crises.

Performance Measures									
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer				
Output	Number of Calls Responded to by Officer	7,704	7,500	7,020	7,500				
Outcome	Deceased Animals Picked Up by Officer	1,276	1,200	1,292	1,200				

Performance Measures Descriptions

Number of calls responded to by officers reflects complaints received by dispatch that ACO-2 positions respond to over the course of a year. These calls include dog attacks, cruelty/neglect complaints, nuisance and stray animals, and bite investigations. Deceased animal pick up reflects the number of deceased animals in roadways, sidewalks, or right-of-ways picked up by officers and cremated.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 609.010 to 609.190 pertains to state Animal Control mandates, which includes: dogs running at large prohibited, dangerous dogs regulations, dogs as public nuisance prohibited, and impoundment of dogs harming livestock requirements. ORS 609.205 pertains to prohibitions against keeping wild or exotic animals. ORS 433.340 - 433.390 pertains to Rabies Control which includes: requirements to report animal bites, impoundment, quarantine and disposition requirements. Multnomah County Code 13.150-13.999 pertains to county Animal Control mandates.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$1,433,945	\$0	\$1,518,785	\$0
Contractual Services	\$157,500	\$275	\$157,500	\$55
Materials & Supplies	\$43,000	\$0	\$41,500	\$0
Internal Services	\$312,330	\$0	\$250,914	\$0
Cash Transfers	\$0	\$10,725	\$0	\$5,445
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,946,775	\$11,000	\$1,968,699	\$5,500
rogram Total: \$1,957,775		7,775	\$1,974,199	
Program FTE	14.00	0.00	14.00	0.00

Program Revenues								
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	\$0				
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$8,500	\$0	\$5,500				
Financing Sources	\$10,725	\$0	\$5,445	\$0				
Total Revenue	\$10,725	\$11,000	\$5,445	\$5,500				

Explanation of Revenues

In the General Fund, the revenue represents the cash transfer from the Animal Services Fund (Other Funds) to the General Fund. It includes revenue from facility licensing fees, Dangerous and Potentially Dangerous Dog fees, appeal fees, public record fees, plus fines collected for notices of infractions related to enforcement of Multnomah County Code.

These revenues are expected to decrease as Field Services continues program evaluation and focuses more on equitable enforcement, resulting in punitive fines being used only as a last resort.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 90006A Animal Services Field Services

MCAS is partnering in a consultation with the University of Wisconsin Shelter Medicine Program. One of the primary goals of the partnership is to evaluate the impacts of implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion interventions in Animal Control and enforcement. This work will include a review of current policies and enforcement practices, and either reform or create new policies and practices that support the human-animal bond in our community and ensure equitable access and engagement from Field Services. This work will focus on proactively providing resources to the community and reserve punitive interventions for only those times when there is no other alternative.