

From: [Carole Hyde](#)
To: [Council, City](#); [Clerk, City](#)
Subject: Several power point slides for Animal Shelter Item #6
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 11:18:34 AM
Attachments: [SLIDE FOR CITY COUNCIL ON TNR.pptx](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from carole@projecthumanekind.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Clerk,

Could you include this short PowerPoint set in the council members' packets? Much appreciated.

I will also want to show them (perhaps the middle slide particularly) this evening during comments on Item #6.

Thank you so much!

Carole

Carole Hyde
President
(650) 504-5898
www.projecthumanekind.org





SUPPORTING TNR

August 14, 2023

Carole Hyde, President



PROJECT
HUMANEKIND

SUPPORT TNR: IT Works!

- Gold Standard in Animal Sheltering
- Bay Area: Best municipal practice
- Stanford University proves success
- Helps residents spay "backyard" cats

CREATE STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP ON TNR FOR PALO ALTO

www.projecthumanekind.org



Thank You!

From: kamthyetrading@yahoo.com
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 11:11:38 AM

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Dear Council members,

I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had over 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is terribly inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

*** We strongly encourage supporting TNR. All cats are checked for a microchip prior to services. TNR keeps the feral cat population down, improves the quality of life for the cats, reduces the spread of feline diseases, and helps the wild birds. Please support TNR.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Bobbie Chu

From: [Ashley Lychee](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support for Trap Neuter Return: NO BAN on TNR!
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:58:54 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ashleylycheeboba@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

My name is Ashley and I have been a member of the Palo Alto community for many years.

I am writing to express my support for Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) and to implore city council to end the deeply harmful ban on TNR.

TNR is the only humane and effective approach to community cats. Community cats, also known as feral cats, are unowned cats who live happy and healthy lives outdoors. Community cats are the same species as pet cats. However, since most community cats are not socialized or friendly to people, they cannot be adopted and live indoors. During TNR community cats are humanely trapped, taken to a veterinarian to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, eartipped for identification, and, after recovery, are returned to their outdoor homes.

TNR is a community-based program that will benefit the cats and residents of Palo Alto. TNR stabilizes community cat populations by stopping the breeding cycle. TNR improves cats' lives and benefits public health by relieving them of the constant stresses of mating and pregnancy and vaccinating them against rabies. TNR stops disruptive mating behaviors like yowling, spraying, roaming, and fighting so cats and people can coexist peacefully. Lastly, TNR saves taxpayer's money by reducing shelter intake, shelter euthanasia, and calls of concern to animal control.

Hundreds of communities have adopted an official TNR ordinance or policy, and thousands more conduct grassroots, volunteer-led programs. These numbers continue to rise as more communities realize the outdated approach of catching and killing cats is cruel and ineffective. It's time for the cats and residents of Palo Alto to experience the many benefits of TNR firsthand.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ashley Chu

From: [Catherine Valentine](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: council@losaltosca.gov; citycouncil@losaltoshills.ca.gov
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:53:34 AM
Attachments: [CCAP PA-PIN Letter and Attachments-Final.pdf](#)

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companion & community
animal project

TO: Palo Alto City Council

RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

Palo Alto City Council Members:

The Community & Companion Animal Project is writing to request the City of Palo Alto's Councilmembers and leadership of Pets In Need ("PIN") work together, along with Councilmembers of both the City of Los Altos and the Town of Los Altos Hills, to permit the implementation of a Trap/Neuter/Release ("TNR") program for feral cats in the cities of Palo Alto and Los Altos, and the Town of Los Altos Hills.

Palo Alto contracts with Pets In Need for the provision of animal shelter services to Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. The current contract and the proposed new contract terms prohibit PIN from offering traditional Trap-Neuter-Return ("TNR") services for feral cats in those jurisdictions. The Palo Alto City Council intends to approve the term sheet for the new contract on August 14th.

We recommend that the terms of the new contact between PIN and Palo Alto reflect recognized best shelter and humane practices by including a TNR program in which feral cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated for FVRCP and Rabies, and if not candidates for adoption, returned to their location of origin.

Prohibiting TNR results in an exponentially increasing number of unowned cats. Using the [UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program's shelter and outdoor cat population calculator](#), we estimate the current population of free-roaming cats within the Pets in Need service area of Palo Alto, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills is approximately 15,527 community/feral cats.
See Attachment A.

TNR stabilizes and reduces the feral cat population. It improves the lives of cats, addresses community concerns, reduces complaints about cats, and stops the breeding cycle. TNR improves the co-existence between outdoor cats and humans in our shared environment.

The efficacy of TNR has been proven to be effective throughout the San Francisco Bay Area communities and across the United States in general.



Local examples include:

Stanford University Campus - The Stanford Cat Network (now Feline Friends Network) began a [TNR program in 1989 with an estimated population of over 1,000 feral cats on campus](#). The combination of near zero growth, natural attrition and an adoption program for tame strays and kittens young enough for domestication reduced the cat population, to only 4 reported 'community cats' on campus as of August 13, 2023 per Kathleen Cregar, the current President of the [Feline Friends Network](#) on the Stanford Campus.

City of San Francisco - Over the past 30 years, San Francisco's Golden Gate Park (and the City of San Francisco) has gone from "Hundreds of feral cats in GG Park" to "hardly any cats in Golden Gate Park" and in fact, by 2019, San Francisco had gotten very close to ZERO population growth for feral cats in most areas of the city.

City of San Jose - The City of San Jose's TNR program began as a pilot in March 2010. Four years into the program, researchers observed cat and kitten impounds decreased 29.1%; euthanasia decreased from over 70% of intakes in 2009, to 23% in 2014. Euthanasia in the shelter for Upper Respiratory Disease decreased 99%; dead cat pick up off the streets declined 20%.

A steady decrease and leveling off in shelter cat intakes was observed until 2008 when just over 14,000 cats entered the shelters countywide. This 50% drop in cat impoundments from 1990–2008 has been largely attributed to the spay/neuter programs available for both owned and unowned feral cats.

San Francisco Bay Trail TNR Project - A population of 175 community cats, as determined by an initial census, living on a 2-mile section of the San Francisco Bay Trail declined by 99.4% over a 16-year period. After the conclusion of the initial count, the presence of cats was monitored as part of the TNR program's daily feeding regimen. Of the 258 total cats enrolled in the program between 2004 and 2020, only one remained at the end of the program period. These results are consistent with other documented long-term TNR programs.

These examples demonstrate the advantages and efficacy of TNR Programs in the immediate area, continue to be cited in research studies today, and are also validated in this [2006 Maddies Fund article on San Francisco Bay Area Community Cat Programs](#).

In the Bay Area, TNR programs are endorsed and supported by the cities of San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Saratoga, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Campbell, and the counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Marin; only the Palo Alto City Council prohibits their animal services provider from providing TNR.



Additionally, the City of Palo Alto is the only member of the Shelters First / WECare Alliance of the six shelters in Santa Clara County that does not offer TNR for community/feral cats despite [the Alliance's acknowledgement that the 'catch and kill' methodology does not work](#).

If TNR is not available, how does Palo Alto intend to manage an increasing population of feral cats?

After 8 weeks of age the majority of feral cats need to be socialized for adoption. The Maddie's Fund training presentation on [Socializing Unsocial Kittens](#) states that the *optimal* time for socializing feral kittens is between 4-8 weeks of age and acknowledges that kittens over two months of age require extensive time for fostering and socialization and some may never become socialized.

Trapping and releasing the cats outside their location of origin, would be considered inhumane by most animal welfare organizations. Feral cats have strong territorial instincts and adapt to specific environments. Relocating them to a new area leads to stress, disorientation, and difficulties in adapting to the new environment, preventing them from finding adequate food, water, shelter and protection from predators. The Alley Cat Allies article on "[Relocation: A Last Resort](#)" notes that "Even if done with proper protocol, relocation can be ineffective and even dangerous for cats"

For similar reasons, release of cats in a location other than their location of origin without proper relocation protocols would be abandonment in that the cat would initially be unable to provide for its basic needs. Abandonment of an animal is prohibited under both [California Penal Code § 597s](#) (2021) and [Santa Clara County, California - Code of Ordinances TITLE B - REGULATIONS Division B31 - ANIMALS AND FOWL CHAPTER I. - IN GENERAL Sec. B31-8](#).

Does Palo Alto intend to trap and warehouse feral cats in cages until they die? Such a practice would be both inhumane and costly.

Or does Palo Alto intend to trap and kill feral cats which are domestic pets that have been either abandoned or lost, or are the unfortunate descendants of such unlucky pets? This approach is also inhumane and would be costly, ineffective, and need to be done repeatedly.

And who will do the trapping? Trapping in TNR programs is done by dedicated unpaid volunteers who do this hard work because they are concerned about the welfare of animals and the coexistence of outdoor cats and humans. These volunteers will not trap cats so they can be relocated from their homes, warehoused or killed and it is unlikely Palo Alto will be able to find another source of free labor to do this work.



companion & community
animal project

The City of Palo Alto will have to do this difficult, costly work at taxpayer expense and must do it year after year as none of these “alternatives” to TNR address the problems of animal overpopulation and abandonment. Each year unwanted litters will continue to be born as cats continue to escape, become lost, or abandoned.

If the Palo Alto City Council is interested in effectively managing feral cat populations in Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, it should contract with PIN for both TNR services and increased spay/neuter availability so residents of these cities can spay/neuter their pets and feral cats in order to prevent unwanted litters and restrict the growth of free-roaming cats within these jurisdictions. The current number of 60 community spay/neuter appointments is inadequate and needs to be increased 2-3 fold to accommodate the demand for appointments and shorten wait times to a reasonable period of time.

TNR is the only cost effective and humane way to manage feral cats. In the Bay Area and across the United States “best shelter practices” for feral cats means supporting TNR. The majority of Veterinary Associations and animal welfare organizations support the use of TNR programs over euthanasia as feral cat colony control methodology. (*See Attachment B*)

In the Bay Area, Palo Alto, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills are alone in failing to meet this standard of “Shelter Best Practices”. The Palo Alto City Council should correct this failure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Catherine Valentine
The Companion & Community Animal Project

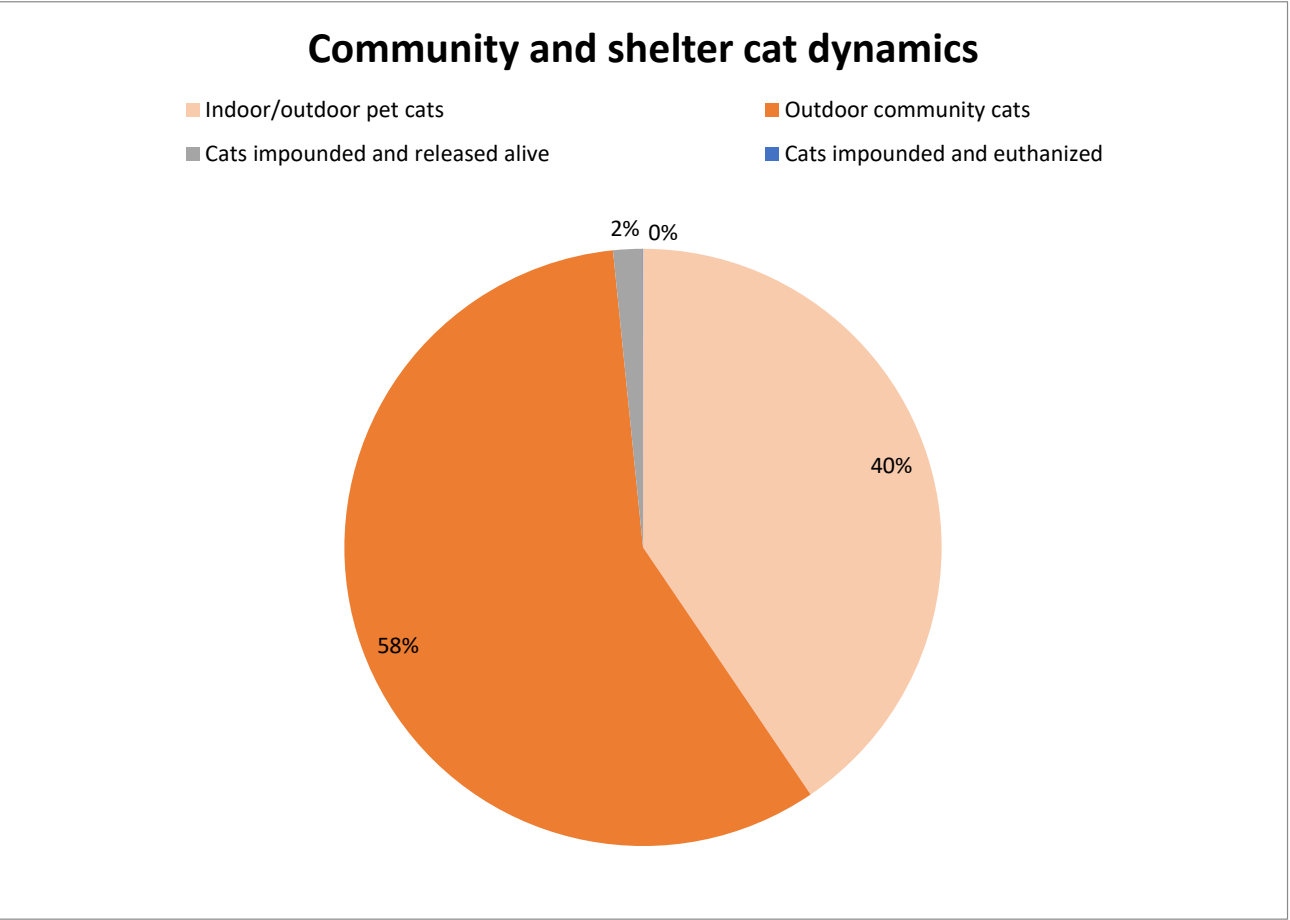
cc: Los Altos City Council
Los Altos Hills City Council

Outdoor cat population dynamics calculator								
Human population	Annual feline intake	Live release %	Euthanasia %	Indoor only pet cats	Indoor/outdoor pet cats	Outdoor community cats	Cats impounded and released alive	Cats impounded and euthanized
108,686	431	98%	2%	16,303	10,869	15,527	423	8

To use this calculator, you must know the approximate population served by a shelter or group of shelters (e.g. a city, group of cities or county). Data can be obtained from the U.S. census bureau (<http://www.census.gov/#>). Enter the population served in column A. Enter the intake and outcome data for the shelters serving this population in the highlighted cells in columns B through C. The calculator will populate the remaining columns and generate the pie chart. Sample provided on next tab.

References: Pet cat population based on 2011 pet cat population estimate from 2012 AVMA Demographic sourcebook; estimated 40% of pets allowed outside (percentage may be higher in rural areas, lower in urban areas; range of estimates from 23% to 85% of cats allowed outdoors (Johnson, Lewellen et al. 1994; Johnson and Lewellen 1995; Lord 2008; Kass 2013). Unowned cat population based on composite of multiple studies leading to estimate of ~ 1 cat per 7 people in a community (mid-point of range estimated by Loss,et al. 2013, "The impact of free-ranging domestic cats on wildlife of the United States."). Range of estimates from 1 cat per 2.5 people to 1 cat per 12.2 people. To change assumptions of persons/cat, adjust denominator in cell H3. See references on tab 3 for details.

Population per US Census - 2020 Decennial Census	
Palo Alto	68,572.00
Los Altos	31,625.00
Los Altos Hills	8,489.00
Total Population	108,686.00
Pets in Need - City of Palo Alto Asilomar / Maddie's Fund Report 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2021	
Cats - Adjusted	431
Total Intake	
	98.10%
Live Release Rate	



Source: <https://www.sheltermedicine.com/library/resources/?r=shelter-and-outdoor-cat-population-calculator>

Recent science has given us more information about how many un-owned cats there are in communities. We also know that about 50% of a population needs to be removed (e.g. through admission to a shelter), or 75%-95% sterilized, in order to achieve long term control. Untargeted programs rarely come close to this level. Using this handy calculator, you can determine the percentage of outdoor cats impounded at your local shelter - if the number falls well shy of 50%, check out our "New Paradigms for Shelters and Community Cats" for information on more strategically targeted approaches to feline sheltering.

The Association of Shelter Veterinarians

[Position Statement: Trap-Neuter-Return Free Roaming and Community Cats](#)

"The ASV supports and promotes trap-neuter-return (TNR) in the management of free-roaming and community cat populations as part of a comprehensive population control strategy. TNR programs provide an effective alternative to euthanasia of otherwise healthy cats.

Such cats should be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear-tipped, and permanently identified as such with a tattoo and/or microchip prior to return to their original location. TNR programs should be part of an overall management strategy that includes public education, the promotion of responsible cat ownership to reduce abandonment, as well as affordable and easily accessible spay-neuter and adoption programs."

American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP)

[2023 Free-Roaming Cat Position Statement](#)

"The AAFP supports the humane management of free-roaming cats with the overarching goals of sustained reductions of unowned free-roaming cat populations over time; improved cat health and wellbeing; mitigating negative impacts on the environment, wildlife, public health and neighborhoods; and supporting free-roaming cat caregivers and their human-animal bond.

The AAFP supports reducing the number of free-roaming cats through humane capture, sterilization and appropriate homing based on the spectrum of socialization to people and lifestyle that characterizes *Felis catus* with adoption into homes, where appropriate, and return to the original or appropriate location (eg, barn, community) once sterilized.¹ The AAFP supports non-lethal programs for controlling free-roaming population."

American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA)

[Pet Overpopulation – Position Statement](#)

The American Animal Hospital Association is committed to continuing the search for more acceptable means to managing the population of homeless animals. North America's animal shelters, both public and private, face the difficult decision to euthanize millions of homeless cats and dogs each year. Veterinarians should work with and support shelter medicine programs to improve the health and wellbeing of animals in shelters, reduce relinquishment, promote the adoption of shelter animals, and support spay/neuter and behavior programs.

American Veterinary Medical Assn. (AVMA)

[Free-roaming abandoned and feral cats](#)

"AVMA encourages the use of non-lethal strategies as the initial focus for control of free-roaming abandoned and feral cat populations. Public, private, and not-for-profit humane organizations and individuals must make every effort to promote adoption of acceptable unowned cats and implement sterilization programs."

"The AVMA recognizes that managed colonies are controversial. However, properly managed programs can improve quality of life for these cats through better nutrition, vaccination to prevent disease, spaying and neutering to reduce unwanted litters, euthanasia of sick and debilitated cats, and adoption of healthy kittens. The goal of colony management should be continual reduction and eventual elimination of the colony through attrition. Appropriately managed colonies also have the potential to significantly decrease risk to public health, wildlife, and ecosystems. "

National Animal Care & Control Association (NACCA)

[Animal Control Intake of Free-Roaming Cats](#)

"NACA advises officers to take proactive steps to divert intake of "stray cats" while offering services that support the goals of community animal management and protection programs:

- Refer the public to local organizations or other staff/programs within the shelter that focus on trapneuter-return, low-cost spay/neuter clinics, or utilize a return-to-home program within the agency if outside resources are not available or accessible.
- Support ongoing care of community cats with information on best feeding practices, referrals to pet pantries and sources for outdoor cat shelters, etc. to reduce likelihood of future complaints and contribute to the wellbeing of the individual community cats. Feeding bans are not effective strategies for dispersing congregations of cats or mitigating complaints.
- Work with residents to mitigate nuisance complaints, deploying a range of available tools (e.g., humane deterrents) and collaborating with caregivers and local TNR and rescue groups.

The Humane Society of the United States

[Common ground for cats and wildlife](#)

“With a mission to protect all animals, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) stands on common ground with those who care about both cats and wildlife.”

“Robust trap-neuter-return (TNR) programs and related strategies are part of the solution, not the problem and should be more widely practiced with broader support from animal welfare organizations, conservationists, policy makers and individual residents.”

[Outdoor cats FAQ](#)

Humane Euthanasia of Feral Cats:

“While some people feel sorry for outdoor cats because they view the cats as fending for themselves or feel they will suffer a fate worse than euthanasia, adult community cats are generally healthy and thriving outdoors. Others are annoyed by the cats' behaviors and want them removed without much thought to what happens to the cats. But the majority of people don't feel that community cats should be euthanized.

It's not a solution to overpopulation either. Community cats live at a certain location because it offers food and shelter. When cats are removed, unmanaged cats from surrounding areas may move in to take advantage of the newly available resources. The cycle of reproduction and nuisance behavior begins all over again. Rarely does an animal control agency have the capacity to remove enough cats to impact the population.”

Removal of Cats to protect Wildlife:

“There are no easy answers to the issue of cat predation on wildlife. However, removing cats only results in a temporary reduction in the cats' numbers, essentially putting a bandage on the problem and further distance from real solutions.

Trap and remove may at first glance seem to be a logical approach to solving cat-wildlife conflict. You might be able to eliminate the population if your target is just a few cats, but trap and remove does not effectively scale up to an entire community—the level you'd need in order to have any impact on threats to wildlife. In order to reduce the population, at least 50% of the cats will need to be removed annually. The cats left behind will tend to have larger litters of kittens, and more of those kittens will survive. The

population will quickly return to where it was before cats were removed—and in some cases has been documented to double!

Wildlife and cat advocates can help protect wildlife by joining forces in non-controversial collaborative projects such as informing cat owners about keeping owned cats indoors, seeking support and funds for installing cat-proof fences around sensitive natural areas, humanely relocating cat colonies that pose unacceptable risks to wildlife and, of course, continuing community cooperation to improve the efficiency and economy of TNR programs”

**American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®
(ASPCA®)**

[Position Statement on Mandatory Spay/Neuter Laws](#)

“In particular, the ASPCA supports voluntary, affordable, accessible spay/neuter programs for owned pets, Trap-NeuterReturn (TNR) programs for feral cats and the mandatory sterilization of shelter animals and dogs and cats prior to sale by pet stores.”

“The most important step a humane community can take to decrease companion animal overpopulation is to make a safe, effective, voluntary spay/neuter program available and readily accessible to the community, and create programs and incentives targeted to the populations known to be contributing disproportionately to shelter intake and euthanasia.”

From: [Nicola Macfarlane](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:37:17 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nicola.mac7140@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Council Members:

I understand that the City of Palo Alto is renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN).

I would like to express my concern about two items in the contract:

1. The greatly reduced volume of spay/neuter surgeries that are being performed since Pets In Need took over the Palo Alto Shelter. Previously large numbers of free roaming cats were spayed/neutered at the city operated shelter but this number has dropped so much that it is barely making a dent in the population.

This is especially important because the city of East Palo Alto borders Palo Alto and the environmentally sensitive Baylands. **Spay/neuter is the single most effective way to reduce the free roaming cat population.** When the City of Palo Alto was running the shelter, residents and volunteers were able to routinely access spay/neuter resources for free roaming cats in the area. That has been significantly reduced in favor of importing more cats and dogs from outside the area. **Can we make spay/neuter for free-roaming cats a priority in the contract?**

2. Ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR)

This will actually result in MORE free roaming cats. The cat population will absolutely skyrocket without volunteers doing TNR and volunteers won't support trap to kill. We have seen how just one year without TNR availability due to COVID has led to an increased free roaming cat population. Without access to spay/neuter and the ability to return cats who are not adoptable, the cat population will only increase.

TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of free roaming cats.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Nicola Macfarlane

From: [Eilers, Wendy](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Please Support TNR
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:28:01 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from weilers@stanfordhealthcare.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Honorable Mayor and Members of the Council:

My name is Wendy Eilers. I'm employed at Stanford Health Care and am a caregiver of cats on the Stanford campus. I am part of the program that has reduced a campus feral cat population of 1,000 to a current half dozen cats. You perhaps saw the article in the **Daily Post** that explained how the Stanford cat project can model an effective approach to feral cats in Palo Alto.

Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) is the only proven, humane way to reduce the population of homeless cats in our communities.

It is currently BANNED by the Palo Alto City Council in the City of Palo Alto and sister cities Los Altos and Los Altos Hills! Volunteers who do TNR in every other community in the Bay Area are now forbidden to help homeless cats in these three cities. The result is more breeding cats, more kittens for whom there are no homes, more suffering.

You cannot have a policy that is humane and reflective of best animal control practices that does not permit the return-to-colony of feral cats. A ban on return-to-colony means the killing of animals at the shelter. This is what the local Audubon advocates want. They want staff at the shelter to engage in killing healthy animals.

Kindly consider removing this prohibition from the animal shelter contract and allow for a discussion that includes your local rescue community in developing a program to address the feral cat issue.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Wendy Eilers

From: elenac1128@yahoo.com
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Re: Pets in Need Palo Alto Aug 14 meeting
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 9:34:13 AM

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Dear all,

I would like to express my Pets In Need's opinions for your Aug 14 meeting:

I have wonderful experience with Pets In Need(PIN) in Palo Alto. Last winter in Nov & Dec, I trapped three kittens and their mom in our neighborhood. I took them to PIN right away and they took care of them. They neutered and gave them vaccines with all the necessary cares. And they put two of the kittens for adoption successfully when they are ready for good homes. The employees I dealt with are very nice, helpful and responsive.

I volunteered in their "Doggy Day Out" program four times since Nov last year when I found out this program. It's a great opportunity for the volunteers to help out the shelter dogs. I think PIN managed a wonderful program for the shelter dogs that the dogs can exercise and feel the outside world.

PIN staff and volunteers are professional, care the animals and try their best for the animals. PIN does so much for our community from offering cheap vaccines to keeping the animals safe when they are taken to PIN facility. I would think our city needs PIN and it's a tough job that not many shelter operators are available nowadays. Thank you

Sincerely,
Elena Chiu
1570 Bryant St, Palo Alto

From: [Jenna Skinner](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Pets in Need/TNR services
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 9:10:55 AM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

To whom it may concern,

I would like to address the Palo Alto's contract with Pets in Need and the necessity of TNR services for the cities of Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. TNR is the only humane answer to the hundreds, possibly thousands of free roaming cats in those communities.

TNR is endorsed, supported, and funded by the cities of San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Saratoga, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Campbell, and the counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Marin. It is recognized nationally with organizations like Maddies Fund, Ally Cat Allies and the Humane Society of the United States. The cities represented by this city council are progressive, wealthy and respected cities. The fact that TNR is not practiced here is an embarrassment and a disservice to your community and its animals.

If euthanizing all trapped cats is the answer to the problem of feral cats in your purview, say that out loud. I don't think I've seen that language in anything I have read. I can't see any other result when you are not allowed to release them. It's been suggested that the cats are released in other areas. That is a death sentence as well. Is that what happens when feral cats are surrendered in the cities you serve? if not, what is the plan? Where are the cats that are trapped in these areas going?

The only sustainable method of population control is Trap Neuter and Return. And there are many studies to support that. You have a fabulous success story right in your backyard. The Stanford Cat Project successfully achieved the goal that all of us that practice TNR and colony management want. The last of the colonies on that campus have passed peacefully and cared for. The Stanford colony managers kept a close eye on all the cats, made sure any newcomers were TNR'd and humanely cared for them until the colony died of old age.

Please renew the contract with PIN and include comprehensive TNR services for the communities you serve.

Jenna Skinner
Director
Gatos de la Noche

From: [Molly Davey](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 8:40:54 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from molly.davey12@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Council members,

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had over 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Molly Davey

From: [Nelly O](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 7:49:57 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from nellyoiknine@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) , .

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nelly Oiknine

From: [SHANNON MATTINGLY](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 7:38:37 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from shannonmattingly@sbcglobal.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I work in Palo Alto, 345 Hamilton Ave.
I am also a resident East Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shannon Mattingly

Sent from Shannon's new iPhone 14 pro max

From: [Comcast](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Monday, August 14, 2023 4:42:23 AM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Palo Alto,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robyn Heinrich
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Denise Uriarte](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter - in favor of Trap-Neuter-Return for Cat Population Management Programs
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 8:49:55 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from denisebythesea1@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am an animal rescuer that has been trapping and altering (spay/neuter domestic pets and Trap-Neuter-Return for community cats) in the Bay Area for the past 25 years.

I am also one of the original founders of Feral Freedom- the premier Shelter-Neuter-Release community cat management program model used and enjoyed by ALL Santa Clara County area shelters and WeCare Shelter members (San Jose Animal Care & Services, Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority, County of Santa Clara Animal Shelter, and Humane Society of Silicon Valley). All of our local shelters employ TNR as a best practice in shelter management, as do most progressive shelter do nationwide!

All - Except Palo Alto , that is!

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

The WeCare Coalition supports TNR.

Maddie's Fund, a major Grant contributor to our local shelters, doesn't just support, but they actually REQUIRE an active shelter TNR program in order to qualify for future grant funding!

Do NOT allow a Special Interest group, such as the Audubon Society, which has absolutely no experience in the area of community cat population control, try to sway you with scare tactics and misinformation. They tried before with Mountain View and lost, because the committee was able to factually & statistically refute every ONE of their false claims.

The bottom line is the Trap-Neuter-Return, which the community performs by trapping the cats for free to bring them in for altering, actually directly addresses the Aududon Society's #1 goal !! ...of having "fewer free-roaming cats!" .

Progressive, informed cities support best practices. All major cities thought the USA support TNR!

Why is Palo Alto the sole holdout in employing this proven solution. The ONLY solution that actually reduces community cat numbers and kitten intake at shelters?

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities.

Pets in Need supports TNR.
The city should too!

It's a solid investment in your community and a service your constituents want!

87% of people in a national survey stated they support Trap-Neuter-Return.
Only 2% want healthy animals killed.

Listen to the majority voice, follow modern best practices in Shelter Care and support TNR.

One additional point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is inadequate. When domestic pets get fixed, fewer get "dumped" and fewer end up as ferals. Prevention works!

Taxpaying constituents have a right to get their animals altered affordably at a taxpayer supported animal shelter, to prevent (and hopefully finally fix once and for all!) the companion animal over-population crisis in California.

Thank you for your time.

I hope your vote reflects the wishes of your community.

Sincerely,

Angela Denise Uriarte

From: [herb](#)
To: [Council, City](#); [Clerk, City](#)
Subject: August 14, 2023 Council Meeting, Item #6: Animal Shelter and Pets in Need
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 5:37:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

AUGUST 14, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING, AGENDA ITEM #6
PROPOSED TERM SHEET WITH PETS IN NEED AND INTERIM PAYMENT

I urge you to reject the proposed term sheet, and instead act to terminate the City's relationship with Pets in Need, while the City acts to implement new staffing for the City's responsibility pursuant to state law to "provide animal control and sheltering services for the purpose of ensuring the safety of people and animals, providing for the proper care, and sheltering of abandoned or neglected animals, licensing domestic animals and providing humane disposal of animals when necessary" for Palo Alto, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills by either City staff or an organization whose main purpose is to provide those services.

Pets in Need's main service is to advocate for the no-kill movement by bringing to Palo Alto from other locations in Northern California pets that nobody wants to adopt in those communities.

Pets in Need is not interested in providing the services the state requires and has demonstrated by its past behavior that it is not able to adequately provide those state-required services with the quality that was provided by City staff prior to the contract being awarded to Pets in Need.

Pets in Need responded to the City's request that led to the current contract because it wanted to use the City's building for the animals it claims it is "rescuing" and because Pets in Need wants to use the City's name for fundraising purposes to support its advocacy of the no-kill movement.

When Pets in Need's contract is terminated now, or when it later terminates if you choose to extend its contract with Palo Alto, then Pets in Need should agree to take with them the "rescued" animals at the shelter and to be bound for a period of years after Pets in Need leaves to take any adopted "rescued" animals that are returned to the shelter, because those "rescued" animals may have a hire rate of return by their owners due to the fact that nobody wanted to adopt them in their home communities.

From: [Allison Fluty](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Birder in support of TNR
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 5:31:41 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from allisonfluty@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

I would like to preface by mentioning that I have been an on-and-off member of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society since 2010 and am currently a member, and in 2019/2020 I volunteered in the Wetlands Docent program. I have also been a member and volunteer with SFBBO since 2018 where I have participated in snowy plover and burrowing owl surveys (2018-2019), monitored the egret colony at Google for the colonial waterbird nesting survey (2019-2022), and am a current volunteer at the Coyote Creek Field banding Station (since Jan 2022). I am not writing as a representative or on behalf of either organization mentioned above, and I only mention my involvement to indicate my dedication and belief in the importance of bird conservation.

I am writing as a birder, student of ecology, and indoor cat-owner to strongly urge Palo Alto to include TNR as part of the new PIN contract. Robust TNR programs are essential for population control of unowned, outdoor cats and mitigation of harm to native species (and the cats themselves). My love of birds is what first led me to dedicate a significant amount of free time these last two years to practicing TNR in my community. The more I have learned about the ecological damage caused by outdoor cats (owned and unowned), the more I have dedicated myself to actively doing TNR (my personal motto: "I want to make (outdoor) cats a thing of the past!").

TNR has been repeatedly proven to stabilize population growth of feral cat colonies when implemented effectively ([Gunther, et al., 2022](#), [Spehar and Wolf, 2019](#), [Kreisler, Cornell, and Levy, 2019](#), [Spehar and Wolf 2017](#), Centonze and Levy, 2002). Sustained management through TNR can ultimately result in significant population decline to the point of colony extinction ([Spehar and Wolf, 2019](#)). Although meaningful population control can be achieved with as little as 55 to 75 percent rate of sterilization ([Jones and Downs, 2004](#), [Andersen et al, 2004](#)), trappers in our area will often not settle for less than a 90 to 100% sterilization rate. Because of this, there are many trappers and colony managers in the South Bay who can provide real examples of colonies that have stabilized and ultimately declined in population over time due to the successful implementation of TNR.

The resources that would be required by the city to provide TNR services would be minimal compared to the resources volunteers would personally expend to utilize the services. Volunteer trappers and motivated citizens will work tirelessly to trap every cat in a colony if community TNR resources are made available, no matter the number of cats. Volunteers with access to TNR resources will spend days or weeks preparing a colony for trapping, including trap-training cats, identifying feeders to educate and coordinate, and knocking on doors of every house and business in the area to gather information about cats in the area and educate about trapping intentions (leaving flyers with contact information if unable to speak in-person). Volunteers will also spend their own money on traps and equipment including wireless cameras to monitor areas where trapping is taking place. Volunteers often share traps and equipment amongst each other, especially with new volunteers who have just begun to trap. Volunteers will trap late into the evening and wake up in the early hours of the morning before dawn to trap the last cat in a colony. Trappers often keep in touch with the people they help and will respond to future requests for help when new cats show up, which is a key aspect of long-term maintenance ([Boone, 2015](#)).

When TNR is prohibited, trappers will simply stop trapping cats in those jurisdictions. Trappers will not continue to trap cats, or suddenly start trapping cats, if the only outcome for healthy feral cats is euthanasia. In the absence of TNR, the city would require paid staff to trap entire colonies if the goal is to eliminate community cats from a given area. Less ambitious goals to decrease population size and growth rate would still require significant effort. Population modeling and practical studies have shown

that euthanizing less than 50% of a colony population is not effective in decreasing population growth ([Andersen et al. 2004](#), [McCarthy et al. 2013](#)), and will require higher efforts by staff depending on colony size and immigration rate ([Schmidt et al. 2009](#)). In fact, low-level culling has been shown to *increase* the number of feral cats in a colony due to immigration compared to colonies where no action is taken ([Lazenby, Mooney, and Dickman, 2014](#)). Continued monitoring via surveys or cameras by city staff would be required to address new cats that show up to areas that have been culled.

It is worth mentioning that the sanctioning of a TNR program in the jurisdictions served by PIN does not have to be an act of defiance against the local bird conservation efforts. Project Bay Cat is a local example of how Audubon chapters can work together with cities and community cat organizations to create positive outcomes for everyone. The Homeless Cat Network, Foster City, and Sequoia Audubon Society collaborated on Project Bay Cat in 2003, which implemented a very successful TNR program on a section of the Bay Trail that resulted in consistent population decline each year until 2020 when only one cat remained out of a beginning census of 175, and 258 total cats going through the program (Spehar and Wolf, 2020).

John Boone, Ph.D, the research coordinator at the Great Basin Bird Observatory, published a 2015 article which discusses how TNR can be effective for the management of cat populations when certain practices are followed ([Boone, 2015](#)). The methods he recommends are already well-known and practiced by our local trapping community.

Issues with TNR

Often, issues that are brought-up regarding TNR such as the attraction of nuisance wildlife to public feeding areas are mistakenly assumed to be sanctioned aspects of TNR programs. In reality, effective TNR programs include education of colony caretakers and seek to eliminate irresponsible practices such as free-feeding. A common complaint by people who live or work in areas with cat colonies is the presence of free-feeding stations. Feeding stations where feeders routinely dump unattended food are irresponsible at best and are not compatible with TNR programs. Leaving food unattended (i.e., filling bowls with food and then leaving) permits cats to come as they please, which results in some cats only appearing when there are no people around, obscuring the true number of cats at a location and allowing the continued breeding of unfixed colony members unknown to colony caretakers. Unattended food also attracts other animals including insect pests such as flies, wasps, and ants, and urban wildlife such as skunks, raccoons, opossums, coyotes, gulls, and crows. Non-native and invasive species including the red fox and Eurasian collared dove are also attracted to and supported by feeding stations.

The presence of visible feeding stations suggests to passersby that feeding outdoor cats is ok or even encouraged and exacerbates issues of unregulated feeding by multiple people. Visible feeding stations may also encourage the abandonment of owned cats, as people may use the presence of stations as evidence that “someone” is taking care of the area’s cats (Castillo, D. & Clarke, A.L., 2003). Highly visible feeding stations and feeding stations where food is left unattended should be eliminated and individuals educated and ultimately cited for continued, irresponsible maintenance of feeding stations.

The fundamental issue with TNR cited by critics of TNR is the intentional release of trapped cats, a predatory invasive species responsible for the decline and extinction of dozens of native species all over the world. However, allowing owned cats to free-roam outdoors is an issue that directly contributes to the predation of native species. In 2021, a national US survey found that around 33 percent or 26 million of the estimated 79 million owned pet cats have outdoor access ([Hurley and Levy, 2002](#)). During my time volunteering with the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley, I witnessed many birds enter the facility due to injuries sustained after being captured by owned, pet cats. Rather than banning TNR, steps should be taken to enforce more effective policies to decrease the number of owned cats that are allowed to free roam outdoors by citizens of Palo Alto, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills. These policies should also address situations involving owned, unfixed cats that are allowed to roam outdoors. Access to low-cost spay and neuter services for owned cats will be crucial in the absence of an ability to reduce the number of owned cats allowed to free-roam outdoors.

Allison Fluty, M.A.

From: [Cheryl Berman](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Trap/Neuter/Return
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 5:31:30 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from drcberman@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

As a 50 year resident of Palo Alto, I am very concerned about the city's ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR). I believe this ban will result in more unowned cats and more dead cats.

TNR has proven effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Locally, Stanford University's Cat Network's TNR program brought the feral cat population down from over 1000 to about 12 cats.

If TNR is not available in Palo Alto how does Palo Alto intend to manage feral cats, the majority of which are unadoptable after 8 weeks of age? Trapping and releasing cats in areas outside of Palo Alto is considered inhumane by animal welfare organizations and actually illegal in many jurisdictions. Killing the cats or warehousing them in cages until they die are also inhumane and despicable solutions.

TNR has proven effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports and funds TNR. Heck, even in places like Brooklyn, NY, TNR is the policy.

The answer is not death, the answer is TNR. How can such an enlightened city as Palo Alto not support TNR?? Cats have a right to live. We have the solution to control the cat population humanely, we know it works because of successful programs like at Stanford. Do the right thing.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities by contracting with Pets in Need to provide TNR services in our area.

Thank you.
Cheryl Berman
427 Alma St. #206
Palo Alto 94301

From: [Elaine Won](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 4:10:47 PM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

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Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elaine Won

From: [Beatka Beatka](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 12:39:26 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from allforbeatka@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear City Council members,

As a resident of Palo Alto, I write you regarding the City's renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic service. I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you!

Sincerely,

Beatka Szkop

3191 Mackall Way,
Palo Alto, CA 94306

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Amy Brown](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Pets in need and TNR.
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 10:45:07 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from abrown@hausnerschool.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

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RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

Councilmembers,

As a friend of Palo Alto, I write you regarding the City's renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic service. I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unsprayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you!

Sincerely,

Amy Brown
4240 Terman drive
Palo Alto, Ca. 94306

Amy Brown

Transitional Kindergarten Lead Teacher

abrown@hausnerschool.org



Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School

450 San Antonio Road | Palo Alto, CA 94306
650.494.8200 | hausnerschool.org | [Facebook](#)

From: [Elizabeth Osborn](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Sunday, August 13, 2023 10:05:42 AM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to you regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Some personal accounts:

In the last few months I have assisted two Palo Alto residents get access to TNR spay/neuter and adoption services for a total of 15 cats that would have otherwise continued to populate outdoors and led to a net increase in the Palo Alto feral cat population:

- This February I assisted an elderly resident in Barron Park who had come to Pets in Need (PIN) to ask for help with a feral female cat she had started feeding and who continually had litters around her property. As an independent volunteer I dedicated approximately 20 hours of my time to spay/neuter a total of 7 cats at the residence (many of these cats were unknown to the resident, but frequented her outdoor feeding station). Four of these cats were female (one was pregnant at time of spay), which would have led to at least a 100% increase in the population within a matter of 3-4 months and a continued increase thereafter. Had this resident not sought help, had I not dedicated my time, and PIN assisted with spay/neuter appointments this population would have quickly spiraled out of control. The resident has agreed to continue monitoring for new cats and continues to feed the existing outdoor cats.
- Another resident started feeding a semi-feral cat after continually seeing the cat in her backyard. After a couple weeks 7 kittens started emerging from underneath the shed. A family member of the resident sought help on a local TNR Facebook page. Two volunteers offered many hours over a period of 3 days to trap all 7 kittens and the mother. The kittens were taken into the Pets in Need foster program and the mother was spayed and returned to the property.

In both of these cases had the resident had any reason to believe these cats could have been euthanized they would have not intervened, which would have resulted in an unsustainable increase in the cat population in their neighborhoods.

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Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

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Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you for your time.

Elizabeth

From: [Nina Wouk](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Saturday, August 12, 2023 11:34:07 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from nwouk@ix.netcom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

Fixing cats works. Trying to kill cats doesn't.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nina Wouk

From: [Ann Chasson](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Letter in support of TNR as performed by Pets In Need
Date: Saturday, August 12, 2023 8:36:53 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ann@thedancingcat.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

August 12, 2023

Dear Councilmembers,

As a friend of Palo Alto, I am writing you to support the renewal of your contract with Pets in Need. Palo Alto has been without a city-run shelter of its own for several years, and your contract with Pets in Need has been very successful.

In addition, I am urging you to reverse your policy of prohibiting residents of Palo Alto, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills from having feral cats that were spayed/neutered at Pets in Need released back to their homes. Your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) is out of step with all other cities in the South Bay. More importantly, this ban will cause residents to avoid getting outdoor cats fixed, knowing they will instead be euthanized at PIN. This will lead to even more unwanted kittens being born outdoors in these communities.

TNR is proven to be effective in reducing the number of free-roaming cats, something that all of us have as a goal.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities.

Sincerely,
Ann Chasson

Ann Chasson, Co-Founder
The Dancing Cat
702 E Julian, San Jose, CA 95112
www.thedancingcat.org
408.459.9644



Find us on [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Threads](#)

From: [Shellythao](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Saturday, August 12, 2023 7:15:26 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from shellythao@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) , .

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shelly Duong

Sent from my iPhone.

From: sam.pawsibilities@gmail.com
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: ITEM 6
Date: Saturday, August 12, 2023 6:30:20 AM
Attachments: [PIN letter supporting Palo Alto TNR.docx.pdf](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sam.pawsibilities@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

Councilmembers,

As a friend of Palo Alto, I write you regarding the City's renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic service. I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unsprayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you!

Sincerely,

Samantha Carroll

From: [David Rutan](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: TNR support
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 12:33:57 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from david@wizdomonwheels.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Please consider fully supporting and helping fund TNR services in Palo Alto.

These programs help reduce the feral and stray populations which directly impact native wildlife -- allowing the populations to grow unchecked (through not supporting TNR) can devastate the Baylands and other areas in the community.

Releasing cats in the Baylands following a TNR setup does not occur by any of the rescue groups, and if there is an individual doing so it is already prohibited behavior that can be handled on a case by case basis -- releasing typically occurs by putting the cat back in the community it was picked up.

The foster and rescue communities are sorely hurting with the influx of kittens and lack of vet services to handle spay/neuters. These lack of services are already causing local population growth in cat colonies. Please help keep the cat colonies in check by fully supporting and helping fund TNR practices in Palo Alto.

- David Rutan

From: [Carole Hyde](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Recent media on TNR
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 12:13:44 PM
Attachments: [PA-TNR Daily Post July 28 2023.pdf](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from carolepahs@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear members of the Council,

Given the article in today's Weekly, with heavy emphasis on Pets In Need killing animals and public abhorrence of it, I urge you to support TNR, not ban it. Not many ferals in Palo Alto anyway!! Baylands and Parks ALREADY protected by your very own city ordinance!!

To effectively deal with feral cats, here is recent media highlighting the innovative and successful Stanford experience with cat control.

<https://nathanwinograd.substack.com/p/mission-accomplished>

Sincerely,

Carole

Carole Hyde

Formerly at Stanford
c (650) 504-5898
carolepahs@icloud.com

Stanford may have solution to feral cats

BY **BRADEN CARTWRIGHT**

Daily Post Staff Writer

Palo Alto City Council will decide later this year what to do about feral cats in the city, and there are strong feelings on both sides from cat lovers and environmentalists.

Stanford dealt with the same issue in 1989 and has been successful in reducing its feral cat population from around 1,000 to nearly zero.

Advocates for trapping, neutering and then releasing feral cats back into

their territory say that Stanford's cat project should be a model for Palo Alto.

"It is the gold standard for how humane organizations deal with cat populations that are feral," said Carole Hyde, former executive director of the Palo Alto Humane Society. Hyde co-founded the Stanford Cat Network in 1989 after the university announced plans to round up and potentially euthanize a growing feral cat population.

People estimated that between 500

[See CATS, page 34]



RESCUED KITTENS — While the feral cat population is under control at Stanford, volunteers continue to rescue kittens from the area and put them up for adoption, including this litter. Photo from the Feline Friends Network (formerly the Stanford Cat Network).

CATS

and 1,500 cats were roaming the campus at the time.

The Stanford Cat Network received buy-in from the university only after the cat of then-President Donald Kennedy wandered away from home.

A volunteer from the Stanford Cat Network recognized the missing cat from a poster and returned him to Kennedy, according to a report in the Stanford Daily.

Kennedy learned about the Stanford Cat Network's feeding stations and the volunteers' concern about the fate of the cats on campus. He donated \$50 to the group the next day, and the university signed an agreement with the Stanford Cat Network shortly after, the Stanford Daily reported.

How it worked

Volunteers, including Stanford professors, students and faculty members, found homes for tame strays and kittens that were young enough to be domesticated. They handed out fliers discouraging students from adopting pets that they couldn't care for, Hyde said.

The Palo Alto Humane Society paid for sterilizations and vaccinations of feral cats, and volunteers put out feeding stations for the cats after they were released.

Over time, the cats got older and died or were adopted.

By 1994, the population of feral cats was less than 250, according to a report by Nathan Winograd, director of the No Kill Advocacy Center.

In 1999, Hyde estimated there were around 150 feral cats. By 2006, the cat population was estimated to be around 50, Winograd said.

"Stanford Cat Network's successful five-year program with a very large cat population demonstrates that feral cat colonies can be effectively managed and controlled, and that a workable, viable alternative to extermination does exist," Winograd wrote in 1994.

The word spread

Since then, members of the Stanford Cat Network have advised other colleges, including Auburn, Arizona State, Texas A&M and North Carolina State.

The Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority, the Peninsula Humane Society in San Mateo County and the cities of San Jose and San Francisco support the same practice.

On the other side of the issue, environmentalists are worried about feral cats killing birds, particularly in the Baylands. The area is part of the "Pacific Flyway," a chain of habitats that support migrating birds.

Environmentalists want the city to ban the release of outdoor cats. The only other way to control the population would be euthanasia.

"I have nothing against cats, which have their place as loved indoor pets," Norma Jean Bodey Galiher wrote to council on March 26. "But if they are allowed out of doors, they pose such an enormous risk to rapidly shrinking biodiversity. Please don't aid and abet them as bird predators."

Audubon Society's position

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society is against the practice of trap-neuter-return — called "TNR" for short.

Outdoor cats are the biggest direct, human-caused threat to birds in the United States and Canada, according to the local chapter of the Audubon Society.

A study linked outdoor cats to the extinction of 63 species and a threat to 360 more.

A debate over TNR is happening in Palo Alto now because the city is negotiating a new contract with Pets In Need, the nonprofit that runs the Palo Alto Animal Shelter.

Pets In Need is in favor of TNR and rents out cat traps to residents for a \$75 deposit. But the organization is deferring to council rather than making TNR a sticking point in negotiations.

What about the Baylands?

During a study session in March, Councilman Pat Burt asked about banning feral cats from the Baylands.

Animal Control Officer Cody MacCartney said "a handful" of feral cats live in the Baylands, and the city doesn't trap them.

Some residents trap cats and pay for getting them fixed, he said.

The city has an ordinance that bans the feeding of feral cats in the Baylands.

Google had a large feral cat colony in Mountain View east of Highway 101, and the problem spilled over into Palo Alto, MacCartney said.

The situation is different in Palo Alto now than it was at Stanford in 1989, according to Hyde.

There are just a few colonies of feral cats in neighborhoods, and many of them are "backyard cats" that are cared for by residents, she said.

From: [Erin Vitus](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Please keep TNR
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 11:59:24 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from erinvitus@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Hello,

We are very disheartened to hear that TNR is being reconsidered. I don't understand how or why this program would be discontinued. Do you like finding half-dead kittens in your garbage?

I can personally tell you that I do not.



Please, I beg you, if you do anything in your stewardship of this city, please continue TNR. How we treat vulnerable animals like this is the litmus test of the level of civility in our society.

Confused and concerned,
Erin Vitus
12895 Normandy Lane
Los Altos Hills

(650) 722-1496

From: [Stacie](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 9:57:00 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from staciepiza@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

As a resident of Palo Alto, I am writing to you regarding the City's renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic service. I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is more of what your no TNR policy achieves. TNR has proven effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had more than 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now, there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR. Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them. Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that number. Residents have a right to have their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer-supported clinic.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Stacie Piza

From: [Krystina Weinacht](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 8:14:30 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from krystina.weinacht@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Council-members,

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Krystina Crowley

From: [Jeanette Kennedy](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Monday meeting i.e. TNR
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 8:00:13 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from calalexs@pacbell.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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i.e. TNR

This plan for feral cats has the best chance of reducing agony on multiple litters of feral cats. It is as humane a solution to the problem

Jeanette Kennedy
736 Kendall

From: [Anne Scott](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: TNR letter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:16:59 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from awscott77@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council,

TNR is the only cost effective and humane way to manage feral cats. In the Bay Area it is endorsed, supported, and funded by the cities of San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Saratoga, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Campbell, and the counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Marin.

“Best municipal practices” for feral cats means supporting TNR. Palo Alto is alone in failing to meet this standard. The Palo Alto City Council must correct this failure when it meets on Monday, August 14.

Sincerely,

Anne Scott
Los Altos

From: [Melanie Otsuji](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 10:08:42 PM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melanie Lombrana

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kurt Wiedenhoeft](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 8:40:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kurtww@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a homeowner and resident of Palo Alto. I own two cats who are indoor only. Outdoor cats are a problem, and Trap/Neuter/Return can help reduce the breeding population of feral cats. I encourage you to revisit this policy and allow PIN to return spayed/neutered cats rather than to put them in a kill shelter.

I also encourage you to require that PIN provider more spay/neuter appointments at the clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kurt Wiedenhoeft
722 Marion Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94303

From: [Christina De La Rosa](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 8:18:43 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from bayareadietitian@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina De La Rosa

From: [Lauren Briskin](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 7:48:54 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from ljbriskin@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) , .

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Lauren Joy Briskin

Sent from my iPad

From: [Claire Wald](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: TNR Support
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 7:12:58 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from claireko96@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Palo Alto City Council,

I urge you to repeal the ban on TNR (Trap, Neuter and Release). It is the only proven, humane way to reduce the population of homeless cats in our communities. Banning TNR means more breeding cats, more kittens for whom there are no homes, more suffering.

It would reduce the burden on shelters, reduce costs of housing feral cats in shelters and prevent suffering of innocent animals.

TNR is the only cost effective and humane way to manage feral cats. In the Bay Area it is endorsed, supported, and funded by the cities of San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Saratoga, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Campbell, and the counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Marin.

A concerned resident,
Claire Wald

From: [Nancy Hughes](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: TNR and PALO ALTO
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 4:03:59 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nancyhughes63@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto contracts with Pets In Need for the provision of animal shelter services to Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. The current contract prohibits PIN from offering TNR services for feral cats in those cities. The Palo Alto City Council is developing the terms it will offer for a new

contract with PIN and will decide those terms at a meeting on August 14. The terms offered to PIN should reflect best municipal and humane practices by including a Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) program in which feral cats are neutered, vaccinated and returned to their home locations.

TNR reduces and stabilizes populations of community cats. It improves the lives of cats, addresses community concerns, reduces complaints about cats, and stops the breeding cycle. TNR improves the co-existence between outdoor cats and humans in our shared environment. Prohibiting TNR results in an exponentially increasing number of unowned cats. The North Shore Animal League America estimates one unspayed cat and its offspring can produce 2000 cats in 4 years and over 2 million cats in just 8 years.

TNR has been proven to be effective in Palo Alto. In 1989 Stanford University estimated that it had over 1,000 feral cats on campus. A group of volunteers, calling themselves the Stanford Cat Network, started a TNR program that stabilized the University's cat population to near zero

growth. The combination of near zero growth, natural attrition and an adoption program for tame

strays and kittens young enough for domestication reduced the cat population to about 12 cats by 2019. The success of the Stanford Cat Network was a catalyst in the adoption of TNR programs by universities, towns, cities, shelters and humane organizations across the country. It

is strange that the Palo Alto City Council has prohibited TNR in view of this local success story.

If TNR is not available, how does Palo Alto intend to manage feral cats? The majority are unadoptable after 8 weeks of age. Trapping and releasing the cats in a location other than their home is considered inhumane by animal welfare organizations and treated as illegal abandonment in jurisdictions that support TNR. Release of cats trapped in Palo Alto to locations

outside of Palo Alto would also be treated as an illegal abandonment by the receiving jurisdiction.

Does Palo Alto intend to trap and warehouse feral cats in cages until they die? Such a practice would be both inhumane and costly. Or does Palo Alto intend to trap and kill these cats which are abandoned or lost domestic pets or the descendants of such pets? This approach is also considered inhumane and would be costly, ineffective, and need to be done repeatedly. And who will do the trapping? Trapping in TNR programs is done by dedicated unpaid

volunteers who do this hard work because they are concerned about the welfare of animals and the co-existence of outdoor cats and humans. These volunteers will not trap cats so they can be moved from their homes, warehoused or killed. The City of Palo Alto will have to do this difficult, costly work at taxpayer expense and must do it year after year as none of these “alternatives” to TNR address the problems of animal overpopulation and abandonment.

Each year unwanted litters will continue to be born and cats will continue to be abandoned or lost. These cats will move into the spaces where cats were previously removed by the City and reproduce.

If the Palo Alto City Council is interested in effectively managing feral cat populations in Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, it should contract with PIN for both TNR services and increased spay/neuter availability so residents of these cities can afford to neuter their pets and prevent unwanted litters. The current number of 60 appointments is not enough and should be tripled or at least doubled.

TNR is the only cost effective and humane way to manage feral cats. In the Bay Area it is endorsed, supported, and funded by the cities of San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Saratoga, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Campbell, and the counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Marin.

“Best municipal practices” for feral cats means supporting TNR. Palo Alto is alone in failing to meet this standard. The Palo Alto City Council must correct this failure when it meets on Monday, August 14.

Nancy and Harold Hughes
Los Altos Hills

From: [David Rutan](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: TNR in Palo Alto shelter and Palo Alto in general
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 12:53:19 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from david@wizdomonwheels.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I'm writing to get more details regarding the proposed contract with Pets in Need and the city relating to the TNR issue.

Would you mind clarifying things a little?

From what I understand the issue is whether the shelter in Palo Alto offers discounted services to the TNR teams - such as discounted spay/neuter and vaccination + ear tipping, is this correct?
TNR that is done in general in the Palo Alto area is not affected, correct?

One key point that is brought up in arguments is regarding releasing cats in the Baylands - that's long been **prohibited behavior** and would not be an issue with TNR services. I would suggest disregarding irrelevant talking points such as that one.

I've been on the Board of the Palo Alto Humane Society for a very long time, so I want to make sure I'm clear on the issues before forming an opinion on the subject.

If there's any information regarding the TNR subject relating to the shelter, I would greatly appreciate reading it.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

- David



Book an Appointment: wizdomonwheels.com/book
Download Splashtop SOS: wizdomonwheels.com/sos

From: [Lisa Schmidt](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: [Charlene Mercadante](#)
Subject: Support for allowing TNR to address the overpopulation of feral cats
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 12:52:46 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lschmidt@losaltoshills.ca.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello Council members

I am a council member for Los Altos Hills and have an interest in this matter because we contract with PA for animal services. Charlene, copied above, raised my awareness of this issue and I want to add my support to her letter copied below.

Thank you,
Lisa Schmidt

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Los Altos Hills and I also founded a small cat rescue in LAH called Pink Paws For The Cause.

We know that TNR is the only tool we have that actually reduces the feral cat population. PHS, Nine Lives Foundation, SVACA, SJACC, HSSV all have TNR programs and support their communities.

I have seen first hand how colonies of 50+ cats can be reduced to 5 in a matter of years. These are animals that did not choose to be feral, they were born to a feral mother and no intervention ever happened. That mom was not spayed, her kittens were not fixed and were left to multiply. When efforts are focused on spay and neuter - cat populations reduce. It's common sense.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will actually result in **MORE** unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had over 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best

municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them. TNR actually provides them the medical care they need.. in addition to the spay/neuter, they are given vaccines for FVRCP and Rabies.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Mercadante
Pink Paws For the Cause
26471 Weston Drive,
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

From: [Stepheny McGraw](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 12:29:40 PM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) , .

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

From: [Freeze, Suzanne](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Please support TNR
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 9:58:01 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from suzanne.freeze@cbnorcal.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Council People,

We know that TNR is the only tool that reduces the feral cat population. I am concerned that removing the funding for Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will increase the unowned cat population.

One unspayed cat and its offspring left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years. This is unacceptable.

The animals did not choose to be feral; they were born to a wild mother or dumped by someone. TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the number of feral cats. Stanford University had over 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR. Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them. TNR provides them with the medical care they need.. in addition to the spay/neuter, they are given vaccines for FVRCP and Rabies.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

Another critical point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month are pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer-supported clinic.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Freeze-Manning





SUZANNE
FREEZE-MANNING

DRE# 01347405

SUZANNE FREEZE-MANNING

realtor

 650.397.1501 | 408.623.5599

 Suzanne.Freeze@cbnorcal.com

 SuzanneFreeze.com



COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY

***Wire Fraud is Real*. Before wiring any money, call the intended recipient at a number you know is valid to confirm the instructions.** Additionally, please note that the sender does not have authority to bind a party to a real estate contract via written or verbal communication.

From: anne@annefujimoto.com
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Allow trap/neuter and return in Palo Alto
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 8:29:36 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from anne@annefujimoto.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Palo Alto City Council,

Please allow trap, neuter and return of cats in Palo Alto. Not all feral cats are adoptable and they should be given a chance to live out their lives.

Anne Fujimoto
Mountain View resident near the border of Palo Alto

From: [Becky Brewer](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023 6:27:25 AM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Becky Brewer

From: [Nynke van den Berg](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 10:12:02 PM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) , .

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nynke van den Berg

From: [bonnie troxler](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 10:01:06 PM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Troxler

From: [Lenore Delgado](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: [Lenore Delgado](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 8:32:04 PM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.)

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Leonor Delgado

From: bbennigson@aol.com
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Item 6 -- Trap/Neuter/Return ban
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 8:01:08 PM

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RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

Councilmembers,

As a resident of Palo Alto, I write you regarding the City's renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic service. I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years! That is what your no-TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is more of what your no-TNR policy achieves.

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Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that number. Residents have a right to neuter their animals affordably at this taxpayer-supported clinic.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Barbara Bennigson

From: [J.Sides](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 7:58:22 PM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Los Altos, an adopter of several kittens (from shelters), and a backyard bird enthusiast over the course of living here 30+ years.

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is an effective, humane and ethical solution to problems caused by stray cats living in our small communities. TNR can help save shelters, pounds and animal control agencies a significant amount of money. For one cat to participate in a TNR program, it is reported half the cost of euthanizing that same cat by some agencies. Various animal welfare organizations in the bay area have TNR programs that are successful and support their communities.

In April of last year the Berkeley County city council members reviewed this same issue and voted to approve its TNR program. Debbie Allen, Berkeley Animal Center manager, reported "...it's a humane option over trapping and bringing feral cats into the shelter that do not do well in the shelter environment. They're not adoptable pets." The trap, neuter, and release option allows the shelter to spay and neuter these feral cats, vaccinate them, and then ear chip the animals to readily identify those already sterilized. She concluded "... they can return them back to the community where they used to live and where they know their resources are". It helps to save the lives of feral cats rather than having them put to sleep. It also allows Berkeley Animal Center to have fewer cats they need to keep. Fewer kittens mean fewer feral cats in the long term.

Please allow Pets In Need to adopt and implement a "TNR policy for feral cats in Palo Alto. Local conservationists and bird advocates, of which I consider myself in alignment, may not have the facts about TNR programs and long-term outcomes versus emotional responses. KC Hetterly, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, spoke out against the policy and stated that "domestic cat predation is one of top threats for birds". Well, the feral cats (not the domestic cats that have a home regardless of whether the owner chooses to allow them outside) are already out there; implementing an intensive TNR policy will pull some of them back out to their same environments but will reduce breeding and injuries/fighting among these cats, especially if it is accompanied with an adoption program for the seasonal litters of feral kittens. Palo Alto will have a reduced population overall of feral cats as the years progress which is a win-win for the bird enthusiasts as well.

Understanding data collected by TNR programs and some of the limited study results could help educate others. Results of one study published in Frontiers in Veterinary Science (26 July 2019) by Boone, et al outlined good rationale for a policy of intensive TNR. The study authors reported the cumulative preventable deaths, particularly of kittens, over 10 years are much lower for higher-intensity sterilization (TNR) than for all other scenarios (including trap & kill). Culling is likely to be ineffective and inefficient in terms of cumulative preventable deaths and population size reduction.

"Because of the high reproductive capacity of cats, which can produce many more offspring than are needed to maintain a population their analysis indicates that kitten deaths usually comprise a large majority of overall mortalities that can be influenced by population management actions or inactions. The animal welfare community has often emphasized preventing deaths from lethal management, but based on this studies' findings mandating the reduction of kitten deaths should be an equally explicit management/policy goal. The best management strategy for accomplishing this is to quickly suppress reproduction with high-intensity sterilization (TNR), leading to reduced population size over time, and then allow these changes to generate compounded benefits into the future.

With sufficient intensity, TNR offers significant advantages in terms of minimizing preventable deaths while also

substantially reducing population size. High-intensity TNR programs can be further be improved by reducing abandonment, or by combining return to field for some cats with adoption for others”

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue.

Sincerely,

Joan Sides
Los Altos Resident

From: [Brooke Bailey](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 7:03:24 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

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Kittens from feral cats that I fostered through Community Cat Rescue, which is actively trapping (TNR of adult cats) in local communities
The pandemic over the past several years has exacerbated the feral cat problem in our community, as vets closed or reduced service for an extended period, and people abandoned adopted animals.

Councilmembers,

As a resident of Palo Alto, I write to you regarding the City's renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic service. I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just eight years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats.

That is more of what your no TNR policy achieves.

TNR has proven effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had more than 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now, there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR.

“Best
municipal practices” means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that number. Residents have a right to have their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer-supported clinic.

Sincerely,

Brooke Bailey
Thain Way, Barron Park

From: [magdalena maese](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - 8/14/23
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 6:47:09 PM
Attachments: [PIN letter supporting Palo Alto TNR.docx.pdf](#)

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RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

Councilmembers,

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Thank you!

Sincerely,

Maggie Maese
Nine Lives Foundation Volunteer
RN

From: [magdalena maese](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: [Magdalena](#)
Subject: 8/14/23
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 6:42:14 PM
Attachments: [PIN letter supporting Palo Alto TNR.docx.pdf](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from magdalena_maese@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I, Maggie Maese, am submitting in support of a TNR Program .

Sincerely,

Maggie Maese

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter

Councilmembers,

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Thank you!

Sincerely,

Maggie Maese
Nine Lives Foundation Volunteer
RN

From: [leslie farrell](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 6:37:18 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from lesfarrell22@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear City Council

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had over 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR.

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

It is important we all work together. I kindly ask you to change a policy that is creating more harm than good. You can do this, and feel good about it!!

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Leslie Farrell

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Yuk Wen Wong](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:51:50 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from yodaling@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Yuk Wen Wong

Sent from my phone

From: [Jennifer Zhou](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support for Pets in Need TNR program
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:47:05 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from happygrape2@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Hi,
Here's my letter that I would like read aloud at the town hall if possible. Thank you for your consideration! I would like to remain anonymous or omit my last name if my first name must be used.

Imagine that you're a little kid, lost outdoors in the cold. You don't know where your parents are. Maybe they abandoned you. You're shivering, hungry, and scared.

Finally, some nice people find you. They wrap you up in a blanket and take you indoors. You think you're finally safe, maybe you'll even find a family to love and a home.

The people don't tell you this, but you only have five days left to live. Ten, if you're lucky. You could count the days on your hands before you will be euthanized, not because you did anything wrong, but because the shelter didn't have enough space.

This is the reality facing the animals at our animal shelters. Some are mama cats who just gave birth to tiny infant kittens. Others are friendly cats who were dumped and let down by their owners. There are cats who are injured, who could recover with TLC, but are put down because of lack of vet resources. All the animals are all innocent and they deserve a chance.

We desperately need a low-cost spay/neuter program to prevent any more suffering. This will fix the problem at the root and prevent the need for more euthanizations, paying off over the long run. Trap-neuter-return (TNR) is proven to work. Otherwise, more stray cats will just move into the same space, costing the city more time and money.

Please imagine yourself in the shoes of a helpless animal. Treat them the way you would want to be treated.

Thanks

From: [Laura Adams](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:27:42 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from laura5501@att.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

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Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Laura Adams

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Richard Reitman](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Re: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:16:09 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mitrabbitt@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

On Wed, Aug 9, 2023 at 4:14 PM Richard Reitman <mitrabbitt@gmail.com> wrote:
Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Diane Levine, 4250 El Camino Real B417,
Palo Alto, ca 94306

From: [Richard Reitman](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:14:36 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mitrabbitt@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Diane Levine, 4250 El Camino Real B417,
Palo Alto, ca 94306

From: [Jennifer Summit](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: please support TNR
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:13:46 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jsummit@sfsu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Council Members:

Please reinstate TNR (Trap, Neuter, and Release) in Palo Alto: it's the only humane, effective way to reduce our feral cat population for good.

As a volunteer to support homeless cats, I'm heartbroken by the scope of the problem in our community: without TNR, the problem will only get worse.

Thanks,
Jennifer Summit
2131 Harvard Street
Palo Alto CA 94306

From: [Charlene Mercadante](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:59:03 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from charlenemercadante@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Los Altos Hills and I also founded a small cat rescue in LAH called Pink Paws For The Cause.

We know that TNR is the only tool we have that actually reduces the feral cat population. PHS, Nine Lives Foundation, SVACA, SJACC, HSSV all have TNR programs and support their communities.

I have seen first hand how colonies of 50+ cats can be reduced to 5 in a matter of years. These are animals that did not choose to be feral, they were born to a feral mother and no intervention ever happened. That mom was not spayed, her kittens were not fixed and were left to multiply. When efforts are focused on spay and neuter - cat populations reduce. It's common sense.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will actually result in **MORE** unowned cats: One unsprayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR.

Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them. TNR actually provides them the medical care they need.. in addition to the spay/neuter, they are given vaccines for FVRCP and Rabies.

Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported

clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Mercadante
Pink Paws For the Cause
26471 Weston Drive,
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

From: [Geri Spieler](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support TNR
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:33:16 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gspieler@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dealer Council People

I'm really surprised Palo Alto does not support Trap, Neuter and Return activity for homeless cats. It has been proven over and over again as an effective way to reduce the feral cat population.

It's humane and doesn't cost the city anything.

Please reconsider.

Geri Spieler



www.gerispieler.com

Housewife Assassin: The Woman Who Tried to Kill President Ford (Diversion Books) won an awards for Nonfiction True Crime from BookFest, Five Stars from Reader's Favorite, winner from Firebard, San Francisco Book Festival, and best current American History the International Book Awards.

See my blogs at

[Huffington Post](#)

[Regina of Warsaw.](#)

[Truthdig](#)

[Medium](#)

From: [Eric Whitson](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:08:15 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ericwhitson@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Whitson

From: [Ida W](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 2:35:13 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from idawb77@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) , .

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ida Walworth

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jeff DeLisio](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 2:13:56 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jeffdelisio@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Councilmembers,

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

From: [Susan Evoy](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: August 14 Meeting - Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 2:01:29 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from susanevoys@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR).

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of TNR will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Susan Evoy
1539 Lilac Lane
Mountain View, CA 94043

From: [Susan Barkan](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:49:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sabarkan@me.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

From me: I am a resident of Mountain View who belongs to two groups who care for community cats, that is, former pets who have been dumped by their owners. These cats are accustomed to being fed and cannot survive on their own. We trap, neuter, vaccinate, and release the cats in our care so they can live peacefully in their colonies.

From [cacap.org](#): Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unsprayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Susan Barkan

From: [Amanda Jo Fisk](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:21:41 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from amandajofisk@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Please help stop the cycle of suffering by supporting spay and neuter for all cats.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Jo Fisk
Amandas Cat Rescue
501c3 non profit

Sent from my iPhone
408-460-3038

From: [Susan C](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:09:53 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from teachinator@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers, I am a resident of Palo Alto.

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

Personal comment added to this form letter: without support for TNR, the result will be a far greater feral cat population. The only alternative would be mass killing of the existing feral cats, which will not be publicly supported.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, almost everyone who is currently doing this important (and free to the City) work will stop. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

TNR has been proven to be effective nationwide at reducing the numbers of feral cats. Stanford University had over 500 cats on campus 34 years ago. Now there are fewer than half a dozen, thanks to TNR. Every jurisdiction in the Bay Area, except Palo Alto, endorses, supports, and funds TNR. "Best municipal practices" means supporting TNR. Feral cats have zero impact on human health. They are terrified of people and avoid contact with them. Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR. One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic. Thank you. Sincerely,

From: [maliha zaidi](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:09:11 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from maliha_786@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

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Please support TNR in Palo Alto and sister cities. PIN supports TNR.

One more important point: The City Council should mandate more spay/neuter availability at PIN. Sixty appointments per month is pitifully inadequate. Please require double or triple that. Residents have a right to get their animals neutered affordably at this taxpayer supported clinic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Maliha Syed

From: [Michael Lieu](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:07:53 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mdlieu@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Councilmembers,

Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats: One unspayed cat left to breed produces more than 2 million cats in just 8 years! That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

If residents are told at the PIN clinic that the feral cat they have gone to the trouble of trapping will be killed, nobody will do this important (and free to the City) work. Result: more feral cats. That is what your no TNR policy achieves.

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Thank you

Michael Lieu

From: [Angelina Ambrosio](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:05:59 PM

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Sincerely,

Angelina

From: [Puppy Piggie](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:05:53 PM

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Sincerely,

Bella Lieu

From: [Tania Ruiz](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 12:47:52 PM

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Tania Ruiz

From: [Tania R](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 12:47:03 PM

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Sincerely,
Tania Ruiz

From: [Dinah Hayse](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: RE: Item 6 - Approval of a revised Term Sheet with Pets In Need for Operations of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter
Date: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 7:04:08 PM

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Councilmembers,

I am a resident of (Palo Alto/Los Altos/Los Altos Hills.) If you do not reside in one of these towns, omit this line. Regarding the City renewing its contract with Pets In Need (PIN) for animal sheltering and clinic services, I am very concerned that your ban of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) will result in MORE unowned cats:

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