

## ***2021 Work Plan – Commissioner Irani***

### **I. Ensure Shared Shelter and Services for Domestic Violence Survivors and their Companion Animals**

- a. Steps:
- i. Outreach to Animal Care & Control
    1. for recommendations on how DV shelters/transitional housing can accommodate companion animals
    2. during earlier outreach, Dr. Shari O'Neil indicated interest
  - ii. Outreach to San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium and member organizations
    1. gauge current capabilities and interest
    2. earlier outreach showed that no City DV shelter had the capability to co-shelter survivors and animals (they relied on volunteers and ACC to temporarily shelter the animals)
    3. research shows that only 10% of shelters nationwide have co-sheltering capabilities
  - iii. Outreach to City Departments potentially capable of providing support, including applying for and disbursing Federal funding (if needed):
    1. Animal Care & Control
    2. Office of Economic & Workforce Development (supports the City's non-profit sector)
    3. Department of Children, Youth & Families
    4. Other?
  - iv. Inform City department / supporting organization regarding federal funding from the Emergency and Transitional Pet Shelter and Housing Assistance Grant Program administered by the Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (enacted by 2018 Pet and Women Safety Act)
    1. Grants up to 400k per organization (can be unit of government or private service providers)
    2. Last year's deadline was the end of May
    3. Examples of previous grant awardee goals that can inform potential project goals:

- *Enable domestic violence survivors and their companion animals to remain together and safe in shelter or housing. Activities include: a) installing pet amenities and refurbishing and expanding shelter/transitional housing units; b) providing shelter, transitional housing and supportive services to survivors and their companion animals; c) providing preventative, non-emergency, and emergency medical care, and facilitating transport to and from appointments for companion animals; d) facilitating temporary foster care for companion animals if needed/desired; and e) providing training to increase understanding of how pets are used to control and manipulate in domestic violence situations and to increase community support for survivors with companion animals.*
- *Train DV hotline service providers to identify callers with companion animals and provide appropriate safety planning, emotional support, lay legal advice, and referrals to pet-inclusive domestic violence shelters.*
- *Assist with relocation and housing-related expenses, including pet deposits.*
- *Provide companion animal care assistance including replacing necessary pet supplies lost due to escaping a domestic violence situation, pet food and veterinary costs.*
- *Provide trainings and community education events focused on the dynamics of domestic violence and the link between domestic violence and animal abuse.*
- *Provide training and advocacy to increase the community's understanding of the connection between domestic violence and animal abuse, to ultimately create an improved and coordinated community response to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and pet abuse.*

- v. [If the program is going to be supported by a City Department]: Make recommendation that City department support domestic violence survivors and their companion animals by helping service and housing providers implement the changes necessary to house them together and provide for their care, including applying for and administering federal funding if needed [and provide for community education, etc.]. Recommend that City ensure San Francisco is a model in sheltering and supporting vulnerable residents, including companion animals.
- vi. [If the program is going to be supported by a private organization, such as the consortium]: Ways the Commission can support the program: helping with community education by inviting a speaker to a meeting, recommending a resolution stating San Francisco's commitment to supporting vulnerable residents, including companion animals, other?

## **II. Promoting Sustainable Consumption**

- a. Steps:
  - i. Research whether updates have been made to City department's greenhouse gas emission reporting and reduction requirements as required by the City's Climate Change Goals and Action Plan Ordinance.
  - ii. Find Supervisor support for amending the Ordinance to include emissions based on *consumption* by City departments, including food consumption, instead of being based on geographic location (i.e. emissions emitted within City limits).
    - 1. Accounting for the emissions required to produce the products, including food, consumed by City departments would give an accurate representation of the City's carbon footprint, and promote reducing emissions in a more meaningful way.
  - iii. Potential outreach to Commission on the Environment (and other commissions doing related work) to garner more support / work together on initiative.

## **III. Research regarding the animals at the SF Zoo to assess the conservation and education goals and achievements to each animal.**

- a. Steps:
  - i. Attending meetings of the Joint Zoo Committee
  - ii. Outreach to the Zoo

## **IV. Administrative**

- a. Orient new commissioner(s)
- b. Complete commissioner manual by including historical documents
- c. 2021 annual report to Board of Supervisors to include assessment based on work plan