

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 362
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Ms. Fortier,

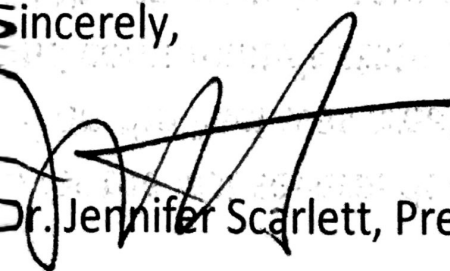
The Pact between SF ACC and SF SPCA has helped foster cooperation, innovation, and ultimately progress for the animals in San Francisco. Thanks to massive efforts to prevent surrender and abandonment of animals by both organizations, there has been a drastic reduction in the number of animals entering our city shelter.

Over the last several decades, the reasons for relinquishment have changed. In 1994, when the Pact was created, Live Release Rate was a reasonable reflection of a shelter and community's state of animal welfare. However, that metric falls short today given all the changes to animal demographics and sheltering. Today we balance our efforts across our traditional work of increasing live release from our shelter with a proactive one of prevention, working to keep animals out of the shelter entirely by aggressive Spay/Neuter programs and free/low cost resources for pet guardians.

As a result, we have a different view on how to measure animal welfare outcomes. Asilomar information to qualify intake condition and per capita data are two reporting methods available to better understand the complexities of how a community is addressing the changing face of companion animal welfare. Asilomar is a standardized method of collecting data that is used by thousands of shelters across the country.

The SF SPCA believes that every animal we become responsible for deserves the same level of commitment and care. Therefore, we are not inclined to spend the considerable time and organizational resources parceling out the live release rates for the SF SPCA by point of origin for the partnership statistics. In order to provide the public with a more complete picture of the level of welfare in the city, we provide per capita and Asilomar information, which is readily available on our website.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jennifer Scarlett, President

cc: Virginia Donohue