

Report Card on the San Mateo Pet Population Control Ordinance

Evaluation of the Ordinance's Stated Goal of Reducing Euthanasia of Dogs and Cats:

Since the Ordinance was implemented, statistics logs by the Peninsula Humane Society show an **INCREASE** in the number of Live dogs and cats coming into the shelter and an **INCREASE** in the number of dogs and cats being euthanized, in spite of an **INCREASE** in the Total number of Adoptions.
(See attached Graphs.)

Preliminary Evaluation of the Ordinance:

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Summary:

San Mateo County spent over \$33,920 to implement this program affecting only 8.8% of its human population. The County has **LOST** approximately \$18,000 of dog licensing revenue. The County has **GAINED** only \$450 from breeders licensing and approximately \$4,500 from cat licensing.

NET LOSS: \$46,970

**BUT THE REAL LOSS IS THAT EUTHANISIA HAS
INCREASED AND NOT DECREASED!**

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Evaluation of Mandatory Dog Licensing Component:

Dog Licenses sold Countywide Fiscal Year 1989-90:

50,017

Dog Licenses sold Countywide Fiscal Year 1990-91:

50,213

Dog Licenses sold Countywide Fiscal Year 1991-92:

48,398

Net Loss:

1,815

**resulting in a loss of licensing revenue estimated
conservatively to be at least \$18,000.**

**Note: This is in spite of an ongoing aggressive
door-to-door canvassing program done each summer
in San Mateo County.**

The Ordinance has discouraged dog owners to relicense.

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The San Mateo Pet Population Control Ordinance went into effect on March 1, 1992.

Evaluation of Breeders Licensing Component:

Breeders Licenses sold from March 1, 1992 to October 15, 1992:

18

All licenses purchased are for dogs.

There have been NO cat breeders licenses purchased.

Revenue from Breeders Licenses:

\$25 per License times 18 = \$450

**Administrative and enforcement cost estimate to implement
Ordinance for Unincorporated County:**

\$33,920

**Peninsula Humane Society statistics show that unweaned kittens
are still being logged in on a monthly basis:**

Unowned cats do not purchase Breeders Licenses.

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Evaluation of Mandatory Cat Licensing Component:

Cat Licenses sold from March 1, 1992 to October 15, 1992:

600

**Number of Cats Adopted from Peninsula Humane Society
from March to June 20, 1992:**

574

**All cats are adopted out with a certificate for licensing.
There is follow up on these certificates.
It appears that the majority of cat licenses are for those
cats adopted from Peninsula Humane Society.**

Ratio of Altered Cat Licenses versus Unaltered Licenses:

75% altered / 25% unaltered

**It is thought that almost all unaltered licenses are
purchased for kittens too young to be surgically
sterilized prior to adoption (2 months to 4 months).**

Ratio of Cat Licenses Purchased in Rural Areas/Cities:

**50% Unincorporated
50% Cities**

Estimated Number of Owned Cats in Unincorporated County:

13,263

Cats owners do not purchase Cat Licenses.

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Evaluation of Overall Impact of Ordinance on Human Population:

**Adoption of the Pet Population Control Ordinance by the
20 cities in San Mateo County:**

None to Date.

**The Ordinance is currently in force in
Unincorporated San Mateo County only.**

**Percentage of Total Human Population in San Mateo County
Affected by the Pet Population Control Ordinance:**

8.8%

**Based on 1990 census data.
649,623 total population of San Mateo County.
57,667 people residing in the unincorporated
area of the county.**