

Priorities Committee Meeting_Oct18_2022**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**

Cat Shelter Pilot Project October 2022 Update**Report Purpose**

To provide Priorities Committee an update on the Cat Shelter Pilot project and to introduce the Greater Edmonton Animal Rescue Society.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 2 - Healthy and Safe Community

Goal 4 - Municipal Excellence

Goal 2 Priority - Social supports that enhance community well-being and safety, and build community connection

Goal 4 Priority - Relationships with all levels of government and key stakeholders that are strategic, purposeful and productive

Report

- Stray or abandoned cats are an ongoing issue in Strathcona County. There are no municipal policies to address cat control or cat-related issues within Strathcona County.
- The County does not currently have an animal shelter within the municipality to support animal welfare including sheltering or rehoming.
- The cat shelter pilot project, and the partnership with Greater Edmonton Animal Rescue Society, a non-profit animal rescue organization, provides a means for the County to respond to concerns of abandoned and in distress cats in the community.
- Sheltered Paws cat shelter opened on October 1, 2022.
- Data and information collected over the one-year pilot project will inform Council on the scope and nature of the problem, feasibility of a permanent cat shelter and offer insight regarding responsible cat ownership strategies.

Council and Committee History

June 29, 2021	THAT Administration provide a business case for a pilot project on partnering with a non-profit organization to establish an animal shelter in Strathcona County for consideration during the 2022 Budget Process.
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Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Financial/Budget: Grant funding in future years to support ongoing operations.

Legislative/Legal: Potential update to the County's Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw to include cats

Interdepartmental: n/a

Master Plan/Framework: n/a

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Enclosure(s)

1 Cat Shelter Pilot Project 2022 Presentation