Independent Analysis of the SVACA Joint Powers Authority

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Agenda

- History of SVACA
- Current Status of JPA
- Member Concerns
- Summary of Analysis
- Recommendations
- Discussion and Questions

Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority

- Consists of 7 member cities
- Provides field/shelter services
- Established JPA in July, 2000

Current Status of JPA

- Field operations began July 2001
- Shelter services contracted through the Humane Society & administered by SVACA
- Property search underway for construction of a SVACA shelter

Member Concerns

- Cost of Service per animal
- Rising Shelter size and projected costs
- Staffing ratio per animal
- Policy issues

Rising Shelter Size and Cost

- New projected cost is $8.035 Million
- Problems and delays with property site
- No protection for member cities
- New options now available with Humane Society at $129/animal**

** Based on proposal received by the City of Sunnyvale from the Humane Society dated November 15, 2002.

Cost of Service per Animal

	Served	Operations	Animal
HS All Contract Cities	20,389	2,536,346	124.40
Fremont Shelter	5,073	714,918	140.93
Palo Alto Shelter	5,014	701,709	139.95
Average Cost of Above			**135.09**
SVACA 01/02 Actual Costs	4,727	982,890	207.93
SVACA Projected Staffing	**6,570**	**1,722,565**	**262.19**

Member Charges per Animal

City	# of animals	Actual Charges	Avg. Cost per Animal
Campbell	531	81,238.00	**152.99**
Cupertino	432	81,962.00	**189.73**
Los Gatos	345	67,725.00	**196.30**
Monte Sereno	8	7,078.00	**884.75**
Santa Clara	2,038	241,382.00	**118.44**
Saratoga	202	64,267.00	**318.15**
Sunnyvale	1,171	439,239.00	**375.10**
	4,727	**982,891.00**	
Cost of Service per Animal			**207.93**

Hours of Operation

Current Actual Hours/Proposed Hours

Fremont Shelter	36 hrs/wk
Palo Alto Shelter	36 hrs/wk
SVACA Shelter	59 hrs/wk

- Fremont: 12-8pm Tues/Wed/Fri & 12-6pm Sat/Sun
- Palo Alto: 11am-5:30pm Mon-Sat; Closed Sun/Holidays/alternate Fri
- SVACA: 10am-7pm Mon-Fri; 10am-5pm Sat/Sun

Summary of Analysis

- Projected SVACA cost of service/animal is 94% higher than average due to Board's goals and mission; higher level of service and stand-alone agency.
- Construction of a shelter may no longer be cost/beneficial
  - $262.19/animal + $8.035M vs. $129/animal

Policy Issues

- Goals/Objectives need to be revisited given current economic times
- No clear role for the TAC
- No Protection for JPA Members
- Cost Allocation Provides no Incentives to reduce animal population
  - *Provide a more equitable allocation basis*

Recommendations

- Explore all options for Shelter Services
  - *Current Plan*
  - *Current Plan w/reduced shelter hours*
  - *Contract with other agencies*
  - *Other*
- Consider review of SVACA Field Service Costs

Recommendations

- Amend the JPA to protect members against withdrawal of other members
- Amend the Rules of the Board:
  - Define the role & empower the TAC
    - *Management & Fiscal Oversight?*
    - *Cost allocation formula?*
    - *Cost containment provisions?*
    - *Other?*