



# City of Las Cruces<sup>®</sup>

MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY

## Animal Care Task Force Agenda

The following is the Agenda for the City of Las Cruces Animal Care Task Force for January 31, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., in City Hall, Las Cruces Conference Room (Conference Room 2007-A, 2nd floor, North wing), 700 North Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

1. Call To Order
2. Approval Of Minutes  
January 17, 2020

Documents:

[CLC ANIMAL CARE TASK FORCE\\_SUMMARY MINUTES 01-17-2020 - DRAFT.PDF](#)

3. Topics - Discussion Only
  1. Mandatory Sterilization
  2. Community Cats
    1. Exclusionary
    2. Adopt/Foster/Re-locate/Barncat
    3. Enclosure within certain distances
  3. Finance Issues
    1. Spay/neuter Program
    2. Partnership Opportunities

4. Adjournment

If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event, please contact us 72 hours before the event at [575-541-2271](tel:575-541-2271) or [541-2182](tel:541-2182)/tty.

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Date Posted: 1/28/2020



1  
2 The following are summary minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces - Animal Care**  
3 **Task Force** for January 17, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., at the City of Las Cruces, City Hall, Conference  
4 Room 2007-A, 700 North Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

5  
6 **Members Present:**

- 7 Kasandra Gandara, Mayor Pro Tem/ ASCMV Board Chair
- 8 David Dollahon, Assistant City Manager for Operations
- 9 Yvonne Flores, City Councilor Dist. 6
- 10 Gino Jimenez, City ACO Supervisor
- 11 Mary Lou Ward, Dona Ana County ACO Chief
- 12 Susan Krueger, Animal Care Advocate
- 13 Frank Bryce, Humane Society of Southern NM
- 14 Rick Hahn, Coalition for Pets and People (arrived at 3:30 pm)
- 15 Gina Roberts, Dona Ana County ACO Case Worker
- 16 Jean Gilbert, Humane Society of Southern NM
- 17 Geri Wheelis, Boarding Director for Calista Animal Hospital
- 18 Jackye Meinecke, Coalition for Pets and People

19  
20 **Others Present:**

- 21 David Aguayo, City of Las Cruces Codes/Animal Control
- 22 Representative Joanne Ferrary
- 23 Jo Ruprecht, Citizen
- 24 Marcy Scott, Citizen
- 25 Denise Beyer, Uncaged Paws
- 26 Joseph Dean, Uncaged Paws

27  
28 **Call to order – 2:31 p.m.**

29  
30 **Approval of Minutes:** Mary Lou Ward moved; Gina Roberts seconded to approve the  
31 minutes for November 22, 2019. Motion passed.

32  
33 **Discussion Items:** Mr. Dollahon said breeders permits was an item that came up last  
34 meeting. We don't have it in the City's ordinance. I'm assuming the County doesn't either.

35  
36 Mary Lou Ward said we just have a litter permit. It's per litter. We have an intact animal  
37 permit but aside from that if you're going to have a litter you must have a litter permit and it's  
38 \$50 per litter. The intact animal permit it \$100 per animal per year. You can't  
39 buy/sell/trade/giveaway until you get the litter permit.

40  
41 Gino Jimenez said if you're going to do that within the city you would have to have a  
42 Commercial Multi Animal permit and you couldn't do that in a residential area. It would have  
43 to be in a commercial or industrial area because it is a business.

44  
45 David Dollahon brought up mandatory sterilization. This is regarding animals that are picked  
46 up multiple times and having the ASCMV not release the animals until they are sterilized.

1 Mayor Pro Tem Gandara said in my opinion I think it should be mandatory, anything  
2 anywhere, I'm not even talking about if you picked up an animal and before it gets release. I  
3 think it needs to be done across the board. There are thousands of animals coming out of  
4 there. People are irresponsible.

5  
6 David Dollahon said I'm concerned about a workload on the shelter and the retention  
7 because they can't release the animal until it's mandatorily sterilized at the shelter. Because  
8 what does that do to our release by owner? They'll say, keep it.

9  
10 Jackye Meinecke said I would point out that there is no space for holding those animals.  
11 There's a limited amount of space even with the new shelter coming up. I think we need to  
12 consider what our fees are and how much we're asking and that might change our number  
13 of people who are saying keep it.

14  
15 David Dollahon brought up community cats. Mr. Dollahon mentioned rescue groups that are  
16 rescuing the cat out as a community cat. It's been sterilized, ear tipped, microchipped and  
17 vaccinated. The shelter has stopped releasing them in the city and the county but then  
18 rescue groups are releasing them back to the location that they were picked up by animal  
19 control. We're still researching the issue because on our side of the seat as a governmental  
20 entity we're getting complaints. I don't mind the concept of community cats. Here's where  
21 we get in trouble at the government side and the constituent side of community cats if it's  
22 not attributed to a caregiver is then it becomes a nuisance to somebody who doesn't want it  
23 in their yard or whatever.

24  
25 Marcy Scott said all this kind of just tosses out everything I've been talking about, about how  
26 important our natural resources are, our birds are, and what I was trying to say how we  
27 need to pick locations that make sense in terms of not just where the cat problems are but  
28 where our very appealing natural areas are that draw in birds by the millions every year. We  
29 have huge problem with cats taking birds and we need to work from solutions that are going  
30 to keep that as central as the cat's welfare the bird's welfare too. And that's why I've been  
31 trying to say let's move towards enclosures, let's move towards some sanctuaries and let's  
32 be really careful about the locations. You're going to need people that understand where  
33 the wildlife goes and what those extremely important areas are and they are not going to be  
34 probably cat people and that's where I have a problem with the Alley Cat Allies approach. I  
35 respect a lot of things they have done but they do have a lalalala in their ears about the  
36 damage that cats do to the environment.

37  
38 Our next meeting will be January 31, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.

39  
40 **Adjourn** – 4:02 p.m.

41  
42  
43 \_\_\_\_\_  
44 Chair

45  
46 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_