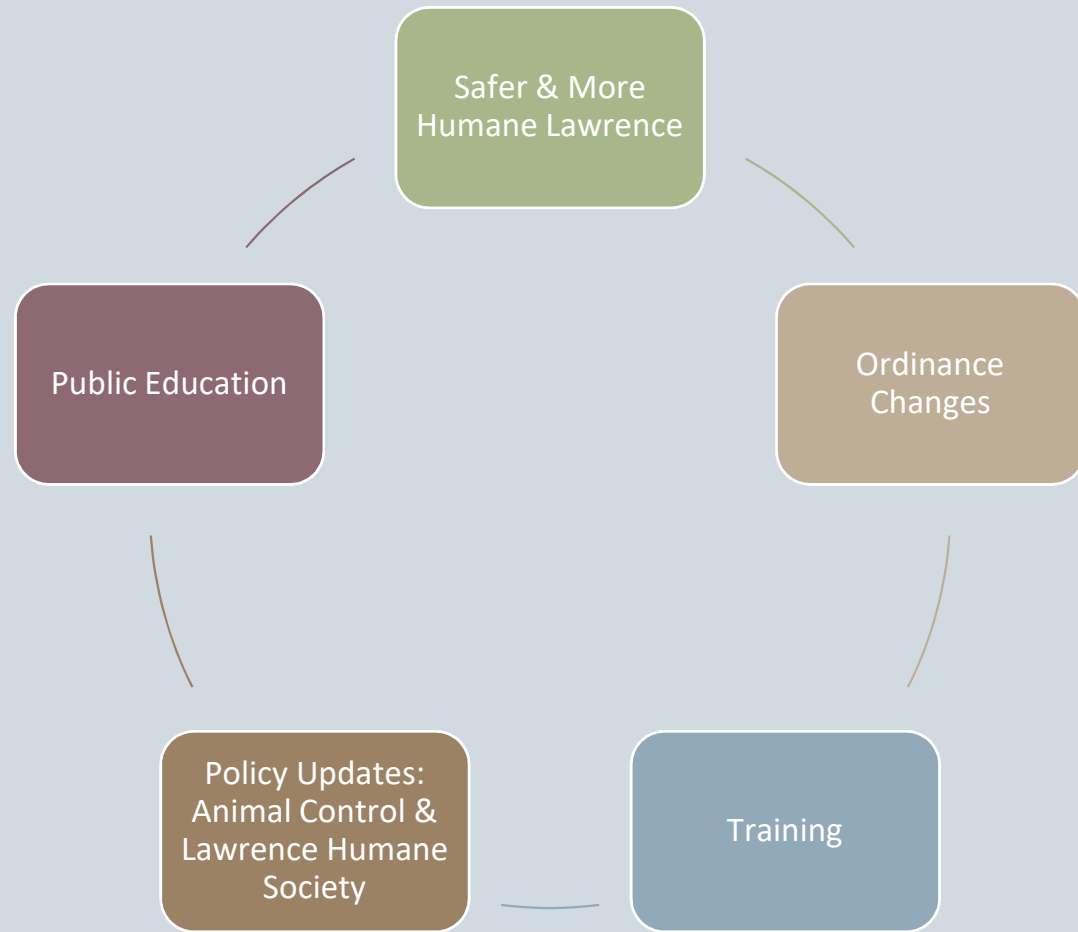


Lawrence City Code



KATIE BRAY BARNETT, ANIMAL WELFARE COUNSEL

KATE MEGHJI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Concerns Addressed

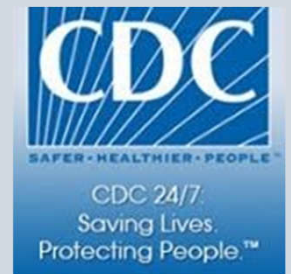
- Adding specific standards of care
- Dangerous animal (new), vicious animal (new), and nuisance animal (new).
- Updating bite quarantine requirements
- Community Cats
- Permit to be over current pet limit
- Updating pre-conviction forfeiture section for victims of animal cruelty
- More enforceable tethering regulations
- Adding reckless pet owners



Best Practices, Law & Policy Recommendations of:



**NATIONAL ANIMAL
CARE & CONTROL ASSOCIATION**



Community Cats

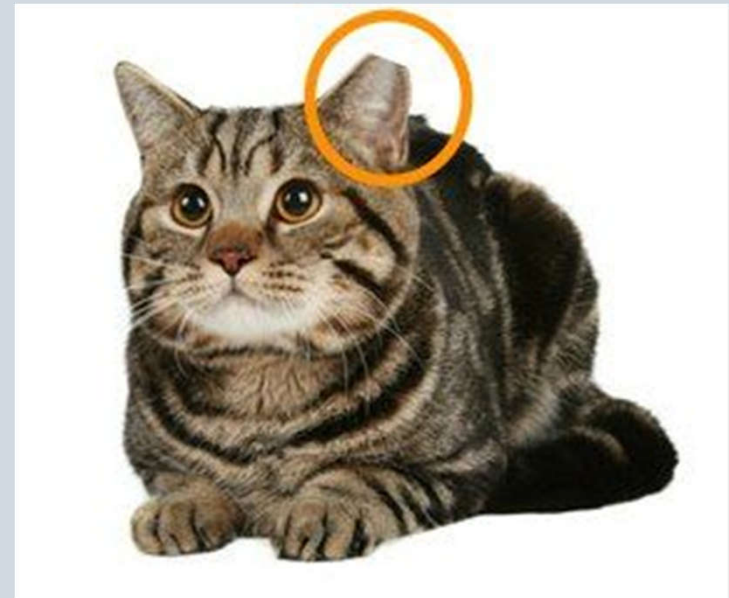
A cat that is unsocialized to humans and has a temperament of extreme fear or resistance to contact with humans, and that exhibits a straight-line cutting of the tip of its ear to indicate that it has been sterilized. (TNR)

-unowned

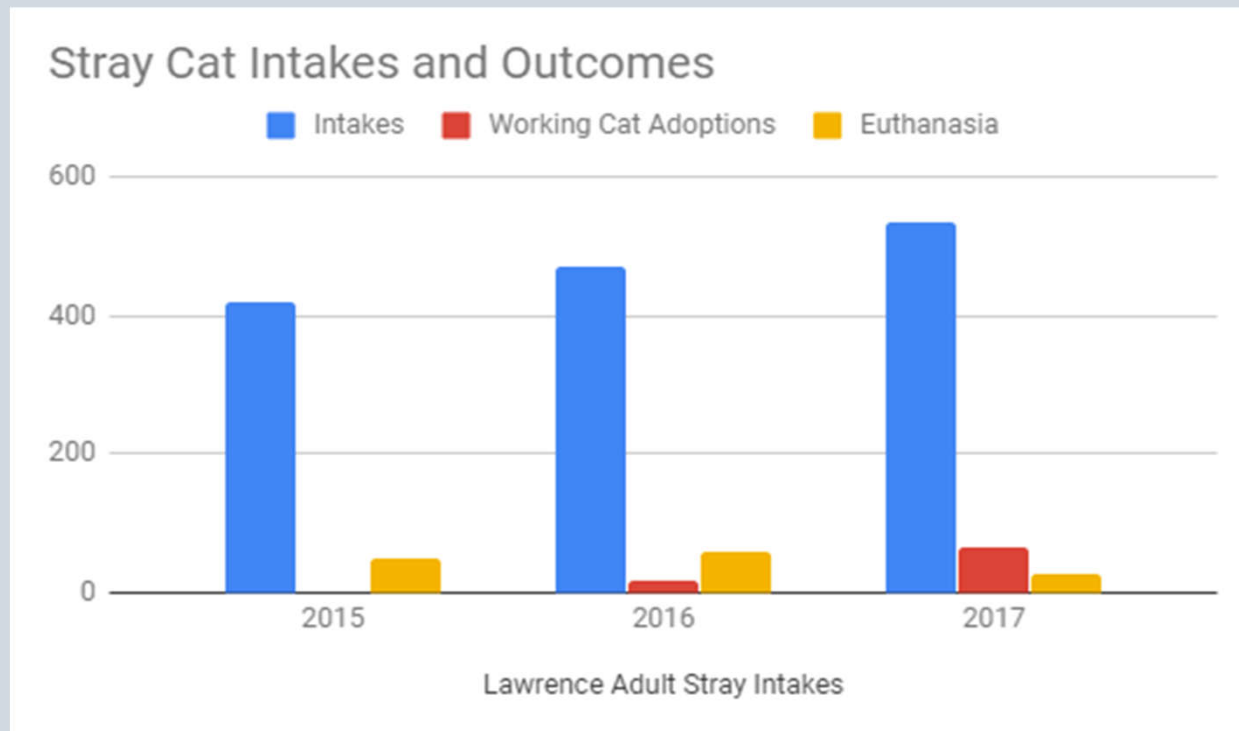
-not impounded

BUT

-animal control can respond to a call if causing a “nuisance”



Community Cats



Community Cats

1,100+ Adult Stray Cats Annually - annual increase of 12%

40% are underage kittens

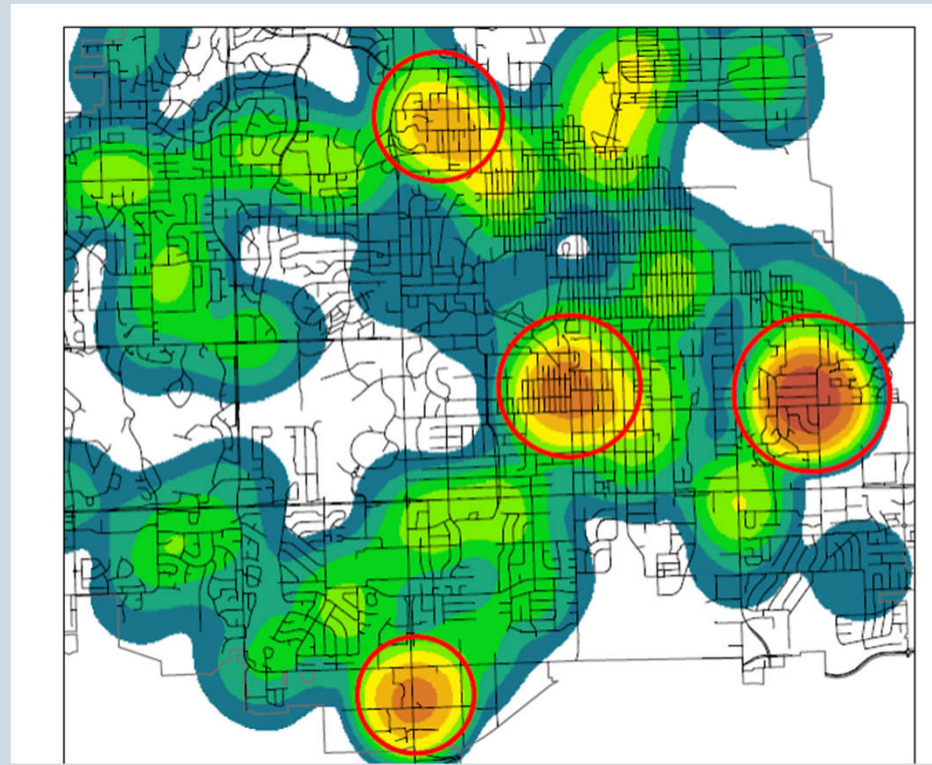
10% are unsocialized to humans (community cats) and used to be euthanized

2017, LHS reduced the number of cats euthanized by 57% in just one year by robust barn cat program, but...

Sheltering all the stray cats in Lawrence cost the Lawrence Humane Society \$568,175 in 2017, alone.



Community Cats



Community Cats

Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR):

TNR is the method of humanely trapping community cats, having them spayed or neutered and vaccinated against rabies, and then returning them to their colony to live out their lives.

TNR helps stabilize the population of community colonies and, over time, reduces them. Nuisance behaviors such as spraying, excessive noise-making and fighting are largely eliminated and no additional kittens are born.



Community Cats

Ineffective Methods for Managing Community Cat Populations

Eradication: The deliberate and systematic destruction of a community cat colony, by whatever method, almost always leads to the “vacuum effect”—either new cats flock to the vacated area to exploit whatever food source attracted the original inhabitants, or survivors breed and their descendants are more cautious around threats. Simply put, eradication is only a temporary fix that sacrifices animals' lives unnecessarily, yet yields no positive or beneficial return.

Relocation: Many communities have rounded up colonies of community cats either for euthanasia or to relocate them to another area. This does not work, because community cats are very connected with their territory: They are familiar with its food sources and places that offer shelter, as well as resident wildlife, other cats in the area, and potential threats to their safety. Even when all community cats are removed, which is difficult to achieve, new cats will soon move in and set up camp.

What other cities allow community cat programs?

Topeka, KS (since 2010)

Increase in requests for cat traps to TNR cats immediately after the ordinance was enacted

Noticeable decrease in nuisance calls about community cats

Helping Hands Humane Society: **20% reduction in the intake of all cats** since the ordinance was enacted (due to the assistance of community partners including the Topeka Community Cat Fix, which has TNR'd over 3,000 community cats in just 4 years)

-Roeland Park, KS

-Shawnee, KS, Salina, KS, Overland Park, KS, other northeast Johnson County cities

-Kansas City, KS

2019 Plan

