News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Public Invited to Input Session on Animal Services Transition: Enforcement and Licensing

As part of planning for the possible transition of animal services, Lane County and the Cities of Eugene and Springfield invite the public to share what qualities are important to them around enforcement and licensing. A prior session was held to gather input about animal sheltering and adoption services.

When: 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 5

Where: Bascom-Tykeson Room in the Eugene Public Library

Subject: What components and characteristics are important to consider for enforcement and licensing services as Lane County and the Cities of Eugene and Springfield consider transitioning to a new animal services model?

Format: Representative from Lane County and the Cities of Eugene and Springfield will be on hand to provide information, answer questions, and hear concerns and ideas. After a short presentation, participants will have the opportunity to visit several stations and provide written feedback focused on specific aspects of enforcement and licensing. The questions that will be posed are:

1. Accountability: What kinds of tracking, reporting and accountability do you want for licensing, animal code enforcement and field services?
2. Animal welfare: What do you believe is important for animal welfare for licensing, animal code enforcement and field services?
3. Experience and capacity: What do you believe are important criteria in the area of experience and capacity for the new licensing, animal code enforcement and field services?
4. Other: What do you like about the current licensing and enforcement program and what would you like to see be done differently?
5. Partnerships: What do you believe are important criteria in the area of community partnerships when implementing the new licensing, animal code enforcement, and field services? What would you like us to know to build stronger community partnerships for licensing and enforcement?

For additional information or to answer the five questions via online survey, community members can visit [http://www.eugene-or.gov/animalservices](http://www.eugene-or.gov/animalservices). The online survey will be available by April 5.
Animal Services Transition Background
Projected budget shortfalls have led administrators for Lane County and the Cities of Eugene and Springfield to determine that Lane County Animal Services (LCAS) might not be able to maintain its existing model which is supported through funding from all three agencies. Services could transition to individual responsibility for enforcement, licensing and public education, with joint sheltering and adoption services. Our community’s achievements -- including a focus on animal welfare and safety, high live-release rates overall, and high numbers of adoptions -- could be threatened by the continued fiscal crisis without the creation of a more sustainable model.

An interagency staff team has formed to develop a new model for animal services. The new service model would provide for continued services in Lane County and the cities of Eugene and Springfield. Each jurisdiction is committed to maintaining a high standard for animal safety and welfare in our community.

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