

Short Description:

We are asking for a community animal services adoption center to provide regional services and offer pet resources that support no-kill sheltering. This center would be our adoption center and would also offer low-cost and free clinic resources like other county clinic-style services. It will also offer a regional park that is truly dedicated to pets which is in high demand and greatly desired by citizens and jurisdictions. This will relieve some of the challenges occurring in regional parks as this would be the premiere place for pets and draw them to this state-of-the-art location.

Long Description:

Currently, Animal Services operates over capacity in our facility and the county population of people and pets is growing rapidly. Our building was designed in an era of high kill and was not built as an adoption center. It also does not have a great design for transferring animals in from neighboring shelters because it lacks a drive-through garage bay. In addition, our clinic has been made from old kennel space and is not large enough to handle the volume of surgeries we perform each year. Based on the Shelter Standard Act put forth by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, we surpass most acceptable standards. We are at a point where we must either expand space or reduce services. The need is so great for these services that we believe space is something we can and should find. Animal Services could continue to provide services with no change, but limited resources are currently at maximum capacity.

We are asking for a regional adoption center and low-cost adoption clinic where we would perform all our regional services and no-kill programming. We would then utilize our current facility for our contracted services only. This facility would offer adoptions, clinic services, public trainings, humane education, volunteer programs, emergency preparedness resources and emergency response, events and outreach, pet food pantry, foster and rescue support, and community services.

With this adoption center and low-cost pet clinic, we are requesting a regional dog park that will draw pet owners in from the entire county. Our Advisory Committee, which includes 13 jurisdictions, has created a sub-committee to address the need for more dog parks in Salt Lake County. Dogs are a major concern in parks and are a large part of our call volume in the summer months. This problem is, in large part, because we have nowhere for pet owners to take their pets. This pet park will have turf, agility equipment for training, fenced zones for different sized/temperament dogs, doggie drinking fountains and puzzle treat dispensers, poop pickup stations, plug 'n' play stations so you can work virtually at the park, teether ball and auto fetch, doggie splash pad, walking/jogging path, and many more amenities that will make it a great resource for pets and the community.

A community pet center would greatly benefit the people and pets in Salt Lake County. Our community needs this resource, and we should utilize this funding opportunity to make a generational impact and get a resource in the valley that will have a tremendous benefit for our citizens, the environment, and pets.

Works Cited and Similar Projects:

https://animalshelter.adcogov.org/new-shelter-faqs

https://www.johnscreekga.gov/recreationandparks/parks-and-facilities/newtown-park/newtown-dream-dog-park

https://www.cityofalabaster.com/Facilities/Facility/Details/Beneful-Dream-Dog-Park-2

https://www.wired.com/2013/12/a-smartly-designed-animal-shelter-that-encourages-adoption/

https://humanepro.org/topics/shelter-design

https://www.sheltervet.org/assets/docs/shelter-standards-oct2011-wforward.pdf