

Attachment A

Broward County Animal Care Intake Practices

- 1. The Animal Care shelter facility has a physical capacity for pets.**
 - a. The ACD building has a physical limitation on pet capacity, established by Construction Management, of 186 dogs and 273 cats.
- 2. Euthanasia is not an option to remain below capacity.**
 - a. Historically, euthanasia has been used to maintain capacity; the Broward County Board of County Commissioners and the animal services industry at large have committed themselves to [eliminating euthanasia](#) as a population control mechanism.
 - b. We continue to euthanize responsibly and compassionately based on a [Pet Evaluation Matrix](#).
- 3. Overcrowding by ignoring capacity is not an option.**
 - a. Allowing open intake, where all animals are taken into the shelter irrespective of capacity or need, results in overcrowding with a host of health and safety issues.
 - b. The results of overcrowding are best represented in the December 16, 2020, [Audit of ACAD](#), undertaken during overcrowded conditions
- 4. [Managed Intake](#) is the [industry standard](#) approach to intake.**
 - a. Managed Intake requires a major pivot of all cities, features of which include:
 - i. ACD working hand-in-hand with Cities to develop the Community Animal Care concept
 - ii. Cities assuming responsibilities for a first-tier level of response for pets the cities have taken custody of
 - iii. Ceasing the practice of taking custody of pets with the intent of warehousing the pets at ACD (as mentioned above, some cities have their own Animal Control Officers and Vehicles collecting animals with the intent of turning over to ACD for warehousing, without coordination with ACD).
- 5. Capacity for Care further reduces ACD capacity.**
 - a. [Industry standards](#) and Audit recommendations call for developing a Capacity for Care.
 - b. Capacity for care is based not on physical capacity, but the capacity that permits proper care of all pets and considers factors such as pet enrichment activities, safety issues, and maintenance of herd health.
 - c. ACD's Capacity for Care SOP establishes capacity at 106 dogs and 164 cats.
 - d. ACD anticipates this SOP will be evaluated by the Auditor during the Auditor's follow-up audit of ACD.
- 6. A supported hold period in the community produces better outcomes and maximizes the support ACD provides the community.**
 - a. [Data](#) shows that animals are likely to be found very close to their home.
 - b. Citizens and Jurisdictional partners are asked to hold animals for 72 hours. This increases the likelihood of the animal getting home (a 17% national average for a centralized shelter location vs. 80% success in some jurisdictions in Broward County).
 - c. Shelter space and other resources are then reserved for those pets who do need our response (sick, injured, dangerous, in a compromised situation).
 - d. ACD provides resources to partners (shelter for pets being only one of many):
 - i. Pet food, supplies, access to staff expertise, access to online resources for individuals.
 - ii. Assistance with the above as well as provision of microchip scanners and training for jurisdictional partners. As well as priority response for first-responder back-up, and emergency scenarios.