



[Houston PetSet](#) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to ending the homelessness and suffering of companion animals and elevating their status in society. Houston PetSet works to achieve its mission by focusing its efforts in six key impact areas including spay & neuter, transport & rescue, community service & education, cruelty prevention, research, and advocacy. In addition, Houston PetSet provides annual grants to animal welfare-related organizations in the Greater Houston area. By providing critical funds and collaborating with strategic partners, Houston PetSet seeks to end the crisis of animal homelessness in our community.

On behalf of Houston PetSet, our partners, and those in the animal welfare community, we thank you in advance for taking the time to provide your responses to this questionnaire. It is important to note that Houston PetSet will **NOT** be endorsing any candidate in any municipal race and will be using this completed document as a resource for groups and individuals that are interested in learning more about your candidacy. Your responses will be posted to our website and will be accessible for all.

The current animal homelessness population presents a public health and public safety issue that affects the quality of life of many Houstonians. The Houston PetSet questionnaire includes questions covering general animal welfare, city services, and partnerships. **We ask that you complete this questionnaire (by filling in your answers via Microsoft Word) and return it to marketing@houstonpetset.org no later than July 1st, 2019.**

Sincerely,

Tena Lundquist Faust
Co-President

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Animal Welfare

1. To what extent have you been involved with any animal welfare issues, including rescue, spay & neuter, foster, transport programming, legislation, and anti-cruelty?

Answer: My cat was rescued from a dumpster 9 years ago as a newborn dying. My son took her to the vet and she is well. She was spayed. My friend is involved in fostering and I have cared for her dogs. I believe in transport programming and any legislation to help the animals and definately against any cruelty to animals.

2. Do you have a plan to address underserved areas that need low cost spay & neuter programming and other veterinary services?

Answer: I would need to explore that further. But I believe it should be funded.

3. Do you have, or have you ever had in the past, a companion animal? If so, was it a rescue animal?

Answer: My present cat was rescued by my son from a dumpster as a newborn kitten and saved him from death.

Quality of Life/Public Safety/Public Health

4. What impact, and how will reducing the stray animal population improve the quality of life of all Houstonians, if any?

Answer: It will be of social benefit not to have any animals suffering from lack of care and lacking sufficient nutrition. This is emotionally taxing and especially if the animals are sick.

5. How do you plan to work with communities that have historically reported high rates of stray animals? Please describe below.

Yes No Additional Comment: Experts must be brought in to rescue them and give them a proper place. Education must be offered to those areas of animal needs and respect for the strays to the population base.

6. How do you plan to address animal homelessness and the stray population citywide?

Answer: Engage the experts in the field to offer solutions and implement them according to their research and findings on the methods.

City of Houston Services

7. Do you have a strategy to address overcrowding in the city animal shelter? If so, please describe below.

Yes No

Additional Comment: These animals can be transported where there are available and adequate spaces for them.

8. Should BARC (City of Houston animal shelter) receive additional funding based on budget comparisons to national standards and peer cities? If so, how much and how would you increase the department's overall budget?

Yes_x__ No___

Additional Comment: If budget benchmarking activities were performed and BARC was proved to be under budget then more money would be targeted for that.

9. Will you commit to expanding intake hours for animal surrenders at the city shelter?

Yes_x__ No___

Additional Comment: Anything needs to be done to help the animals.

10. Will you commit to funding additional Animal Control Officers to respond to 311 and BARC calls?

Yes_x__ No___

Additional Comment:

11. What is your plan to address animal abuse, including dog fighting (and cock fighting) in the City of Houston and how would you involve the community to assist in this effort?

Answer: This needs to stop. Citizens concerned about issues such as these would be the best advocates to assist with the halt of this abuse.

12. There are a number of duplicative services (ex. animal control services, investigative/enforcement, wellness services, etc.) that are offered between the City and County. Do you believe in the existing model, based on geography OR would you explore other options? If you would explore other options, what specific options do you have in mind?

Yes___ No_x__

Additional Comment: The services need to be combined and shared between city and county.

Partnerships

13. Would you support a partnership with local animal welfare organizations to address the growing issues relating to animal welfare? What specifically would you propose?

Yes_x__ No___

Additional Comment: The animals need to be protected and ensured of their welfare. Citizens should receive education on the rights and care of animals. For those animals and pets that lack in welfare, owners must be penalized and the animal placed in a safe place.

14. Are you familiar with the six key impact areas of Houston PetSet? How would your administration support Houston PetSet's impact areas?

Yes No

Additional Comment: My administration would follow the guidelines and recommendation for all six.

City of Houston Ordinance/Advocacy

15. Would you support a local ordinance that prohibits apartments or home owners' associations from banning specific dog breeds?

Yes No

Additional Comment: Any possible bans would be a case by case basis.

16. Will you support the creation of a local ordinance that better defines and creates a higher standard of shelter for animals?

Yes_x__ No___

Additional Comment:

17. Will you support a local ordinance that bans the sale of dogs from breeders and puppy mills in retail locations within the City of Houston?

Yes_x__ No___

Additional Comment:

