

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 Tama Lundquist

Co-President Co-President

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: I have been a proud pet owner for years, having multiple dogs, and even a cat at one time. One of our family pets was a rescue dog.

2. Do you have a plan to address underserved areas that need low cost spay & neuter programming and other veterinary services? Continued education and promotion of the nonprofits that offer low cost spay and neutering.

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

Answer: No

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: One way is that it will lessen the possibility of stray dog packs which in the past have kept people in doors because of fear. Less strays will translate into people being able exercise and just take walks in their neighborhoods without fear.

5. How do you plan to work with communities that have historically reported high rates of stray animals? Please describe below. By having animal control come out to those communities on a more frequent basis. Also, find those volunteers in the community to start an animal watch program to report strays as soon as possible.

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

Answer: Increasing partnerships with other animal nonprofits and increasing the size of animal control.

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: Promote spay and neuter, more education programs, and promotion of animal nonprofits and pet adoption.

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 No Additional Comment: I want to have a balanced budget, keeping police, fire at the top of the list for our city. BARC will be considered for any excess revenue the city generates and even private funding donations will be looked at to supplement.

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

Yes No Additional Comment: If budget allows.

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

Yes No Additional Comment: I want to look into grants and donations to help expand Animal Control.

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: Advertise on Crime Stoppers so we can get people reporting this abuse and then get law enforcement to make the arrests. Increase the fines and punishment when caught and use the money to go back into the BARC program, etc.

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 Additional Comment: I would look at merging city and county resources for more manpower and revenue availability.

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 No Additional Comment:

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:

Support through education and city ordinances that encourage partnerships.

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: I would support an ordinance that makes HOA's and Apartments to disclose that up front so homeowners and apartment leasers can pick where they want to live or not live just like anywhere else.

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

Yes 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 No Additional Comment:

18. Would you support mandatory microchipping for dogs and cats in the City of Houston?

Yes No Additional Comment: