AGENDA FOR THE ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ASAC)

October 14, 2026
City 1, 2nd floor Main Conference room
6:15 PM

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee will be conducted on the above date and time.

In compliance with the requirement that the City provide two-way communication for members of the public, members of the public may communicate with the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee during public comment, and regarding agenda items by calling the following number:

1-915-213-4096 or Toll Free Number: 1-833-664-9267

At the prompt please enter the corresponding Conference ID: 303-474-657#

The public is strongly encouraged to sign up to speak on items on this agenda no later than one day prior to the meeting by signing up at https://elpasotx.seamlessdocs.com/f/ASACSignUpSheet

Via the City's website. http://www.elpasotexas.gov/videos
Via television on City15,
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofelpasotx/videos

The following members of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee will be present:

Chris Canales, Sandra Difrancesco, Elvira Stephanie Grossman, Laura Sanchez, Celinda Crews, Mary Bardouche, Raquel Ellis, Silvia Serna, Tess Passero, Megan Sesker, Ron Comeau.

A quorum of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee members must be present and participate in the meeting.

ROLL CALL

AGENDA

1. Discussion and action on approval of minutes for the September 9, 2026 **BC-2589**

meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, STAFF, AND SUBCOMMITTEES

2. Chair Report - Chris Canales. **BC-2590**

3. El Paso Animal Services October Director's Report: September updates and statistics - Michael Wachsmann, El Paso Animal Services Interim Director. **BC-2591**

REGULAR AGENDA

4. Discussion and action on a recommendation to the City Council to explore a program to provide no-cost spay and neuter services for unaltered Return to Owner (RTO) animals as a stepping stone to providing more free spay/neuter surgeries to the public. -Tess Passero **BC-2592**

5. Discussion of a report from City of El Paso Animal Services summarizing the shelter assessment conducted by Shelter Savvy in 2025, including key findings, deficiencies identified, and subsequent steps taken to implement improvements. -Sandra DiFrancesco **BC-2593**

6. Discussion and action to reschedule or cancel the ASAC meeting scheduled for November 11, 2026, which falls on a holiday. - Chris Canales **BC-2614**

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

ADJOURN

Language interpreters will be provided for this meeting upon request. Requests must be made to Department of Animal Services at a minimum of 72 hours prior to the date and time of this meeting.

Please contact Maria Arciniega at asac@elpasotexas.gov or call (915) 212-8704.

Posted this the _____ of _____ at _____ AM/PM by _____

File #: BC-2589, **Version:** 1

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
LEGISTAR AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY FORM

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

This is the language that will be posted to the agenda. Please use ARIAL 11 Font.

Discussion and action on approval of minutes for the September 9, 2026 meeting.

MAYOR
Renard U. Johnson

CITY COUNCIL

District 1
Alejandra Chávez

District 2
Dr. Josh Acevedo

District 3
Deanna M. Rocha

District 4
Cynthia Boyar Trejo

District 5
Ivan Niño

District 6
Art Fierro

District 7
Lily Limón

District 8
Chris Canales

CITY MANAGER
Dionne Mack

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee
Minutes
Sep 09, 2026

Call to Order- Establish Quorum

A meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was held in person by Vice-Chair Tess Passero at 6:16 PM.

Board Members	Present	Absent
Laura Sánchez	X	
Silvia Serna	X	
Sandra DiFrancesco	X	
Celinda Crews	X	
Sarah Brown	X	
Vacant		
Mary Bardouche		X
Elvira Stephanie Grossman		X
Raquel Ellis	X	
Ron Comeau	X	
Tess Passero	X	
Megan Sesker	X	
Chris Canales		X

Animal Services staff present: Michael Wachsmann, Maria Arciniega,

Richard Bristol, Mona Heydarian,

1. **Approval of Minutes**

   Discussion and action on approval minutes for Aug 12, 2026.

   Laura Sanchez motioned to approve the Aug 12, 2026 minutes; Sandra DiFrancesco seconded; all members voted in favor; none opposed and motion passed unanimously

2. **Reports of Officers, Staff and Subcommittees.**

   A. Chair Report

Michael Wachsmann- Interim Director
El Paso Animal Services | 5001 Fred Wilson | El Paso Texas 79906
915.212.7297 | EPAS@elpasotexas.gov

MAYOR
Renard U. Johnson

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Lily Limón

District 8
Chris Canales

CITY MANAGER
Dionne Mack

Tess Passero – Vice-Chair, gave the chair report on behalf of Chris Canales and herself.
The following members of ASAC commented:

- Silvia Serna
- Ron Comeau

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

B. El Paso Animal Services September update and statistics

Michael Wachsmann presented the August statistics.

The following members of ASAC commented:

- Silvia Serna
- Celinda Crews
- Sarah Bron
- Megan Sesker
- Tess Passero
- Ron Comeau
- Laura Sanchez

The following staff member commented:

- Michael Wachsmann

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

3. <u>Regular Agenda</u>

Presentation of updates from the EL Paso County Animal Welfare Department- Crystal Reyes, Director.

- Was not available to attend

Discussion regarding a free spay/neuter program for unaltered animals that are Returned to Owners (RTO). - Tess Passero

- Laura Sanchez
- Ron Comeau
- Celinda Crews

Discussion and action on the ASAC Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2026.- Chris Canales

DRAFT

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CITY MANAGER
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Silvia Serna motioned to approve the ASAC Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2026; Laura Sanchez seconded; all members voted in favor; none opposed and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Call to the Public**
Loretta Hyde – Recommendations for Animal Service.

5. **Adjournment**
Silvia Serna motioned to adjourn; Celinda Crews seconded, all members voted in favor; none opposed, and motion passed unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Prepared by: Maria Arciniega

Approved by A.S.A.C Chairman: _____

DRAFT

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Chair Report - Chris Canales.

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El Paso Animal Services October Director's Report: September updates and statistics - Michael Wachsmann, El Paso Animal Services Interim Director.

File #: BC-2592, **Version:** 1

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
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Discussion and action on a recommendation to the City Council to explore a program to provide no-cost spay and neuter services for unaltered Return to Owner (RTO) animals as a stepping stone to providing more free spay/neuter surgeries to the public. -Tess Passero

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Discussion of a report from City of El Paso Animal Services summarizing the shelter assessment conducted by Shelter Savvy in 2025, including key findings, deficiencies identified, and subsequent steps taken to implement improvements. -Sandra DiFrancesco

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CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
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