

Yolo County Animal Advocacy 2010 - 2014¹

July 2010: Animal advocates meet with Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thomson about improving animal welfare. She agrees to help, and Yolo County Pet Animal Welfare Society (YCPAWS) is formed.

November 2010: Countywide meeting convened in West Sacramento to discuss animal welfare.

December 2010: Yolo County Board of Supervisors accept Helen Thomson's Yolo County Animal Welfare and Shelter Update and Action Plan that is based on the November countywide meeting.

January 2011: Yolo County Animal Services is responsibility of Yolo County Supervisor Don Saylor. Animal advocates meet with Supervisor Saylor and his deputy, Diane Parro.

August 2011: YCPAWS asks UC Davis Graduate School of Management to do an objective analysis of Yolo County Animal Services' operations and to explore the financial case for a different animal shelter model. Conclusion: a nonprofit animal service model would reduce cost and improve service.

April 2012 LAFCo contracts with the Animal Protection League to analyze and compare the existing Yolo County Animal Services model with alternative models. Conclusion: a nonprofit animal service model would reduce cost and improve service.

September - October 2012: Yolo Coalition for Animal Shelter Reform creates a petition and gathers signatures from more than 1,700 Yolo County citizens. The petition states: "*We are Yolo County residents. We care about our shelter animals. We urge our County Board of Supervisors and City Councils to establish a new agency (a Joint Powers Authority), or contract with a humane society, to run our county animal services, and ensure a 90% 'live release rate.'* More that 50 communities across the US are doing it. We can too!"

January 2013: LAFCo authorizes UCD Koret Shelter Medicine Program to build and expand on LAFCo 2012 report (see above); analyze current and historical data to provide an accurate foundation for staffing, animal care, field services and facility planning; and provide recommendations for long-term organization, programming, and structural changes.

April 29, 2013: First public meeting about LAFCo study of Yolo County Animal Services in which veterinarian Dr Delaney provides analysis of current and historical data.

August 2013: LAFCo *Yolo County Animal Services Governance Study Draft* available online at <http://www.yolocounty.org/Index.aspx?page=2306> Public input invited. LAFCo responds to all comments and includes responses in final Study document.

September 9, 2013: Public meeting for presentation of LAFCo *Yolo County Animal Services Governance Study*.

September 26, 2013: LAFCo Commission accepts *Yolo County Animal Services Governance Study*.

December 2013: Yolo County and Woodland voted to move forward with animal services JPA.

January 14, 2014: Davis City Council to vote on formation of a JPA to oversee animal services in Yolo County.

January 15, 2014: West Sacramento City Council to vote on formation of animal services JPA in Yolo County.

¹ Animal Advocate Groups: Yolo County Pet Animal Welfare Society (YC PAWS), Yolo Coalition for Animal Shelter Reform, FixYolo, Woodland PAWS, West Sacramento PAWS.