

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: This would be the same requirement for dogs to be licensed. Which is not enforced. The spay and neuter ordinance is not enforced. In areas like Pocomo, there are dogs that run loose, that are not licensed, that are not spayed or neutered and nothing is being done. If we are asking about microchipping which is what most responsible animal owners do when they get a dog and is required by the shelters when adopting from a shelter, then why are we not asking for all of these important ordinances be enforced as most are being violated by the same people. I am not sure if there is a disconnect between the Mayor who hires a GM and the policies that they oversee but in a recent review of the list of vets that honor vouchers for people to get their dogs spayed and neutered it was found to be out of date and not one vet offered an inexpensive service with or without the voucher. You would think this would be the very first move that a new GM would move to try to ease the overpopulation in shelters but this voucher system is broken. I am not trying to attack the motion or the significance of microchipping animals. But there is a larger problem with an overall plan to organize and fund a well run Animal Services department and make all these important issues come together. I believe all Councilmember's can work with Recreation and Parks to allow non profit groups like "Scan Found Animals" go into city owned parks without permits and offer their services to get animals microchipped without jumping through hoops. Just doing an adoption event is like pulling teeth. That the city council could split off the job of GM with the expectation that they will solve all the problems without really knowing all the issues and how much of a budget would be necessary without a plan. Those things should be two different things. A well drawn out plan taking into account the volunteers input, the staff, the numbers and hiring a GM that follows that plan with a real budget instead of the expectations of one person going in and creating that plan while being under pressure of the community to come up with a plan, fight for the budget and institute it all the while living under the pressure of protests and the kind of threats that come with that job historically. The city council would need to work with the mayor since she has the power to assign a GM to that job.