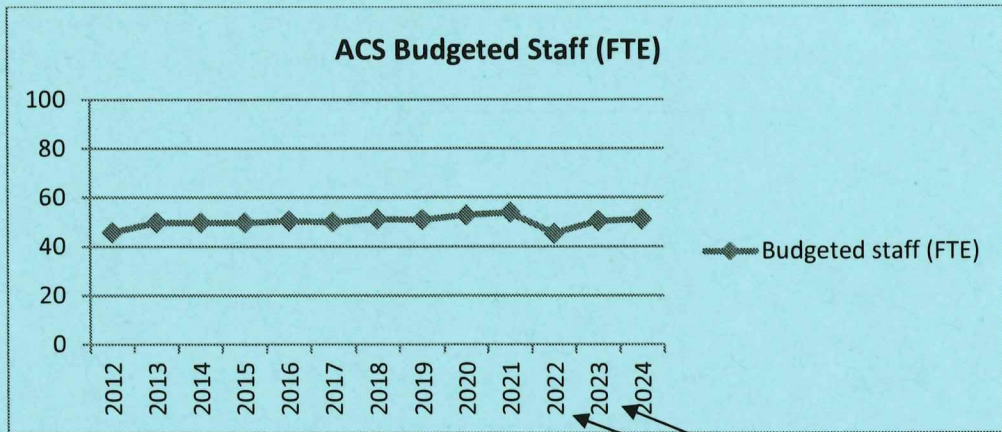


**Animal Care Services Needs Structural Changes to Budget that add core services to operations.**

**History of Staffing**



BUDGET YEAR	BUDGETED STAFF (FTE)	CONCURRENT
2012	45.68	
2013	49.71	
2014	49.71	
2015	49.71	
2016	50.38	
2017	49.87	ACS Audit Phase I
2018	51.20	ACS Audit Phase II
2019	50.80	
2020	52.87	Pandemic / ACS empty
2021	53.87	Strategic Plan
2022	45.34	Over capacity
2023	50.34	Over capacity
2024	50.96	

operating over capacity

**2018 ACS Audit Phase II (with more staffing than today)**

*“Animal Care staffing levels do not allow for minimum care requirements - including properly feeding animals and cleaning their housing to be met.” (ACS Audit, Phase II, 2018, Highlights Page 0)*

*“Based on a staffing analysis of core shelter functions, at a minimum 12 additional staff are needed in various shelter roles.” (ACS Audit, Phase II, 2018, Shelter Staffing Shortages, Page 3)*

*“Veterinary Services: The Medical Team’s staffing level cannot keep up with its significant workload.” (ACS Audit, Phase II, 2018, Highlights Page 0)*

*“Based on a staffing analysis of core shelter functions, at a minimum 12 additional staff are needed in various shelter roles.” (ACS Audit, Phase II, 2018, Shelter Staffing Shortages, Page 3)*

*“ACS veterinarians recommended that ACS should have a full-time surgical team led by one veterinarian who can exclusively perform spay-and-neuter and other surgeries, and another veterinary team dedicated to the regular care and monitoring of animals.” (ACS Audit, 2018, Phase II, Finding #4, Page 10)*

## COMMUNITY INPUT

Long Beach Proposed 2024 Budget  
Parks, Recreation and Marine

# ANIMAL CARE SERVICES REQUEST TO MODIFY PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET

Structural changes needed to address critical positions:

## REHOMING TEAM

Essential to ensure public safety & live outcomes

### MODIFY TWO POSITIONS

1. Upgrade Position: Animal Behavior, Assessment & Transport from minimum wage (Public Health Associate I), to **living wage** (Public Health Associate III)
2. Upgrade Position: Foster Coordinator from minimum wage (Public Health Associate I) to Cat Foster Coordinator, at **living wage** (Public Health Associate III)

### CREATE ONE POSITION

3. Add New Position: Dog Foster Coordinator, **living wage** (Public Health Associate III)

## SPAY NEUTER TEAM

A spay neuter team is essential for legally compliant live outcomes. This is a fiscally responsible alternative to using outside contract services. The 3:1 Animal Technician to Veterinarian ratio is a standard for kennel facilities housing both pre-surgical and and post-surgical animal care.

### CREATE FOUR POSITIONS

4. Add New Position: Full Time Spay Neuter Veterinarian
5. Add New Position: Full Time Spay Neuter Animal Technician, Surgery, Pre & Post Op
6. Add New Position: Full Time Spay Neuter Animal Technician, Surgery, Pre & Post Op
7. Add New Position: Full Time Spay Neuter Animal Technician, Surgery, Pre & Post Op

## ANIMAL FOOD LINE ITEM

We believe the City needs to add a discrete line item the 2024 ACS budget for animal food. ACS food expenditures are currently captured as an ACS 'maintenance' expense. But the ACS maintenance budget is \$30 per day which is insufficient to cover the daily cost to feed 200-300 animals at ACS, even when supplemented donations. It is unclear what other allocated funds are being used to pay for food.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

On August 21, 2023, our group met with the City's Budget Manager, Grace Yoon, PRM Director Brent Dennis, PRM Deputy Director, Steven Scott, ACS Interim Manager, Dr. Melanie Wagner and support staff, to discuss the Proposed '24 Budget for Animal Care Services. Our group was able to review the proposed ACS Budget and discuss our concerns based on our depth of involvement as volunteers, rescue partners and financial supporters of ACS for many years.

Laura Sellmer, ACS volunteer and advocate, medical foster, ACS rescue supporter.

Nici Daniels, ACS volunteer and advocate, K-9 Kismet Dog Rescue, (2022-23 highest number dogs pulled from ACS)

Claudia Otis, Executive Director of the Little Lion Foundation, (2022-23 highest number cats/kittens pulled from ACS)

Lauren Campbell, Friends of Long Beach Animals (single largest financial supporter of ACS animals and rescues pulling ACS animals)

Barbara Polack, ACS Volunteer