

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE BROWARD COUNTY AUDIT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DIVISION, REPORT NO. 21-05, DATED DECEMBER 16, 2020; PROVIDING FOR CITY SUPPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GUIDELINES AND BEST PRACTICES BY THE ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DIVISION WITH THE GOAL OF PROVIDING BETTER CARE FOR THE DOGS AND CATS MAINTAINED AT THE SHELTER.

WHEREAS, the Broward County Adoption Shelter ("Shelter"), located at 2400 SW 42nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312, is maintained and operated by Broward County through the Animal Care and Adoption Division for the purpose of providing care of dogs and cats; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners requested that an audit of the overall operation of the Shelter be undertaken by the Broward County Office of the County Auditor; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2020, the Office of the County Auditor issued its audit that among other things found that the operation of the Shelter does not consistently adhere to best practices and laws, and that the programs and processes utilized at the Shelter are not operating effectively; and

WHEREAS, the audit identifies that 78% of the calls from the public, the majority of which relate directly to interest in the animals, go unanswered; and

WHEREAS, the audit indicates that the Shelter is understaffed by 33% and needs to increase staffing by 30 to 36 full-time employees; and

WHEREAS, the audit identifies that the use of volunteers has been eliminated for months, and recommends that it be reinstated and efficiently administered; and

WHEREAS, the operation of the Shelter results in animals in interior kennels being left in the dark for 14 to 18 hours a day; and

WHEREAS, the current operation at the Shelter relative to animal confinement (kennels/cages) fails to meet industry standards, which require a minimum of two feet of space between defecation, feeding and resting areas for felines and soft bedding for canines; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter does not meet “no-kill” guidelines established by Broward County, and statistics for October 2020 show that of 115 animal deaths, 27 died “in care” and 88 were euthanized, often without following proper protocol for public outreach before being euthanized; and

WHEREAS, the audit indicates that basic medical care is lacking due to insufficient veterinary oversight; and

WHEREAS, the audit identifies that outdoor canine play areas are not utilized while dogs are kept in cages day after day; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission deems it in the best interest of its residents to express its support of the Broward County Audit of the Animal Care and Adoption Division dated December 16, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That the foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated in this Resolution.

Section 2: That it expresses its support for the Broward County Audit of the Animal Care and Adoption Division dated December 16, 2020, a copy of the Executive Summary of the Audit being attached as Exhibit “A”.

Section 3: That it expresses its concern that the Broward County Shelter, due to operational failures, fails to provide adequate care for dogs and cats and therefore, it fully supports that all recommendations contained in the audit be immediately implemented and adhered to by the Broward County Animal Care and Adoption Division.

Section 4: That copies of this Resolution shall be provided to the members of the Broward County Commission, County Administration, and the Broward County League of Cities for distribution to all Broward County cities.

Section 5: That this Resolution shall be in force and take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT OF THE BROWARD COUNTY AUDIT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DIVISION, REPORT NO. 21-05, DATED DECEMBER 16, 2020.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

JOSH LEVY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PATRICIA A. CERNY, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL
SUFFICIENCY for the use and reliance of
the City of Hollywood, Florida, only.

DOUGLAS R. GONZALES
CITY ATTORNEY