



ANIMAL SERVICES

Joint Animal Services Commission Retreat Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Monday, June 8, 2026

12:00 PM

Joint Animal Services Conference
Room

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. April 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes

4. Public Comment

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for instructions on how to provide public comment.

5. Business Items

- A. **Shelter Stats and Field Data April/May**
Sarah Hock, Executive Director
- B. **Director's Report**
Sarah Hock, Executive Director
- C. **Strategic Planning Retreat**
Sarah Hock, Executive Director

6. Adjourn

Attendance and Public Comment

Attend In Person

The public may attend the meeting in person at the Joint Animal Services Conference Room located at 3120 Martin Way E, Olympia, WA 98506

Verbal Public Comment

Each speaker is limited to three minutes. Comments are welcome on matters connected to agency business or specific agenda items.

Prior to starting your comments, please provide your:

- a. Name
- b. City of residence or connection to the Commission
- c. Topic or subject matter of your comments

Those wishing to provide verbal public comment may do so in person or by Zoom.

In Person: Use the sign-up sheet located in the meeting room.

Written Public Comment

Public comments may also be submitted by email to Public.Comment@jointanimalservices.org. The commenting period will close two hours before the meeting time. Written comments will be provided to the Commission electronically prior to the meeting. Comments will not be addressed during the meeting; however, comments received will be added to the official record.



Joint Animal Services Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20, 2026

Lacey City Hall and Online

1. Call to Order

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Malcolm Miller, City of Lacey; and Commissioner(s) Emily Clouse, Thurston County (remote); Brandon Weedon, City of Tumwater; Jo MacGugan, Feline Friends of Olympia; Vicky Smith, DVM, Deschutes Animal Clinic; and Barbara Benson, DVM, Thurston County Humane Society.

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Vice Chair Kelly Green, City of Olympia

STAFF PRESENT: Shannon Kelley-Fong, Lacey Assistant City Manager; Sarah Hock, Joint Animal Services Executive Director; Andrew Toeldo, Joint Animal Services Operations Manager; and Elissa Fontaine, Lacey City Clerk

3. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. February 9, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Weedon moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Commissioner Clouse seconded. The motion carried.

4. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

5. Business Items

A. **Shelter Statistics and Field Data February-March 2026**

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

Hock presented the February and March 2026 shelter statistics and field call data. The presentation detailed monthly intake data by species and jurisdiction, positive outcomes (adoption, transfer, and return to owner), and field call data trends through March 2026.

B. **Best Friends Animal Society Embed Agreement**

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

Hock presented the proposed partnership and agreement with Best Friends Animal Society. Joint Animal Services (JAS) has been invited to participate in the National Shelter Embed Program, a short-term, high-impact technical assistance initiative aimed at helping animal shelters implement proven lifesaving strategies and improve outcomes for animals. As part of the proposed partnership, Best Friends would assign a dedicated staff member onsite at JAS for an initial six-month period. The embedded team member would collaborate closely with shelter leadership and staff to implement operational improvements, strengthen programs and services, and advance sustainable lifesaving outcomes. The embedded staff member would remain an employee of and be fully funded by the organization, resulting in no direct cost to JAS of the City. Details regarding the scope and focus of the operational support were presented. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Weedon moved to authorize the City of Lacey to enter into the Best Friends National Shelter Embed Program Agreement on behalf of Joint Animal Services. Chair Miller seconded. The motion carried.

6. **Director Report**

A. Sarah Hock, Executive Director

The Director's Report highlighted staffing updates, quarter veterinary services, professional development events, community programs and engagement, and partnerships and outreach. Hock advised the next JASCOM meeting will consist of a retreat for strategic planning sessions for the next 5-6 year priorities.

7. **Adjourn**

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Animal Services Shelter Statistics 2026

26-Apr 25-Apr

Intake

Total Animals Received (live and doa)

Dogs	113	115
Cats	157	131
Other	1	12
Wild	13	7
TOTAL	284	265

Custody-Misc Reasons

Dogs	17	4
Cats	25	1
Other	0	2
TOTAL	42	7

Strays Received

Dogs	57	79
Cats	57	68
Other	1	9
TOTAL	115	156

Owner Surrendered

Dogs	39	31
Cats	42	40
Other	0	1
TOTAL	81	72

Owner Status Refused

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL	0	0

WILDLIFE HANDLED

Incoming

Live	6	2
Doa	6	5
TOTAL	12	7

Outgoing

Doa	6	5
Euthanized (sick/inj)	6	2
Died	0	0
Bat-Rabies check	0	0
Released/Transferred	0	0
TOTAL	12	7

Outgoing Animals

Total Animals Out, incl all categories below

Dogs	103	131
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Cats	130	115
Other	1	4
Wild	12	7
Died, esc, stolen	2	0
TOTAL	248	257

Animals Adopted

Dogs	53	52
Cats	40	51
Other	1	2
TOTAL	94	105

Animals Transferred

Dogs	17	7
Cats	37	16
Other	0	0
Total	54	23

Animals Reclaimed

Dogs	25	26
Cats	6	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL	31	26

Animals DOA

Dogs	3	9
Cats	14	12
Other	6	6
TOTAL	23	27

All Euthanasia, Died, Escaped, Stolen (from pg 2)

Dogs	5	21
Cats	12	11
Other	6	3
Died, esc, stolen	2	0
Total	25	35

EUTHANASIA, DIED, ESCAPED, STOLEN

Shelter Animals Euthanized

Unhealthy/Untreatable

Dogs	4	16
Cats	9	9
Other	6	2

Treatable - Rehabilitatable

Dogs	1	1
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0

Treatable - Manageable

Dogs	0	4
Cats	3	2
Other	0	1

Healthy

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0

Total Shelter Euthanasia	23	35
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Owner Request Euthanasia

Dogs	14	12
Cats	13	4
Other	0	0
Total	27	16

Died At Shelter	2	0
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Escaped/Stolen	0	0
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FIELD AND OTHER SERVICES		
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Animals Currently

Court Involved	Dogs	1	0
	Cats	18	0
	Other	0	0

Field Response

Olympia	77	84
Lacey	63	57
Tumwater	24	29
Thurston County	108	120
JBLM	1	3
Other	2	9
Yelm	8	16
SUB TOTAL	283	318

PDD/DD Appeals	0	1
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Animal Services Shelter Statistics 2026

26-May 25-May

Intake

Total Animals Received (live and doa)

Dogs	87	117
Cats	190	180
Other	2	6
Wild	18	10
TOTAL	297	313

Custody-Misc Reasons

Dogs	10	2
Cats	3	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL	13	2

Strays Received

Dogs	56	82
Cats	106	116
Other	0	4
TOTAL	162	202

Owner Surrendered

Dogs	19	29
Cats	22	52
Other	2	2
TOTAL	43	83

Owner Status Refused

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL	0	0

WILDLIFE HANDLED

Incoming

Live	12	5
Doa	7	5
TOTAL	19	10

Outgoing

Doa	7	5
Euthanized (sick/inj)	11	5
Died	0	0
Bat-Rabies check	0	0
Released/Transferred	1	0
TOTAL	19	10

Outgoing Animals

Total Animals Out, incl all categories below

Dogs	101	137
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Cats	146	141
Other	2	8
Wild	19	10
Died, esc, stolen	0	2
TOTAL	268	298

Animals Adopted

Dogs	42	63
Cats	40	59
Other	0	4
TOTAL	82	126

Animals Transferred

Dogs	14	5
Cats	22	23
Other	0	2
Total	36	30

Animals Reclaimed

Dogs	30	26
Cats	2	6
Other	0	0
TOTAL	32	32

Animals DOA

Dogs	5	5
Cats	16	15
Other	9	7
TOTAL	30	27

All Euthanasia, Died, Escaped, Stolen (from pg 2)

Dogs	10	26
Cats	19	27
Other	11	5
Died, esc, stolen	0	2
Total	40	60

EUTHANASIA, DIED, ESCAPED, STOLEN

Shelter Animals Euthanized Unhealthy/Untreatable

Dogs	8	21
Cats	11	25
Other	11	5

Treatable - Rehabilitatable

Dogs	1	4
Cats	6	2
Other	0	0

Treatable - Manageable

Dogs	1	1
Cats	2	0
Other	0	0

Healthy

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0

Total Shelter Euthanasia	40	58
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Owner Request Euthanasia

Dogs	14	14
Cats	10	6
Other	0	0
Total	24	20

Died At Shelter	0	2
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Escaped/Stolen	0	0
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FIELD AND OTHER SERVICES		
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Animals Currently

Court Involved	Dogs	0	0
	Cats	0	0
	Other	0	2

Field Response

Olympia	79	84
Lacey	80	83
Tumwater	25	28
Thurston County	128	125
JBLM	2	3
Other	2	3
Yelm	13	15
SUB TOTAL	329	341

PDD/DD Appeals	3	1
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	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD 26	YTD 25	
INCOMING ANIMALS															
Total Animals Received (live and doa)															
Dogs	120	89	98	113	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	507	661	-23.30%
Cats	110	123	114	157	190	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	694	631	9.98%
Other	2	5	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	535	-97.57%
Wild	3	14	8	13	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	40	40.00%
TOTAL	235	231	223	284	297	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,270	1,867	-31.98%
Custody-Misc Reasons															
Dogs	10	5	5	17	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	25	88.00%
Cats	0	1	2	25	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	40	-22.50%
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	67	-98.51%
TOTAL	11	6	7	42	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	79	132	-40.15%
Strays Received															
Dogs	83	68	68	57	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	332	440	-24.55%
Cats	45	63	55	57	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	326	368	-11.41%
Other	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	13	-53.85%
TOTAL	130	131	126	115	162	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	664	821	-19.12%
Owner Surrendered															
Dogs	22	16	24	39	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	184	-34.78%
Cats	44	21	17	42	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	146	175	-16.57%
Other	0	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	455	-98.46%
TOTAL	66	42	41	81	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	273	814	-66.46%
Owner Status Refused															
Unsocialized pets that have lived on the person's property 14 days or more, but the person denies ownership.															
Dogs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WILDLIFE HANDLED															
Incoming															
Live	0	3	2	6	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	17	
Doa	3	11	6	6	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	23	
TOTAL	3	14	8	12	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	40	
Outgoing															
Doa	3	11	6	6	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	23	
Euthanized (sick/inj)	0	3	2	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	17	
Died	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bat-Rabies check	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Released/Transferred	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
TOTAL	3	14	8	12	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	40	40.00%
OUTGOING ANIMALS															
Total Animals Out, incl all categories below															
Dogs	130	93	90	103	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	517	750	
Cats	92	130	131	130	146	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	629	606	
Other	2	8	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	531	
Wild	3	14	8	12	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	40	
Died, esc, stolen	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5	
TOTAL	228	246	231	246	268	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,223	1,932	-36.70%
Animals Adopted															
Dogs	59	46	37	53	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	237	311	-23.79%
Cats	39	37	41	40	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	197	284	-30.63%
Other	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	10	-60.00%
TOTAL	99	83	80	94	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	438	605	-27.60%
Animals Transferred															
Dogs	7	7	10	17	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	48	14.58%
Cats	20	38	16	37	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	133	94	41.49%
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109	-100.00%
Total	27	45	26	54	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	188	251	-25.10%
Animals Reclaimed															
Dogs	40	29	33	25	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	157	146	7.53%
Cats	6	1	5	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	15	33.33%
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
TOTAL	47	30	38	31	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	161	10.56%
Animals DOA															
Dogs	12	5	5	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	49	
Cats	9	9	10	14	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	67	
Other	3	14	6	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	40	
TOTAL	24	28	21	23	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	126	156	-19.23%
All Euthanasia, Died, Escaped, Stolen (from pg 2)															
Dogs	11	6	5	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	109	
Cats	7	6	17	12	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	97	
Other	0	6	2	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	420	
Died, esc, stolen	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5	
Total	19	19	26	25	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	129	631	-79.56%
EUTHANASIA, DIED, ESCAPED, STOLEN															
Shelter Animals Euthanized															

Unhealthy/Untreatable																
Dogs	10	4	4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	90	
Cats	4	5	17	9	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	82	
Other	0	3	2	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	39	
Treatable - Rehabilitatable																
Dogs	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	10	
Cats	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	7	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Treatable - Manageable																
Dogs	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	
Cats	1	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	309	
Healthy																
Dogs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	
TOTAL Euthanasia	18	18	24	23	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	123	555	
Owner Request Euthanasia																
Dogs	20	14	16	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	78	61	
Cats	10	4	6	13	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	23	
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	
TOTAL	31	18	22	27	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	94	
															29.79%	
Died At Shelter	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5	
Escaped/Stolen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
FIELD AND OTHER SERVICES																
Animals Currently Court Involved																
Dogs	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	
Cats	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	497	
Field Response																
Olympia	46	42	63	77	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	307	326	-5.83%
Lacey	44	46	62	63	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	295	264	11.74%
Tumwater	22	29	21	24	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	121	124	-2.42%
Thurston County	111	93	111	108	128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	551	607	-9.23%
JBLM	1	3	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	15	-40.00%
Other	4	10	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	23	-4.35%
Yelm	9	2	6	8	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	57	-33.33%
SUB TOTAL	237	225	269	283	329	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,343	1,416	-5.16%
PDD/DD Appeals	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	

2025 Shelter Statistics & Field Calls

JASCOM | June 8, 2026

All data is current through May 31, 2026.

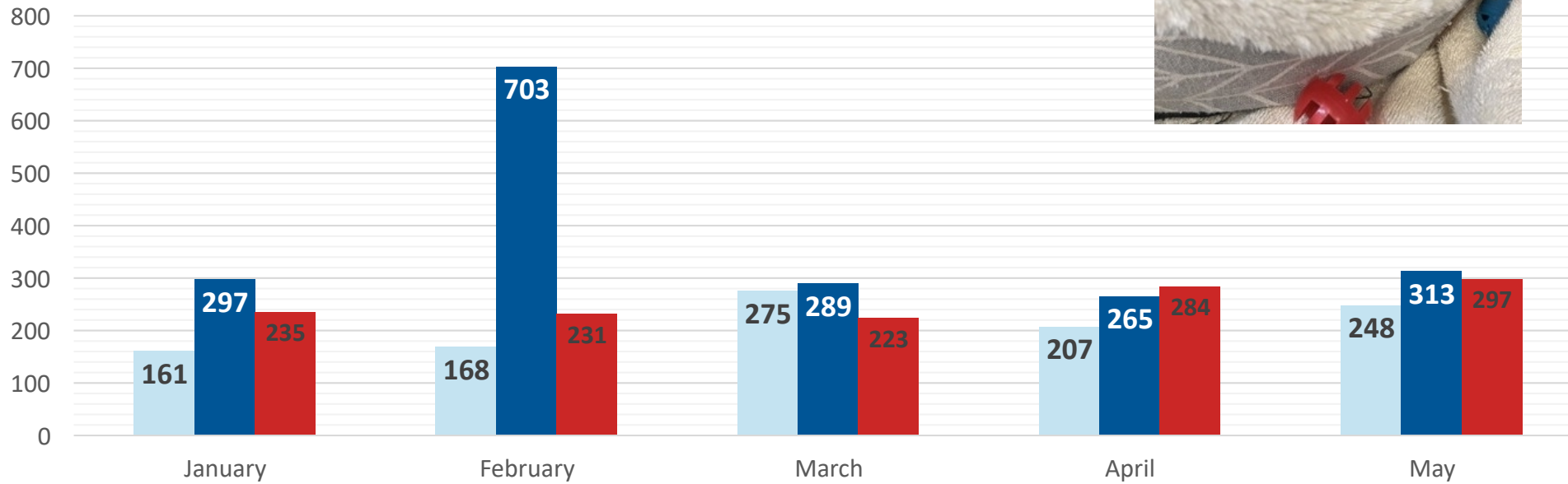


Shelter Intake



Intake by Month

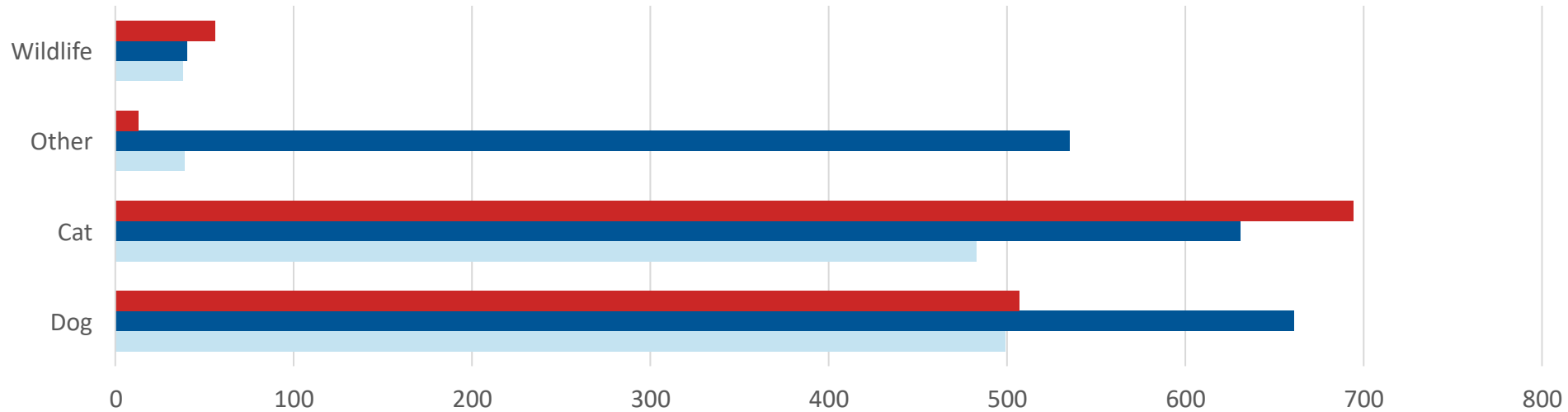
2024 2025 2026



Shelter Intake

Intake by Animal

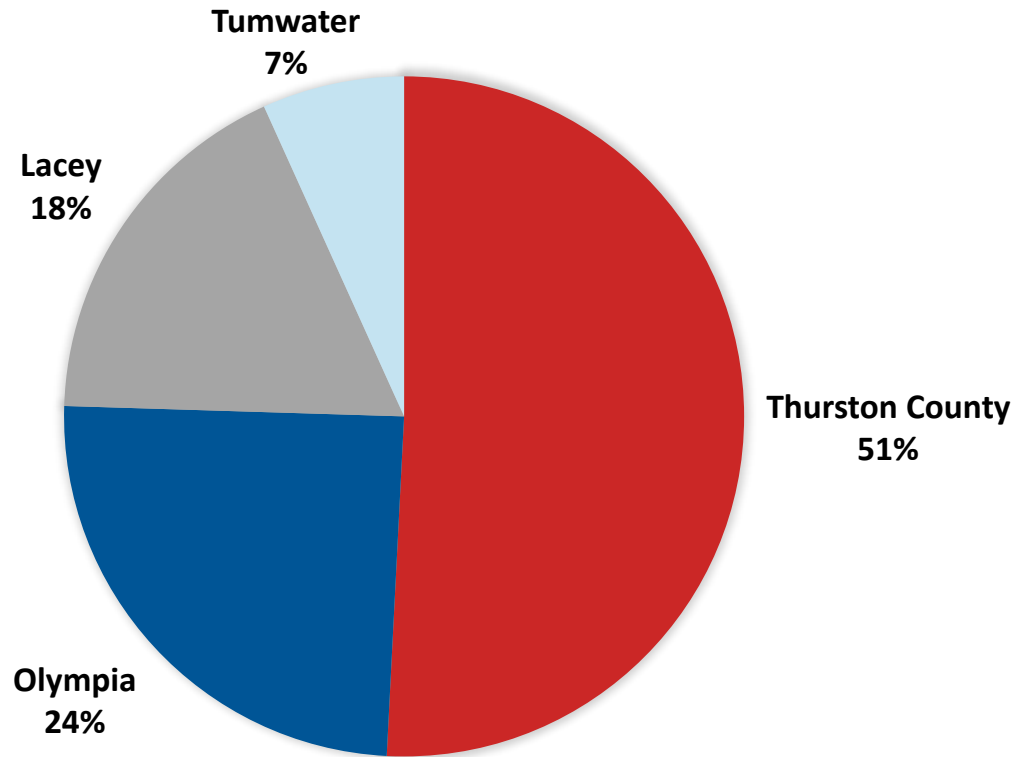
10% increase in cat intake



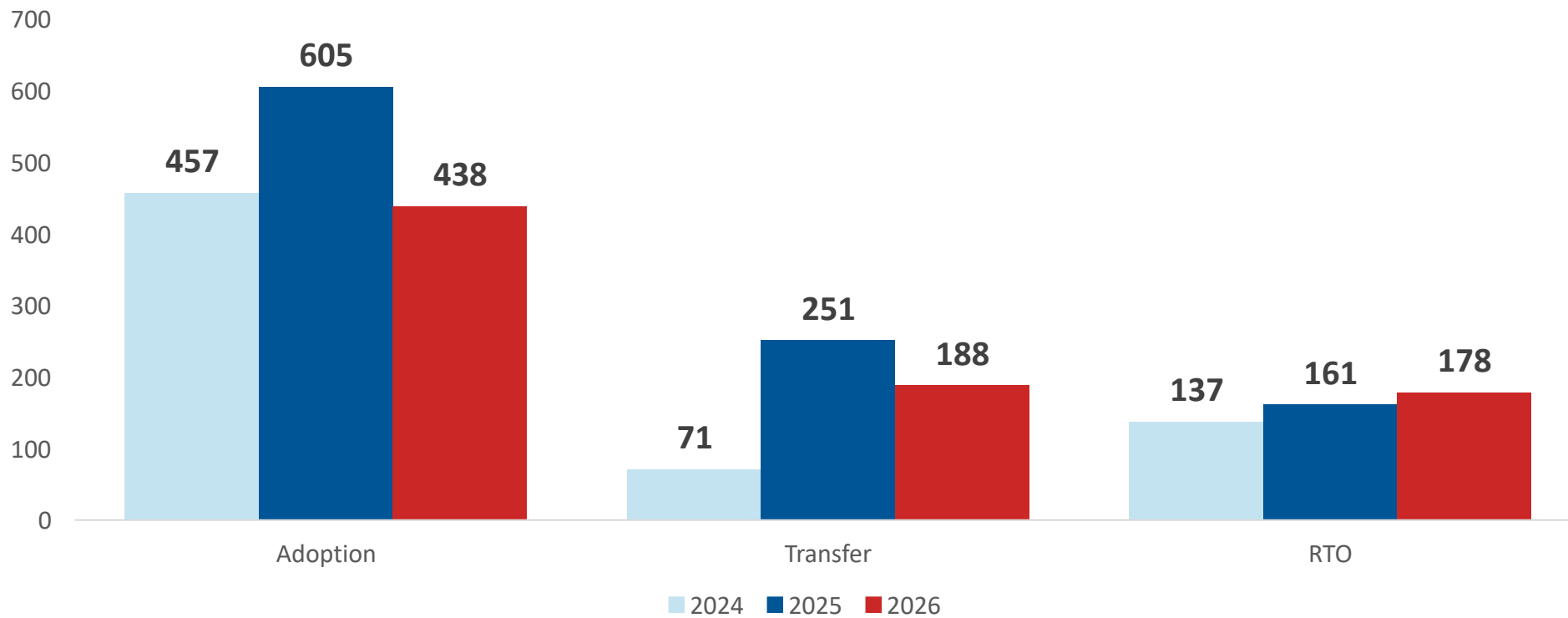
	Dog	Cat	Other	Wildlife
2024	499	483	39	38
2025	661	631	535	40
2026	507	694	13	56



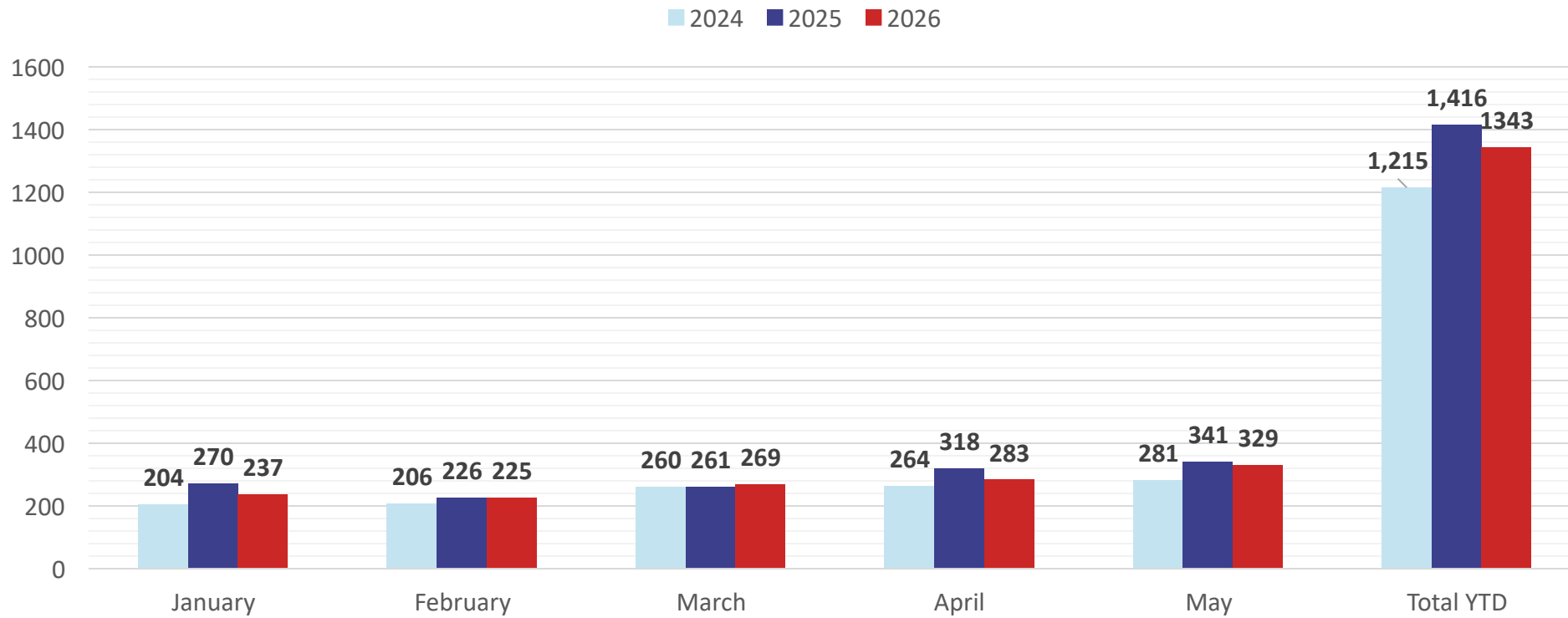
Intake by Jurisdiction



Positive Outcomes

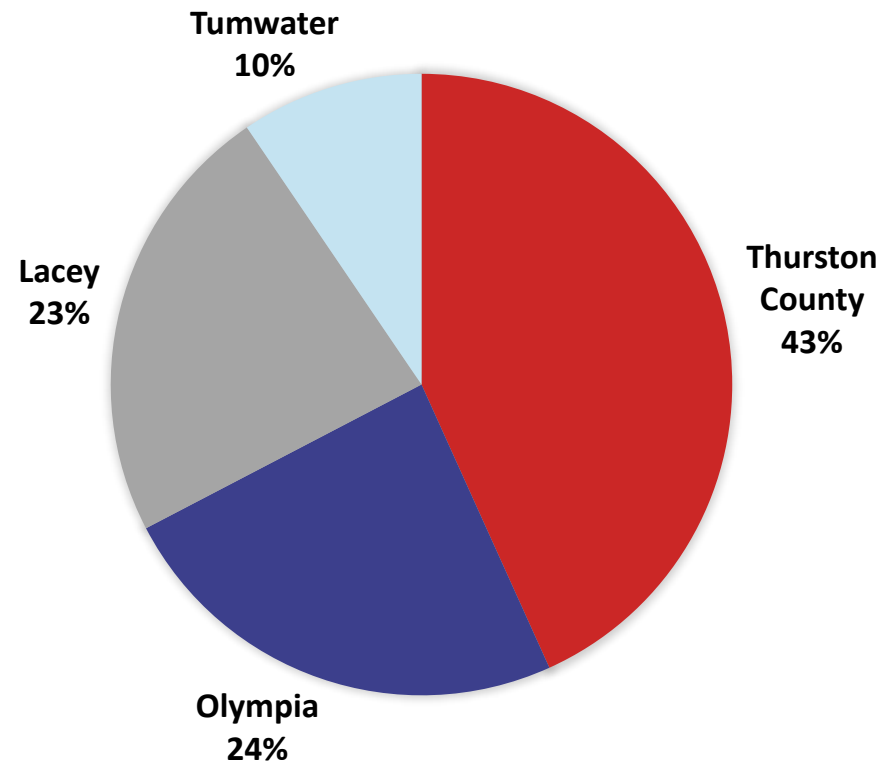


Field Calls



Field Calls by Jurisdiction

- Olympia – 5.8% decrease
- Lacey – 11% increase
- Tumwater – 2% decrease
- Thurston County – 9% decrease





Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

Contracts

Mason County Field Services Contract - At this time, Mason County has indicated that it is unable to move forward with a contract due to significant financial and operational impacts associated with the Office of Public Defense. County representatives advised that anticipated costs and increased strain on court system capacity have limited their ability to pursue additional contractual services at this time. Staff will continue to monitor opportunities for future partnerships should circumstances change. As a result, JAS will not be moving forward with an additional FSO that would have serviced this agreement.

National Shelter Embed Program

The JAS agreement with Best Friends Animal Society is finalized, and pending final administrative coordination, the National Shelter Embed Program is anticipated to begin on or around July 1, 2026. Through this partnership, at no financial cost to JAS, Best Friends will place a dedicated staff member on-site at Joint Animal Services for an initial six-month period to work alongside shelter leadership and staff on operational improvements, lifesaving initiatives, and the implementation of industry best practices. Staff will provide JASCOM with periodic updates on project milestones, progress, and outcomes throughout the embed.



Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

Volunteer & Outreach Updates

JAS continues to engage the community through outreach events, educational programming, and volunteer development opportunities.

During the reporting period, staff participated in several community events, including Coffee with a Cop with the City of Lacey, a collaborative photo shoot with the Lacey Fire District 3, the Ridgeline Middle School Career Fair, Paws 4 a Cause, and a presentation to the Women's Club at St. Benedict's Episcopal Church. Staff also hosted a Walk & Learn volunteer training and an Animal Cruelty Response Training, which included accepting new volunteers into the program.

Volunteer engagement remained strong, highlighted by the annual Volunteer and Foster Appreciation Event held on May 30.

Youth education efforts continued through the Animal Allies Club programs in Lacey and Yelm, with a new club launched in Tumwater in May. JAS also continues to participate in the Veterans Hub Resource Fair every other Thursday, helping connect community members with available resources and services.





ANIMAL SERVICES

Best Friends National Conference

Bekka and Sierra traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah, on May 7–9 to attend and present at the Best Friends National Conference. Their workshop, “Sustainable Solutions for Animal Cruelty Cases,” highlighted JAS's specialized volunteer response and foster care program developed to support animal cruelty investigations, animal seizures, rehabilitation, and placement. The presentation showcased how JAS has leveraged community partnerships, trained volunteers, and used foster resources to expand organizational capacity and improve outcomes in complex cruelty cases. The workshop provided attendees with practical strategies and lessons learned that can be adapted and implemented in communities across the country.



Happy Tail

When I first saw Roscoe online, a week after my second dog had passed, something drove me to jump in the car, get my son and the dog I had left, and go see him. Our first meeting was calm, with little excitement on his end, but that was because of the time in the kennel. I knew I needed to bring him home. The way he looks and acts is a mix of both pups I lost so tragically, so I called him their reincarnation. From day one, he didn't leave my side... in the house. It took only a couple of days and a few fights before he found a new friend in my girl, Happy. My kids loved him right away, and he shows them a lot of affection. The walks were a struggle in the first months. He wanted to lead and wasn't well behaved. But with a lot of patience and work, we're an unbeatable team now and enjoy every moment together. He is already 11, has arthritis, and has been diagnosed with cancer. But I'm looking forward to spending as much time as we can together and can't imagine our lives without him.

