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DR. JEREMY PRUPAS
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

November 26, 2018

The Honorable David Ryu, Councilmember
Health, Education and Neighborhood Councils Committee
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Attention: Eric Villanueva, Legislative Assistant
200 North Spring Street
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**TYPHUS UPDATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES
COUNCIL FILE 18-0958**

Before Typhus was "breaking news" the LA County Public Health Department advised the Department of Animal Services (LAAS) of the presence of Typhus in skid row.

Our Chief Veterinarian took immediate action to protect our staff, volunteers and the animals in our care:

- Protocols were set up to protect staff in charge of handling animals with fleas.
- When animals came in from one of the zip codes we knew were challenged, extra flea treatments were administered.
- Additionally, every animal that came in from a challenged area was put on a chart so that the area could be tracked and live fleas were sent to the Health Department for testing.
- LAAS, Downtown Dogs and Inner City Law Center (ICLC) held weekly clinics in the area where Typhus was centered to pass out flea preparations and flea medication to the pet owners in the area.

Veterinary Pubic Health is continuing its outreach. They have started to hold wellness clinics for the homeless' pets once a month (free exams, vaccines, deworming, microchipping and flea/tick medications). The Department of Animal Services will have a canvasser present to assist with FREE spay/neuter vouchers/licensing/etc.

"Creating a Humane LA"

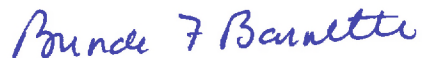
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Visit our website at www.LAAnimalServices.com

Per Dr. Ehnert, LA County Public Health, "Individuals from Community Services are conducting more outreach in Downtown about Typhus, including handing out educational materials at nearly 500 venues, including community based organizations, libraries, parks, health facilities, homeless services, pet stores, dog parks and many other locations."

Today, Dr. Ehnert reports that there have not been any new cases in the downtown area.

Sincerely,



Brenda F. Barnette
General Manager