

MOTION

Animal Care Technicians (ACTs) are crucial members of the staffs at the Department of Animal Services animal shelters. They form the primary interface with the animals housed in the shelters and are responsible for feeding, cleaning the animals' living spaces, providing enrichment and providing exercise.

Over the last decade, the department has experienced a shortage of ACTs, primarily for budgetary reasons. Consequently, department volunteers have been needed to assist the ACTs when appropriate.

During the Personnel, Audits and Animal Welfare (PAAW) Committee's recent investigation of conditions in the shelters and the department, it was suggested both by staff and members of the public that the ACT team could benefit from an upgrade of the qualifications for the position and raising the skill levels for hires.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Animal Services and Personnel report back to the City Council within 60 days with a review the qualifications for the position of Animal Care Technician and the training regimen offered to new hires to determine whether and how both can be upgraded, including any impact that doing so might have on salary range and benefits.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, Fifth District

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ORIGINAL

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