



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

June 1, 2023

Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o City Clerk  
Room 395, City Hall

Re: Appointment of Permanent General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Animal Services: Ms. Staycee Dains

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to City Charter Section 508(b), I am appointing Ms. Staycee Dains as the Permanent General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Animal Services, subject to your confirmation of her appointment, beginning July 3, 2023.

Attached please find a copy of Ms. Dains' biography and resume, which provides greater detail about her experience. I am confident Ms. Dains will do an outstanding job as General Manager and I look forward to your favorable consideration of her appointment.

Sincerely,

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:hvr

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Eunisses Hernandez, Chair, Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee  
Dana Brown, Personnel Department  
Matt Szabo, CAO  
Heather Holt, Ethics Commission  
General Managers' Association  
Sharon Tso, CLA  
Holly Wolcott, City Clerk  
Nicole Enriquez, Ethics Commission

## **STAYCEE DAINS**

Staycee Dains has spent more than two decades serving and leading in private and municipal shelters. She has a proven record of reducing euthanasia rates, improving shelter operations, developing staff leadership and enhancing working conditions, increasing volunteer recruitment and retention, and meeting the needs of diverse communities.

Staycee comes to Los Angeles Animal Services from Long Beach Animal Care Services where she led a team to realize a lifesaving rate of over 90% within her first 18 months. Under her leadership, the Long Beach adoption program grew from just over 600 animals per year in 2018 to nearly 2000 in 2022. Prior to serving the City of Long Beach, Staycee worked as the Animal Shelter Operations Manager for the City of San Jose, overseeing a operation that served over one million citizens and nearly 20,000 animals each year, increasing the agency lifesaving rate from 48% to 93%.

Staycee enjoys spending time with her husband of 20 years and their two children, ages 15 and 10. She comes from a family of public servants, and is the proud mother of two grown sons, both in public service (including the US Marine Corps and teaching middle school). She currently has four indoor-only cats (Prrrl, Madeline, Punkin, and Stevie) and one large dog (Buddy), all adopted from shelters. Staycee also fosters animals for the shelter whenever she can.

# STAYCEE R. DAINS

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

**Animal Services Director, City of Long Beach Animal Care Services** Feb 2019 – Present

Major Accomplishments:

Raised the live release rate from 70% to over 90% within the first 18 months of service through: innovative programming; agency reorganization; establishing a foster care program; conducting open adoptions and foster-to-adopt programs; an re-engaging the rescue community and community-at-large. Set the record for highest annual adoptions in the history of the organization, from ~600 (2018) to nearly 2,000 (2022).

**Shelter Operations Manager, City of San Jose, Animal Care Services** Mar 2009 – Feb 2019

Major Accomplishments:

Raised the live release rate from 48% to over 80% in first two years of employment through innovative programming. Established a neuter & return program for cats, one of the first of its kind in the nation to operate within a shelter system. Established programming that has resulted in a continuously rising live release rate of 90% (2017).

**Shelter Manager, Santa Cruz County Animal Services** Oct 2007 – Mar 2009

Major Accomplishments:

Established a collaborative review process and policy to ensure animals are not euthanized without meeting certain criteria, including networking with rescue agencies, raising the live release from 51% to 72% in two years.

**Vice President of Operations, Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA** Oct 2005 – Oct 2007

Major Accomplishments:

Established a collaborative review process and policy to ensure dogs were not euthanized without meeting specific criteria, including networking with rescue agencies, raising the live release from 40% to 80% in two years.

**Travelling Instructor, American Humane Association, Washington, DC** Jun 2005 – Aug 2009

**Shelter Manager, Cleveland Animal Protective League, Cleveland, OH** Aug 2004 – Oct 2005

**Client Services Supervisor, Larimer Humane Society, Ft. Collins, CO** Jan 2003 – May 2004

## SELECT ANIMAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES AND RECOGNITION

- National speaker:
  - Best Friends Conferences (2020, 2021)
  - Texas Federation of Animal Care (2014)
  - CalAnimals (2006)
- Impact Award, Stray Cat Alliance (2020)
- Director's Award Public Works (all-staff), City of San Jose General Services, for outstanding achievement managing canine influenza outbreak (2018)