

Mayor and City Council Candidate Survey
City of Missouri City, Texas Municipal Election 2017

**Candidates' views on
Missouri City's s future animal sheltering
system**

Fort Bend Pets Alive!

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Introduction

Fort Bend Pets Alive! has initiatives to ensure at least 90% Save Rate of companion animals at City of Missouri City's taxpayer funded animal control facility/shelter. The purpose of this survey is to understand the stances and intentions of the candidates running for mayoral and city council positions regarding animal welfare issues generally and related to City of Missouri City becoming a No Kill community.

Definition of a No Kill community:

A No Kill community is a community in which all healthy and treatable shelter pets are saved, including at Open Admission facilities like the animal shelter that is in City of Missouri City. The only animals euthanized are those who are irremediably sick or injured and suffering or who pose a genuine danger to the public. The benchmark to be recognized as a No Kill community is the ability to save all healthy and treatable pets (generally 90% to 98% of all animals). There are currently hundreds of shelters/communities who are saving 90% or more of all shelter pets.

For instance:

- Roughly 1,000,000 people live in communities saving between 98% and 99% of dogs and cats in their shelters.
- About 9,000,000 people live in communities saving between 90% and 99% of dogs and cats in their shelters.
- Over 40,000,000 people live in communities saving at least 80% of dogs and cats in their shelters. (See Saving90.org)

Those No Kill communities have very little in common other than a commitment to save the lives of shelter pets, while saving money in the process. These communities have achieved their life saving successes by rigorously implementing the No Kill Equation, which is a suite of fiscally-responsible, humane, 21st century animal sheltering programs that have been proven to work. The programs of the No Kill Equation or No Kill model of sheltering are:

- Rescue Partnerships
- Volunteers
- Foster Care
- Trap, Neuter, Return
- Pet Retention
- Comprehensive Adoption Program
- Public Relations/Community Involvement
- Medical & Behavior Prevention & Rehabilitation
- High-Volume, Low-Cost Spay & Neuter
- Proactive Redemption
- **Hard-working, Compassionate Shelter Director**

Every candidate is being asked to complete this survey. Candidates' responses will be compiled as part of a voting guide that will be distributed to City of Missouri City voters in preparation for the November 2017 election.

As part of an awareness campaign by Fort Bend Pets Alive!, candidates' responses will also be rated, and then released to the media and posted on some or all of our websites and social media sites. **Responses, as well as non-responses, will be reported.**

Thank you for your participation in this opportunity for the voters to get to know you better.

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The survey is composed of 8 questions. Candidates are encouraged to respond in writing with enough detail to adequately represent the candidates' view of the current state of the ordinance that mandates the animal shelter to be built in the future, and his or her views on how the animal shelter should operate in coming years.

Survey Questions

1. Do you see contributions and dedication made by Fort Bend Pets Alive! as a valuable asset to improving outcomes of companion animals in the city shelter?

Response: Yes

No

MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS GET OUT OF THE SHELTER AND INTO LOVING HOMES WHERE THEY ARE TAKEN CARE OF AND PROVIDED FOR.

2. If elected or re-elected to City of Missouri City council, are you committed to supporting appropriate budget increases necessary to improve positives outcomes of animals under the care of City of Missouri City?

Response: Yes

No

I HAVE SEEN THE BUDGET AND I FEEL IT NEEDS TO INCREASED TO PROVIDE PROPER CARE FOR THE PETS AND ULTIMATELY FIND A HOME.

3. If the animal welfare issue were to come before you, would you commit to making "No Kill" the official policy of City of Missouri City and support any laws or policy changes necessary to allow provisions of life saving programs and appropriate funding to implement no kill initiatives in City of Missouri City?

Response: Yes

No

I WILL FULLY SUPPORT THE INITIATIVE. AS OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO GROW IN SIZE, WE COULD FIND A HOME FOR EVERY PET WITHOUT RESORTING TO ANY CRUELTY.

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4. Many dog breeds are being banned in many of the rental housing markets in Fort Bend County. This makes finding appropriate housing very difficult for owners of these dogs, despite high levels of owner responsibility and great dog temperaments and training. This slows adoptions of these breeds and forces many owners to surrender their pets to shelters or abandon them.

If elected or re-elected to City of Missouri city council, would you take proactive action to find lasting solutions to this problem, in working with the apartment associations and property managers in Missouri City ?

Response: Yes

No

I WILL CERTAINLY DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO CHANGE THIS RULE AND WORK WITH APARTMENT ASSOCIATIONS AND PROPERTY MANAGERS TO ALLOW PETS IN THEIR PROPERTY.

5. If elected or re-elected to City of Missouri city council, would you support the implementation of performance standards that measure for the city shelter leadership's performance, particularly with regard to the number of live releases, to salary increments or continued employment at the city shelter? If not, please explain why not.

Response: Yes

No

LEADERSHIP HAS TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE SUCCESS OR LACK THEREOF OF ANY ORGANIZATION, MORE SO WHEN IT IS THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS WHO DEPEND ON US FOR THEIR CARE AND SAFETY.

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6. If elected, or re-elected, would you consider engaging no kill advocates, Fort Bend Pets Alive! volunteers to be members of the animal advisory board in providing guidance and oversight for the city shelter?

Response: Yes

No

I WOULD CERTAINLY BE INVOLVED AND
WOULD ADVOCATE OTHERS TO BE INVOLVED
IN THESE INITIATIVES.

7. With so many community cats roaming in neighborhoods, do you believe and support Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) to be the only humane solution to control population of outdoor cats in City of Missouri City? Would you support any laws or policy changes necessary to allow appropriate provisions and to provide funding to implement TNR in City of Missouri City?

Response: Yes

No

YES, I FEEL THERE ARE ENOUGH CARING
PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY TO MAKE THIS
INITIATIVE SUCCESSFUL.

8. Do you agree with the saying "Helping people help pets" makes the community a better place?

Response: Yes

No

I DO SUPPORT AND BELIEVE THAT
WE NEED TO HELP PEOPLE HELP PETS.
FINDING A HOME FOR THESE PETS WILL
MAKE OUR COMMUNITY BETTER AND
OUR CITIZENS BETTER FOR IT.

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Thank you for responding to this survey. **Please make sure your response is returned to Fort Bend Pets Alive! by Monday, Oct 9th, 2017.** If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact info@FortBendPetsAlive.org

You may email your completed survey form to info@FortBendPetsAlive.org

Name: DR. REGGIE ABRAHAM
Please print

Signature: 

Date: 10-10-17