

Item 3.3 Council 2023Feb14

jeanann2 [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Tue 2/14/2023 10:49 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Please find attached a letter for item 3.3 Mid Year Budget adjustments

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February 14, 2023

Honorable Mayor and City Councilmember,

My name is Arnie. I have asked my foster guardian to write this letter for me in support of the mid-year budget allocations to the San Jose Animal Care Center. This is also a Valentine's Day love letter to the City Manager, Jennifer McGuire and budget director Jim Shannon.

If you folks approve the administration's recommendations:

My friends who are still stuck in the kennels at the shelter will be very happy that there will be **more contract janitorial services** that will allow their kennels to be cleaned daily and that the Animal Care Attendants will have more time to take us outside to see the sun. They will be able to go a little more slowly with my shy friends, and will have some time to provide us with more enrichment toys likely a nice chewy Kong filled with carrots to pass the waiting time. Some of us have been in the shelter since last July--waiting. (Would you like to foster or adopt one of us? Maybe me?)

My doggy friends who are wandering the streets will be happy that a **new Animal Control truck** will be ordered so they can be picked up and saved. If one of our friends dies, their body can be removed promptly instead of having to wait a long time for a truck to be available.

Also, my kitty and dog friends will be very happy that the **emergency vet services** contract will be expanded so that the contract doesn't run out before the end of the fiscal year.

I know there has been a lot of complaining about Animal Services this year. None of us doggos are happy to be living in the kennel for so long. And nobody likes how the COVID pandemic has changed the rental market, the work world, and more important to me—I lost my family. I even feel badly for the kitties that didn't get de-sexed due to vet shortages—they are going to be burdened by SO many kittens. So many challenges are ahead. I hope you'll approve these next steps towards solutions.

Thank-you for thinking of us in the Animal Shelter. Please adopt me.

ARNIE

Transcribed for Arnie, by Jean Dresden, his foster guardian.