
Rio Dell City Hall
675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562
(707) 764-3532
cityofriodell.ca.gov



April 2, 2024

HumCART
1120 Hunts Drive
McKinleyville, CA 95519

RE: Letter of Support for Humboldt Community Animal Response Team Grant Application

Dear HumCART

The City Council of the City of Rio Dell supports the award of a start-up grant of \$20,000 by the California Veterinary Emergency Team to the newly established Humboldt Community Animal Response Team (HumCART) with the funds fiscally managed by COAD until HumCART is granted nonprofit status by the California Secretary of State.

Living in a remote rural county in California with a six-hour drive from San Francisco or Sacramento, a local CART within our county would be of significant benefit to owners of small and large domestic animals during times of emergency when the capacity of our local county animal control is exceeded. The safety of our citizens and their pets will be of improved through education of pet owners about how to be ready to evacuate their pets, and, HumCART's ability to provide assistance with evacuation, sheltering, care, and reunification of domestic animals with their owner/companion when activated by county emergency services.

Within the City of Rio Dell there are many creatures who may require evacuation during a disaster. Cats, Horses, Cows, Chickens, Turkeys and a myriad of other species call this community home. Rio Dell is also no stranger to disasters, being subject to earthquakes, floods and fires. During our recent earthquake experience, congregate sheltering options for community members did not allow for pets to be co-located with human disaster survivors. HumCART represents a new approach for the broader community to better address how creatures of all shapes and sizes can be dealt with in an emergency situation.

Sincerely,

Debra Garnes
Mayor
City of Rio Dell