

Working Together for Sweeny's Animals

A partnership update for City Council, and one request:
a 120-day hold period that gives every dog a fair chance.

Presented by

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Benji's Animal Adoption Barn

City Council Meeting

October 20, 2026

Real progress since the City opened the door to adoptions.

3

dogs placed or in placement
since the City's go-ahead

\$0

adoption fees charged
for our placements so far

24/7

BAAB access to the new
facility (key and gate code)

Online

Shelter Luv records,
with listings on Petfinder

- ✓ Smalls and Lacey have been adopted. Socks is in training with CJ's Dog Training and has a home lined up.
- ✓ The new facility is nearly ready. Once it passes inspection, dogs are expected to move out of the old pens.
- ✓ On October 9, BAAB met with Chief Caudle, City Manager David Jordan and Council Member Brooks to discuss how we work together.

The City keeps custody. BAAB helps dogs find homes.

CITY OF SWEENY

Keeps legal custody of every animal and makes all decisions about them under the signed MOU. Animal Control (Rodger Larsen) reports to Chief Caudle and handles pickup, intake, the 72-hour hold and daily care.

BAAB

A volunteer, supporting nonprofit. Helps with adoptions, rescue partners and transport, and has helped pay for vet care, food and supplies as funds allow. Can apply for grants the City cannot.

TOGETHER

Shared records in Shelter Luv, a short call list, and regular check-ins, so everyone has the same information.

HOW IT WORKS

From pickup to a new home, step by step.

DAY 0 — PICKUP	Animal Control picks up the animal and logs it in Shelter Luv the same day: intake date, circumstances, and any protective-custody or behavior notes.
DAYS 1-3 — INTAKE HOLD	The animal stays at the old facility (the “intake” facility) for 72 hours so owners can reclaim it and any illness shows up.
AFTER 72 HOURS — MOVE	Unclaimed animals move to the new facility. BAAB works to arrange vaccines, spay/neuter, microchips and behavior evaluation as appointments and funds allow.
LISTED NATIONWIDE	Dogs can be listed on Petfinder through Shelter Luv and shared with rescue partners and transport networks.
PLACEMENT	Adoption, rescue partner or transport, coordinated with Animal Control and recorded in Shelter Luv.
HOLD PERIOD CHECK-INS	As a dog nears the hold period, the City and BAAB talk about its plan and next steps.

Getting a dog ready to leave takes time no one fully controls.

Vet scheduling

Spay/neuter appointments at Marsh Veterinary Clinic can be up to two months out.

Rescue requirements

Rescue partners will only accept dogs that are already spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped.

Transport schedules

Transports to areas with high adoption demand, such as the Pacific Northwest, run on fixed schedules.

Evaluation and training

Dogs need a behavior evaluation, and some need training, before they can safely go home.

All volunteers

BAAB board members and volunteers all have full-time jobs. Every hour we give is our own time.

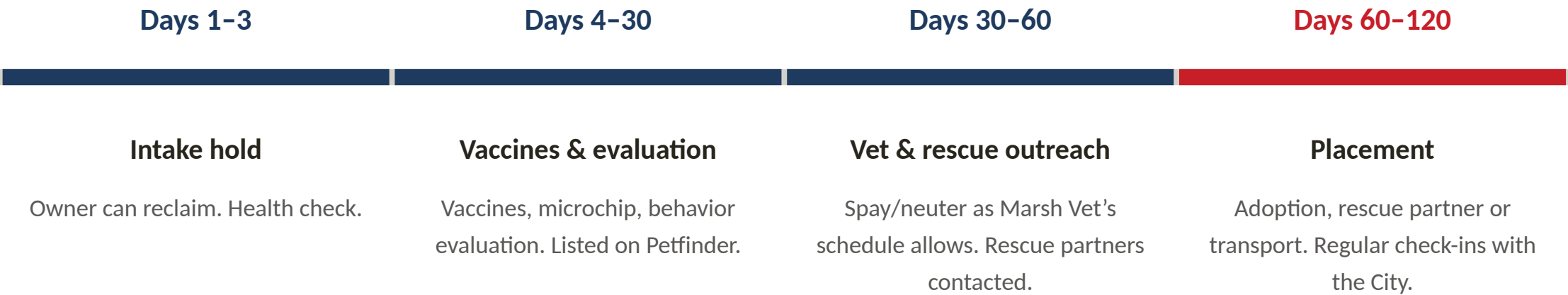
Kennel stress

We agree a year is too long. 120 days is a clear limit that allows a reasonable window to work toward placement.

Many dogs may leave sooner. 120 days gives a reasonable window for the dogs that need the most help.

A TYPICAL TIMELINE

What 120 days could look like for a dog.



Day 120 is a check-in, not an end date. If a dog is waiting on surgery, a transport seat or a rescue opening, the City and BAAB agree on its next step together.

What we discussed on October 9.

- ✓ The plan is for every animal to be entered in Shelter Luv the day it arrives. BAAB has offered to set up logins and help train Rodger, and logins are also offered to Chief Caudle and Council Member Brooks.
- ✓ Animal Control requests go through Chief Caudle. Rodger reports to the City.
- ✓ BAAB gives the City a short call list of three contacts: Leigh Ann Thornton (President), Reagan Moreno (Board Secretary) and Jerri Freshour (Vice President).
- ✓ BAAB is contacted before any euthanasia decision. Humane euthanasia on a licensed vet's recommendation, and true emergencies, stay with the Chief.
- ✓ BAAB may take adoptable dogs to community and adoption events.
- ✓ The City, Animal Control and BAAB plan to hold regular check-ins to raise concerns early.

What BAAB respectfully asks of Council.

1

SET A 120-DAY HOLD PERIOD

Adopt 120 days as the hold period in the updated Animal Control ordinance.

2

A CHECK-IN, NOT AN END DATE

Make the hold period a point where the City and BAAB review the dog's plan, with room to extend for medical care or a scheduled transport.

3

CALL BAAB FIRST

Contact BAAB before any euthanasia decision, except for humane euthanasia recommended by a licensed vet or a true emergency.

4

SHARED RECORDS

Have every animal entered in Shelter Luv on intake so the City and BAAB see the same information.

THANK YOU

Better for the animals. Better for Sweeny.



Next steps

- ✓ Final inspection of the new facility, then move the dogs out of the old pens
- ✓ Shelter Luv logins and training for Animal Control
- ✓ BAAB to seek food donations and grants, including Hill's Science Diet
- ✓ A joint open house with the City once the facility is up and running

Thank you to Chief Caudle, David Jordan, Council Member Brooks and Rodger Larsen for working with us.

This presentation describes BAAB's goals and proposals. It is not a contract, does not change the signed MOU, and does not create legal obligations for BAAB, its board or volunteers. BAAB's support is voluntary and depends on available volunteers, funds and resources.