



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: **Langley Animal Control and Sheltering Services Update**

File #: 0110.00

Doc #: 201136

From: Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: May 1, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT City Council receive the May 1, 2025 Report to Council from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding Langley Animal Control and Sheltering Services Update for information.
2. THAT City Council direct staff to explore different operating models and develop an implementation strategy to maintain animal control and sheltering services for the City of Langley in the event that the Township of Langley Council approves the bylaw and agreement amendments for animal control services as outlined in their September 23, 2024 motion regarding Potential Reform of Township of Langley Animal Control.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to update City Council on the current and future status of animal control and sheltering services provided by the Langley Animal Protection Society to the City of Langley.

POLICY:

Animal Control Bylaw, 2006, No. 2622.

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

Background

Since 2003, the City of Langley (Langley City) has contracted with the Langley Animal Protection Society (LAPS) for animal control and sheltering services. Similarly, the Township of Langley (Langley Township) has separately contracted with LAPS for similar animal control and sheltering services. LAPS has managed the operation of the animal control and sheltering services as a joint and seamless operation that has resulted in operational efficiency for LAPS and cost effectiveness for both communities. LAPS has provided excellent and high caliber animal control and sheltering services to both communities and certainly Langley City for over 20 years.

Under Langley City's Animal Control Bylaw, 2006, No. 2622, LAPS provides animal control, sheltering, impoundment, and dog licensing services. The current contract with LAPS will expire on December 31, 2025.

The 2025 annual Animal Control Services and Animal Sheltering cost provided by LAPS to the City is \$46,523 and \$61,439 respectively, plus a 20% Administration fee of \$21,592, totalling \$129,554.

As noted in LAPS' Contract Value Review over the last two (2) years, Animal Control Officers allocated 7% of their time for Langley City files and patrols. Additionally, 4% of animals admitted to LAPS care were a result of the agreement.

LAPS provided shelter and homing services for 87 cats from Langley City from January to September 2024. LAPS also provides behaviour modification, veterinary care, emergency response, spay/neuter feral cat program, and rehoming services. All cat servicing is upon request from the public and forms part of their customer service initiatives. All costs associated with cats are currently 100% funded by donations.

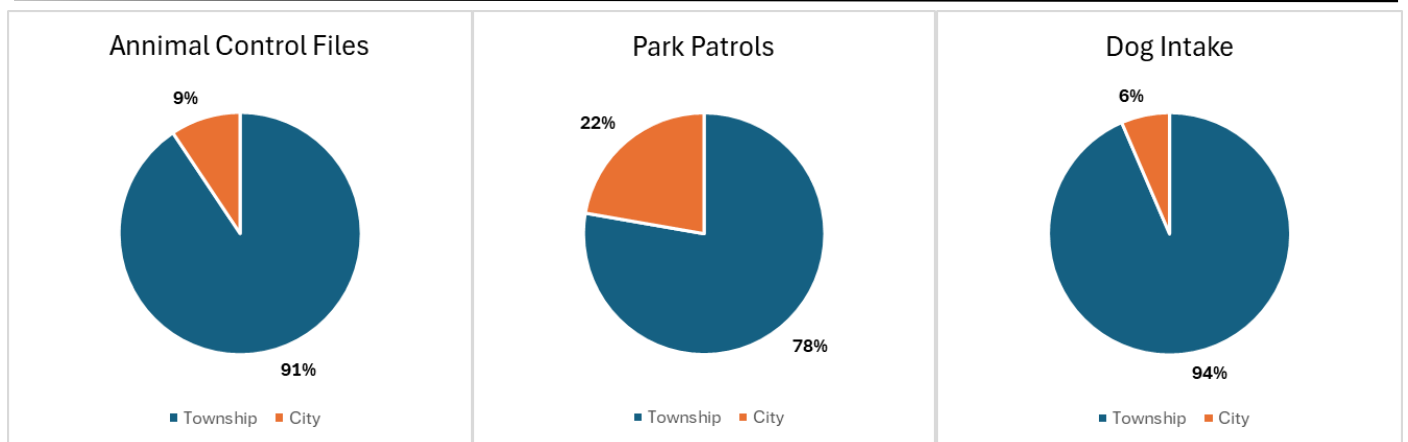
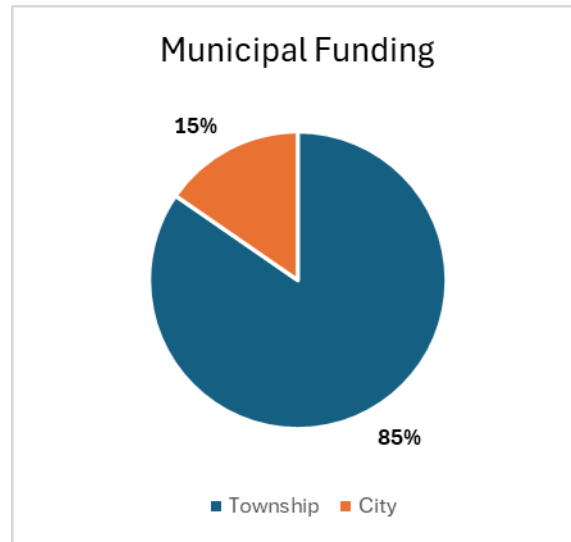
Township of Langley Animal Control and Sheltering Services Agreement

According to the July 25, 2022 Report to Langley Township's Mayor and Council regarding Animal Control and Sheltering Services Agreement Budget Increase, Animal Control Officers allocated 81.42% of their time for Langley Township files, in addition to patrols. Additionally, 46.41% of animals admitted to LAPS care between 2017 and 2022 were a result of the agreement. The annual Animal Control Services and Animal Sheltering cost was \$384,350 and \$289,379 respectively, plus a 15% Administration fee of \$101,059, totalling \$774,778. Based on the Langley Township Animal and Sheltering Services Agreement with LAPS, Langley Township receives all revenues from animal sheltering services for cats and from the Langley City contract in the amount of \$195,463 to supplement the total operational expense of

\$774,778. LAPS has taken on sole responsibility for cats in the community at an average cost of \$331,824 annually.

Calls and File Types Comparison between Langley City and Langley Township

For 2023, the comparative number of Animal Control Files, Park Patrols, and Dog Intake to Municipal Funding is presented below:



Files vs. Cost Comparison

The chart below illustrates the LAPS cost per call analysis and municipal comparison for 2022 and 2023. It demonstrates that Langley City is paying significantly more per call for animal control and sheltering services than is the Langley Township.

	2022		2023	
	Langley City	Langley Township	Langley City	Langley Township
Animal Control Files	195	1,154	142	1,374
Park Patrols (Proactive)	195	583	157	548
Total Calls	390	1,737	299	1,922
Contract Cost	\$105,533	\$391,935	\$112,510	\$619,286
Cost per Call	\$271	\$226	\$376	\$322

Township of Langley's Motion

At the September 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting of Langley Township, Langley Township Council approved the motion entitled Potential Reform of Township of Langley Animal Control that directs Langley Township's staff to draft bylaw and agreement amendments, amongst others, to:

- Consider animal control services be potentially provided directly by Langley Township Bylaw Department; and
- A commitment to the Langley Animal Protection Society for it to continue to provide animal shelter services exclusive to Township of Langley residents and taxpayers.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The 2025 budgeted annual Animal Control Services and Animal Sheltering cost was \$46,523 and \$61,439 respectively, plus a 20% Administration fee of \$21,592, totalling \$129,554.

If Langley Township Council decides to move forward with the plan as outlined in their motion regarding Potential Reform of Township of Langley Animal Control, the cost for animal control and sheltering services may be higher.

ALTERNATIVE:

None provided.

SUMMARY:

The contractual relationship between Langley City and LAPS for the past 22 years may be in jeopardy if Langley Township Council approves the bylaw and agreement amendments for animal control services as outlined in their September 23, 2024 motion

regarding Potential Reform of Township of Langley Animal Control. Although Langley City recognizes the right of Langley Township to consider reforming animal control and sheltering services for Langley Township, it does not appear that there is compelling reason, financial or operational, to bring animal control services in-house and exclude Langley City from animal sheltering services as the cost per file for Langley City was significantly higher than Langley Township.

Nevertheless, Langley City needs to explore different operating models and develop an implementation strategy to maintain animal control and sheltering services for the City of Langley in the event that the Township of Langley Council approve the bylaw and agreement amendments for animal control services as outlined in their September 23, 2024 Motion regarding Potential Reform of Township of Langley Animal Control.

Respectfully Submitted,



Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

1. September 23, 2024 Motion from Mayor Eric Woodward regarding Potential Reform of Township of Langley Animal Control
2. LAPS's Contract Value Review for City of Langley, October 1, 2024
3. Animal Control Bylaw, 2006, No. 2622
4. An Open Letter to the Community from LAPS, dated September 26, 2024
5. July 25, 2022 Report to Langley Township's Mayor and Council regarding Animal Control and Sheltering Services Agreement Budget Increase