
Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council Minutes
Monday, October 6, 2025 – 7:00pm-9:00pm
Innovation Square; Webex

Present: Tonya Anderson, Jeanne Aulbach, Gail LaBerge, Erin Martin, Nahum Nicholas,
Dr. Tameka Womack

Absent: Christina Westmeyer

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome / Announcements
3. Approval of Agenda
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Womack; Vote: (6-0); Anderson-Yes; Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}
4. Approval of Minutes – July 7, 2025
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Womack; Vote: (6-0); Anderson-Yes; Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}
5. Open Records Presentation from Law Department
6. Animal Welfare & Enforcement Updates
 - Updates from the Director
 - Center Operations
 - Special Operations
 - Field Operations
 - Medical Services and Intake Operations
 - Community Outreach
7. Old Business
 - Report on meeting with FurKids dog team
 - Discussion of new reports for presentation at future meetings
 - Motion to call a Special Meeting to discuss presentation reports. {Action: Approved; Motion: Nicholas; Second: Martin; Vote: (6-0); Anderson-Yes; Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}
 - Motion to hold Special Meeting at Innovation Square, 446 West Crogan St, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 on November 10th, 2025 at 7:00pm. {Action: Approved; Motion: Martin; Second: LaBerge; Vote: (6-0); Anderson-Yes; Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}
8. New Business

9. Public Comments

10. Adjournment

- {Action: Approved; Motion: Martin; Second: LaBerge; Vote: (6-0); Anderson-Yes; Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}

Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council

October 6, 2025



Director Updates

Katrina.Helman@GwinnettCounty.com
678.226.7729

Director's Key Messages

- Current Capacity
- Emergency Status
- Construction Update
- Animal Welfare and County Social Media Platforms
- POD assignment SOP's
- Vacancies



Construction Update



Capacity and Pod Assignments

Public Facing Dog Pods – 28 Pens Each

- Pod 1 – Large dogs
- Pod 2 – Large to medium dogs
- Pod 3 – Medium dogs
- Pod 4 – Medium to small dogs
- Pod 5* – Small dogs

Non-Public Facing Dog Pods

- Intake Pod – 18 Large
- Bite Canine Pod – 10 Large
- Post-Op Pod – 18 Large
- Neglect Canine Pod – 11 Large

Capacity and Pod Assignments

Public Facing Feline Pods

- Pod 1 – 15 cages
- Pod 2 – 12 cages
- Pod 3 – 9 cages

Non-Public Facing Feline Pods

Intake Feline POD

- Intake Feline: 18 cages
- Neglect Feline: 36 cages
- Feline Bites: 15 cages

Sick Cat Room

- Sick Cat: 36 cages
- Under Vet Care: 27 cages

Neonatal Kitten Room – 36 double cages

Center Operations

Angela.Hutchins@GwinnettCounty.com



Center Visitor Analytics July – September 2025

4,898 Center Visitors

- 112 Google
- 849 Other (*previous adopter, drove by/live nearby, etc.*)
- 70 Gwinnett County employees/family members
- 643 Word of Mouth
- 381 Animal Welfare/County Social Media Platforms

1,062 Adoptions

- 89 Pitt Bull Breed Types
- 26 Husky Breed Types
- 26 Shepherd Breed Types
- Yappy Hour: Three Adoptions

345 Return to Owners



Top Animals in Our Care (as of October 5, 2025)

	Cats	Dogs	Kittens	Puppies
Available to Adopt (includes In-Foster)	21	112	22	8
Awaiting Behavior Assessment/Retest	0	10	0	0
Awaiting Transfer/Rescue	0	0	0	0
Awaiting Vet Exam	0	0	49	0
Awaiting Spay/Neuter	0	0	1	0
Bite Quarantine	3	4	1	2
In-Foster: Protective Custody/Hold	2	1	32	1
Vet Care	2	1	12	0
Protective Custody/Hold	2	30	0	6
Total Animals in Care: 334	TOTAL 31	TOTAL 163	TOTAL 121	TOTAL 17

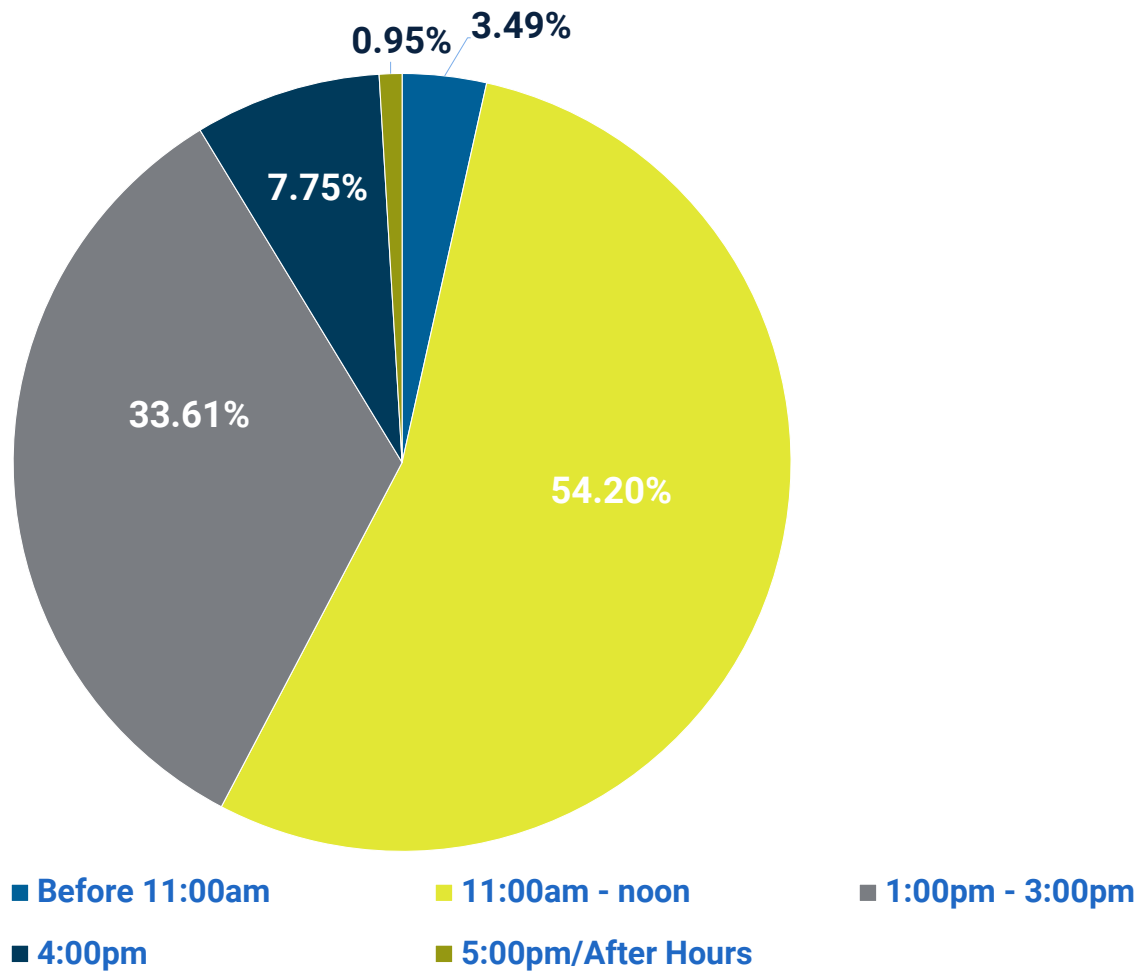
Source: Animal Welfare & Enforcement Shelter Report for 10.5.25

2025 Adoptions Time Analysis

	11:00am – Noon	1:00pm – 3:00pm	4:00pm	5:00pm/After Hours*
January	160	76	23	0
February	126	69	8	1
March	159	76	14	4
April	133	57	13	1
May	195	121	43	1
June	182	143	27	2
July	179	134	40	9
August	168	125	19	3
September	188	123	26	5
	TOTAL 1,490	TOTAL 924	TOTAL 213	TOTAL 26

**Stat includes Yappy Hour Events and when adopter arrived during standard public hours, but adoption completed after 5:00pm*

2025 Adoption Time Analysis



Peak Hours (11:00am – 3:00pm)

- 90% of adoptions completed (2, 414)
- Breakdown by month:
 - January – 91%
 - February – 95%
 - March – 92%
 - April – 93%
 - May – 88%
 - June – 91%
 - July – 86%
 - August – 93%
 - September – 90%

Center Operations

July - September 2025

Canine Live Release Rate

92.53% July
92.56% August
94.18% September

93.65% 2025 YTD
90.13% 2024 YTD

Feline Live Release Rate

91.76% July
87.37% August
92.66% September

90.92% 2025 YTD
94.27% 2024 YTD

Percentage Saved

92.53% July
90.84% August
93.73% September

92.96% 2025 YTD
92.36% 2024 YTD

Euthanasia

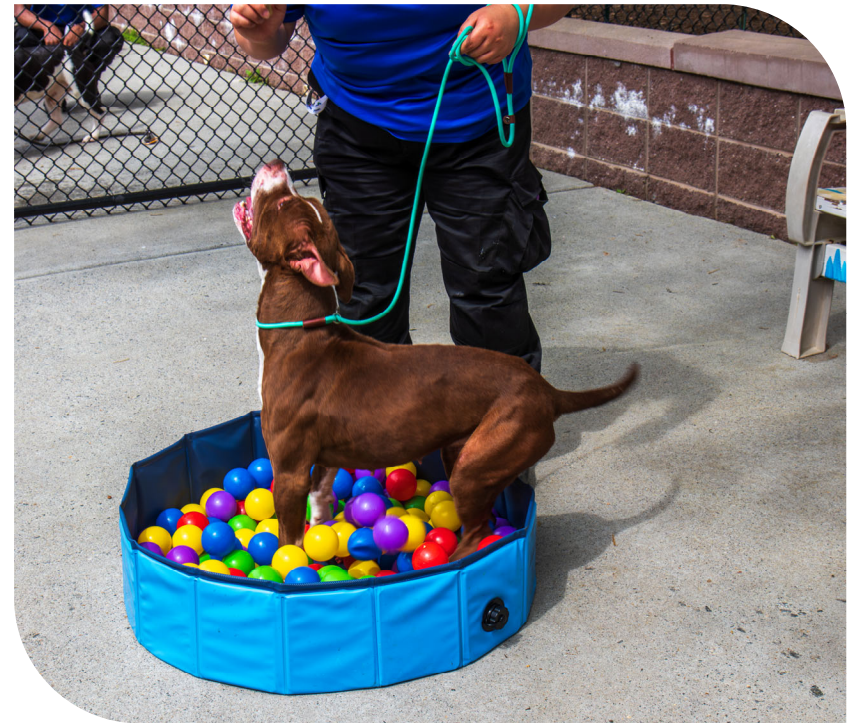
128 Animals Euthanized
(July - September 2025)

104 Animals Euthanized
(July - September 2024)

Euthanasia Rate
7.47% July
9.16% August
6.27% September

Animal Enrichment & Assessments July – September 2025

- 1,467.8 Hours with Dogs
 - 2,034 dogs in enrichment activities
- 498 Hours with Cats
 - 248 cats in enrichment activities
- 82 Dogs Assessed
 - 1,111 Assessment Hours
- 66 Hours of Additional Volunteer Enrichment
- 29 Dogs in outreach activities



Special Operations

Michael.Chatham@GwinnettCounty.com



Dangerous/Vicious Hearing Board July – September 2025

Dangerous Dogs	Vicious Dogs
2 Dangerous dog cases (2 hearings pending)	0 Vicious dog case (0 hearing pending)
5 Dog declared dangerous	2 Dog declared as vicious
3 Cases pending/investigation	0 Cases pending/investigation

Rescues, Neglect, Court & Probation July – September 2025

	July - September 2025	July - September 2024	2025 YTD
Sent to a Rescue*	143	106	446 (412 total in 2024)
Neglect Cases	193	275	559
Court & Probation	76 Probation Checks	69 Probation Checks	225 Probation Checks

**Collaborated with 40 different rescues from July - September 2025*

Rescue Pleas

July – September 2025

Received a Rescue Plea	Adopted	Fostered	Euthanized	Total Sent to/ Pulled for Rescue
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 90 Dogs• 22 Cats• 112 Total <i>Multiple pleas sent</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 Dogs• 3 Cat• 23 Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 Dogs• 4 Cats• 19 Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13 Dogs• 2 Cats• 15 Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 68 Dogs• 50 Cats• 25 Other• 143 Total

Bites and Rabies Comparison

July – September 2025

	July – September 2025	July – September 2024	2025 YTD
Animal Bites	234	212	642
Positive Rabies Cases	2	1	3

Field Operations

Ira.Tolbert@GwinnettCounty.com



Strengthening Field Operations

- Promotions
 - Cassie Fernandez to ACO III (Nights)
 - Mikayla Wharton to ACO III (Days)
- Major Milestones for Field Staff
 - 2018 – 2021:
 - No cross training, operating at minimum capacity, low staff morale
 - Present:
 - Projecting fully staffed by December 2025/January 2026
 - Field staff rotating into Kennel for cross training

Field Operations

July – September 2025

	July – September 2025	July – September 2024	YTD for 2025
Animals Saved	1,551	1,589	4,436
Calls for Service	5,482	5,252	16,237
Returned in Field	114	104	365
Citations Issued	326	361	1,190
Picked up on Road	899	694	2,495
Dead Animals	326	479	1,115

Medical Services & Intake Operations

Brittany.Arnold@GwinnettCounty.com



TNR's Effect On Disease Control Since Summer 2024

Panleuk

Sept. 19, 2024

Strep Zoo

December 4,
2024

Parvo

January 22, 2024
January 26, 2024
February 24, 2024
March 13, 2024
May 24, 2024
September 19, 2024

YTD 2025

March 21 -Panleuk
August 13 - Panleuk

Return to Community Cat Program

July – September 2025

Month	2025	2024	YTD for 2025
July	131	170	965
August	113	161	
September	146	131	
Grand Total	390	462	
Available Spots Filled	87%	N/A	

Owner Surrender Emails Received July – September 2025

Month	July – September 2025	July – September 2024	Percentage Change	YTD for 2025
July	235	140	40%	1,901
August	289	153	47%	
Sept.	201	199	1%	
Grand Total	725	492	32%	

July-September 2025: 165 (69 dogs, 80 cats, 16 other) Animals accepted from approved requests

Foster Program

July – September 2025

	July 2025	August 2025	September 2025	July – September 2024	2025 YTD
Adopted by Foster	9	10	11	12	90
Sent to Foster	18	16	13	176	389
New Fosters	6	20	14	11	88
Home Visits	9	18	15	39	121
Foster Hours	6,188	7,992	6,504	40,741	55,452

Community Outreach

Lisa.Howell@GwinnettCounty.com



Program Updates

- Foster and Volunteer Appreciation Night
- Adopt A Senior Dog Drive (month of November)
- Holiday Pet Food Assistance Drive
- YTD 3,423.51 pounds of pet food distributed, helping 344 pets



Events, Appearances & Outreach

Special Events

- Yappy Hour: Paws on the Red Carpet; Homework, Hugs, and Pets; Wildlife Neighbors

Community Appearances

- Magic S.T.E.A.M Bus
- Back-to-School Bash
- Summerour Middle Community Resource Fair
- Gwinnett Community Now
- Gwinnett Tech Community Fair
- Community Field Day at Alexander Park

Partnerships and Outreach

- Pet Supplies Plus Adoption Event
- Paws in the Park @ Lenora Park
- Gwinnett 101 Citizen's Academy



Upcoming Appearances and Events

- **October 11:** Pet Supplies Plus Adoption Event
- **October 17:** Senior Wellness Fair
- **October 18:** Advanced Auto Parts Adoption Event
- **October 25:** Yellow River Trick or Treat Fall Festival
- **October 25:** Planned Pethood Vaccine Clinic
- **November 3:** Yappy Hour – BARKSgiving Meal Prep
- **December 1:** Yappy Hour – Home for the Holidays

Thank You

GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com
@GwinnettAnimalWelfare

