

**Summary of Program Costs vs Incoming Cats**  
**Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley and the Cities of San Jose, Milpitas, Santa Clara, Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga, and Sunnyvale**

Executive Summary

Comparing fiscal years 1995-2000, incoming cats from all cities have decreased by 16%. This is largely due to the low-cost spay/neuter voucher programs offered by San Jose, Milpitas, and Santa Clara County. If there were no spay/neuter voucher programs, incoming cats would have increased by 59%, resulting in an additional \$2,905,630 in community costs. Incoming cats and related animal control costs can be reduced even further if other cities in Santa Clara County participate in the program. San Jose's current level of funding for their program is still allowing a small increase in cats. San Jose should dramatically increase the revenue put toward the program to have a continued impact on reducing cats handled by the shelter. Other cities' participation would also create a more equitable situation for the cities and county currently funding the program.

Discussion

The nine cities saved \$1,966,991 in contract costs and the Humane Society saved an additional \$938,639 due to the decrease in incoming stray and owner-surrendered cats, for a **total community savings of \$2,905,630**. While animal control contract costs rose by 16.3% over the five years, they would have risen by 77% if there were no voucher program. Prior to 1995, the beginning year of the voucher program, incoming cats had been increasing by 6% annually. Had this trend continued, incoming cats for FY00 would have been 25,931 versus the actual number of 16,281. This potential 59% increase reflects an additional 9,650 cats over five years, which would have resulted in an additional increase of 77% in contract costs. At \$103/cat for handling costs, this would have cost the cities an additional \$1,966,991 and the HSSCV an additional \$938,639.

San Jose, Milpitas, and Santa Clara County have spent \$575,873 over the past five years, saving \$1,966,991 in animal control costs, However, the other cities have benefited from the voucher program without financially contributing to it. As we can see, their incoming cats have decreased as well. This is largely due to citizens using the county's program or, in some cases, using false addresses to take advantage of San Jose's and Milpitas's programs. While the percentage decrease for these cities has been impressive, the lower actual numbers of cats suggest a more dramatic result. Additionally, the decrease could be even more if more resources were put toward s voucher programs supported by every city.

Incoming Cats

	<u>FY95</u>	<u>FY00</u>	<u>%Change</u>	<u>w/out voucher program</u>
Total Strays	14,011	12,267	(12.4%)	18,750
SJ	8,697	8,826	1.5%	11,639
Other Cities	5,314	3,441	(35.2%)	7,111
Total Owned	<u>5,366</u>	<u>4,014</u>	(25.2%)	7,181
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,377</b>	<b>16,281</b>	<b>(16%)</b>	<b>25,931 + 59%</b>

Contract Costs

	<u>FY95</u>	<u>FY00</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>%Change</u>	<u>without voucher program</u>	
					<u>\$Change</u>	<u>%Change</u>
SJ,SC,MI	2,216,000	2,554,542		13.3%		
West Valley	251,763	284,273		11.4%		
Sunnyvale	88,800	134,940		34.2%		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,556,563</b>	<b>2,973,755</b>	<b>\$417,192</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>\$1,966,991</b>	<b>77%</b>