



THE SUNRISE CITY
ANIMAL CONTROL

FORT PIERCE
Florida

TO : The Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners

THROUGH : Nicholas Mimms, City Manager

FROM : Peggy Arraiz, Code Compliance Manager

SUBJECT : Shelter Operation RFP - update

DATE : August 12, 2020

The Request for Proposals for the operations of the animal shelter closed at the end of July. There was significant interest shown in the RFP with almost all our local rescue organizations participating in the walk throughs of the shelter and multiple questions and inquiries made prior to the due date. Unfortunately, we did not receive any bids.

From the informal feedback I received, the most common reason for organizations to opt out of the bidding was due to the coronavirus. To start up an program that relies heavily on donations and fundraising in the best of time is a daunting task and to do it at the spike of the pandemic was just too big of a hurdle.

St. Lucie County and the City of Fort Pierce are both committed to continuing to work together and obtaining an outside organization to operate the animal shelter as our long term solution. The Purchasing Department is soliciting formal feedback from the organizations that obtained copies of the RFP or made inquiries to provide us guidance when we redraft and reissue another RFP.

In the meantime, we are working with St. Lucie County for a possible temporary solution. The County is continuing to operate the shelter with support from our Animal Control staff and the rehabilitation of the facility has continued at a swift pace.

I will provide updates on our progress as we move forward.