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**NEWS
RELEASE**

09/03/2025

City Announces Retirement of Animal Services Director

City Appoints Interim, Prepares for National Search

EL PASO, Texas—The City of El Paso today announced the retirement of Terry Kebschull, Director of Animal Services.

Kebschull has served the City for more than 30 years, including distinguished leadership in the Fire Department and most recently as Director of Animal Services. During his time with Animal Services, he advanced operations, strengthened cross-departmental partnerships, and supported initiatives to improve the welfare of pets across the community. Kebschull's last day in the office will be September 12, 2025, after which he will utilize accrued vacation concluding his employment with the City on October 3, 2025.

“Serving as Director of Animal Services is both rewarding and demanding. The challenges are significant, but so are the opportunities to make a difference,” said City Manager Dionne Mack. “Terry has led with compassion and resilience, helping improve the lives of countless pets and the families who love them. We are grateful for his leadership and wish him the very best in his retirement.”

To maintain continuity, the City has appointed Michael Wachsmann as Interim Director of Animal Services. Wachsmann currently serves as Deputy Director, where he oversees daily operations. He brings more than 15 years of experience in animal care and management, with previous leadership roles at the Houston SPCA and other animal welfare organizations. His career includes work in animal adoptions, foster care programs, veterinary services, and public education on responsible pet ownership.

“Michael has proven himself to be a dedicated and skilled leader in animal welfare,” said Deputy City Manager Richard Bristol. “His experience and commitment to both operational excellence and compassionate care make him well positioned to guide the department during this transition.”

The City will conduct a national search for the next permanent Director of Animal Services.

For more information about Animal Services or to learn how to support animals in need, visit www.EIPasoAnimalServices.org.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
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