

MEMORANDUM

To: Sacramento Animal Wellbeing Commissioners
From: Shannon Quinn, Front Street Shelter Volunteer Coordinator
Date: February 11, 2026
Re: Asking for your support locating low/no cost sites for routine Front Street Animal Shelter Free Vaccine Clinics open to the public for their pets

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Hello! The Volunteer Coordinators for Front Street Animal Shelter support community outreach efforts such as our monthly free pet vaccination clinics. Please help us identify more space to hold **free pet vaccine clinics** for our community.

We are reaching out to members of our Animal Wellbeing Commission to discuss the ongoing need for **donated community space** and to explore new partnerships for 2026 & 2027. These clinics provide essential **preventative care for pets** while helping reduce barriers for residents who may otherwise lack access to veterinary services — supporting both animal welfare and public health across our community. With the support of City Councilmembers, we are hopeful to establish additional partnerships that would allow us to offer more consistent monthly clinic locations in 2027, particularly in neighborhoods where services are limited. At present, the North Natomas Community Center has generously offered their space at no cost, and we are deeply grateful for this collaboration. We would be excited to build similar partnerships with other community locations throughout Sacramento and welcome any guidance or connections your office may be able to share. Together, we can expand access to these vital services and continue supporting residents and their pets citywide.

We are currently still looking for a location for Sept 2026.

We are very thankful to recently partner with *Explore Midtown* for an upcoming clinic at Winn Park, in District 4, for the April, July and November 2026 clinics.

Below is an overview of our community vaccination clinics, including the audience we serve, clinic operations, service volume, and space requirements.

Clinic Audience

We advertise our vaccine clinics as serving city residents; however, we do not turn people away if they arrive from Sacramento County or another county. Our goal is to host clinics in or near underserved communities and to provide accessible preventative care/vaccines for individuals who may not otherwise be able to afford it.

Preventative care significantly reduces a dog or cat's risk of contracting life-threatening illnesses such as parvovirus or panleukopenia. By keeping pets healthy, we can help families keep their animals in their homes and reduce illness-related surrenders to shelters.

Clinic Style and Flow

- Clinics operate on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies and time allow.
- We maintain separate dog and cat lines, positioned as far apart as possible to minimize stress for cats.
- For households with both dogs and cats, we assess logistics on a case-by-case basis.

- Accommodations are made for individuals with disabilities, including a separate assistance area where a staff vaccinator can help without requiring them to stand in line.
- Owners of reactive dogs are asked to keep their dogs in their vehicles; a vaccinator will assist them in a designated temporary parking space near the front of the clinic.

Service Volume and Demand

Demand for our clinics has increased steadily over the past few years due to repeat customers and word-of-mouth referrals. To better manage expectations and clinic flow, we tracked the ratio of vaccinators to customers and now distribute “guaranteed service tickets” before paperwork is issued. This allows volunteers to clearly communicate whether service can be guaranteed before people wait in line. While we occasionally still need to turn people away, this approach has significantly improved the overall customer experience by setting expectations upon arrival.

- From 8:00–11:00 a.m., we typically serve up to 250 customers with at least 14 vaccinators, including four experienced, cat-savvy vaccinators.
- For clinics running from 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., last year’s customer volume ranged from 248–369 households, with total animals vaccinated ranging from 330–544.

Space Requirements

Ideal sites include:

- Ample customer parking.
- A safe area for customers to line up away from busy roadways.
- Sufficient space to maintain separate dog and cat vaccination areas.
- Controlled temperature inside spaces for our dog and cat vaccine booths—a room for cat vaccination stations is a requirement, and an inside space for our dog vaccinators is a plus to keep them out of weather conditions but not required.
- If possible, bathroom facilities are helpful.

Please understand, all but 1 or 2 people at our clinics are staff vaccinators; the bulk of our volunteers are UC Davis Animal Science undergrad students who are part of clubs. Many are in a learning capacity when they attend clinics, and several of them have come regularly and become shining star vaccinators teaching others!

Schedule

Our clinics are scheduled on or about the 2nd Sunday of each month. Currently, we host the clinics on Sundays because this is the day our student volunteers and staff are available to help. The students make up the bulk of our volunteer help. The time for the clinics is either scheduled for 8am-11am or 8am-12pm. Our coordinator and volunteer team arrives to the location at 6:45am to set up, then stays until everything is packed—typically 30-45 minutes after the clinic ends.

For follow-up questions or concerns please contact:

Shannon Quinn

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Please let me know if you’d like any additional details or clarification. Thank you!!