

Hawaiian Humane Society People For animals. Animals For people.

2700 Walalae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 808.356.2200 • HawaiianHumane.org

Media Contact: Jessica Tronoski, Communications Manager jtronoski@hawaiianhumane.org | 808-356-2206

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In support of the humane management of Oahu's Free-Roaming cats, the City and County of Honolulu reduces cost of Feline Fix to zero

HONOLULU, HI (June 4, 2020)— Effective immediately, Oahu's Free-Roaming cat caregivers will no longer have to purchase certificates in order to make appointments under the City and County's Feline Fix program.

In an effort to reduce barriers to participation, the Hawaiian Humane Society has worked with the City and County of Honolulu to implement the following improvements to Oahu's Free-Roaming cat sterilization program:

- The \$10 fee for spay/neuter services has been eliminated.
- Caregivers can make appointments directly with participating providers and certificates will be filled out at the time of their appointments.

The goal of Feline Fix is to humanely reduce the number of homeless animals. The program is administered by the Hawaiian Humane Society on behalf of the City and County of Honolulu. It offers sterilization services for Free-Roaming cats through seven participating providers across Oahu: Aloha Affordable Veterinary Services, Cat-Bird Vet Mobile Hospital, CatFriends, OSPCA, Ohana Veterinary Hospital, Purradise Cat Care Inc. and Hawaiian Humane's own Community Spay/Neuter Center. An ear notch and microchip will be given to each cat spayed/neutered through the Feline Fix program.

"The Hawaiian Humane Society is dedicated to the humane treatment of all animals, including the Free-Roaming cat population on Oahu, which we acknowledge is of large concern to the community," says Anna Neubauer, President and CEO of Hawaiian Humane Society. "The Hawaiian Humane Society supports responsible Trap-Neuter-Return-Manage (TNRM), a humane and effective long-term strategy to reduce the number of cats at large and improve their quality of life. When caregivers trap, neuter and then return cats to their colonies, the population of cats in the landscape stabilizes and decreases as cats live out their natural lives without reproducing. These improvements to Feline Fix further enable this strategy and underscore the efforts being made by the City and County to address concerns voiced by the community," she continued.

"The Hawaiian Humane Society is grateful to the City and County of Honolulu for their partnership and determination to improve the lives of animals islandwide," says Neubauer. "Through programs like Feline Fix and

Neuter Now, the implementation of stronger animal welfare laws and continued collaboration with organizations like the Hawaiian Humane Society, city officials play an integral role in making Oahu a better place to live for animals and people alike."

For more information about Feline Fix, visit HawaiianHumane.org.

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The Hawaiian Humane Society is an education and advocacy organization that shelters, protects, rescues, reunites and rehomes animals. Established in 1883, it is Oahu's only open-admission shelter that welcomes all animals. The non-profit organization is not a chapter of any group as there is no national humane society. The Hawaiian Humane Society is dedicated to promoting the human-animal bond and the humane treatment of all animals. Visit <u>HawaiianHumane.org</u> to learn more.