



August 10, 2023

City of Davenport,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the invaluable work carried out by the Humane Society of Scott County (HSSC) in providing critical animal welfare services to our community. The tireless efforts of HSSC have not only enriched the lives of countless animals but have also significantly contributed to the well-being and safety of the residents of Davenport and the entire Scott County.

HSSC's commitment to creating a safe haven for lost and injured animals is truly commendable. Their dedication ensures that animals in distress receive the care and attention they deserve, contributing to their recovery and eventual reunification with their families. The services provided by HSSC go beyond mere animal welfare; they provide a sense of security and compassion to our community members, knowing that there is a reliable and guaranteed place to turn to during times of need.

Moreover, I am well aware that HSSC plays a pivotal role in public safety through its contract for animal control services. This responsibility extends beyond the well-being of animals to encompass the protection of our residents as well. By addressing animal-related issues promptly and effectively, HSSC contributes significantly to maintaining a safe environment for our community.

However, I am concerned about the financial challenges that HSSC faces in sustaining these critical services. It is imperative that we provide the necessary resources to enable HSSC to continue its mission without compromise. The well-being of animals and the safety of our community members should not be jeopardized due to financial constraints.

I firmly endorse and encourage the continued collaboration between HSSC and the city of Davenport. The partnership between these two entities has been essential in fostering a compassionate and secure community environment. Nevertheless, I stress the importance of fair and appropriate compensation for the services rendered by HSSC. Adequate funding ensures that HSSC can maintain its high standards of care, efficiency, and effectiveness in animal welfare and public safety.

In conclusion, I am honored to lend my voice in support of the Humane Society of Scott County. Their steadfast dedication to animal welfare and public safety forms the cornerstone of our region's well-being. I urge you to consider the vital role that HSSC plays in our community and to allocate the necessary resources to ensure their continued success.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am confident that, together, we can create a brighter and more compassionate future for the animals and residents of Scott County.

With sincere gratitude,

Erin Granet & Kris Westmoreland

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August 8, 2023

Ms. Mallory Merritt  
Assistant City Administrator/CFO  
City of Davenport  
600 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
Davenport, IA 52801

Re: Humane Society of Scott County – new City Contract

Dear Ms. Merritt:

This letter is in support of the Humane Society of Scott County (HSSC), and we wanted to share our thoughts with you on why we believe they should continue to hold the contract for Davenport animal control.

We are King's Harvest Pet Rescue and have been in our building here in Davenport since 2015. So for over 8 years now we have had dealings with HSSC and feel we know a good deal about the work they do, the services they perform, and what an asset they are to our community. We would like to touch on 3 areas for your special consideration as you negotiate a new contract for animal control services in Davenport.

**HSSC - Primary Focus:** We know that HSSC works to save lives and reduce pet over-population. They have done an amazing job at their shelter including providing spay/neuter services for all stray/abandoned animals brought to their facility, implementing a TNR (trap-neuter-return) program for cats, and now have over 100 Foster Homes in order to free up more space at the shelter to house more homeless/lost animals. And something else that is very important...they work diligently to only euthanize animals as a last resort. We think these accomplishments matter a great deal to the people living in and around Davenport and believe they would want to see this good work continue.

**HSSC- Doing Business:** With the many high costs of operating a business these days an animal control facility also has many things to consider. For example...building maintenance is especially costly when housing animals. As you know, employment costs have increased so it is necessary to offer competitive wages and benefits to attract/keep staff since it is not always easy to find people willing to do this kind of work which can be emotionally and physically draining. And dealing with animals in distress can bring about high vet bills which also contribute to making it extremely difficult to manage a shelter efficiently without budget increases. We know this firsthand due to what we deal with on a daily basis at our shelter. *Note: A few years ago the City asked us to consider handling animal control, but we could not manage it at our current facility with the contract being offered at that time.*

**HSSC - Impact on our Community:** We cannot stress enough how important it is to have HSSC handling animal control for our area. Because they do such a great job, it may not seem like there are that many stray/abandoned animals still in need of help, but let me assure you there are, and if not for HSSC, there could be hundreds and maybe even thousands more. Thanks to HSSC, our community now has better animal control services than ever before, and we would really like to see that continue.

Thank you for your time reviewing our comments. We wish you well and sincerely hope that you and the Humane Society of Scott County will work out a new contract that will be satisfactory for both. Please feel free to call me at 563-579-0313 if I can answer any questions or be of assistance in any way regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Terri Gleize, Executive Director

cc: Humane Society of Scott County

2504 W. Central Park Avenue, Davenport, IA 52804 \* Phone: 563-386-3117 \*

[www.kingsharvestpetrescue.org](http://www.kingsharvestpetrescue.org) \* Facebook



Atlanta, GA · Bentonville, AR · Houston, TX · Kanab, UT · Los Angeles, CA · New York City, NY · Salt Lake City, UT

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend the Scott County Humane Society (HSSC) for your consideration. I have been consistently impressed by their lifesaving efforts and commitment to maintaining their no-kill status. In 2022, the HSSC saved over 90% of the animals that came into their shelter, the benchmark for a no-kill organization. This is a remarkable achievement, and it is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the HSSC leadership, staff, and volunteers.

The HSSC leadership is committed to maintaining their no-kill status, and they have a number of programs in place to help them achieve this goal. The HSSC also provides a number of other services to the community. They offer vaccination and microchip clinics, youth humane education curriculum, animal protection services, pet retention support, and pet adoption counseling.

The Humane Society of Scott County is a valuable asset to the Quad Cities community. They are saving lives, providing important services, and making a difference in the lives of animals and people alike. I highly recommend the HSSC for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Yeaglin".

Tim Yeaglin  
Regional Strategist



Meagan Koehler  
It Takes A Village Animal Rescue & Resources  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
563-261-9176  
08/04/2023

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the Humane Society of Scott County (HSSC) and their invaluable contributions to your community. Their dedication to the welfare of animals and public safety is a cornerstone of our entire region's well-being. We have worked closely with this organization on more than one occasion on pressing animal welfare issues.

HSSC plays a pivotal role in ensuring the safety and care of both animals and residents in Davenport and throughout Scott County. Their tireless efforts in providing a secure haven for lost and injured animals serve as a vital lifeline for your community. Moreover, their role as the primary entity responsible for animal control services underscores their commitment to the greater good.

Without the compassionate and knowledgeable service offered by the Humane Society of Scott County, the well-being of beloved animals and the safety of your own citizens would be at risk. This organization is an indispensable asset to the community they serve.

I firmly endorse the continued collaboration between HSSC and the city of Davenport. However, I emphasize the importance of fair and appropriate compensation for the critical services they provide. While nonprofit organizations like the Humane Society shoulder a significant burden, the primary responsibility for animal control and sheltering services rests with the local government. It is incumbent upon the city of Davenport to ensure that the Humane Society of Scott County receives just compensation for the essential services they offer.

In conclusion, I implore you to recognize the value that HSSC brings to your community. Their dedication, expertise, and compassion are integral to community well-being. As responsible stewards of both animal welfare and public safety, it is vital that you provide the necessary support to sustain their efforts. I wholeheartedly support the Humane Society of Scott County and their continued partnership with the city of Davenport.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your commitment to your community's welfare.

Sincerely,

*Meagan Koehler*  
Meagan Koehler, President and Founder  
It Takes A Village Animal Rescue & Resources



[www.k9kindnessrescue.org](http://www.k9kindnessrescue.org)

**K9 Kindness Rescue, Inc.**

1305 26<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bettendorf, IA 52722

To whom it may concern,

This letter is in support of the Humane Society of Scott County. Their organization's lifesaving work creates a safe and guaranteed place for residents of Davenport and the rest of Scott County to take lost and injured animals. By holding the contract for animal control services, they also provide a public safety service that is vital to the community. Without a reputable, knowledgeable organization like the Humane Society of Scott County providing animal control and animal sheltering services for the city of Davenport, it is worrisome to think about what care for animals and safety for humans in Davenport and Scott County would look like.

We support the Humane Society of Scott County's continuance of the animal control and sheltering contract, but only if at an appropriately paid rate from the city of Davenport. Nonprofit organizations do not have a responsibility to provide animal control services or provide shelter for lost, injured, and dangerous animals. Local governments have a responsibility and duty to their citizens to provide this service. If local governments choose to contract private organizations to do so, they should pay in-full for said services.

We have had a working relationship with them and are impressed by their dedication to helping strays in our county. They are doing their best to get dogs reunited, adopted, and transferred to make room for new strays that are coming in at a rapid rate. Scott County Humane Society needs increased funding to continue to offer this needed service to the community.

Sincerely,

*Kimberly Patterson*

*Emily Schmitt*

K9 Kindness Rescue, Inc.