

CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO._____, 2007

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION recognizing IndyFeral and their impact on reducing the stray and feral cat intake at Indianapolis Animal Care and Control (IACC) and recognizing IACC Officer, Katie Sweeny, for providing education, solutions and mediation to the community in regard to un-owned, free-roaming cats.

WHEREAS, IndyFeral was started in July of 2002 as a means of changing the way stray and feral (wild) cats have been traditionally viewed and dealt with in the community. Indyferal is dedicated to shifting the paradigm from trapping and killing cats as a way of controlling the overpopulation crisis to that of the non-lethal method of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR); and

WHEREAS, IndyFeral empowers citizens by providing low-cost spay/neuter, vaccinations and resources for shelter, feeding and on-going care of the stray and feral cats. TNR is a proactive solution based on prevention and education, and consists of stray and feral cats being humanely trapped, evaluated, vaccinated, and sterilized by the veterinarian and then returned to their familiar habitat; and

WHEREAS, the community welcomes a humane solution to the overpopulation crisis without having to rely on trapping and killing. The community support of TNR has been overwhelming. This community support has allowed IndyFeral to sterilize 9,644 un-owned, free-roaming cats and vaccinate them against rabies and distemper as of December 31st, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the TNR ordinance makes it legal for the city's designated agency, in conjunction with Indianapolis Animal Care & Control, to carry out the TNR program; and

WHEREAS, Officer Katie Sweeny works with Indyferal and the community by providing education, solutions and mediation regarding un-owned, free-roaming cats; and

WHEREAS, IndyFeral's TNR and colony management techniques stop the breeding of cats and impose guidelines for care of un-owned, free-roaming cats. These techniques diminish the number of un-owned, free-roaming cats and nuisance complaints; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, there was a 6% decrease in the IACC un-owned, free-roaming cat intake. In 2006 there was an additional 35% decrease. As IndyFeral receives no public sector funding, this was accomplished without additional expense to IACC or the city. This decrease represents a total savings of \$223,650 to taxpayers; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:**

SECTION 1. The Indianapolis City-County Council proudly recognizes IndyFeral for its commitment to providing services and resources in central Indiana to control the stray and feral cat problem through humane means and to stop the uncontrolled population growth and improve the lives of free-roaming cats.

SECTION 2. The Council acknowledges the accomplishments of the TNR Ordinance and its savings to the city if Indianapolis.

SECTION 3. The Council proudly recognizes Officer Katie Sweeny for her dedication and her times and efforts to provide education, solutions and mediation regarding TNR.

SECTION 4. The Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.