

# COUNTY OF KANE

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Media Release

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## **Statement on Potential Low-cost Animal Euthanasia Service**

Kane County is exploring the introduction of a low-cost euthanasia program. This initiative would offer approved County residents a compassionate and painless option to peacefully end the life of their beloved pets, following a thorough health and behavioral evaluation process.

The service would be similar to ones already in place at veterinarians' offices, animal shelters and other government animal control facilities across the country.

To provide clarity regarding recent news coverage, Kane County Animal Control proposes a comprehensive screening process for animals. This process would confirm whether the animal is suffering from an incurable disease, debilitating old age, or if its behavior poses a risk to itself or others. Additionally, it would involve evaluating the owner's motivation to prevent rash judgments including no longer wanting to care for the animal. This would be a limited service and fully vetted process.

In those instances, Animal Control would have the ability to reject the owners request, or allow a person to surrender ownership so the animal could be re-homed.

The health and welfare of all animals is the highest priority of Kane County Animal Control and would never purposely euthanize an otherwise healthy pet.

The service would be similar to ones already in place at veterinarians' offices, animal shelters and other government animal control facilities across the country.

Euthanasia is considered a compassionate option for pet owners looking to alleviate their loyal companion's suffering and end their pain. Additionally, it serves as a

legal measure to safeguard public safety in cases where an animal's behavior becomes aggressive and irreparable.

There is no formal proposal to consider this type of program at this time.

To watch the Kane County Public Health Committee meeting where the potential low-cost animal euthanasia service was discussed, follow the link provided below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pekZtSwbhmU>