

**From:** [Robin Brigode](#)  
**To:** [Robin Brigode](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Community Cat Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 05, 2014 7:30:31 AM

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**From:** Pat Hubbard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 04, 2014 4:12 PM  
**To:** District3  
**Subject:** Community Cat Project

Dear Chairperson Bronson,

Having spent over 25 years in the animal welfare field I have had the opportunity to learn about the need for good animal stewardship practices and how these practices can benefit our animals. Year after year I have seen how different animal welfare groups throughout our county have found opportunities to grow and learn best practices for animals in their communities.

Pima County is privileged to have been selected to partner with Best Friends in a life saving project that has the potential to save the lives of thousands of feral and community cats over the next three years. Pima Animal Care Center has been chosen by Best Friends due to the many positive actions they have taken to increase their live release rate. This is a huge undertaking for an open access shelter that accepts all animals that are brought to them. This includes feral and community cats.

There are currently two options for these unsocialized cats that will never sit on someone's lap and get to live indoors with a loving companion.. The first option is for these cats to be humanely trapped , sterilized and returned to the neighborhoods from which they came. By returning them they will continue to thrive and live out their lives. They will no longer produce litters and in time their numbers will decrease. Fewer community cats being born will minimize the impact that these cat colonies have on indigenous wildlife and birds. The second option for these unsocialized cats is to be trapped and euthanized by the Pima Animal Care Center Staff. This is an option that is not humane for the cats that are trapped and taken to Pima Animal Care where their only option is euthanasia nor is it humane to the Pima Animal Care Staff that are scheduled to euthanize these healthy animals.

Regretfully, those in opposition of this Community Cat Program have no humane solutions to offer, euthanasia can't be our only option. Best Friends, the Humane Society of the United States and Alley Cat Allies which are all nationally supported organizations that have data and statistics as to why we should choose TNR over euthanasia.

Euthanasia is no longer an option for healthy community cats in animal shelters and animal organizations across the country that recognize the benefits of trap, neuter and return. Please vote in favor of this agreement between Pima County and Best Friends and give the residents of Pima County the opportunity to save more lives.

Please feel free to contact me on my cell phone if you have any questions or concerns, I will be happy to respond (520-403-6947).

Respectfully,

Pat

Ps. Hi Sharon, I hope you are doing well.

**Pat Hubbard**

*Community Liaison Director*

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

*70 years of helping pets and the people who love them*

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