



The City of Liberty City Council

1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575
www.cityofliberty.org

Joint Meeting

April Gilliland
City Secretary
936-336-3684

~ Agenda ~

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

The City Council of Liberty, Texas reserves the right to meet in closed session on any agenda item should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Mayor John Hebert, Jr.				
Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Brents				
Council Member Ed Seymour				
Council Member Ross Ward				
Council Member Debbie Dugger				
Council Member Bruce Bell				
Council Member Nick Dennis				

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment is reserved for members of the public who would like to address the City Council regarding agenda and non-agenda items. Please be aware that, under Texas Law, the Council may not deliberate or take any action during Citizen's comments for items not on the agenda. In some situations, City Staff may be able to respond to the public comment with a factual statement or clarification. The City Council may have the item placed on a future agenda for action or refer the item to Management and Staff for study or conclusion.

III. JOINT AGENDA WITH LCDC

A. Joint Session

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Rural Texas Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program

IV. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion To: Adjourn

I certify that the attached Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board and in the Message Centers located on the east and west sides of the City Hall Administration Building, located at 1829 Sam Houston on the 11th day of March 2026. This notice will remain posted continuously for at least three (3) business days preceding the scheduled day of said meeting in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

April Gilliland

April Gilliland, City Secretary

NOTICE

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Liberty will provide reasonable accommodation for persons attending and/or participating in this Council Meeting. To better serve you, requests must be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Contact the City at (936) 336-3684 or by Fax at (936) 336-9846. The building is wheelchair accessible, with parking available, on the west side of the building.

I certify that the attached Notice and Agenda of items to be considered by the City Council was removed by me from the bulletin board at the City Hall on the _____ day of _____, _____.

CITY OF LIBERTY

City Council Agenda Item Form

Meeting Date: March 17, 2026

Agenda Wording: Discussion and possible action regarding the Rural Texas Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program

Department: Administration

Subject: Rural Texas Trap-Neuter-Return Program

Background: Ms. Samantha Roberston & Ms. Shyanne Loftin from Rural Texas TNR Program, in support of Ms. Austin Thomas from ROSES Rescues, presented to the City Council and the Liberty Community Development Corporation about their program and how it helps the community. The Trap-Neuter-Return program safely traps stray and feral cat populations, then they are spayed/neutered, vaccinated and treated for health issues at a vet, and are returned to their outdoor homes to live out their natural lives to help reduce overpopulation and improve community health. Various locations within the City of Liberty were discussed that would benefit from partner funding to help to increase the number of cats that are treated specifically in the city.

Funding Source:

Staff Recommendation:

Rural Texas TNR Program: Building a Healthier Liberty

Request for Funding to Humanely Manage Stray Cats
Liberty City Council Meeting
January 13, 2026 | 6:00 pm
Presenters: Shyanne Loftin & Samantha Robertson

In support: Austin Thomas, President of ROSES Rescues



Who We Are

ROSES is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to cat rescue, adoptions, humane population control (Trap-Neuter-Return), & spay/neuter education.

Our Rural Texas TNR Program, supported by ROSES, focuses on humane cat management in Liberty County & surrounding rural areas near Houston.

Shyanne Loftin & Samantha Robertson are dedicated volunteers leading this program. They successfully managed over 300 cats in Liberty County in 2025 alone.

What is Trap-Neuter-Return?



“Trap-Neuter-Return” (TNR) is the proven, humane way to manage stray and feral cat populations:

- Cats are safely trapped.
- They’re spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and treated for health issues at a vet.
- They’re returned to their outdoor homes to live out their natural lives.

This approach reduces overpopulation and improves community health.

Learn more from Alley Cat Allies, a national advocate for humane cat care:

www.alleycat.org/resources/why-trap-neuter-return-feral-cats-the-case-for-tnr/

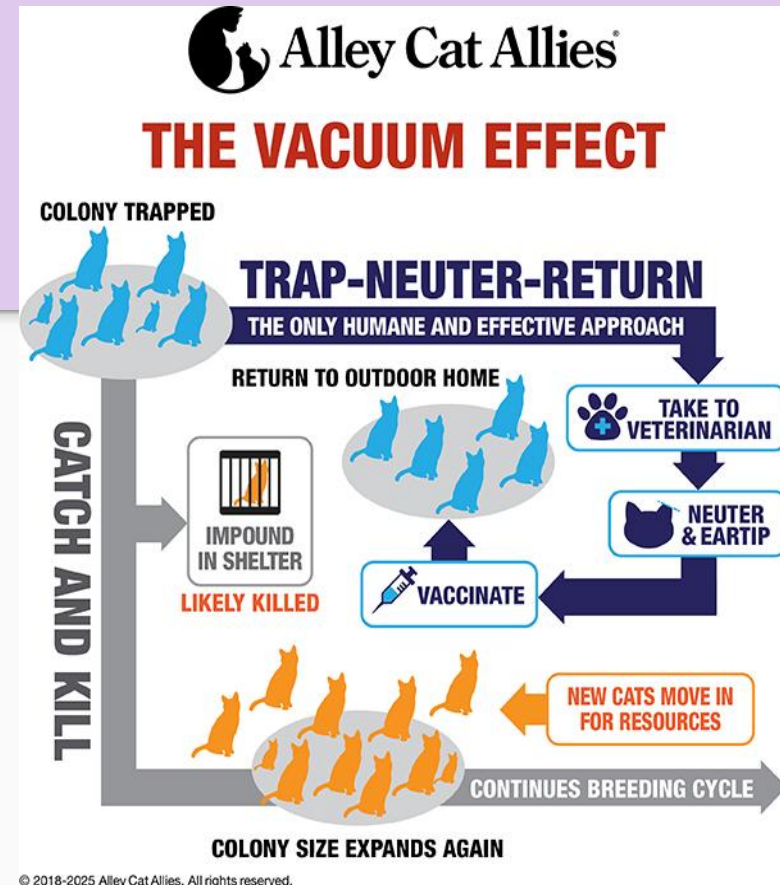
Why TNR Over Removal?

TNR is the only humane and effective method to reduce stray cat overpopulation long-term.

Removal fails due to the “vacuum effect”: New cats quickly fill the void where food and shelter remain, restarting the cycle.

TNR stabilizes populations, cuts nuisance issues, and saves city resources on repeated interventions.

www.alleycat.org/resources/why-trap-neuter-return-feral-cats-the-case-for-tnr/
www.alleycat.org/resources/the-vacuum-effect-why-catch-and-kill-doesnt-work/



How TNR Improves Liberty

TNR stabilizes cat colonies, reduces populations over time, and tackles key issues like stray overgrowth, abandoned kittens, and injured animals—enhancing community quality of life.

“TNR addresses community concerns with growing stray populations...” (Houston BARC)

Without TNR, two cats can explode to over 12,000 in 5 years, straining shelters and resources. TNR breaks this cycle for a cleaner, healthier Liberty.

https://www.houstontx.gov/barc/trap_neuter_return.html



CAT POPULATION Growth Rate



Year 1: 2



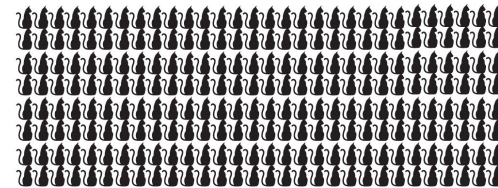
Year 2: 16



Year 3: 128



Year 4: 2,048



Year 5: 12,288

Uncontrolled reproduction in cats can quickly become overwhelming. In just 5 years, two cats can multiply exponentially, leading to an increasing population that strains resources and shelters. Spaying and neutering are simple, effective solutions to prevent this cycle and promote a healthier community for people and animals.

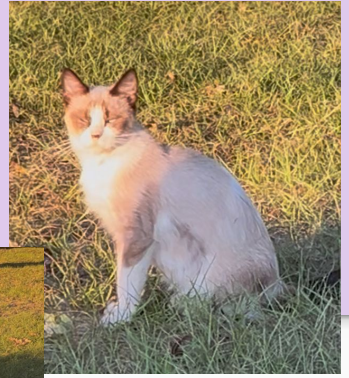
Stray Cats Near City Hall and Schools

Webster Street: Highlighting the need for action in public spaces



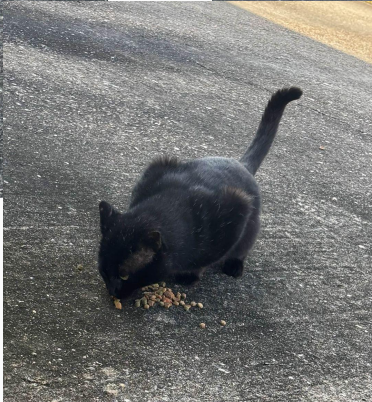
Cats in Liberty Municipal Park

A key LCDC “Quality of Life” asset affected by overpopulation



Business Impact: Cats at Anytime Fitness

Manager has requested help
to manage this colony



Local Spots Impacted by Cat Overpopulation

Businesses Facing Challenges

- Anytime Fitness
- Big Frank's BBQ
- Pack, Ship, & Copy
- The Health Fix
- Walmart
- Potetz Home Center
- El Burrito Mexican Restaurant
- Tractor Supply
- Brookshire Brothers
- Goodwill
- PTC Liberty
- Park Place Apartments
- Allison Funeral Home
- ... and more

Public and Municipal Areas

- Liberty Municipal Park
- Liberty Municipal Golf Course
- San Jacinto Elementary
- The Historic Ott Hotel 1928
- Canfield Park & Dog Park
- Liberty Catholic Cemetery
- ... and more

Liberty Animal Control is eager to partner with us on TNR for effective management.

TNR's Goal: Full Colony Management

Sterilize all cats in a colony and monitor for newcomers. This eliminates nuisance behaviors like spraying, fighting, and noise, and prevents new kittens.

- ASPCA

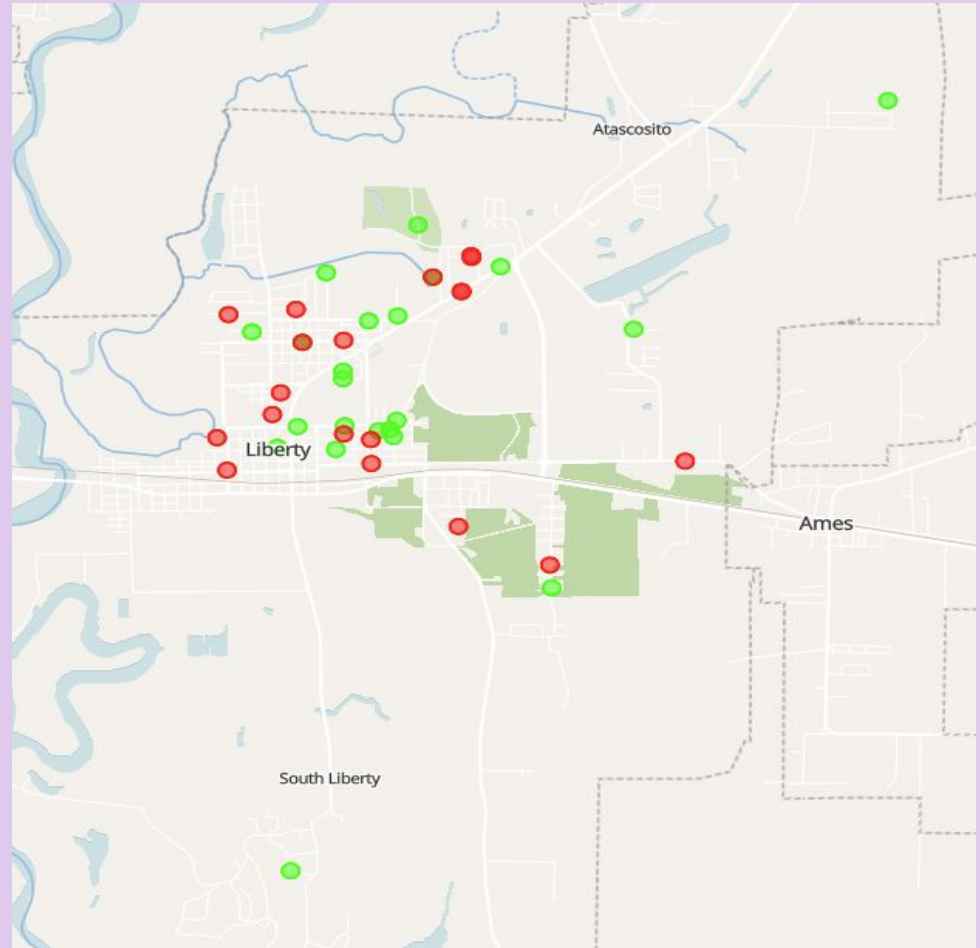
Our 2025 Impact in Liberty

- Sterilized, vaccinated, and treated 333 cats city- and county-wide.
- Rescued 117 kittens and 6 cats for adoption.
- Treated or humanely euthanized seriously ill cats/kittens to end street suffering.
- Boosted quality of life for Liberty residents and businesses by managing stray cats—see testimonials in your packet.

Our Progress Map: TNR in Liberty

- Colonies 100% Managed
- Colonies needing TNR

We're systematically targeting full sterilization per site for lasting results: reducing costs and issues city-wide.



2025 Funding Partners

Rural TX TNR secured support from the following organizations for TNR:

- ~\$9,000 from ROSES (including two major TNR events for 50-60 cats each).
- Spots at Animal Justice League and TeamFeral events
- Vouchers from HOPE (Homeless & Orphaned Pets Endeavor).
- Advice, help, and gear from Space City Cats.

We'll build on these in 2026 for even greater efficiency.

Our 2026 Resources

- \$18,000 from ROSES dedicated to Rural Texas TNR (not limited to Liberty).*
- All necessary trapping equipment (plus \$1,000 for extras if needed from ROSES).
- Dedicated local volunteers.
- Partnerships with Houston-area groups for more resources and vet spots.
- Safe recovery spaces and limited fosters for adoptable cats/kittens.

* ROSES budget details available upon request.

2026 Action Plan

- Large TNR events are efficient: Handle whole colonies at once, minimizing travel costs.
- Each event: \$4,000–\$5,000 (covers sterilization plus extras; see sample invoices).
- ROSES's \$18,000 funds 3–4 events (150–240 cats, not limited to Liberty).
- Use other partners for smaller groups (<50 cats).
- **Your \$20,000 Investment:** Funds 4–5 Liberty-specific events for 200–300 cats, delivering quick community wins.

2026 Goals with Your Support

- Complete all in-progress Liberty colonies before spring "kitten season."
- Develop a targeted plan for public spots like parks and schools.
- Partner with local businesses for broader buy-in.
- Attract funding from national groups like Alley Cat Allies.

Partner with Us for a Better Liberty

Your funding signals strong commitment to humane animal control, boosting quality of life for residents, businesses, and animals alike, all while attracting more regional support.



Thank you!

Contact us:

✉ ruraltxtnr@rosesnonprofit.org

🌐 www.rosesnonprofit.org

📌 Rural TX TNR Program

📷 @roses_rescues_htx

