

# Rochester Animal Services

## Our Organization

Rochester Animal Services (RAS) is a division of the City of Rochester whose mission is to serve people and animals to create safe neighborhoods, support the human-animal bond, and save and enhance lives. RAS has a demonstrated history of implementing progressive programs and services for the Rochester community. That evolution has included discounted and no-cost spay and neuter, open adoptions, shelter enrichment, and pro-active field services. RAS is a [Dogs Playing For Life™](#) partner, Humane Society of the United States [Pets for Life](#) Mentorship Community, and [Human Animal Support Services](#) Tier 1 organization.

## Our Clinic

Our clinic was established in 2004 for on-site, pre-adoption sterilization surgeries and for low-cost sterilization for owned pets. Over the years, the public spay/neuter program has shifted to a no-cost model that is primarily focused on outsourced surgeries to external clinic partners. Pre-adoption sterilization remains a core function, but other in-house activities have emerged including enhanced diagnostic capabilities including DR x-ray and CBC/chemical analyzers and a wider array of treatments and surgeries for shelter intakes. Additionally, community-facing veterinary services began in 2020 to serve pet owners facing barriers to care. Those services range from wellness visits and vaccinations to outpatient care and even some emergency services.

## Our Vision

We see Rochester Animal Services as a leader in the animal welfare industry and a model for other government agencies to emulate. Our future involves more community-based activities and solutions to addressing root causes of challenges. We aspire to become a true community animal resource center that serves as a hub for information and support. Intakes will be limited to animals that are sick, injured, truly lost, orphaned, abandoned, or public safety concerns, and our resources will better serve those specific needs, while supporting healthy animals remaining in their homes and neighborhoods.

We are planning to establish a new facility that better serves our programmatic and community needs by 2026. Central to the program assessment and design is the involvement of our veterinarian and other team leaders.