B. Procedure

1. The Animal Control Team is responsible to:

   a. Respond to animal-related calls for services.

   b. Investigate animal related bite incidents for municipal code violations, maintain records of bites for rabies compendium compliance.

   c. Investigate and enforce violations of animal-related municipal ordinances and state statutes.

   d. Patrol and take enforcement action within city jurisdiction for violations of municipal code pertaining to animals.

   e. Provide educational information to citizens.

   f. Provide court testimony when subpoenaed.

   g. Maintain Animal Control vehicles by ensuring engine fluids are within the normal range, vehicles are fueled at the end of shift and cleaned and disinfected after use.

   h. Prioritize calls for service.

   i. Prepare written reports, logs and communications.

   j. Utilize community-oriented problem solving and mediation procedures.

   k. Maintain a current referral list of federal, state and private agencies, which handle complaints and issues not governed by municipal ordinances or applicable state statutes.

2. The Animal Control Section maintains a comprehensive procedures manual on each aspect of the section’s responsibility.

3. Animal Control Officers, trained and certified in its use, may carry and use Oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray under the following guidelines.

4. Animal Control Officers, trained and certified in their use, may carry and use department Taser devices under the following guidelines.

   a. To safely control a dangerous animal who poses a threat of injury to police, animal control officers, citizens, or domestic animals when a lesser degree of force is inadequate.

   b. Animal Control Officers will follow all applicable guidelines found in this manual regarding the care, use, documentation, training, and supervisory notifications for Taser deployment.
ANIMAL CONTROL VEHICLES

A. Policy

Vehicles assigned to and utilized by the Animal Control Section of the Police Department will be constructed, configured, maintained, equipped, and used in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth in the Lakewood Animal Control Policy and Procedure Manual and the Police Department Manual.

B. Procedure

1. General

   a. Animal Control vehicles are utilized primarily by Animal Control officers for animal control response and patrol duties.

   b. Animal Control vehicles are not designated as "emergency vehicles" and shall not be equipped with siren capabilities. Animal Control vehicles shall not be used for the transportation of prisoners.

   c. Animal Control vehicles shall be maintained in accordance with the specifications of the Fleet Maintenance Section. Each Animal Control officer is responsible for the condition and care of the vehicle they drive including the cleaning and disinfecting procedures of both the Animal Control Team and the Table Mountain Animal Center policy manuals.

   d. Animal Control vehicles may be utilized as necessary to block off streets, provide transportation during snow emergencies, or other assignments as directed by Patrol Division supervisors.

   e. Operation of Animal Control vehicles requires no additional qualifications or training beyond a valid operator's license except that operation of Animal Control vehicles by other than Animal Control officers requires the approval of the Animal Control Team supervisor or sworn supervisor.

2. Equipment

   a. Animal Control vehicles will contain equipment necessary to affect the safe capture, loading, and transport of animals. Animal Control Officers will ensure the vehicle they drive is properly equipped.

   b. Animal Control vehicles will have a lock box device permanently affixed within the vehicle for the secure storage of euthanasia solution.

   c. Animal Control vehicles will be equipped with at least one police light bar for maximum visibility and shall be clearly marked with "Lakewood Police Animal Control" decals and other markings designed to increase the safety of Animal Control officers and citizens.

   d. Animal Control vehicles will be equipped with mobile police radio communications devices, including radios and computers.
e. The cargo area in Animal Control vehicles will be equipped with cages for the safe transport of animals and will be cleaned and disinfected after use.