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**ANN DUNN, VISIONARY FOUNDER OF CAT TOWN, LEAVES TO LEAD
OAKLAND ANIMAL SERVICES**

**Andrew Dorman, Animal Advocate and Experienced Business Manager
Named New Cat Town Executive Director**

OAKLAND, CA— [Cat Town](#) announced today that its founder and Executive Director, Ann Dunn, will leave to assume the helm of [Oakland Animal Services](#) (OAS) as its new Director, effective February 18. In her place, Cat Town has selected Andrew Dorman as its new Executive Director. Dunn will join the Cat Town Board and continue to collaborate with Dorman and Cat Town in her new role as the head of OAS.

The announcement underscores the close and unique working relationship between Cat Town, the first of its kind animal rescue organization that finds homes for Oakland's most vulnerable shelter cats, and OAS, the municipal shelter. This uncommon partnership has been instrumental to Cat Town's success since Dunn, a former OAS volunteer, founded Cat Town in 2011. Together, the two organizations have worked to reduce the cat euthanasia rate at OAS from 42% in 2011 to less than 10% today.

Dunn, a highly regarded animal welfare visionary, founded Cat Town to transform the traditional approach to saving shelter cats and reduce euthanasia for these animals nationwide. Under her leadership, and together with cat advocate Adam Myatt (the [Cat Man of West Oakland](#)), Cat Town opened the first cat cafe in the nation in 2014, pioneering a new sheltering approach for rescue cats previously been deemed 'unadoptable' by traditional rescue organizations.

"I am delighted to announce the selection of Andrew Dorman as Cat Town's new Executive Director," said Dunn. "Andrew is an exceptional leader and the best person to take Cat Town to its next phase of growth. In the two years since he has joined our leadership team, Andrew has proven to have the right combination of compassion and strategic thinking. It is a gift to me to know this organization that I love so much will be in such good hands."

"I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of Cat Town," said Dorman, "and to work with its staff, volunteers, partners, adopters and donors who have so firmly supported us. I look forward to expanding the programs which have made the organization so effective as Cat Town navigates its next stage of growth."

Andrew Dorman

Dorman brings some 18 years of management, administration, and community building experience in the private sector and a deep knowledge of animal welfare. His work building strong teams and his unwavering commitment to animal rescue make him the ideal leader for the organization as it pursues its mission.

Dorman worked as a member of the leadership team at Cat Town for two years prior to becoming its Executive Director, and served as a volunteer before that.

His passion for animal welfare was sparked as a volunteer at OAS, and he later served on the Board of Directors for Friends of OAS. He has volunteered with other local and national animal welfare organizations and is IAABC accredited as a Shelter Behavior Affiliate. He has fostered more than 50 cats and kittens.

Prior to Cat Town, Dorman worked for 18 years as a group and project manager and professional electrical engineer in the energy industry. Dorman received his B.S. in electrical engineering from California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo. He and his partner, Katrina, live in Oakland with their three cats.

Ann Dunn

Ann Dunn is an animal welfare innovator and visionary with some 30 years of experience in animal rescue, government and nonprofit sectors in planning, administration, and organization.

She founded Cat Town in March 2011 and has served as its Executive Director until today. At Cat Town Dunn developed a new model for animal rescue, focused exclusively on supporting the Bay Area's most vulnerable shelter cats. Under her leadership Cat Town has helped reduce the euthanasia rate for cats at OAS from 42% in 2011 to less than 10% in 2019.

In 2014 she led Cat Town to build the nation's first cat cafe — an Adoption Center for hard-to-place cats — attracting 10,000 visitors each year. In 2017, she was honored by [Maddie's Fund](#) with the Maddie's Hero Award for Big Picture Thinking for "innovative ideas, progressive thinking and lifesaving actions".

Before founding Cat Town, Dunn worked in a range of nonprofit organizations and government in positions in management consulting, housing, and strategic

planning. Ann received her B.A. from San Diego State University-California State University. She and her husband, Steven, live in Oakland with 4 cats.

Cat Town

Cat Town's mission is to transform the approach to saving shelter cats, reducing euthanasia nationwide, and to find good homes for cats who are considered unadoptable under the traditional animal welfare model. Cat Town focuses on helping elderly, under-socialized, and sick or injured cats get adopted — proving that cats previously considered “un-adoptable” make exceptional companions.

Cat Town’s innovative approach includes home-based fostering and socialization at their cage-free Adoption Center. Senior cats find support through Cat Town’s “In It for Life Fund,” which provides for future medical bills to remove cost as a barrier for adoption. Older, under-socialized kittens receive the time and patience they require to become adoptable under the organization’s transformative Forgotten Kitten Project. Whether in a foster home or at the Adoption Center, the cats receive needed medical care and socialization. In 2014, Cat Town launched the nation’s first cat cafe, an Adoption Center for hard-to-place cats, where thousands of visitors each year play an integral role in helping shy or fearful cats on their journey to adoption.

Cat Town reaches tens of thousands of people each year through its public outreach, dispelling common misconceptions around cat behavior and health. Finally, Cat Town has developed and piloted curriculum for the “Hard-to-Place Cats Adoption Program”, part of the Maddie’s Fund Apprenticeship program, to teach rescue organizations nationwide how to save cats we were told couldn’t be helped.

For further information please visit: <https://www.cattownoakland.org/>, and be sure to follow [Cat Town on Facebook](#) and [Cat Town on Instagram](#).