



## Orem Candidate Survey 2023

Thank you to the candidates for their willingness to serve our community. We appreciate their consideration of this issue survey on matters that are important to voters. Best Friends Animal Society is the leading organization working to end the killing of dogs and cats in America's shelters by 2025. Best Friends runs lifesaving programs across the country, and we operate the nation's largest no-kill animal sanctuary in Utah.

Candidate responses below are verbatim to how they were submitted and have not been altered in any way.

### **Orem City Council At-Large (3 Seats)**

**Candidate:** Crystal Muhlstein – No Response

**Candidate:** Cris Killpack – No Response

**Candidate:** Jeff Lambson – No Response

**Candidate:** Spencer Rands – No Response

**Candidate:** Jenn Gale – No Response

**Candidate:** Matt D. McKell

**Campaign E-Mail:** mattmckellcpa@gmail.com

**Occupation:** CPA

**Employer:** Self Employed

- **Which public offices have you held?**  
None
- **Are you an incumbent?**  
No

### General Background Questions

- **Please describe your experience with Best Friends or other animal organizations.**  
None

- **Do you have any pets? If so, what kind?**  
Golden Doodle
- **Why are you running for this office? What makes you qualified to serve?**  
Desire to Serve my Community
- **What groups have endorsed your campaign as of today?**
- **What civic and/or professional organizations are you a member of?**  
Utah Assoc of Realtors, Association of CPAs
- **What boards or commissions do you serve on?**

#### Issue Questions

- **How do you propose to influence municipal animal services policies should you win the office you are seeking?**  
Only things that come to the Orem City Council
- **How much freedom do you believe that animal control facilities and shelters in Utah should have to implement new and different programs designed to save all healthy and treatable dogs and cats?**
- **Please describe what you believe are the top priorities of the animal shelter and field services in the city.**  
Humane Treatment of the Animals

*The number one reason owners report surrendering their dog to a shelter, in Utah and nationwide, is housing barriers. Often these barriers are a lack of pet friendly rental housing and rental housing that has bans on certain breeds of dogs.*

- **What can you do to help keep pets with their families and incentivize more pet-inclusive housing?**  
Family and Personal Responsibility
- **70% of lost pets traveled less than one mile from their home. What steps can Utah take to ensure families get reunited and pets do not have to travel to the shelter?**  
Licensing of Pets and Collars with Phone Numbers

*Studies show that Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate–Return programs are effective at controlling stray populations and reduces the number of cats killed in shelters by more than 75%.*

*Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) Support*

- **Please describe your position on trap-neuter-vaccinate-return (TNVR) programs by animal control facilities and shelters to humanely reduce the free-roaming stray cat population as provided by the Utah Community Cat Act.**

- **Many cities across the country, and in Utah, provide funding for spay/neuter services, for the shelter and residents, in the city budget. Would you support city-funded support for spay/neuter procedures for dogs and cats in the city? Please explain.**
- **Do you agree that animal shelters should publicly share all inspection, intake and disposition data for the purpose of better lifesaving strategic planning and community engagement? Please explain your position.**
- **Would you support policies and ordinances to allow for the implementation of the necessary programs by animal control facilities and shelters that will save all healthy and treatable homeless dogs and cats?**  
Yes
- **Do you support allowing animal control facilities and shelters in Utah to implement the programs that they deem necessary to save all healthy and treatable homeless dogs and cats? Please explain your position.**
- **Do you support the No-Kill Shelter movement saving 90% or more of the dogs and cats that enter an animal shelter?**  
I'd have to look at the particulars.