

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, November 28, 2017
Contact: Jasmine Carr
Community Relations
(972) 218-1300 office
(972) 275-1822 fax
communityrelations@lancaster-tx.com

## **Lancaster Microchip Success Story**

**Lancaster**, **TX** – The Lancaster City Council recently approved a citywide mandatory microchipping ordinance requiring all cats and dogs, 4 months and older, to be microchipped. The ordinance aims to reduce the number of loose dogs within the city limits.

Microchips greatly increase the chance pets will be reunited with their owner if they are lost or stolen. According to the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, only about 22% of lost dogs that entered the animal shelters were reunited with their families, but the return-to-owner rate for microchipped dogs was over 52% (a 136% increase).

The city has several positive stories and interactions with the microchipping procedure. For example,

the reunion between Gabby and her family. Gabby and her family were temporarily relocated to Lancaster, Texas from Houston due to hurricane Harvey.

While out for a walk, Gabby got spooked and ran off. Her family looked everywhere in the area, the shelter, placed fliers and no Gabby. After three weeks passed, Animal Control Officer (ACO) Katherine Hail received a call of a dog in a hog trap. Once the dog arrived at the Lancaster Animal Shelter, she was scanned and luckily she was chipped!

ACO Hail notified the owners and all that was heard on the other end of the phone was, "THANK YOU LORD!!!!"

As you can see on the pictures below Gabby and her owners are very happy and they have been reunited.

Chipping your pets is one of the best decisions that you can do for your dogs or cats.

The new ordinance will go into effect Monday, February 19, 2018.

The City of Lancaster invites you to "like" the City on <u>Facebook.com/CityofLancasterTX</u>, follow us at <u>Twitter.com/Lancaster\_TX</u> or register for weekly e-mail alerts regarding upcoming events on our website at <u>www.lancaster-tx.com</u> by clicking on "Notify Me".

###



