

## Summary - OCAC Animal Care: Bad Data & No Plan

Orange County Animal Care (OCAC) and Orange County Community Resources (OCCR) are pulling numbers out of thin air.

- The animal bite statistics reported by them are fictional.
- Their “industry standard” statistics on the OCAC website have animals appearing and disappearing when you do a basic check of the numbers.

Can any of their data and “facts” be trusted?

The Strategic Plan for OCAC has been tossed out the window by OCCR without consultation with stakeholders, experts, or the Board of Supervisors. The Strategic Plan requires:

- Daily playgroups for both large and small dogs.
- Tracking 100% of animal enrichment activities.
- Reduction in average length of stay.

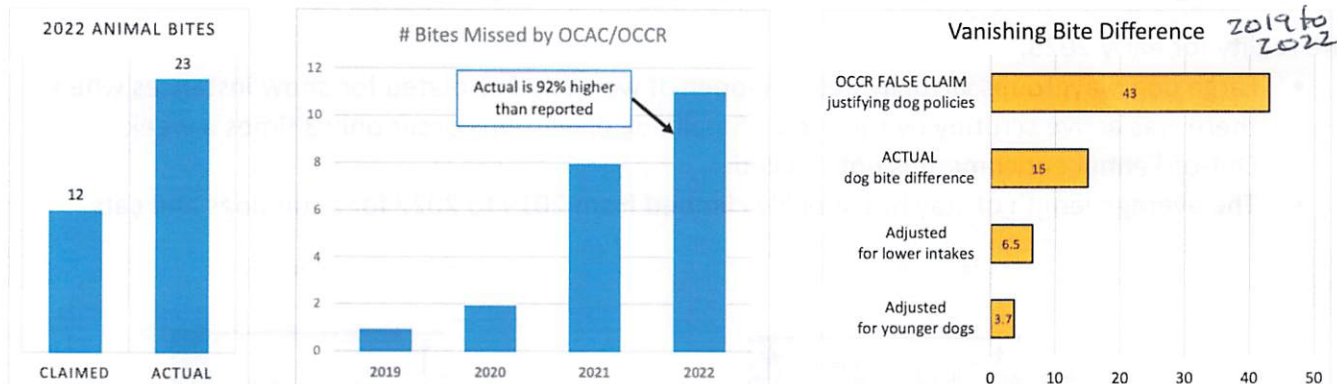
None of these things are happening. What plan are OCAC/OCCR using?

An external audit of OCAC’s data gathering, data analysis, and fact compilations is in order. In addition, there should be an investigation of how and why OCAC and OCCR:

- Misled the public with their “facts”.
- Discarded and buried their strategic plan.

## OCAC Animal Bite Statistics are just plain WRONG

The animal bite statistics provided by OCAC/OCCR are fictional. For example, in 2022, their tables show that only 12 animal bites occurred. But there were at least 23 animal bites at OCAC (almost double the number they reported) in the county-wide bite database and we have the reports.



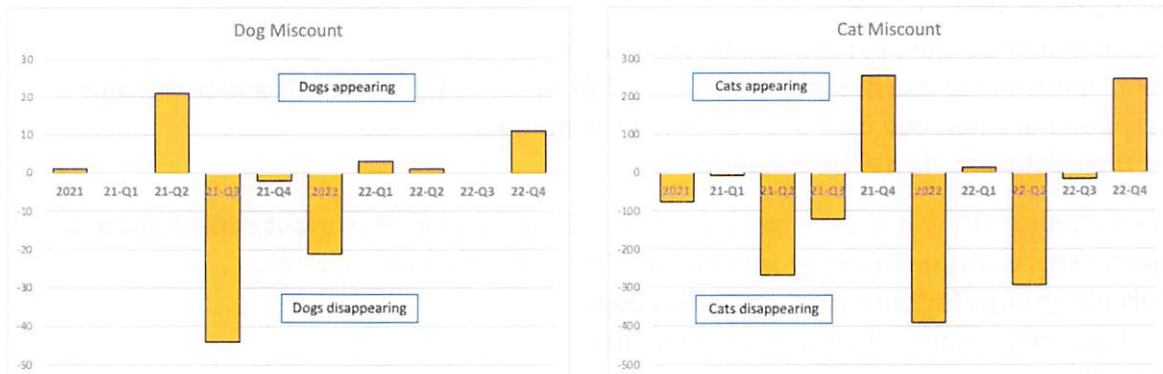
If you look at the bite reports, there were 19 DOG bites alone in 2022. The reduction in dog bites from 34 in 2019 to 19 in 2022 can mostly be explained by the reduction in intakes and changing dog demographics. OCAC had more older dogs in 2019 and older dogs are more likely to bite.

How did OCAC/OCCR get their numbers so wrong? Did they purposely falsify their animal bite statistics to justify their policies? Or were they just grossly incompetent? Or perhaps both?

## Animal counts from OCAC Shelter Animals Count data don't add up

When asked about data, OCAC/OCCR refer to their “industry standard” statistics on the OCAC website. But the animal counts given on their website don't add up. If you look at the number of animals at the start of the period, add the number coming in, and subtract the number going out, you should get the final count. This is part of the Shelter Animals Count and Asilomar standards.

If you do this basic check on OCAC's 2021 & 2022 year-end data as well as on the quarterly data, the number of dogs and cats at the end of the periods aren't what you would expect. Animals are appearing or disappearing unaccounted for by their data.



How can OCAC get their animal counts so wrong? Do they not understand how to do their books? Are they as careless with their fiscal accounting as they are with their animal accounting?

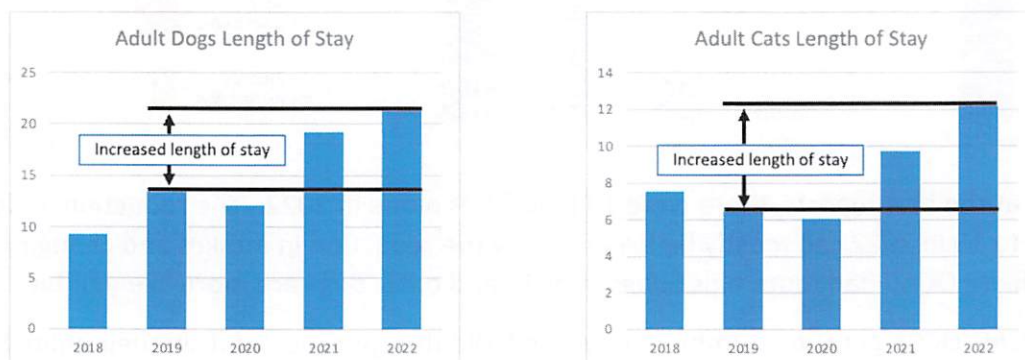
## OCAC's Strategic Plan has been tossed out

A Strategic Plan for OCAC was created when the new shelter was built with the full participation of animal-sheltering experts, county staff, and the community. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved the Strategic Plan on May 18, 2018.

In 2020, the goals and metrics set out by the Strategic Plan were tossed aside without consultation with stakeholders, experts, or the BOS. The Strategic Plan required daily playgroups for all qualified dogs, tracking of all animal enrichment activities, reduction in length of stay, and a lot more.

The reality for early 2023:

- Large dog playgroups virtually never happen, if we exclude isolated for-show instances when there was active scrutiny by the press. Small dog playgroups occur only 3 times a week.
- Out-of-kennel enrichment is not tracked.
- The average length of stay has steadily climbed from 2019 to 2022 for adult dogs and cats.



Have OCAC/OCCR created a secret strategic plan that has bites as the only metric? Why aren't care, enrichment, and speed of placement (key components of Strategic Priority #1) being tracked?

## What should be done?

Restore good policies, do a thorough external audit, and implement the Strategic Plan.