

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Becky Anderson <becky@bieckmanagement.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 11:23 AM  
**To:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** TNR

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to show my support for the continuance of the current TNR program through the City of Milwaukee and Wisconsin Humane Society.

My experience doesn't necessarily come from working directly with my own cat colony but I have been volunteering at the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission for almost 6 years now. Over that time we have grown the volunteer program especially in the "cat department". Cats that enter MADACC are now being adopted at a higher rate than ever before. There are many programs throughout the city that have joined in on helping Milwaukee cats. These include large retailers such as PetSmart, Petco, Pet Supplies Plus, as well as having information tables at local events like the Milwaukee NARI show. Volunteers of MADACC work hard to do what they can to keep euthanasia rates as low as possible but cannot do it alone. With the continuation of the TNR program that is in place I think felines in Milwaukee have a much better chance of living long happy lives while reducing the number of complaints that Milwaukee receives from citizens. TNR helps in reducing the number of cats born in the city as well as keeping intake numbers low. With MADACC being a government facility run by tax dollars I would hope that the committee would consider continuing the TNR program for the simple fact that expenses are reduced at MADACC (having a direct affect on Milwaukee residents) simply by having the TNR program available to citizens in the city who are willing to run a cat colony. Citizens are running these cat colonies on their own time and are really making a difference in the community I believe.

Recently I began fostering 2 cats that came from a cat colony in Milwaukee because they didn't "fit the criteria" of the Wisconsin Humane Society in regards to adopting them out and because the winter months were so brutal. I am fostering through a local rescue program that was happy to take them in. We are a 501c3 rescue and again do this on our own time and with our own money. Again a "win-win" for the city. I am happy to continue to work with cat colonies in the area to help adopt out cats that are in need in Milwaukee. Without the TNR program our rescue would need to spend more on vetting, etc than we'd make in an adoption fee which would not allow us to help the cats in our community.

I have spoken to people who take care of the colony that my current fosters are from and they are all very supportive of the cat colonies and the positive outcomes that stem from having the program. People from all up and down the block enjoy having the cats around and see them as a part of their neighborhood. Reducing the cat population through the TNR program I think has a proven track record in other areas and should definitely be considered for renewal. Continuing the program for at least another 5 years would give cat colony caregivers time to come up with other solutions as well as continue to make connections with local rescues and work with MADACC. More time is needed for this program to have a true affect for the cats of Milwaukee.

Thank you for your time and consideration and for the opportunity to voice my opinion. Continuance of the TNR program is a definite need in Milwaukee.

Rebecca Davis