

2026 local and municipal candidate questionnaire

Candidate Name: Sandy Aldrich

Candidate Address: 1454 Macgregor Lane, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Office Sought: Ann Arbor City Council Member

Locality: Ward 2

Staff Contact Name: Yasmine Baccouche

Phone: (734) 489-1898

Email: info@votesandyaldrich.com

Website: <https://www.votesandyaldrich.com/>

Animals play an important role in the lives of many Americans. Countless citizens look to their local government to protect animals from cruel treatment and exploitation. Humane-minded individuals care deeply about the positions their elected officials take on animal protection issues.

For information on the range and details of our issue areas, please visit the websites of Humane World Action Fund (humaneaction.org) or Humane World for Animals (humaneworld.org).

Background information

What actions have you taken affecting the welfare of animals in the past? Please include actions taken at the local, state, or federal levels.

I believe in supporting local, grassroots efforts to foster a humane community. I have consistently supported our local shelters and humane societies by adopting our pets and donating as needed. At the household level, our family practices responsible pet guardianship, prioritizing adoption and supporting local veterinary networks that emphasize humane care standards.

What actions have you taken affecting the habitats of animals in the past? Please include actions taken at the local, state, or federal levels. Examples may include efforts to address the impacts of natural disasters such as wildfires and hurricanes on ecosystems.

I have taken informal and personal actions by adopting from shelters, using vet services that support shelters and donating funds and items.

Are there any animal welfare programs or issues of importance to you that you would take the initiative on after you are elected? Examples might include municipal animal welfare standards;

cracking down on large-scale commercial breeding facilities known as puppy mills; or local tethering and weather-related laws where pets are concerned.

I would support strengthening our local municipal animal welfare standards.

Will you post information on your campaign website outlining your positions on animal protection issues?

Most certainly.

Do you have, or have you had in the past, any pets that have made an impact on you personally?

My love and compassion for animals has been consistent throughout my life. I grew up with family dogs and then started my young adult life with cats. We welcomed our first family pet when the kids were young, a rat named Sally. We adored her and when she passed, we buried her under our giant metal pink lawn flamingo which we named in her honor. In 2014, we adopted our heart dog, Ender, a Black Lab and Great Pyrenees mix who was a beloved member of our family until the summer of 2025. Ender was the barometer of our family and was always so happy to just be with us. We miss him dearly.

Puppy mills: Internet sales, flea markets, face-to-face sales and the majority of pet stores that sell puppies are getting those dogs from puppy mills. A puppy mill is an inhumane high-volume dog breeding facility that churns out puppies for profit, ignoring the needs of the pups and their mothers. Dogs from puppy mills are often sick and unsocialized. Pet retailers often falsely assure consumers that the puppies they offer for sale are raised in reputable or humane breeding facilities, even when they come from inhumane facilities like mass production puppy mills. Our family of organizations hears from thousands of devastated consumers every year who bring home a dog only to have the animal fall sick and, in some cases, even die.

Will you support efforts to end the sale of puppies sourced from puppy mills in pet stores?

Yes No Not Sure

Fashion: Animals need their fur coats more than we do. But on fur factory farms around the world, millions of rabbits, foxes, mink and other wild animals spend their entire lives in cramped cages, deprived of the ability to engage in natural behaviors—only to be crudely gassed or electrocuted at the end. In the wild, animals are caught in crippling leghold traps for days without food or water. These archaic traps are indiscriminate, often maiming and killing non-target animals, like threatened species and even pets—all this in the name of fashion.

Will you support efforts to prohibit the sale of **new products** containing fur from animals?

Yes No Not Sure

Breed-specific legislation: Throughout the United States, entire communities ban or restrict dogs because of their breed, or, more commonly, what is perceived to be their breed. Breed-based policies aren't founded on science or credible data, but on myths and misinformation surrounding different breeds and their natures. The impact of these policies on dogs, families, and animal shelters, though, is heartbreakingly real. Breed bans and restrictions force dogs out of homes and into shelters, taking up kennel space and resources that could be used for animals in need.

Will you support efforts to prohibit discriminatory breed-based policies?

Yes No Not Sure

Public contact: While exciting to see up close, wild animals are altogether unfit for public contact. Substandard wildlife attractions like roadside zoos and cub petting operations exploit these animals to turn a quick profit, often with such neglect that horror stories have been recorded through undercover investigations. Not only do wild animals suffer cruelly when captured, transported, and placed in close proximity to humans—the risks they then pose to human health and safety are enormous. Cases of aggression may prove life-threatening, as may a host of zoonotic diseases. In recognition of these dangers, the federal government now prohibits the private ownership, breeding, import, or export of big cats acquired, or maintained and unregistered with the USDA, after June 18th, 2023. All big cats, even those owned and registered prior to the law's enactment, are now banned from use in public contact.

Will you support efforts to prohibit direct public contact with wild animal species?

Yes No Not Sure

Factory farming: On factory farms, egg-laying hens are packed into battery cages where they can't even spread their wings. Baby calves are taken from their mothers and confined in pens so small they can barely move, and pigs are locked in gestation crates the width and length of their bodies, unable to even turn around.

Will you support efforts to prohibit the extreme confinement of breeding pigs, egg-laying hens, and calves raised for veal in restrictive, inadequate, and painful conditions?

Yes No Not Sure

Local control: Across the country, bills are often filed aiming to overturn hundreds of local ordinances related to animals. These overly broad bills seek to eliminate commonsense restrictions on matters of animal protection and public safety, alike, by undoing local ordinances prohibiting the sale of dogs from puppy mills; outlawing roadside zoos and similar cruel, unsafe operations; regulating livestock management; or even requiring safety standards for ingredients in our food or health products.

Will you oppose any efforts to prohibit municipal or county ordinances related to animals?

Yes No Not Sure

Thank you for your time! Please return the completed questionnaire to:

Humane World Action Fund
1255 23rd St NW, Suite 455
Washington, D.C. 20037
Phone: (202) 676-2314
Email: info@humaneaction.org
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