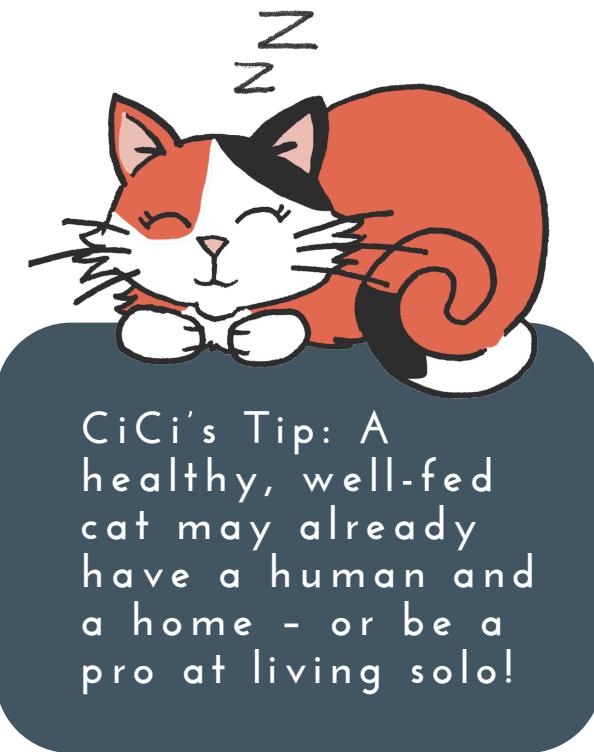


# What is a Community Cat?

A community cat can be a free-roaming socialized cat – friendly or shy – or a feral cat who lives outdoors and is not socialized to people. All have identified shelter, food sources, and often a caretaker in their neighborhood. Honorable community cat status can be given to indoor/outdoor ‘owned’ pets who wander the neighborhood.



CiCi's Tip: A healthy, well-fed cat may already have a human and a home - or be a pro at living solo!



## Royal Oak Animal Shelter

1515 N Edgeworth Ave

(248) 548-3058

The Royal Oak Animal Shelter is open by appointment to reunite families with their lost animals, to arrange meetings and pick-ups for approved fosters and adopters, and to accept donations.

If you've found a stray dog/dog at large, witnessed animal neglect, cruelty, abandonment, or have other animal complaints, please call ROPD non-emergency at (248)246-3500.



# Meet CiCi (the Community Cat)



# How Can You Tell?

## Is the cat friendly and following you?

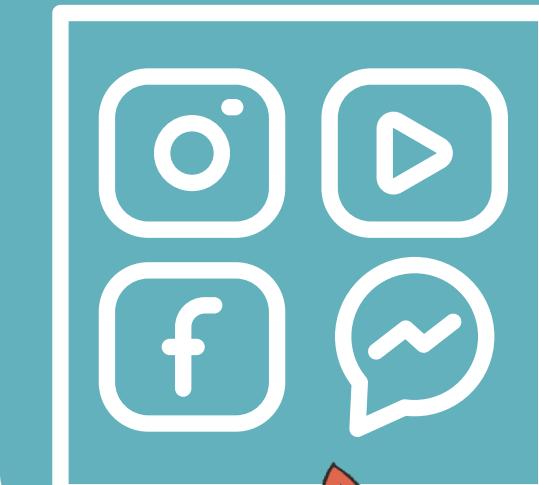
That cat might be lost or they might just be an indoor/outdoor or free-roaming socialized cat who is comfortable around people.

## Is the cat shy or avoidant and keeping their distance?

That cat might also be lost or they might be an unsocialized or feral cat.

If you're concerned about their well-being, take a pic, post online, and file a report with the police department or animal control. Please don't decide to 'rescue' them unless they're in imminent danger or injured. And don't assume they're lost and starving if you offer food and they eat. Cats are opportunistic eaters. Once they know you're good for a meal, they'll keep coming back for more.

Social media is purr-fect for reuniting lost cats with their humans!



Never try to pick up a cat or take it away. It may be just two doors away from its home, or it may be a community cat like me!

# CiCi's Final Thoughts

- Don't jump to conclusions! Always check for an owner first.
- Community cats can thrive outdoors.
- In a survey, 75% of lost cats were found within a third of a mile from where they escaped. Of those, cats who were 'rescued' and taken to a shelter were only reunited with their families 4% of the time!
- If you own a cat who is an escape artist, consider a collar or harness with an ID tag and a microchip.



Royal Oak  
**ANIMAL SHELTER**