



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Animal Services
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: August 25, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director & Health Officer
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Jan E. Glick, MS, Director of Animal Services (934-6953)

SUBJECT: Acceptance of a Grant for the Spay-Neuter Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form:

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider recommendations as follows:

- a) Approve and ratify the acceptance of a \$7,500 grant from the California Department of Food and Agriculture, subject to the conditions set forth in the grant application, to be used for spaying and neutering animals owned by individual members of the public.
- b) Approve budget revision request No. 0004129 (Attachment 2) to increase line item accounts for "Services and Supplies" and "Other Services Revenue" by \$7,500 for spay and neuter services.
- c) Determine that these activities are not the approval of a project subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the action is not a project as it is the creation of a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity, which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and direct staff to file the Notice of Exemption (Attachment 3).

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda for approval to receive grant funding and to approve a budget revision request. The Public Health Department's Animal Services program applied for, and was awarded, a \$7,500 grant from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). This grant will be used to pay for spay and neuter services of owned animals through targeted outreach efforts to owners in need of assistance throughout Santa Barbara County. By accepting this grant, Animal Services will have

expanded funding to increase access to affordable or free spay and neuter services for the pets of low-income individuals for whom the cost of these services would otherwise be a barrier.

Background:

With the passage of the Responsible Pet Ownership ordinance in Santa Barbara County, which became effective January 1, 2010, the need for local access to affordable spay and neuter services has increased. County Animal Services has established the Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO) Program, *Project PetSafe*, and outreach efforts have identified a high demand for affordable services. A local coalition of participating agencies and individuals, the *Responsible Pet Ownership Alliance*, has been meeting and coordinating efforts to promote responsible pet ownership and availability of affordable spay and neuter surgeries. Despite the fact that Santa Barbara County has a number of agencies that provide affordable spay and neuter services to the public, there is often a wait for access to these services due to high demand. Outreach activities are planned to increase community awareness of the problems with pet overpopulation and the overall benefits of spay/neuter for pets and for the safety net system of animal shelters. The Santa Maria Animal Center has the capacity to provide spay/neuter services to the public and these grant funds will ensure that the cost of the spay/neuter procedure is not a barrier for low-income residents.

This grant will augment Animal Services Spay/Neuter Agency funding and be utilized to increase pet owner responsibility in Santa Barbara County. The terms of the grant prohibit Animal Services from using the funds to spay or neuter animals impounded at County Shelters.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis: Authorizing the Public Health Department Director to accept the \$7,500 grant from the California Department of Food and Agriculture does not affect mandates or service levels. The funds will be used to increase access to affordable and free spay and neuter services for the pets of low-income individuals.

Although spay and neuter services are included in the Public Health Department's FY 2015-16 Adopted budget; this \$7,500 CDFG award is not budgeted. The amount has been received and deposited in Fund 0920. Acceptance of this grant will not increase the general fund contribution.

Staffing Impacts:

N/A

Special Instructions:

Please send an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at: PHDCU@sbcphd.org

Attachments:

1. Grant for Spay-Neuter Program
2. Budget Journal Entry Number: BJE-0004129
3. CEQA Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Jan E. Glick, MS, Director of Animal Services

Brad Hendricks, Accountant