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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER**

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

**Agenda Number:**

**Submitted on:**  
**(COB Stamp)**

**Department Name:** County Health Department  
**Department No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** June 23, 2026  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Director: Mouhanad Hammami, County Health

Contact: Sarah Aguilar, Animal Services Director, 805-698-0212

**SUBJECT: Acceptance of Donations to Santa Barbara County Animal Services from the Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation in the Amount of \$105,000**

Signed by:  
*Mouhanad Hammami*  
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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the acceptance of a donation of \$105,000 to Santa Barbara County Animal Services (SBCAS) from the Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation (SBCACF) to fund one Animal Control Officer position (Classification 0465) full-time for FY 2026-2027;
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 0011090 in the amount of \$105,000 for donation revenue for use in the Animal Services FY 2026-2027 budget, effective July 1, 2026; and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions do not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and are exempt pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, since the recommended actions are the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to accept a generous donation of \$105,000 to Santa Barbara County Animal Services (SBCAS) from the Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation (SBCACF) for the purpose

of funding one full-time Animal Control Officer to enable Animal Services to retain the position during FY 2026-2027.

**Discussion:**

Santa Barbara County Animal Services (SBCAS) provides animal care, field response, public safety, sheltering, reunification, adoption, licensing, rabies control, and community support services throughout Santa Barbara County. Animal Control Officers are essential to SBCAS operations and provide direct response to calls for service involving stray, injured, aggressive, neglected, or abandoned animals; bite investigations; public safety concerns; disaster response support; and other animal-related matters affecting residents and communities countywide.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget process, two Animal Control Officer positions were unfunded in the proposed SBCAS budget. The loss of these positions would reduce SBCAS field response capacity and may impact the Department's ability to provide timely animal control services, particularly in a county with a large geographic service area and significant animal-related public safety needs.

The Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation (SBCACF), a nonprofit organization that supports the work of SBCAS through fundraising and community partnerships, has offered a donation of \$105,000 to fund one full-time Animal Control Officer position for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. This donation will allow SBCAS to retain one Animal Control Officer position that would otherwise remain unfunded during the fiscal year.

Maintaining this position will help preserve field services capacity and support SBCAS' ability to respond to animal-related calls for service across the County. Animal Control Officers play a critical role in protecting public health and safety, supporting animal welfare, enforcing applicable laws and ordinances, assisting residents with animal-related concerns, and helping connect animals and people to appropriate services. Retaining one of the two previously unfunded positions will help reduce the operational impact of the proposed budget reduction and provide continued support for core Animal Services functions.

**Background:**

Approval of the recommended actions will allow SBCAS to accept a \$105,000 donation from SBCACF and appropriate the donation revenue for use in the Animal Services Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget. The donation is specifically intended to support the cost of one full-time Animal Control Officer position, Classification 00465, for the fiscal year.

The donation from SBCACF reflects the Foundation's ongoing commitment to supporting animal welfare and public service needs in Santa Barbara County. SBCACF has been a long-standing partner to SBCAS, providing financial and community support for programs, services, and resources that benefit animals, residents, and the broader community. This contribution will directly support continuity of service during Fiscal Year 2026-2027 while SBCAS continues to evaluate long-term operational and funding strategies.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No.

Accepting the donation from Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation (SBCACF) in the amount of \$105,000 will not impact mandates or General Fund contribution. The donation is expected to fund one full-time, regular Animal Control Officer for fiscal year 2026-2027, which would partially offset the reduction of two Animal Control Officer positions included in the fiscal year 2026-2027 recommended County Health budget.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Since the SBCACF donation is expected to be one-time in nature, there is not an ongoing funding source for this position.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 2026-2027</b>	<b>Total</b>
Donations	\$105,000	<b>\$105,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$105,000</b>	<b>\$105,000</b>

**Staffing Impacts:**

One unfunded Animal Control Officer (classification 0465) will be funded by this donation. Since this is a one-time donation, if funding is not identified in future years, the position will not be funded. If funding is identified in future years, the position will be funded.

**Special Instructions:**

Please email one Minute Order to the CHD Contracts Unit at [phdcu@sbcphd.org](mailto:phdcu@sbcphd.org) when available.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** –Budget Journal Revision No. 0011090

**Contact Information:**

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Animal Services Director  
[saguilar@sbcphd.org](mailto:saguilar@sbcphd.org)