



**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 9, 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
**SUBJECT: Acceptance of Disaster Relief Grant Award from Petco Love to Santa Barbara
County Animal Services in the Amount of \$10,000**

Signed by:
Mouhanad Hammami
CD0E0674C89245C...

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, ratify, and authorize the Director of the County Health Department, or designee, to accept a disaster relief grant award received by Santa Barbara County Animal Services (SBCAS) in the amount of \$10,000 from Petco Love (Attachment A) to support emergency response and lifesaving efforts related to the Gifford Fire;
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 0011052 in the amount of \$10,000 for unanticipated revenue for use in the Animal Services FY 2025-2026 budget (Attachment B); 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 for the Board to approve, ratify, and authorize the acceptance of a \$10,000 disaster relief grant award from Petco Love to support Santa Barbara County Animal Services' emergency response efforts during the Gifford Fire, beginning August 1, 2025. The funding will reimburse eligible disaster-related expenses and support ongoing lifesaving services for animals impacted by the event.

Discussion:

Santa Barbara County Animal Services (SBCAS) serves as the lead animal welfare response agency during disasters within Santa Barbara County, coordinating evacuation, sheltering, and reunification services for both small and large animals. During the Gifford Fire, SBCAS responded to emergency conditions beginning August 1, 2025, providing evacuation support, intake, and care for displaced animals and coordination with regional partners through mutual aid.

The disaster response required significant staff time, resources, and operational flexibility to safely shelter animals while supporting impacted residents. Costs incurred during this response included staffing for extended operations, emergency intake and housing of evacuated animals, and coordination of care across jurisdictions.

The Petco Love Disaster Relief Grant in the amount of \$10,000 will be used to reimburse a portion of these documented expenses, which totaled more than \$21,000 during the response period. This funding supports SBCAS's ability to maintain readiness for future emergencies while continuing to provide critical services to the community without additional impact to the General Fund.

Acceptance of this grant strengthens SBCAS's capacity to respond effectively to disasters and reflects the importance of public-private partnerships in supporting emergency preparedness and response efforts.

Background:

Petco Love is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of pets and the people who love them. Through its disaster relief program, Petco Love provides funding to animal welfare organizations and municipalities responding to emergencies, helping offset the costs associated with lifesaving response efforts.

SBCAS has an established partnership with Petco Love, including participation in programs such as Petco Love Lost, vaccination initiatives, and adoption events. This ongoing collaboration supports both routine operations and emergency response efforts, ensuring that SBCAS can provide comprehensive care to animals in need.

As the designated lead animal welfare agency during disasters in Santa Barbara County, SBCAS plays a critical role in protecting both public safety and the human-animal bond by ensuring that residents can evacuate safely with their pets and livestock.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No.

Accepting the disaster relief grant from Petco Love in the amount of \$10,000 does not impact mandates, service levels, or general fund contribution. The grant will partially reimburse Animal Services for Gifford Fire disaster response costs related to both staff time and resources used. A budget revision in the amount of \$10,000 is necessary to amend the adopted FY 2025-2026 Animal Services budget to reflect the unanticipated revenues and expenditures.

Fiscal Analysis:

The Petco Love Gifford Fire disaster relief grant is expected to be one-time in nature.

Funding Source	FY 2025-2026	Total
Private Grant	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total	\$10,000	\$10,000

Special Instructions:

Please email one Minute Order to the CHD Contracts Unit at phdcu@sbcphd.org when available.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Petco Love Disaster Relief Grant Application and Award Letter

Attachment B – Budget Revision Request No. 0011052

Contact Information:

Sarah Aguilar, CACO, CAWA

Animal Services Director

saguilar@sbcphd.org