



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: September 06, 2011
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

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 One-Time Grant for Spay-Neuter Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form:

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider recommendations as follows:

- a) Authorize the Public Health Department Director to accept a \$15,000 grant from the California Department of Food and Agriculture to be deposited into the Santa Barbara County Animal Services Spay/Neuter Agency Fund to spay and neuter animals and to promote responsible pet ownership through educational outreach.
- b) Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline Section 15061(b)(3), since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activities may have a significant effect on the environment.

Summary Text:

The Public Health Department's Animal Services program applied for, and was awarded, a \$15,000 grant from the California Department of Food and Agriculture. This grant will be used to support efforts to spay and neuter animals and to promote responsible pet ownership through educational outreach. By accepting this grant, Animal Services will have expanded funding to increase access to affordable 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 the pets and for the safety net system of animal shelters. The Santa Maria Animal Center has the capacity to expand spay/neuter services to the public and these grant funds will ensure that 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.

Fiscal Analysis: Authorization of the Public Health Department Director to accept the \$15,000 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 spay and neuter services for the pets of low-income individuals and to promote responsible pet ownership through educational outreach. Acceptance of this grant will not increase the general fund contribution.

Special Instructions:

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

Authored by:

Jan E. Glick, MS, Director of Animal Services

Brad Hendricks, Accountant