



# AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Steven Falk  
Interim City Administrator

**FROM:** Ann Dunn  
Director, Animal Services

**SUBJECT:** Friends of Oakland Animal Services  
Donation

**DATE:** May 5, 2020

City Administrator Approval

Date: 5-11-2020

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, Or Designee, To Accept And Appropriate Donated Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed Ninety-Six Thousand dollars (\$96,000) From The Friends Of Oakland Animal Services To Fund A Temporary Contract Employee Veterinarian Position For A One-Year Period.**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Adoption of the proposed resolution will allow Oakland Animal Services ("OAS") to hire a part-time Veterinarian. The position will increase OAS's capacity to provide in-house veterinary services and decrease reliance on external veterinary services currently provided under City-funded contracts. Accepting this donation from Friends of Oakland Animal Services ("FOAS") will allow OAS to improve its services at no cost to the City.

## **BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

OAS has one budgeted full-time equivalent Veterinarian position, which is currently vacant with a process underway to fill the position with a suitable candidate.

OAS largely serves people from Oakland who lack the financial resources to provide veterinary care for their animals and live in communities where there are no veterinary clinics or other supports for companion animals. With additional in-house veterinary capacity, OAS could offer more support to people who want to keep their animals but lack the resources to provide veterinary services, including Oakland residents who are unsheltered and living with companion animals.

## **ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

Accepting the donation of \$96,000.00 from FOAS to fund a Temporary Contract Service employee ("TCSE") Veterinarian position will increase the capacity of OAS to provide necessary veterinary services.

OAS has external contracts for spay/neuter and emergency veterinary services. At its March 26, 2020 meeting, the council authorized increasing and extending the contract with the East Bay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and is being asked at the June 2, 2020 meeting to authorize an increase in the amount of the contract to VCA Emergency Vet Hospital for emergency veterinary services for injured animals. OAS will continue to need such services, but reliance on them and related expenses to the City will be reduced through filling this TCSE Veterinarian position, funded wholly through donated funds.

FOAS is a nonprofit created to support OAS by providing resources that are beyond what the City budget can accommodate. In addition to funding unusual medical expenses and staffing, FOAS is working to provide community-serving programs to support low-income Oakland residents in having and keeping companion animals.

If the donation is not accepted, OAS will have reduced capacity to provide veterinary services to the animals in its care, and little to no capacity to provide supportive services to help people in our community who love their animals but lack the resources to provide them with necessary veterinary care.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

This report has no negative impact on the City as the donated funds from FOAS will fully fund the TCSE Veterinarian position for one year. The cost of funding the position is \$96,000.00, or 960 hours at \$100 per hour. Funding for this position will be appropriated in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (2999), Oakland Animal Services Organization (02491), Project to be determined, Special Operations Program (PS13). The TCSE would be charged against this fund.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST**

No public outreach was deemed necessary for this report other than posting on the City's website.

## **COORDINATION**

Development of this report was coordinated with internal OAS staff, Controller's Bureau, City Attorney's Office and City Administrator's Office.

### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Economic:** There are no economic, environmental or social equity opportunities associated with this report.

**Environmental:** There are no economic, environmental or social equity opportunities associated with this report.

**Race & Equity:** Oakland Animal Services largely serves people from Oakland who lack the financial resources to provide veterinary care for their animals, and live in communities where there are no veterinary clinics or other supports for companion animals.

### **ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, Or Designee, To Accept And Appropriate Donated Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed Ninety-Six Thousand dollars (\$96,000) From The Friends Of Oakland Animal Services To Fund A Half-Time Veterinarian Position For A One-Year Period.**

For questions regarding this report, please contact ANN DUNN, DIRECTOR, at (510) 535-5604.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ann Dunn*

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ANN DUNN  
Director, Oakland Animal Services

Reviewed by: Betsy Lake  
Deputy City Administrator

Prepared by: Ann Dunn, Director