

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

2010 SEP 16 10:40 AM
Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Dan Lindheim
From: Police Department
Date: September 28, 2010

Re: A Report and Proposed Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator, Or His Designee, On Behalf of the City of Oakland, to Accept Donations In the Amount of Two Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Nine Dollars (\$265,509) From the Estate of Blanche Thomas, and Sixty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$66,500) From Maddie's Fund, and Appropriate Said Funds to the Oakland Police Department Animal Services Division To Help Fund Spay and Neuter Programs, Quality of Life Projects for Animals, and Purchase Supplies/Equipment for the Volunteer Program

SUMMARY

Staff has prepared a report and resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept donations in the amount of \$265,509 from the Estate of Blanche Thomas and \$66,500 from Maddie's Fund, and appropriate said funds to the Oakland Police Department Animal Services Division to help fund spay and neuter programs, quality of life projects for animals, and purchase supplies/equipment for the volunteer program.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this resolution will authorize the City Administrator to accept donations on behalf of the Oakland Police Department Animal Services Division, in the amount of \$265,509 from the estate of Blanche Thomas and \$66,500 from Maddie's fund. Said funds shall be appropriated into Organization (103130), Fund 2995, Program (PS13), and Project to be determined.

BACKGROUND

On December 17, 2009, Oakland Animal Services (OAS) received written notification from the Law Offices of Scott I. Bassin that a donation in the amount of \$265,509 was being made to the Animal Shelter from the Estate of Blanche Thomas. The staff and volunteers at Oakland Animal Services had never heard of Ms. Blanche Thomas until learning that OAS was a beneficiary in her living trust.

On August 2, 2010, OAS received notification of a grant award in the amount of \$66,500 from Maddie's Fund, which is a family run pet rescue foundation established in 1999. Since its inception, Maddie's Fund has awarded animal welfare organizations and universities \$71.6 million to save the lives of dogs and cats.

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Oakland Animal Services participated in Maddie's Fund "Maddie's Matchmaker Adoptathon" where Bay Area animal shelters received \$500 for every dog and cat adopted during the period of June 12 - 13, 2010. OAS adopted 133 dogs and cats during the Adoptathon, which yielded a total donation from Maddie's Fund in the amount of \$66,500.

There is no matching funds requirement to accept these donations. The Animal Services Director is responsible for managing the funds associated with these donations.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Receipt of these funds will positively impact OAS programs; funds will be used to supplement projects that will increase adoptions at Oakland Animal Services and improve the quality of life of animals at the Shelter. Additionally, funds will be used to complete the transition of the former euthanasia room into a new surgery center, which includes putting in new flooring and purchasing surgical equipment. Other projects will include:

- Spaying/neutering feral cats;
- Building a rain and sun cover over the Shelter's outdoor dog runs;
- Advertising animals for adoption in local media outlets;
- Installing a dog bathing area;
- Training staff on properly temperament testing dogs and cats;
- Paying for necessary software and other supplies for the OAS volunteer program; and
- Purchasing beds for every dog and cat in the Shelter.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Oakland Animal Services is a division of the Oakland Police Department within the City of Oakland, and is dedicated to improving the relationship between the citizens of Oakland and its animals. Ensuring both public safety and animal welfare, OAS is responsible for responding to animal-related calls for service including helping abused, neglected, injured and abandoned animals, investigating animal bites and regulating animal-related activities within the City.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: These funds will be used to help transfer and adopt animals out of the shelter faster, helping to decrease City funded expenditures associated with feeding and cleaning animals housed at the shelter.

Environmental: OAS is responsible for handling all calls for injured/trapped wildlife in Oakland, picking up dead animals, and spaying/neutering feral cats to reduce their impact on native wildlife. These funds will assist in these efforts and contribute to healthier environment.

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Social Equity: Oakland Animal Services protects the public's safety by removing aggressive animals before they injure people or other animals. These funds will be utilized to train Animal Control Officers to properly handle dangerous animals and to train staff on how to properly test animals to ensure that they are safe to transfer to other groups and adopt to the public.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR ACCESS

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues identified in this report.

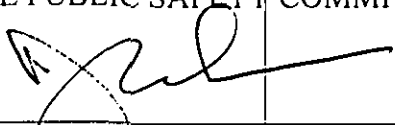
RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends acceptance of the this report and resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept donations in the amount of \$265,509 from the estate of Blanche Thomas and \$66,500 from Maddie's Fund, and appropriate said funds to the Oakland Police Department Animal Services Division to help fund spay and neuter programs, quality of life projects for animals, and purchase supplies/equipment for the volunteer program.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COUNCIL

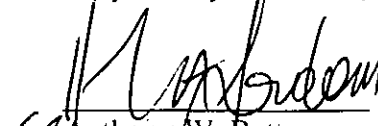
Staff requests approval of this resolution.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:



Office of the City Administrator

Respectfully submitted,


for Anthony W. Batts
Chief of Police

Prepared by:
Ms. Megan Webb
Director of the Animal Services Division
Oakland Police Department

Reviewed by:
Ms. Cynthia Perkins
Legislative Analyst
Oakland Police Department

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FILED
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Approved as to Form and Legality

A. McCauley
City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND, TO ACCEPT DONATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND NINE DOLLARS (\$265,509) FROM THE ESTATE OF BLANCHE THOMAS, AND SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$66,500) FROM MADDIE'S FUND, AND APPROPRIATE SAID FUNDS TO THE OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT ANIMAL SERVICES DIVISION TO HELP FUND SPAY AND NEUTER PROGRAMS, QUALITY OF LIFE PROJECTS FOR ANIMALS, AND PURCHASE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT FOR THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Oakland Police Department Animal Services Division (OAS) has received two donations, one in the amount of \$265,509 from the Estate of Blanche Thomas and another in the amount of \$66,500 from Maddie's Fund; and

WHEREAS, the donation of the Estate of Blanche Thomas was made pursuant to her death and will through an irrevocable living trust called The Winifred Heple Handley Trust, whose terms cannot be amended or changed; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Animal Services participated in Maddie's Fund "Maddie's Matchmaker Adoptathon" where Bay Area animal shelters received \$500 for every dog and cat adopted during the period of June 12 - 13, 2010. OAS adopted 133 dogs and cats during the Adoptathon, which yielded a total donation from Maddie's Fund in the amount of \$66,500; and

WHEREAS, receipt of these funds will positively impact OAS programs; funds will be used to supplement projects that will increase adoptions at Oakland Animal Services and improve the quality of life of animals at the Shelter; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator to accept donations in the amount of \$265,509 from the Estate of Blanche Thomas, and \$66,500 from Maddie's Fund for a total of \$332,009 and appropriate said funds to the Oakland Police Department Animal Services Division to help fund spay and neuter programs, quality of life projects for animals, and purchase supplies/equipment for the volunteer program; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said funds shall be appropriated into Organization (103130), Fund 2995, Program (PS13), and Project to be determined.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE , KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and
PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California